

Be an effective Youth Officer

An enthusiastic and dedicated Youth Officer can ensure a Constituency Labour Party (CLP) continues to encourage and support young members. This role suits a passionate, personable individual who is committed to leading on and promoting the activities of local young members.

As Youth Officer you will take the lead on recruiting and engaging young people, ensuring that young members get as much as they possibly can out of their membership and have their say.

Leadership

The role of Youth Officer may sound like a lot of work, but everything you do can lead to a big difference. Being a Youth Officer for a CLP is a fantastic opportunity to meet new people and have fun, rewarding experiences. As Youth Officer, you are directly shaping the future and direction of the Labour Party and politics!

Getting Started

- Ask your CLP Secretary if they can provide you with contact details for all young members so you can keep them up to date with local activities
- As Youth Officer, you should take time to familiarise yourself with the rates of membership. The Labour Party offers special rates for young members - this includes everybody under the age of 27:
 - For those between the ages of 14-19: £1 per year
 - For those between the ages of 20-26: £1 per month (£12 per year)
- You can also find and purchase a host of membership recruitment and campaign materials from Labour's Campaign Shop at <http://shop.labour.org.uk>

Key Responsibilities

As Youth Officer you have a responsibility to:

- Recruit and retain young members. The best way to recruit new members is to be visible, accessible and campaign on issues that young people care about. You should consider how best to make your Young Labour group visible and high-profile.
- Keep young members active and informed of all activity. This can include supporting delegates to attend youth conference, supporting any campaigns young members want to run, and more generally ensuring young members are included in all of the activities of the local party.
- Organise events for young members and other local young people. Accessible times, central locations, interesting meeting formats and a welcoming atmosphere are also very important when organising events.
- Represent and promote the views of all young members. It is your responsibility to promote the interests of young members and ensure your local party properly supports its young members at all times.
- Lead campaigns on matters effecting young people in your area.
- Coordinate with other sections of the party on youth issues

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Meetings

Local meetings are a fantastic opportunity to engage with young members and promote activity. At each CLP meeting, you should:

- Actively encourage every young member to contribute to any discussions and find out more about their interests.
- Work with young members to plan new and creative ways to increase membership participation and new methods of recruitment.
- Report what activity you have been doing to increase retention, recruitment and engagement of young members - and be sure to get the rest of the CLP involved!
- Champion the rights of every young member and be sure to help facilitate their membership experiences and aspirations.

Useful links

Young Labour, the youth wing of the Labour Party and home for progressive young people, can be found online at: www.younglabour.org.uk

Every region has a representative on Young Labour National Committee, who supports youth activities in their region and can provide advice and support to you. To find out who your regional representative is and contact them go to:

www.younglabour.org.uk/yourinc

Every region also has a young member to represent them on the National Policy Forum. It is important that you feed back to NPF Youth Reps the outcomes of young member policy discussions in your area. To find out who your regional representative is and contact them go to: <http://www.younglabour.org.uk/national-policy-forum-youth-representatives>

Contact your local Labour Student Club to get them to encourage their members to get involved in the CLP. You can do this by contacting Labour Students through their website: <http://www.younglabour.org.uk/>

Holding joint events and campaigns with a club is a great way to increase participation in your local party.

The Labour Party has a huge range of training and best practice examples available. So if you would like to know more about community organising, reaching out to new members or campaign planning go to <http://www.members.labour.org.uk/training-academy>

If you need any further advice, have questions please get in contact with the national Youth Officer, Dean Carlin on younglabour@labour.org.uk