

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report of Youth Empowerment Platform (YEP)

(For the period 27/10/2020 - 31/03/2022)

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Charity reference number 1192003

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Trustees' Annual Report

Our Aims and Purposes

To help young people aged 11 to 18 years old to positively advance in life. Our target group are but not exclusively, young people from BAME (BLACK, ASIAN, AND MINORITY ETHNIC) backgrounds. Our purpose is:

- (a) The provision of recreational and leisure time activities in the interest of social welfare, designed to positively improve their life view and develop their resilience.
- (b) Providing support and activities which explore and develop their individual skills, capacities, and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals in later life.

Our Activities

YEP, seeks to engage young people in activities that address mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing in a safe environment. Our activities are varied and include football, basketball, swimming, music, community projects, educational trips, face to face and online meetings to discuss different topics of interest to the young people.

These activities would not be possible without the incredible input of our volunteers that are mainly the parents within the group. We have a growing number of 37 parents who play a key role in delivering sport and other activity, providing time, expertise, commitment, and enthusiasm to the participating young people. These volunteers facilitate as coaches, leaders, drivers, secretaries, and activators of YEP. Special thanks to all our hard-working volunteers and organisers, notably Lead project manager Ms Becky White and young people's Co-ordinator Jessie Ajunbiade.

In performance of our activities the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Our Achievements

Networking

The young people have regularly met every weekend during term times and throughout summer holidays. Initially the activities were held online. Post lockdown the events were a way of physically meeting other young people of the same age enabling exchange of experiences and have fun. This provided a psychological and emotional relief coming out of lockdown and social isolation.

Our range of activities have created networking opportunities as the young people met different professionals and new friends through sports, special topic talks, mentor discussions, question and answer sessions. Furthermore, the young people have over the period reached out to their friends from different schools inviting them to the different activities on the YEP calendar. Our trustees have also been on a mission to introduce YEP to different schools in the area. For instance our Lead trustee engaged the teachers of Bournemouth School for Boys on the 5th of July 2021 with our agenda of seeking to boosting the confidence and empower young ethnic minority students. This contact and exchange were very welcomed by the school. This will be rolled out to other schools.

On our calendar most events were well subscribed especially the youth parties. The latter provided prime opportunities for socialising, meeting new friends, playing music and games. Over the period a beach party, a summer BBQ barbecue party, and a Christmas basketball party were all organised by YEP.

As an organisation YEP has networked with different stakeholders in the local community. The aim was to mobilise them to engage in the YEP agenda. One such meeting was organised virtually on Saturday 16th January 2021. The meeting sought to solicit ideas, access to various opportunities, and related support. The aim was to meet different stakeholders who can input into the welfare of young people using YEP. Those invited were SCF Bournemouth, Active Dorset, Dorset Wildlife Trust Brown Sea island, Dorset race and equality council, Healthwatch Dorset, Dorset Police, Afrodisiac live radio station. The meeting was well attended and included the young people and their parents of YEP who reported learning a great deal about what is available for them in Dorset as potential future calendar activities.

Following this mobilisation there have been a range of programme facilitators whom YEP, has worked with engaging the young people in pep talks, projects, and sport. Notably the local facilitators include youth workers from AIMs community, Dorset Police, Afrodisiac live radio station and Dorset Wildlife Trust Brown Sea Island.

Empowerment:

At YEP, we do feel that bringing young people together with the right support has already changed their focus away from youth crime and anti-social behaviour, to managing their emotions, fulfil responsibility and achieve positive change. This has entailed a process of cultivating and improving the self-management skills of the young people engaged in the YEP programmes.

On the 30th of April a networking meeting took place on zoom meeting with the police in which the young people were given some information what their rights under the law and how to look after themselves on the public streets. They talk briefly discussed what was expected of them in the community and what they should expect from the police. The meeting was very well attended and both the parents and young people participating felt empowered.

Over the school holiday the young people were given the opportunity to take on a work placement every Saturday at Afrodisiac radio a community-based radio in Bournemouth. This served to sharpen their self-management skills as well as provide them with broadcasting skills. They were taught public speaking and learnt new skills (radio DJ skills). They were tasked with working in pairs as a team on broadcasting assignments. To do this they had to be resourceful, plan and create a broadcasting structure, use IT and radio presentation techniques. Some of the young people found this initially daunting but became strong presenters by the end of the summer holiday. To this end one of our young people was given a DJs award in the community and has taken on DJ work professionally.

Wellbeing:

The young people fulfilled their sporting interests by having a really good time playing basketball, football and or swimming. These and other physical activities were beneficial to their mental and physical health. To this end YEP linked up with AFC Bournemouth who are provided monthly sessions for young people engaged by YEP. Their feedback indicated the helpful potential of sports and YEP is planning to repeat this programme.

During the games the young people had to manage their behaviour and emotions in keeping with the spirit of sport with the help of a coach/ sports facilitator. After the games the young people were engaged in pep-talks on everyday issues which served as character building sessions. The games were often utilised as conversation icebreakers and helped eliminate social isolation.

