

Introduction

This submission builds on a multi-agency cross-sector collaboration work supported by Partnership for Young London, London Funders and London Youth called the [Vision for Young Londoners](#). This was a cross sector collaboration on the focus required across London to drive up outcomes for young Londoners.

The submission provides an overview of a range of manifesto suggestions for the London Mayoral candidates, where possible supported by evidence. We do not claim this to be all encompassing as it is part of an interactive process that is dynamic and fluid. It also takes place at a time where we are waiting for policy and funding announcements from Central Government on a range of areas, local youth partnerships, youth workforce training and capital funding.

Organisations involved

The organisations who have been involved in this process to date include: London Boroughs, Young People's Foundations, Speakers Trust, London Councils, OnSide Youth Zones, Centrepoin, Toynbee Hall, YOU London, Youth Access, Hackney Quest, The Young Women's Trust, City YMCA, University of Huddersfield, The Anti Tribalism Movement, The British Youth Council, Pan London Children in Care Council, New Horizons Youth Centre, ShoutOut UK, Dragon Hall, UK Youth, Partnership for Young London and London Youth.

Process

Part 1: Organisational perspective

This is a coalition of organisations who work with young people, and either have recommendations for what they want to see changed, or evidence about what they're seeing on the ground. This will be an ongoing process, as we are still finalising the different areas that we will be including and want to stick closely to the remit of the Mayor.

Part 2: Youth Outreach

Over the next three month we will be hosting workshops with young people from across London to seek their views about the priorities for London, and what they want to see from the next London Mayor. This will be conducted with trained peer researchers, who will deliver workshops about democracy, power, and regional, and local government. This will help inform the priorities, and the solutions we want to focus on as a sector.

Part 3: Youth-led hustings

In April, young people from across London will be coming together to discuss the manifesto and their feedback and questions on the mayoral priorities. This will shape a young people's manifesto and offer the opportunity for young people to take a lead in policy and decision-making processes. This will be a cross-sector approach and is being funded by Trust for London.

Underpinning Values – These are taken from the previous Vision for Young Londoners.

1. **Youth-led** - Most importantly, we will put young people at the centre of all we do. This means being youth-led and listening to the voices of young people. But it also means making sure we include all young people, to ensure all their voices are heard. In this way, our vision is inclusive and focused on developing the assets of every young Londoner, regardless of background, race, colour, sexual orientation or creed.
2. **United** - Secondly, we commit to meaningful and sustained collaboration. A vision for young Londoners implies the creation of a united young people's sector in London. This means developing a clear and common voice. It means combining our resources and innovating together where there are clear gains for young Londoners. It also means that we will share our knowledge and improve the evidence base of what works, so that all services and support for young Londoners improves.
3. **Positive about potential** - Thirdly, we will be positive and aspirational for young Londoners. Of course, we will be pragmatic working for what is realistic and achievable. But we aim to work constructively, not confrontationally with all those who can influence the future for London's young people. Where this takes us into advocacy and influencing others, we will emphasise the collective benefits to be gained. Where it involves delivering services, we will be guided by where we can create and add value, always seeking to focus on positive opportunities for young people, challenging the barriers they face, rather than presenting young people themselves as part of the problem.
4. **Enabling** - Finally, our work together will be guided by the imperative of enabling young people, providing the tools and support for them to develop their own resilience and create their own futures. Our emphasis will be on providing the most enabling environment possible, creating a climate that encourages their participation, the use of their skills, interests and aspirations.

Appendix One - Evidence and Policy Suggestions

Political Engagement

Taken from the Welsh Assembly

The Welsh Assembly has recently passed a new law which will make Votes at 16. It will empower 16- and 17-year olds to vote at Welsh general elections when Assembly Members are elected. They will also be looking to accompany it with political and citizenship education.

