### **Youth Involvement Update**

## **Meet our Youth Voice Coordinator**

"I'm Evie, Youth Voice Coordinator for Career Connect. I advocate on behalf of young people across Manchester, Liverpool and Merseyside, empowering them to share their voices with us.

It's vital that young people are involved in our decision-making processes, so that we make positive changes, delivering the services they want and need.

I'm fortunate enough to work alongside some amazing young people who've been through hardships but are still resilient and positive."



**Evie Chambers, Youth Voice Coordinator for Career Connect** 

"I love that I learn new things about our young people every day and that I get to help them have their voices listened to.

Before Career Connect, I was a sixth form teacher and studied Law at University.

I believe in embracing every opportunity to make a difference in not only your life, but the lives of others too."

So, here's what we've been up to recently to help young people...



### **Young Trustees**

Earlier this year, we appointed our first Young Trustees to our Board of Directors. Nina Ma (left) and Eloise Boye (right) are both passionate about improving the lives of young people and they are here to ensure young people's voices are heard at every level in Career Connect.



"I enjoyed working at Career Connect. It helped me to develop skills and become more confident, I am starting a new job with the Civil Service and I wanted to say thank you for your help and support."

"I have grown in confidence after having this opportunity.
I now know that I want to carry on and work with other young people, to help them find work."

**Feedback from our Kickstarters** 

#### **Kickstart Opportunities**

We've offered 30 places to young people as part of the Kickstart programme. The opportunities included working at Career Connect in Finance, IT, Human Resources and our community-based teams.

Every young person who joined us has either continued to work for Career Connect or has found another job.

### What's Coming Up?

That's not all we're doing. The next few months will see more action that puts the needs of young people firmly at the heart of what we do...

# Finding out what young people need

We've been talking to young people across Liverpool, Merseyside, Manchester & Salford, asking what's important to them when they use our services and what other types of services they need.

They tell us easy-to-access services, friendly staff who understand their needs, and making it easier to get more help are all important factors. So, too, is getting to know their adviser, seeing them regularly and feeling comfortable enough to discuss any problems or concerns they have.



#### **Greater Manchester**

Young people told us the following elements were important to them:

Consistency & the chance to build relationships with careers advisers

Getting help at the right time

Support & understanding to help navigate personal difficulties

In Greater Manchester, young people's feedback was crucial when we developed our 'Connect To Your Future' programme - helping those badly impacted by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic who are not in education, employment or training.





#### **A New Youth Agreement**

Based on the feedback we've received from young people across the region, we have developed a youth agreement. It explains when, how and why we include young people in our services, and what they can expect from us.

Look out for our youth agreement, which will be on our website soon.

#### We believe young people:

MUST & will be listened to

Have the right to have a say in the services we deliver

are equally entitled to have a voice in what we do

#### **Youth Voice Ambassadors**

#### **Applications Opening Soon**

In September we'll be inviting young people from across the region to become one of our Youth Voice Ambassadors. Each ambassador will play a role in helping to develop our services, so that we provide the support that young people need.

Watch this website and our social media channels for more news coming soon.

## How can you help?

We want to hear from young people, to learn more about what is important and how we can make our services better.

Do you have an idea, feedback or suggestion?

To share your views and find out how you can get involved in our Youth Voice work

Contact Evie Chambers







