



South Gloucestershire Youth Initiative
St Nicholas Youth Centre
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Supporting Tomorrow's Adults Today

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Press Release

It was with a heavy heart in December that the trustees of South Gloucestershire Youth Initiative, the charitable trust which manages St Nicholas Youth Centre, decided to dissolve the trust due to lack of funding and hence to finish the programme of youth work at the centre. Other users will continue to use the centre.

St Nicholas Youth Centre was built in 1969 by the Diocese of Gloucester to serve the new housing estate in South Yate which was then scheduled to be built. Until 2011 St Nicholas YC received a large annual grant from South Gloucestershire Council, which was cut to zero in 2013. In 2012 SGYI was founded as a new company and charitable trust in order to secure funding from other sources. Indeed, in 2013 it succeeded in this with smaller but welcome grants from YTC, SGC and the Police and Crime Commissioner, and continued to deliver youth work of a high standard. However, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain funding and, despite the committed and hard work of the staff and trustees, the painful and difficult decision to finish the work was made.

The trustees are hoping that, in due time, another organisation will offer to conduct youth work in the centre again. However, in the current and difficult financial climate, there is no guarantee that this will transpire.

The trustees wish to pay tribute to the hard work of St Nicholas' staff over more than four decades, and to the wonderful young people of South Yate who have been a privilege to work with.

Revd Iain Macfarlane
Chair SGYI