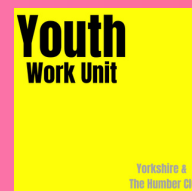
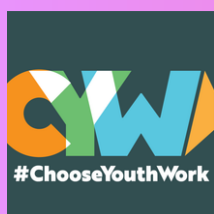
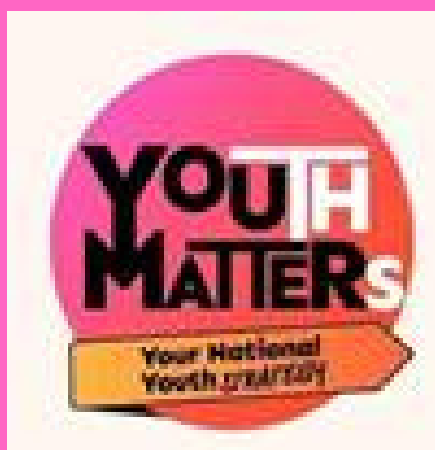


# Youth Matters - National Youth Strategy

University of Hull  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Leeds Beckett University  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2026



# Summary: Youth Matters – National Youth Strategy (NYS) – Y&H Roadshows

## Overall Summary Statement

The Youth Matters – National Youth Strategy roadshows across Hull and Leeds revealed a youth sector that is passionate, skilled and deeply committed but facing significant structural barriers including funding insecurity, workforce shortages, rural inequity, and limited access to safe spaces. Attendees strongly support the NYS vision but call for national consistency, long-term investment, fair distribution of resources, and clear definitions of roles alongside locally driven solutions, co-produced with young people. The sector is aligned, energised and ready to collaborate—if given the tools, trust and time to succeed.

University of Hull – 25 Feb 2026

Leeds Beckett University – 24 Mar 2026

Attendees: ~near 300 professionals from youth work, health, education, VCSE, local authorities and national bodies.

The roadshows explored the National Youth Strategy (NYS) and gathered regional feedback around its 3 Shifts and 3 Chapters.

## Key Themes Across the Roadshows

People Who Care – Workforce, Trusted Adults & Relationships

Challenges identified:

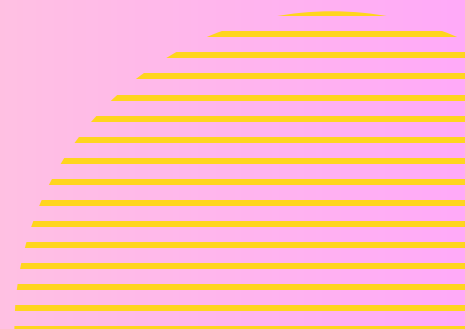
- Severe workforce capacity issues; burnout; short-term funding cycles.
- Lack of consistent pathways into youth work (qualifications, apprenticeships, career structure).
- “Trusted adult” is poorly defined; different expectations across schools, health, and VCSE.
- Rural and isolated areas missing out (“postcode lottery”).

What young people need:

- Consistent, reliable adults
- Empathy, non-judgemental spaces, safe environments
- Time to build trust, not short 12-week interventions
- People who relate to them (lived experience, community-based)

What’s needed nationally:

- Long-term funding
- National standards for participation, safeguarding & training
- Clear definition of “trusted adult”
- Recognition and protection of the “Youth Worker” title
- More apprenticeships and bursaries
- Joined-up policy with education, health, policing & social care





## Places to Go & Things to Do – Local Youth Offer & Access

### Barriers:

- Transport costs (major issue in East Riding & rural areas)
- Limited safe spaces
- Youth clubs not open frequently enough
- Digital poverty & inconsistent digital access
- School facilities often inaccessible out of hours
- Competition among providers for funding limiting collaboration

### What a “thriving youth offer” looks like:

- Accessible, friendly, safe, youth-centred
- Affordable or free activities
- Hyper-local provision (within a 40-minute walk)
- Co-produced with young people
- Up-to-date online information directory
- 7-day offer with multiple hubs, not one central model

### National support needed:

- Free or subsidised travel for young people
- Fairer distribution of funding (including rural/semi-rural areas)
- Clear guidance linking NYS with other national strategies
- Access to schools, community buildings & green spaces
- A national “Library of Voices” to gather youth insight

## Seen & Heard – Youth Voice & Influence

### Current issues:

- Youth voice often tokenistic; feedback loops are weak.
- Over-surveying without action creates distrust.
- Groups not heard: home-educated, NEET, asylum-seeking, rurally isolated, SEND, those with long-term health conditions.
- Young people who attend paid activities (dance/football) often overlooked by youth voice mechanisms.

### Indicators of genuine youth influence:

- “You said, we did” is visible and transparent
- Young people see real changes as a result of their input
- Regular meetings between young people and decision-makers
- Inclusive spaces where marginalised groups feel safe to participate
- Youth representation embedded in governance, not ad-hoc

### Gold-standard examples referenced:

- Leeds Youth Service & youth co-production model
- RCPCH Engagement Standards
- Youth Parliament & Make Your Mark
- UNCRC Article 12 – Rights-based participation frameworks



### Cross-Cutting Concerns & Big Questions

- How will 50 national Young Futures Hubs be allocated fairly?
- How to ensure rural/semi-rural areas receive equitable support?
- How will NEET, EHE (home educated) and excluded young people be engaged?
- How do we move from “cost” to “value-based” outcomes?
- How can youth workers be respected as professionals equal to teachers/social workers?

### Biggest Impacts Reported by Attendees

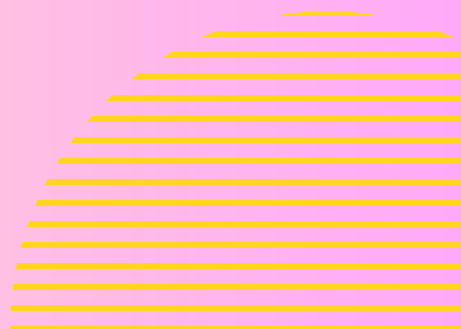
- Strong sense of unity and shared purpose
- Recognition of underfunding over the last 15 years
- Inspiration from seeing the scale of local commitment
- Desire for more cross-sector collaboration
- Hope around long-term investment in youth spaces and workforce pathways
- Re-energised commitment to partnership working

### Common Local Pledges

- Strengthen partnerships; reduce silo working
- Share information, training and resources
- Improve youth voice mechanisms locally
- Build or expand youth alliances
- Champion youth work professionally
- Ensure marginalised voices are prioritised
- Connect more frequently as a region to keep momentum
- Embed NYS principles into local strategy, bids, and service redesign

### What Support is Requested Regionally/Nationally

- Clear, simple NYS guidance and timelines
- Regular updates from DCMS & NYA
- Joined-up messaging across Education, Health, Home Office, DWP
- Funding that covers core costs, not only project costs
- Long-term contracts (3+ years)
- More staff capacity for lone leads delivering strategy
- Regional practice-sharing forums (quarterly)
- National participation standards to reduce tokenism



# Youth Matters - National Youth Strategy,

## University of Hull Roadshow, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Leeds Beckett University Roadshow 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026

The National Youth Strategy Regional Roadshows are a collaborative initiative between DCMS (Department for Culture, Media and Sport), NYA (National Youth Agency), Regional Youth Work Units (RYWUs) UK Youth and local leads. These partners are jointly responsible for planning, delivery, and engagement, ensuring consistency nationally while reflecting local needs. Nearly 300 people attended the roadshows exploring the strategy and its implications for local delivery. Below is the write of their small group discussions notes that focused in the 3 shifts and 3 chapters, questions and pledges made on the day. The Y&H roadshows were hosted by the two HEI institutions, University of Hull & Leeds Beckett University, that teach Youth Work in our region and the city, Hull and Leeds they are based in.

### Questions:

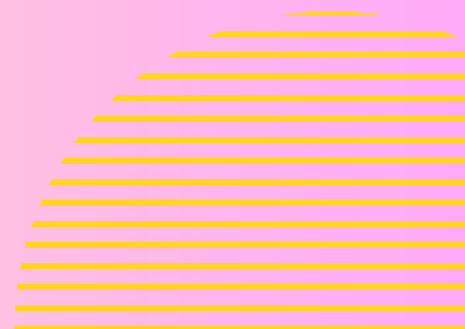
- How to engage with young people NEET living in a digital world
- Home Schooling and CYP excluded – What/how will the strategy support such young people?
- Is there a break down of areas in region to statistics between Hull, ERY and Bridlington?
- Dean spoke of postcode lottery – Bridlington is severely impacted by this – why? Left Behind?
- What safeguards do you have in place to ensure the voice of CYP is collective from all areas of the community – seldom heard?
- Are national engagement (RCPCH) standards going to be used to ensure CYP voice is heard? Rights based approach?
- Health based youth workers – what funding will there be for upskilling training youth workers to work with CYP with long term health conditions – understanding health issues/medication
- What support for career opportunities for young people with longer health conditions?
- What does partnership working look like? What needs to be in place for partnerships working for people to feel comfortable being part of a partnership and make it more effective?
- How will the 50 hub locations be decided? Young Futures Hubs?
- How can we move from cost to value based outcomes?
- How will DCMS ensure financial support for rural and semi rural areas across the Humber region and not over looked in safe space provision?



