



Youth Council Meeting

**Thursday 21 July 2022
6.00pm – 7.30pm
Tootsie Gallery Cafe**

YOUTH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the Youth Council will be held in Tootsie Gallery Cafe, on Thursday 21 July 2022, commencing at **6.00pm**

AGENDA

Acknowledgement of Country

‘Getting to know each other’

Page No.

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Declarations of Interests**
- 3. Confirmation of Minutes**
Minutes of Youth Council Meeting held on 10 August 2021
- 1. Staff Reports**
 - 1.1 Election of a Mayor and Deputy Mayor3
 - 1.2 Region-Wide Youth Mental Health Awareness Month.....4
 - 1.3 Youth Opportunities Grant6
 - 1.4 Youth Council Meeting Dates..... 25
- 4. Next Meeting**

1.1 ELECTION OF A MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

SUMMARY

The Youth Council members need to elect both a Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor.

COMMITTEE DECISION

That:

- 1. Following nominations and voting process, ??? be appointed as Youth Mayor, and*
- 2. Following nominations and voting process, ??? be appointed as Deputy Youth Mayor.*

REPORT

Youth Council members will be asked to nominate either themselves or someone else within the Youth Council for the roles of Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor.

The role of the Youth Council is to:

- Voice the opinions and concerns of young people in Yass Valley to the Yass Valley Council, State and Commonwealth Governments, and the wider community.
- Work with other youth agencies to develop and promote activities for, and social interaction between, the young people of Yass Valley.
- Raise awareness of health, well-being and safety issues that affects the young people of Yass Valley.
- Work with other youth agencies to encourage and co-ordinate participation and consultation between available regional youth services.
- Develop a sense of citizenship in the young people of Yass Valley by developing an appreciation of and interest in, local, State and Commonwealth Government processes through involvement in community projects.

The Youth Mayor chairs all Youth Council meetings at which she/he is present and is the official representative of the Youth Council (that is, attends functions and activities on behalf of the Youth Council). In the event of the Youth Mayor leaving the meeting or being absent the Deputy Youth Mayor acts as the Youth Mayor and performs the duties. In the event of both Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor not being in attendance at the meeting, then the meeting must be adjourned to another date.

All Youth Councillors (members of the Youth Council) represent the views of their peers, schools and the wider community at meetings and events.

Youth Councillors are expected to carry out functions delegated to them at the Youth Council meetings and working parties.

Council staff (Lynette Safranek and Hannah Sparks) and a Council representative (Cr Cayla Pothan) are always present for the meetings and activities, to guide and assist. Youth Councillors can call upon the staff at any time for assistance or advice.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

1.2 REGION-WIDE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

SUMMARY

To present opportunities for the Youth Council to be involved in the Region-Wide Youth Mental Health Awareness Month (8 September to 8 October 2022).

RECOMMENDATION

The Youth Council recommend to the Yass Valley Council that:

- 1. The Region-Wide Youth Mental Health Awareness Month report be noted.*
- 2. The Youth Council nominates ideas for local event/s.*
- 3. At least three Youth Councillors be nominated to help run local event(s).*
- 4. Up to two Youth Councillors be nominated to help run a social media campaign.*

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil. The Department of Regional NSW will provide Council with a \$5,000 grant to cover the costs of participating in the Region-Wide Youth Mental Health Awareness Month.

POLICY & LEGISLATION

Nil

REPORT

Background

At the March Youth Officers Network meeting, councils in the southeast region identified several collaborative projects to help bridge gaps in our communities relating to youth mental health.

One of the proposed projects was to host a region-wide mental health event, taking inspiration from the work Hilltops Council did in 2021 by running a '30 days of happiness' social media campaign and delivering 250 care packs containing mental health awareness materials to its youth.

Since then, the Office of Regional Youth has announced that it is keen to support this initiative by providing funding for a Region-Wide Youth Mental Health Awareness Month and partnering with the Youth Officers Network and Department of Regional NSW to deliver this to our communities.

