

campaigns



Membership

BYC is led by young people, for young people, aged 25 and under, across the UK. We connect with our community of member organisations and network of Local Youth Councils (LYCs), to empower other young people, so that we can all play a role in making decisions about the things that matter to us; locally, nationally and globally.

We connect with a diverse and inspiring range of young people and voice our views across the UK. Our members range from big charities such as St John Ambulance, the Scout Association and Girlguiding UK, to campaigning organisations like NUS and trade unions. We also have organisations that represent particular parts of society such as lesbian, gay and bisexual groups (London LGBT Youth Council), and disabled young people (Mencap).

As well as this, Local Youth Councils are an important part of our membership. These LYCs are run by young people for young people so that they can get their voices heard in the decisions that are being made in their own neighbourhoods. They enable young people to have a real influence over their own lives and within their own communities.

We aim to help other young people and our member organisations campaign for change on the issues that are important to all of us. Through our training workshops and programmes, we aim to help our member organisations boost young people's skills so that all young people feel confident enough to get involved.

We aim to share skills, ideas and information with our membership organisations to give all young people the chance to make a difference to their communities and to society. By joining together we have a collective, powerful voice.



Benefits of BYC Membership

Membership of BYC provides a wide range of benefits, focussed on empowering all young people across the UK to have a say and be heard.

Policy and campaigns

- A new member's campaign pack, input into our national campaigns and consultations on key policy issues.
- Advance sight of BYC draft policy positions and publications.
- Young people can join our six priority campaigns: 'Equal National Minimum Wage', 'Votes at 16', 'Let's Value Volunteering', 'Climate Change', 'Just the Ticket' and 'Higher Educational Funding'. BYC also supports 'Respect?'
- Young people can become a member of the BYC Online Action Network and contribute to our campaigns on the web.

Support and resources

- Youth councils – get advice and support from our Youth Council Training and Development Officer and access our online 'Resources Centre'.
- Expert advice and support on young people and governance.
- Up to 50% discount on BYC training and discounts on BYC publications.

Representation

- Vote at our Annual Council Meeting (ACM) and elect Trustees (only for full members).
- Have your views represented to Government and policy-makers.
- Young people can influence BYC activities through our online 'Youth Manifesto'.

Communications

- Receive our Annual Review and our membership ebulletin and information updates.
- Free loan of BYC display materials for your events.
- Young people can register for our regular email bulletin 'The BYC Project' at www.byc.org.uk.

Other opportunities

- Discounts on specially selected conferences and events within the sector.
- Advertising for your events and activities on the BYC website and bulletins.
- Young people aged 25 and under can apply to become a Trustee on the BYC Board.

Types of Membership

We have two types of membership:

1. Full membership: This is for youth organisations that are predominantly youth led and can vote at our ACM and determine our policy and campaign priorities.

2. Associate membership: This is for organisations with a link or an interest in young people and youth representation and who support our aims.

Membership Fees (2009 - 2010)

Full Members

Local Youth Councils - £54

Under 100 – £54

Under 1000 – £135

Over 1000 – £216

Over 10,000 – £370

Over 20,000 – £457

Over 50,000 – £546

Over 100,000 – £649

Over 200,000 – £763

Over 300,000 – £863

Over 400,000 – £1,015

Associate Members

National Associate Members - £176

Local Associate Members - £54

How to Apply for Membership

To join all you need to do is complete the Application and the Membership Agreement Forms. As well as completing these forms, we need you to send us a copy of your equal opportunities statement and constitution (if you have them). Our board of Trustees who are all 25 and under approve membership applications on a monthly basis.

Once we have approved your application, all that is left to do is pay your membership fee.

BYC Membership Agreement

BYC's vision is to have a diverse, active and engaged membership, and by joining together young people from our network of over 600 Local Youth Councils and members, we will have a collective, powerful voice.

BYC is committed to ensuring that our membership informs BYC policies and campaigns through a range of pathways including: our Annual General Meeting, electing trustees, and having the opportunity to take part in member specific consultations and surveys.

As a member of BYC, each organisation is committed to helping BYC achieve its shared vision of a diverse, active and engaged membership. To enable this to happen, BYC and its member organisations both agree to work in partnership and collaborate to the benefit of existing and future members.

BYC agrees to:

- Connect our member organisations and provide a forum for them to come together and share ideas and practice
- Provide members with practical support on young people's participation and governance in their organisation
- Promote members' events, activities and opportunities
- Provide discounts on BYC training and publications, and seek to arrange other offers and opportunities for members
- Create opportunities for joint working with and by member organisations
- Hold an Annual Council Meeting
- Express members' views to Government and policy-makers
- Produce and distribute an Annual Review and an engaging exclusive ebulletin
- Give advance sight of BYC draft policy positions and publications.

BYC members agree to:

- Promote BYC activities, events and opportunities to all young people in their organisation
- Create opportunities for joint working with BYC
- Inform BYC of opportunities where BYC can have a presence at their events
- Keep BYC informed of changes to relevant contact details and individuals
- Attend BYC activities and events
- Inform BYC in writing, if it wishes to end membership
- Supply BYC with the name of a lead representative for their membership
- Receive membership communications via email and the BYC website as well as by mail.

_____ (*insert organisation name*), and BYC agree to work together to achieve a diverse, active and engaged membership.

Emily Beardsmore

Emily Beardsmore, Chair 2008-2009

Signature, name and position of your organisation's representative

Please sign two copies of this agreement and keep a copy for yourself.



Membership Application Form

1. Organisation name _____

2. Type of membership (please tick): Full membership Associate membership

3. Organisation address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Website _____ General email _____

4. Contact people – please give us the details of the following people in your organisation (if applicable)

BYC correspondence contact (staff member)	Young Person representative (if applicable)	CEO or Chair	Finance officer	Communications officer (or equivalent)
Name: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tel: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Email: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

5. Age range of membership _____

6. Number of members 26 and under? _____

7. Please describe the aims of your organisation?

8. What is the criteria for membership of your organisation?

9. How do young people get involved in making decisions in your organisation?

We think it is important that all members sign up to our **Equal Opportunities Statement:** _____

(name of organisation) is dedicated to Equal Opportunities in all its work in and outside BYC, accepting our role in combating discrimination for young people's involvement in our own structures and those of BYC.

We, as an organisation, are dedicated to being part of BYC's inclusive, active and engaged membership and will support its work with the young people in our organisation and beyond.

Signed: _____ Print name: _____ Date: _____

We look forward to receiving your Membership Application Form. If you have them, please don't forget to include a signed membership agreement, your constitution and your equal opportunities policy. Please send everything to:

Membership Assistant, BYC, CAN Mezzanine London Bridge, 1 Downstream Building, 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9BG.

Tel: 0845 458 1489, Fax: 0845 458 1847 or email: membership@byc.org.uk

The British Youth Council would like to hold your details in order to contact you about our wider work. If you would prefer us not to use your details like this, please tick here

If you are happy for us to contact you about these things by email, please tick here.

We may sometimes share your details with third parties but only those that share our aims and values. If you are not happy with your details being used in this way, please tick here.

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Registered Office: Downstream Building, No 1 London Bridge, London, SE1 9BG.