

REPRESENTATION

- **Representation and Advocacy:** We represent the interests of our members and the wider voluntary youth sector at the regional level, through Board level membership of the South–East Youth partnership, and RAISE (Regional Advice and Involvement South–East), and at the county level through close links to Surrey County Council and as a board member of the Surrey Children and Young People Alliance (the former Commissioning Partnership).
- **Opportunity to Influence policy:** The voluntary sector has a vital role to play in local policy-making and planning. We hold quarterly meetings of the Children and Young People/Voluntary Sector Forum to discuss current issues – such as young people and homelessness, and young people and mental health issues. Reports of proceedings go up to the Children and Young People Alliance.
- **Voting Rights:** Every full member organisation has one vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

- **Networking and Information exchange:** Keep up to date with Surrey issues through our website and twice yearly Open Forum discussion sessions. Surrey Youth News is published five times a year and provides resources and training information.
- **E-bulletin:** Regular bulletins offer express information on current youth news.

RESOURCES

- **Members' only area to website:** We offer a members' only area on our website designed to offer exclusive information. It includes items such as advice on funding, a year calendar and special features.
- **Opportunity to access resources:** We provide information about funding, but also have access to £150,000 of Connexions capacity building funding to support the voluntary sector in achieving its objectives
- **Promotional resources:** We offer opportunities to promote your organisation through the Surrey Youth News, the Resources Directory, the members listing on this website and the Celebration of Youth event.
- **Youth Development Worker:** We offer the services of a youth development worker who can help to support existing quality voluntary youth projects and assist the set up of new sustainable projects that can be taken on by the local community.
- **Workforce development:** Funded by the Children's Workforce Development Council we are developing a youth work roadmap showing where and how to access youth work training from basic induction to degree level.
- **Youth-Work Resources:** Our website contains downloadable resources for youth workers; the 'ToolKit' for people setting up new youth groups and, the 'Kitbag' an off the shelf source of games and activities for youth work.
- **Surrey Youth Focus staff and Trustees:** We are an approachable team committed to helping our members.

Our Vision, and that of our Members in the Voluntary Sector, is that all young people in Surrey have the opportunity to achieve their full potential and become responsible citizens through.

- belonging to a group
- staying safe and healthy
- enjoying fun activities
- being recognised for their achievement