

Youth Board Chair

Welcome

The Mix is looking to recruit a new Youth Board to strengthen our existing Youth Voice Programme. The Youth Board will ensure that young people are represented throughout all levels of the charity.

The Mix has a strong youth voice network, with young people involved across all areas of our charity. Young people influence our support, content, and campaigns, and we also have two young trustees who ensure that young people's perspectives are represented with our board of trustees.

The Youth Board will make a direct link between our youth voice work and how decisions are made across the charity. Working alongside The Mix's senior management team and advising our board of trustees, The Mix's Youth Board will play a vital role in shaping the charity's direction.

We are looking for a young person to provide leadership to The Mix's Youth Board through a chair role. You will be aged between 16-25 years old and be passionate about issues which impact young people and feel ready to advocate for young people at a charity governance level.

About The Mix

Life's tough, we know that. It can throw a lot your way and make it hard to know what the hell to do with it all.

So, welcome to The Mix. Whether you're 13, 25, or any age in between, we're here to take on the embarrassing problems, weird questions, and please-don't-make-me-say-it-out-loud thoughts you have. We give you the information and support you need to deal with it all. Because you can. Because you're awesome.

We'll connect you to experts and your peers who'll give you the support and tools you need to take on any challenge you're facing – for everything from homelessness to finding a job, from money to mental health, from break-ups to drugs.

We're a free and confidential multi-channel service. That means that you choose how you access our support, without the worry of anyone else finding out. Whether it be through our [articles](#) and [video](#) content online or our [phone, email, peer to peer](#) and [counselling services](#) – we put the control in your hands. You can even [volunteer](#) with us too.

We want to be the first-place young people turn to get support. We're here whenever you need us, wherever you are. We can ensure you have all the best information to make the right choices for yourself.

Life is hard, but support doesn't have to be. We've got this.

Vision, Mission and Values

What we do: The Mix is here to take on the embarrassing problems, weird questions, and please-don't-make-me-say-it-out-loud thoughts that people under 25 have in order to give them the best support through our digital and phone services.

Vision: To create a world in which every young person is equipped to deal with the ups and downs of life.

Mission: To be the first place any young person turns for help or information they need to thrive

Values:

- **Empowering** – We support young people to speak out, to take part and to take control of their lives.
- **Brave** - we talk about everything to reflect the real lives of young people.
- **Collaborative** - we work with others to achieve the best outcomes.
- **Inclusive** – We welcome all young people from all backgrounds and circumstances
- **Non-judgemental** – we are open minded; we do not criticise or blame.

Role Description

Role title:	Youth Board Chair
Reporting to:	The Mix Trustee Chair and The Mix CEO
Department:	Youth Board

What is The Mix's Youth Board?

The Mix's Youth Board is being created to ensure a direct link between our youth voice work and how decisions are made across the charity. The Youth Board will be made up of 5-8 under 25's who will represent the views and perspectives of young people at The Mix's decision-making level.

The Youth Board will work collaboratively alongside The Mix's senior management team and the Board of Trustees to ensure that young people's voices and perspectives are being heard across every level of the organisation.

It will be made up of young volunteers with different skills, backgrounds, interests, and experiences. The more diverse our Youth Board is the stronger it is.

To start with, the Youth Board will be responsible for,

- Ensuring the young people are heard throughout every level of the organisation
- Ensuring a diverse group of young people's needs are met through The Mix's annual strategy
- Decide how decisions are made with the Board of Trustees and senior management team to ensure that the Youth Board's has a meaningful role and influence.

The Mix's Youth Board will initially meet 5 times a year in line with when the Board of Trustees meets, these meetings will be online, with the opportunity to meet in person across the year. Along with bi-monthly meetings, our youth board members will also sit on some sub-committees which meet before each board of trustees meeting. The sub-committees take care of a certain part of the charity such as finance, or governance and work with our Senior Management Team and Board of Trustees members to ensure that things are running smoothly.

