

WHAT OUR GIRLS SAY

"I really like the building and like popping in to say hello."

-16 year old who has worked with the service
for 2 years

"It's a really friendly place the staff are all really smiley and you feel really welcome."

-17 year old woman who uses the service

"There's been a great improvement in my daughter's confidence and she knows there is someone there to listen to her if she can't speak about things at home."

-Parent of teenage girl

"The Women's Service support three young people in our team and have been invaluable in terms of their care plans".

-Manager of Children in Need team

The Young Women's Service has been established to provide a gender specific facility

The Service works collaboratively with other Services and 3rd Sector Organisations who work with young women and their families including:

- Police
- Housing
- Criminal Justice Social Work
- Barnardo's
- SACRO
- Aberdeen Foyer

REVIEWS

For Case Conferences, Children's Hearings and LAC Reviews, the Young Women's Service will provide an update of the work we have undertaken with you and your family. Our report is a stand alone document which you will receive a copy of prior to any forum.

YOUNG WOMEN'S SERVICE



Information for young people and their families

Aberdeen City Council

Golf Road,

Aberdeen,

AB24 5QA

01224 659620



The Young Women's Service has been established to provide a gender specific facility for vulnerable girls and young women within Aberdeen City. The development of the service was in response to the increasing numbers of girls and young women who are involved in or experiencing a range of difficulties including sexual exploitation, substance misuse, domestic violence and self harm. Young women may also be frequently missing from home or placement for periods of time without knowledge of their whereabouts. Parents/carers may also struggle to provide boundaries through lack of control or capacity.

It was also recognised many vulnerable young women who have experienced these issues go on to develop poor relationships in their adult life and may also become involved in further risk taking behaviours that may lead to involvement with the Criminal Justice System. This may also impact on their ability to provide a safe environment for their own children and risk repeating cycles they had experienced themselves.

ABOUT THE TEAM

The team comprises of Social Work staff who have a range of different skills and qualities. Consideration will always be given to which worker is best placed to work with you and build a positive relationship.

As a team, we strive to deliver a high standard of service to you and your family whilst working around current plans put in place by your Social Worker.

SERVICE PROVISION

The team focusses on building consistent, trusting and meaningful relationships with the young women to empower them in decision making, build resilience, to value their own identity and safeguard their own well being. Support is primarily delivered on a one to one basis with the level and nature of support tailored to individual needs. As a team, we aim to be as creative as possible in our intervention, helping our girls to build positive relationships and feel respected and listened to.

KEY AIMS OF THE YOUNG WOMENS SERVICE

- To reduce incidents of risk taking behaviours/offending and maintain young women in their own communities
- Promote awareness of the impact of risk taking behaviours and exploitation on health and development
- Assist adulthood transition by helping young women to make better lifestyle choices and reach their full potential
- Help build confidence and esteem
- Work towards desired goals and outcomes

We understand that it might not always be easy to speak about different issues that are affecting your life and therefore we will use different techniques such as cooking, art and relaxation to help you feel safe to share.