



BYC Members Handbook Section 3 – Getting the best out of your membership

In order to get the best out of your membership of BYC we have produced the top ten tips so that you can make the most of it.

1. Book a BYC presentation

There is no better way to find out about your membership, what we do for you and how you can get involved than receiving a presentation from BYC. We recommend that you arrange a BYC presentation at least once a year to make sure that you are fully up to date.

2. Read The BYC Project and follow us on Facebook and Twitter

The BYC Project is our bi-monthly newsletter which highlights the latest opportunities and news from BYC. Within The BYC Project is a dedicated section for BYC members which outlines the most relevant events and news. Follow us on Facebook (search for British Youth Council) and Twitter (@BYClive) for immediate updates and opportunities.

3. Circulate the BYC Members' Update so people know what we are doing on your behalf

Every quarter we provide an update to members about the activities we have undertaken for you. It provides information on the BYC trustee board meetings and reports on the key areas for our membership, representation, policy and campaigns, support and development and communication.

Find the latest one in the 'Members' Update Room' here www.byc.org.uk/Members-resources

4. Attend the Annual Council Meeting (ACM)

The Annual Council Meeting (ACM) is the most important democratic meeting of the year to attend. This is your chance to hold the Board of Trustees to account, ask questions about the finances of the organisation, elect new members to the Board and decide what our campaigns should be.

5. Use the online Resource Centre

Our online Resource Centre is packed full of guides and downloads to help you in your organisations. It is also a platform to share your resources, so if you have anything to add please send them to membership@byc.org.uk.

You can find the Resource Centre here: www.byc.org.uk/Resources

6. Take part in online consultations



BYC needs to know what young people think about current issues so we run a number of online consultations each year in order to gather views. Please use your networks, websites and social networking sites to promote these consultations as far as possible.

Find the latest consultation here: <http://www.byc.org.uk/tellus>

7. Stand for election to become a trustee of the British Youth Council

BYC is governed by 13 young people who make up our board of trustees. A number of these are elected every year at our Annual Council Meeting. This is one of the best ways to get more involved in what BYC does. Information about how to stand as a trustee is circulated via The BYC Project newsletter.

8. Get involved in events and workshops

BYC runs a number of events and activities for members each year. Check out our BYC Members' calendar to find out what's happening each month.

You can find the latest calendar here: www.byc.org.uk/BYC-Members-Calendar

9. Book BYC for discounted training

All BYC members received up to 50% discount on the training we offer, so why not book us to deliver a course for you, when and where you need it.

Find out about the courses we deliver here: www.byc.org.uk/Training

10. Ask us questions – we are here to help

Finally, BYC staff, volunteers and trustees are here to help you and support you. Please do get in touch if you have any questions or need advice.

For local youth councils please contact:

Darren Matthews – 020 7785 6460 – darren.matthews@byc.org.uk

For all other members (national/regional/faith groups etc) please contact:

David Clark 020 7785 6461 – david.clark@byc.org.uk