



Young Combined Authority

Young Combined Authority (YCA) Board update, October 2023

Update

Our current YCA members have been busy as we move into a transition period where current members will move into other WMCA-related opportunities and our new younger cohort of members are recruited.



Mental Health Youth Summit

Faith Strategic Partnership Group (FSPG) / YCA Mental Health Youth Summit was a great success with over 100 people in attendance including Faith Leaders, young people and mental health and youth work professional across the region coming together to support young people’s mental health.



On arrival attendees were greeted by an array of local organisations supporting young people’s mental health and success in life, this included Aquarius, providing additional support, Prince’s Trust and Just talk, support services.

We then heard from a wide range of speakers who shared how faith had supported their mental health journey, including Author and Spoken word poet Jaspreet Kaur. This was followed by a young people panel exploring their lived experience as well as youth led workshops where YCA members facilitated workshops focusing on wider mental health, crime and the cost of living crisis and their effect on young people’s mental health.

Cost of Living- “I don’t feel I can ask my parents for money because I know the pressure they are under”

Crime- Young people require support with making positive relationships to reduce risk of poor decisions that could lead to criminality.

WMCA Faith Covenant Signing

YCA Members Liv, Hamaam and Yasmeen joined local Faith Leaders and Councillors to celebrate the signing of the Faith Covenant, followed by roundtable discussions.

Attendees discussed three themes, - Jobs and Skills, Health Inequalities, Travel and Connectivity and explored priorities and potential for collaboration in each area.



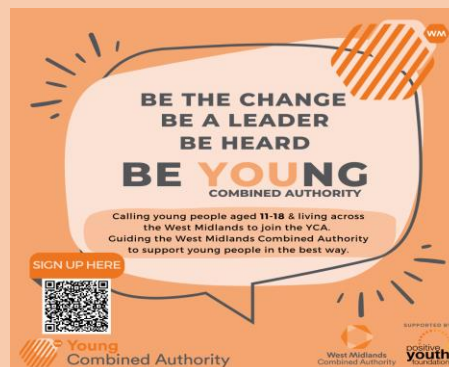
National Youth Combined Assembly

YCA Members travelled to Manchester to meet with YCA's from Yorkshire, Liverpool, and Manchester regions to discuss how they might tackle youth-related issues. It was a great opportunity for everyone to meet in person for the first time and discuss the different work happening in the regions.



YCA Recruitment

Recruitment for the new cohort has begun with call outs on social media. Our delivery partner, Positive Youth Foundation has also been doing community outreach, to ensure take up and engagement from underrepresented groups across the region. We are currently aiming for new members to be in for November will look to set priorities across November and December, it is likely that Mental Health will continue to be a focus.



Coming up:

YCA/ FSPG Mental Health Youth Summit- Follow Up Round Table- 19th October.

Mindset Revolution/ University of Birmingham workshop- Exploring deliberative democracy approaches- 18th November.

Any questions, please email: Miriam.Aslam@wmca.org.uk