



In the Loop: Number 6

The World of Young People

Welcome to the YWU's fortnightly bulletin aiming to keep members up to date with the latest developments. This is e-mailed to staff in Local Authorities & voluntary organisations.

Youth Work Unit Y&H - Stringer House, 34 Lupton Street, Leeds LS10 2QW.
Office open: Tues, Weds & Thurs. ☎0113 270 3595, theunit@youthworkunit.com
Web: www.youthworkunit.com Twitter: [@YouthWorkUnit](https://twitter.com/YouthWorkUnit)

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Please share *In the Loop* with your colleagues and partner organisations

Youth Work Unit News

The next **Yorkshire and Humber Regional Group of Youth Work Trainers** meeting will take place on **Tuesday 10th April** at Youth Association South Yorkshire (YASY) in Sheffield between **10am and 1pm**. This meeting is open to anyone providing Youth Work related training in our region. **Louise Atkin will represent the NYA** talking about Level 2 and Level 3 training and the Youth Work Apprenticeship Trailblazer: [Book your free place](#)

The next meeting of the **Yorkshire and Humber LGBT+ Youth Work Network** will take place on **Thursday 19th April** from **10am to 1.00pm** at the Orangebox Young People's Centre, 1 Blackledge, Halifax (Next door to the Piece Hall). Open to all those working with LGBT+ young people in our region: [Attend the meeting](#)

Yorkshire & Humber News

Yorkshire's truancy rates remain worst in England, despite more parents facing fines. "These statistics are indeed shocking and we really need to look for the reasons behind the absence and ask why these children are missing school" says Yorkshire MP.
["The North desperately needs more investment from Government"](#)

Children in north 'face double whammy' of poverty and bad schools. Children's commissioner for England says young people feel regeneration will not help them. 15% of children in some areas are dropping out of education and training before they are 18:
[She is calling on the poorest northern children to be put at heart of the northern powerhouse](#)

Third of Council-run secondary schools in Yorkshire and Humber in deficit. Across England as a whole, the number of secondary schools in deficit has nearly trebled in four years, according to a study. It suggests that just over one in four Secondary Schools in England is in deficit:
[In Yorkshire and the Humber 33% Schools are in deficit](#)

Government to trial upfront Troubled Families payments in Leeds. Leeds City Council will receive upfront funding to pay for support provided through the government's Troubled Families programme as part of a trial, it has been announced:
["Upfront investment will help them achieve their ambitious service transformation plans"](#)

Wakefield Council cabinet member forced to stand down after shocking Ofsted inspection into children's services. The education watchdog found youngsters were not being safeguarded appropriately due to "significant weaknesses" in council services: [Senior managers were "well aware of the issues"](#)

Golden hellos and handcuffs for key council Staff in York. Social work bosses in York are about to start offering "golden hellos" and "golden handcuffs" to attract staff to key child protection and safeguarding teams which work with children at high risk: [£2,500 to new and existing staff](#)

Youth Voice Yorkshire and Humber

Humber Bridge broadcasts positive mental health message. Positive messages are to be played over speakers on the Humber Bridge as part of a suicide prevention campaign. The *You Are Not Alone* project has been designed by young people aged between 12 and 20 from Hull:

[Messages and poems about mental health are heard by those who walk or cycle over the bridge](#)

'Worlds apart': how valuing social workers and children's voices helped the first children's trust transform. How a children's trust used the views of young people, implemented stable management for social workers and invested in performance data to turn around its services:

["Doncaster children's trust puts young people at the centre of its services"](#)

National News

Government concludes 'body dissatisfaction' is an issue of enormous concern to young people.

[Official response from the Government about their report on body image and the impact it has](#)

Young people with mental health problems facing 'unacceptable barriers'. A survey of 2,700 people up to the age of 25 who had struggled with mental health issues found that less than 1 in 10 felt it was easy to get the support they needed. [44 per cent found it hard to even get an initial referral](#)

Pope tells young people to 'keep shouting'. Pope Francis has urged young people to keep shouting and not let older generations silence their voices or "anaesthetise" their idealism. "There are many ways to silence young people and make them invisible. Many ways to anaesthetise them, to make them keep quiet, ask nothing, question nothing": ["Dear young people, you have it in you to shout"](#)

Jamie Oliver "apoplectic" over Conservatives' school lunches plan. It was a few short lines in the Tory manifesto: an end to universal free school lunches for the first three years of primary school. But to TV chef Jamie Oliver those lunches represent a decade of campaigning for healthier kids: [Watch the video](#)

Is social media to thank for low teen pregnancy rates? Over the past 20 years, the teenage pregnancy rate in England and Wales has been more than halved. It is now at its lowest level since records began, in the 1960s. ["Progress can be tracked back to the 1999 teenage pregnancy strategy"](#)

Meet the 6 impressive teenagers who are leading a massive gun-control movement after the Parkland massacre. Young people galvanized by the massacre on Valentine's Day at a high school in Parkland, Florida, are leading a movement against gun violence: ["Welcome to the revolution"](#)

Child sexual exploitation: How the system failed. Grooming, rape, trafficking, or the many other ways children are being sexually abused, the subject of child sexual exploitation is in the headlines with depressing regularity. Telford is currently in the spotlight - but is by no means the first place and will not be the last: ["The message given to the victims must have been that "we don't care about you"](#)

