

YOUTH WORK'S ROLE IN IMPROVING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT



Every day, in communities across Scotland, youth work positively impacts on the lives of young people. Diverse and accessible, wide-reaching and targeted, youth work improves the life chances of Scotland's young people, helping them to fulfil their potential and equipping them with the crucial skills needed to prepare them for the world of work.

In the current economic climate and against a backdrop of high youth unemployment, there has never been a more important time to support and invest in youth work services both locally and nationally.

Youth work supports Scotland's young people with their transitions

into the world of work by engaging in a partnership with them to help develop the crucial professional and personal skills that employers are demanding:

Youth work is a vital service and should never be regarded as an optional extra. This is why YouthLink Scotland has challenged every new councillor, from all political parties, to help make Scotland the best place in Europe to be a young person by committing to our four Youth Work Pledges.

These pledges build on the key points of YouthLink Scotland's 2011 manifesto and the main topics and themes agreed on at the first

National Youth Work Summit held in September 2011:

- **PLEDGE to ensure that no young person is left behind in any of Scotland's local authority areas**
- **PLEDGE to improve equality of access to youth work in all local authority areas**
- **PLEDGE to improve sustained, permanent funding for youth work services and to support and work with the voluntary sector in all local authority areas**
- **PLEDGE to improve recognition in all local authority areas of the positive and preventative impact of youth work**

