

# National Youth Sector Advisory Board

20<sup>th</sup> June 2023

by Zoom

## Notes and Actions Arising

### Item 1: Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone.

### Item 2: DCMS update - Fiona Stone (FS), Head of Youth Strategy, DCMS

#### *Statutory Duty*

- On track for publication ahead of summer recess.
- Thanked Flora Wilke (LGA) and Leigh Middleton (NYA) for their inputs.

Action: To run a session post-publication (FS).

#### *Anti-Social Behaviour Plan*

- To be launched in the next two weeks.
- £11m resource funding for youth organisations in eligible postcodes.
- Aim is to get more activities for young people in areas of high anti-social behaviour by funding additional activity.
- Part 1 – Summer: funding (up to £10k) to support any open access summer activity through National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All.
- Part 2 – Autumn: longer term resource funding (2 years). NLCF will add funding to extend past election periods.
- Both funding rounds can include detached youth work, non-typical youth activities (sailing, camping), very broad categories.
- Broadening geographical areas to allow flexibility.

Action: To circulate links when launched (FS).

#### *Dormant Assets*

- The existing causes and beneficiaries are:
  - Youth (Youth Futures Foundation)
  - Financial Inclusion (Fair4All Finance)
  - Social Investment (Big Society Capital and Access – the Foundation for Social Investment)
- Youth was the most popular cause in recent consultation.
- Community Wealth Funds to be added as 4<sup>th</sup> cause.
- To seek views of NYSAB on how funds are used, and Fiona urged sector to think creatively.

- Solutions must adhere to the ‘additionality principle’ i.e. not substitute, prop up, or duplicate statutory funding obligations; nor replace a service that was previously funded by the government on a like-for-like basis.

Action: To circulate invitation to online consultation with NYSAB on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 10:00 – 11:00 (NYA)

#### *Youth Voice*

- Developing a ‘how to’ guide for all Government departments on how to use youth voice.
- Any existing youth voice guides to be shared with [rachael.cole@dcms.gov.uk](mailto:rachael.cole@dcms.gov.uk), [fiona.stone@dcms.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.stone@dcms.gov.uk)

Actions:

- To share ‘how to’ guide with NYSAB on publication (FS)
- To clarify how young people were involved in the creation of the guide (FS)
- To share Youth Voice Guides created by RYWU’s (KF and SD)

#### *Infrastructure Funding*

- To have funding available to support RYWU’s later in the year.
- Fiona acknowledged concerns about the terminology around RYWU’s, e.g. London Youth is the infrastructure body in London and welcomed a further conversation.

#### *Outdoor Learning*

- DCMS looking to secure additional funding.

#### *Secretary of State*

- To undertake a ‘youth sprint’ between now and the Autumn looking at how to do more in the youth space. Anticipate announcements later this year.
- FS leading a new team leading on this focussed piece of work.

### **Item 3: Deep dive - youth work with schools - Harriet McCann, Director of Policy & Comms, NYA**

NYA launched [Better Together: Youth work with schools](#), the final report following a year-long independent review. The review, co-chaired by former Children’s Minister Tim Loughton MP and former Shadow Education Secretary Kate Green, received evidence from over 200 organisations and individuals, including young people, and was supported by an expert panel from education and youth services.

The report reveals that youth work significantly improves engagement with learning and attendance, as well as boosts young people’s mental wellbeing and confidence. It demonstrates how a holistic approach taken by youth workers, alongside teachers and pastoral staff, can have a truly transformational impact on young people’s lives.

It also highlights models of best practice for partnership working and workforce development, and includes a range of ambitious recommendations for Government, schools, youth services and the wider sector, including the development of a cross-departmental National Youth Strategy and dedicated Youth Minister at the Department for Education.

12 recommendations in the report aimed at Government, school leaders, Ofsted and all stakeholders.

Currently in the engagement phase with key stakeholders including the Children's Commissioner.

Reflections and observations:

- some unintended additional benefits around teachers transitioning into youth work and opportunity to encourage retention in youth work.
- YMCA reported the amount of work supporting mental health in schools doubling in terms of young people and workforce.
- page 5 nuanced to say it is about having youth work in schools *and* other places.
- exclusions are rocketing; importance of focussing on Yr7's to reduce fixed term exclusions during this critical transition period.
- need to have data to build evidence base around effectiveness of youth work in schools (one of the recommendations).
- to be mindful of pressures on school budgets and focus on how youth work adds value, particularly through multi agency working. Example given of a youth worker based in a school Middlesbrough utilising funding from VRU (50%) and school (50%), but just learned school can no longer fund this post. Reminder this is the reality of funding.
- language is important – *informal* and *formal education* not always helpful.

*Tom Jackson, Department for Education*

- Comments resonate with the DfE policy team, and they would welcome a fuller discussion.
- Tasked with setting up a comms and engagement plan to convey the message to young people that attendance in September can be a reset moment and important time to build good attendance habits. Asked for suggestions on how to push this message out over the Summer to be sent to [tom.jackson@education.gov.uk](mailto:tom.jackson@education.gov.uk).

JR suggested having young people involved with comms for September messaging would be key.

The Chair welcomed the opportunity to have dialogue with the Dept for Education and asked they set up structures along with the sector to enable this (NYSAB can support this).

*Hannah Stoddart, NCST*

- NCST working in partnership with Duke of Edinburgh Award looking at the role of enrichment post COVID recovery building on [Enriching Education Recovery report](#).
- Commissioned UK Youth and Centre for Education & Youth to undertake a deep dive looking at best practices of collaboration and how to unlock barriers. Report to be launched in Autumn 2023.
- Dept for Education interested in supporting collaborative partnership orientated infrastructures and have some case studies of Partnership Coordinators within schools.

Reflections and observations

- SL suggested funding a series of pilots using this report as a baseline to get this moving forward.
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Action: To establish a sub-group on education to take this dialogue forward with Department for Education invited (NYA).

**Item 5 - Update from T&F group on development of the thematic priorities – where we've got to and next steps.**

- Chair thanked those that joined task and finish group.
- Common messaging is the goal of this piece of work. End product to have a short (4 page) manifesto to be embedded across campaigning work.
- Feedback and comments on the draft priorities:
  - To have more community sector inclusion and consider the term 'workforce' to recognise huge number of volunteers.
  - Language to be consistent and shared, using/not using informal education is a good example.
  - Consider splitting by key stakeholders, with priorities linked back to principles i.e. we are equal and diverse, we are involving young people.
  - To have a short key message of vision.
  - Opportunities to influence locally, not just nationally and how can NYSAB use contacts/networks to be more systematic.
  - Press home that the sector is an asset.
  - To fit alongside BYA vision/priorities - even if they're different themes they need to be contributing to the same vision so we're speaking with one sector voice.

**Item 6 - AOB**

*National Lottery Community Fund, Jo Rich*

- Thanked everyone for their involvement in developing [NLCF strategy](#) and delighted Children & Young people are one of the 4 bolder missions.

[Commonwealth Global Youth Work Conference](#) - Abbee McLatchie, Director of Youth Work, NYA

- Hosted in Reading 10 – 12 July at Reading University.
- Invited everyone to share the open invitation to apply for a place to attend.

[Voices of The Future: Peer research into widening access into youth services](#)

- SL shared youth-led research on access to youth services from across London for members to share across their networks.

*Cultural Education Plan Workshop on 26 June 9.30am-11am*

- DfE and DCMS are developing the Plan to ensure children and young people aged 0-18 and from all backgrounds across England benefit from the best possible cultural education.

Chair thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 11.25.