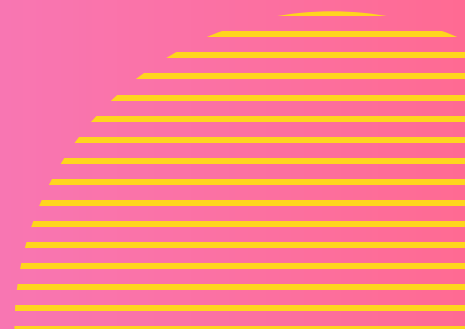
- How will this strategy realistically add capacity to so many already stretched services and professionals to support CYP colleagues and partners to embed this.
- Want to make things better for (empower) young people. How do we now create something sustainable at the organisation in the face of insufficient staffing and funding.
- With the emphasis on young people's worries about the cost of living, accommodation, costs and safe spaces I have some questions. What does this look like for homeless young people? Will there be assistance for YP homeless services/YP hostels? Is there scope to look at the link between rent costs and service charges in supported housing/hostels? Is there scope to look at the link between rent costs and service charges in supported housing/hostels? Currently they are linked so if a YP in this provision gets employment they lose housing benefit which leaves them liable for both elements. Resulting in £1000 + a week accommodation costs. This stops young people taking up work.
- Where can we find out about accessing the pots of money identified in the NYS?
- Ask if the DCMS would consider allocating bursary funding directly to youth work units so it can be given directly to local providers.
- Adolescent development can this be more valued
- Groups of young people are often experts at seeking out unsafe staff.
- Is there a specific networking or alliance for professionals involved in the training of YW? - Yes – facilitated by the NRYWUs – YWU Y&H – [theunit@youthworkunit.com](mailto:theunit@youthworkunit.com)

## Comments

- Enabling a young persons voice to be captured for TAS meetings within East Riding
- You talked about young people not knowing how to engage and influence – but organisations – especially voluntary – struggle to know how to challenge, influence and hold councils accountable
- Could do with more opportunities to have visitors with money assisting
- To keep the youth strategy fresh in the minds of young people in a way they will understand and benefit from being kept in the loop
- Rural areas are struggling in terms of accessing services
- If a voluntary service is not OFSTED registered places that are relevant to young people cannot be commissioned through EHCP
- Rights based approach – rights education for services to understand their responsibilities – how to embed into practice Children's Rights Impact assessment
- Be more available – school academics seem very insular and working with them feels difficult
- Be more available
- Open more frequently
- Find training and skills gap and look to publish these
- Responsive, empathy, understanding and a knowledge of the problems they are facing and how to support them



- Strengthen by sharing knowledge on national youth strategy
- Skills/knowledge and behaviours – being trauma informed/understanding of neurodiversity and SLCN
- A central information hub run by council
- Centralised youth work, health and well being, mental health and SEND training – LGBTQ+ free
- If the council could almost create a directory with relevant topics/headlines to assist with connection opportunities
- Hear what's important to them
- Get youth workers to be involved in our provision which includes activities for young people.
- Empty council properties made available for activities
- Hull Community Directory
- Who was missed – rural areas
- Looking to recruit mentors
- Children not in school and in most in need are not being heard
- Better links with the VCS
- RCPH engagement standards – trust rights – inclusion -community reach. Practical arrangements – take action
- We are having more in depth meaning from conversations and seem positive in their commitment
- If funders could attempt to pair up funders – bios as this allows more charities to get funding.
- Bring the child's voice to our strategic youth board and implement their views on youth justice service priorities in the strategic plan
- I think they would describe being let down by those who they should be able to trust
- Utilise child's voice through feedback
- Volunteer engagement – recruitment and support – young people peer mentor programme
- Prepared to listen more – prepared to talk
- Central Council run promotion of clubs and activities that is up to date and is on social media young people use
- I agree we should not be in competition and should work in partnership, but funding constraints make teams etc work in silos.
- East Riding transport costs are shocking. Limited discounts available to young people. Reduces confidence, poor attendance to health appointments, isolation, social anxiety etc. Evidence, but no change.
- This sounds like social prescribing a service in East Riding for children, young people, but it has low funding. YHP CYPSP Service - Trusted adult.
- Limited LGBTQIA+ Support and knowledge on the ground



# Chapter 1

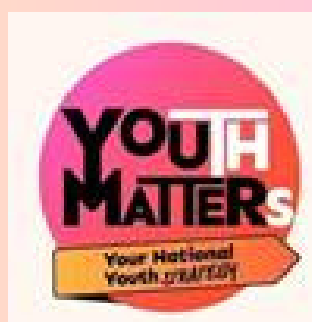
## People who care

### What actions could you take locally, realistically in the next three to six months to strengthen, grow or support your workforce?

- Education
- Try and remove barriers
- Reach young people by other platforms
- They liaise with governors, teachers, parents
- Liaise with other agencies, youth groups, governments, incentives

### different question

- Working together with other multi agencies for improved outcomes. Focusing on the young person.
- Full career path for youth workers. Upskill young people.
- Offering intro to youth work courses to wider workforce and voluntary sector.
- Mapping and identifying youth workforce both nationally and locally.
- Protecting the title of youth worker.
- Offering security in the role and benefits. Looking after the workforce.
- Recognising youth workers.
- Well paid youth workers.
- Showing vision across the youth sector and beyond.
- Relationships that matter. Celebrating the education workforce and examples of where those nurturing relationships have made a difference.
- The sport workforce - Sport England places expansion programme - Investment into communities to support local people. To be the trusted adult in the sport environment.
- Health champions. - The health workforce, school nurses, social prescribers V CS orgs.
- Being creative and flexible with youth work hours, Budding up with other worlds where appropriate.
- Increase youth work hours to deliver a new activity. And use existing capacity across public and V CS orgs more flexibility while bearing in mind the consistency of relationships with young people.
- How do you make a Youth Alliance the voice of the sector? Let's set it up and strengthen support for the workforce.
- Ensuring the voice of the sector is strong on key partnership groups set to connect. that can /have we learn(t) from other sectors.
- Having a directory to see services are available in the area. Making connections.



## **How would young people describe the experience of having people who care and they can rely on?**

### **What am I or can I do locally? –**

Youth workers. Consistency provide safe spaces, non-clinical spaces.

Young person, language friendly. On the level. Focused if needed. Treatment.

'Just be'. Space, local community. Give them time to open up and build relationships.

Give them choices and thinking outside the box. Opening times are friendly.

- Drop ins.

### **What is being done or is needed nationally?**

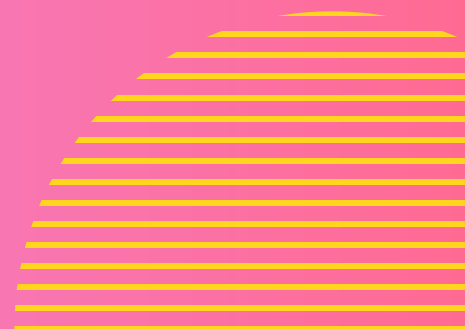
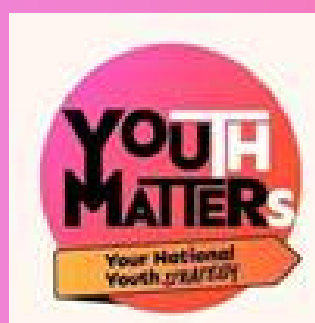
- Consistent funding. Equity in funding nationally. Understanding local landscape.
- Papers. Policy structures that fit together? Is there something over option?
- Young person friendly encouragements based in the community.

### **People who care.**

- Develop volunteers and young people. In house, move into paid work, grow your own. Level 2. Level 3 for bursaries.
- Challenge to offer enough hours and recruit.
- Yearly funding and fixed term contracts
- Align investment with what is already happening.
- Ask for forgiveness and permission. Roll up our sleeves and get on with it. Processes can be built but can't be rigid.

### **What am I or can I do locally?**

- Partnership and collaboration.
- Leave pessimism behind and believe hope is good.
- Local authority working better / strategically with VCSE.
- Sharing of good practise. Not duplication. Funding streams more achievable.
- Young people's lives. Experience. Changes.
- Better signposting.
- Aware of transitions development.
- What is being done or needed nationally?
- Link in with national partners driving connection.
- Next, we continue. Nationally, continue to listen to changing times and developing young people facing new issues.
- Local. Listen to council employees. And like VCs in they know how best to support, empower young people. Remove some bureaucracy.
- Trusted adult. In council employment and see it through young people's rights new policy.



## What does good look like now?

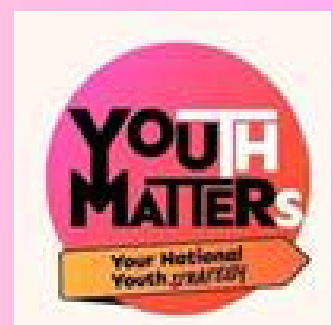
- Co Design. Focus groups. Conversations rather than surveys. Mapping analysts. Young people at. The heart of everything, every minute.
- Young people's needs and desires keep them central and Co producing mindful of true positions and development so continuous evaluation.

## How will each area and organisation take the national youth strategy forward?

- Reflection
- One vision across the board
- Allowing young people voice at a local level – youth voice
- Needs in areas – requirements
- Creating a local youth strategy

## People who care

- Share knowledge
  - Central council run info hub to share knowledge
  - Trauma informed training
  - Neurodiversity and SEND training
  - Peer mentor programme
  - More in depth conversations
  - Get youth workers involved in provision
  - Free centralised youth work , heath and wellbeing , mental health and SEND training
  - Bring child's voice to strategic youth boards and implement their views on YJS priorities in the strategic plan 26/27
  - Better links with VCS
  - Hear what is important to them
  - If the council could create a directory with relevant topics / headlines to assist with connection opportunities.
- 
- Relatability, role models
  - Similar age
  - Consistency – available be seen
  - Empathy
  - Safeguarding
  - Behaviour management
  - Boundaries
  - Approachable
  - Listen – non-judgemental
  -



## Partnership working

- Build trust across the system
- Build trust with yp and services
- School

- Social prescribers
- VCSE
- LA
- Referrals – TAS EHAP – Loop to feedback
- Police
- Right offer needed
- Health sexual health / mental health
- Youth network – collaborative working share best practice share resources
- Feedback loop up, down communication
- Placement opportunities – students, other professionals,
- Communication – different systems need to have a better way to share
- In service training – Leeds – needs consistency across the system, Hull has a good programme, service days and shut down,
- Grow / strength workforce

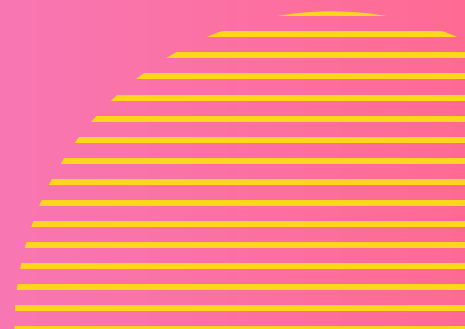
### **What can I do locally?**

- Full team / recruitment
- Skills audit
- Upskilling staff
- Apprenticeships
- CPD staff
- Educate service users
- Silo working – get rid !