The Department of Regional NSW is providing up to \$5,000 to each of the below councils (total \$45,000) to cover the costs of running a Region-Wide Youth Mental Health Awareness Month:

1. Yass Valley Council
2. Hilltops Council
3. Eurobodalla Shire Council
4. Wingecarribee Shire Council
5. Goulburn Mulwaree Council
6. Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
7. Snowy Monaro Regional Council
8. Upper Lachlan Shire Council
9. Bega Valley Shire Council.

In June, the Youth Officers Network agreed that the Region-Wide Youth Mental Health Awareness Month will run from 8 September to 8 October. This will coincide with R U OK? Day on 8 September 2022 and Mental Health Awareness Month (October 2022).

Overview of the month

The funds will cover the following expenses:

1. '30 days of happiness' social media campaign,
2. Care packs containing mental health awareness materials, and
3. At least one local event.

Intended Outcomes

- Region-wide recognition of the importance of mental health conversations and awareness throughout southeast communities.
- Increasing community capacity to respond to mental health concerns in youth.
- Empowering youth to engage in conversations concerning their mental health, helping others, and knowing where to access further services.
- Identifying and defining positive and poor mental health in youth, i.e., what constitutes mental health, such as anxiety, depression, emotions etc. that youth should be aware of.
- De-stigmatising mental health. Building greater knowledge in the community on what constitutes mental health and wellbeing and ways to improve mental health and wellbeing (i.e., motivational speakers, 30 days of happiness campaign, exercise, practicing mindfulness, etc.)
- Social media campaign with prizes - youth activities, mindfulness, and ways to practice wellbeing every day.

As part of the funding objective, Yass Valley must engage with a minimum of 250 youth during the month. This can include through social media posts, care packs, and an event.

Mental health awareness event

Ideas suggested or run previously by other councils include:

- BBQ
- Workshops i.e., Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Guest speakers
- Exercise bootcamps i.e., yoga
- Care pack deliveries

These could be run in multiple locations across Yass and its villages.

'30 days of happiness' social media campaign

The idea is to create 30 posts that all participating Councils can use/share. We are looking for Youth Councillors to be involved in helping create and edit the posts to ensure they successfully engage youth.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

1.3 YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES GRANT

SUMMARY

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice is offering grant funding for a project that focuses on giving young people the opportunity to develop a range of skills, including life skills and healthy behaviours; leadership, communication, and teamwork; event management and planning; and providing volunteering opportunities that link young people to further education and training.

RECOMMENDATION

1. *The Youth Council decide if they would like to create a project for staff to apply for funding.*
-

REPORT

This grant application is open now and needs to be submitted by 8 August 2022. We can apply for between \$10,000 and \$50,000.

Eligible activities include those that will:

- Partner with young people to deliver a youth-led and youth-driven community project.
- Improve young people's access to and inclusion in community activities such as sport and recreation, cultural and other activities.
- Provide young people with knowledge and skills to strengthen their ability to participate in their local community and support future economic participation. Applicants can include group-mart configured references.
- Recognise the contribution young people make to their local community.

The main assessment criteria include whether the project:

- Demonstrates that young people have had and will have meaningful input at every stage of the project (identifying the need, planning and design, delivery and final review and recognition) - the project is youth-led and youth-driven.
- Improves young people's access to and inclusion in community activities such as sport and recreation, cultural and other activities.
- Provides young people with knowledge and skills to strengthen their ability to participate in their local communities.
- Recognises the contributions young people make to their local communities.
- Supports young people's future economic participation.
- Clearly demonstrates substantial benefits to young people compared with the total cost of the project - the project represents good value for money.

If the Youth Council have ideas of an event or activity they would like to put together, then staff can submit an application for funding and help the members put the activity together. This would be a great opportunity to provide youth within the Yass Valley local government area with a youth-led program.

ATTACHMENTS: A. Grant Guidelines [↓](#)



Communities
& Justice

Youth Opportunities Program Guidelines 2022



Youth Opportunities Program

Guidelines

All applicants are advised to read these Guidelines carefully before completing an application for funding.

These Guidelines provide an overview of what is required under the Youth Opportunities program, including specific deliverables and expected outcomes, as well as information about the application and granting process.

