**Role Profile**

**Post:** Youth and Community Engagement Worker

**Salary:**  Circa £22,000 pro rata (dependent on experience)

**Reporting to:** Chief Executive

**Contract:** 20 hours per week,Permanent, transferring to Youth Zone delivery team upon opening

**Location:** Barking and Dagenham (with some travel across London and occasional travel to North West).

**Main Purposes**

**Pre-Opening**: To continue to consult and engage local young people and other community stakeholders ensuring they are well informed, positively engaged and where appropriate, have the opportunity to influence the development of Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone. To support the pre-opening team to ensure the success of the Youth Zone through outreach, recruitment of membership and creation of strong local delivery partnerships.

**Post-Opening**: As part of the delivery team, to support the development and delivery of an exciting and challenging programme of creative activities which will engage and Future young members of Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone.

**OnSide**

OnSide Youth Zones, established in 2008, has been growing rapidly and has ambitious plans to create 100 Youth Zones in towns and cities, giving young people somewhere safe and inspiring to go in their leisure time. Youth Zones are high quality, inspirational and well-run places, offering young people ‘somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to’, on an incredible scale. OnSide has attracted recognition in national and local government circles, funding from prestigious Trusts and Foundations, and we are now one of the Lord Mayor’s Appeal Charities in London, alongside Samaritans and Place2Be.

With a network of ten Youth Zones now operating in the North West and the Midlands, OnSide has set its sights on developing a wider national network of Youth Zones, including Barking & Dagenham, Barnet and Croydon in London. Over 30,000 young people are members of existing Youth Zones, with over 9,000 visits per week. OnSide is responsible for managing the building projects; establishing sustainable business plans for each Youth Zone; forming local, stand-alone boards; and providing the practical support and expertise to enable Youth Zones to run for the long-term benefit of the young people in their community.

**Future: Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone**

Future will be a high-quality facility, open to all the young people of Barking and Dagenham between the ages of 8 to 19, and up to 25 years for young disabled people. The Youth Zone will be located on Parsloes Park where Porters Avenue meets Gale Street.

Future will offer young people a purpose-built facility providing a wide range of activities including sport, fitness, dance, arts, music and media. The Youth Zone will include a sports hall with facilities for indoor tennis, badminton, football, netball and basketball, and a separate climbing wall. There will also be a fitness suite, with the latest gym equipment and a 3G multi-use kick pitch. Future will include a kitchen and café area, as well as multi-purpose areas for dance, music, arts and crafts, gaming and DJ-ing, martial arts and boxing facilities.

|  |
| --- |
| **THE JOB** |
| The Youth and Community Engagement Worker will continue to engage and consult with young people and other local stakeholders in the development of the Youth Zone, pre-opening. Once the Youth Zone opens, the post-holder will join the Youth Zone delivery team, contributing to a diverse programme of activities for Barking and Dagenham’s young people. |
| **Key tasks (pre-opening)*** To be a local link to young people and wider stakeholders in Barking and Dagenham.
* To maintain the work of the Young People’s Development Group, who represent the views of young people from across Barking and Dagenham.
* To attend meetings, events, briefings, etc. as required, to update and inform a range of local stakeholders (groups and individuals) on progress and plans for the Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone project.
* To enable and facilitate the effective participation of young people in Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone development, which will include:
* input into the interior design of the Youth Zone;
* input into the programme of activities planned for the Youth Zone;
* involvement in the recruitment of Youth Zone staff;
* input into outreach and transport solutions for the Youth Zone;
* involvement in fundraising and promotion for the Youth Zone.
* To undertake outreach and engagement with young people across Barking and Dagenham and outlying areas.
* To promote the Youth Zone community, building a base for future Youth Zone membership and volunteers.
* To develop and deliver community fundraising initiatives which also promote and raise the profile of the Youth Zone.
* To work in partnership with a wide range of local agencies, ensuring that Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone builds and maintains a positive local reputation.
* To engage with the Youth Zone network, spending time in existing Youth Zones in preparation for the opening of Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone.
* To plan and deliver a series of activities which engage and benefit at least 100 young people

**Key tasks (post-opening)*** To develop and deliver a diverse range of activities at the Youth Zone, helping young people build their creativity, confidence, self-esteem and interpersonal skills.
* To support part-time workers and volunteers in sessions, coaching them to achieve their full potential within their given roles
* To ensure that members maintain high standards of behaviour and discipline during sessions.
* To ensure the participation of young people in activities and support their ideas to contribute to the delivery and evaluation of activities.
* To promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people at all times.
* To be an active member of the team and operate in line with the values and principles of an OnSide Youth Zone.
 |

|  |
| --- |
| **THE PERSON** |
| Applicants should be able to demonstrate that they have most of the experience, skills and aptitudes listed below. |
| **Experience and knowledge*** Youth work (paid or voluntary), ideally in a group work and/or participation setting (youth work/working with young people);
* Planning structured youth sessions and activities in a range of settings, such as schools and youth clubs (group work session planning and delivery);
* Able to plan and lead sessions to support and engage young people in the development of Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone (group work and participation);
* Working with a range of stakeholders (networking and communication);
* Practical experience of safeguarding and safe-working practices when working with young people
* An understanding and knowledge of the local area of Barking and Dagenham.
 |
| **Skills and aptitudes*** A desire to work with, support and develop young people;
* Ability to effectively engage young people and adults alike;
* Excellent written and oral communication skills;
* Ability to think clearly and report effectively;
* Good standard of IT skills;
* Ability to work flexibly to meet the requirements of the role (as the role is mobile with no fixed office space until the opening of the Youth Zone);
* Ability to work independently: a self-starter;
* A genuine passion for the values and vision of OnSide and Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone.
 |
| **Qualifications*** A Level 3 Youth Work qualification is desirable
 |

**The strength of the OnSide Network of Youth Zone is the diversity of its people; we place huge value on different people doing things in different ways and we welcome applications from what might be considered non-traditional backgrounds. The one thing we all have in common is our desire to raise the aspirations of young people across the country. OnSide is also committed to the safeguarding of young people.**

**Additional information**

* The job is based in Barking and Dagenham (no fixed office space) and your time will be deployed as per the needs of the project, which will include occasional travel across London and possibly the North West
* The job requires the ability to work flexibly including evenings and weekends.
* Holiday entitlement is 33 days a year inclusive of bank holidays.
* In accordance with our Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures, this position requires an enhanced DBS check and completion of an Online Safeguarding Course.