- Elin Jones AM, Llywydd of the National Assembly for Wales says: *“Votes at 16 will have to be accompanied by appropriate political and citizenship education and public awareness-raising to ensure young people are encouraged and supported to exercise their right to vote.”*

Submitted by Partnership from Young London

Recommendation: 16- and 17-year olds should be given the vote in regional elections, accompanied by a new political education curriculum in schools.

- We should be following the lead of Scotland and [Wales, who have recently taken measures to lower the voting age](#). There is now a regional inequality in young people’s access to their democratic institutions, and London needs to catch up.
- Research from the University of Huddersfield’s Tom Loughran and Professor Andy Mycock have [argued for a reducing of the voting age to be accompanied by a raft of reforms](#), especially around political education.
- Like the Welsh Assembly, we believe steps should be taken to bring in a political education curriculum at the same time as lowering the voting age. [Our Votes at 16 debate at the Old Bailey](#) made it clear that young people have a real appetite for it.

Submitted by Lewisham Youth Council, and Goldsmiths University of London

Evidence relating to votes at 16 in Youth and Policy journal in an article by Kalbir Shukra, Malcolm Ball and Katy Brown found on: <http://research.gold.ac.uk/20166/>

The following recommendations were made following a submission with evidence to the House of Lords (<https://research.gold.ac.uk/22023/2/69371.html>)

- That voting age is reviewed and lowered to include more young people.
- That programmes be developed to support young people to stand for election as councillors.
- That youth work be envisioned to support young people (outside of school) in developing their opinions through active engagement as citizens. On this basis the youth worker’s role in citizenship would be to offer opportunities for young people to engage in conversation, opinion formation and deliberation, value lived experience but be open to hearing other perspectives.
- That local authority programmes engage young people in local democracy, build intercultural communication and social solidarities for community cohesion.
- They have also submitted a report, Lewisham young mayor overview, which includes their evaluation data, which can be found here: <http://filer.medborgardialog.com/linkedfiles/download/59/soumehl>.

Submitted by Shout Out UK

They have submitted their report, [Political Literacy Social Impact Report July 2018- May 2019 which can be found here](#). It sets out the challenges of political literacy among young people, and evaluation data from their political literacy course.

University of Huddersfield, Professor Andy Mycock

They have conducted research into the question of votes at 16 and political education, with young people from across different regions of the UK.

- They will be releasing their research soon, which looks at public opinion shifting in favour of lowering the voting age for the first time across England. It also examines the impact of lowering the voting age on turnout, from when it was lowered at 18 to when it was lowered in Scotland.
- It will also feature feedback from young people and youth sector organisations about what a political education curriculum would look like, in workshops like the most recent one in Manchester.

Wider Youth Sector Feedback

Recommendation: The mayor should widen the London youth assembly by linking with youth advisory groups and networks in specific areas i.e. the Pan London Children in Care Council, CAMHS Youth Advisory Groups among others.

Recommendation: To introduce a system which will foster better links between elected members at the GLA and their links with youth groups across the region, to ensure that young people have access to decision making processes.

Recommendation: To explore how mayoral remits can be shadowed by young political advisors from across a range of geographical and thematic areas of interest.

Recommendation: To explore the links between political identity and voting and the GLA to drive up a positive voter campaign based on 'be a voter' in America where young people create a positive voter identity to address the challenges with voter engagement.

Civil Society

Submitted by Partnership from Young London

Recommendation: High quality youth work transforms the lives of young people and enables them to build strong futures. Youth worker training is an essential component maximise the reach and impact of youth work. London needs a review into the workforce development needs for the voluntary youth sector, in line with any upcoming policy announcements and changes.

- Given the promise of new funding for youth services in the recent Conservative manifesto (Local Youth Partnerships), more needs to be done to ensure that there is the workforce in place to carry out any additional work.

Recommendation: To ensure that all full and part-time youth workers are trained and qualified to maximise the impact of youth work on the lives of young people in London, the Major joins with

London's youth support sector, including voluntary, community, uniformed and professional agencies, to have in place and be recognised for high quality youth work training.

