



RVYO Membership Accord for the Support of Local EA Registered Groups

Across local EA-registered organisations who have nominated the Accord groups, there is a consensus that they require as much support as possible. We estimate that over 50% of our members are delivering on EA local area-based specifications. We aim to establish an interdependent network of regional organisations that can combine specialisms to create the best possible conditions for children, young people and organisations. Therefore, four organisations with Regional Strategic status from the Education Authority, have signed an Accord committing us to:

- Supporting our members to grow their youth services over the next ten years.
- Offer support from across our strengths so that our members can access a holistic support package.
- Be open about the members we support so we are respectful and avoid unnecessary stress on local EA-registered groups being asked to select between our organisations.
- Ask the EA to proactively inform local EA-registered groups with no nominated regional organisation about the choices available to them.

Our Mission: We want to support the Department of Education and Education Authority to maximise its Youth Work budget to enable children and young people to access high-quality youth services that can support them for life.

Our Activities:

*Create an **eco-system of collaboration** that encourages trust and honesty.*

- We want to create an eco-system of collaboration across EA local registered and regional groups.
- Our ambition is to be inclusive of all but we are practically minded and understand that other regional organisations may not adopt this approach.

*Publish **evidence-based research** to build a case for evolving the delivery of youth work over the next decade. This empirical research will evaluate the value of all youth services and their contribution to youth work in NI.*

- We want to develop datasets that can assist decision-making across youth services in NI.
- We want to investigate societal trends and evaluate practice to ensure that the NI youth work curriculum is evolving responsibly to need.

*Provide collective support for local EA-registered groups to ensure **quality youth work** across NI.*

- We want to improve self-evaluation and critical reflection across the youth work sector.
- We want to combine our strengths to support local EA-registered organisations to improve the workforce and curriculum.
- Ensure that the voice of young people is reflected in measuring the quality of youth services.

*Recognise the unique capacities of Regional Strategic organisations and work for the **common good** of all EA locally registered youth work organisations.*

- We want to work from a strength-based approach and enable local groups to access support from the regional organisations that have signed this Accord.
- We want to create positive connections across local groups to encourage greater collaboration.