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Young people want a greater say in Tasmania's future.

A Report released today by the Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT) shows that young people want to have a greater voice in the future of Tasmania.

215 young Tasmanians aged 12-25 years, shared their views on how to build a better Tasmania for young people through participating in the Tasmanian Youth Forum online consultation and survey in October 2020. The findings from this consultation have been developed into a Report.

The Report found that young Tasmanians want greater involvement in local government, increased understanding of, and training in, civic and political processes, greater investment in the State's Youth Peak body and a more accessible and inclusive Premier's Youth Advisory Council.

YNOT CEO, Ms. Tania Hunt said "Young people are feeling ignored, shut down and frustrated that their views and opinions are not taken seriously. Young people want to be listened to and acknowledged, but importantly they want action taken in response to their concerns".

The Report also found that young people want help in expressing their views and more opportunities to do so. Young people acknowledged that there are some mechanisms in place to connect with local and State government and other agencies, but many were seen to be tokenistic.

"Young people are calling for more opportunities to meaningfully participate in the development of programs, policies and initiatives that impact their lives, and greater involvement in decision making." Ms. Hunt said.

"We need to be heard because we are the future, we have to live with today's mistakes. The decisions current leaders make will affect us more than them." TYF participant.

Equitable access to opportunities, social connection, community safety, diversity and inclusion also feature heavily in the Report.

Ends

For more information

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ynot is the peak body representing the voice of Tasmanian youth

