

New support service for young people to open early next year

BY MARY O'CONNOR

A new free, confidential, service which will provide support and help to young people aged 15 to 25 years will open in the city centre early next year.

A partnership of the HSE, Headstrong (National Centre for Youth Mental Health) and the Galway Business Community it will focus on listening to young people's needs and working together to meet

them.

While its location and opening hours have not been finalised yet it is understood the facility will offer an out of hours provision.

The service will reach out to young people who are experiencing problems with family, boyfriends/girlfriends, at school, college or work.

"Perhaps it's just a place to go to clear your head, a place to find someone to talk to or someone to

listen," explains a spokesperson for the HSE West.

"From the small stuff to the big stuff all the help and support a young person will need will be available within this service. It will put key supports like GPs, youth workers, counsellors and a psychologist right in the heart of the community. It will be built and developed in consultation with its users, young people and will operate in a way that

puts young people first."

She says young people aged 15 to 25 years are being offered an opportunity to name this new service.

"Text a name that you think best captures what this service is about and have the chance to win a €400 One4all gift voucher. Email your ideas, name and contact details to nameit07@gmail.com or text us at (085) 1333023. The name will be chosen by a youth panel and the successful entrant will win €400 One4all gift voucher. Entries must be in by Monday December 17 with the winner announced before Christmas."