



INTRODUCTION

What is Young Crawley?

Young Crawley is a brand new consortium of charities and voluntary organisations working with children, young people and families in Crawley. It was set up to provide an easy way for statutory partners and funders to work with the diverse range of voluntary organisations in the town, and to work together to design and deliver services and activities that improve the lives of Crawley's children, young people and families. It has a growing membership and includes a diverse range of local charities large and small.

INFORMATION FOR THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR

How does it work?

CCVS is the Lead Agent for Young Crawley, which means it is responsible for developing the consortium, supporting members, and managing any contract which Young Crawley holds. Any charity or voluntary organisation working with children, young people and families in Crawley, and meeting certain basic requirements (eg has a constitution, equal opportunities policy, safeguarding policy etc) may become a member of Young Crawley. Young Crawley will be in touch with members with relevant news and updates at least quarterly, but more often if a potential opportunity to bid together to work on a new project comes up. In that case, members who are contract ready (by that we mean have reached a standard equivalent to SQP Bronze level*) are given the opportunity to be a part of a bid or new project proposal. Members are free to opt in, or to opt out of any new project.

**Where needed, Young Crawley will support you to become "contract-ready".*

If you opt in, and that particular Young Crawley bid is successful, your organisation will become a Contract Partner, with certain requirements and responsibilities which will be laid out in the contract. However, as Lead Agent, CCVS will bear the responsibility and risk associated with managing that contract. Your organisation will be free to concentrate on its services and activities.

How do I become a member?

Becoming a member is simple. You need to provide the following things:

- A completed and signed Member Agreement form
- A completed Member Information form

In addition to copies of your:

- Constitution
- Equal Opportunities policy
- Health & Safety policy
- Safeguarding policy
- Public Liability Insurance (up to £5m)

CCVS can provide you with the Member forms, and help you if you have any questions about the documents needed.

How will Young Crawley benefit my organisation?

There are many benefits that go hand in hand with being part of a consortium like Young Crawley.

- We are stronger together. When we work together, we have a more powerful voice, are able to share ideas and resources, and use our combined expertise and experience to provide the best possible services and activities for Crawley's children, young people and families.
- It creates fair opportunities for organisations big and small. All members of Young Crawley have an equal voice. Whether you are a large, national charity, or a small neighbourhood group, you have an opportunity to influence and play a role in Young Crawley.
- It provides a single access point for funders and commissioners and means you will be ready for new ways of funding. The funding landscape is changing. Grants and pots of money for individual organisations are still there, but more and more, large commissioned contracts are likely to be the order of the day. Smaller charities and voluntary organisations could miss out. Being a part of Young Crawley gives you the potential to benefit from new ways of funding.
- It keeps services and activities local. We want to encourage commissioners and funders to see the value of the local, grassroots activities already happening in Crawley. But they haven't got the resources to deal with every organisation individually. Young Crawley will raise the profile of local activity, and work to draw funding down to resource it.

Are there any disadvantages?

The risks associated with becoming a member of Young Crawley are very small.

- The key risk is reputational. If you are a member, and something goes wrong with the consortium, your charity or voluntary organisation's reputation may suffer damage by association.
- Young Crawley is open to a diverse range of organisations, which means there will be lots of personalities onboard. Working in partnership is not always an easy process, and there is likely to be some conflict and a few bumps in the road along the way. We have policies in place to help us deal with that, but we're going to have to work things out as we go along.
- There are no guarantees. Our aim is to attract funding for the delivery of effective voluntary sector services for children, young people and families in Crawley. We hope and believe we will be successful, and have received excellent feedback from statutory partners, but we can't give you any guarantees.
- Once you are a member of Young Crawley, it is up to you to decide if you wish to become a Contract Partner. Once you are part of any contract, your responsibilities, and the risks associated are likely to increase. However, these responsibilities and risks will be laid out clearly for you to consider before you commit to them.

INFORMATION FOR THE STATUTORY SECTOR

How does it work?

Crawley Community & Voluntary Service (CCVS) is the Lead Agent for Young Crawley, which means it is responsible for developing the consortium, supporting members, liaising with statutory partners and funders, and acting as prime accountable contractor for any contract which Young Crawley holds. Young Crawley is one way that statutory partners can work in partnership with a diverse range of voluntary organisations in the town through a single point of contact. Working closely with statutory partners, it aims to:

- Identify local needs and gaps in services, and communicate this information on a regular basis to key policy/decision-makers;
- Play a key role in designing relevant new integrated services for children, young people and families in the town;
- Draw down funding to resource the delivery of these services in Crawley.

How will we communicate effectively with you?

As we've developed Young Crawley, we've taken a long, hard look at current communication/networking structures in the town, and have made some changes to the way they operate. We want to ensure more effective communication and collaboration, not only between the people working on the ground with children, young people and families, but also between the voluntary and statutory sectors. But we don't want to create a whole new set of meetings for people to attend.

You'll find a diagram explaining how we'd like to work together on page 4 of this document. In a nutshell, the people working on the ground will have the opportunity to be a part of local forums with either a youth focus, or a children & family focus. These will be a place for information sharing, partnership working and a joint assessment of local needs and gaps in services. Through Young Crawley, relevant information will be fed up to a group of statutory partners, known as the Young Crawley Strategic Reference Group. This group will in turn pass information about priorities/statutory projects/upcoming policy and commissioning timescales etc through Young Crawley to the forums.

