Evaluation Report

East Lothian and Edinburgh

September 2015 - August 2016
Wave Project Mission

The Wave Project aims to change the lives of young people by using surfing, peer-mentoring and friendship.

Our aim is to give clients the skills, confidence and self-belief they need to achieve their goals, no matter what additional challenges they face.

We recognise that every young person is different and each responds to challenges in a different way. But we believe that with the right assistance and support they can do it.
Background to this project

The Wave Project has been running a surfing therapy programme for young people facing mental health challenges and social isolation since 2010. The aim is to provide an inspirational experience that helps to promote a healthier lifestyle by using the local environment as a form of therapeutic activity.

The Wave Project has been working with young people from across East Lothian and Edinburgh since a successful pilot in 2014, the results of which can be accessed here:


Since this pilot the focus has been on sustainable upscaling of the effective provision of surf therapy for the benefit of local young people. Throughout 2015-16, the Wave Project has worked alongside over 100 children and young people aged between 8 years and 18 years old who were already working with professionals in mental health and social services.

Various local and national charities agreed to fund the course based on the success of our pilot scheme and a subsequent interim set of courses, the evaluation of which is available here:


Our current set of courses were designed as a continuation of the outcomes from our evidence based practice. The focus was on enabling the Wave Project to reach its full potential in Southern Scotland reaching as many young people as sustainably possible.
Project aims

The aims of the project were:


2. To encourage participants to make friends, build on communication, confidence and self-reliance.

3. To introduce clients to our established surf club enabling them to develop close links with the local community for on-going personal wellbeing and social inclusion.
Clients

“My client was in danger of being labelled a ‘bad boy’ and of internalising this as his identity. Surfing with the Wave Project as brought out the kind, helpful and cooperative side of his personality.”

Seventy-two new clients were referred to courses from across East Lothian and Edinburgh while the project continued to work alongside over thirty individuals from previous courses within its surf club. Of clients on new courses 59 completed the course (attended 4+ sessions with missed sessions due to illness or other unavoidable causes). Clients were all aged 8 to 18, and were referred by professionals working in health and social services. Partner organisations who made referrals included East Lothian Council, NHS Lothian, Dunbar Primary School, Dunbar High School, North Berwick High School, Richmond’s Hope, a children’s bereavement charity and Beyond Boundaries, a mobility support charity.

Most clients were aged under 16. The ratio of male to female was just under 2:1 (13:7 see below)

Table 1: Client gender / age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Age)</th>
<th>8-11</th>
<th>12-16</th>
<th>16-21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Due to the ethnic make-up of the local area, most clients were white. This is consistent with the demographics of the East Lothian region as a whole, in which 98% of the population define themselves as White (Scotland’s Census 2011).

Table 2: Client gender / ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Ethnicity)</th>
<th>White Scottish</th>
<th>White British</th>
<th>Other White Background</th>
<th>Filipino</th>
<th>Did not wish to disclose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Intervention

“I had a great time learning to surf. It made me feel better within myself and how to make new friends.”

The project was modelled on previous successful Wave Project courses in Dunbar. Clients were referred by local services and placed on a course lasting six weeks. Sessions took place after school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, between 4.30 and 6.30pm. Sessions were run from Belhaven Beach near Dunbar, East Lothian. Kit, wetsuits and water safety were provided by Coast to Coast Surf School, and sessions were managed by project coordinator Jamie Marshall. Jamie, a qualified surf instructor, led the sessions in person and coordinated teams of volunteers to work 1:1 with clients in the water. Nine courses were run over the course of the year.

Funding for transport was available, so taxis were provided for clients who needed a lift to the sessions if volunteer transport could not be arranged.

Clients met up at the surf school where they got changed utilising a beach side space kindly facilitated by East Lothian Council. They then walked about 200m to the beach carrying their surf boards. (This required a walk across some marshy land between the surf school premises and the beach). Clients assembled on the beach for a safety briefing with the volunteers and they all got into the water together. Each client had their own personal volunteer, but it was not necessarily the same person at each session. However, in some cases clients gravitated towards a specific volunteer who they felt comfortable with, and they were left to work together. This method empowered the clients to decide who they wished to work with.