YEP, is constantly seeking to recruit mentors and coaches with unique personal experiences, especially from the BAME community that can input and impact the young people and help them in their struggles. Notably topics like identity crisis/challenge, lack of motivation, social exclusion and bullying are frequently addressed.

Breaking Barriers

Through networking we undertake frequent scans in search of beneficial opportunities that parents and young people engaged in YEP may not be aware. Once located we use this research to guide us to either signpost opportunities individually via online WhatsApp chat forum or create a taster event for group suitable opportunities.

For instance, we notice that young people from BAME were under-represented in local conservation activities so, we organised and conducted three trips to Dorset Wildlife Trust Brown Sea Island. During the trip the young people learnt more about conservation and engaged in conservation projects such as building nests for birds. The trips were well attended.

Following this the young people also undertook an environmental conservation project of their own which involved a local beach clean-up aimed to ensure that the environment in their communities was safe. This event too was well attended and fun social effects.

The young people also attended a virtual talk organised by a geologist Dr Anjana and a glaciologist Dr Davis. They also participated in Poole Museum takeover day where they were involved in handling enquiries, curating and social media also organised by Dr Anjana.

Our Governance and Management

The governing document for YEP is our constitution. The YEP trustees have been constitutionally elected and charged with fiduciary duties to oversee and interpret how YEP's charitable purposes are being fulfilled in accordance with the YEP constitution and in accordance with the regulator (the UK Charity Commission) and UK law. This includes making the Annual Return that includes the financial reports as required by the regulator.

Current list of Trustees includes Ms Alima Jalloh-North, Pastor Newton Ndlovu, Dr Eva Muhumuza, Mrs Kundai Muzura (Lead Trustee). The work done by all our trustees is highly appreciated.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the YEP Trustee Committee and signed on their behalf by Dr Eva Muhumuza, Trustee.

..... *Dr Eva Muhumuza* Date.....23/01/2023.....

Financial Review

Summary

Our income in the period was obtained from two sources, members donations and requests for available funding from partner organisations. The latter is our main form of funding the process of which involves YEP, members expressing an interest in funding following consultation with the young people currently enrolled. For instance, YEP sought funding for sports activities such as basketball from funding partners.

We are grateful to our funding partners for providing unrestricted funding and their continued commitment to progress the YEP agenda. We currently have Dorset Community Fund and Active Dorset as funding partners. We are constantly seeking to meet different grant funding eligibility criteria to access to new funding sources and grow our funding partner numbers.

Our expenditure focused mainly on spending to facilitate our calendar activity plans to pay for pertinent expenses such as venues, trained coaches, and other expenses. Apart from the YEP website, we did not have any substantive administrative expenses nor did we have any salaried personnel.

YEP's total income in the period was £3,434.05, with costs of £2,824.44 achieving a net increase in reserves of £609.61. There was no restricted income for the period. It is the intension of YEP to allow for a retention of a reasonable sum in reserves to cover contingent expenditure. A full breakdown is provided in the financial statements.

Financial Report

Statement of Financial Activities For the period 27/10/2020 - 31/03/2022

	General Fund (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2022 (£)	Notes
Receipts				
Donations	163.05	-	163.05	
Funding Grants	3,271.00	-	3,271.00	
Total Receipts	3,434.05	-	3,434.05	
Payments				
Cost of Raising Funds	-	-	-	
Cost of Charitable Activities	2,599.44	-	2,599.44	
Administration and Compliance Costs	175.00	—	175.00	
Donations	50.00	—	50.00	
Total Payments	2,824.44	-	2,824.44	
Net receipts / (payments)	609.61	-	609.61	
Total funds brought forward	-	-	-	
Total funds carried forward	609.61	-	609.61	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities For the period 27/10/2020 - 31/03/2022

	General Fund (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2022 (£)	Notes
Current Assets				
Cash at bank	610			
Cash in hand	-	-		
Total Current Assets	610	-	-	
Debtors				
Gift Aid (HMRC)	-	-	-	
Investments	-			
Prepayments	-	-	-	
Insurance	-	-	-	
Total Assets	610	-	-	
Liabilities	-			
Total Liabilities	-	-	-	
Net Assets less Liabilities	610	-	-	

Notes to the Financial Statements

The members have not required YEP to obtain an audit of its accounts for the accounting period 27/10/2020 - 31/03/2022.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

The accounting records consist mainly of cash records, reconciled to activity in our bank account the Co-op bank current account.

The General Fund is unrestricted for both income and expenditure. There were no Restricted Funds.

Increase or decrease of reserves pertains to cash or property assets. Cash reserves are aimed to cover contingent expenditure.

This Financial Report for the period 27/10/2020 - 31/03/2022 including the notes to the financial statements, was approved by YEP and signed on its behalf by Dr Eva Muhumuza, Trustee.

..... *Dr Eva Muhumuza*..... Date.....23/01/2023.....