



**Partnership
for Young
London**

**Manifesto
2026 - 2029**

partnershipforyounglondon.org.uk

Our Vision

Young people make up over 25% of London's population and 100% of its future. They are the most diverse generation in the country, and too often not included in the decisions that shape their lives.

Partnership for Young London works for young Londoners, connecting the sector around them, developing the workforce that assists them, and influencing the decisions that support them in their lives.

Our three objectives

1. Connecting everyone who cares about young people in London – Bringing together organisations, local and regional government, and young people.
2. Developing and sharing knowledge and skills – Equipping others to help young people in London to access the support they need.
3. Influencing policy and practice – Generating new ideas that will help young Londoners thrive, shifting the power towards young Londoners in the decisions that affect their lives.

Our values

- Collaborative – We know that change happens when we work together, and we take a systemic approach across our work.
- Equity – We believe that tackling inequalities is core to everything we do.
- Youth-led - We believe that young people's voices and needs are a key part of our decision-making processes.
- An intersectional, trauma-informed framework underpins our commitment to equity for all young Londoners.

Across our work we will

- Work in line with the the National Youth Strategy, Youth Matters (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-matters-your-national-youth-strategy/youth-matters-your-national-youth-strategy>) to reduce fragmentation throughout the youth sector, through joined-up approaches.
- Support organisations to align their offer to young people, using resources such as the [Centre for Youth Voice](#) as a focal point for sharing knowledge, skills, and expertise.
- Maximise reach through our communications strategy, including our Weekly Policy and Practice Update reaching over 3,500 professionals, to engage wider groups with youth policy and practice.
- Map, nurture, and evaluate networks and stakeholder engagement continuously to identify areas for development.

CONNECT - Building a broad, cross-sector network, responsive to the emerging needs of young Londoners

Why this matters

Young Londoners need joined up support across youth work, health, housing, education, the arts, sport, and culture - too often it is not. The gaps fall hardest on those with the least. To provide effective support, with and for diverse young Londoners, we need to create more robust collaborations and connections across organisations. To thrive, young Londoners require access to services across the youth sector, health, housing, education, training, arts, sports, and culture. These services frequently operate in isolation, creating gaps that often impact the most disadvantaged. Effective collaboration, built with young people at the centre, is key.

Our principles

- We make our networks open, free, and accessible to anyone who needs them.
- We avoid duplication and build collaborations, ensuring that young people access the full range of services they need to thrive.
- We always work in partnership across our projects, to increase the reach and collective impact of our work.

What we will do

- **Sustain** – Develop our relationships with targeted groups across the statutory and non-statutory sectors, connecting with specialist organisations and institutions. These include Leaving Care Leads, Further Education Colleges, Universities and Businesses, Greater London Authority, London Councils and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.
- **Involve** – Ensure a greater diversity of young Londoners gain meaningful opportunities to effectively inform and influence policy and practice across our partnerships and networks.
- **Inform** - Publish the Weekly Policy and Practice Update to over 3,500 professionals, sharing the latest in policy, good practice, funding opportunities, and insights.
- **Engage** – Work with a diverse range of partner organisations, including targeted specialist groups, to tackle inequalities, maintaining both an intersectional and trauma informed approach.

Supporting Youth Matters

We will actively engage in the work of the National Youth Strategy by convening partners to share resources, moving power from national to local, to support communities to deliver a youth offer.

‘From fragmented to collaborative’.

‘To improve the lives of young people, by ensuring we work as a collective’.

‘A new, stronger relationship between government and civil society organisations.’



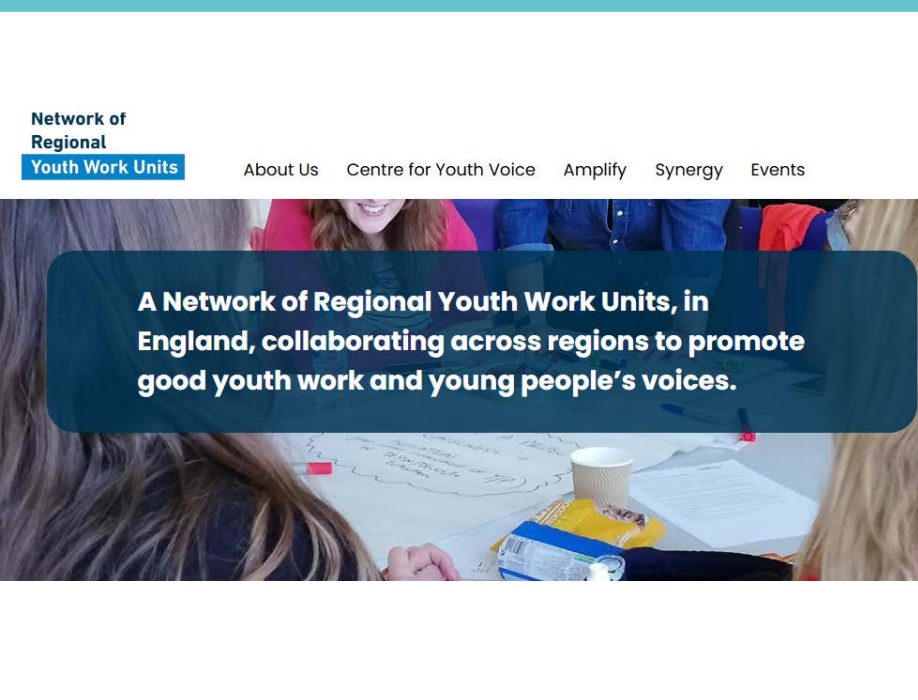
Young Londoners' Coalition

Working with London Youth, London Councils, the Greater London Authority and other partners, we will develop our regional collaboration through the Young Londoners' Coalition.