For further information on the Youth Opportunities program please visit www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities or email your questions to youth@facs.nsw.gov.au

Key Dates

Opening Date	9:00am Monday, 27 June 2022
Closing Date	5:00pm Monday, 08 August 2022
Successful applicants announced	November/December 2022
Contract negotiations	December 2022 – January 2023
Projects to commence	February 2023

About the program

Program Overview

The Youth Opportunities program provides one-off, time-limited grants of between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to non-government organisations and local government councils in NSW. Funding is for **new** projects that enable young people to lead and participate in community development activities.

Organisations applying for funding must have spoken with young people and involved them in developing the project proposal prior to submitting an application.

NSW Government Priorities for Young People

The Youth Opportunities program aligns with the NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024¹, which advocates that children and young people in NSW have hope for the future, love, connection and safety, a good standard of living, environments for joy and fun, as well as respect and acceptance.

The Youth Opportunities program contributes to this by investing in projects that strengthen young people's connection to their community via the delivery of youth-led and youth-driven community initiatives.

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice Strategic Direction 2020-2024² sets out the Department's vision for active and inclusive communities. The Department provides a range of community support to improve wellbeing, increase community participation, and promote social inclusion and cohesion.

The Youth Opportunities program is administered by the Department of Communities and Justice.

Program Aim

The Youth Opportunities program is informed by evidence which indicates that community connectedness³ promotes a positive sense of wellbeing in young people. Young people can however experience a range of barriers⁴ that hinder their participation in the community.

The Youth Opportunities program aims to increase young people's participation in activities that strengthen their connection and belonging to their communities.

The Youth Opportunities Program supports organisations to empower young people to design and deliver community projects, enabling them to:

- overcome barriers to participating in the community
- build community based partnerships and networks
- feel a greater sense of belonging within their community
- feel empowered, as their ideas and opinions are respected, considered and acted upon
- gain relevant training to support their participation
- feel more confident within themselves and their abilities, having expanded their knowledge and skills
- seek further opportunities to participate and stay engaged in their community.

Project Objectives and Core Components

Projects funded under the Youth Opportunities program are to involve young people at every stage of the project. It is expected that young people will take an active role in identifying, designing and implementing these projects.

Projects are required to meet the following objectives and core components:

Project Objectives	Core Project Components	Activities
<i>Partner with young people to deliver a youth-led and youth-driven community project</i>	Supportive adult relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with young people to identify a community project that is important to them • Work with young people to develop their ideas into a project proposal prior to submitting a grant application • Be available to support and/or mentor young people as required • Assist with project coordination and execution without taking control • Establish partnerships with young people based on mutual respect
	External partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support young people to establish relationships with external stakeholders (local government, other community groups, sponsors, schools)
	Meaningful engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a project steering committee where young people can actively influence decisions, chair and facilitate meetings, lead discussions and provide input on budgeting and expenditure • Conduct team building exercises to develop a supportive and cohesive team of young people • Make sure young people's ideas, opinions and perspectives are elevated and prioritised so that projects are an authentic reflection of their voices

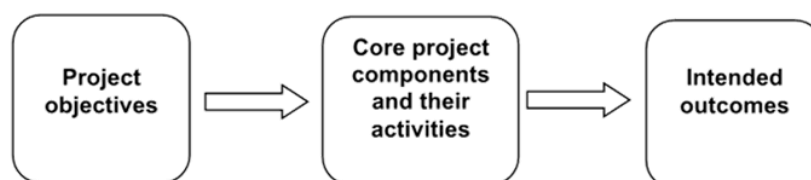
<i>Improve young people's access to and inclusion in community activities such as sport and recreation, cultural and other activities</i>	Access to resources and financial support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider and address any barriers that may prevent young people from participating
<i>Provide young people with knowledge and skills to strengthen their ability to participate in their local community and support future social and economic participation</i>	Acquiring and expanding knowledge and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with young people to identify skills that align with their interests, and support their participation in the project and in the community <p>These could include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - communication and presentation skills - negotiation and conflict resolution skills - project management and/or event management - writing applications, resumes, reports and letters - dealing with the media - formal certificates in Mental Health First Aid, First Aid, RSA, White Card and driving courses
<i>Recognise the contribution young people make to their local community</i>	Respect, value and recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the project within the community and to the media Promote young people's contributions and impact on issues that are important to them and their community Recognise young people's involvement via certificates, references or any other form of recognition identified by young people Provide young people with the opportunity to reflect on their achievements and success of the project

Funded organisations will be required to report on the progress made against each of these objectives and their associated outcomes.