- [Youth Worker Bursary Fund 2019/20 - Guidance for Applicants](#)
- [CYP Now - Children's Workforce Qualifications and Training Guide](#)

Submitted by London Youth

Recommendation: London Youth recommends that the Mayor enables community youth organisations to support young Londoners, particularly those from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds, to address barriers and disadvantage and help them into good and sustained employment.

Wider Youth Sector Feedback

Recommendation: The GLA via the work underway at the data store to profile the needs of existing services and assets within communities and championing longer term funding for key groups to sustain those assets.

Recommendation: To employ the skills and expertise of the data store to do a needs and trend analysis of young people's needs over a 5-10-year period to help shape future priorities and the deployment of resources.

Open Access Youth Services and Targeted Programmes

Submitted by London Youth

Recommendation: London Youth recommends that the Mayor prioritises violence reduction and the safety of young Londoners by funding for long term relationships in community youth organisations.

Recommendation: London Youth recommends that the Mayor retains the Young Londoners Fund, committing £15 million of funding for positive activities for children and young people across London in each of the four years of his term, and improve it by prioritising the needs and sustainability of grassroots community youth organisations.

Wider Youth Sector Feedback

Recommendation: Mayor to champion safe spaces for young people, and profile the need to sustain existing provision and assets within communities, and the need for longer term funding for local groups to deliver impact.

Recommendation: In line with the revised statutory duties on local authorities for youth services and the announcements with DCMS, to call for greater investment in young people's services and a more coherent offer across London.

Recommendation: To use the skills and expertise of the data store to focus on data predictions on needs and demographics of young people and trend data to help shape future provision, and address the challenges faced in outer London boroughs.

Recommendation: Via the Young Londoners Fund to continue to fund youth work across London, and within this support training and workforce development for the region.

Recommendation: The mayor to profile the role of uniformed groups within the youth sector and encourage a greater take up of volunteering to support local groups.

Recommendation: Mayor to champion safe spaces for young people, and profile the need to sustain existing provision and assets within communities, and the need for longer term funding for local groups to deliver impact.

Recommendation: In line with the revised statutory duties on local authorities for youth services and the announcements with DCMS, the Mayor calls out to the public and private sectors for greater investment in young people's services to ensure in every area and across London a more coherent offer to enable young Londoners to develop the skills and attitudes to deliver the diverse communities needed by London, and to take their place in the London employment market.

Recommendation: For the Major to champion, drive and model responses providing intensive youth support to young people trying to escape violence and homelessness, to turn their lives around and negotiate the structural barriers, through intensive target long-term individual support in all parts of London.

Education

Submitted by Partnership for Young London

Recommendation: Young Londoners need an improved system of careers advice and guidance, to give them better opportunities and starts to their careers. This is especially the case in certain sectors like the creative industries.

- As a [recent 2019 parliamentary briefing summaries](#), there is a poor standard to non-existent careers advice and guidance available for many young Londoners.
- Our [Self-Made Sector report](#), found that careers advice in schools for the creative sector to range from non-existent to negative and discouraging.

Recommendation: An apprenticeship target should be set by the Mayor for young Londoners, following a review on why the uptake of apprenticeships in the capital has been so low.

- London in recent years has continued to [underperform the rest of the UK in apprenticeship uptakes](#), with a [continued negative perception](#) and low progression to level 3 and 4 apprenticeships.
- Our [Young People's Perceptions and attitudes of their post-16 options report](#) found a lack of information and guidance given to 14 and 15 year olds about their post-16 options.

Recommendation: Young Londoners need financial education, to help provide them with independence, a sense of security, and guard them from emerging pitfalls.

- Young people are still not being provided adequate financial education, and as a result recent studies [have found 69% of students still regularly worry about money and 82% want to learn about in schools.](#)
- Being financially literate is especially vital for those living independently, as our [Social Action Research report with London Children in Care Council](#) found, where financial education was the number one priority by those interviewed.

