

MEMBERS SURVEY

SEPT 2020

**INVESTING IN BRIGHTER
FUTURES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN
WESTMINSTER**

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Thank you to all of you who responded to our first ever member survey. We received responses from a third of our members.

This proved to be a really interesting, insightful and useful exercise for us and enormously helps to inform the focus of our work going forward.

The YWF team and board of trustees have carefully reviewed the data and comments received. You can view a summary below of how we are planning to put your ideas into action.

As always, please get in touch if you would like to discuss this insight in further detail.

We were delighted to hear that:

82% of YWF Members said that **YWF was either extremely or very valuable** for the sector in Westminster

61% reported that we were able to **broker funding for their organisations** and **69%** said that this extra funding **opened up further opportunities** for your organisation

We asked which of our services you have made use of during the last year, and we also asked which services you value and need most.

Brokering opportunities/partnerships and collaboration between members is valued most, by **71% of you**

This is followed by **brokering opportunities/ partnerships between members and other (business/strategic) partners** at **65%**

This is echoed by the answer to the question **“Has YWF helped you provide better services through effective partnerships with other organisations?”**

60% said “a great deal” or “a lot”

Whereas only **47%** thought that “YWF helped provide better services through support and training”

In essence, **creating effective partnerships** is seen as the most important function for YWF, rating higher than training workshops or fundraising efforts and support.

LOOKING AHEAD

“YOU'RE A GREAT
TEAM TO WORK
WITH AND HAVE THE
SUCCESS OF THE
SECTOR AT YOUR
VERY CORE”

Many of you have asked for more 1:1 support from YWF. Whilst we are happy to continue to offer some 1:1 support to our members, we have to be mindful of our own capacity and our growing membership.

However, we would strongly encourage you to email us with any needs you have identified and we will collect this information and identify key areas where we can tailor support.

We have received many great suggestions for our newsletter and social media content. **We are working to implement all of these into our online content so please watch this space and please remember to check your junk folder for our newsletter and encourage all of your staff to sign up to our newsletter. You can join our mailing list via the homepage of our website.**

Some of you said that there were too many networking meetings and didn't find them too useful, but most of you valued the networking meetings for what they are – an opportunity to get to know each other and find out what's going on locally.

Effective partnerships is again a key theme in the “looking ahead” section of the survey

76% said that brokering partnerships between members is most needed over the next few months

This was followed by brokering opportunities between members and other partners (**62%**) as well as signposting opportunities (**62%**)



YOU SAID WE DID

LISTENING & LEARNING

We are committed to being led by the needs and views of our members.

In response to your feedback we have implemented/will be implementing the following changes across our organisation.

“ THE SUPPORT YWF PROVIDES IS EXCELLENT. I THINK THE CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE IS TO MAINTAIN THE UNITY OF PURPOSE YOU'VE NURTURED OVER THE LAST 3 YEARS. I'M WORRIED THAT THE FINANCIAL PRESSURES COUNCILS WILL INEVITABLY FACE IN THE FUTURE - COMBINED WITH THE EXTENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S NEEDS IN THE AFTERMATH OF COVID-19 - WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT THAN EVER TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES THAT WILL BE SO DESPERATELY NEEDED. YWF WILL NEED TO PROVIDE A STRONG AND VOCAL PRESENCE TO SUPPORT ITS MEMBERS AND TO ARTICULATE THE (CHANGED / INTENSIFIED) NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE ”

You said: Publicising Local events and opportunities for young people - How can members better work together to share how they engage young people and how do we make sure young people know what is on offer from all organisations in Westminster?

We did: We have created the new "Our City" website which invites all members to sign up and publish what they have on offer. Visit the new site at ourcity.org.uk YWF will put more resource towards this to support members to make use of this website.

You said: We would like to see more information about members in your newsletter.

We will: Introduce a 'member of a month' section in our newsletter and introduce new members who recently joined our network.

You said: We don't have time to analyse data from our ward profile, can you help with that?

We will: Shine a light on the different Westminster wards on social media /our newsletter and broker advice from Westminster City Council Evaluation Team.

You said: We would like to find out about relevant facts and topics for young people.

We will: undertake a needs analysis of young people in Westminster, by training young researchers to talk to their peers about what is important to young people in Westminster.

You said: We would appreciate more 1:1 support. How can we access this?

We did: We encourage our members to get in touch with us about their needs and will offer support ourselves or signpost members to One Westminster or other relevant partners.

You said: We are interested in cluster grant opportunities and core funding opportunities.

We will: Continue to host local cluster meetings for the North East, North West and South of the borough. If you are interested in taking part in these please email Helen on helen@ywfoundation.com. We have started to engage Westminster City Council in conversations to give out more flexible core funding through the next round of Brighter Futures Fund.

You said: I would like to take part in youth worker/manager meetings.

We did: In addition to our cluster meetings which are open to anyone, we are working with the Westminster Youth Hubs to set up a Youth Worker Forum to provide a training and development programme for local youth workers. Please email Helen on helen@ywfoundation.com if you are interested in attending either or both of these.

You said: I'm worried that the financial pressures councils will inevitably face in the future - combined with the extent of children and young people's needs in the aftermath of Covid-19 - will make it more difficult than ever to provide the services that will be so desperately needed. YWF will need to provide a strong and vocal presence to support its members and to articulate the (changed / intensified) needs of young people.

We will: Continue to mobilise our efforts and resources to support our member organisations and their young people whilst raising our voice to campaign for the importance of youth services. This will be informed by our needs analysis and we will continue to focus on what you think we do best and need to do most: creating partnerships between members, funders, businesses, cultural partners, schools and local government.



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MEMBERS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT & COLLABORATION

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
HEARING YOUR FEEDBACK IN
2021**

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