Impact of being a Youth Board Member:

- Be at the forefront of ensuring that young people have access to vital support services.
- Help set the direction of a charity which has a reach of over 4 million young people
- Ensure that The Mix's board of trustees are holding young people at the centre of their work.

Benefits of being a Youth Board Member:

- Learn vital governance and leadership skills
- Learn how a charity operates and what goes into growing a charity
- You will receive mentoring from people who are leaders in their field
- Will build up your CV and networking skills for future employment

Overall purpose of this role:

To work with The Mix's senior management team to ensure that young people's perspectives are considered in our strategy; and make sure the charity continues to meet the changing needs of young people.

Specifically, the Youth Board Chair role is to help recruit and establish a diverse Youth Board within the charity alongside senior management team, CEO, Board of Trustees Chair and Head of Youth Voice.

We do not expect youth board members to have experience or ready skills in charity governance; you will develop these skills in a supported environment as you serve. We are specifically interested in young people who have a passion for advocating for young people's rights, understand the value of access to digital support services and can commit the time needed for this role to be successful.

Youth Board key areas of responsibility:

- Commit to attending 5 youth board meetings a year and giving time in between meetings to various projects.
- Attend training sessions which will help you to thrive within your role in the board of trustees.
- In collaboration with The Mix's youth voice team carry out consultations to ensure that you are representing not only your own voice at this level but the voices of many young people.
- In collaboration with The Mix's CEO and senior management team lead the development of our annual strategy planning process.
- Be willing to bring your perspective to decision making at the governance level.
- Operate as an advisory board to The Mix's senior management team and board of trustees.
- Use your knowledge of youth-led activism and leadership to help inform the way the board of trustees listens to and works with the youth board.
- Contribute insight to the shaping of innovative service solutions that meet the needs of young people.
- Champion the needs of young people and their involvement in the delivery of our services.
- Act as an ambassador for our work and make introductions where appropriate.
- Build connections and share learnings with other youth boards and councils across the UK.
- Ensure that the insights from The Mix's youth voice structure, which inform strategy development, are interpreted correctly.

Youth Board Chair key areas of responsibility:

- Supporting the strategy of the organisation and ensure that the Youth Board are meeting and having an impact.
- Ensure effective leadership of the Youth Board to meet strategic responsibilities, ensuring balanced discussions and impartial decision making.
- Shaping the annual cycle of youth board meetings, chairing, and facilitation of the meetings
- Ensuring actions and decisions by the Youth Board are followed up by staff, trustees, and youth board members
- Shape the development of the Youth Board with the CEO and BoT chair to ensure a diverse range of young people are represented and included.

- Liaising with the senior management team to keep an overview of the organisation's youth voice work
- Adapting practices on the youth board to ensure that it is accessible for young people of all abilities and backgrounds
- Oversee the communication of the work and decisions of the youth board with the wider youth voice network within The Mix through monthly updates.