Submitted by Hackney Quest

They have submitted a report, Hackney Wick Through Young Eyes, which came up with the following eight recommendations that have pan-London relevance, on local facilities, to employment. To read the evidence, findings, and explanation for the recommendations, [please find the report here.](#)

- Aside from that, Luke writes: “I also think the Mayor could do more to support schools to be more inclusive. I am aware that education is out of the Mayor’s remit, but he could play a significant convening role, bringing together the best-performing schools/local authorities for inclusion to learn from them, and then sharing best practice with worse-performing schools. If there is any political pressure the Mayor can apply onto MATs, schools and local authorities, that would be welcome.”

Submitted by London Councils

They have written a brief “London Councils: Policy Recommendations, Reports and Data” which sets out a range of recommendations [which can be found here.](#)

Careers Advice and Guidance

Recommendation: Because young people have such a range of options open to them, every young person should have 100 hours of experiences of the world of work while in education and receive high-quality face-to-face careers guidance at key transition points in their journey to adulthood and employment.

Recommendation: The government to enforce and monitor schools and further education leaders and governors to deliver their statutory responsibility to provide high quality CEIAG.

Curriculum.

Recommendation: London’s young people are entering one of the most competitive labour markets in the world - indeed, they are entering a truly global labour market - and the economy of the future will demand a workforce equipped with technical, professional and vocational skills. London’s curriculum needs to face up to the challenges of the future.

Recommendation: Young people need to be confident in the value of their education, the acquisition of skills and the ability to articulate those skills. They need to know the value of learning (not just qualifications) and be certain that what they learn will be relevant to achieving their goals in life.

Recommendation: Central, London and local government, schools and further education colleges need to collaborate closely to demonstrate the value of both A level and vocational programmes to parents/carers, students and employers.

Funding

Recommendation: Funding should consider better the increases in costs of adequately supporting young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Recommendation: Central government needs to adjust accountability measures to take a longer-term view of young people's learning journey and leaving school.

Recommendation: Young people who would benefit from a three-year programme of study to achieve a Level 3 qualification should be able to do so, with their learning institution being assured of full funding.

Recommendation: Ensure post-European Union funding continues to provide as much support to Londoners as the current European Structural Investment Fund programmes.

Recommendation: Increase funding to Further Education colleges to £5,000 per student to match school funding and close the pay gap between school and college staff, to help ensure that no one is left behind, and more people reach advanced levels of learning.

Devolution

Recommendation: Extend devolution in London to cover education and skills provision for 16 to 18-year-olds.

Recommendation: Work with London's businesses and government to reform the Apprenticeship levy.

Recommendation: Enable the creation of a London Lifelong Learning System that provides each young person with a personalised learning pathway through each of the system's stages, with supported transition at each point and smooth progression into further and higher education (including technical and vocational routes), Apprenticeships or employment. Ensure the young people's education and skills system fully integrates with adult education and skills.

Recommendation: To set a target for high quality apprenticeships for young people with progressive targets for level 3 and 4 for key groups who are under-represented.

Recommendation: To build on examples from Germany where businesses are encouraged to develop the curriculum for London linked to the skills gap and future skills needed.

Mental Health

Submitted by Youth Access

International human rights law says that every individual has the right to mental health support that meets four essential and interrelated principles: availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality. But with massive barriers faced by young people in accessing appropriate, timely support in the UK, it's clear that this right isn't being met.

Read the #MyRightsMyMind briefing [here](#).

Recommendation: Commit the GLA to taking a rights-based approach to its strategy on mental health, by taking the [#MyRightsMyMind](#) pledge. See who else has pledged [here](#).

Recommendation: Prioritise the development of inclusive systems of participation in mental health, which put young voices at the centre of decision-making and are accessible to young people from all walks of life. For example, consider ways to give young people an advisory role in the London Health Board, and open the Thrive Network to offer specific young person-focused opportunities to influence the mental system.

