



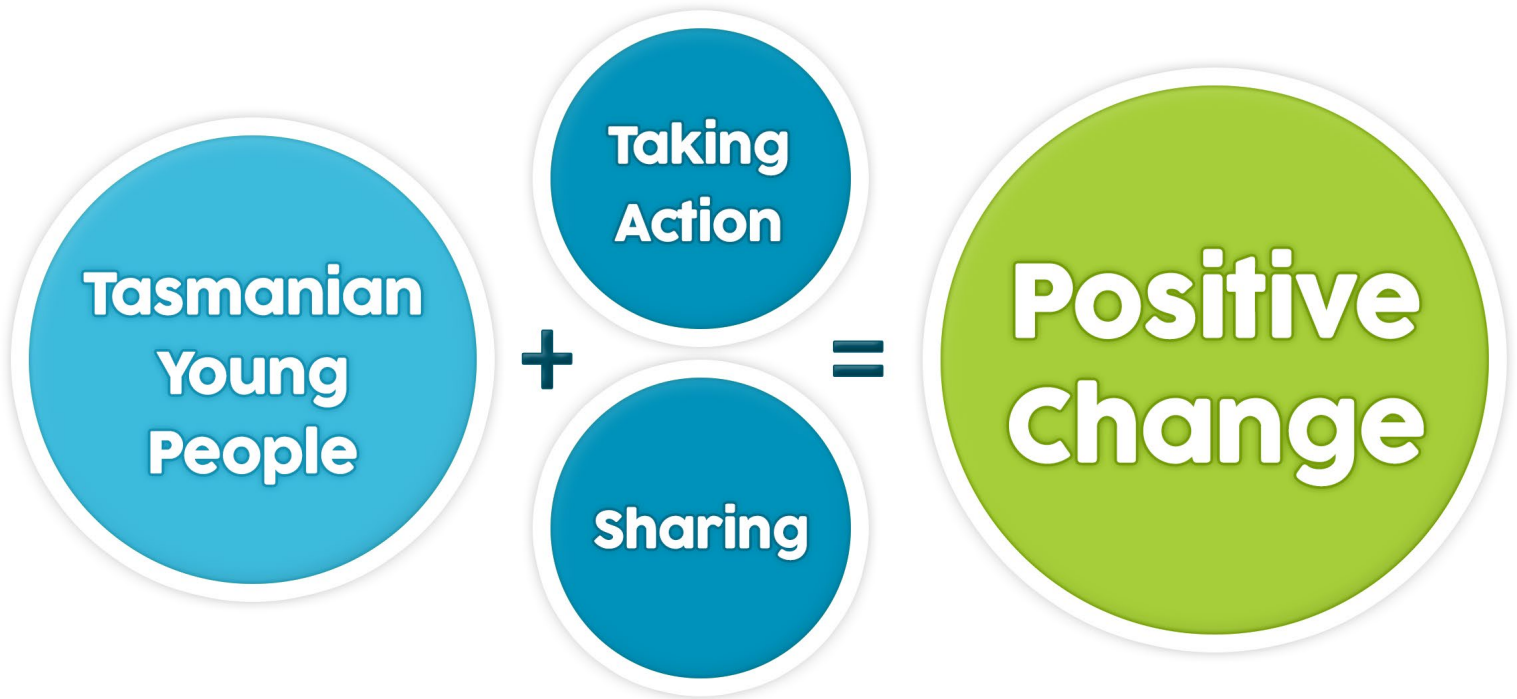
ANNUAL REPORT

2020/21

DRIVING POSITIVE CHANGE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE
AND THE YOUTH SECTOR IN TASMANIA



Ynot
youth network of Tasmania



By mobilising their voices, talents and passions, Tasmania's young people presented their personal stories, experiences, concerns and solutions in public forums, to the sector, and in front of politicians and decision-makers during the past 12 months.

"YNOT supported me to grow and demonstrate my skills, which has inspired me and helped me to shape my career path."

Olivia, 24

SHARING EXPERTISE & TAKING ACTION

Lived experience, evidence and data inform all submissions made through YNOT. This year, young people walked through the doors of many decision-makers and spoke directly to the Premier, PESRAC Secretariat, elected representatives, CEOs, community leaders and youth sector workers.

Building a Better Tasmania for Young People, a report on the challenges faced by young people in 2020 and their ideas and solutions for the future.