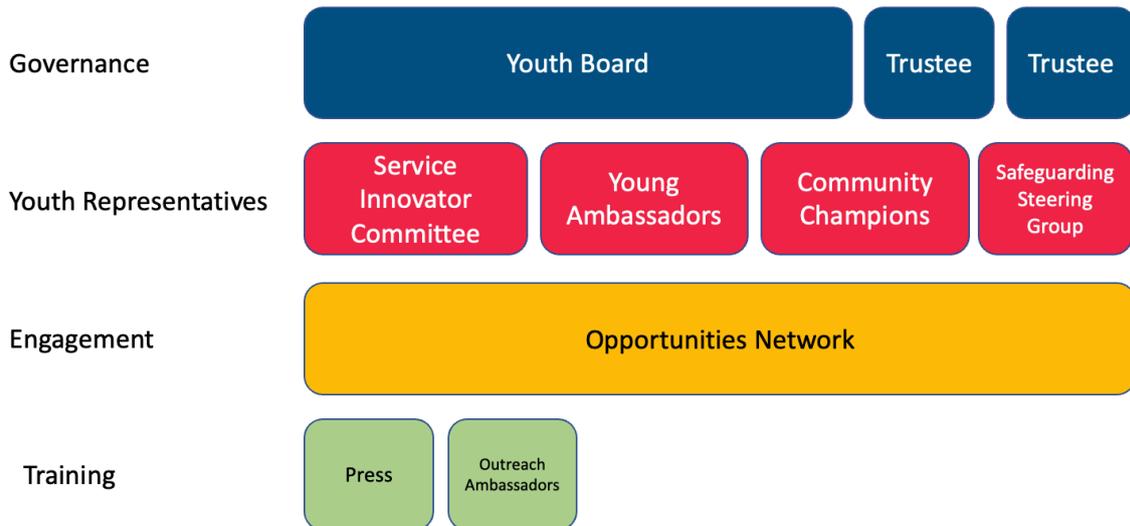
Time commitment

We would like this role to commit at least 18 months while we establish the youth board. We envisage that the chair will commit the equivalent of about 10 days per year to The Mix, though we understand this may vary depending on your circumstances.

- Youth Board meeting bi-monthly – approx. 1-2 x5 days overall
- Sub-committee meetings prior to board meetings every 2 months - 1 day overall
- Ad hoc meetings as required, calls with CEO & BoT Chair– approx. 1.5 days overall

The Mix's Youth Voice Framework

Below are the different ways young people can get involved at The Mix. The aim is to have lots of options and choices for young people depending on what level of involvement they would like, and in what area.



Person Specification

We are looking for a passionate young person, who has good organisational skills and wants to develop their leadership skills. Most importantly you will be passionate about advocating for the voices of young people.

- Passionate about the need to support and advocate for young people.
- Commitment to the vital role of digital in engaging young people.
- Ability to speak on issues which affect young people in the UK.
- Able to act as an ambassador for The Mix online and at events.
- Interest in youth sector and youth issues.
- A willingness to learn about charity governance.
- Curious, inquisitive, and open to a new learning opportunity.
- Understanding of digital platforms used by young people e.g. Tiktok (growing activists)
- Well-connected within the youth/ charity sector.
- Understanding or experience in volunteering, youth activism or youth leadership opportunities

At The Mix, we are fully committed to creating an inclusive and diverse Youth Board. A more diverse youth board will:

- Understand better the needs of young people.
- Offer a broader range of perspectives about issues faced by young people.
- Be more creative in generating ideas and solutions.
- Improve decision making.

To this end we are seeking applications from individuals with a diversity of experience and perspectives, including age, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic and cultural background.

Terms and Conditions

Salary:	This role is voluntary
Term:	For the first youth board chair we would like someone to commit to at least eighteen months – 2 years for the establishment of the Youth Board
Location:	Meetings will be held at The Mix's offices in London EC1V. Unless it is unsafe to do so with Covid, in which case they will be online.
Expenses:	The Mix will reimburse you for expenses, such as travel expenses when meetings are face to face

How to apply:

To apply, please provide an answer to the following four questions, and send your answers along with a diversity and monitoring form to: youthvoice@themix.org.uk.

You can type your answers and email them to us, or if you would rather answer the questions via a video or other creative means, please feel free to do so and we will support you to upload this via we transfer.

Insert questions here:

1. Why do you want to be the chair of the youth board at The Mix and why do you care about our mission? (250 words)
2. What would you like to gain from this experience? (50-150) words
3. What do you think makes a good charity trustee? (250)
4. What do you think young people need from the charity sector (300 words)

Recruitment Timetable

5 th of June 2022	<i>Deadline for applications</i>
w/c 23 rd May 2022	<i>Drop-in session to ask any questions</i>
10 th of June 2022	<i>Candidates invited for an interview</i>
15 th -22 nd of June 2022	<i>Interviews will take place via Microsoft Teams</i>
30 th of June 2022	<i>Candidates informed of the outcome of their application</i>

The Mix- what we do

Check out some of our latest videos on our YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/user/TheSiteVideos/featured?disable_polymer=1



Have a look at our social media

