
Briefing Note: CAMPBELTOWN YOUNG FIRE FIGHTERS

This briefing relates to activities which fall under SOA Outcome 6

The briefing is for discussion.

Summary: Campbeltown Young Fire Fighters

Campbeltown Young Firefighters began in May 2008 with 20 youths between the ages of 13-16 attending Campbeltown Community Fire Station for three hours on a Thursday evening. The YFF's attend every Thursday until they reach the age of 18 and follow the same term times as the local school. The unit runs with 20 YFF's and on average 7 instructors, all instructors at the unit are volunteer instructors and range from retained crew managers to civilians.

The training follows a similar pattern as followed by the RDS personnel in Campbeltown, with almost all of the roles of an operational firefighter being covered both theoretically and practically. This has been transferred into an Intermediate 1 SQA Qualification, 'Uniformed and Emergency Services Campbeltown Young Firefighter's'. There are four SQA units (worth 1 credit point each) and a fire service skills unit, which takes in all the training we teach on a Thursday evening ranging from breathing apparatus to road traffic collisions to community safety.

Outwith training the YFF's participate in local events such as bonfire night, RTC demonstrations, marshalling of the MOK 10K, remembrance day and loads more community events, they are well known and supported in the community.

The unit has been very successful in terms of assisting youths gain jobs such as the Royal Navy, local apprenticeships and airport fire service. Three have joined the SFRS as retained firefighters, one is now a crew manager in Campbeltown, and four more ex-YFF's are hoping to apply this year.

For further information please contact: Group Manager Stuart McLean