

# The GM Young Person's Guarantee

Scrutiny

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MANCHESTER**  
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

## Quick reminder: Why do we need a Young Person Guarantee?

### Social and Digital Exclusion

According to the Sutton Trust, only a third of students took part in online lessons offered by their school during the first stages of lockdown, **whilst more than two thirds of disadvantaged young people were not considered to be equipped with sufficient access to digital resources to support their learning** at home.

### Poorer Health and Wellbeing

According to the mental health charity YoungMinds, 83% of young people with an existing mental health condition said **the loss of routine, school closures, exam cancellations and the health concerns associated to the virus were all factors in worsening their mental health** and increasing their anxieties about the future.

### Greater Risk of Poorer Transitions

**Job vacancies during the lockdown period dropped by more than two-thirds**, with the fall in apprenticeship vacancies running at 80%. According to the Institute of Student Employers, **68% of businesses also cancelled work experience and taster opportunities**, though many colleges and universities have reported an increase in applications for September.

### Increased Economic Inequalities

Those under the age of 25 have already experienced greater levels of job and labour market displacement because of COVID-19 – **they are 2.5 times more likely to be working in sectors that have "shut down"** and are more likely to have been made redundant, or placed on furlough, when compared to older age groups.

# Key themes and issues – what young people have told us...

On 25<sup>th</sup> June we carried out our first consultation event with young people to collect their views about the pandemic and how a Guarantee could support their futures. Prior to the event, young people were asked the following three questions:

Which of these is most important to you right now?

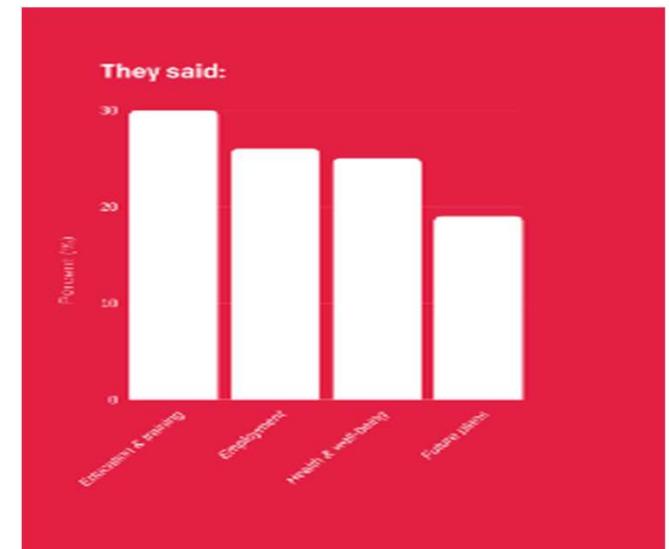
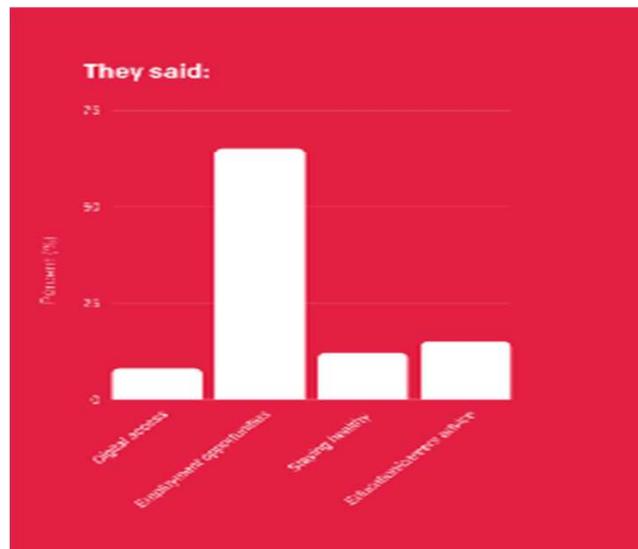
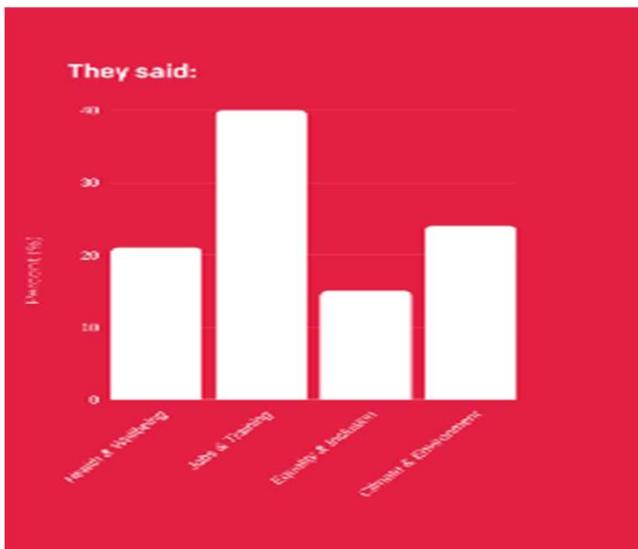
- Health & Wellbeing – 21%
- Jobs & Training – 40%
- Equality & Inclusion – 15%
- Climate & Environment – 24%

What do you most need support with right now?

