

# National Youth Sector Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday 20 September 2023, 10–11.45am Virtual via ZOOM

## NOTES & ACTIONS ARISING

### Item 1: Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone.

### Item 2: DCMS update, Fiona Stone, Head of Youth Strategy, DCMS

Series of 3 announcements to be made w/c 25 September: (embargoed until announcement).

1. National Youth Guarantee
  - Million Hours Fund  
Revenue funding to support a range of open access youth services in eligible wards (or those adjacent to) with the highest reported numbers of antisocial behavior incidents.
  - Adventures Away from Home Fund  
Offering bursary places for young people facing disadvantage to access outdoor learning activities (including girls as a category).  
Competition to open for a grant administrator.
2. Focus on support for the youth sector
  - New statutory duty
  - Youth work qualification bursaries
  - Local Youth Partnerships Funding and RYWU's
3. Going further for young people that need extra support in transition from school to employment by targeting young people that are at risk of becoming NEET or at risk of serious youth violence.

Next focus for the Secretary of State will be on harnessing philanthropy for youth.

There will be an announcement about Dormant Assets funding for youth but cannot confirm details ahead of next week.

DCMS drafted the Statutory Guidance with scrutiny from LGA and NYA including conversations with DCS's. DCMS are keen for ongoing dialogue and offered to run a session with NYSAB.

Flora Wilkie added that the guidance is much clearer and sets out expectations aligning with existing legislation, but wider pressures will continue and to impact of LA's ability to implement.

NYA has drafted a toolkit to support LA's with implementing the new Statutory

Guidance and a web page with tools and resources will be available on the NYA website.

Action:

- FS to liaise with DCMS comms to provide LGA with embargoed press releases including details of the webinar.

### **Item 3: National Youth Sector Census 2023 report (published 18 September)**

- Alex Stutz, Head of Knowledge, National Youth Agency

[Slide deck](#)

The [National Youth Sector Census](#) is a survey of youth sector provision across England. The Census was launched in 2021 to provide a clearer picture of where youth work is taking place, the nature of youth work delivery and how it is funded.

Key findings include:

- Of the 920 youth work organisations analysed in the cut of data, 57% are operating in the most deprived postcodes.
- Those working in the most deprived areas have higher expenditure and predicted expenditure than those in the least deprived areas.
- Organisations value professionally qualified staff and tend to have a higher proportion of employed staff with a youth work qualification than not.
- In the most deprived areas, organisations are more likely to have a higher number of paid staff, but a lower number of volunteers.

Keen to get an even more accurate picture of youth work so it's important every single youth work organisation completes their Census return.

Joe Rich, TLCF suggested encouraging organisations that receive funding from DCMS and from other funders be sent a link asking them to complete the census.

Pauline Daniyan, London Youth's data insight report (522 VCS organisations) aligns with findings from the census and is keen to align datasets.

### **Item 4: NYSAB Roadmap to a National Youth Strategy, Harriet McCann and Angel Fletcher**

The roadmap to a National Youth Strategy has been developed over the last 3 months within a working group of the NYSAB. The group included a diverse group of members to ensure that a range of views were represented. Young people have also played a key role in its development of through two focus groups and written feedback from Groundwork's Youth Advisory Board.

It sets out a shared vision for young people, how youth work and youth services can support this and outlines 7 priority areas for action with policy recommendations. The purpose is to champion, celebrate and advance youth work by creating common messages/policy calls for organisations to get behind to influence in this pre-election period.

Next steps:

- Document to be shared with NYSAB members for endorsement.
- Comms and advocacy toolkit (including prioritising recommendations) to be circulated.
- To be launched at NYA's panel event at the Conservative Party Conference on 2 October and showcased at the Labour Party Conference.

Chair thanked the Task & Finish Group and encouraged members to circulate widely.

### **Item 5: NYSAB member updates**

#### **Football violence**

Chair raised a worrying issue in relation to young men being pulled/coerced into football violence in the NW region and Stuart Dunne is interested to hear if other areas have seen evidence of this? ([s.dunne@youthfocusnw.org.uk](mailto:s.dunne@youthfocusnw.org.uk))

Flora Wilkie, LGA added that community safety colleagues are running a session to talk about this issue on 21<sup>st</sup> September. The session will focus on the implementation of serious violence duty and how LA's implement this duty to support young people.

#### **Early Support Hubs, Cassi Harrison, Youth Access**

No public announcement, but Dept of Health & Social Care have been undertaking some market engagement for Early Support Hubs. Likely to get funding of £3.7m for community-based, open access early support hubs providing counselling services for young people routed in a youth work ethos.

#### **Youth Select Committee Cost of living crisis inquiry, Jo Hobbs, BYC**

Called for evidence to the inquiry from young people and youth organisations. The Committee will question experts and politicians about the cost of living's impact on their peer's health and wellbeing. Responses by 27<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **Anna Freud Centre lead for Family Hubs, Leigh Middleton, NYA**

Encouraged youth organisations to join the Youth and Family Hubs webinar being held on 17<sup>th</sup> October at 10:00 – 11:30: <https://www.annafreud.org/training/training-and-conferences-overview/online-conferences-webinars-and-events/youth-and-family-hubs-webinar/>

Cassi Harrison commented that Anna Freud centres are all very different and Youth Access are advocating for early support hubs which has led to some confusion. CH will share a document that sets out differences between family hubs and early support hubs.

#### **Out of School Settings Guidance, Leigh Middleton, NYA**

Dept for Education have updated the out of school settings safeguarding practice guidelines. This expressly says if you are operating a youth provision to follow the [NYA's safeguarding practice standards and guidance](#). Final version to be circulated.

**Journal of Applied Youth Studies – call out for practitioner contributions, Mike Seal, PALYCW**

There is a special edition of this journal coming out themed around the idea of Pracadmia i.e. the interface between practice and academia. The journal wants to trial the inclusion of a new type of manuscript in the journal – short pieces or ‘perspectives’ written by people outside academia, including practitioners. These ‘perspectives’ pieces are ~3000 words in length and are anticipated to be responses to some of the themes discussed in each issue, and the implications for practice. If you have anyone who you think might be interested, think your practitioner network and/ or recent graduates please contact Mike at [national.officer@tagpalyw.org](mailto:national.officer@tagpalyw.org) by 6<sup>th</sup> October.

**AOB**

Chair invited members to suggest topics for the next meeting (date TBC).