Over the course of the six weeks, clients got to know the volunteers and each other, worked on their surfing and gaining more confidence in the sea as they improved. They coped well with the cold water. A bad-weather plan had been put in place in and this had to be utilised on two separate occasions with one rearranged session. This was due to safety concerns related to wind speeds with another rearranged due to safety concerns related local lightning.
Evaluation measures

An important part of the project was evaluating whether the sessions had a positive effect on clients. We used a validated tool - the Stirling Child Wellbeing Scale - to measure changes to their wellbeing before and after the course. This is a positively worded measure developed by Stirling University in 2010, with 2 subscales measuring emotional and psychological wellbeing, validated with children aged 8 upwards.

We asked clients to complete of a simple questionnaire that used this scale to measure their self-esteem, self-confidence, relationships and achievements. This was completed pre and post project. Success was determined on measurable self-reported improvements in mental health and self-confidence, but also included qualitative feedback e.g. enjoyment of learning a new skill, meeting new people and being part of a community.

We also looked at hard measures such as session attendance figures, and positive changes clients made to their lives after the project, such as joining a surf club or another club.
Results and Findings

1. Attendance

Attendance was good. The mean attendance score for the project overall was 78.9% (where 100% would indicate each client attending every session). Each newly referred client had six available sessions. Surf club attendance was at 88.3% (where 100% would be every surf club session run at full capacity).

Attendance Notes

The majority of clients who missed sessions did so either due to ill health or clashes with existing family plans or social programs. This was of particular note during the summer holidays where most individuals missed at least one if not more sessions due to family or respite holidays. A few clients also missed individual sessions due to school trips though this was noted at the referral stage and the overall potential benefits were deemed to outweigh exclusion due to missing one session.

Clients who disengaged

A total of 13 young people disengaged from the surfing courses. The majority of these did not attend a session or dropped off after one or two sessions. Upon follow up with referrers this was primarily down to challenging family or social circumstances at the start of the courses. Where possible contact with these individuals has been maintained to offer another chance when individuals circumstances prove more appropriate. One individual dropped off the course due to an injury suffered out with the sessions. Finally, three individuals disengaged due to access challenges at the beach used. This has been a continuous challenge for the project since its inception.

Surf Club uptake

Over half of participants (58%) joined our surf club upon completion of courses this year. Membership to the Wave Project Scotland Surf Club currently stands at 55 with several of these individuals volunteering on new courses to help other young people gain the same benefits they did within the intervention.
Results and Findings

2. Clients' self-evaluation scores

Out of 59 clients who completed the course, 54 correctly completed both pre and post evaluation questionnaires. The pre-evaluation questionnaires were completed around 2 weeks before the clients started the course, while post evaluations were completed at the start of their final sessions.

The table below shows the group mean scores of all clients (based on 54 completed forms). Clients were asked to rate their wellbeing using on a scale of 0 to 5, using different evidence-based measures of wellbeing.

Table 3: Changes to client’s wellbeing (group mean)
Results and Findings

Clients also answered questions about their attitudes towards learning and healthy living, and these changes were measured in the same way.

Table 4: Changes to clients’ attitudes towards healthy living (group mean)

These findings indicate that, as a group, clients showed positive change across all 17 measures, which is consistent with other Wave Project courses. The increases in scores were clinically significant across all bar one measure.

Clients showed the biggest improvement in the measure “I’ve been having fun” (effect size: 1.13); and measure “I feel I am learning a lot at the moment” (effect size: 1.05) and the least improvement in the “I think lots of people care about me” (effect size: 0.08).
Results and Findings

Clients were asked to rate their overall satisfaction with the project by answering Yes or No to questions. They were also asked to give the project a safety score with 3 different responses, and an overall satisfaction score out of 10.

