

Quarterly / End of 2025–2026 Financial Year Review

Youth Service SLA – Broadclyst, Westclyst & Tithebarn - Reporting Period: Q4 (2025/26)

Overview

Broadclyst Parish Council and YMCA Exeter engaged in a contract for youth services for four years, spanning 2024-2027. As part of the contract, there are provisions within a Service Level Agreement (SLA) which set the expectation of the service to be provided.

The Youth Service has delivered a broadly successful year across Broadclyst, Westclyst and Tithebarn, with strong progress in core areas of the SLA. Staffing stability, strengthened by the addition of an experienced youth worker, has supported consistent delivery of open-access sessions and some detached youth work. Volunteer recruitment has been a notable success, enabling greater resilience and flexibility across groups. Engagement with young people continues to deepen, reflected in positive feedback from structured programmes such as “Mind and Mood” and in the growing trust observed through youth work within the Broadclyst Village group.

Broadclyst Village remains the anchor site with high attendance and evidenced safeguarding practice. Westclyst is thriving in its new school-based venue, and Tithebarn provision is starting to grow, through pop-ups and community involvement.

Key challenges to date relate to securing sustainable indoor space in Tithebarn and some overall areas remain under development, particularly school-based engagement and the establishment of the Steering Committee and Youth Council. These elements are expected to progress as relationships mature and as the service aligns its planning with the academic year. Holiday programme planning is well advanced, offering a varied and inclusive mix of activities, fully funded and designed to reach both regular attendees and more disconnected young people.

Overall, the service is meeting expectations, demonstrating adaptability, community-centred practice and a commitment to continuous improvement. Consideration will be required in the coming year regarding the future of the SLA and the funding position beyond the current contractual term.

Summary of Performance

The Youth Service continues to make steady and meaningful progress across Broadclyst, Westclyst and Tithebarn as we conclude Q4 of the 2025–2026 financial year. Delivery remains broadly on track with the SLA, supported by strengthened staffing and strong volunteer engagement. While several areas, particularly school engagement and the establishment of the Steering Committee, require further development, the service has demonstrated resilience, adaptability and growing community trust. This report provides a RAG-rated overview of performance against each SLA commitment, highlighting achievements, emerging challenges and considerations for the future contractual period.

High Level/At a Glance Overview

Description of Service – Staffing & Availability (Item 3)	Green
Schools Engagement – Broadclyst, Westclyst & Clyst Vale (Item 4.1)	Red
Consultation & Youth Voice – Surveys and Ethnographic Work (Items 4.2.1)	Amber
Westclyst & Tithebarn Weekly Provision (Item 4.2.2)	Green
Mentoring & Young People’s Committee (Item 4.3)	Amber
Open Access Commitment & Partnership Working (Item 5)	Red
Broadclyst Weekly Provision – Two Sessions (Item 5.1)	Green
Steering Committee & Youth Council (Item 5.1 – second entry)	Red
Holiday Programmes (Item 5.1 – third entry)	Green
Quality Review Meetings (Item 11.2)	Green
Annual Reporting (Item 11.3)	Green

Detailed Overview of Performance

1. Description of Service – Staffing & Availability (Item 3)

RAG: Green – On Track

Summary:

Staffing levels remain in line with the SLA requirement of “22.5 hours per week Youth Work Coordinator and 15 hours per week Youth Worker”. The introduction of Graham, who brings both charity and church-based youth work experience, has strengthened the team. The internal review of role split is ongoing, with consideration of alternative arrangements to maximise impact.

2. Schools Engagement – Broadclyst, Westclyst & Clyst Vale (Item 4.1)

RAG: Red – Behind Schedule

Summary:

The “Mind and Mood” programme continues to be well-received, with a second six-week course planned at CVCC. However, wider school engagement remains limited. No general relationship has yet been established with CVCC beyond the course and there also being no schools work to date with Broadclyst Primary. Early communication channels are emerging with Westclyst, including informal contact via WhatsApp groups.