See **Appendix B** *Reporting and Data Collection* on pages 14-15.

Program Logic

A Youth Opportunities Program Logic has been developed to show the relationship between:



See **Appendix A** *Youth Opportunities Program Logic* on page 13-15, for further information on the purpose and intended outcomes of the program.

Intended Outcomes

The Youth Opportunities program aims to contribute towards the following outcomes:

Project Outcomes (short-term)

- Increased participation in youth-led and youth-driven community activities
- Young people address and overcome barriers to participation
- Young people participate in activities that strengthen their connection to their local community
- Young people learn a range of skills that strengthen their ability to participate in their local community and support future economic participation
- Young people's contributions are recognised and valued

Program Outcomes (medium-term)

- Young people feel a sense of choice and control (self-determination) in their lives
- Young people feel a sense of connection and belonging to their local communities

Performance and Outcome Measures

Contributions towards these outcomes are tracked over the life of the project. Funded organisations are required to provide information against a set of measures and indicators at three intervals:

- commencement (participant survey)
- mid-term (progress report)
- completion (final report and participant survey)

See **Appendix B** *Reporting and Data Collection* on pages 16-17.

Community Based Partnerships

The Youth Opportunities program provides a unique platform for eligible organisations to build authentic and meaningful partnerships with young people in their community. The more successful these relationships are, the more likely young people are to seek further opportunities to participate and stay engaged in the community beyond the project.

Funded organisations are to engage young people in a way that evokes a shared sense of responsibility and ownership across all stages of the project including planning, design, delivery and evaluation.

Successful partnerships⁵ strike the right balance between enabling youth ownership whilst providing the right organisational supports and resources required to participate. To do this effectively, adults must be willing to share their power with young people and work in partnership on issues that are important to them.

Working in partnership with young people requires organisations (adults) to have the flexibility to step in and out of the process as required, without taking over. It is also important that young people are able to dictate the nature and level of their involvement.

In 2016, the Advocate for Children and Young People consulted with 150 young people to develop a 'Participation Charter'⁶ which states *We respectfully request that adults assist us to make meaningful contributions by:*

- providing guidance, balanced with independence
- providing training and skill development
- providing resources and financial support
- understanding that we have many commitments
- encouraging us to work collaboratively
- fully informing us of our role and our rights in the decision making process.

Youth-led and Youth-driven Community Projects

The Youth Opportunities program funds projects which are genuinely youth-led and youth-driven. This means that young people are involved at every stage of the project - from identifying the need, through to design, delivery and final review (see page 9, Life Cycle of a Youth Opportunities Project).

Applicant organisations must have the capacity to encourage, support and facilitate a youth-led and youth-driven community project.

Target Group

Young people 12 – 24 years of age who are transitioning from childhood to adulthood and from dependence to independence, including young people who face disadvantage.

The program seeks to fund a diverse range of projects from across NSW, particularly in rural and regional areas, and encourages applications from Aboriginal and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse organisations.

Project Themes

Priorities Identified by Young People

Young people have told us through a number of different mechanisms what is important to them, what concerns them, and what they are interested in⁷.

The following themes highlight key issues identified by young people:

- Community inclusion and participation
- COVID-19 recovery
- Cultural identity and connection
- Cyber safety and awareness
- Domestic and family violence
- Healthy relationships
- Financial literacy (budgeting, rent, phone, contracts, fines)
- Health and wellbeing
- Homelessness/housing
- Natural disasters (preparedness, resilience and recovery)

Youth Opportunities projects may seek to address one or more of these issues, or they may address other issues raised by young people, which are important to them and their local communities.

Applicant organisations are to engage young people in the initial 'Identifying the need' stage of the project (see page 9, *Life Cycle of a Youth Opportunities Project*) to ensure the project is responsive to the needs of young people.

While addressing a youth identified issue, all applications for funding will be asked to demonstrate how they are supporting young people to build their skills and experience throughout the project, which can include hands on learning to build skills, or the completion of short courses related to the project's implementation.

