



## towards happier, healthier lives MAYOR OF LONDON





PRESS RELEASE 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2018

## **ACTION AGAINST LITTER!**

Community group receives funding to work with young carers in Hounslow on a campaign to highlight the impact of litter in parks and open spaces

**Let's Go Outside and Learn Community Interest Company** were delighted to receive funding from the Mayor of London to support a project working with young carers.

Over the next year Young Carers in Hounslow will develop a campaign of social action which will focus on the impact that litter has on the environment and wildlife and people who use parks in the borough. Participants will shape the project by collecting evidence and delivering a campaign to encourage park users in Hounslow to respect the environment of green spaces.

The Young Carers will report their findings to stakeholders and the Hounslow Youth Council and together they will develop recommendations to encourage residents not to dump litter in parks.

The project aims to promote wellbeing and emotional resilience amongst Young Carers. Caring can have significant impact on the life of a young person as a direct result of their responsibilities. These can include lower educational attainment and social exclusion from leisure and community participation. There are 400 Young Carers between 5-24 years old in Hounslow and 130 of these are actively involved with the Young Carers Project, who are working in partnership with Let's Go Outside and Learn to deliver the project. Frances Bennet from Let's Go Outside and Learn said *"We are pleased to have been offered the opportunity to work with the young carers on an issue that is getting much coverage in the press at the moment. The project had been designed to provide the opportunity for young carers to spend time outside and learn about natural environment, to meet new people and develop social networks through shared activities."* 

The project, launched this week, would like to hear from organisations or individuals who would like an active involvement in the project. Please contact Frances <u>outdoor.learning@outlook.com</u> or the Young Carers project <u>youngcarers@hounslow.gov.uk</u>

Let's Go Outside and Learn Community Interest Company works to introduce people living in an urban and built up environment to the natural environment around them, to show the benefits to improved health and wellbeing that spending time outdoors offers, and to bring people who are socially isolated together to make new friends. We work to engage people with natural environments by developing positive attitudes in communities where spending time in the natural green spaces could contribute to improved health & wellbeing and can contribute to breaking down the barriers to isolation. We also work to promote environmental stewardship. The project has been funded by the Mayor of London through The Team London and Thrive LDN Awards.

For further information see: <u>www.lgoal.org</u> Facebook LetsGoOutsideAndLearn Email <u>outdoor.learning@outlook.com</u> For information about young carers contact <u>youngcarers@hounslow.gov.uk</u> www.hounslow.gov.uk/downloads/file/1079/carers\_and\_young\_carers

Artwork by Armelinda Beqiraj