

“A Space of Our Own”

The role and value of youth organisations in strengthening communities

#SpaceOfOurOwn



Overall, we gathered information from:



**10 youth professionals
working for 10 different
organisations, located across
8 London boroughs**



**22 young people from
14 boroughs, interviewed
by a team of 5 peer
researchers**

#SpaceOfOurOwn

- **Creating connections**
- **Sense of belonging**
- **Physical safety**
- **Recognising and celebrating difference**
- **Developing the skills and confidence to get involved in their communities**
- **Known & trusted within the community**

#SpaceOfOurOwn

Principle 1: Bring people together on equal terms

Principle 2: Celebrate young people's cultural identity

Principle 3: Give young people ownership

Principle 4: Build the foundations for community involvement.

#SpaceOfOurOwn

“Collectively, we can ensure London’s communities thrive. But it will take a partnership between the youth sector, funders and policy makers to ensure this can happen.”

Rosemary Watt-Wyness
Chief Executive

#SpaceOfOurOwn

Funders and commissioners should ask:

- How does your funding affect developing and maintaining community relationships?
- Does your funding sufficiently resource outreach, signposting and partnership building?
- What's your role in protecting community assets and youth spaces?
- Does your funding ensure the true cost of operating high-quality space is recovered?
- What's your role in providing capital resources to operate and maintain youth spaces?

For the Mayor of London and Greater London Authority (GLA)

- What's your role in setting a pan-London vision for spaces for young people and supporting those who provide them?
- Where do youth spaces sit within existing strategies?
- What's your role in mapping and promoting youth spaces?

For local authorities

- How are you ensuring young people have access to safe, local youth spaces?
- What youth spaces already exist and how can these be sustained?

#SpaceOfOurOwn

“ For years, I’ve wanted my community to become a better place, yet I hardly even know my neighbours. I definitely don’t know them in the way my grandma knew hers! My local area felt like a place of residence, not one of refuge.

David Kennedy
Peer Researcher

#SpaceOfOurOwn