Skills developed during funded projects help young people to participate in the social and economic life of their communities. Their participation and engagement through the funded projects helps to reduce social isolation, improve wellbeing, and generate positive change in their communities.

Life Cycle of a Youth Opportunities Project



Applicant organisations must ensure the input of young people is firmly embedded in each stage of the project.

Application for Funding

Non-government organisations and local Councils in NSW are invited to apply for a grant between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to deliver a Youth Opportunities project for up to 12 months.

All applicants must complete and submit an online application form which is available at www.youth.nsw.gov.au. The NSW Youth website also includes downloadable resources to support the application process.

Deadline for applications is 5:00pm on Monday, 08 August 2022.

Applications submitted after the advertised closing date will not be accepted.

Who Can Apply

Eligible organisations must be:

- an incorporated non-government (not-for-profit) organisation operating in NSW
- a NSW local government authority

Who Cannot Apply

You should **not** apply for this grant if you are:

- a Commonwealth or State Government agency
- a school (including P&Cs), a university or TAFE college
- an individual or sole trader
- a commercial for-profit organisation
- a sub-contractor engaged to manage or deliver the project on behalf of a non-eligible organisation

How to Apply

Applications are submitted via SmartyGrants, an online grants administration system. To access SmartyGrants and the online application form please visit www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities

Applications must be completed and submitted online via SmartyGrants by **5:00pm on Monday, 08 August 2022**. The SmartyGrants system will automatically shut off at 5:00pm on that day. It does not allow for extensions to be granted.

Project Exclusions

Projects will **not** be eligible for funding if they:

- are run in schools as part of the curriculum or other areas of school responsibility
- include interstate or overseas travel, scholarships and/or conference attendance
- provide case-management or counselling for young people.

Project funding must **not** be used for:

- religious festivals, rituals, events or promotions, except multi-faith events which involve young people from more than one religion
- major capital works (e.g. establishing or refurbishing a youth centre)
- large equipment purchases (e.g. vehicles)
- costs that are not directly associated with the implementation or delivery of the project
- operating expenses such as rent, insurance, electricity, water, rates or funding towards the running of other programs within the organisation
- existing projects/programs
- projects/programs that have already been implemented at the time of application, after application or prior to contracting. Funding cannot be used to reimburse retrospective project delivery.

Project Budget

A detailed budget identifying expenses as well as any in-kind contributions are required as part of the grant application.

Project funding **can** include:

- costs associated with implementing the project, including project coordination
- up to 10% of the budget can be used for minor administration costs
- up to 10% of the budget can be used to purchase minor equipment (applicants must demonstrate the need for these purchases in their application)
- up to 5% of the budget can be used for catering.

Assessment Criteria

Each application will be considered on its merits, based on how well it meets the assessment criteria and how it is ranked against other applications. Assessments are conducted by Independent Assessment Panels.

Each application is assessed against the following criteria:

- The project demonstrates that young people have had and will have meaningful input at every stage of the project (identifying the need, planning and design, delivery, final review and recognition) - the project is youth-led and youth-driven
- The project improves young people's access to and inclusion in community activities such as sport and recreation, cultural and other activities
- The project provides young people with knowledge and skills to strengthen their ability to participate in their local communities
- The project recognises the contributions young people make to their local communities
- The project supports young people's future economic participation
- The project clearly demonstrates substantial benefits to young people compared with the total cost of the project - the project represents good value for money

Recommendations for funding are made to the NSW Minister responsible for Youth. Please allow up to 16 weeks for advice regarding the outcome of your application. All applicants are notified in writing.

Successful Applicants

Successful applicants will enter into a Funding Agreement with the Department of Communities and Justice and will be required to report on the progress and completion of the project. See **Appendix B Reporting and Data Collection** on pages 16-17. Specific reporting requirements will be advised once the grant is approved.

Once the project is completed, any unspent grant funds, or grant funds not expended in accordance with the Funding Agreement must be returned to the Department of Communities and Justice.

