



# IMPACT REPORT 2019-2020



sound communities

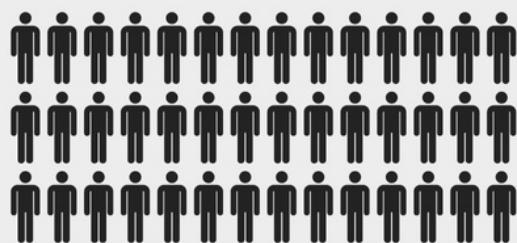
# SOUND COMMUNITIES CIC

## OUR IMPACT 2019-2020

### HOW WE DID:



**892**  
Participants



**766**  
Young People



**602**  
Total Paid Hours  
of work for  
Young People



**346**  
Early  
Intervention  
Hours



**305**  
Total Volunteer  
Hours



**296**  
Hours live  
broadcasting



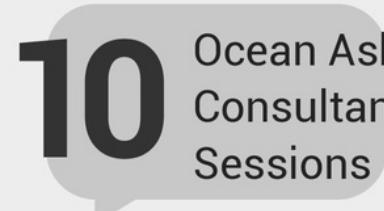
**273**  
Live  
Listens



**92**  
Young People  
in Early  
Intervention



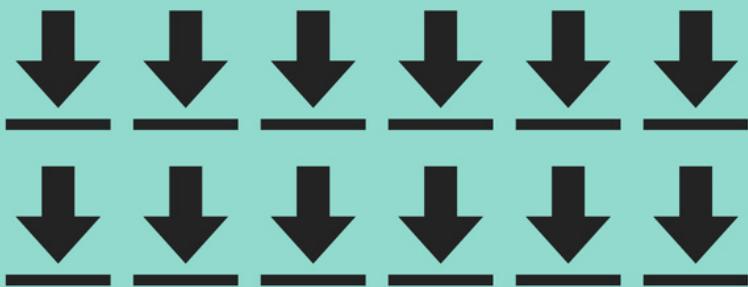
**13**  
Community  
Outreach  
sessions



**10**  
Ocean Asks?  
Consultancy  
Sessions

# SOUND COMMUNITIES CIC

## OUR IMPACT 2019-2020



**4369**  
DOWNLOADS



**19**  
Arts Events / Trips



**11**  
Inter-generational Sessions

**5** Award Nominations

**2** National Awards

**1** Work Placements

## OUTCOMES

766 young people told us that our activities:

Increased their confidence by

Improved their speaking  
And listening skills by

Helped them feel  
more connected by





**Radio Routes Outreach Session**

# OUR PARTICIPANTS

"One young girl who can not talk was singing live on the radio broadcast. The sessions brought our guys together, they worked together and spent time communicating which they ordinarily aren't so likely to do. The atmosphere was fantastic with your team ensuring everyone who wanted to be was included and heard. Without a doubt the impact on our guys was positive, encouraging and inclusive, increasing confidence and giving a focus."

**Mark, PHAB, 2019**

"The time, effort and skill really made a huge difference to the self esteem to the students, evident in the way they were talking today after they arrived back to school, with more confidence, expression, more eye contact and they were generally calmer. I really hope we can collaborate again in the future, I think what Ocean Youth Music does is truly valuable and deserves wider recognition". **Sian, Teacher, Medical Tuition Service, 2019**

**Radio shows** at Ocean Youth enable our producers to come together to hone their broadcasting, production and digital marketing skills. The shows connect, engage and inspire young listeners across Torbay. They also provide a platform to showcase our young people's **music production**. This year saw the development of our older youth programme, **Ocean Xtra**, aimed at 16-19 year olds.



Our **outreach sessions**, Radio Routes, grew this year reaching many more young people in their own local youth clubs, helping them to feel confident to express themselves.

We have used radio and music production activities in many more alternative education settings this year, reaching and targeting an increasing number of vulnerable young people as part of our **Early Intervention programme**. We have worked in new settings such as Brunel Academy, Burton Academy, Youth Offending Team. Existing partnerships have been consolidated with Torbay Youth Trust, Young Carers, Medical Tuition Service, YMCA, WAVE, Cambian Group, Young Devon, ACE Tiverton. Torbay and Devon Music Hubs.

