

Joining YouthBorders – a guide for new members and subscribers

There are two ways that you can join our growing network of voluntary and community-based youth organisations in the Scottish Borders. You can join as Member or as a Subscriber. This guide is designed to help you to understand the benefits of joining our network and finding the right fit for your organisation.

Why join YouthBorders?

YouthBorders is the network of voluntary and community-based youth organisations in the Scottish Borders, supporting and promoting good quality youth work. Joining our network gives you instant access to peer support, networking events and opportunities, high quality training, and membership support services. YouthBorders has a skilled and experienced staff team, on hand to support your organisation, staff, volunteers and trustees to grow and develop. We are a membership led organisation, and have proven track record for working collaboratively and in partnership with our members and other stakeholders to further our aim. We would love you join us!

The objects of YouthBorders

- ✓ Facilitating networking opportunities and event, providing information and representing the interests of the youth work sector strategically in local, regional and national forums.
- ✓ Offering a comprehensive support packing for members
- ✓ Actively promoting the setting up of new groups in the community that will benefit young people
- ✓ Providing support and training for adults who work with or support young people in our network or partnerships
- ✓ Providing opportunities for young people to engage in learning to develop themselves as youth workers or in other leadership roles.

“Our Vision is of a voluntary and community based youth work sector which is connected, collaborative, respected and recognised; working together to improve the lives of young people in the Scottish Borders.”

Step 1: Check your eligibility to join our network

Every organisation which joins our network must demonstrate that they meet our minimum quality standards:

- ✓ operate or be based within the Scottish Borders
- ✓ support the vision, aims and objectives of YouthBorders
- ✓ operate in a not-for-profit way, with a governing document (e.g. constitution or articles of association)
- ✓ not be politically affiliated
- ✓ have a child protection/safeguarding policy in place with satisfactory recruitment process for staff and volunteers
- ✓ have a health and safety policy; and
- ✓ have appropriate insurance

Step 2: Which is right for you, Member or Subscriber?

What your main purpose and objects are will impact on how you join YouthBorders.

Member

You will **join our network as a Member** if you are a youth group that takes a **youth work approach** to your practice and your work will further [Scotland's Youth Work Outcomes](#).

Examples: local youth clubs, locality youth projects, local service provision of national third sector youth or children's organisations, specialist support services for young people, youth specific arts groups, youth specific training and employability providers. This excludes uniformed youth groups.

As a Member you join YouthBorders and [Youth Scotland](#) through our joint membership offer

Subscriber

You will **join our network as Subscriber** if you are a group or organisation from **any sector** which either **promotes or supports youth work** or **wishes to support the aims and objects of YouthBorders**. Subscribers create positive benefit to young people through community-based activities (aged 8-25).

Groups joining us as a Subscriber may include those where work with young people is a smaller part of their bigger purpose, where young people are supported as volunteer leaders, this will also include uniformed youth groups. *Examples: community sports groups, heritage projects, intergenerational work, uniformed youth groups, training providers, environmental action groups, music or dance groups.*

As a Subscriber you join YouthBorders. In our governing documents, this makes your organisation an associate member.

Step 3: Join Us

If you are ready to find out more, please get in touch with our team who can guide you through the joining process. We can also advise and support you with getting your group up and running and developing policies to help you meet our minimum quality standards for membership.

You can contact us by email info@youthborders.org.uk and one of our team will set up a time to have a call or meeting with you.

Alternatively, if you are confident about which way of joining is right for you and you can evidence all of our eligibility criteria, you can download, complete and return your application form and supporting documents.

To join as a Member you join as a joint member of both YouthBorders and Youth Scotland. Download the [membership application form](#), complete and return to info@youthborders.org.uk. Payment will be requested once we have reviewed and approved your application.

To join as a Subscriber you join as an associate member of YouthBorders. Download the [subscriber application form](#), complete and return to info@youthborders.org.uk. Payment will be requested once we have reviewed and approved your application.

