

Partnership  
for Young  
London



**youth focus** <sup>NW</sup>  
Improving the lives of young people

# AUTHORING OUR OWN STORIES

YOUTH RECOVERY PROJECT

MAY 2022  
RECRUITING NOW

RECRUITMENT

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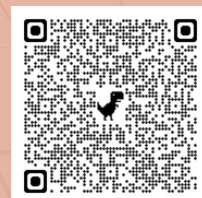
ABOUT AUTHORIZING  
OUR OWN STORIES

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WHAT IS CIVIC  
IDENTITY?

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HOW TO APPLY



# RECRUITING

## **What is your identity? Have you decided on this or has it been given to you?**

We have an exciting opportunity for five Young Leaders to co-lead a project to discover how young people's political identities are formed and impact their engagement with youth services.

## **ARE YOU AGED BETWEEN 16-21?**

Do you live in Bolton, Burnley, Liverpool, Manchester (Metropolitan borough), Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, St Helens or Warrington?

Are you interested in how young people engage with politics and society and think you can get other young people to talk about their own experiences?

We're looking for five young people to develop a creative research project and be supported to develop leadership and research skills.

Workshops and meetings will be online and in-person as well as getting out and applying your research skills by talking and creating with other young people. Your travel expenses will be covered throughout and vouchers will be provided for your time.

## **JOIN US AS A YOUNG LEADER!**

# ABOUT

The Authoring our own stories project gives five Young Leaders the opportunity to explore their own, and other young peoples' civic identities, contribute to a national research project and ultimately, have your say on how youth services work for you.

Do you live in Bolton, Burnley, Liverpool, Manchester (Metropolitan borough), Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, St Helens or Warrington and are between the ages of 16-21?

Are you interested in how young people engage with politics and society and think you can get other young people to talk about their own experiences?

Would you like to develop a creative research project and be supported to develop leadership and research skills that you can use in your future life and work?

Youth Focus North West are working with youth work organisations across the country to explore how young people form their civic and political identities and how youth work organisations engage with the civic identities of the young people they work with.

# ABOUT

In the North West, we are focusing on the 'levelling up' areas - areas which the government declared need 'levelling up' through bringing in extra funding to support communities in these areas and provide opportunities for young people within them.

Join our Young Leaders team to "Author your own story" and have your say about what levelling up means to you and other young people.

During the project, you will take part in online and in-person workshops and meetings as well as getting out and applying your research skills by talking and creating with other young people.

Your travel expenses will be covered throughout and vouchers will be provided for your time.

# CIVIC IDENTITY

Your civic identity refers to the way you see yourself in society, who you are and how you engage with the world around you - your beliefs, values and the ideas you agree or disagree with, the campaigns and causes you support, where you are from and your lived experience all contribute to the formation of your civic, or political, identity. You may even feel that the identity and picture of yourself that you have developed might differ from the identity others in society give to you.

Previous research has demonstrated that political identities are formed and set when young people transition to adulthood. Their initial experiences of becoming aware of the wider adult world and where they see themselves within it are critical for defining lifelong political identities. Young people have therefore always been the driving force of political value change in society.

It is important to our research that we do not impose any specific model of political identity. We are concerned with exploring how young people develop their political identities and the relevance this has to their engagement with youth services.

This is why we are recruiting Young Leaders, like you, to lead this exciting research, because it is your voice, and your identities that matter to us.

# APPLY

Get in touch with [nick@youthfocusnorthwest.org](mailto:nick@youthfocusnorthwest.org) to discuss the project further or fill out the application form [here](#) by 22 May 2022.



We will use the application form to assess your eligibility for the project and you will have the opportunity to tell us why you want to be involved, what you'd like to research and your availability over the summer months.

With spots only available for five Young Leaders, we will aim to select a diverse research team with respect to lived experience and geographical location across the levelling up areas.

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