Produced during the *Tasmanian Youth Forum 2020*, this report names the essential building blocks for a better Tasmania. These included 'hopes and dreams for the future', 'diversity and inclusivity' and 'having our voices heard'. Feedback from young people was used to inform the 2021 Tasmanian Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Discussion Paper.

What Young People Have to Say About Transport in Tasmania

Produced using principles of co-design, this TYF 2021 paper highlights the concerns and vision Tasmania young people have around public and private transport in the state.

The YNOT COVID-19 Youth Survey, August 2020 – COVID-19 Recovery outlined the good, the bad and the ugly of the pandemic's impact on young Tasmanians.

YNOT and the Mental Health Council of Tasmania consulted face-to-face with young people aged 12–25, providing critical information for development of Tasmania's **Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy**.

"Well beyond seeking to represent young people, YNOT actively ensure that we are given opportunities to represent ourselves and direct the action that we want to see."

Eliza, 22



POSITIVE CHANGE

The actions, knowledge and expertise young Tasmanians undertook during 2020/21 have already resulted in investments and improvements across a range of social and economic policy areas. The changes gained are tangible and enduring.

Tasmania's first **Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy** included specific emphasis on the need to support young people to transition to adult service systems, move into tertiary education and training, begin employment and shift into different housing arrangements.

Tri-partisan support during the 2021 State Election for a **\$1.3 million investment in Youth Connectors**. This commitment was realised by the Tasmanian Government in 2021. Youth Connectors is a youth targeted 24-month pilot program, providing specialised employment service to young people by harnessing the power of Tasmania's employment hubs. This program is designed to respond specifically to youth unemployment and underemployment in Tasmania.

Establishment of YNOT's Youth Employment Alliance. This partnership of nine service organisations and young people was established to address the significant and disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on the employment, education and training futures of young Tasmanians. The Alliance continues to collaborate on employment, education and training solutions for young Tasmanians 15-25 years. It is a first for the state's youth sector.

An **\$850,000 investment from government for a 12-month Youth Navigators pilot** developed by the Youth Employment Alliance. Youth Navigators are youth specialists who will provide tailored, holistic and targeted support to the 1,100 Tasmanian young people who left school during the height of the COVID pandemic in 2020. This group is faced with a jobs, university and vocational training landscape that has changed in ways never imagined.

YNOT unveiled its **State Election scorecard** during 2021. It outlined the major parties' policies and their potential impacts on Tasmania's young people.

YNOT's **Youth Sector Workforce Development Project** contributed to building capacity within the Tasmanian youth services sector by promoting timely, relevant information about professional development, education and training opportunities. YNOT's website was refreshed to support a central, online resource providing streamlined information to the sector.



"I really appreciate the opportunities that you have offered ... Thank you for listening, caring and making a difference."

Taso, 15



When young people speak and decision-makers listen, positive change happens.

We saw this over and over this year as YNOT continued its stewardship activities with Tasmania's young people.

YNOT's role is one of support, development and holding doors open to opportunity for Tasmanians aged 12 to 25. We create spaces where young people's voices are centre stage and apply co-design principles to put their expertise and knowledge squarely in front of decision-makers.

Many goals were realised this past year with almost all YNOT activities facilitated and led by young people, reports produced that were packed full of their thoughts and ideas, and unique information campaigns designed by emerging, young graphic designers.

This year we also saw young people speak directly to the Premier, express their views to the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council (PESRAC) Secretariat and inform systems and policies with learnings from their real-life experiences.

The tangible results of all this are there to see in the policies, documents, decisions and system improvements that have already resulted from the action taken by Tasmania's young people.

We are grateful for their commitment to creating positive change for our state.

Tania Hunt, CEO

THANK YOU

A special thank you to YNOT's members and supporters:

We appreciate your unfailing dedication to support, enrich and celebrate young people in our state.




"I really appreciate the decision to take a chance on me in a role I've never experienced before. The skills I have developed are invaluable."

young person, 24

"YNOT uses their presence within the sector and beyond to let young people have our ideas and experiences heard firsthand."

young person, 22



"Over the past year, I've been involved in the Youth Employment Alliance and most recently the AYAC Youth Fellowship as a Tasmanian young person. These are so important to me because of my passion for improving the opportunities given to young people, and making the systems we live in serve more than just a privileged few."

Tyler, 25

Read more about us and all of our activities at ynot.org.au.

Our vision is a Tasmania where all young people are valued and can achieve anything.



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