Table 5. Number of client registering positive change ( / 54 clients)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client Change Measure</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Positive change %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I feel better than before</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>98.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel more happy</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>96.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel fitter than before</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>90.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I made new friends</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>79.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had fun</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>98.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6. Client safety score ( / 54 clients)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction Measure</th>
<th>Very</th>
<th>Fairly</th>
<th>Not safe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How safe did I feel</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7. Client satisfaction scores ( / 54 clients)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction Measure (score out of 10)</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>Satisfaction Rating %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How good was it to go surfing</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>94.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These findings indicate that, as a group clients were extremely satisfied with the project with an almost 95% satisfaction rating. The clients also recognised positive changes themselves with a large proportion registering a positive change across the six measures. It is very encouraging to see that client satisfaction and recognition of positive change have remained stable as the project has been up scaled.
Results and Findings

3. Clients' descriptive words

In post-evaluation, clients were asked to write down up to 10 words to describe ‘Me and Surfing’. This was designed to give a different insight into their experiences. More frequently occurring words have been written in a bigger font:
Results and Findings

4. Clients’ feedback

Clients were asked to describe what made them feel different, and what they felt they achieved, from taking part in The Wave Project. They were also asked for any general comments about the project. Twenty-six clients completed this section of the post evaluation form. The feedback was very positive - what follows are excerpts from of clients’ comments.

“

- In the Wave Project I joined in everything they said, this is new for me as I don’t normally feel able to join in. I really felt comfortable with the guys not only Jamie but all guys helping and taking part. I made good progress with going on the surfboard and I am very proud of that. I don’t often get to do stuff I’m proud of. I love being in the water and I love the crashing of the waves. I can’t wait to go again with the club, and see all the guys again.

- Much less worried in the sea, I feel more active within myself, which has given me the will to try new things in life. It gave me more self-confidence than before.

- Great time learning to surf. Made me feel better within myself and how to make new friends.

- I was not so confident in the sea before, it was just amazing. It made me feel calmer and more positive and learned new skills.

- It is so so fun, I want to do it one million more times. I like knowing how to surf. Meeting new people, I got more confident.

- All 6 sessions were amazing, and I have loved every bit and now I know how to surf like a professional surfer.

“
Results and Findings

5. Quantitative feedback from professionals

Eight professionals who referred clients to the Wave Project completed a feedback form, which represented twenty-one clients referred to the scheme. Professionals were asked a series of Yes / No questions, and asked to write down any further comments in their own words, about what had worked well, or could be improved.

Table 9. Client progress (8 professionals)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client Change Measure</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
<th>Positive Change (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>They felt more positive</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They felt happier</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>87.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They were more active</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They made new friends</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They had fun at sessions</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They had fun afterwards</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>87.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated improved behaviour</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated better self-management</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated a more positive attitude</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated more empathy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated better communication skills</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>62.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated more self confidence</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated a healthier lifestyle</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>62.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated progress with surfing</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>87.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated progress with education</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results and Findings

Table 10. Satisfaction with Service ( /8 professionals)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction with service</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Satisfaction %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall I am satisfied with this service</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would recommend this service to others</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I would refer other clients to The Wave Project</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting times for the project were satisfactory</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The project met the outcomes I expected</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Comments from professionals

Professionals were asked to describe how their clients had changed, if at all. What follows are excerpts from these descriptions with client names redacted.

- *My client thoroughly enjoyed his sessions. He talked positively about the project and seemed to make positive connections about the surfing staff. This was his first opportunity to ever join a club and he is desperately keen to continue. Given the challenges he will face as he grows into his teenage years the chance to continue and build upon the skills and interests the Wave Project has kindled would be very beneficial. With all that has been currently happening for him this was his chance once a week to relax and just enjoy and activity and interactions with others. This has been so helpful to his own sense of self-worth and his sense of achievement. I would highly recommend this project. I was very impressed with the level of commitment to ensuring transport to and from the project was not a barrier to all our children attending. The relationships during transportation were very valuable. It is beneficial for some of our pupils who attend to have the chance to build positive relationships with good male role models.*

Elaine Albano, Head Teacher, Dunbar Primary School
Results and Findings

6. Comments from professionals (cont.)

- My clients felt good about themselves especially since they were not too sure as to whether they would enjoy it at the start. Some members were not even up for it at all and surprised us by taking part and having a lot of fun. The young people had an amazing time and loved it. I would recommend for all young people.