### **What is being done / needed nationally?**

- Longer contracts / funding streams (reduce churn of staffing)
  - What does good look like?
  - Local offer for everyone – big ask, out of date all the time
  - Skills
  - Tackle taboo
  - Questioning skills
  - Curiosity skills
  - Facilitation of difficult discussions
  - Knowledge
  - Behaviours – non judgemental
  - Training –
  - Can be anyone trusted but is there a need for formality around it
  - Support – clinical supervision / Advice
- 
- Aspirational.
  - Inspirational.
  - Adaptable.
  - Patient.



- Interactive.
- Fun.
- Trust.
- Respect.
- No judgement.
- Shared outlook./ goals
- Kind.
- Show empathy.
- Curious.
- Trustworthy.
- Approachable.
- Flexible.
- Resilient.
- Reliable.
- Good communicator.
- Relatable.
- Advocate.
- Honest.
- Sense of humour.
- Good listener.
- Good understanding of their community.



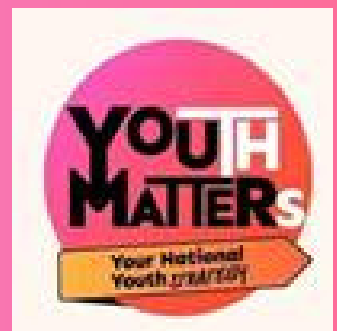
- Excellent listening skills
- Consistency – being there
- Team meetings – 3-6 months regular networking
- Trusted adults – give training – basic, Bus/security guards / take away staff / drivers
- Are the trusted adults connected to local infrastructure?
- People who care relies on good will, need wages, professionalism .Short term, people move on.
- Need support to be developed as wf. Work Force needs emotional H&W support good supervision , clinical supervision
- how many people go through the whole professional pathway , progression routes need to be accessible training opportunities spread out. Where are providers based.
- F2f is better, some courses back to front, self – led and face to face
- Yp exist in a number of environments, there should be a trusted safe adult in all domains of life those adults communicate together for the yp's best interest.
- There should be a baseline of Knowledge. right place, right time.
- Giving youth a voice.
- Different experiences bring value
- Trauma informed approach.
- Responsible body.
- Knowing who to call.
- Time.
- What trust means to youth. How can this be different to each person?
- Opportunities for professionals.

- Understanding what we already have. Strengths - Champion.
- Understanding what young people think we are. What do they need?
- Trusted adults.
- Role of family. How can services support?
- Gaps. Up skilling and training.
- Focus on what young people want, working it out together.
- Knowledge of local area. Collaboration.
- Central point of information. Network.
- Sharing of information and resources.
- Work experience. Volunteering

What indicated, formal or informal, will tell you that the youth workforce has become stronger?

Number of paid workers.

- Resources and time to reflect on practise.
- Recruitment and retention.
- Healthy, good remuneration.
- Supportive networks.
- Profile raising of professional. #cyw
- People accessing qualifications.
- Experienced line managers to support staff.
- Commitment to values.
- Documentation.
- Evaluation.
- Staff looked after and supported welfare.



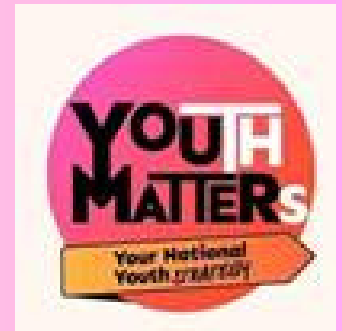
How would young people describe the experience of having people who care they rely on?.

Trusted relationship.

- Safe.
- Time and listen.
- Youth Work.
- Experiences.
- Residential's.
- Locally.- Visibility. Detached and outreach. Trusted spaces. Clear role. Development of youth alliance. Paint ambassador programme. JNC Apprenticeships. Opportunities.
- Nationally. - Time to be a youth worker. Time for Reflection. Time to be the trusted professional adult.
- Not to be everything, be a youth worker.
- What does good look like? Placement opportunities.
- Make a commitment to employ and train youth workers.
- Find a way to find and fund training. Bursary is needed.
- When developing post lights into job specs that Qualification are essential - show pathways.
- Properly qualified people.

JNC Qualifications. Assess Practise This is needed.

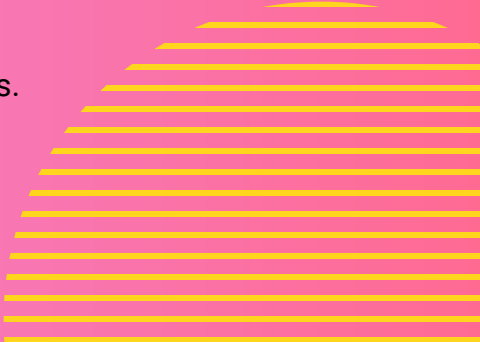
- Using local providers who deliver face to face.
- What weight about T level approach? Need other routes? Not seem to work.
- Flexible approach to delivery.
- Not just an academic course, there is so much more.
- Local and national youth work conference
- May be look At the Youth Work Register, licenced to practise.
- Emphasis on JNC
- Create the pathway where the level 6 is needed.
- Statutory requirements for youth work qualifications.



#### What can we learn from other sectors?

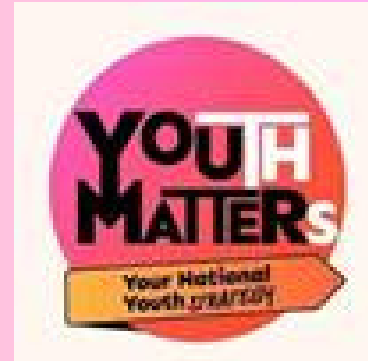
- Trusted adults need training, but not all quals
- Safeguarding. DBS, The ones who we appoint to be trusted adults to go through safer recruitment. How do we DBS mum's friend?
- Youth Justice. Like appropriate adults.
- Pathways to recruit volunteers. Differ within parts of sector.
- Frustration at voluntary level - Transferable knowledge and skills. A strength, richness of the sector.
- Barriers for creating trusted adults Hurdles have to jump through.
- Nothing recognised. Transferable. Almost like a passport for volunteer. One induction. DBS safeguarding training rather than having to redo it at each place you go and volunteer.
- A level of basic youth work qual for everyone in the sector.
- DBS update service. Vol Free. Challenge with right category.
- Time. Pastoral. In schools or cs care - Don't have the time and capacity to spend with each young person. As youth workers, we have the time. Brought in by schools to build those trusted relationships. Challenge 12 week parachute intervention not long term. Very few other orgs that do this.
- Relationship is key.
- Hidden structure. Eg Playing jenga with another purpose. Not teaching young people, but sharing information, running a session, working with.
- Teaching, communicating audience transferable skills.
- Voluntary relationship. D Professionalised over the years. Essential. The only metric within youth work.
- A lots of sectors, might see youth workers just playing games.
- Youth work successful because people keep walking through the door.
- Manager bolting outcome on to protect authenticity of all relationships with young people and youth workers.
- Feedback, intro them to someone to do a survey for example that they get feedback.
- Trusted adult. Dirty word.
- Youth worker don't need a qual? Social work has to have social work degree. Teachers, etc.
- The sector id fxxxxx - Lost all both ways. Can't train youth workers. Nowhere for me to go locally. Degree apprenticeships nowhere to go once qualified. Youth work decimated. Qualified youth workers have not had the opps to get good qualifications experiences in diverse difficult situations.
- Protecting the title. Similar to social work need. For continuous CPD while then what's qualified? That's it. Reflection EG. Professional reflection support for the trauma you witness - Vicarious trauma.

## Skills of Trusted adult.

- Safeguarding. Knowledge of practise and the resources.
  - Ability to have the resources to create an environment of.
  - Interpersonal Skills.
  - Mutual respect.
  - Proper training. An understanding of theories. Agent Trauma informed practise. Hierarchy of needs.
  - Understanding young people.
  - Create definition of what is meant by a trusted adult. From an organisational at strategic level.
  - Ability to build responsible relationships.
  - Concerns around what is a trusted adult?
  - Clarity around the term Who is and who isn't a trusted adult? To support young people to understand this.
  - Understand the challenges they face now. Up to date Keeping up to date training.
  - Understanding local area issues.
  - Multi agency information sharing.
  - Advocate and voice of young people.
  
  - Networking. Training. Volunteers. Sufficiency offer. Help identify people who can. Commissioners who care.
  - Joint working standards. People who care across the system. Guidance and where the funding will go, the process of allocating it.
  - The family they should have love, trust, valued, celebrated, challenge, supported, care, friendship, safe risk. Expenses lived. Empathy role models. Representation.
  - Start with the young people are at .
  - Youth voice. University.
  - Good supervision. Set training days as teachers do.
  - Prioritise well-being.
  - Career progression.
  - Funders that trust delivery partners and don't over monitor.
  - Funding with Unrestricted Spend
  
  - NYA To say L3 is qualified. No, should be a degree.
  - Roles with longer hours.
  - Face to face training, rather than online.
  - Share training locally.
  - National strategy to support local orgs.
  - Youth Work Registry that actually means something.
  - More apprenticeships entry level.
  - Postgraduate option but not an MA. But hudds used to do.
  - Professional workforce from all works of life.
  - More awareness of what youth work is.
  - Finding a balance between academic needs and interpersonal skills.
- 

Trusted adult skills, knowledge and behaviours.

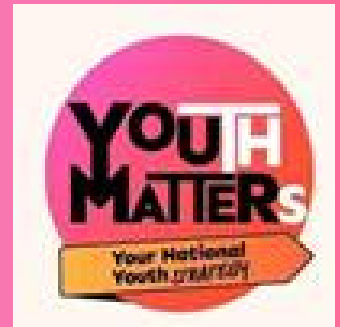
- DBS
- Access to opportunity.
- Relational.
- Advocacy.
- Genuine respect for young people.
- Reliability.
- Good role model.
- Lived experienced empathy.
- Good knowledge of safeguarding.
- Local.
- Youth Alliance.
- Mental health support.
- Work Coach.
- Safeguarding.
- Health.
- Working with violence reduction.
- Signposting targeted support.
- Skills, Employability.



How would young people describe the experience of having people who care they can rely on?