Teach First says doubling of its LGBT teachers shows 'progress' within schools. The teacher trainer says the proportion of new teachers who identify as LGBT in its cohort has increased from 5 per cent of those who started in classrooms in 2014 to 9 per cent who began at the beginning of this school year in September 2017: [Participants tell us they want to be visible LGBT role models](#)

Reports and Publications

'Christianity as default is gone': the rise of a non-Christian Europe. In the UK, only 7% of young adults identify as Anglican, fewer than the 10% who categorise themselves as Catholic. Young Muslims come in at 6%: "With some notable exceptions, young adults increasingly are not identifying with or practising religion." [70% of young people in the UK identify with no religion](#)

Health

Why are young people using Xanax instead of getting treatment for mental health issues? The length of time it takes for us to get treatment can run into months and for some, even years. To bridge that gap, more and more young people are taking matters into their own hands and buying drugs online or on the street to ease the pain: [The proliferation of benzodiazepines \(particularly Xanax\) is a worrying trend](#)

Obesity is shifting cancer to young adults. Researchers have compiled evidence to show how obesity increases the risk of 13 different cancers in young adults. The meta-analysis describes how obesity has shifted certain cancers to younger age groups, and intensified cellular mechanisms promoting the diseases: [Obesity can permanently alter a young person's likelihood of developing cancer](#)

Mental health charities call for more youth specialists to be trained. Schools struggle to get pupils seen by qualified mental health professionals because training for counsellors focuses too much on treating adults, warns the head of a children's mental health charity:

[The number of educational psychologists working with schools fell 13 per cent over five years](#)

Blogs

The guns debate is a culture war. And young people will win it. This is a fight between a young, diverse, feminist generation against an old, white, male minority desperate to hang on to power:

[Young activists are engaged in nuanced thinking to bolster their work on gun violence](#)

"Young people are not just the future of Nigeria. They are Nigeria today." Increasing youth representation in Nigeria's closed political system will be an uphill battle, but *Not Too Young To Run* activists are ready to fight: [70% of Nigeria's population of 180 million people are aged below 35](#)

Give millennials a break – young people are worse off and it's not their fault. Young people are poorer than older people. And it's not simply because the old have worked all their lives and are enjoying the fruits of their labours in their sunset years. The wealth gap between the young and the old is on the rise in England: [Machines, robots and engineering feats are leading to the disappearance of some jobs](#)

4 Young Muslim Women on the biggest misconceptions people have of them; "for example that Muslim women need saving, are timid or submissive. Quite frankly we're vocal, strong and empowered enough to tackle those who attack us for what we wear and those who attack us for what we don't wear". ["I celebrate being a Muslim woman every day"](#)

Vacancies

The very latest Youth Work related vacancies in Yorkshire and the Humber: [Jobs in our region](#)

Highfield Community Association – Keighley - Closing date: Monday 23rd April 2018

1 x Excel Youth Worker Co-ordinator 21 hours per week (3 years fixed term contract)

3 x Excel Youth Workers 16 hours per week (3 years fixed term contract)

4 x Play Workers 16 hours per week (3 years fixed term contract)

For full details: office.keighleyhca@yahoo.co.uk

Youth Democracy Coordinator to work across the **East and West Midlands**, supporting Local Authorities to engage in the UK Youth Parliament programme. £24,171 (pro rata). Closing date: 16 April 2018 [Full details](#)

Events and Training

Do you know how to manage sick leave effectively? How to pay staff correctly and to ensure that they are supported back to work so that the absence has minimal impact on your organisation? A special **webinar** hosted by ACAS and HMRC Thursday **29 March, 2pm to 3pm- this event is free to attend:** [Managing Sick Leave and Pay for Employers](#)

Development Opportunity for Yorkshire Organisations. This training will be delivered at **West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds on Thursday 26th April 2018.** Better your understanding of challenging behaviour & the best ways to cope: [Behaviour Management and Youth Arts](#)

Resources

World Autism Awareness Week: Powerful video highlights difficulties autistic people face on public transport: [Too Much Information campaign](#)

Government promises action to combat negative body image. In its response to a youth select committee report on body dissatisfaction, the government's equalities office has promised to carry out an audit of available information and resources:

[Better access to body image information for young men, those with disabilities and LGBT young people](#)

Children & Young People Now Awards 2018. Nominations are now open:

[Start the nomination process](#)

A case study telling the story of how collaboration between specialist youth workers from Positive Futures and targeted youth support workers create sustained positive outcomes for vulnerable young people:

["This is why we do this job, to see outcomes like this"](#)

European Exchange and Partnership Opportunities – Eurodesk

Erasmus+, one of the EU's iconic and most successful programmes, today adds an online version to its mobility actions, to link more students and young people from European countries and the Southern neighbourhood of the EU:

[The online version of Erasmus+ will complement the traditional physical mobility programme](#)

Are you an aspiring writer under 25? Write about changes you want to make for peace and Sustainable Development and submit your essay for the contest organized by UNESCO and the Goi Peace Foundation by **15 June**. Winners fly to Japan! [Find out more and enter here](#)

Grants and Funding

Comic Relief launches £4m fund for young people without secure places to live. The Safe, Secure, Settled fund offers grants of between £100k and £500k to projects around the world. "We passionately believe that every young person deserves to have a safe, warm and stable place to live":

[The deadline for applications is midday on 14 June](#)

Funding Leeds. The free and easy way to find funding for Voluntary Organisations in Leeds:

[Make funding searches to tap into local, regional and national funding sources](#)

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