Lisa Shine, East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership

- One of my clients generally just refused point blank to try any activity in the past but from day one I knew this was the activity for her. She went in the water all sullen and huffy and came out glowing and alive (I have witnessed similar effects on other referrals). My sense is that surfing has given her a different view of herself and her potential in life. She tends to give up easily so I was surprised how she took to surfing. She likes that she is good at it too! It is a very positive thing in her not always positive life. I am hopeful she will consider volunteering with the Wave Project when she is older as I think she would get a lot out of the thought of giving back. Another of my clients is a wee lad still at high risk of offending behaviour. He struggles to maintain boundaries and he spends a lot of time out playing and getting into trouble. Coming along to the Wave Project enabled him to see himself differently. He was in danger of being labelled a 'bad boy' and of internalising this as his identity. Surfing with the Wave Project as brought out the kind, helpful and cooperative side of his personality. The transport support offered is crucial as none of my clients could attend without it.

Andrea Armstrong, Children’s Wellbeing, East Lothian Council
Results and Findings

6. Comments from professionals (cont.)

- *My clients had more confidence and engaged well within the group. It was great to see them helping and encouraging others less able.*

  Steven Nelson, Beyond Boundaries East Lothian

- *My client loved surfing and has become more confident.*

  Jane McCormack, Guidance, North Berwick High School
Results and Findings

7. Quantitative feedback from parents and guardians

Parents and guardians asked for their observations about how the course had benefited their children. Twenty-five parents completed this questionnaire:

Table 11. Client outcomes ( / 25 parents)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>After my child did the Wave Project my impression was</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
<th>Positive change %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>They were more positive</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They felt happier</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They were more active</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They had fun during sessions</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They had fun after the course</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated better communication skills</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated improved behaviour</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated a more positive attitude</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated more self-confidence</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They demonstrated progress with education</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results and Findings

8. Comments from parents and guardians

Parents and guardians were asked to describe how their clients had changed, if at all. What follows are excerpts from these descriptions with identities redacted.

"My foster son is a lot more positive in his attitude, chatty and happy on his return from surfing. In his words a 'good tired.'"

Ms S.R. (Guardian)
Results and Findings

8. Comments from parents and guardians

- *He was more positive about himself. Noticed the weather and appreciated being outside for a change and realised what a lovely beach he was at. My son appreciated the volunteers helping him in a non-intrusive but enabling way.*

  Mrs M.H. (Parent)

- *My daughter has more confidence in herself, as a result of the surfing course. Friends say to her that surfing is a cool thing and that they wish they were doing it! I think she is pleased when they say this and she now believes that she is quite good at it through the Wave Project's praise and encouragement. Just hearing it from your parents isn't enough. Hearing it objectively from instructors and volunteers is so much more powerful. She has become more independent and less reliant on us as parents for lifts and a bit better at regulating behaviour. She has more belief in herself, she previously found it very hard to commit and stick to things. Just want to say a big thank you to everyone at the Wave Project for making this project happen. It isn't until you fill out the feedback form that you realise the benefits are wider than surfing alone. It has made me feel happy that my daughter has found something that works for her and I hope she continues with it. She may need help organising herself to do it when she's at University.*

  Mrs S.S. (Parent)

- *During the project my niece had to attempt a work placement. Not only did she face this challenge head on but completed it. She is more likely with her new found confidence to try new things and attempt change. She also took part in PE for the first time in a year.*

  Ms S.P. (Guardian)
Results and Findings

8. Comments from parents and guardians

- My son became more self-confident and assertive. He asks for help but is much keener for me to back off and let him get on with it. My son has a lot to say but great difficulty saying it so tends to shut down around other people. I really noticed him wanting to talk to volunteers after the sessions, a massive step in the right direction. He generally seems much better, his feedback speaks volumes. Everyone at the Wave Project accepted him and his challenges and treated him with respect. He has understood and really appreciated this. I was very moved by the difference in his responses to the questionnaire and how he has ‘grown’ by the experience. He looks forward to seeing you all in the surf club.

  Mrs V.L. (Parent)

- My grandson is more confident - he was very unsure about joining the Wave Project but once there had an absolutely wonderful experience. Since joining he has also joined a bowling club and is very eager to continue surfing with the Wave Project.

