

National Youth Sector Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday 3rd November 2022

2pm – 4.30pm

Virtual via ZOOM

NOTES & ACTIONS ARISING

Item 1: Welcome

Chair welcome everyone.

Items 2: Sector round-up: cost of living and public services

Insights and updates from across the sector, on local services and activities from:

Young People's Foundation Trust

Cost of living crisis is having a severe impact on youth workers and as a sector. Encouraged to see funders responding in terms of grant making as additional unrestricted funding has been fundamental to the survival of some organisations. No recovery post-COVID and sector requires the same level of intervention as we enter this period of austerity.

British Youth Council

Dire situation for young people with growing concerns around the impact on mental health. Call for young people to have equal entitlement to redundancy payment.

UKYP sitting will be live streamed by Parliament on 4 November, debating five topics related to health and wellbeing including the environment, cost of living, mental health, and discrimination.

Girlguiding

Recently published [Girls' Attitudes Survey 2022](#) which asked more than 3,000 girls and young women aged, 7 to 21 how they feel about the pressures they face today, and what these mean for their happiness, wellbeing and opportunities. They said the pandemic will have a lasting negative impact on their wellbeing and opportunities, with notable differences across nations of the UK. Significant reduction in wellbeing and safety across all 4 nations.

National Youth Agency

Setting up a working group to strengthen the sector approach to the cost-of-living crisis. Anyone interested in joining to contact abbeem@nya.org.uk or your RYWU.

Action:

Call for evidence and practical examples to be shared by emailing lisap@nya.org.uk to be shared with DCMS.

APPG Youth Affairs

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Youth Affairs - Monday 28th November 2022, 6:30 PM in Parliament (BYC and YMCA, secretariat).

Action:

APPG event in Parliament to discuss responses to the cost-of-living crisis, and its impact on young people. [Register to attend](#)

YMCA

YMCA gave a short presentation on their latest report - [YMCA's 'Inside the cost-of-living crisis'](#) report revealed:

- Alongside increased reliance on food banks and donations, young people in supported housing are now having to decide between skipping meals entirely and keeping warm.
- Aspirations have halted, holding back from moving out of supported accommodation as no longer felt able to take that risk
- Low levels of financial resilience, with many in debt and exempt from the £400 energy rebate.
- Mental health worsening, with many feeling unable to do anything social or even use public transport because all they can afford to do is survive, leaving them trapped and isolated.
- Sign the petition to [End the Cost of Living Crisis - YMCA England & Wales](#)

Item 3: Policy updates

DCMS round-up.

- Stuart Andrew M) is the Minister Stuart Andrew MP: Minister for Sport, Tourism and Civil Society, and Minister for Equalities and no change to Secretary of State.
- Youth Investment Fund - currently assessing with announcements expected pre-Christmas.
- Uniformed Youth Fund - first part issued and second part to be issued ahead of Christmas.
- Turing Scheme – keen to work with NYSAB in taking a bid through the system
- DCMS is engaging with Youth Work Week, #YWW22.

Chair thanked DCMS for the ongoing dialogue.

Sector updates:

British Youth Council

- First full sitting of UK Youth Parliament since 2018 with all 4 nations and representatives from overseas territories to be [streamed on Parliament TV](#).

National Youth Agency

- Youth Work Week, 7-13 Nov, Festival of Youth Work, please use #YWW22
- Youth Work Register to be available from early 2023

Action: National Youth Sector Census is open via www.YouthWorkOne.org.uk

UK Youth

UK Youth report on economic value of youth work to be published 10 November in collaboration with Frontier Economics

- The main purpose of this study is to provide an estimate of the economic value of youth work in England. This work aims to:
 - Value the direct economic benefit of youth work, in terms of employment, assets and value-in-kind contributions.
 - Value the indirect economic benefit of youth work, in terms of the wider societal impacts.
 - Provide an estimate for return on investment (ROI) in the youth sector. Estimated to be £3 – 6.

Action: UK Youth will run an event on 17 November. Chair offered to facilitate a workshop with NYSAB.

Other: reports

This document from a related all party parliamentary group looks at the correlation between youth services and reducing knife crime.

[Securing a Brighter Future: the role of youth services in tackling knife crime](#)

Item 4: Campaigns update

Our Bright Future:

Bringing together the youth and environmental sectors: Catherine Clifton and Naomi Simpson; supported by Cath Hare (Wildlife Trusts)

- Brought together 31 partners across the UK engaging 128,495 young people
- 3 Asks:
 - o Outdoor learning for everyone – signposted the [NYA Youth Work Curriculum p. 24](#)
 - o Employability skills and offering pathways.
 - o Continued support to involve young people in decision making.

<https://ourbrightfuture.co.uk/our-bright-future-final-evaluation-reports/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/OBrightFuture>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/obrightfuture/>

National Lottery Community Fund

- Undergoing a strategy renewal and at exploration stage of exploring a deep dive on family and young people, and community participation.
- Youth voice teams have been involved at all stages, and want to collate surveys, research, events to be sent to Joe.
- Online forum to be circulated and ask everyone to contribute
<https://www.puttingcommunitiesfirst.org.uk>

Action: NYSAB to facilitate a smaller group session for Joe to have a dedicated session on NLCF strategy development.

