



In the Loop: Number 16

The World of Young People

Welcome to the YWU's fortnightly bulletin aiming to keep the sector up to date with the very latest developments. **Published every fortnight since July 2012**

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

Youth Work Unit News and Events

Youth Climate Change summit. August 15th An event for young people to explore Climate Change: what they can do as individuals in their communities; what they should be asking of Local and National Government. In partnership with DEFRA (Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), Erasmus, Euro Desk, Leeds University and the region's youth voice network. [Free tickets and full details](#)

Loneliness Awareness Training. This training programme has been designed for those workers who either have little or no experience of working with young people who are experiencing feelings of loneliness or isolation and those professionals who may be at the early stages of working with young people on these kinds of issues: [11th September - University of Huddersfield - book here](#)
[12th September Doncaster - book here](#)

Yorkshire & Humber News

Childline in Leeds helps rising number of young people with exam result fears. A growing number of young people are turning to Childline deeply worried about their exam results, new figures reveal: [In 2018/19, 1,414 counselling sessions were offered to young people apprehensive about their grades](#)

Young people in North Yorkshire urged to vaccinate. North Yorkshire County Council says the summer holiday is a good time for teenagers – including students going to university for the first time – to take the opportunity to have a simple free vaccination to guard against meningitis: [Cases of meningitis and blood poisoning have been rising over the past nine years](#)

PM blames violent crime on problem families. A hard core of "problem families" is to blame for violent crime and need to be tackled, the Prime Minister has claimed. Recent data showed that **West Yorkshire** had the highest rate of knife and sharp incident crime outside London last year. ["Got to be part of an holistic strategy to encourage kids to find other ways of expressing themselves"](#)

Children's mental health on the Yorkshire Coast at risk. 129,910 children in Yorkshire & the Humber who have been abused or neglected could be side-lined by mental health services as a result of changes being introduced by the NHS, NSPCC research suggests: ["Inadequate plans for their mental health needs, or with no plans for their care at all"](#)

Young Asian men 'groomed into becoming drug dealers'. Figures show that young Asian men are over-represented in convictions for dealing in class A drugs in Yorkshire: ["They were making me sell class A drugs and take the risk. I was young and immature"](#)

Unqualified council staff 'given child protection responsibility'. Ofsted has warned York's children's services over the "unacceptable" use of unqualified staff who have been left handling "inappropriate levels of risk": ["Managers have taken steps to begin to re-allocate this work to social workers"](#)

Youth Voice Yorkshire and Humber

Thanks to all the young people who took part in the National Sitting in Leeds last week, hosted by the University of Leeds.

National News

Over one million young people to save hundreds of pounds, as new 16-17 Saver launches, cutting cost of rail travel for teenagers and guaranteeing half-price travel in England and Wales:
[Young people can start buying their discounted tickets on Monday 2 September](#)

Mhairi Black issues warning over Brexit's impact on young people. Don't make young people pay the price for Brexit, Mhairi Black urged Boris Johnson on International Youth Day. Mhairi Black – the youngest member of the House of Commons and SNP youth affairs spokesperson – says a No-Deal Brexit will cost young people from the UK key education, work and travel opportunities within the European Union:
["Being part of Europe can be life-changing"](#)

400 staff at *The Challenge* set to be affected as NCS contract loss is confirmed. Around 400 out of 450 permanent staff at The Challenge will be affected after the charity confirmed that it has not been able to reach an agreement with the National Citizen Service Trust to deliver the programme from 2020:
["The Challenge has been at the forefront of NCS as its largest provider"](#)

Children in care targeted by county lines gangs. Criminal gangs are targeting children in care, some as young as 12, in towns and cities many miles from home - the phenomenon known as county lines:
["The question for govt and local authorities is: what are you doing to stop it?" - Children's Commissioner](#)

Greta Thunberg's influence grows as young activist heads for US. Teenager is an inspiration for climate movement but also a lightning rod for criticism. The most vociferous attacks on Ms Thunberg have come from far-right politicians and conservative writers: ["Everyone here obviously knows Greta was the founder of the movement. But she has always been very specific that she is not the leader"](#)

Ofcom to fine tech firms exposing young people to graphic videos. The regulator could hand out multi-million pound fines to tech firms it judges not to have protected young users:
[Research found that 59% of children have started using Facebook and Twitter before the age of 10](#)

Young people call on Boris Johnson to take urgent action on knife crime. Six youngsters who experienced first-hand the trauma caused by violence with the weapons have demanded a meeting with him after compiling an action plan of how to prevent more young lives being lost:
[Knife crime in England and Wales hit a record high in 2018/19, up 8% on the previous year](#)

Reports and Studies

Social-media use 'disrupting teen sleep and exercise. Using social media isn't directly harming teenagers - but it can reduce the time they spend on healthy activities, such as sleeping and exercising, a study suggests. [Girls were particularly vulnerable to cyber-bullying](#)

Social media isn't causing more eating disorders in young people – new study. Eating disorders recorded in primary care are nearly 11 times more common in females than males and twice as common in people aged 16–20 years old, than in the 11-15 or 21-24 age groups.
[Studies are starting to unpick assumptions we might make about the links between the two](#)