- Youth services. More investment in youth work training. - Offer to young people.
- Someone reliable, consistent, and keeps showing up.
- Treat people as individuals.
- Respect. Not that has to be earned.
- Providing new experiences, memories.
- Photo Voice safe spaces. Young people said these actually care. Safe spaces with young people.
- Not being judged.
- Schools. Uniforms labelled. You're shamed, but in youth work more relational talking through.
- Dealing with cause, not consequences. Trauma informed.
- Being relatable. Normal person not authority.
- Lived experience.
- A space to be themselves. Not enough of this.
- Allowed to make mistakes.
- Understanding. Strict rules is damaging.
- Someone believing in them. Cheerleader.
- Promoting youth workers a career. Qualifications, investments in training, recognising that maintaining and jobs is still impact, doesn't have to be lawyers etc moving forward.
- Actually promoting relational approach, not impact focused short term, long term funding less output focused. Can build longer term evaluation. Joining the sectors partnership. Seeing the value of multi agency approach.

- Hyper local ways of working. Bing embedded in communities. Knowing a safe person is in their community.
  - Seven day offers. Change help with schools. You can't ship meetings. Group bid. Having someone to take to the first session.
  - Communication.
  - How do we find out about trusted adults for young people – advocating.
- 
- Move qualified practitioners.
  - Different levels 1,2,3,6.
  - Say youth work. Said more in adverts. Grow your own.
  - High profile youth work campaigns. And champions.
  - What do we mean about US youth work?
  - Networking.
  - Commitment to working with young people.
  - Representation for all young people.
  - Relatable. Reliable. I'm relationships diversity.
  - Relational training. You're welcome.
  - Youth Informed standards paid unpaid.
  - Protected JNC in jobs. Title description. Qualifications.



## Chapter 2

How would you describe A thriving local youth offer in a way a young person would recognise instantly?

- Accessibility.
- Factual description.
- Social media platforms.
- Understandable information with language they can relate to.
- Friendly, reliable, trustworthy staff
- Will funding and resources fit role areas that suffer isolation, poor transport links and low self-esteem but not high in numbers? Transport links and links to out of school activities, jobs opportunities and trusted networks.
- Integrated working between services.
- 24-hour Open Access one stop shop.
- Investment in training to give a high-quality service.
- Safe spaces.
- Regular networking sessions to create partnerships.
- Investment in young people. Opportunities, Spaces, Employment.
- Can't access things to do and places to go due to transport issues.
- Digital property. Looking on to activities.

- Cost of activities, equipment, classes, sessions, multiple siblings.
- Co-produce with young people to understand what a thriving youth offer means to them using their language and terminology.
- Built facilities strategy. - Sport and P community spaces.
- Community use of schools needs to improve.
- Young Futures hopes in.
- Refurbishment of our youth centres and better use spaces.
- Parks. Improving safety. Keeping uniformed
- Changing the healthy holidays approach involved more school settings.
- But make sure schools are feeding young people during the school week. Challenging with very short lunch breaks so lots of school free school meal. Young people are missing out 36 weeks of the year.
- Using unlinking youth programmes to off fabulous whole facilities EG whole truck, new theatre, leisure centres, ice arena.

### **Partnership working -**

- Consistency being reliable., Funding., No partnerships, preparing providers so not duplicate work, not seeing each other services as a threat to engagement and funding opportunities. Looking at services provided in a place and how can come together for provision of funding bids.
- Schools understaffed - lack of training.
- Trauma informed organisations. Safe spaces versus business versus targets. - Overwhelming school.
- Don't wait for diagnosis. Individuality, person centred.
- Academia versus practical entrepreneur.
- Educational systems need to change.
- Too much pressure on young people, no time to relax during the school day. Lunch times are so short now., No time to chat your friends? Decompress. Low level mental health support from peers.
- Transport –
- Rural areas Poor transport costs prevent social activity.
- Equity trains systems is isolating areas.
- Safety on transport.
- Dangers in city centres and public transport stations.
- Digital Access.
- Digital poverty.
- This show does not give a safe space.
- Why are we pushing digital access? So many calls that go along with this, especially relation to the well-being, isolation, loneliness.
- Social integration. Building confidence socially.
- Outdated so quickly.
- Human interaction
- Digital off that makes life harder, not easier. EG apps for parents, schools overload overwhelming.

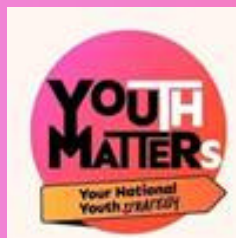


## Places to go and Things to do

- Too much competition.
  - When is the profile of youth work so people know What it is?
  - Time Builds relationships. Pilots for seed funding, to create partnerships.
  - Project Evolve.
  - School businesses.
  - Two-way conversations.
  - Build flexible hybrid working.
  - Steven Quick with young people. Lots of consultation.
  - Short term contracts - challenging – narrow outputs.
- Mapping - Services and boundaries. Aware of other services and where you fit.  
Young person's voice. And if the experience to meet need.  
Feed into strategies, clear aims.  
Everyone knows what everyone's doing.  
Communication.
- Collective impact framework.

## Places to go and things to do.

- What am I?
- Youth views of NHS champions.
- Open to listen, act on it.
- Collaboration versus Co production.
- Explain parameter to young people to help them with their voice and choices.
- Group resources, Spaces, Activities, opportunities - Local need sentence young people
- Nationally?
- Library of Voices Scotland.
- Nationally Embedded. Similar to NYAR Awards that young people would recognise and be able to find online what is available to them
- Recognition.
- Signposted to safe spaces activities. - Chat health EG.
- What's good?
- Up-to-date, accessible online presence.
- Signposting.
- Stronger connections between services.
- Thriving Youth Services busy and popular.
- Will there be communities of practise to support partners to embed the strategy, collaborating and confidently across the system?
- How do we define a trusted adult for young person when they need consistency, often finding most services difficult to engage with? As youth workers, we support this engagement. But do not always have the skills or capacity to provide the specialised support young people need in one place.



## **What national support guidance or standards would enable you to strengthen youth work locally**

- Training – specific – bespoke
- Accountability
- Allocation of funding
- Promotion of good practice – collaboration
- Visits by those who decide outcomes

## **What can we learn from other sectors?**

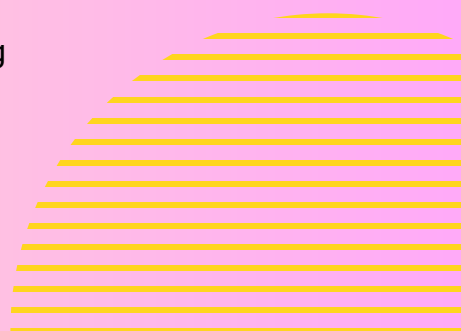
- Things more forward quicker with paid posts
- 10-19 / 25
- How do we engage home educated?
- Sharing training opps but also partners with trained people
- Local partnerships in Bridlington – ensuring, share , isolation vs duplication
- 3-6 months mapping exercises NY – trusted adults – what we've got, what gaps are – apprenticeships, pathways to youth work Qual
- Dignity, respect, independence impartiality

## **What does partnership look like?**

- Having time
- Visible accessible
- We share similar values – common goals
- Adding value
- Access to basic data 'insights driven – share
- Perception v reality – young people
- Plugging in YP's ideas
- Safe spaces buildings / social spaces

## **Places to go and things to do**

- Make empty council properties available for youth activities
- Make council owned properties free to use eg Hull City Hall for youth work
- To make NY strategy work – regular forums needed to share good practice and aid collaboration
- For young people like a directory – e.g. on a Thursday what could a young person access / take part in?
- There should be a central council – run promotion of clubs / activities / events that is u to date and promoted in places young people use eg relevant social media
- School academies can be isolated and won't work with others
- Access = awareness of provision offered
- Open more frequently
- Be more available
- If funders could pair up for collaboration to allow more to get funding
- Right price, place, time, staff, young people



## **Partnership working?**

### **What does this look like in practise?**

- Youth workers to be treated as the professionals they are.
- Coproduction. Of projects.
- Shared resources., Training staffing best practise.
- Wide network.- Schools. csc, Youth Workers Health
- VCSE - Joint bids partnership working stronger together.
- Funders need to stop pitching VCSE against each other. This stop some Ogs working together.
- Funds to be able to spend on core costs.
- Transparency.
- Understand each other's role.
- Boundaries.
- Equity.
- Everyone to be treated fairly.
- Respect.
- Communication.

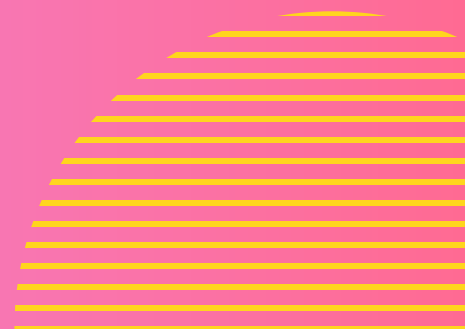
### **How would you describe a youth offer to a CYP so they would understand?**

#### **What can I do locally?**

- Social media – tictok
- Schools
- Food
- Local offer
- Word of mouth – other CYP
- Careers fairs
- Transition events
- Summer fairs
- Nationally
- Adverts – tv, you tube social media,
- For CYP and adults

#### **Good –**

- Free for all
- Linked to adult services
- In school and community role. We re finding lack of support for EBSA . lots of young people without EHCP / SEND who lack support / out of education
- NEET EHE – how do you see these yp being engaged
- There isn't a directory for all youth services to access to improve working together fpr better outcomes
- Equitable access – who shows up?

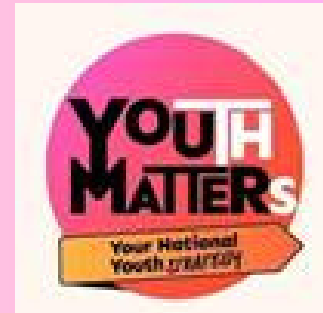


- Evidencing that the target gp attend . if not why not,
- What do they need? Transport , books
- Location – accessible
- Welcoming environment
- Outreach
- Advertise availability

- Accessible for all
- Staffing
- Good choice of provision
- Free for all
- Same offer across all areas – no post code lottery
- Funds
- Flexible funding
- Less reliant on numbers / stats
- Transport
- Youth voice / participation
- Good choice of provision

- Baking and cooking skills
- Life skills with YP, Safeguarding, first aid, CSE ? CCE, hair dressing, nail art – accredited courses
- Informal ed
- Youth voice
- Pool
- Sports , FB, rounders, basketball
- Safe spaces, sense of belonging.