# OUR PARTICIPANTS

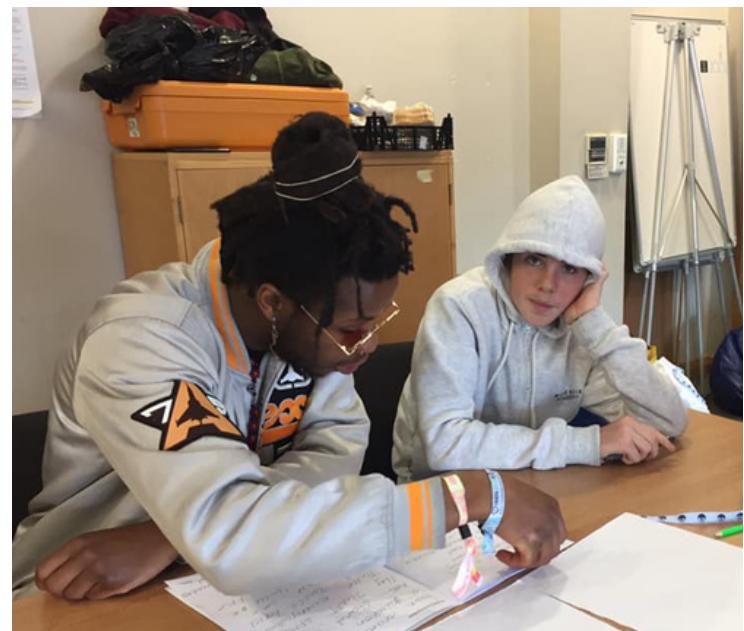
"Thanks to radio I'm so much more confident and much happier. I used to hide myself away but now I'm not afraid to speak. I speak in class and have made loads of new friends and that's thanks to Ocean Youth and all the opportunities it's given me."

**Rohan, 2019**

"Dan has always struggled with communication, as a small child he struggled to form sentences and his school identified that he has slow processing, making it difficult to understand instructions and react to situations quickly. He's also really shy so finds it difficult to make friends. Since stepping into Ocean Youth Dan's confidence has soared, when he did his first show, his teacher played it in class and it was the first time he'd been held up as doing something well. He overcame shyness to be part of a carnival procession and in lockdown he's been part of zoom meetings and a national project which again has helped him believe in himself and give him the confidence to try new things with people he hasn't met before.

Communication has improved too. As his Mum I know that he is better equipped to move up to secondary school, somewhere he doesn't know any other children, because of his time at Ocean Youth." **Parent, 2020**

All of our projects target vulnerable young people including **Play By Ear, Music Up!** and **RadioAhead**. Play By Ear's first year targeted small groups of young people in Pupil Referral Units, Medical Tuition Service, YMCA, Youth Offending team to develop creative music and radio to increase confidence and creative expression. RadioAhead is all about increasing confidence ahead of transition into secondary school. For this project we took referrals of year 6 students from 4 local primary schools.



Our consultancy arm, **Oceans Asks?**, took on 2 more commissions this year involving 10 sessions conducted by our young producers across Torbay in youth clubs.



We continued to bring people together to find and record stories for our intergenerational oral history project, **Hear and Now**, running 11 sessions in memory cafes and care homes and installing 3 listening stations in libraries across Torbay.

## Jack - Peer Mentoring new recruits



# OUR PEOPLE



**602** Total Paid Hours Work  
for Young People

**305** Total Volunteer  
Hours

**1** Work Placement

# OUR PEOPLE

Our vision has always been to build our organisation through employing our participants, providing exciting work opportunities and raising aspirations. We show our young recruits the possibilities for progression at Sound Communities and contributing to the dynamic cultural life of Torbay.

## CASE STUDY

" I used to be really shy but this has really helped me. I can talk to more people now." **Finn, 2019**

"He has really grown in confidence since belonging to Ocean Youth. He has made new friends and shown a personal interest into something he would never have pursued. We have really noticed a difference in him and how he has grown up. He helped at my Rowcroft Xmas fayre yesterday selling cakes, he was not shy and had good banter with the customers so much so I could leave him on the stall alone. We are very proud at what he has achieved with you and hope it continues." **Finn's father, 2019**

### FINN - CORE TEAM/VOLUNTEER PRODUCER



We have seen a real change in Finn since his involvement with Ocean Youth. Finn came to us through our early intervention programme, RadioAhead and has progressed during his time at Ocean Youth from a shy boy unwilling to put himself forward for extra curricular activities to a confident presenter now exploring drama and radio opportunities independently at his new secondary school.