Benefits and Entitlements

Name	YouthBorders Member	YouthBorders Subscriber
Fee	£110 per year, plus insurance option	£40 per year, plus additional paid for services
Status	Full Membership of both YouthBorders and Youth Scotland	Associate Membership of YouthBorders
Insurance	Access to Youth Scotland's tailored and affordable comprehensive insurance package that includes Public Liability and Employers' Liability for youth workers/volunteers and members during normal club activities.	Must be able to provide evidence of appropriate insurance cover.
Training	Unlimited places to attend Youth Scotland and YouthBorders training (in most cases free of charge).	Opportunity to attend Youth Scotland/YouthBorders partnership training local and national (chargeable at £30 per person per session). Up to 3 places per year at YouthBorders local training for free (chargeable at £15 thereafter).
Representation	Strategic representation at regional forums and groups – acting in the best interests of all members. Strategic representation of individual members as required or requested.	Strategic representation of the network as a collective. No individual representation of a specific group or organisation.
Networks	Access to specific/appropriate networks e.g. Youth Work Managers Network, Youth and Families Specialist Network, Training Forum, Voluntary Youth Network.	Access to Voluntary Youth Network* (to be developed in 2021)
Resources and Templates	Unlimited access to advice, information, policy templates and toolkits for youth work policy and practice, bespoke to your organisation, for staff and trustees, including 1:1 time with our Membership Development Officer or Chief Officer.	Signposting to advice, information and standard policy templates and toolkits from local and national organisations.
Employment Advice	1 hour of free advice from Law at Work. Access to Law At Work online customer portal.	None
Youth Awards*	Access to training and support for Youth Awards in partnership with the local authority and Youth Scotland. 10 free Dynamic Youth Awards per annum from Youth Scotland.	Access to training and support for Youth Awards in partnership with the local authority and Youth Scotland. <i>*Participating Unit charge applies for members and subscribers</i>
Youth Scotland Events, Programmes and Funds	Open to all Youth Scotland members. National events are typically at no additional cost, or subject to a subsidised rate.	Additional charges will apply for Youth Scotland events. Youth Scotland national programmes and small grants schemes will be prioritised for Youth Scotland members or may not be open to organisations who are not Youth Scotland members.
News	Weekly YouthBorders E-Bulletin; YouthBorders WhatsApp group; Youth Scotland newsletter and Magnet magazine.	Weekly YouthBorders E-Bulletin; YouthBorders WhatsApp group
Child Protection	CPO receives Child Protection News Digest	CPO receives Child Protection News Digest
Recruitment	Free Job Advertisements in the E-Bulletin	Paid for Job Advertisements in the E-Bulletin (£10 per vacancy)
PVG	Free access to PVG administration	Paid for access to PVG administration (£12 per application)
Celebration	Celebration and recognition of achievements by YouthBorders	Celebration and recognition of achievements by YouthBorders
Governance	Eligible to stand for Member Trustee and voting rights as set out in our Articles of Association	Eligible to stand for Member Trustee and voting rights as set out in our Articles of Association



Join our network to connect with these groups who are already in the YouthBorders Network...

Action for Children	One Step Borders C.I.C
Beyond Earlston	Peebles CAN
Borders Additional Needs Group	Peeblesshire Youth Trust
Borders Carers Centre	Quarriers
Borders Youth Theatre	Rowlands Selkirk
Bright Start Borders C.I.C	Scottish Borders Rape Crisis Centre
Cafe Recharge C.I.C	Serendipity Community Recovery Network
Cedar Borders	Socialize
Cheviot Youth	Stable Life
Children 1st	Sustain Borders - Aberlour
Connect Youth Project	TD1 Youth Hub
Eat, Sleep, Ride C.I.C	The Splash Project - EDCT
Escape Youth Services	Transform Arts C.I.C
Focus Youth Club	Tweedbank Youth Club
Interest Link Borders	Tweeddale Youth Action
Kelso Quest	VCB - Youth Volunteering Ambassadors
Langlee Youth Club	We Are With You
LGBT Youth Scotland	Westruther Parish Youth Group
Nature Unlimited C.I.C.	Works+
Newcastleton Youth Club - Rock UK	Youth Wellbeing Coaching C.I.C
Newlands Youth Group	

“Working in partnership with our members, YouthBorders aims to improve young people’s lives through their participation in quality voluntary and community-based youth work.”