**Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Community of Practice**

**Purpose**

To promote Equality and Diversity in the youth work sector by informing policy and practice and supporting implementation of inclusive youth work to encourage an inclusive and representative sector that is accessible to all young people.

**Remit**

To achieve this the group will:

* Explore and share current best practice in Equality and Diversity.
* Identify and provide support and guidance for accessibility and empowerment throughout the sector.
* Recognise and promote the importance of intersectional working and understanding, taking the fact that the experience of individual’s can be based on more than one protected characteristic.
* Influence policy from an Equality and Diversity perspective.

**Membership**

This group is open to all organisations in Scotland interested learning and sharing practice in equality and diversity with young people.

**Policy and legislation**

The group will work and discuss matters in a UK and Scottish policy and legislative context. The group will focus specifically on a context which includes the Equality Act 2010, the Children and Young People’s (Scotland) Act, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the BSL Act.

**Format of meetings**

The group will meet formally at least 3 times per year, with agenda items agreed with a planning group in advance. The secretariat for the group is provided by YouthLink Scotland.

The meetings will provide a space to discuss issues affecting the youth work sector in terms of equality and diversity, inputs on and discussing good practice examples, receiving briefings on key national developments and influencing policy from an equality and diversity perspective. Meetings will also include time for networking between colleagues and will feature at least one input from a member on their work.

Informally, the group can also be used to disseminate key information regarding equalities and youth work amongst and between members.