How can you be involved?

You can play a role in Young Crawley by becoming a member of the Young Crawley Strategic Reference Group. This will involve:

- Receiving brief quarterly e-mail updates from Young Crawley giving you a picture of local activity, needs and priorities for children, young people and families in the town;
- Communicating with Young Crawley about your own projects, priorities, policy and commissioning intentions;
- Attending a Young Crawley annual event, which underpins our virtual communication through the year by bringing everyone together to network and share information.

Apart from the annual event, members of the Strategic Reference Group will not be asked to attend any meetings. We want to improve our communication with you, without adding pressure to everyone's busy schedules. You would of course be welcome at any of the regular forum meetings, and if you have a particular interest in getting more hands-on with Young Crawley, there is an opportunity to be a part of the Young Crawley Steering Group, but that is something we would need to discuss with you in person.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Would you like to know more about Young Crawley?

To discuss any of this further, or for more information about Young Crawley, contact:

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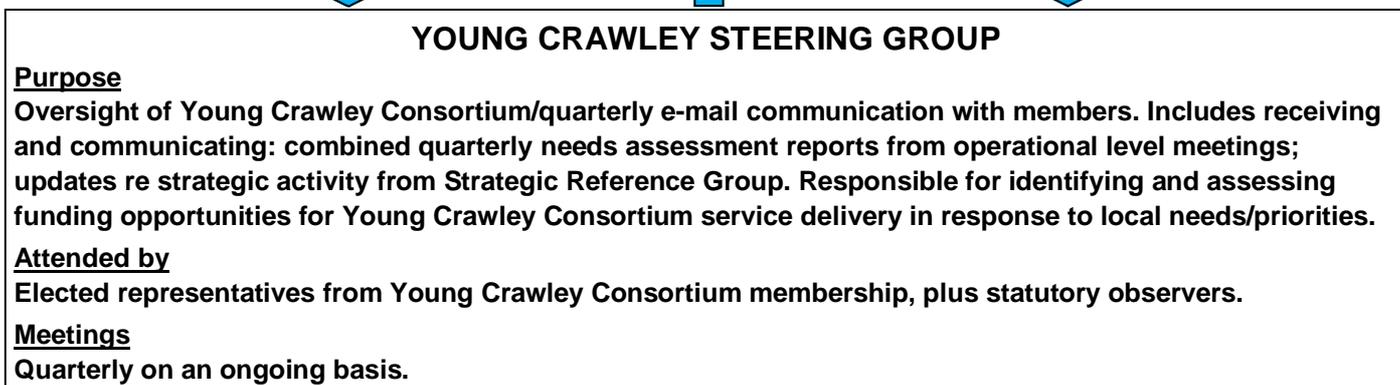
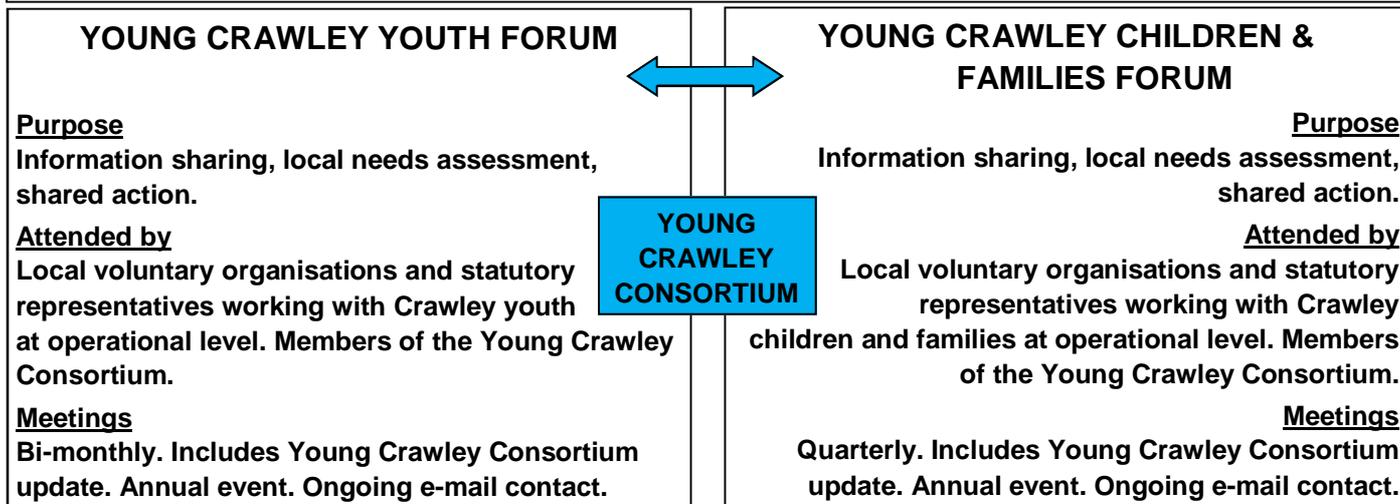
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YOUNG CRAWLEY

Bringing it all together

OPERATIONAL LEVEL



STRATEGIC LEVEL