Item 5: The review of statutory guidance

- Local Authorities have a legal duty to provide and secure youth work (Section 507B of the Education Act (1996).
- DCMS are working with NYA and the LGA to review and update the guidance which sets government expectations of local authorities to fulfil their duty. To include:
 - o Support what a sufficient youth offer is in their area
 - o Defining the role of youth work
 - o The balance between open access and targeted services
 - o Coordinating and promoting the offer
- Will be looking at parallels with other legal settings e.g. health and safety, housing to strengthen expectations around what is practicable.
- Ambition is to tighten up the guidance by working in conjunction with LA's.
- Next step is stakeholder engagement.

Discussion:

- With councils facing severe budget cuts NYA has published [Guidance for LA's on providing Youth Services](#)

- DCMS, NYA and LGA are developing and will roll out a peer review structure
- BYC welcomed conversations, wanting Government to strengthen definitions with a clear sense of responsibility, who is doing what, target, information on how to hold LA's to account, opportunity to reward/accreditation, how much are we involving the voices of young people
- A reminder to all that a clear youth offer (starting with the National Youth Guarantee) and strengthened statutory guidance are first year targets for the 10 year strategy NYSAB adopted, as a guide for discussions and meetings going forward.

Action: NYSAB to facilitate a workshop on 1 December with invites to follow.

Items 6: Social prescribing

Guest presentations from the National Academy of Social Prescribing (NAS)P; Street Games (social prescribing youth network); and Westminster One (Young People's Foundation).

Baroness Tanni Grey Thompson and Ann Hunt (NASP): social prescribing has a role to play in improving the health and wellbeing of the nation by connecting people to their local communities. 1 in 5 GP appointments are due to non-medical problems (e.g. loneliness) and social prescribing connects people to non-medical services to improve their health and wellbeing. Services that are largely delivered by the voluntary sector. Children and Young People review to be published soon, simply cutting and pasting and adult model will not work.

- o [Social prescribing: the evidence | National Academy for Social Prescribing \(socialprescribingacademy.org.uk\)](https://socialprescribingacademy.org.uk)
- o [NASP strategic-plan web.pdf \(socialprescribingacademy.org.uk\)](#)
- o [Regional Leads](#) can help connect organisations.

Dawn Mitchell, health lead, Street Games:

- Funding for a new research programme to test further models
- Only 20% of referrals are from GPs, most via the community including peer to peer, education, social care, friends and family and 10% from police
- Youth workers can be very quickly upskilled to understanding social prescribing
- [Free resources for children and young people's social prescribing](#)
- [A two-year evaluation of the Young People Social Prescribing \(YPSP\) pilot](#)
- o For all interested: [Sign up here to the Social Prescribing Youth Network \(SPYN\)](#)

Jackie Rosenberg, One Westminster:

- CVS that employs a team of local prescribers in Westminster and lobbying for the model to be replicated.
- Pilot commissioned to employ young adult mental health social prescribers (18-25), to take referrals from the mental health hub and support into social prescription. Almost exclusively youth provision.
- Need to fund the prescription, not just the prescriber. All kinds of agencies are awake to being able to refer to the voluntary sector, but in most cases the funding does not follow. Many agencies don't have the capacity.
- Model is on receipt of a referred young person is a triage (1-hour long chat) with a view to developing a plan and identifying non-medical services that can support them.

The guest contributors were thanked and discussion in response led by British Youth Council including young rep from the NHS Youth Forum run by BYC.

- Welcomed social prescribing as giving young people a sense of purpose and can have a huge impact on loneliness.

Actions:

- NYA to include social prescribing in the new practice guidance.
- NYSAB to facilitate a create a 45-minute workshop to continue to conversation and move this forward collectively.

Items 7: AOB

- Forward date/AGM in person meeting, end Feb/ early March.
- Fri 11th Nov DofE will be welcoming 200 young people to Google HQ for Youth Without Limits: Beyond the CV event - focusing on demystifying the transition into employment. [Booking details](#)

Summary of Actions

1. NYSAB members are asked to share evidence and practical examples on the cost-of-living impact on young people and youth services/activities: isap@nya.org.uk
2. National Youth Sector Census is open via www.YouthWorkOne.org.uk for promotion across local authorities, voluntary and community organisations delivering youth work and out of school activities
3. NYSAB to facilitate a smaller group session on the National Lottery Community Fund strategy development.
4. NYSAB follow up for further discussion and presentation on the UK Youth report on the economic value of youth work.
5. NYSAB to facilitate a workshop on the Statutory Guidance Review on 1 December with invites to follow.
6. NYSAB to facilitate a create a 45-minute workshop on social prescribing to continue to conversation and move this forward collectively; NYA to include social prescribing in the new practice guidance.
7. NYSAB to forward date/AGM in person meeting, end Feb/ early March.