



In the Loop: Number 5

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

DCMS launches new youth voice projects. Young people aged 10-25 will now be able to shape national policy thanks to three new youth voice projects being created, Minister for Civil Society Mims Davies announced [In partnership with The Youth Work Unit Yorkshire and the Humber](#)

Yorkshire & Humber News

The official figures revealing the number of young people starting apprenticeships has just been published. Those taking up fresh apprenticeships in 2017/18 had dropped dramatically. 119,000 fewer apprenticeships started across England, **with 16,570 fewer across the Yorkshire and Humber region:** [Includes a drop of 280 in York and almost 1,000 fewer in Leeds](#)

The rate of teenage pregnancies in Leeds has halved in just 10 years, a report by Leeds City Council claims. The report, which focuses on sexual health among young people in the city, also claims declining numbers of 15 and 16-year-olds are having sexual intercourse: [Leeds still had the highest rates of chlamydia among 16-24-year-olds in the region](#)

Youth Voice Yorkshire and Humber

Some 30 young people from across England will be recruited in partnership with the DCMS, to help develop policy and to monitor and evaluate the national programmes: [The project will explore how digital methods can be used to engage young people in policy making](#)

National News

Language guide challenges care system jargon. "What are peers?", "What are NEETs?" and "Why do social workers call my home a placement?" are among the questions flagged by young people who helped produce a new publication that challenges jargon used in the care system: ["NEET" is a silly word](#)

The Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award is now open. This year's judges Raymond Antrobus and Jackie Kay cannot wait to read your poems. It is free to enter to anyone in the world aged 11-17 years old to enter! Deadline 31 July 2019. Good luck: [Open to everyone aged between 11-17 on 31st July 2019](#)

Ban on off-rolling among calls to tackle youth crime. Local authorities should be given control over school exclusions to help mend a "broken" system of support for vulnerable pupils that is driving them into crime, it is claimed today: ["here is "no clear criteria and process" for excluding a young person"](#)

Young people warned over buying drugs via apps. Social media apps are increasingly likely to be used by young people to buy illegal drugs, research suggests. It warns that buyers are at risk in terms of personal safety and drug quality. ["Many have a "false security" of escaping law enforcement"](#)

Knife crime: Excluded pupils 'sucked into criminality'. Theresa May is being warned that a "broken" system of support for troubled and excluded youngsters lies at the heart of a rise in knife crime. Police commissioners and London's mayor have written to the PM saying pupils, both formally and informally excluded, are being "sucked into criminality". ["Permanent exclusions should be a "last resort"](#)

Knife crime: Heads call for more money to keep children safe. At least 1,745 weapons found in UK primary and secondary schools in four years, FOI data reveals: [This number is likely to be a huge underestimate](#)

With house prices having risen over the last decade, many young people have found it tough to get on the property ladder. Some are choosing to **co-buy with friends**, but it is not without its risks: [M&S Bank has launched a "mortgage for four" product](#)

How the UK economy has wronged young people for decades. National minimum wage laws allow lawful discrimination against young people; young people have worse pension opportunities than previous generations and suffer from a housing market characterised by high rents and purchase costs: ["Media portrayals of young people compound the problem"](#)

Reports and Studies

PHE report on e-cigarette use finds that regular vaping remains low among young people, and has plateaued among adults. The findings show that while experimentation with e-cigarettes among young people has increased in recent years, regular use remains low. ["We are not seeing a surge in e-cigarette use among young people"](#)

Study to examine poor outcomes of care leavers. Understanding why unemployment and poor education affects so many young people after leaving care is to be the subject of a major study: ["Identifying these factors will assist policymakers and service providers"](#)

On the Side-lines the economic and personal cost of childhood exposure to domestic violence: ["The implications for these children can be catastrophic and last a lifetime"](#)

Loneliness. Evidence, resources and guidance on understanding and tackling loneliness. Tackling loneliness: review of reviews. This review establishes what we know about loneliness in and effective ways to tackle it: [New guidance](#)

Health

Young adults at risk of developing problems with addiction show key differences in an important region of the brain, according to an international team led by researchers at the University of Cambridge: [Biological makeup plays a significant role in whether or not they develop an addictive disorder](#)

Young people across the UK taking 'Fake Xanax'. School children and university students have been taking fake version of the drug. An article by the BBC last year found that "children as young as 11 were being treated by ambulance services after taking fake versions of it." ["Has been linked to as many as 125 deaths in the UK"](#)

