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**RadioActive101:**

***Rethinking radio as radical pedagogy for inclusion, engagement and informal learning  
for social impact***

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Radio will remain resilient as we find innovative applications for it. RadioActive101 uses internet radio as radical pedagogy to address the challenge of including, engaging and educating disenfranchised young people through two related Community Action Research projects, one focussed in London and the UK (RadioActive UK), and the other focussed within the broader European landscape (RadioActive EU). The projects are implementing a radical approach to conceptualising, and developing internet radio for informal learning within 'lived communities' through 'wrapping around' existing community organisations and networks (including youth organisations, schools and parish outreach organisations).

Some early findings showing the impact of RadioActive101 during a pilot phase in the UK, that was a four month intervention within a youth organisation, are unusually striking. During this time: the number of new young people attending the centre increased from 5 - 28 (approx. 560% increase<sup>1</sup>); more at-risk young people were retained, increasing from 2 – 10 (approx. 500% increase); and, perhaps most striking was that the number of young people moving from 'NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) to EET (in Education, Employment and Training), increased from 3 – 24 (approx. 800% increase). The trend of these improvements also 'accelerated' during the later months as pre-recorded and live shows were broadcast. Although these numbers are relatively small, they are highly significant within challenging youth work context, and clearly demonstrate the positive social impact of RadioActive101.

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<sup>1</sup> We are aware that the numbers given are relatively small, so the percentages given are considered strongly indicative rather than exact measures.

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## **Biographical note**

Andrew Ravenscroft is a Psychologist (C.Psychol, AFBPsS) and Learning Technologist who is a Professor of Education in the CASS School at University of East London (UEL), and an experienced DJ, music technologist and Events Manager. Casey Edmonds is a psychology and education researcher in the same School at UEL, who has specialised in vocational training linked to employability. James Dellow is a youth worker and education researcher based at Dragonhall (Holborn, London), who has ran previous radio initiatives. Alex Murphy is a youth worker at YoH (Hoxton, London) with a background in Theatre Production and Direction.