Finn obviously loves making radio – he positively glows when presenting and comes to his shows having done excellent creative preparation. He independently researches other shows and is proving to be very promising new member of the core team. Finn was recently nominated for the national Youth Audio Award in the category of Best Rising Talent.

# CASE STUDY

"Ocean Youth has given me a reason to get up and have something to look forward to. The team are really supportive and have helped me with a lot of things including getting me into music college.

It's a great place to go to meet new people, have fun and learn new skills. I have really felt part of the team. They have been really encouraging which has helped me pursue music, giving me advice and supportive feedback. Overall I think Ocean Youth is a great project and would recommend this to anyone as it has really helped me." **Gabe, 2019**

"My son was always confident, sociable and happy at school until he started struggling with physical health problems and anxiety which he developed a few years ago following a very stressful time for us as a family. As a result he found it harder and harder to attend school and socialise. His education worker encouraged him to go along to Ocean Youth.

He gave this a go and has been attending regularly for the past 6 months. The team have given him so much positive feedback and support and this has really helped him increase his confidence and start believing in his dreams again. He has been eager to get involved and share his ideas which has helped him feel valued and part of the team. He is now attending music college full time and is keen to still volunteer or perhaps even work for Ocean Youth in the future. I am incredibly grateful to the team for providing this wonderful opportunity for him." **Gabe's Mum, 2019**

## GABE - EMPLOYED YOUNG PERSON AND PEER MENTOR

Gabe was referred to our "Play By Ear" project via Torbay Integrated Youth Support Services, as at 15 years old he was not in mainstream education due to issues around mental health.

Gabe already had a passion for music production and DJing, but had never taken part in any learning or projects that allowed him to expand his skills.

Over the 6 week project, Gabe turned up to all sessions and assisted with setting up the equipment, learning new skills and taking his passion away with him to work from home and bring it to us the following week. Gabe began to regularly produce podcasts called 'Gabe Selects...', focusing on his love for electronic music and showcasing his productions. This helped improve his confidence and in turn led him to believe that he could follow his passion in education, by starting a full time post 16 course in digital music production.

Gabe continues to contribute to Sound Communities and is now a paid member of staff who assists in teaching other young people and being a peer mentor in DJing and music production. He also takes part in DJing at our live events in front of large crowds.



# CASE STUDY

"Through my time at Ocean Youth, I've learnt many life skills. Ocean Youth has given me the ability to develop and show confidence in radio from live presenting to interviewing and then use what I've learnt to teach others. These skills I know I would of never learned otherwise.

Over the 6 years so far at Ocean Youth, I've loved every minute of it, and still to this day want to put as much time as I can to help out and develop my 2 shows to be the best they can be. With the station there's always something you can do, or work on. Whether it's jingle making or helping out on an Ocean Youth project, I always feel my time and effort is appreciated. And that is why, I think I've never wanted to stop." **Ricardo, 2019**

We feel more confident because Ricardo has been teaching us. He's in charge of the radio room. I would still be shy now if Ricardo didn't teach me all of that. Ricardo loves the radio and he does it all for us." **Junior Participant, 2019**

"Ricardo now works for the radio. This gave him a sense of pride, a sense of belonging to a group that unconditionally accepted him for himself and did not judge on his colour or age.

Radio has been brilliant for my son, especially as he comes from a single parent household now he is communicating and learning with mostly male figures running the radio. He not only learned to communicate on all levels, he was actually learning many skills in life, but in a fun way that you don't realise you are actually learning. This has led my son into his chosen career." **Ricardo's Mother, 2019**

## RICARDO - EMPLOYED YOUNG PERSON

We met Ricardo during an outreach workshop at Oldway Primary School in 2011. Ricardo immediately took to radio production and has taken a leading role in the development of Ocean Youth Radio ever since. He has given his time, energy and passion and moved through the ranks leading our youth steering group and at 16 joining our payroll as part time, living wage workshop delivery and producer trainees.