Policy and Practice Update

We will connect our network through the Weekly Policy and Practice Update, connecting over 3,500 leads with policy news and opportunities.



Network of Regional Youth Work Units

Through the Network of Regional Youth Work Units, we will enhance our collaboration with key partners such as the National Youth Agency, UK Youth, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and others to reduce duplication.

DEVELOP - Growing a cohesive, cross-sector workforce, skilled to meet the holistic needs of diverse young people

Why this matters

Through our training and networks, we want to build collaborations and partnerships that will work with young people to deliver better outcomes. Young Londoners themselves need supported pathways into skills, employment, and civic life. We want to develop a broad skills programme that equips young Londoners with the knowledge, attributes and confidence needed for the future.

Our principles

- We provide all our training for free, aligned with the diverse needs of organisations working with young people.
- We ensure our training and support meets the intersectional needs of young people and the organisations that serve them.
- We provide training and development opportunities that will support the sector to meet the aims of the National Youth Strategy.
- We provide paid opportunities at London Living Wage for young people to develop their skills, as peer researchers, apprentices, and interns.

What we will do

- **Train** - We will run specialist training on trauma-informed practice, mental health and wellbeing, peer research, co-production, and intersectionality, including dedicated co-production work through the Centre for Youth Voice.
- **Collaborate** - We will work with the National Youth Agency, Department for Culture, Media and Sport and other partners to deliver key aspects of the National Youth Strategy, including JNC qualifications and apprenticeships.
- **Facilitate** - We will strengthen specialist networks across London, supporting the wider skills development of, for example, Participation Workers, Personal Advisors and youth work in health-based settings.
- **Share** - We will profile resources and good practice on approaches to co-production with young people via our programmes, such as the Centre for Youth Voice and Amplify.
- **Empower** - We will provide training and support to young people to develop their skills and prepare them for future employment.

Supporting Youth Matters

Youth Matters wants to ensure that by 2035, half a million more young people will have access to a trusted adult. To achieve this, we need to expand the training, and support offers available for adults who work with young people.

‘Supporting more trusted adults to engage with and guide young people when and where they need it most.’

‘Providing better education, guidance, training, and support for young people to get a great job.’



The Pan London Compact

The Pan London Compact hosts practitioners' networks on policy and best practice for services working with care experienced young people.



Amplify

Through the Amplify project we will co-facilitate training with young people for practitioners across the regions on the impact of youth voice on policy and practice.



The Centre for Youth Voice

Through the Centre for Youth Voice we will showcase data and insight, resources on best practice and facilitate ongoing training on youth engagement and the impact of youth voice.

INFLUENCE – Advocating for, and amplifying, the voices and needs of young Londoners

Why this matters

Young Londoners are the most diverse generation to date, anywhere in the UK. Their story is one of multi-culturalism, and diversity, and as a sector our work with them must be inclusive and accessible. However, young people are often left out of the policy making processes that impact on their lives. From youth engagement approaches and participation in research, to the co-design design and delivery of services, we believe that young people are best placed to speak about the challenges in their lives.

Our principles

- We share our youth engagement approaches and methods, not just our findings, so we can grow good practice together and embed participation across the sector.
- We ensure that all our research meaningfully involves young people at all stages and at London Living Wage, from design, to fieldwork, and dissemination.
- We focus on impact, with research, meeting the gaps of practitioners, delivering practical recommendations and building on existing data and insight.
- We put relationships at the heart of good influencing practice, maintaining strong, long-term relationships with decision-makers.

What we will do

- **Involve** - We will involve young people across all our work, creating partnerships between young people and institutions to increase their participation in decision-making and redress the power deficit.
- **Amplify** - We will amplify the voices of all young Londoners, by recognising the different lived experiences of diverse groups, prioritising accessibility in our participatory work, and ensuring we engage under-represented groups of young people.
- **Inform** - We will inform policymakers (funders, local, and regional government) through high quality research and insight, and youth engagement, helping to shape the youth offer required across London.
- **Share** - We will share approaches and good practice, not just key findings, with organisations across London, and the other regions, through the Centre for Youth Voice.

Supporting Youth Matters

Youth Matters represents a radical shift, with the emphasis on delivering with young people, where young people will be at the core of decision making. Young people should be much more involved in decisions that affect them.

‘From excluded to empowered — our goal is to put young people back in the driving seat of their own lives.’

‘Lowering the voting age to 16 and creating new ways for young people to be involved in national and local funding decisions.’



Authoring Our Own Stories and Amplify

Across the Network of Regional Youth Work Units, we will be using peer research to review the impact of youth engagement programmes and co-designing training and resources to cascade out.



Peer Research programmes

We continue to develop our participatory research with young people, building the capacity of other organisations through the training offers and communities of practice.



Young Residents in Partnership

We will ensure that young people are actively engaged in Housing Associations through the development of training and resources, as well as longer term policy influence.



Website

<https://www.partnershipforyounglondon.org.uk/manifesto>

Sign up

Partnership for Young London's weekly policy update is a collection of policy news, opportunities, and an update on our events and work in London's youth sector. - <http://eepurl.com/ijeJTP>

Follow us

Twitter - @PYL_London

Instagram - partnership4younglondon

LinkedIn - www.linkedin.com/company/partnership-for-young-london

Partnership for Young London

Manifesto 2025 - 2026

partnershipforyounglondon.org.uk