

Youth Advisory Council – NSW

Overview

- The Core Priorities for Action are currently positioning young people as a problem to be solved. Young people should be positioned as the solution
- Online consultation is not an effective at reach broad range of young people (particularly not good for indigenous and rural young people) there should be a priority area devoted to meeting their needs.
- Key priority areas should included homelessness, employment opportunities, mental health, rural youth transport, education wellbeing, young carers

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- Greater focus on access to (transport, Centrelink, accommodation and entry requirements)
- Alternative studies and entry routes and more affordable short courses
- a responsive curriculum and increasing support staff and counsellors in schools.

Mobilising Young Australian in their Communités

- young people are active in their communities but don't view themselves as volunteers. young carers are often not recognised
- Barrier to volunteering need to be removed lack of information, transport, safety and cost.

Online participate safety etc

- The Council understands this to be focussed on Cyberbullying.
- terms like 'enabling' suggest the internet is not a young person's domain. The Council suggests the use of 'empowering young people to participate safely and confidently'.

Equipping Young Australians with the Skills and Personal Networks they need for Employment

- young people need employment support and consistently good careers advice.
- need improved support by and access to Centrelink.

Early intervention etc

- young people's lives are mostly on track this is incongruous with the next priority (punishment).
- Strengthening early intervention needs to specify the areas(such as violence, mental health)
- support the one-stop-shop approach where young people can access a variety of support and services in one location specifically tailored to their needs.

Legal consequences

- existing laws and Juvenile Justice Programs already clearly define consequences for behaviours.
- A focus on prevention and early intervention, especially for young people with mental health issues is important
- Identifying risk factors early and responding with community based programs is important.
- Indigenous Australians have alternative justice responses that are meaningful and effective for dealing with behaviour that endangers others.