Further Information

For further information on the Youth Opportunities program, please email questions to youth@facs.nsw.gov.au

APPENDIX A

Program Logic

NEED/PROBLEM	EVIDENCE	PROGRAM Program components and activities	MECHANISM FOR CHANGE	OUTPUTS	PROGRAM OUTCOMES The program aims to contribute towards achieving these outcomes		GOAL						
<p>Young people face a range of barriers that hinder their participation in the community</p> <p>These can include but are not limited to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">costs involvedlimited travel optionsaccessibility issuescultural and family barriersnot knowing what participation opportunities existconcerns about not being taken seriouslyconcerns about not having the power to influence decisionsfear of speaking up in a groupmistrust of adults <p><i>The Measurement of Social Connectedness and its Relationship to Wellbeing, The Ministry Of Social Development, Te Manatu Whakahiato Ora (New Zealand), 2018, accessible at</i></p>	<p>Research indicates the most effective program components to overcome barriers to participation (within a community setting) are:</p> <p>Supportive adult relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community organisations and young people become equal partners in the design and delivery of a community project <p>External partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Young people are encouraged to engage with external stakeholders for the purposes of the project <p>Meaningful engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Young people are empowered to participate in a way that evokes a shared sense of responsibility and ownership across all stages of the project including planning, design, delivery and evaluation <p>Access to resources and financial support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider and address any barriers that may prevent young people from participating	<p>Through the provision of one-off grants, the Youth Opportunities program funds organisations to partner with young people to design and deliver community projects</p> <p>Each organisation is required to:</p> <p>Partner with young people to deliver a youth-led and youth-driven community project</p> <p><u>Core components:</u></p> <p>Supportive adult relationships</p> <p>Community organisations are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">partner with young people to identify a community project that is important to themwork with young people to develop their ideas into a project proposal prior to submitting a grant applicationbe available to support and/or mentor young people as requiredassist with project coordination and execution without taking controlestablish partnerships with young people based on mutual respect <p>External partnerships</p> <p>Community organisations are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">support young people to establish relationships with external stakeholders (local government, other community groups, sponsors, schools) <p>Meaningful engagement</p> <p>Community organisations are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">establish a project steering committee where young people can actively influence decisions, chair and facilitate meetings, lead discussions and provide input on budgeting and expenditureconduct team building exercises to develop a supportive and cohesive team of young people	<p>Young people design and deliver community projects enabling them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">overcome barriers to participating in the communitybuild community based partnerships and networksfeel a greater sense of belonging within their communityfeel empowered, as their ideas and opinions are respected, considered and acted upongain relevant training to support their participationfeel more confident within themselves and their abilities having expanded	<p># of youth-led and youth-driven community projects funded per round</p> <p># of young people directly involved in planning and organising the project</p> <p># of young people that attended and participated in events/activities as part of the project</p> <p># of youth-led and youth-driven community events/activities held as part of the project</p> <p># of young people that undergo training as part of the project</p> <p># of recognition activities and events that were held as</p>	<p>SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES</p> <table><tr><td>Empowerment</td><td>Increased participation in youth-led and youth-driven community activities</td></tr><tr><td>Social and Community</td><td><p>Young people address and overcome barriers to participation</p><p>Young people participate in activities that strengthen their connection to their local communities</p><p>Young people's contributions are recognised and valued</p></td></tr><tr><td>Education and Skills</td><td>Young people learn a range of skills that strengthen their ability to participate in their local</td></tr></table>		Empowerment	Increased participation in youth-led and youth-driven community activities	Social and Community	<p>Young people address and overcome barriers to participation</p> <p>Young people participate in activities that strengthen their connection to their local communities</p> <p>Young people's contributions are recognised and valued</p>	Education and Skills	Young people learn a range of skills that strengthen their ability to participate in their local	<p><i>Young people feel a sense of connection and belonging to their communities</i></p>
	Empowerment	Increased participation in youth-led and youth-driven community activities											
	Social and Community	<p>Young people address and overcome barriers to participation</p> <p>Young people participate in activities that strengthen their connection to their local communities</p> <p>Young people's contributions are recognised and valued</p>											
	Education and Skills	Young people learn a range of skills that strengthen their ability to participate in their local											