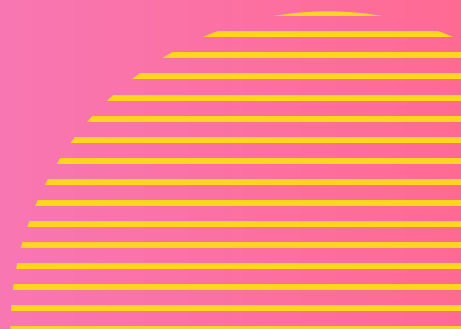
- Yp want to go where they can walk to. One singular hub won't meet needs of all yp. Eg doorstep youth provision. Yp should be able to access a safe space within a 40 minute walk
- What does 'half the participation gap' mean? How is this measured could engagement be a better definition? This shows the impact for yp.
- We need places that are fit for purpose
- Hiring village halls without storage, with other groups in the building
- Loss of open spaces fund
- Need more then 50 hubs
- How are we measuring a 'richer life'
- Making them attractive with good equipment and well resourced
- Sustained engagement
- Services should engage and wok with local partners embedded in communities
- Communities of practice and place based approach. Know what's going on in an area.
- Relationship is key – knowing the parents, important for behaviour
- School – big concern for yp. Sector not able to make a difference.



- Schools vary, what direction do they get from leadership. Skills agenda should bring more to schools, what will a new curriculum bring
- YWs going into schools not always treated as professionals.
- PRUs struggling. The Education & YW sector need to come together. Primary schools str good at nurture, falls away at secondary
- Data locality. To decide locally where delivery should take place.
- Don't do a hub model. Needs multiple hubs to be accessible.
- Young people need to be part of responses. Decision making they know more than given credit for.
- And show the strong youth work offer for young people. And it being accessible for all young people. Local accessible. Knowing the barriers and removing the.
- Rebuilding things to do at low cost. No cost accessibility versus cost.
- Sharon, we sources for delivering locally.
- Intergenerational opportunities. Bridging the Gap stories and opportunities. Communities acting together.
- **Local actions.**
- Funds to be able to support. Reliance on volunteers. shame link to not / Expected to do it for free.
- Overhead costs struggle to cover.
- Disparity in funding. Some get, some don't.
- Need to increase understanding of what we do and the difference we make.
- Social Prescribing. This work should have been given place within social prescribing.
- Value of trusted adults.
- Finding the Commonality. Understanding the workforce. And gaps.

### National guidance.

- Funding Ring fence to youth work training.
- Links to other strategies. Pride of place, connecting the structures, articulating where the links are. Value of youth work.
- Clarity of roles.- Principles and practise expectations with ours. Adopt youth work skills practise. Meeting the needs of wider skills and needs. Useful practise within Statutory settings. Keeping unique qualities of youth work practise. Grow. our own. Youth paid and volunteering ops
- Competing demands in the sector about priorities.
- Haf - Need somewhere crime. It's for adolescents, not just little people.
- Being aware of local services.
- Knowing your local knowledge.
- Trying to find free places for youths to go or ply for things such as free bus, free gym, library card.
- All staff having knowledge. Pastorial to head teacher.
- Home school. Looking at this community and targeting them
- ·Funding, distribution and guidance.
- ·Long term planning and sustainability.
- ·Strengths versus gaps.
- ·Honesty and clarity.
- ·Working with.

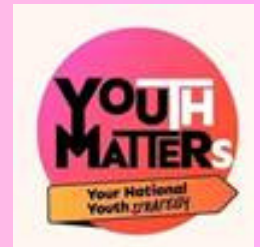


## **What national support, guidance or standards would enable you to strengthen youth work locally?**

- Making sense of the funding. How it is allocated, targeted, predetermined.
- Sense. Makes it at a government level to map where the funding is going to get a regional level and where are the gaps to ensure a fair and equitable approach.
- Strengthening youth alliances to advocate act on behalf of a number of the National Strategy Asks.
- Formalising where the youth arena sits or giving local authorities more choice of control over the use of Youth Services.
- Time scales are too tight for some funding and can be unachievable.

## **How will each area and organisation take the National Youth Strategy forward?**

- Need to reuse the profile as a golden thread to other strategies.
- Communication. We can all take this responsibility for prioritising this.
- Shout out about what we're already doing. How many young people we support directly and indirectly?
- But where are the gaps?
- The Golden thread is also the biggest challenge.
- Getting partners to see the value of and understanding youth work.
- Titles can speak volumes on youth workers can get hidden.
- More diverse voices when we are engaged with young people.
- Recognise the process of developing relationships and trust involved.



## **Where are Young people already shaping discussions meaningfully in your area?**

- No feedback vacuum Tokenistic.
- Consultation. Casualties.
- Feedback loops.
- Participation. Action research.
- Participatory budgeting.
- Representation. Representatives. What is separate participation workers?
- Very mixed picture.
- Training workers in participatory theories and methodologies.

## **Where could National bodies remove barriers for example, access to school facilities, transport or digital access.**

- Give services access to schools out of hours.
- Creating a fair playing field. Voluntary sector. Local authority. Saf etc, schools.
- Free transport.
- Give VCS access to community buildings.
- Safe digital spaces.
- Early help helps.
- Safely allow professionals to access the right information at the right time.
- Assessing Risk. Is this stopping things? Resi etc.
- Qualifications and professional practise opportunities.
- Access to school minibuses.
- Connected professions and less competition, more joint working.
- 1 shared IT system.
- dual working shared delivery.

- Mobile Units.
- Partnerships. Specialist provision and skill sets.
- Case study good practise local youth alliance Leeds, Barnsley.
- Appropriate buildings and resources to Work with all groups.
- Sometimes there is a need for specialist work. This doesn't mean targeted, it means a mixed layered offer that all young people can access. No panels required to access, but can meet different needs.

### **Partnership working.**

- Opportunities for working with young people.
- Partnerships work well when everyone in the partnership is safe and secure.
- Tokenistic. Get a group of young people together to do XYZ for us. Should be across for this.
- Out of sync. Commitment, Longevity, trust.

### **What does equitable access mean?**

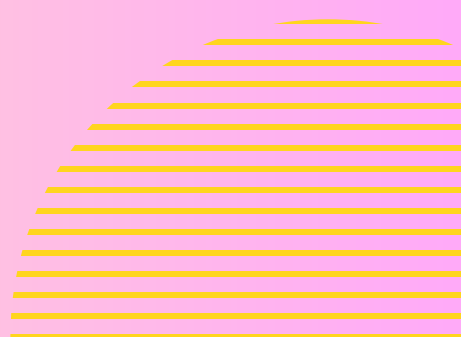
- Example every activity accessible by every young person. Avon Outdoor.
  - Talking to the centre young people to understand what makes it equitable to them.
  - Inclusive spaces. Feedback from young people about what makes it accessible.
  - Doing the groundwork, What are the logistics of getting them to attend?
  - Representation.
  - Professional Connections.
  - Representation by professionals.
  - Understand the barriers.
  - Long term offers for young people.
  - Transport.
  - Negative stereotypes from professionals of facilities.
  - Create a space for discourse in the community from both negative and positive.
  - Equitable access. Diversity of the offer.
  - Talk to the approach. Geographical going to the young people.
- 
- See local based youth services offers.
  - Joined up working.
  - Deliver what young people want, not same hubs as 20 years ago. Warm. Wi-Fi. Chargers / Electric, music.
  - Return on investment. Pounds into free universal services. Early intervention prevents youth justice, police and exclusion.
  - Holistic approach of individual young person, not outcome lead.
  - TSE meetings for early issues. Preventative.
  - Signposting knowing who can I go to?
  - Peer recommendations.
- 
- Motor bike track.
  - Free bus fares, transport.
  - More safe spaces.
  - LGBTQ plus spaces funding.
  - Maintain safe spaces we have.



- Mental health services long term and localised.
  - Open this Honesty, transparency, Nolan principles, integrity, openness about tensions.
  - Keeping what we already have consistency. Safe spaces for young people.
  - Get rid of post code lottery. Some areas have services where others don't. EG LGBTQ plus youth offer vary so much.
  - Hubs in better places, easier to get to.
  - Building the safe spaces in the community. People need building security and familiarity.
  - Staying local.
  - Short term funding can't build relationships, can't keep consistency.
  - Sharing resources and buildings.
  - Low cost, easy to get to.
  - It's got to be sustainable.
  - Co produced voices of young people and community.
  - Longer term funding when funding runs out
  - empty. Amazing hubs, not sustainable, not able to stay open.
- 
- Better transport, accessibility and education.
  - Free transport for young people.
  - Safe night travel.
  - Less disparity between local authorities.
  - Accessible national transport for young people to access opportunities.
  - Respect and understanding for each specific approach. Personal approach. Monthly touchpoints with professionals. Shared agendas.

**Where can national bodies remove barriers, for example, access to school facilities, transport or digital access?**

- Leeds East allowing facilities to be used without cost. Government paid. Community use and additional staff.
  - Cost for extra support, pay for transition.
  - Post code wards Warm hub must not be accessible for everyone.
  - Free buses.
- 
- Youth Voice influencing policy.
  - Transport.
  - Funding.
  - Less short term pilots.
  - Contracts 3 years plus.
  - Use of green spaces. Safe.
  - Continuity in policy makers and it worked.
  - Use community assets.
  - More Open Access. Less targeted.
  - Strength based approach. Mixture, and diverse of young people
  - Life skills.
  - Equity and inclusion.
  - Collaborative working.
  - Clear route for qualifications



## Chapter 3

### How will you know when youth voices genuinely influencing decisions rather than being tokenistic?

- Football. Feedback. Engagement. Think outside the box to keep it interesting. Adapting.
- Home educated. There was not accessing the services. NEET. Role areas are not being heard.
- Regular meetings in youth clubs. The design provision.
- Time and honesty feedback mechanisms.
- Confidence building, an interaction with trusted adults to be able to put ideas forward.
- Young people seeing the changes they make.
- Young people having the opportunity to have regular contact with policy decision makers.
- Strong core part of the youth work offer now.
- Youth Alliance. Could be more valued for stronger youth voice.
- Whole Youth Voice Forum and Youth Voice Strategy holds pathway to participation launch in March.
- Promotion and awareness of Youth Parliament.
- Local activities with young people where you can hear their voice as part of the activity. The role, quality and quantity of school councils.
- Emerging a new communities increase their voice.
- Youth voice genuinely influencing decisions. Political understanding and education to give a better position when they get to vote.
- Managing expectations around timelines and process.
- Feedback and keeping a continued conversation to ensure that on the whole journey, not just the first or last conversation.
- Don't just be an advocate for youth voice, enable them to be the main person in a discussion.
- When young people see changes.
- Change the media representation of young people. Positive stories instead of over exaggerating. Every event that put young people in a bad light. Pushes and obverses them. Generational argument.
- The group posted good news stories pushing out positive media.
- Agency events need young people present. Give them a seat at the table to hear their voice first. I'd rather using adults as messengers. Closing the circle of trust to build long lasting relationships with young people.
- Teach young people critical thinking.
- Intergenerational work needs to happen.