3. Consultation & Youth Voice – Surveys and Ethnographic Work (Items 4.2.1)

RAG: Amber – Foundations in Place

Summary:

Spider diagrams are due to be used in groups, to see how progress is going in the eyes of the attendees, with a view to make sure that the service offering is in line with what is being provided. There is on average a 70% return rate across the board of attendees to the group and consultation of non-returners may be considered going forwards. Further consultation works to take place in Tithebarn during the warmer months.

4. Westclyst & Tithebarn Weekly Provision (Item 4.2.2)

RAG: Green – Strong Progress

Summary:

Youth club delivery continues with positive community reception and no concerns raised by the school. Volunteer recruitment has been particularly successful, with experienced adult volunteers now supporting both Westclyst and Broadclyst groups. Planning is underway for potential split-age sessions if volunteer capacity increases. Community engagement in Tithebarn has been encouraging, with residents expressing interest in board-game-based provision.

5. Mentoring & Young People’s Committee (Item 4.3)

RAG: Amber – Foundations in Place

Summary:

Mentoring development is progressing, supported by Graham’s experience. Both 1-to-1 and group mentoring models are being explored, with mental health and careers support identified as key needs. Relationships with young people continue to strengthen. Work on the young persons’ committee is scheduled for later in the year, aligned with the academic cycle.

6. Open Access Commitment & Partnership Working (Item 5)

RAG: Red – Limited Progress

Summary:

No activity has been delivered against this SLA requirement during the reporting period. Although the SLA sets out an intention to deepen open-access provision and develop coordinated partnership work with local and regional agencies, the provider has confirmed that there have been “no updates” and no progress has been made toward these commitments this quarter.

7. Broadclyst Weekly Provision – Two Sessions (Item 5.1)

RAG: Green - On Track

Summary:

Sessions continue to run weekly, though younger-group attendance remains low. The service is exploring youth-volunteer leadership roles to support activity delivery and peer mentoring. Young people have expressed a desire for a balance of craft, quiet spaces and physical activities.

8. Steering Committee & Youth Council (Item 5.1 – second entry)

RAG: Red – Behind Schedule

Summary:

The Steering Committee has not yet been established. Options for initial meetings are being explored, including rotating between Westclyst, Broadclyst and YMCA offices. Winter attendance challenges have slowed progress. Youth leaders may select members initially due to low numbers.

9. Holiday Programmes (Item 5.1 – third entry)

RAG: Green – Planned and on Track

Summary:

Financially inclusive holiday programme planning is complete, with a mix of sports, water-based activities, craft heritage sessions and a trip to Splashdown. Detached work will be prioritised during these programmes to reach disconnected young people.

10. Quality Review Meetings (Item 11.2)

RAG: Green – Completed

Summary:

Quarterly review meetings continue as scheduled, with the sixth review held on 18 March 2026.

11. Annual Reporting (Item 11.3)

RAG: Green – On Track

Summary:

The provider remains on schedule to deliver the Annual Report for the Annual Council Meeting on 11th May 2026. The question regarding future funding beyond the original SLA term was raised by YMCA.

Overall Assessment for Q4 / End of 2025–26

The service continues to deliver strongly across most SLA areas, with particular strengths in:

- volunteer recruitment
- detached youth work
- holiday programme planning

Areas requiring attention include:

- school engagement (Broadclyst & CVCC)
- establishment of the Steering Committee
- consultation and community engagement

Recommendation – for Broadclyst Parish Council to consider the provision and requirements of the parish during this last year of the original SLA. Broadclyst Parish Council may wish to consider early discussions regarding SLA extension and future funding stability.

In closing, the Youth Service has continued to build momentum throughout the 2025-2026 financial year, strengthening its presence, partnerships and impact across the three communities. While some developmental areas remain, the foundations laid this year, particularly in volunteer engagement and mentoring, position the service well for the next phase of delivery. As the council reflects on the future of the SLA, this review highlights both the value of the current provision and the opportunities for further growth, collaboration and youth-led development in the year ahead.

This concludes my report.

Gemma Cole, Assistant Clerk - 07/04/2026