



SURF
Scotland's Regeneration Forum

SURF : sharing experience : shaping practice



Successful methods of supporting young people to overcome barriers to employment: SURF Awards Shared Learning Workshop – 8th July 2020

Background

SURF and the Scottish Government work together to identify and highlight excellence and innovation in initiatives that address social and economic challenges in disadvantaged communities through the annual SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration.

This **free virtual SURF Awards workshop event on 8th July** provides an opportunity to explore successful approaches towards tackling barriers to employment facing young people in Scotland. The winning and highly commended projects from the 'Youth Employability' category highlighted in the 2020 SURF Awards process will provide comment on their experiences and transferable learning.



(l-r): Street League, Move On and Community Renewal Trust

Workshop guests will firstly hear from a project representative from the 'Youth Employability' category winner **Street League with their Head, Body, Future programme**. Delivered throughout Scotland, Head Body Future (HBF) is Street League's online youth employment service, which works with young people who face insecurity every day.

This will be followed by input from the 'Youth Employability' the highly commended **Move On: Employability Fund**. Based in Glasgow, the project aims to give vulnerable young people practical work experience, whilst helping them to develop broader skills and confidence.

Finally, guests will then hear from the third of the 'Youth Employability' highly commended projects **Community Renewal Trust's Youth Employment Team**. Operating in Edinburgh, the project aims to find disengaged young people and provide them with long-term, holistic employability support

The event will close with **Skills Development Scotland** providing detail on their current priorities towards supporting individuals and organisations to help people enter or return back into training and employment. It will then open up to a discussion on National Policy.

The SURF Awards 'Youth Employability' judging panel team – comprising representatives of Skills Development Scotland, Impact Arts, the DRC Youth Project and the Lennox Partnership – were particularly impressed by the commitment to engaging with disconnected young people and the flexibility of adapting their services, due to the Covid pandemic, to meet the needs of each individual young person.

This workshop will be delivered with support from Skills Development Scotland.

Programme

- 10:30am Welcome and Introduction: **Euan Leitch**, Chief Executive, SURF
- 10:35am Presentation, Street League: Head, Body, Future: **Kirsty Steven**, Street League
- 10:45am Presentation, Move On: Employability Fund: **John Connell**, Move On
- 10:55am Presentation, Community Renewal Trust: Youth Employability Team: **tbc**, Community Renewal Trust
- 11:05am Open Discussion, Questions and Comments with representatives from the projects
- 11:20am Presentation, Skills Development Scotland: **Elaine Walls**, Skills Development Scotland
- 11:30pm Open Discussion on National Policy
- 11:50pm Summary, Thanks and What's Next: **Euan Leitch** and **Emma Scott**, Events, Information & Communications Manager, SURF
- 12:00pm Close

About the SURF Awards

Please visit www.surf.scot for more information on the SURF Awards and the outcomes of the 2020 process.

Check the SURF website or follow us on Twitter @SURFscot or Facebook – SURF for information on how to apply for the 2021 SURF Awards, which launched on Thursday 3rd June and close for applications at 5pm on Monday 6th September.