

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

(For the period 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024)

Contents:

1	Trustees' Annual Report	2
2	Financial Review	6
3	Financial Report	7

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 over 50 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 Jessie, Betsy, Nelly and Mercy.

At the beginning of the year, we settled into our new venue YMCA fusion centre for our face-to-face meeting with the young people.

At the end of the year one of our parents completed Level 3 youth work training which has benefited our organisation.

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 during term times and throughout summer holidays. This entailed face to face talks with physical activities like basketball, kick boxing and games activities in our summer BBQ party. We were also able to conduct climbing activity at Rockley Park that received good feedback from participants. These have all provided psychological and emotional input that has helped to support the young people.

Our range of activities opened chances for our young people to interact with new friends invited by them. Furthermore, a safe space during these activities created opportunities to meet with different professionals and ordinary people who have facilitated special talks (such as Dorset police), mentor discussions, question, and answer sessions were also conducted. One such session included a talk from a university student sharing their academic journey and university experience.

On our calendar we had activities conducted in commemoration of the black history month with several parents and young people participating.

This year we were able to have new opportunities for our young people for socialising and talent building, such as performing arts. These new exploration activities have helped pick their interest, increase their confidence and skills. Furthermore, some of our youths that have made contacts within the community through YEP during the year have utilised them as schoolwork experience placement opportunities.

As an organisation YEP has networked with different stakeholders in the local community to facilitate engaging the young people in talks, projects, sports and talent development. Notably this year the facilitators included Dorset Police, Dance for All Studio staff, City Gate Church and others.

YEP, has continued to sign post parents to different activities in the community through a WhatsApp group. The information communicated includes work experience opportunities, degree and apprenticeships pathways among other informative tips.

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.

Like last year, this year we have continued to engage with the police in interactions which have kept the young people updated on information about their rights under the law and how to look after themselves on the public streets.

Wellbeing:

This year the young people fulfilled their sporting interests by having fun playing basketball, kickboxing, performing arts and dance. These and other physical activities were beneficial to their mental and physical health.

Kickboxing was very popular as a new skill for many of our young participants. Their feedback was, it has helped them become more confident and fit.

We have also continued with basketball games at the Boys 1st Brigade Winton, which has kept the young people engaged and active.

During the games the young people are encouraged to manage their behaviour and emotions in keeping with the spirit of sport. The socialising after the games sessions have helped the young people with their mental health and serve as character building.

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, this year we introduced kickboxing, dance and performing arts to the group. Both of which were well received with events being well attended.

One of our young people that has attended YEP DJ taster sessions last year has taken it forward this year to becoming a professional DJ. This was very encouraging.

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, Dr Eva Muhumuza, Mrs Kundai Muzura (Lead Trustee). Pastor Newton Ndlovu has this year stepped down as a 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.....30/01/2025.....

Financial Review

Summary

All our activities on offer to our young people are free. Our principal charity income source is mostly from grants; however, we are pleased to have also received income from, members donations.

During the financial period we continued to use income previously given via grant from funding partner organisations including the local Bournemouth council, Dorset Community Fund and Active Dorset. We would not be able to have done our much-needed youth work if not for grant-making organisations and all who generously support our work at YEP, to whom we are most grateful. Therefore, in seeking to progress the YEP agenda, we are constantly looking to meet different grant funding eligibility criteria to access new funding streams and increase funding partners.

Grant income received has been graciously unrestricted funding. YEP, members typically conduct consultation involving parents and young people before making grant funding appropriations to programmes directly related to our charity activities. The most popular events in which our young people were enrolled attract the highest grant funding appropriation.

Our expenditure focused mainly on spending to pay for recurrent and pertinent expenses that support our calendar activity plans including venue hire and trained coaches, amongst others. The trustees recognise the need to have a limited amount in reserve to bridge the gap between the income received and expenditure needed to ensure sustainability of YEP ongoing activity commitments and to cover contingent expenditure.

YEP's total income in the period was £43.87, with carried over reserve of £3,651.17 and costs of £3,443.48 achieving funds carried forward of £251.56. There were no restricted income funds for the period. It is the intension of YEP not to maintain a substantial reserve. The Trustees review the reserves policy every year. A full breakdown is provided in the financial statements.

Financial Report

Statement of Financial Activities For the period 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024

	General Fund (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2024 (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Notes
Receipts					
Donations	43.87	-	43.87	127.96	
Funding Grants	-	-	-	7,267.00	
Total Receipts	43.87	-	43.87	7,394.96	
Payments					
Cost of Raising Funds	-	-	-	-	
Cost of Charitable Activities	3,076.27	-	3,076.27	3,986.19	
Administration and Compliance Costs	367.21	-	367.21	367.21	
Donations	-	-	-	-	
Total Payments	3,443.48	-	3,443.48	4,353.40	
Net receipts / (payments)	- 3,399.61	-	- 3,399.61	3,041.56	
Total funds brought forward	3,651.17	-	3,651.17	609.61	
Total funds carried forward	251.56	-	251.56	3,651.17	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities For the period 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024

	General Fund (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2024 (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Notes
Current Assets					
Cash at bank	252		252	3,651	
Cash in hand	-	-			
Total Current Assets	252	-	252	3,651	
Debtors					
Gift Aid (HMRC)	-	-	-	-	
Investments	-				
Prepayments	-	-	-	-	
Insurance	-	-	-	-	
Total Assets	252	-	252	3,651	
Liabilities	-				
Totals	-	-	-	-	
Net Assets less Liabilities	252	-	252	3,651	

Notes to the Financial Statements

The members have not required YEP to obtain an audit of its accounts for the accounting period 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024.

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 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024 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.....30/01/2024.....