### Gold standard.

- Always looking to improve.
  - To be flexible as we can.
  - To keep up the conversations with young people, invest in Then being volunteers
- Development



- Transitions. Is this necessary? Do we have joined up training to cover lifespan?
- Community safe spaces targeted areas with youth justice and substance misuse.

#### Seen and heard.

- Depends on what level people are being heard. Faith-based orgs. That resource is an art scene.
- Those too busy delivering to shout about work don't have skills in marketing and lobbying to unlock funding.
- Community and education part of curriculum. You're part of curriculum. Young people need support to be creative, come up with ideas.
- Campaign to increase public understanding of what we do. Youth work is beyond clubs and scouts.
- LCEP. Local cultural education partnership.

#### Who is being heard and who isn't?

- Not being heard, young people not accessing services.
- Any when they're not attending school.
- Barriers include parents.
- Stigma of accessing services. Is about it to them accessing them.
- Being hurt. The ones we know about, the ones constantly engaging with services.
- Young people feeling like you strategy doesn't apply to them.
- Young people not accessing Youth Services but they go to paid activities EG dance and football. How do we get these voices heard?
- Sharing youth strategies with staff
- Sharing youth strategies with young people – friendly
- Support young people's journey (home paid apprenticeships / traineeships)



#### How do you we support parents to get involved?

- Young people voice how we gain / to use them in workplace
- Make early intervention a strategy services
- Taking out external resources as well as building
- Accessibility, open space, (confidential space) skill sharing across services, health holiday free activities.
- Central place that highlight all the areas and provision

#### Where are YP already shaping decisions meaningfully?

- Nothing about us without us – mental health advisory group (H&NY ICB)
- Humber youth action group
- Barnardo's collaboration
- Youth parliament
- Hull and ER young mayors
- Youth voice within youth centres – campaign groups, young leaders
- Voices that influence (ER) care leavers and asylum seekers
- Organizations signposting / promoting youth voice opportunities within external orgs
- On our terms strategy – shaped by YP and how to involve yp in shaping services
- Volunteer awards – recognition of YP

## **How will you know when youth voice is genuinely influencing decisions rather than being tokenistic?**

- Golden thread
- Accessible
- Honesty
- Actions
- Inclusive
- Promises
- Open
- Hope
- Whose voices are currently not been heard or seen?
- Parents carers supports
- Nothing about us without us
- Home schooled educated
- YP generally
- Disempowered harness
- We need different perspectives
- 

### **Seen and heard**

- Make forums in their own environment not in an official place
- Young people can become apathetic because of not being heard
- Need to recruit mentors
- Not heard – children not in education – NEET
- Make wording appropriate 'trusted adult' is not used by kids!
- Existing decision making already – school councils, EFL – united for change, Police Youth IAGS, council youth parliament (NE Lincolnshire gone!)

## **Where are CYP already shape policy?**

- What am I or can I do locally?
- Kirklees – youth voice, impact or guidance
- North Lincs – your voice report, big 7 challenge
- Rebranding or impact service
- Humber learning consortium – learning survey
- Nationally – make your mark

## **Where should young people shape policy?**

- Everywhere from health, education, environment, sports, culture, housing, everything.
- Mechanisms would help. –
- Trauma informed practice
- Children sometimes fearful to challenge in schools - consequences.
- Adults who work with teens need knowledge about teen development, brain development, etc.



- Schools – change the way they form relationships with young people – how are young people allowed to find their voice when the place they spend the most time they have to conform. Little opportunities to find themselves, limited opportunities to be part of the democratic process schools
- Youth clubs support yp to have a voice and they learn that their voice is important – the relational work we do supports this.

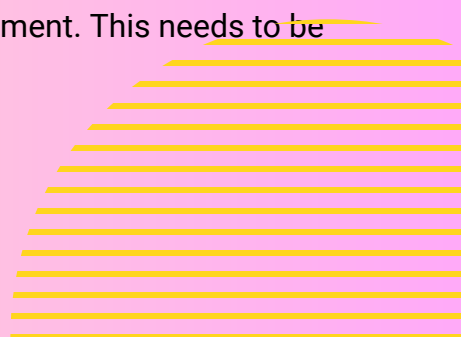
### Who is missing?

- Faith organisations.
- Uniform Services.
- Bigger participation.
- Home educated.
- Asylum Seekers.
- Farming community.

### What priorities?

#### What next with voice?

- Young people involved.
- Sharing of voices.
- Academies.
- NEET YP
- Different organisations. Community organisations.,
- Outcomes all unique
- Can you use a metric on belonging
- Celebrating yp's achievements with them seeing their confidence increase
- What do yp want to be measured
- Once a yp trusts that adult outcomes can go down and then build from the initial meetings
- Funders need to understand the rational practice
- Feedback is essential . youth voice groups should look at what they want to.
- Outside agencies and politicians want to impose a reason to 'use' the group for approval. Not open to hearing what matters to yp.
- Ask the right young people about the right things
- Yp vote with their feet
- Over surveyed
- Youth voice – do people understand this
- Need to get the views of yp who don't' access provision
- Holistic approach needed, change the funding system, take away layers of bureaucracy
- How do we know a difference has been made for yp
- Groups targeted for yp who wouldn't across open access offering a specific group – go to yp where they are at eg home visits, then gradually increase engagement. This needs to be given time to build trust in the funding
- flexible funding for outcomes



- timelines too tight to show outcomes
  - can we engage yp digitally –
  - better – yp prefer face to face
  - advertise on social media
  - yp being surveyed too much and there is also no feedback . engaging in youth voice can demonstrate skills development in young people.
  - Digital badges for yp – do industry recognise this
  - Political structures confusing – combined authority & LAs , VCSE sector don't know what what
  - Youth offer group – works well – looking at the offer across sector
  - LAs should support driving collaboration – no consistency, accountability in the stat duty
  - Voices from yp is localised, different in different areas.
  - Give the autonomy locally to respond to this
  - Ensuring diverse yp can give an opinion .
- 
- Involving youths in events.
  - Continuing to advocate for young people.
  - Engaging young people.
  - Showing off. Demonstrate the work we do and be proud of it.
  - Pushing people, being proud of all youths.
- 
- Understand at local level.
  - How do we hear all voices?
  - Work with schools.
  - Structure and mechanisms to generate feedback and use voice. Always changing.
  - More control. – Citizenship / phse
  - School should seek the views of young people.

**How would you know when you voice is genuinely influencing decisions and is not tokenistic?**

- Leeds model of 12 wishes.
- Timely for us, although review reflects what we do. Where does good practise exist?
- You said we did.
- Inviting stakeholders to listen to young people and generate ideas. Projects trying to implement in policy practise.
- Be honest with young people about opportunities. Trust in the process that change will be affected.
- Simple, informal, but genuine.
- And is mirrored through the organisations.



## **How would you just thriving local youth offer in a way that a young person would recognise instantly?**

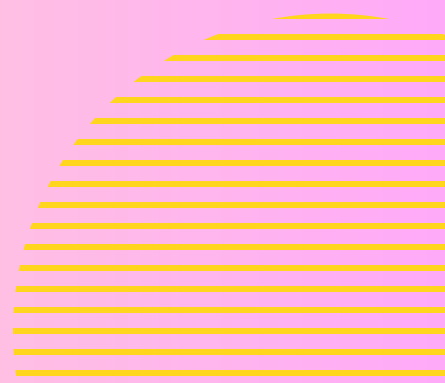
- Creators, not consumers. Not giving young people. Enabling, empowering them.
- Space to be heard.
- Visibility.
- Youth and community awareness. Promotion. Communication. Media. sensitisation.
- Through community work.

## **What gold standard examples do you look to locally or nationally?**

- Residential's.
- Experiences.
- Trusted spaces.
- Ambassadors.
- Youth teams.
- Safe spaces. Youth spaces.
- Long term funding and investment in youth work.
- Where are the emotional, healthy and well-being hubs?
- Connected Services. Value youth work.
- Cost effective working. Statutory Services, CP / CIN connect and fund youth work sessions.
  
- Voices currently being heard locally. And who's not?
- Fairly narrow spotlights on a group of young people hearing only the statue voices, EG Children in Care SEND Youth reps
- How do we hear the other voices?
- Young people don't know what the potential of youth work is. How can we accept to know what they want?
- What's in it for me?
- How do young people get those skills to be heard?
- Not hearing from those who don't have a trusted adult.

## **Whose voices are being heard?**

- The person Who shouts the loudest?
- Political landscape. Which is driving decisions. But too many people been involved to make quick decisions, actions.
- Communities not always asked, or if they are, they aren't listened to.
- How do you creatively engage with young people to get them to give their opinion? Need a timely response. They want the feedback after being consulted.
- There was a lack of trust in the organisation who were asking questions / Opinions as they get asked so many times
- Whose voice is not?
- Vulnerable groups.



- Education as a whole, the school system not working for the needs of young people today.
- Young people say what they think adults want to hear, but not always what they need.
- Even smaller to the wards friendship groups.
- Even within cities, towns, the needs voices change.
- Geographical differences I Barnsley shining knew you centre shout about not everything that has been around for a while.
- Lack of youth workers or voice Who can articulate the voices of young people?
- Young people ask Tokenistically
- Reaching young people who aren't engaged in other services, non school attenders, etc.
- Detached youth workers. Matter still.
- Sharing good practise.
- Fitting out work to meet funding

### **Who is seen and heard? -**

- White voices, disabled young people and ambitious young people.

