

Young people have their say on services

THE way in which youth services are delivered in Gwynedd for the future will be based on the aspirations and opinions of the county's young people.

Following considerable work undertaken by a scrutiny working group of councillors set up to review youth services in Gwynedd, the council has committed to working closely with its partners to improving the provision on offer for young people.

The scrutiny working group set out a wide-ranging review of youth services throughout the county and found that Gwynedd has dedicated youth workers, with the number of young people taking part in youth organisations amongst the highest in Wales.

However, the review also found that there was a lack of members past the age of 16, that there were difficulties in reaching the most needy groups, as well as youth organisations duplicating and competing against each other.

Cllr Sian Gwenllian, chair of the Gwynedd Council youth services improvement working group said: "What we want to see is a network of youth groups across Gwynedd that are co-ordinated effectively, maintained directly by the council's youth service and its



partners, which deliver opportunities that appeal directly to our young people. Having acted on the views and opinions of Gwynedd's young people, the challenge now will be to reach out to them and ensure that we provide them with the opportunities and activities that they want."

As part of improvements, the Council is already in the process of establishing the Gwynedd Youth Bus which will visit communities throughout the county.

Cllr Roy Owen added: "Our aim will be to deliver a wide-range of enjoyable opportunities and experiences for Gwynedd's young people."