



Summary

Youth ACTION is the local youth council/social action group for young people aged 13-21 and does not elect its members, all members are voluntary. The group are a part of the Young Advisors Charity nationally and contribute to as well as benefit from being a part of this movement.

The group works on a number of projects which includes the UK Youth Parliament campaigns. We also continue to support ongoing actions on issues important for young people including cheaper and more accessible transport with Stagecoach, improving access to mental health services and support for young people's mental health. We have meetings with senior managers and councillors to discuss the issues and come up with joint solutions. We also advise the Council on the Children and Young People's Plan, this is the plan for the area with priorities for young people. This is one of the strategic plans for the whole area.

During each of the meetings we bring a number of opportunities that young people may be interested in taking part in which include national advisory groups, regional projects or local opportunities. This gives the opportunity for young people to get involved in making a difference and representing young people locally regionally and nationally. These opportunities include to opportunity to get involved with national youth select committees, regional youth voice steering group helping to organise and run regional youth voice events throughout the year, co-opted membership of scrutiny panels etc. Involvement in this group and other opportunities available is good experience for portfolio's and CV's as many of the skills are needed for any job.

Members are trained as Young Advisors when the training is available, this is linked to a national charity and the training is accredited. Other training workshops are available locally. Once trained you may join other Young Advisor groups nationally should you move with your family or for university. Many of the Young Advisors groups can offer paid opportunities.

Group meetings

Meetings are held on Mondays from 6-8 Monthly on the second Monday in the month. Young people are given dates of the meetings for the year however it is still necessary to remind them of forthcoming meetings and encourage a good turnout to the meetings through use of the closed facebook group, email and text.

As most of the work we are involved in happens over a period of time we hope that young people involved would expect to commit to the group for an average of 1-2 years. On average we plan to train 8 young people as Young Advisors each year and young people are recruited to the group by existing members and through emailing schools/colleges and attending events to promote the group work.

Involvement in North East Lincolnshire is voluntary but as we are spending a significant amount of money on their training we do ask for the young people to commit to attending at least 50% of the meetings and stay with the project for at least 1 year. Many young people stay for around 2 years and gain a significant amount of voluntary experience and opportunities that help them on their CV or in applications to employers and education providers. This ensures they can be involved for long enough to be involved in making a difference for themselves and others through the group's work.

The issues and projects they work on is their choice and should be influenced by the work they are doing with young people in our area. Members are given the opportunity to do additional work outside the meetings which could include involvement in interviews, attending and supporting regional events such as the Northern Powerhouse event and in becoming champions for issues or projects such as Make your Mark. They will also be offered external opportunities should they wish to apply for them.

For more information or to join contact Pippa Curtin on 01472 323298 or email pippa.curtin@nelincs.gov.uk