### **Gold standard.**

- Leeds youth service - Production with young people. Designing that projects campaigns. Raising aspirations? Looking at consultations, what works? That has already been done. Forum with services.
- Links between services and need to be better.
- Make your mark.
- Young people go to professionals, not vice versa. Element of tokenistic. But still good to have facilitators and staff with ideas.
- Young people knowing the value of their voice and that they can do
- Consistency
- Communicating the implanting of youth voice to young people. Proof of their voice being used to influence the topics of consultation.
- Child rights based work UNCRC Article 12.
- Use voice. Active participant empowerment. Embedded in training.
- Youth Councils.
- Social action projects.
- Engagement workers. - Royal College of Paediatricians.
- Experts by experience.
- Providing opportunities.
- Feedback loop, you said we did.
- Being honest.
- Coproduction.
- Use participation framework. Harts ladder. NYA Here by rights engagement standards?



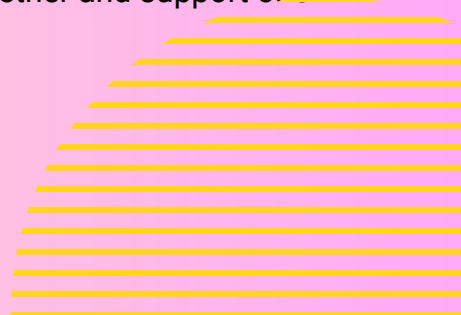


## Biggest Impacts

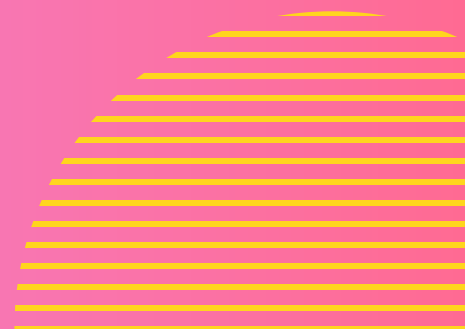
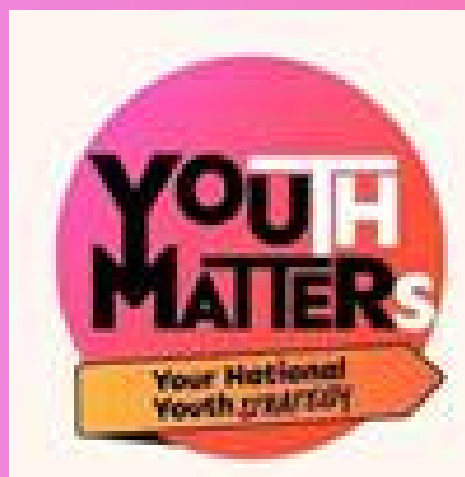
- A room full of people that really care for children and young people and all the services they are involved in
- The effects of underfunding of services over the past 15 years has had on the health and well being of CYP today
- Learning about all of the amazing work that is already being done and all of the future plans and investment coming to youth services
- Networking and meeting with other professionals within the youth sector and gaining the youth perspectives with others
- There is a room full of passionate professionals wanting the same things – we are stronger together – we are powerful
- I was pleased to learn how much youth work is going on in the city and was good to discuss the challenges
- How many services were here today supporting youth provision and how passionate we all are
- The vast range of agencies within the conference with passion for youth work
- Exciting opportunities to build on, lots of similar themes – we're all on the same page so need to harness that together not in competition
- This vast network of professionals are best placed to design and advise on the programme that would make a difference in their local area to CYP
- Connection and joined up working
- Neighbourhood Youth and Community Services (CHEWS) NHS, DWP and Crime
- HOPE
- It will inform the development of our youth offer strategy at a local level
- Raising the point that there may be a stigma around accessing some youth provision
- Understanding the 10 point strategic plan and the funding that supports the actioning
- The amount of people that do actually care about young people as someone who is new to the world of youth work
- The future for young people fees positive, its up to us now to make sure it is delivered
- There is more of us than you think – unity in community
- The opportunity to hear from another area how they run the youth service and what works/best practice for their young people
- Create a forum for Hull organisations to meet and discuss strategy, youth voice and action
- Really good to connect and reconnect with colleagues from other services. Seeing how many people and services there are out there supporting young people in the area
- Government spending £60 mill on youth provision. Passion from everyone to work with young people
- As professionals who work to support children and young people it is staggering (at a forum like this) that there are so many organisations
- Time to think. Networks and partnerships – met people outside e mail
- That some young people live in built up urban areas don't have services etc
- Excited by the opportunities which are to come and partnership work to make the most of the sector



- The power of collaboration and connection and shared commitment
- The challenge ahead of building a skilled youth work force. Impact of the last 10 + years for many young people and their communities – if you can't see it, you can't be it.
- Meeting DCMS lead Rachael Corcoram – great to hear a speaker with someone 'doing'. Catching up with lots of people to plan together to hold strategy to account
- Mixed feelings – sitting listening to the strategy which shares the need for what we know has been
- The need for intergenerational education particularly to break those negative stereotypes around young people portrayed by the media and particularly absorbed by the older generation lost and taken away over the last 15 years. Need a time machine to go back and say don't do it
- The need to get out into communities where children and young people feel disenfranchised and support those organisations working with those young people to help them feel empowered
- Knowing that we are part of a much bigger potential set of partnerships of people who care
- Clear understanding of local context
- Collaboration – understanding what's available/strategy. More work to be done on the strategy
- Amazing to see how connected we are and how many people we know
- The importance of making time for colleagues across different practice systems – strength in numbers
- Learning the approach and how the new youth strategy has devised and where influence can be had
- Meeting everyone – connecting building relationships - always a good opportunity
- Hearing how the same challenges are faced across all sectors
- Sparkle – leave behind negativity - hope
- Acknowledgement from all partners I connected with that we need more opportunities to connect and learn from each other that are protected and prioritised
- Actually seeing how other organisations treat each other differently even when we are meant to be at an empowering uplifting event
- Seeing how different organisations treat youth workers vs other professionals within the youth work sector – ego can be a real block to partnership
- People – the quirkiness of the ones that work closely with young people was really refreshing and encouraging
- Young people able to vote from 2029 – Age 16. Two clear ambitions by 2035 – chapter one people who care: 1) trusted adults 2) supporting and improving the workforce 3) friends and relationships. Chapter 2 4) richer lives 5) good work 6) keep young people safe 7) places to go 8) Health and Well being Chapter 3 9) Delivering with young people 10) holding us to account. DCMS first steps – better youth spaces – 350 million refurbish programme NYA funding for apprenticeships? DWP – hub in Grimsby
- So much great work going on and so many opportunities to work together and support one another



- Recognising what is available in the local area for our young people – networking with other local communities and provisions
- The amount of services available that I have not engaged with previously
- Commodity of thought, ideas and actions
- That it is very important to bring the students that have something to say to events where they can express an opinion rather than the best behaved/best students
- How cross sector this even was! Really cool to see so many professionals from across the different sectors that support children and young people – appetite for the national youth strategy beyond youth sector/youth workers
- Authentic user voice, experts by experiences – bring the child alive in the room
- Shared ideas and connections and potential partnerships
- Connections made which can support our future and help our continued growth
- Every single person in this room needs to see real change happen for young people – with them not to them
- I now better understand the national youth strategy
- The connections made with those across the sector who support our youth
- Areas people who we struggle to engage others partners are to
- Roll your sleeves up analogy
- Government long term strategic development of youth work and investment in young peoples offer
- Youth work careers – panel discussion – info on funding streams that are not reliant on govt funding
- The passion has come from the people in the room. It has made me feel inspired and hopeful about the future of supporting young people
- The motivation in the room to put this into action
- Hearing the views from participants from a wide range of areas in youth work – particularly how to try to reduce barriers
- Vibrancy in the room for the agenda
- 

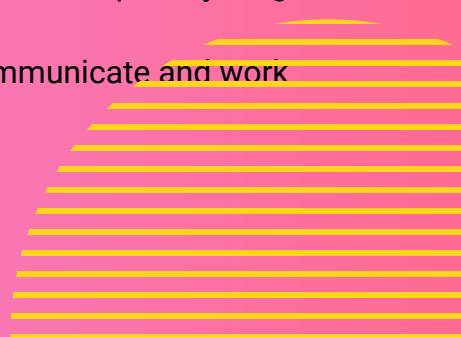


## Take Aways

- Take sufficiency debate into as many discussions as I can
- Youth employment hubs and youth provision under one roof
- Keep banging the drum – thank you
- The need to continue to improve and build partnership working and not go get trapped in silo working with both voluntary and non voluntary services
- Now that I have connected with other services, ideas have been taken to help improve our service
- Discuss with our own team and share the views from today
- Must take the opportunity
- Relay what I have learnt from others and implement it in our work to ensure best practice when working with young people
- Invite DWP North Lincs to come to our youth hubs
- Ensure the NYS informs young peoples culture and heritage strategy
- The hard to reach groups that need to be heard
- Every interaction is an opportunity
- Really get to understand local eco systems
- Support schools to make links with youth workers. Opps for those who are harder to reach through school sport/activities
- For young people to be more involved behind the scenes. Doing stuff with them rather than should never be about me – it should always be about we.
- We have years of knowledge, skills and experience. So lets share it and work together to achieve itn for them
- It should never be about me – it should always be about we. We have years of knowledge, skills and experience. So lets share it and work together to achieve it
- Develop this more in my service and ensure marginalised children are heard
- How we can get together more often to discuss and action this topic
- Look to involve youth workers on the delivery of our programmes to share best practice and have a mix of experience
- Link in with voluntary sector more – around opportunities for children – being aware of what is already out there – to not re-invent the wheel.
- Find out more about services- link in more
- National strategy justifies a lot of our work and will be a good tool to suggest changes in the organisation and in funding bids with local businesses
- Engage with those to include our local community
- Better links with the community sector
- To continue sharing information and involving those key youth services attending Team Around the Family meetings even if they are not yet involved
- Promise to leave things at the door so I can continue thriving and avoid burnout
- Complete an updated list of targeted young people and network more with local organisations for their benefit
- I promise to apply everything I've learnt today in my new role as an youth support worker apprentice




