



Garden Project



6VT is a youth charity located in the old town of Edinburgh and attracts young people city wide from a variety of backgrounds. The service is open 52 weeks of the year, 5 days a week. Their hours of operation extend way past that of most other traditional youth provision, providing support at times when many young people find themselves in a vulnerable position.

As a purpose designed youth café, this offers a quality, safe environment for young people to come together to access a range of services and personal development opportunities which encourage, motivate and inspire positivity and confidence. As a result, individuals not only improve their own lives and of those around them which assists to unlock their full potential.




For Business

Map of Asks

I'm an ESES CRD Supplier

I'm new to Community Benefits

I've seen a request we can help with

I have another offer of support

What will we receive in return?

Useful information

FAQs for Business

Community Garden Hard Landscaping



Edinburgh City Youth Cafe
Status: Open Request
Location: Edinburgh
Town: Edinburgh

Description

6VT Youth Café is located in the old town of Edinburgh. It attracts young people city wide from a wide mix of backgrounds. The service is open 52 weeks of the year, 5 days a week. Our hours of operation extend way past that of most other traditional youth provision providing supports at time when many young people find themselves in a vulnerable position. As a purpose designed youth café we provide a quality, safe environment for young people to come together to access a range of services and personal development opportunities which motivate and inspire them to improve their lives and of those around them and to develop to the best of their potential.



An important benefit of the

The organisation has grown and gone from strength to strength over the past 28 years attracting a footfall of over 180,000 young people.

They added a request to our ESES Communities portal in early 2024, as their valuable outdoor space was in need of an overhaul.



Assistance was needed to make some improvements to their front and rear garden spaces to tackle:

- unsafe old decking, steps and handrail into their back garden which, in effect, young people couldn't access – these all needed repaired and/or replaced
- modifying a low-level retaining wall in the front area to allow young children to play and not get hurt
- the summerhouse doors where the glass was needing to be replaced to make it safe
- overgrown areas in general

Changeworks are Scotland's leading environmental charity delivering solutions for low-carbon living. They were carrying out work as part of an Edinburgh Council contract and were subsequently keen to deliver Community Benefits in the local area and had looked through various community requests.

The logo for Changeworks, featuring the word "CHANGEWORKS." in white capital letters on a dark blue rectangular background. A small red house icon is positioned between the "W" and "O".

“ We were really keen to support with the project at 6VT, we are always on the look out for opportunities to contribute to the community and are delighted it has led to the regeneration of the garden at the youth café. MP Group and SD Roofing have done a grand job and hopefully this will provide a great communal space for children in Edinburgh for years to come.

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Rory Allardice
Projects Officer
Changeworks



Danny Malloy
Contracts Manager
MP Group UK

“

MP Group wanted to get involved with the project at 6VT as we were carrying out external refurbishment works as part of an Edinburgh Council contract on behalf of Changeworks.

We felt that this garden project was something that we wanted to pay attention to and put something back into the local community.

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Shaun Docherty

Director
SD Roofing

MP Group approached SD Roofing, who are one of their sub-contractors carrying out work in the area, to see if they would like to be involved and if they had any materials which could help out with the 6VT garden project

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We jumped at the chance to help give back to the community and do something positive to help young people and others, to give them a safe space to work in the garden, somewhere to go for a coffee and be able to do this all in a safe environment.

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After site visits and assessing the viability of some of the areas which need attention, Danny and Shaun agreed to address the following main concerns;

Front Garden

- Installation of sleeper in the front border to retail soil and double up as additional seating
- Back filling border with soil or bark to allow for planting
- Boxing in of the memorial garden

Rear Garden

- General tidy up of overgrown bushes etc.
- Stairs – fixing or replacing missing or broken wooden handrails, replacing and strengthening damaged treads
- Summer House - repair or upgrade glass panels which have been damaged