Ricardo plays a vital organisational role, leading the Ocean Youth peer mentoring programme and our social media marketing campaign as well as producing some our most high quality content. In July his talent was recognised by a nomination for the Young Audio awards. He is always keen to learn new skills and be creative and we expect him to make a very successful career for himself with the radio industry. He has recently presented live on BBC Devon.



# OUR AUDIENCES

**4369 Downloads**

**296 Live Hours Broadcasting**

**273 Live Listeners**

**Lexi - Producer**

# OUR AUDIENCES

"You can tell them, but for them to see something like that they can say, 'Yes, mum was right'. It is performed by young people and that's important because another adult telling them is like mum and dad telling them that; but teenagers playing the role, very well, and the sound and the background and everything it is really well made. It is good.

So we need more of this in Torbay. More awareness for the teenagers and their social network, so tonight, for me, it was really positive. I want more. More more." **Parent, Lift Radio Drama, 2016**

Ocean Youth's live listens and downloads are increasing year on year.



**Ocean Asks?** designed and conducted its first research project into a possible connection between youth loneliness and social action.

Our young producers worked closely with The Children's Society to develop a research methodology, conduct the research, analyse the results and then share the findings. We learnt how to use digital marketing effectively, including designing a competition, to target thousands of young people through social media.

We got **80,410** views reaching **12,816** different young people in Torbay of whom **676** took part in a survey all within a 6 week period.

# OUR COMMUNITIES

"The impact this work has had on the young people has been brilliant. We've seen them grow with confidence. It brought the young people together and they invited people from outside and it brought a sense of community."  
**Barbara @ The Foyer, 2019**

Our work in the community develops connections between young people within and between communities. We travel to some of the most marginalised communities and build trusted relationships with participants and community leaders. We work hard to make sure young people's voices from these communities are heard. One example of this is our work this year at The Foyer – the assisted housing unit for young homeless people in Torquay. We ran multiple sessions at The Foyer around youth loneliness and social action culminating in a live open mic night.



**We ran outreach workshops at the following youth clubs:**

PHAB Club  
PHAB Junior  
Youth Genesis  
MusicAtTheEdge  
Acorn Centre  
Great Parks  
The Foyer  
Space at The Windmill Centre  
Parkfield House - Children In Care

# OUR PARTNERS

## PLAY BY EAR - Music and radio inspired by visiting artists

- Torbay Youth Offending Team
- Brunel And Burton Academies
- Medical Tuition Service
- YMCA
- Young Carers
- Fotonow
- Tom Marshman
- Solomon Obie

## RADIOAHEAD - Our early intervention transition programme

- Libraries Unlimited
- Oldway Primary School
- Roselands Primary School
- Whiterock Primary School

## OCEAN YOUTH DJS AND SILENT DISCO - Our entertainment service run by our young people

- Young Carers
- Doorstep Halloween
- Ageing Well
- Exeter RAMM nights
- Wavelength

## RADIO ROUTES - Our outreach workshops/broadcasts at youth clubs

- Youth Genesis
- Torbay Youth Trust
- Acorn Centre
- Phab Club Torquay
- Brixham The Edge
- The Foyer

We work with a growing number of community, education and statutory partners to develop activities and projects for the benefit of participants and communities.

## HEAR & NOW INTERGENERATIONAL ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

- Torbay Community Development Trust
- Ageing Well Torbay
- Torbay Libraries
- Libraries Unlimited
- Care Homes And Memory Cafes
- Oldway Primary School
- Roselands Primary School
- Whiterock Primary School
- Curledge Street Primary School

## MUSIC UP! - Music production and broadcasting for at risk young people

- Torbay Youth Offending Team
- Burton And Brunel Academies
- YMCA

## OCEAN ASKS? - Our youth consultancy arm

- Youth Genesis
- Phab Club Torquay
- Brixham The Edge
- Youth Trust
- Imagine This
- The Children's Society

## OCEAN YOUTH RADIO BROADCASTS

- Libraries Unlimited
- Eyevue/torbay Culture

# CONNECT WITH US

EMAIL: [INFO@SOUNDCOMMUNITIES.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@SOUNDCOMMUNITIES.CO.UK)

[INSTAGRAM.COM/OCEANYOUTHRAUDIO/](https://www.instagram.com/oceanyouthradio/)

[TWITTER.COM/\\_OCEANYOUTH](https://www.twitter.com/_oceanyouth)

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