

# Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar: Services for young people - the future of youth activities, expanding the National Citizen Service and involving young people in decision-making

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Venue: Princess Alexandra Hall, Royal Over-Seas League, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR



WESTMINSTER  
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Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Tim Loughton MP**, former Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families
- 9.05 - 9.45 **The National Citizen Service: the story so far and challenges for expansion**  
**Alex Martin**, Deputy Director, National Citizen Service, Cabinet Office  
**Michael Lynas**, Director of Strategy, National Citizen Service Independent Management Body  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.45 - 10.30 **Next steps for the National Citizen Service (NCS)**  
*Lessons learnt from the NCS pilots and perspectives on key issues around expansion of the programme. Are levels of awareness of the NCS consistent across the country, and what further steps can be taken to maximise awareness as the scheme expands? Is there sufficient interest from potential NCS providers to support the expansion? How can a wider mix of young people, particularly those without previous experience of volunteering, be encouraged to take part in the NCS? How should the performance of the NCS be measured, and should user satisfaction and personal development data be collated as in the pilot evaluation? Is the existing eight-week programme of activities the best format for the NCS, both in terms of the balance and timing of activities? What will be the impact of Government's announcement that participants can undertake elements of the NCS year-round?*  
**Gareth Morrell**, Senior Research Director, NatCen Social Research  
**Jon Yates**, Strategy and Development Director, The Challenge Network  
**Jonathan Harper**, Managing Director, Future Foundations  
**Claudia Harraway**, student, Holt School, Berkshire and NCS alumni  
**Loren Cotterell**, student, Holt School, Berkshire and NCS alumni  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 - 10.35 **Chairman's closing remarks**  
**Tim Loughton MP**, former Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families
- 10.35 - 10.55 Coffee
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Lord Tyler**, Vice Chair, Hansard Society
- 11.00 - 11.50 **Young People's services: provision, funding, and the role of the private sector**  
*What has been the impact of the MyPlace programme since its introduction in 2008? What will be the wider consequences of withdrawal of Government funding for MyPlace centres in March 2013? How can recipients of MyPlace funding generate new revenue streams to maintain provision? What can be done to further encourage private sector companies to view young people's services such as youth centres as an element of their Corporate Social Responsibility? To what extent does the current statutory guidance for local authorities ensure sufficient and appropriate young people's services? How can local authorities provide services on an affordable basis for young people in the context of budget cuts? What are the challenges for local authorities in rural areas around providing youth clubs? How can schools and colleges develop partnerships with external providers for the provision of young people's services, especially as the education and training participation age rises to 18?*  
**Heather Fawbert**, Chief Executive, Fairplay and Chair, Myplace Network Steering Group  
**David Wright**, Chief Executive, Confederation of Heads of Young People's Services  
**Sarah Pearson**, Principal Research Fellow, Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research, Sheffield Hallam University  
**Mark Blundell**, Centre Manager, The Link Thamesmead  
**Sarah Klueter**, Senior Community Investment Manager, The Co-operative Group  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 - 12.00 **Positive for Youth: progress so far and next steps**  
**James Cathcart**, Chief Executive, British Youth Council
- 12.00 - 12.55 **The voice of young people in local and national decision-making**  
*What are the most important next steps and most promising long term approaches for achieving greater engagement between young people and national policy-makers? What has been the impact of the first Youth Innovation Zones on the development of new approaches to young people's services? Has the National Scrutiny Group established by the British Youth Council to 'youth-proof' policy succeeded in ensuring young people's voices are heard in the content and implementation of relevant policy areas? What lessons have been learnt from the first year of the Youth Select Committee? In what ways have local youth councils and Young Mayors enabled young people's voices to be heard at a local level, and how could councils further involve young people in devising and scrutinising policy? What steps can be taken to engage a wider range of young people in local and national politics?*  
**Andy Thornton**, Chief Executive, Citizenship Foundation  
**Chanté Joseph**, Brent MYP, UK Youth Parliament and Member, Youth Select Committee, British Youth Council  
**Jamel Higgins**, Young Mayor of Lewisham  
**Emma Sparrow**, Engagement and Development Manager, Bedford Borough Council  
Questions and comments from the floor with **James Cathcart**, Chief Executive, British Youth Council
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks**  
**Lord Tyler**, Vice Chair, Hansard Society  
**Jonny Roberts**, Senior Producer, Westminster Education Forum