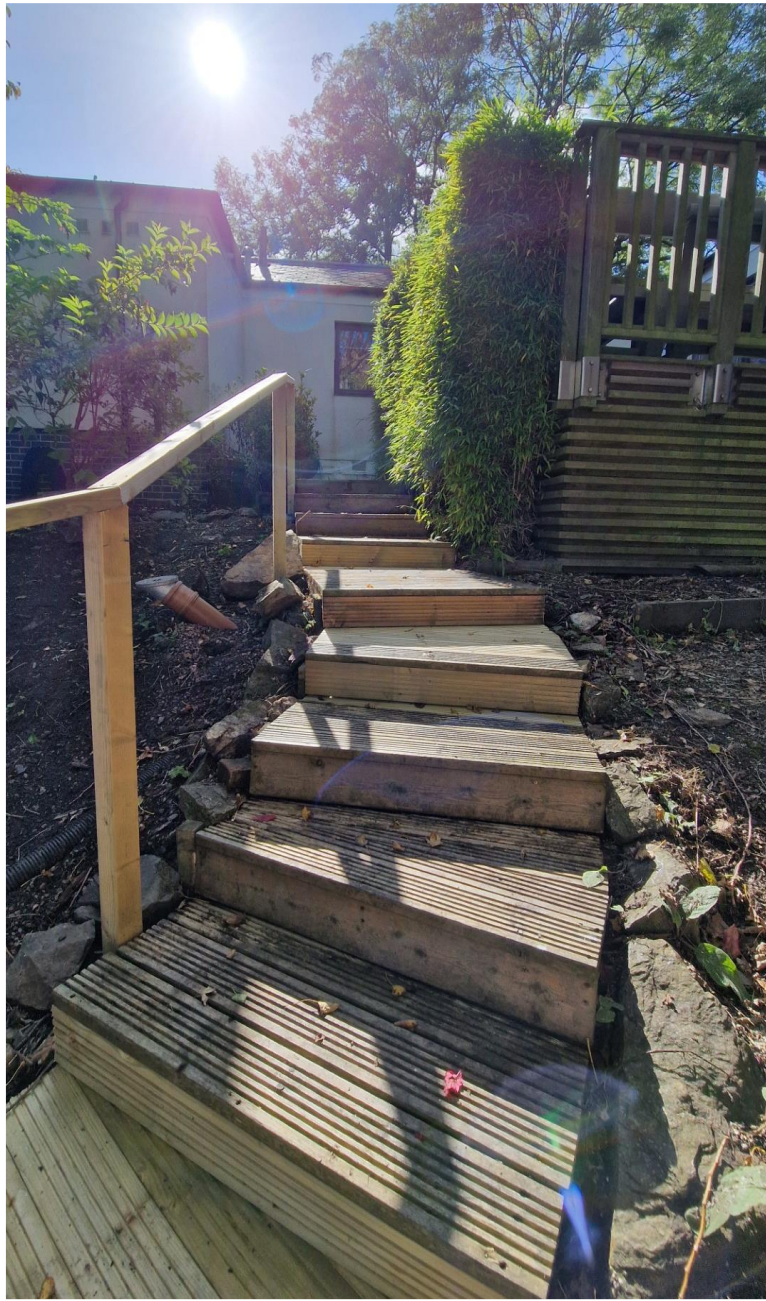
After the team spent around 56 work hours on the transformation, here is the wonderful end result.

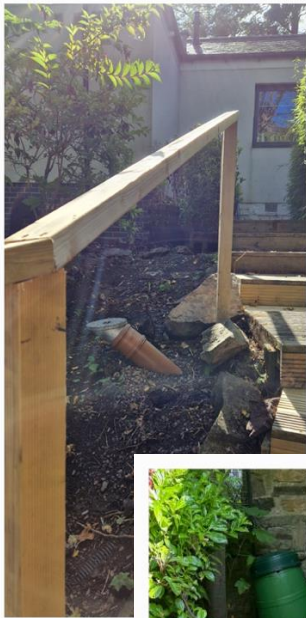


Front Garden



Front Garden







“We discovered the garden here at 6VT wasn't really user-friendly, especially over Covid, when we had had to do all of our youth work outside. There is a lot of space here but it was all overgrown, and there wasn't a lot of outdoor seating available. Having the team come and offer their support and do all of this work has allowed us to gain a lot of usable space. There are now sleepers that can act as benches.

Many of the young people who come to the café don't have gardens at home, so it is a really important space for us, where we can do projects about growing veg, and environmental issues. The update to the garden will really enhance the work that we do here.”

Fiona Horne

Operations Manager
6VT

6VT's centre is used by a variety of groups who are now in an even better position to be able to enjoy the outdoor space for activities, play and socialising.

Here, they have shared some thoughts about the upgrade to the outdoor spaces;

“It is great to have a garden space but it was a bit unfriendly for the little tots. Now it is much easier to keep our toddlers in the front main garden - they love the little wall!”

“The work that has been done has made such a difference. It looks really tidy, and actually much bigger. Having the sleepers along the front give it a nice finish.”

“More seating spaces - keeps it cleaner. It's safer and now we can use our summerhouse which is great.”

“Thank you so much to the team that has done the garden, it looks amazing! Very well done.”



Dot Horne
Executive Director
6VT

“

I think it is really important to have something like this in Edinburgh City Centre. To have a garden and a youth centre which is open to all young people from zero years up - it is a wonderful hidden little place!

The garden became so overwhelming. As a charity we do bits and bobs ourselves, but to have the team come out and do the work has been incredible.

We can do obviously do a little bit of weeding and planting, but it has transformed the garden and really motivated us to getting it all looking lovely again.

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