YouTube is most-watched platform for young people, says report. Ofcom figures show that 16 to 24-year-olds are watching 73 minutes of YouTube every day, compared to the 53 minutes watched by 25 to 34-year-olds: [People in the younger age range watch much less live television](#)

Home Affairs Committee - Serious Youth Violence Report: The Home Affairs Committee has published a report following its inquiry into serious youth violence. The Committee says that the Government's

Serious Violence Strategy is a completely inadequate response to the wave of violence blighting our communities: [Serious Youth Violence Report](#)

Health

NHS must better tailor young people's care, says new report. Care and support given to young people with long-term conditions is too variable, say researchers. Providers should adopt three beneficial features into their transitional care programmes as a minimum:

["Healthcare must be provided to young people based on their stage of development, not just their age"](#)

Vaping linked to marijuana use in young people, research says. The findings, researchers say, support the theory that nicotine rewires the developing brain, changing how people respond to and crave addictive substances:

[The odds of marijuana use were 3.5 times higher in people who vaped compared to those who didn't](#)

Diary writing could improve HbA1c levels of young people with type 1 diabetes. So-called *gratitude journaling* where people write down positive aspects of their life in a diary could help young people with type 1 diabetes lower their HbA1c: [Those who had more journal entries had a lower HbA1c](#)

Events, Training and Opportunities

Free Youth Group visits to UK Parliament in August. Between the 19th and 30th August, youth groups – for example, clubs or uniformed organisations – with members aged 6-18 can visit UK Parliament for free.

[See the options and book a tour](#)

SAYiT, Sheffield's leading lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer and questioning youth charity, is marking its 20th birthday with a celebration event on 24th October 2019: [Full details of the event](#)

Blogs and Comment

Politicians must listen to young people on how poverty and mental health are linked. In countries such as the US and UK, those in poverty are far more likely to develop mental health problems. The connection between deprivation and mental health may escape politicians, but it's all too clear for young people. [That youngsters are joining the dots politicians can't seem to speaks volumes](#)

Cat Smith MP: Our politics is failing young people - it is vital they continue to make their voices heard to shape the future of this country. "We have a generation that wants a fairer society, but instead of being supported and valued, young people have been disproportionately hit by austerity"

["It's hard not to be inspired by this socially conscious generation"](#)

Young people in UK dismiss democracy while their counterparts in Hong Kong risk everything to live in a free society. For all its faults, democracy remains the most dynamic and tolerant system of government: [Most of those in the protests are teenagers and young adults in their twenties](#)

Nothing but a number? Young people on boards. It's great that organisations are recruiting young people to their boards - but they need to really think about why. "The experience of being recruited for being me, rather than being my age, made a huge difference to my sense of worth as a board team member from day one" [Are you genuinely open to changing the way you do governance?](#)

Resources

Friends can become family too. LGTB+ "Adopt a family" initiative: [Friends can become family too](#)

Vacancies

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

European Exchange and Partnership Opportunities – Eurodesk

Every two years, the **European Youth Event** brings together thousands of young people from all over the European Union and beyond to share and shape their ideas on the future of Europe. It is a unique opportunity for young people to meet and inspire each other and decision makers:

[Will take place at the European Parliament's seat in Strasbourg on 29-30 May 2020](#)

Do you work with groups of young people or individuals who are looking to take part in social action to improve their community? A **Solidarity Project** is a youth-led activity under the **European Solidarity Corps**, where informal groups of at least five young people (aged 18-30) can get funding to run a project in the UK, lasting between two and 12 months. The next deadline for funding applications is 1 October 2019 (11am UK time). [Start your journey of discovery here](#)

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](#)

Survey of youth NGOs and networks in Europe. Help us to understand how the landscape of youth representation in Europe is changing. Carried out by Ecorys, the survey will help gather new evidence on how young people engage in decision making at European, national and local levels, and to better understand the value and contribution of EU funding. It will also examine the new trends in participation, including the role of online youth movements: [Find out more](#)

Training Course "Cherry on the cake" - Youth Exchange in the context of long term work with groups of young people, **10 - 14 November, Albania**. Would you like to discover what makes a Youth Exchange the "Cherry on the cake"? [Full details and access to the application form](#)

Consultation

The DCMS have launched a consultation on the future definition of public service mutuals. The government believes that the contribution that public service mutuals can make to public services can be strengthened by creating a more robust definition and brand identity: [Consultation open until 30 September](#)

Funding

Do you know of any local community groups/projects that are aimed at **tackling youth unemployment, promoting social inclusion and/or improving the environment**, and are within a ten mile radius of a rail route or stations served by TransPennine Express? [Apply for a TransPennine Express Transform Fund grant of up to £5k to support your work](#)

Road to growth: free half day seminars for charities and social enterprises on the state of the sector and funding opportunities with practical insight and guidance from experts and leaders: [Apply for a free place - Leeds 3rd October 2019](#)

Petitions

Protect young people from violence: give youth services the funding they need. In the past 5 years, knife crime has increased by 71%, and the number of young people who lost their lives to violence rose by 45% from 2017-2018. In the meantime, youth programmes and services have faced massive cuts to their funding: [See the full petition](#)

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