Recommendation: Call for the human right to health - and all rights contained in the ICESCR, UNCRPD and UNCRC - to be enshrined in domestic legislation. Without this, we face a disconnect between what our rights say we are entitled to and what we actually receive, and crucially, what can be enforced in the courts at national level.

Recommendation: Explicitly reference rights in GLA health strategies, policies and values statements, to promote a rights-based approach in decision-making at all levels.

Recommendation: Ensure the development and delivery of London's mental health strategy involves voluntary sector providers who are already doing great work to support the mental health and wellbeing of young people in the city.

Our Minds Our Future is a national youth-led campaign that wants to see transformation of the mental health system, into one that respects young people's human rights. Young 'Rights Advocates' across the country are calling on politicians, commissioners and service providers to take the #MyRightsMyMind pledge – promising to take a rights-based approach to improving mental health provision. Their priorities for a rights-based action plan are:

- **Age-appropriate care as we move into adulthood** – not just services for children or older adults.
- **Early identification and support** – not long waiting lists or only getting help at crisis point
- **Support we can access in our communities** – places we feel comfortable, not just in schools and hospitals.
- **Clear options and decisions we understand** – not just being told what we can and can't access, with no alternatives.
- **A seat at the table in decisions about our own care** – as well as what the wider system looks like.

Wider Youth Sector Feedback

Recommendation: To embed trauma informed approaches across all streams of the GLA work linked to children and young people – to champion London taking a trauma informed approach.

Recommendation: To use the healthy schools programme and encourage more school to adopt the standards.

Recommendation: To lobby for more mental health practitioners in schools as part of the trailblazers but also how this can be extended to informal education settings.

Recommendation: As an employer, the GLA can showcase leading edge activity on supporting the mental health within its workforce Via the London Vision to profile children and young people's mental health and the need for a seamless transition to adult services.

Recommendation: To highlight with London Councils, the deficiencies in social care funding and the Displaced risk this poses to other services.

Transport

Submitted by Partnership for Young London

Recommendation: Transport in London needs to be reviewed to start a discussion about what Young Londoners want, and how it can be improved for them.

- Transport policy in London for young people has largely focused on the expense and not how they experience and understand transport. [A report by Transport Focus](#) found many recommendations such as Wi-Fi availability.
- Young people are the most likely to use public transport and use it differently too; [with 17-20-year olds disproportionately using the bus more than any other age group](#). Consequently many young Londoners are at risk of not accessing opportunities outside of their borough, and surrounding area.

Business, economy, and skills

Submitted by Partnership for Young London

Recommendation: More needs to be done to widen participation in the job market for young people, to ensure that no young Londoners are left behind. such as flexible working hours and travel training, especially for young parents

- While the [Good Work standard launched by the Mayor sets out some good standards](#), especially with the London Living Wage, there needs to be greater emphasis on flexible working for young Londoners.
- Our [report with 4in10, Young Parents in London: Living with Precariousness](#), found the lack of flexible working, and transparency from employers on it, a major barrier to young parents accessing employment. More employers should take up the Happy to Talk Flexible Working strapline.

Recommendation: Businesses need to sign up to providing high quality work experience for care leavers and the Mayor to champion the My Covenant across the region.

- Care leavers continue to experience poor outcomes across the country, especially around employment, with [40% of care leavers aged 19 to 21 not in education, employment or training \(NEET\)](#), compared to 13% for this age group overall.

- We believe that London's business community need to commit to providing high quality work experience for care leavers, providing them with the opportunity to reduce the inequality they face compared to their peers.

Planning and regeneration

Submitted by OnSide Youth Zones

OnSide are putting together a funding proposal for the Labour team to consider, calling for capital for 8 new youth centres in London in the OnSide model. You can read this [recommendation here](#). They have submitted the executive summary of their new impact report, [which you can read here](#).

