

Young Hammersmith and Fulham Foundation Update

Great News! The Young Hammersmith and Fulham Foundation has now secured its' charitable status.

What happens next? Now the work really begins. Currently the Board of Trustees are engaged in recruiting the CEO. Funding has been secured from John Lyon's Charity and Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Council and further applications are in progress.

The Board of Trustees are elected for a limited period of six months with the view to creating a strategic and diverse body that will be fully representative and able to drive the Foundation forward. Already there has been significant interest from across the borough for people to become involved, so watch this space. If you are interested then contact Nigel Jacques at Sobus.

As soon as the CEO takes up position they will have a significant task. First they will need to develop and put in place a workable structure, establish clear communications across the young peoples groups and then develop further a well established relationship with the council. All of this will need to be with an eye on potential opportunities and recommending to the Board a progressive plan for the future.

What is the Young Hammersmith and Fulham Foundation if you are still unclear? The Young Hammersmith and Fulham Foundation has been brought together to support the needs of young people. Fundamentally the aim is to bring more financial resources in to H&F for young people, ensure greater communications across the youth providers and be a voice for this part of the voluntary sector. The Foundation will focus on providing services to young people and is creating a holistic approach making sure that young people gain access to services to do with: housing; employment; crime and safety; health and wellbeing; training and education and, positive activities.

The Foundation will also look to work with a range of partners including those who work with people 19+ to ensure young people get access to opportunities as young adults.

What does this mean? For many community groups they are often small and are not in a position to seek grant funding or get involved in issues that could really benefit the young people they are engaged with even further. This will be an opportunity to work in with others with similar, but maybe different needs and acquire the right kind of funding to make a real difference. And with this there will be a means for relevant groups to voice their concerns and observations to the sector and relevant statutory bodies.

Sobus' Role

We have been supporting the development of the Foundation from the outset and we do this with all community groups across Hammersmith and Fulham. Whether it is a start up organisation or someone looking to develop strategy and partnership, or someone looking to secure funding then Sobus can help.

Nigel Jacques, Sobus

Organisational Development Officer