Teachers lack confidence to help pupils who self-harm, study finds. More than eight out of 10 secondary school teachers say they have taught a pupil who they believe self-harms but many lack the confidence and training to support them, a charity survey has found: [84 per cent have taught a child suspected of self-harming](#)

Events

Centre for Youth Impact Yorkshire and Humber Network meeting. Emma Pears from *SELFA*, a children's charity, based in Skipton, North Yorkshire, will be joining us to relate their success story and

share good practice. There will also be a training input: *Evaluation & Planning – When and How?* There will be an update on the *Youth Programme Quality Intervention* pilots - an exciting new development: **14th March:** [Book your place here - Free](#)

Network meeting for Youth Workers running LGBT+ Youth Work groups. The next meeting will be on **2nd May at 10am at the Community Meeting room on the fourth floor of John Lewis in the Victoria Shopping Centre Leeds.**

Blogs and Comment

Javed Khan: Sex and health education must reflect young people's experiences. Schools play a key role in teaching children the difference between healthy relationships and abuse, and in promoting mental wellbeing: ["The guidance on sex and relationship lessons hasn't been updated since 2000"](#)

Young people like Jess need the safety net. But austerity has destroyed it. Councils are buckling under the strain of families in crisis, thanks to catastrophic cuts to children and young people's services: [Funding for services for children and young people in England has fallen by almost a third](#)

Brexit has left communities divided and young people isolated. A report by two youth work sector organisations shows youth workers have witnessed a negative impact on community relations since the EU Referendum in June 2016: ["Youth work practitioners do not feel informed about Brexit"](#)

Adults failed to take climate action. Meet the young activists stepping up. Some are calling climate change this generation's civil rights movement. These are the young activists leading the charge: ["The Sunrise Movement has outpaced established environmental groups"](#)

Vacancies

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

Project Coordinator - supporting vulnerable children found using the transport network in Yorkshire & the Humber– up to £30,000 pa (Full-time 37.5 hrs) Based near Leeds Train Station with some UK travel [Closing date: 5pm on Wednesday 13th March 2019](#)

ShIPLEY College: Youth Work 0.2 Lecturer & 0.2 Assessor Fixed term for 12 months (one post) Full day teaching on Thursdays. Assessing post is flexible. [Application process](#)

Resources

Exploring LGBT Spaces and Communities. Contrasting Identities, Belongings and Wellbeing. Based on a UK-wide study funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, this book explores these questions from the perspectives of over 600 research participants. ["Suitable for policy-maker, practitioner, and activist audiences"](#)

International Women's day is tomorrow, 8th March. Balance for Better: [Visit the International Women's Day official website](#)

European Exchange and Partnership Opportunities – Eurodesk

European Youth Week, 29th April – 5th May, allows the display of EU opportunities for young people, the discussion of relevant topics and to celebrate success stories from EU programmes in support of young people. The Week brings together young people, project participants, youth organisations and policy-makers in a European event in Brussels. [European Youth Week 2019](#)

Eurodesk Opportunity finder. Find your next opportunity to travel abroad. Don't miss out. Look at the range of current opportunities for young people and for youth workers: [Learning, volunteering, travelling and working](#)

The 2019 deadline for Erasmus+ Key Action 2 Strategic Partnerships funding applications on 21st March is fast approaching. Use the remaining time wisely – check out our wide range of resources, including webinars with live Q&As, guidance notes and one-to-one support calls, to make sure you submit a high-quality application: [Access the resources](#)

If you're aged between 17 and 30 and would like help make society a little better, register with the European Solidarity Corps. On 4 February, Parliament's culture and education committee voted in favour of new priorities for the European Solidarity Corps' programme for 2021-2027:
["Aims to be the EU's main entry point for young people wanting to volunteer or work on projects to benefit communities"](#)

A tool for community building: intercultural cooking evening. Ideas of how to, very simply, and with no specific experience of facilitation, bring a bit of dynamism and glue to your community. We thought we'd talk about this: the magical role of food to build bridges between cultures and people:
[Invite people to share their food culture](#)

Consultation

Sheffield Hallam University has been commissioned by the Government Equalities Office to conduct research exploring experiences of homelessness amongst LGBT people. People can take part if they are over 16, identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans (LGBT) or as another gender or sexual minority, **and** have been homeless in England in the past 5 years. **Contact:** Dr. Eleanor Formby

Funding

Act for Change Fund: young people leading social action is a £3.6 million partnership for organisations supporting young people working for change. The Fund provides resources for young people to challenge social injustice, find ways of overcoming inequality and give voice to issues they are experiencing. [Action for Change Fund](#)

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