Taken from The Mayor of London team

The Regeneration Team at the GLA has published "[Making London Child-Friendly: Designing places and streets for children and young people.](#)"

Jules Pipes, Deputy Mayor describes it: "*This report sets out how we can think differently about the built environment and its effect on how young people develop and behave. It provides a series of indicators, principles, examples of best practice and recommendations to help make London a more child-friendly city. It will be a key piece of evidence that informs Supplementary Planning Guidance on play and recreation.*" There are a number of strong recommendations in this that sector would fully support, particularly the engagement of children and young people from the outset in decision making processes as needs will vary according to location and the issues affecting key groups.

Poverty and inequality

Submitted by Partnership for Young London

Recommendation: A review into the impact of intergenerational fairness for young Londoners, and how London as a region might tackle the issue, should be conducted.

- The work done by [Resolution Foundation has clearly highlighted the inequality experienced by young people](#), especially around job and housing security. However, it is not fully understood how this is impacting on Young Londoners in the UK's most unequal regions.
- Most research into the subject has been conducted nationally, but with a cost of living crisis young Londoners need more support, and new ways of thinking need to be adopted to bridge the intergenerational gap.

More detailed submissions are in place by Child Poverty Action Group and 4in10

Submitted by Youth Access

Recommendation: The Mayor and the GLA should take the lead in exploring a strategic approach to improving young people's access to justice. They should commit to establishing a fund (potentially focus a future round of the Young Londoners Fund) that has a focus on improving young people's wellbeing through advice and public legal education. In doing this, they should convene other funders (trusts, foundations and public bodies) interested in this

issue to explore a strategic approach to funding the work, linking to NHS developments, including NHS England's commitment to develop new age-appropriate mental health service models for young adults and plans to extend social prescribing.

Volunteering

Submitted by YOU London, Youth Organisations in Uniform in London

Recommendation: Invest in success - There are some 92,000 young people actively engaged in uniformed youth groups in London (2019 census). Some of these organisations are over 150 years old and highly experienced in providing structured youth activities in a safe, fun environment.

Recommendation: Rather than look for new youth solutions, the Mayor should recognise the success of existing organisations and seek to promote them.

Recommendation: To address the pressing need for adult volunteers. Some 23,000 adult volunteers support 92,000 young people in uniformed youth groups in London (2019 census) by providing fun, structured activities in a safe environment, but there is a need for more. The success of youth groups is dependent on the adults who run them. The more adult volunteers, the more activities can be provided for young people.

Recommendation: Team London to advertise volunteering opportunities with uniformed youth organisations and seek ways to recognise adult volunteers.

Arts and culture

Submitted by A New Direction

They are currently formulating a policy response for January but in the meantime submit the following three pieces of research:

- [Caring for Cultural Freedom](#) – “This report examines young people’s cultural learning within the London Borough of Harrow. It makes a significant contribution to recent debates concerning the value of understanding the cultural sector ecologically”
- [Building the Creative Workforce of the Future](#) – “This research identifies the main challenges that need to be overcome to ensure the potential of the creative economy is realised in a way that captures the ideas, mindsets and values of London’s entire society.”

Recommendation: Policy makers need to stop looking to the past for inspiration. As the work by Scharmer and Schleicher suggests, pedagogies that focus on learning from the past can no longer be expected to adequately prepare young people for the future world of work. We cannot continue to teach students the same information in the same way and expect different answers to the significant challenges facing the world.

Recommendations: Schools should be encouraged to approach the curriculum with fresh eyes. As a growing body of evidence mounts surrounding the success of new pedagogies, so does

the number of influential voices arguing for the substantiated need to nurture capabilities beyond knowledge in our young people.

Recommendations: Working as a community, we can ensure all young people get the experience they need. Groups of cultural partners, schools and employers, along with public bodies, can jointly provide mentoring, advice, work experience and bespoke training schemes to ensure every child and young person gets the support they need to find the right path for them. This will take the burden off the education system to work in such a complex ecology on its own.

Recommendations: Employers need to be more ambitious in who they recruit - and how. With many employers dissatisfied with the skills of university graduates, it is time for employers to broaden their outreach in regard to employment.