- Lobby for further meets/events to continue debate and co-operation
- To engage with a wider network
- Link the project I lead on more within the youth sector, how can our funding support to provide more safe spaces and more opportunities for activities to support our aims
- Continue to base my work around young peoples voices = whether that's as small as activities in sessions or on a larger scale when tackling 1 -2-1 issues or campaign work
- Push for a Humber and North Yorkshire wide Library of voices like Highlands in Scotland have. It gathers all CYP recommendations and feedback in one place for decision makes to utilise before making decisions
- Continue to put the young people first and do our very best
- Be hopeful and optimistic
- Reflecting on how trusted adults can be incorporated into our organisation as the only youth worker
- Continue to share good practice
- Continue to link with partners to influence – realist insight and support – understanding around collaboration vs co production
- To build a youth offer and grow a network of partners based on National Youth Strategy
- Collaboration – remember coastal communities
- Connecting – developing partnerships further
- Keep up new connections
- To continue to do my best for young people and support my staff team in providing spaces for young people that are theirs
- Plan to bring people together more often for collab working
- Raise the profile of youth work and capture/share the impact of this at every opportunity
- Develop how we (VRU) embed youth voice in our position as a system joiner upper and explore good news stories/ideas
- How do we connect with each other more effectively? Let us not be too Hull-Centric in our work and collaborations please
- Get in touch with 2 services that I think my team may be able to work alongside or signpost to in the future
- More joined up work
- Work collaboratively to create/open pathways into youth work
- Meet more people and make connections
- I have five weeks left before retirement however, I am determined to ensure that I will always be a champion of young people. I will continue to challenge those who choose to demonise young people around the world
- Collaboration – framing what we do as an arts organisation to show youth services we want to work with not take away from them
- To share with the staff team back where all the great work happens
- Continuing to share information and work as collaboratively as possible to improve young people's lives
- Reach out to organisations and charities within our community to communicate and work together with efficient partnership



- Take the energy and feedback from our group discussions and use moving forward – bring the same energy to the youth conference on the 17<sup>th</sup> – share the love
- To use further regional events to distribute best practice on Young Futures Hubs, Leeds Early Adapter
- Work with the partners in Hull to develop a Hull Youth Alliance
- Plan how to make the most of the strategy
- Closer partnership work local/regional/national
- Youth/Sport Capital Improvements
- Looking at how we break down stigma in order to have more young voices heard
- Collaboration
- Key information which will inform our local strategy
- To look at our youth voice collection and how we create a wider reach
- Create a forum for Hull organisations to meet and discuss strategy, youth voice and action
- Professional status of youth worker role – going to share in my network
- Share the youth strategy with staff and to focus on the CYP voices and how we implement in practice
- Campaign for a School Nurse in Every School – SAPHNA – School Nurses work in partnership with MHST/CWP's. Public Health and wider determinants of health and the impact of CYP. School Nurses capture CYP voices by School Health Screeners – Health promotion events and PSHE

A big thank you to all who supported and attended the event.

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Services</li> <li>• Voluntary and Community -</li> <li>• DWP</li> <li>• Health - ICBs, NHS,</li> <li>• Alternative Provision providers</li> <li>• Sport</li> <li>• Youth Arts</li> <li>• Arts Council England</li> <li>• NEET providers</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Children's Safeguarding</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Early Help</li> <li>• Youth Justice</li> <li>• Public Health</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• YMCA</li> <li>• Local Youth Partnerships</li> <li>• Violence Reduction Partnerships</li> <li>• Faith Based Youth Workers</li> <li>• Combined Authorities</li> <li>• Unite the Union</li> <li>• Youth Work Unit Yorkshire and the Humber</li> <li>• Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Cultural Education Partnership</li> <li>• Outdoor/Environmental Youth Work</li> <li>• Social Care</li> <li>• Further Education Colleges</li> <li>• Employability and skills</li> <li>• Substance Misuse</li> <li>• National Saturday Club</li> <li>• Local Authorities</li> <li>• Supported Living Provider</li> <li>• Family Help</li> <li>• The Outward Bound Trust</li> <li>• Student Engagement</li> <li>• Training Providers</li> <li>• Street Games</li> <li>• National Youth Agency</li> <li>• DCMS</li> <li>• UK Youth</li> <li>• Careers</li> <li>• Funders</li> <li>• Children's Trusts</li> <li>• Hospital Education</li> <li>• Army Welfare</li> <li>• Sexual Health</li> <li>• MENCAP</li> </ul> |
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## Feedback - of those who responded

86% said they rated the day highly

100% said they would recommend the roadshow

### What support regionally or nationally would help you put the NYS into practice?

Easy read guidelines and actions to actually follow, as much as the morning and afternoon sessions were great, going back to the office these things can get forgotten about when your so busy doing the doing of your day job. the afternoon discussions were great but we need support to actually implement the strategy locally. We also need to be kept informed.

Support and guidance from the DCMS to an authority struggling to meet the threshold of funding promising to provide safe spaces and trusted adults to children and young people . The funding seems to focus on vulnerabilities inline with poverty meaning that children with vulnerability but not always living in poverty miss out. They also need safe spaces and trusted adults

Added capacity - already working beyond capacity as a lone worker leading on strategy but also running all the operational level needs of NAUWU across HNY. I need more hands on deck so I can do less firefighting and have more time to 'weave the threads' of the strategies informing my work and take action to drive real transformation

We'd argue that we already have the principles of the NYS EMBEDDED Infrastructure support.

sharing of ideas - campaigns to put spotlight on youth work - shared resources

Clear guidelines and timelines

Local and national evidence of better cross departmental working across Government to reinforce the prevention agenda. We are a VRU, it would be good if the Dept for Education, Dept for Health etc etc approached us about joined up working for Humberside.

Partnership networks, Continued policy updates via the Regional Youth Work Unit, Support from the NYA to promote Youth work training at all levels

The day felt very Hull focused and I was the only one on my table not from the Hull area so it would be good to hear more about how other local authorities are planning to implement the NYS.

I can support the inclusion of NYS in strategic youth arts/arts development.

quarterly virtual meetings to bring all professionals together to collaborate and update around trends and practices

regular opportunities / space to explore practice in relation to strategy....funding

RCPCH want to make sure that young people with long-term health conditions are fully included and never forgotten within the National Youth Strategy. We are ready to support, champion and advocate for them, and we genuinely welcome direct conversations with those who can help strengthen their voice. Together, we can ensure these young people are heard, respected, and able to influence the NYS in ways that truly matter to them.

RCPCH is uniquely placed to take a system leadership and advocacy role because we are the national voice for child health

Partners naturally look to RCPCH for:

- evidence about children's health
- clinical standards
- research
- health inequalities insight
- safeguarding and rights-based practice

This positions RCPCH as the health anchor institution within the NYS.

RCPCH already has trusted, well established engagement models Including:

- RCPCH &Us voice network
- Engagement Standards
- LTHC participation models
- Health participation frameworks used across paediatrics

These provide a ready-made, transferable blueprint for the NYS.

RCPCH bridges health, education, and youth sectors

The College can:

- interpret health needs for non health partners
- advocate for health barriers like transport, accessibility and appointments
- train the workforce on health literacy and rights
- ensure CYP with chronic illness or disability are not overlooked

No other professional body has this cross-system authority.

RCPCH can influence regional & national structures

The College has direct connections with:

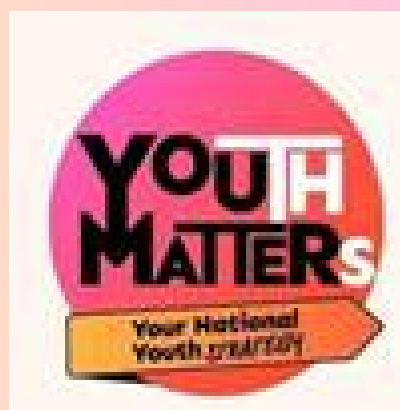
- NHS England
- ICBs/ICSSs
- DHSC
- DfE
- local authority children's services
- youth sector infrastructure bodies

This gives RCPCH the credibility to call for national consistency in youth participation.

RCPCH can amplify hidden voices CYP with long-term or complex health conditions:

- are often absent from school
- cannot attend mainstream youth sessions
- face barriers in social participation and employment
- rarely appear in youth voice forums

RCPCH is the only national body explicitly equipped to champion these young people.



## Appendix: Discussion Questions

Dear table.

This afternoon you will have the opportunity to spend some time exploring the Three Chapters and Three Shifts.

We have created some prompt questions to get you started – the one we would like you to focus on is highlighted. We have tried to give each group a different question, so please start with yours before moving on to any of the others.

We ask that you record what you can of your discussion and be prepared to share one key piece of feedback to share with the whole room.

Each discussion is for 20 minutes, meaning you have 1 hour to discuss all 3.

With each topic you need to consider:

- v What am I or can I do locally?
- v What is being done or is needed nationally?
- v What does good look like?



· Discussion one; People who care –

- o What actions could you take locally, realistically in the next 3 to 6 months, to strengthen, grow or support your workforce?
- o What national support, guidance or standards would enable you to strengthen youth work locally?
- o How would young people describe the experience of having people who care they can rely on?
- o What indicators, formal or informal, would tell you that the youth workforce has become stronger?
- o What skills, knowledge and behaviours are we expecting a trusted adult to have? Are these the same across all sectors?
- o What do we want from our workforce and what suitable training is available? What support beyond training does the workforce want/need? What do we think young people want from the workforce and training?
- o What can we learn from other sectors?

· Discussion two: Places to go and things to do

- o What would be the single most impactful local improvement you could make in the next year?
- o What does partnership working look like? What needs to be in place for partnership working to happen and for people to feel comfortable being part of a partnership? If they are already in a partnership, what would make it better or more effective?
- o How will each area and organisation take the National Youth Strategy forward?
- o Where could national bodies remove barriers, for example access to school facilities, transport or digital access?
- o How would you describe a thriving local youth offer in a way a young person would recognise instantly?
- o What does equitable access look like, not just provision but who actually shows up?

· Discussion three: Seen and heard

- o Where are young people already shaping decisions meaningfully in your area?
- o Whose voices are currently being heard locally and whose are not?
- o Where should youth voice shape national policy and what mechanisms would help?
- o How will you know when youth voice is genuinely influencing decisions rather than being tokenistic?
- o What gold standard examples do you look to, locally or nationally?