1.3 Youth Opportunities Grant Attachment A Grant Guidelines

<p>nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/literature-reviews/social-connectedness-and-wellbeing.html</p> <p>Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People, <i>Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People's Participation 2015</i>, accessible at https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/participation-resources/understanding-and-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-participation</p> <p><i>Rewriting the Rules for Youth Participation, Inclusion and diversity in government and community decision making</i>, National Youth Affairs Research Scheme, 2008, accessible at https://docs.education.gov.au/node/29376</p>	<p>Acquiring and expanding knowledge and skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Young people receive the appropriate training to enhance and support their participation in the project and the community <p>Respect, value and recognition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Young people feel valued, their ideas and opinions are respected, considered and acted upon. They are recognised as active members of their community <p><i>Better Together, A practical guide to effective engagement with young people</i>, Youth Affairs Council of South Australia, 2015, accessible at https://www.yacsa.com.au/publications/better-together</p> <p><i>Engaging children and young people in your organisation</i>, Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People, 2019, accessible at https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/participation-guide</p> <p><i>Youth Development, Applying a Positive Approach</i>, Government of South Australia, accessible at https://officeforyouth.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/15772/Youth-Development-Applying-a-Positive-Approach.pdf</p>	<p>opinions and perspectives are elevated and prioritised so that projects are an authentic reflection of their voices</p> <p><i>Improve young people's access to and inclusion in community activities such as sport and recreation, cultural and other activities</i></p> <p><u>Core component:</u></p> <p>Access to resources and financial support</p> <p>Community organisations are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">consider and address any barriers that may prevent young people from participating. <p><i>Provide young people with knowledge and skills to strengthen their ability to participate in their local community and support future social and economic participation</i></p> <p><u>Core component:</u></p> <p>Acquiring and expanding knowledge and skills</p> <p>Community Organisations are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">work with young people to identify skills that align with their interests, and support their participation in the project and in the community. These could include<ul style="list-style-type: none">communication and presentation skillsnegotiation and conflict resolution skillsproject management and/or event managementwriting applications, resumes, reports and lettersdealing with the mediaformal certificates in Mental Health First Aid, First Aid, RSA, White Card and driving courses <p><i>Recognise the contribution young people make to their local community</i></p> <p><u>Core component:</u></p> <p>Respect, value and recognition</p> <p>Community organisations are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">promote the project within the community and to the mediapromote young people's contributions and impact on issues that are important to them and their community.recognise young people's involvement via certificates, references or any other form of recognition identified by young people	<p>knowledge and skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">seek further opportunities to participate and stay engaged in their community	<p>project</p> <p># of young people who report feeling a sense of belonging in the place and community where they live</p> <p># of young people who report feeling supported to make decisions throughout the duration of the project</p>	<table><tr><td></td><td>and support future economic participation</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">MEDIUM-TERM OUTCOMES</td></tr><tr><td>Empowerment</td><td>Young people feel a sense of choice and control (self-determination) in their lives</td></tr><tr><td>Social and Community</td><td>Young people feel a sense of connection and belonging to their communities</td></tr></table>		and support future economic participation	MEDIUM-TERM OUTCOMES		Empowerment	Young people feel a sense of choice and control (self-determination) in their lives	Social and Community	Young people feel a sense of connection and belonging to their communities
	and support future economic participation												
MEDIUM-TERM OUTCOMES													
Empowerment	Young people feel a sense of choice and control (self-determination) in their lives												
Social and Community	Young people feel a sense of connection and belonging to their communities												

1.3 Youth Opportunities Grant
Attachment A Grant Guidelines

		to reflect on their achievements and success of the project					
--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--

APPENDIX B

Reporting and Data Collection

NSW Human Services Outcomes Framework	Empowerment	Social and Community	Education and Skills
Project Objectives Through the provision of one-off grants, the Youth Opportunities program funds organisations to partner with young people to design and deliver community projects. Each project is required to meet these objectives.	<i>Partner with young people to deliver a youth-led and youth-driven community project</i>	<i>Improve young people's access to and inclusion in community activities such as sport and recreation, cultural and other activities</i> <i>Recognise the contribution young people make to their local community</i>	<i>Provide young people with knowledge and skills to strengthen their ability to participate in their local community and support future social and economic participation</i>
Project Outcomes (Short- term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation in youth-led and youth-driven community activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people address and overcome barriers to participation Young people participate in activities that strengthen their connection to their local communities Young people's contributions are recognised and valued 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people learn a range of skills that strengthen their ability to participate in their local community and support future economic participation
Measure (Contributions towards the project outcomes will be captured in the progress and completion reports)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How has young people's input been imbedded at every stage of the project including planning, design, delivery and evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How have young people been supported to overcome barriers to participate How has young people's participation in the project strengthened their connection to their local communities How have young people's contribution to their local communities been recognised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What skills have young people learnt as part of the project How have these skills improved their ability to participate in their local communities How will these skills support young people's future economic participation