- Digital Access – 8%
- Employment Opportunities – 65%
- Staying Healthy – 12%
- Education / Careers Advice – 15%

What has the coronavirus pandemic affected the most?

- Education & Training – 30%
- Employment – 26%
- Health & Wellbeing – 25%
- Future Plans – 19%



# Key themes and issues – what young people have told us...

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The **GM Health & Social Care Partnership** have also been gathering issues and concerns raised by children and young people about returning to school or college:

## Concerns about the current situation

Struggling with lockdown

Bereavement

Keeping motivated

Sleep issues

## Worries about returning to school/college

Socialising with other learners

Safety measures in their place of learning

Fears over use of public transport

Impact on family members who are shielding/vulnerable

## Worries about the future

Employment / Job security (their own and their family members)

Loss of opportunity (e.g. exams, work experience, enrichment)

Not being able to catch up

Uncertainty over everything

# Development of the Youth Advisory Group & 4 themed Task Forces

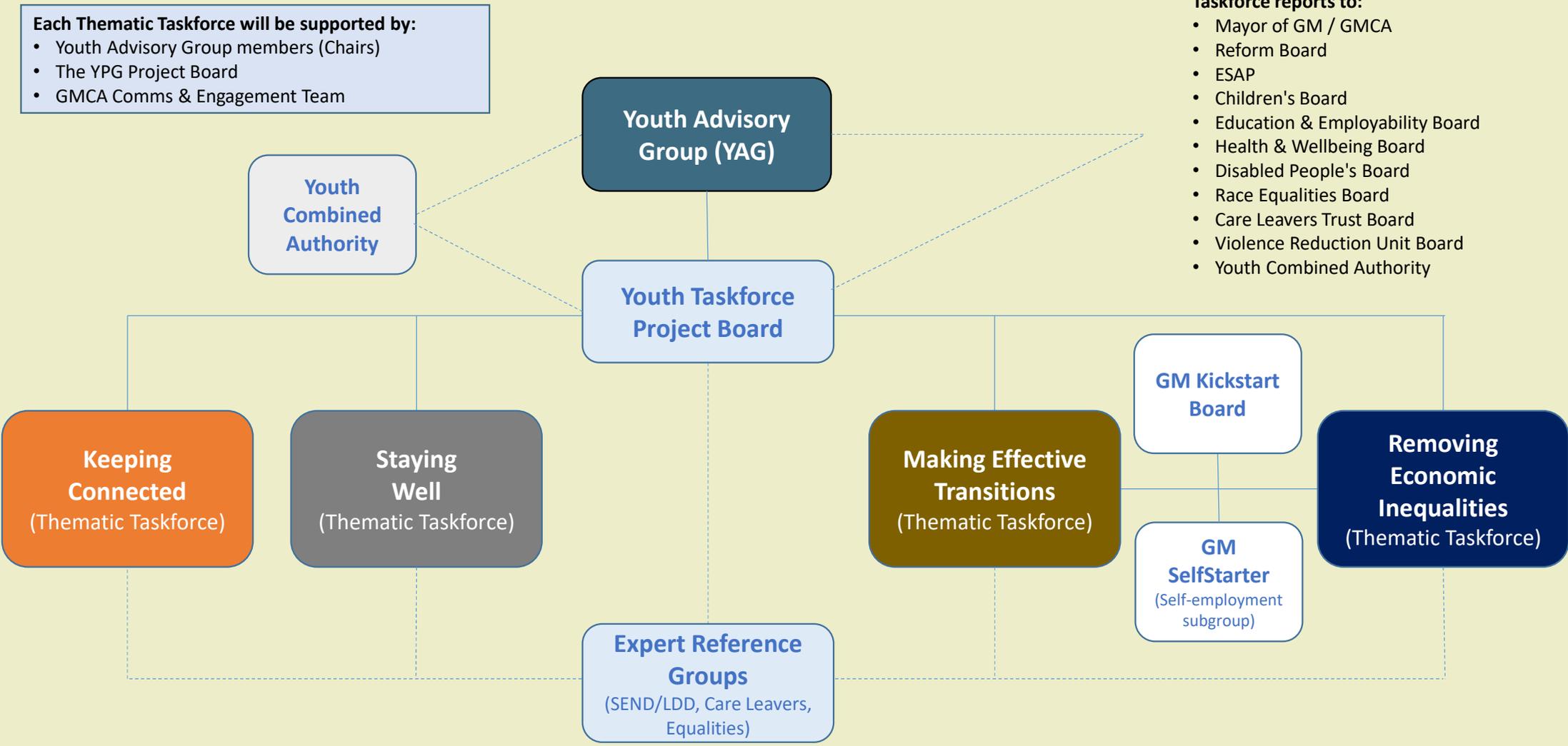
# Creating a Thematic Taskforce Structure

**Each Thematic Taskforce will be supported by:**

- Youth Advisory Group members (Chairs)
- The YPG Project Board
- GMCA Comms & Engagement Team

**Taskforce reports to:**

- Mayor of GM / GMCA
- Reform Board
- ESAP
- Children's Board
- Education & Employability Board
- Health & Wellbeing Board
- Disabled People's Board
- Race Equalities Board
- Care Leavers Trust Board
- Violence Reduction Unit Board
- Youth Combined Authority



# Role of the Youth Advisory Group

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- 24 young people from across GM (at least two members from each area)
- Ages ranging from 13 to 30
- Responsible for shaping the Guarantee and helping to determine the work-plan
- Members are connected to one theme and have been responsible for co-chairing Task Force meetings
- Contributing to development and delivery of the Guarantee – co-production, advocacy and challenge
- Contribution to the development of the refreshed GMACS website

## Meet some of our members:

"I hope that in working with the Greater Manchester YAG, I can accurately represent the wishes and needs of disabled people across the region in what we expect from the response to COVID-19. It is important to me that we overcome this crisis together!"

**Bobby**



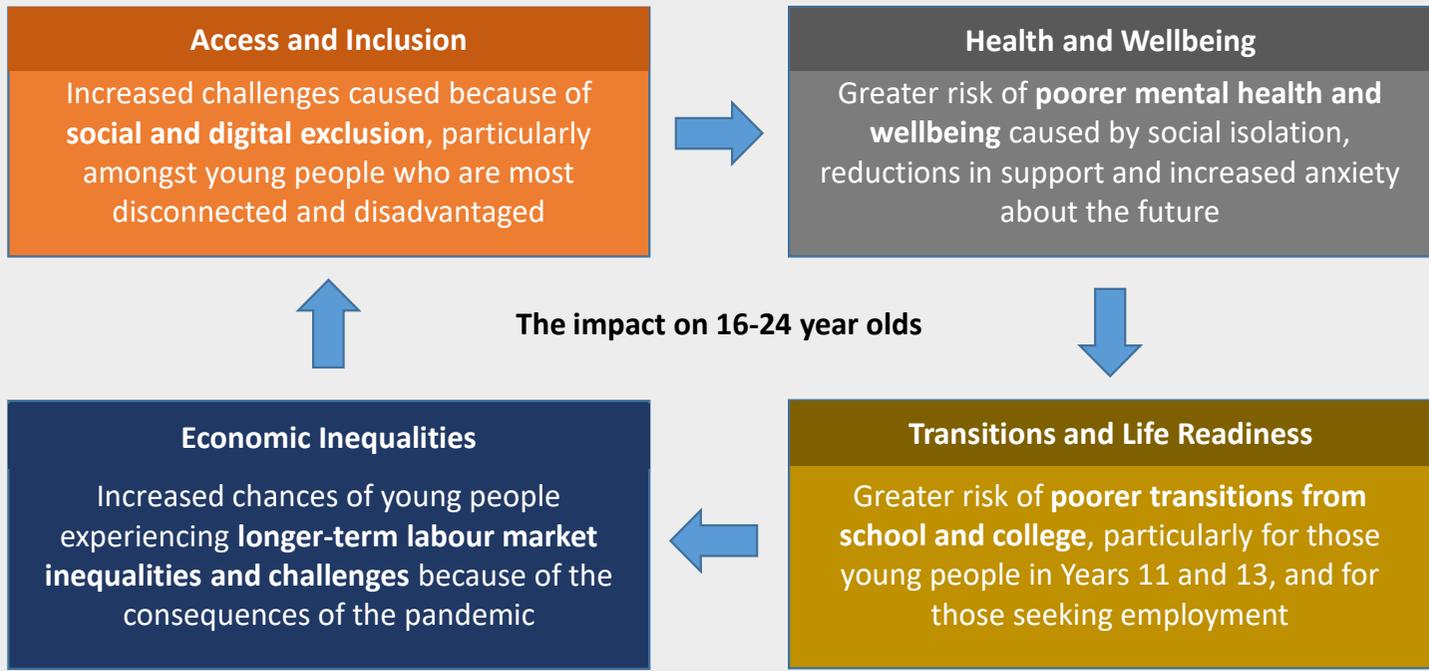
"I have truly been gifted a great opportunity to be part of the GM youth advisory group. I am very excited to be working with so many brilliant minds to ensure our post Covid 19 world is one that allows young people to thrive!"

**Faith**



Read about our other Youth Advisory Group members – and the work they have been doing to support and shape the Young Person's Guarantee – by going to: [www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/young-people/youth-task-force-and-young-persons-guarantee/youth-advisory-group/](http://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/young-people/youth-task-force-and-young-persons-guarantee/youth-advisory-group/)

# Understanding the impact of Covid-19 on our young people in GM: Key Themes and Numbers



Following the last recession, nearly 1 in 5 young people spent a period of time NEET in preceding year – a crisis that is similar or worse than this could result in **60,000 – 80,000 young people spending time NEET** over the next year

-  **44,000** – No. of 16-24 year olds in GM that spent some time NEET during 2018 based on GMCA estimates
-  **65,000** – No. of 16-24 year olds in GM that could become NEET over the next 12 months if the impact is similar to 2008
-  **80,000** – No. of 16-24 year olds in GM that could become NEET based on a 25% unemployment rate

- Why this matters?**
- Research from the Education and Employers Taskforce shows that a young person who has **four or more meaningful encounters with an employer is 86% less likely to be NEET** and can earn up to 22% more during their career.
  - Yet economic uncertainty caused by the Coronavirus has already resulted in **the majority of employers offering less opportunities to young people.**
  - Economic uncertainty and **labour market volatility has a greater impact on those individuals with less experience and/or fewer connections**, meaning many young people will face challenging conditions as we move forward
  - The impact on our socio-economic structures **requires a holistic and dynamic Guarantee for our young people**, covering access, inclusion, health, learning and employment

# The role of the Thematic Taskforce Groups

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- Four thematic Taskforce groups were established to help drive forward activity recommended by the Youth Advisory Group – these activities will be associated to the themes and issues highlighted by young people (and partners and stakeholders) during the consultation phase
- Each Taskforce contained partners and stakeholders that are responsible for progressing and/or contributing to the achievement of specific activities and outcomes contained with the Taskforce Delivery Plan
- The Taskforce groups met on a monthly basis – to review progress and identify areas of challenge and/or further development opportunities
- Each group was co-chaired by Diane Modahl and different members of the Youth Advisory Group

## **Task Force members were asked to work on three principle objectives:**

1. To explore and determine how existing services and support programmes could be used to respond to the issues and challenges set out by young people;
2. To identify and commit to developing and delivering new opportunities and commitments that add value to the Young Person's Guarantee; and
3. To generate a clear set of recommendations that set out the additional activity, resources and investment needed to tackle systematic issues and inequalities faced by young people in Greater Manchester.

# What will the impact of each Taskforce be?

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By November 2020, we expect the Young Person's Guarantee to have contributed to the following outcomes:

## Keeping Connected

- ✓ Fewer young people feel digitally excluded
- ✓ More young people feel safe and secure using public and/or alternative transport methods
- ✓ More young people have access to support that helps them to travel and access opportunities in GM

## Staying Well

- ✓ More opportunities have been made available for young people to positively contribute to society and/or their local community
- ✓ More young people know where to access support for their mental health, physical health and wellbeing

## Making Effective Transitions

- ✓ More young people are able to make well-informed choices about their next steps and/or future careers
- ✓ More young people feel better prepared for work and adult life
- ✓ More young people have access to pathways back into education, training and employment for all young people who are unemployed
- ✓ Young people have access to support if they are interested in becoming self-employed

## Reducing Economic Inequalities

- ✓ Employers have the confidence and support to recruit young people into quality jobs and apprenticeships
- ✓ More employers are offering workplace experiences to young people through schools and colleges
- ✓ More disadvantaged young people are benefiting from the availability of paid employment opportunities and apprenticeships

# Bringing together the Commitments

# Delivery Phases

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1

**Commitments:** Maximising the current offer in GM by raising awareness, engagement and impact through existing assets and tangible resources

2

**Developments:** Identifying and developing new programmes and initiatives that can be delivered to young people in the short to medium term

3

**Recommendations:** Identifying areas where further support and/or investment is needed to progress activity and improve outcomes for young people in GM

# Phase 1: Maximising the current offer in GM through tangible commitments

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Organisations and services from across Greater Manchester are already working hard to develop and respond to what young people have asked for.

Through the Guarantee, we want to encourage more organisations to commit their support to young people and raise awareness about the great work that is already happening to help young people progress and prosper across the city-region

**We have made a commitment  
to support Greater  
Manchester's Guarantee  
for young people.**

#GMYPG

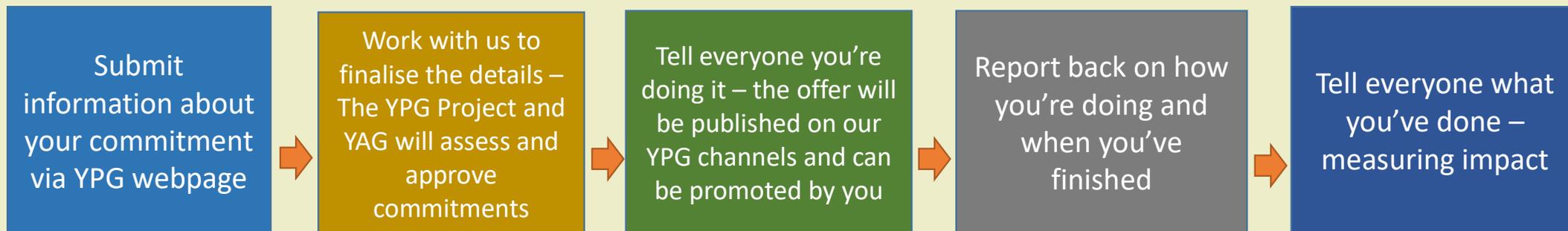
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## Making a Commitment

You can find out how to make a commitment by going to our Commitment Webpage:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/young-people/youth-task-force-and-young-persons-guarantee/commitments/>

## Organisational Commitment Process: Plus some amazing commitments already made!!



**The Prince's Trust has committed to support young people in Greater Manchester by investing £250k to help drive forward parts of the Young Person's Guarantee**

#GMYPG

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**Vodafone has committed to offer data packages to disadvantaged young people as part of the GM Tech Fund**

**UA92 has committed to support young people in Greater Manchester by offering 92 grants of £5,000 to help them access higher education.**

#GMYPG

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**A 2nd Creative Care Kit has been released to help over 21k digitally disadvantaged young people engage in social action**

**GM Housing Partners offering at least 100 opportunities to young people as part of the Kickstart Scheme**

**TfGM are continuing to deliver the Apprentice 'Bike to Work' Scheme and their Cycle Confidence Scheme**

# Next Steps & beyond

**DRAFT: Where are the gaps/Recommendations: where do we need to focus from what Young People have said?**

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**Keeping  
Connected**

**Staying  
Well**

**Making Effective  
Transitions**

**Removing Economic  
Inequalities**

- digital kit – and places where young people can go to learn how to maximise their use
- access points – both physical and digital, and in their localities – to connect with opportunities and to get advice and guidance
- visible, diverse, inspirational leaders, role models and mentors
- control over shaping and delivering the services and opportunities that they want in their own localities
- employers to be supported to be better able to connect with the full diversity of talented young people across Greater Manchester – and to give currently marginalised young people the skills and confidence they need to take full advantage of all the opportunities available
- leaders in education to be on the front foot in ensuring the curriculum in Greater Manchester transforms in response to the structural changes happening at pace in business.

## Next Steps

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### Timeline:

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Now/4<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Report and draft recommendations to go through GM Leadership groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Further refinement of the recommendations based on the gaps identified</li><li>• 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Scrutiny</li><li>• 9<sup>th</sup> Dec – Wider Leadership Team</li></ul> |
| <b>10<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Social / press campaign begins</b>  |
| <b>15<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Final report published for Leaders</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To coincide with the publication of latest labour market statistics)</li><li>• To include an uplift of social / PR campaign led by the Mayor, Leaders, young people and Task Force members</li></ul>           |
| <b>19<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Final report published by GMCA with content uploaded to GMACS</b>   |

### Other key activity:

- Offers and opportunities for young people will continue to be uploaded onto GMACS and shared via other appropriate communication channels
- Task Force members and other strategic partners & stakeholders will be asked to review and respond to the recommendations issued in the report
- Recommendations need to be viewed in terms of where are there current levers & then what requires further exploration/agreement
- Actions will be progressed from January 2021