  Mr R.S. (Parent)
Conclusions and Discussion

1. Main Findings

The results from the evaluation show a robust association between the Wave Project’s unique intervention and improvements to mental health and personal wellbeing outcomes. Attendance remained high (78.9%) though as mentioned courses run in the summer negatively impacted on the average due to the high number of clashes with other activities and pre-planned family events. This matches with data from other projects around the country and will inform Scottish project planning moving forward. Improvements were noted across all 17 measures of mental health and personal wellbeing with 16 of the 17 measures being of statistical and clinical significance. This indicates the Wave Project intervention has a positive impact on a range of mental health and personal wellbeing outcomes for young people from the wide range of backgrounds that we have the privilege of working alongside. Of particular note are significant improvements to the measures “I’ve been having fun” (effect size: 1.13); “I feel I am learning a lot at the moment” (effect size: 1.05); and “I've been able to make choices easily” (effect size: 0.96). These improvements demonstrate not only young people’s enjoyment in participation, but also the potential wider impacts of boosts to personal wellbeing on their wider lives. These positive changes were supported in feedback from parents and referrers. It is extremely encouraging to see that improvements to personal wellbeing have been maintained with the upscaling of the Wave Project in Scotland, demonstrating that the services’ efficacy as it reaches more and more young people in Southern Scotland.

The clients’ qualitative feedback was overwhelmingly positive with descriptions of the impact of increased confidence directly linked to wider social contexts on several occasions. In this exercise, the same (positive) words came up again and again - fun, good, exciting, happy, cool, amazing. A few less positive words also appeared - cold, challenging, and even shark; but the same clients also used positive descriptive words with greater frequency. There is very little variance in the most common words between these results and those on our pilot study and with other projects around the UK. This suggests Wave Project experience is consistent for different referral groups at different locations and across different time points.
Conclusions and Discussion

2. Main Findings (cont.)

Parental and referrer feedback supported positive changes to wellbeing within many spheres of everyday life. Of particular note are the occasions where parents when reflecting on giving feedback noted the wider impact of the Wave Project out with the surfing sessions themselves. This was mirrored in referrer feedback and highlights the importance of the close relationship the Wave Project is committed to maintaining with referral organisations to facilitate participation for all clients, no matter what challenges may exist within their own individual circumstances.

2. Challenges / Problems

Overall feedback from clients and professionals was very positive; the primary suggestions for improvement centred on one issue:

- **Access to the beach:** A small number of clients dropped out of courses this year because the challenging access across the marshy land between the surf school and the beach. These individuals had minor physical disabilities. This issue has been highlighted in both of our previous Scottish evaluation and we are delighted to have secured funding for a new all-terrain wheelchair with the support of Spifox and the upcoming Wave Garden Scotland. Following testing we are hopeful that our new wheelchair will address this issue with priority being offered to participants who have previously not felt able to continue with the Wave Project. The East Lothian Council disability department are now excited to also have the opportunity to work with us.

- **Funding:** The Wave Project in Scotland while funded for until September 2017, is still in the long term reliant on successful grant applications and community fundraising for further service provision. Without the development of new sustainable partnerships continuing service provision is only available in the short term.
Conclusions and Discussion

3. Next Steps

Based on this latest evaluation the Wave Project offers a valuable service supporting young people and local services throughout East Lothian. Following significant upscaling continuing service provision and the maintenance of our surf club are of the utmost priority.

All further development needs to be carried out with the issue of sustainability in mind. While we are funded for the coming months, beyond that further funding will need to be sought. For this reason, the Wave Project in Scotland is increasingly seeking to develop viable partnerships with local referrers and institutions to continue to secure the future of the Wave Project’s service provision in Scotland. The Wave Project is also exploring new funding avenues such as corporate sponsorship and government support with the aim of securing the interventions long term future.

The Wave Project is also for the first time seeking to expand its operations within Scotland. Following the model of the East Lothian project a new pilot is due to be established in St Andrews to offer the Wave Project service to young people throughout Fife. We are hopeful that the robust findings of this evaluation will further support this project in these early stages of the project in Scotland.