- [The Durham Commission Report](#) – A report created in partnership between Durham University and Arts Council England. It has a number of recommendations into improve cultural education in schools.

Housing and homelessness

Submitted by New Horizons Youth Centre

All young Londoners need good quality, appropriate and affordable housing in order to get a genuine chance to prosper. For many this will be the stability of a safe family home until they are ready to move out. Others will need student accommodation, the safety net of homelessness provision or access to social housing. And a young workforce driving the London economy and services will be dependent on their ability to buy or rent somewhere they can afford, even when they are not entitled to the National Living Wage or more likely to be in precarious work than their older colleagues.

The next Mayor of London will play a key role to ensure even the most disadvantaged young people will achieve housing security. The current London Housing Strategy and the new London Plan (draft) both acknowledge not only the need to increase housing supply, specifically genuinely affordably homes, but also the importance that the diverse housing needs of Londoners are met.

More specifically we ask the next Mayor of London:

Recommendation: To make sure that the current and future accommodation needs of young Londoners are properly understood, including affordability, property size and tenure type, so that such insights inform the implementation of the London Plan and London Housing Strategy.

Recommendation: To fulfil London Housing Strategy promise that the Mayor's Affordable Homes Programme helps to fund different types of the accommodation specifically for young people.

Recommendation: Should integrate housing and homelessness more closely within the serious youth violence strategy and funding both for as part of both prevention and solution and invest further in pan-London reciprocal arrangements.

Recommendation: Where the housing crisis is felt by young people to the extent that they are or are at risk of experiencing homelessness, accommodation provision and support has to address their specific needs and circumstances whether they are rough sleeping, hidden homeless or in insecure or other unsafe accommodation. The Mayor should make sure that young people can benefit equally and proportionally from the Mayor's homelessness strategy, policy and funding.

Submitted by Centrepont

Centrepont have submitted their Manifesto for Homeless Young People London Mayoral Elections 2020. They are calling on London Mayoral candidates to commit to taking urgent action on youth homelessness.

In 2017-18 an estimated 12,200 under 25s asked their London council for help because they were homeless or at risk of homelessness. The Mayor of London has significant powers to tackle youth homelessness. By investing in young Londoners, the Mayor can secure a safe and positive future for our city.

Recommendation: Set aside £20 million to deliver move-on accommodation specifically for young people leaving supported accommodation and ready for independent living.

Recommendation: Ensure that the Mayor's London Housing Strategy prioritises high-quality floating support for young people moving on from homelessness.

Recommendation: Establish rent deposit schemes for care leavers across London. Some landlords require a deposit and rent upfront, which is especially difficult for care leavers who do not have financial support from family.

Recommendation: Better promote traineeships to provide under 25s with on-the-job training that acts as an important stepping-stone towards further education, employment and training.

Recommendation: As the Police and Crime Commissioner, work with the Metropolitan Police to introduce a 'commitment to refer' under the Homelessness Reduction Act (2017). This would commit police officers to formally refer people experiencing or at risk of homelessness to their local authority for support.

Wider Youth Sector Feedback

Recommendation: Continued expansion of the London Living Rent scheme, with a review in how the scheme to best support young people from a lower income.

Recommendation: To champion council tax rebate for care leavers and call for greater take up across all London Boroughs.

Recommendation: To work with councils and housing providers to ensure there are minimum standards in place in terms of housing for vulnerable young people.

Recommendation: To use the affordable housing fund and ring fence parts of this for young people's provision.

Recommendation: To ensure that young people get access to information and guidance over the rights in terms of accommodation.

Recommendation: To explore a rent deposit scheme for young people across London.

Recommendation: To introduce a responsible landlord's scheme as we know that more young people will be going into the private rental sector.

Recommendation: To work with London Councils and Housing providers to ensure that the number of times that young people in care or leaving care get moved is reduced.

Recommendation: To view housing for young people within the remit of a public health model. Via the VRU explore the links between homelessness and housing and young people engaged with or affected by violent crime.