1.3 Youth Opportunities Grant Attachment A Grant Guidelines

Indicator (Contributions towards the project outcomes will be tracked using these indicators in the progress and completion reports)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of youth-led and youth-driven community projects funded per round • Number of young people directly involved in planning and organising the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of young people that attended and participated in events/activities as part of the project • Number of youth-led and youth-driven community events/activities held as part of the project • Number of recognition activities and events that were held as part of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of young people that undergo training as part of the project
Program Outcome (Medium-Term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people feel a sense of choice and control (self-determination) in their lives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people feel a sense of connection and belonging to their local communities 	
Measure (Contributions towards the program outcomes will be captured in the completion report)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have young people been supported to make decisions across all stages of the project including planning, design, delivery and evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has participation in the project improved young people's sense of connection and belonging to their local communities 	
Indicator (A participant survey (core group of young people only) will be distributed at commencement and completion of the project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of young people who report being involved in decision making throughout the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of young people who report feeling a sense of belonging in the place and community where they live 	

References

- ¹ Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People, NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2022-2024, accessible at <https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/strategic-plan-2022-2024>
- ² NSW Department of Communities and Justice Strategic Direction 2020-2024 accessible at <https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/building-stronger-communities>
- ³ The Measurement of Social Connectedness and its Relationship to Wellbeing, The Ministry Of Social Development, Te Manatu Whakahiato Ora (New Zealand), 2018, accessible at <https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/literature-reviews/social-connectedness-and-wellbeing.html>
- Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People, Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People's Participation 2015, accessible at <https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/participation-resources/understanding-and-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-participation>
- ⁴ International Public Management Review · electronic Journal accessible at <http://www.ipmr.net> Volume 11 · Issue 3 2010 International Public Management Network
- ⁵ Journal of Community Psychology Vol. 33 No. 1, 57-74 (2005) A Comparison of youth-driven and adult-driven youth programs
- ⁶ Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People (2019) Engaging children and young people in your organisation, accessible at <https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/participation-guide>
- ⁷ Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People (2018) NSW Youth Week Forum, Parliament House, Consultation Responses to NSW Department of Family and Community Services
Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People (2018) Report on Consultations with Socially Excluded Children and Young People, accessible at <https://www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/report-on-consultations-with-socially-excluded-children-and-young-people-2018>
- Youth Action (2018) Inequality in Australia: A Young Person's Perspective, accessible at http://www.youthaction.org.au/inequality_in_australia
- UNICEF Australia (2019) In their own words: the hidden impact of prolonged drought on children and young people, accessible at <https://www.unicef.org.au/our-work/unicef-in-australia/the-drought-report>
- Carlisle, E., Fildes, J., Hall, S., Hicking, V., Perrens, B. and Plummer, J. (2018) Youth Survey Report, Mission Australia, accessible at <https://www.missionaustralia.com.au/what-we-do/research-impact-policy-advocacy/youth-survey>
- ReachOut (2018) Cyberbullying a growing public health and safety issue for Australian families, accessible at <https://about.au.reachout.com/cyberbullying-nd-australian-families/>

1.4 YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

SUMMARY

This report sets out the meeting dates for the remainder of 2022 and early 2023.

COMMITTEE DECISION

That the dates for Youth Council meetings be noted.

REPORT

The Yass Valley Youth Council will hold meetings on the following dates:

- 11 August 2022
- 8 September 2022
- 13 October 2022
- 10 November 2022
- 8 December 2022
- 9 February 2023

All meetings will be held at the Yass Valley Council Chamber, unless advised otherwise.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil