
Youth Sector Leadership Group (YSLG) Governance Group Terms of Reference

1. Vision

Young people have the resilience, skills, confidence and connections to develop, and participate positively in the community.

Ka pū te ruha ka hao te rangatahi
Let the young net replace the weary net

2. Purpose

To connect, collaborate and advocate to inspire positive outcomes for and with rangatahi in the Nelson region.

3. Values

Advocacy for our rangatahi
Whanau focussed
Hauora is key
Inclusive approach

4. Background

The Nelson Youth Strategy was created in 2017 and supported by a youth action plan following consultation with a large number of young people and community groups to progress the scope of:

- Identifying young people's (12-24 years) needs in the Nelson region.
- Setting a clear direction for NCC.
- Finding partners to work with.
- Guiding future support for youth development and activities.

The Youth Sector Leadership Group was formed in 2018, to provide direction in the identification of projects and initiatives which empower young people, whilst consistent with a community led development approach. Considerations are that Youth development:

- Is shaped by the big picture.
- Is based on a consistent strengths based approach.
- Is about young people being connected.
- Happens through quality relationships.
- Is triggered when young people fully participate.
- Needs good information.

5. Term

The Youth Sector Leadership Governance Group will be established from 1 July 2018 and continue until agreement is reached between stakeholders to terminate the Group.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

- Work collaboratively with young people aged 12-24 years.
- Provide leadership, vision, direction and focus on behalf of the Nelson youth sector to recommend on funding projects delivered to the Group for consideration.
- Identify and allocate resources to meet the Nelson City Council Youth Strategy goals in order to deliver planned activities. These goals are:
 - Positive Youth Development
 - Quality Relationships, Connections and Pathways
 - Physical Environment and Services
 - Active Youth Citizenship
- Utilise relevant insights and data to make informed decisions about funding initiatives relating to young people's needs.
- Provide an advocacy role on youth projects.
- Ensure engagement with multiple stakeholders.
- Make recommendations to Council on the allocation of Nelson City Funding.
- Allocate funding from alternate sources.
- Report on status of projects.
- Advise stakeholders on timing for funding and availability of funding.
- Prudently manage and report transparently on funding provided for projects by NCC or other funders.
- Bring in, where required, external expertise to assist in decision making where applicable.

7. Membership

There will be a maximum of 7 representatives on the YSLG Governance Group, comprising:

- a. 2 young people.
- b. 5 members representing a cross section of community based organisations.

Young people selected in year 1 will serve from July 2018 until Monday 28 January (being the beginning of Term 1 2019), when re selection will occur for a period of 1 year. Conversely, the term of the first young person elected may be for an initial 18 month period.

The 5 initial members in b. above will be independently selected by 4 cross community sector representatives of the inaugural YSLG who will not be part of the first Governance Group. This selection panel of 4 will include 1 young person.

8. Terms of Office

Each member will serve a maximum of 2 years. To ensure continuity, 2 positions will be up for re election after 2 years with the remaining 3 positions after 3 years. Young people's representatives however, shall serve for a term of 1 year.

No member shall serve for greater than 3 terms.

Co-opting an additional member onto the Group for a period of no longer than 1 year will be considered based on skill set needs being identified.

In the event of a member resigning from the Group, nominations for a replacement will be taken for consideration by the Governance Group.

9. Meetings

The Group will convene, ideally, in person at least once each month unless agreement is reached to meet more frequently. Video or phone conferencing will be considered for those not able to attend in person. A quorum of 4 attendees minimum is required.

In the absence of the Chair, a designate will be selected by the Group to chair proceedings.

10. Expectation of members

The Governance Group members are expected to:

- a. Attend each meeting unless extenuating circumstances dictate otherwise.
- b. Prepare adequately for each meeting by reading any material provided in advance.
- c. Bring perspectives to the Group based on their experiences and areas of community expertise, whilst ensuring they do not act as representatives or advocates for particular interests or community projects.
- d. Declare any conflicts of interest.
- e. Send a proxy on their behalf if unable to attend a meeting.

11. The Chair will be elected by the members and is expected to:

- a. Chair meetings.
- b. Ensure the agenda is organised.
- c. Determine appropriate action if a potential conflict of interest arises from a member of the Group.
- d. Maintain an effective relationship with NCC representatives and funders.
- e. Oversee the development of the Group's decisions.

12. Working Groups

Working groups focused on the Nelson City Council Youth Strategy Goals may be established to review projects brought to the Governance Group for consideration. The scope will be clearly established for each working group/subcommittee. These will be formed based on the need at any time and disbanded as appropriate.

13. Amendment, modification or variation

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by the Group members.

