

**British-Irish**

# Strategic Partnership 2014 - 2018

Five campaigning youth work charities committed to social action, to make England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland the best possible places for young people to flourish.

**inspiring young people**

**promoting youth work**

**connecting young people**

**challenging inequalities**

## Concordat

### Introduction

This Concordat formalises the co-operative and consensual method of co-working that has been developed between UK Youth, YouthAction Northern Ireland, Youth Scotland, Youth Cymru and Youth Work Ireland over the past few years. It acknowledges the changing relationships between the countries and jurisdictions of the UK and Ireland, with youth work policy and other policy agendas devolved to regional and national Parliaments and Assemblies in the UK. The Concordat establishes the status of UK Youth, YouthAction Northern Ireland, Youth Scotland and Youth Cymru as equal partners, and formalises the long standing relationship between Youth Work Ireland and the other youth partners in the UK. The Concordat will provide a framework for delivery on priorities agreed by the British - Irish Strategic Partnership.

### The Concordat

The Concordat is agreed by the Trustees of UK Youth, YouthAction Northern Ireland, Youth Scotland, Youth Cymru and Youth Work Ireland, the five leading national youth work organisations, referred to collectively as the **youth partners**.

Each youth partner recognises and respects the primary of the others as a lead body for the youth sector in their respective countries and jurisdictions. This principle underpins the relationship between the youth partners as leading organisations across the UK and Ireland



*The Five Leading National Youth Organisations agree:*

- To share ideas, publications, information and intelligence.
- To undertake joint initiatives (where appropriate) at a bilateral, British/Irish, UK, European or international level.
- To work collaboratively to develop new opportunities for joint initiatives with the lead youth partner sharing (where appropriate) early plans and proposals before making funding submissions.
- To co-operate and campaign on issues of mutual interest and concern.
- To work towards consensual policy positions on bilateral, UK, British/Irish, European and international matters where appropriate.
- To promote together co-operation and understanding between young people across the UK and Ireland and to promote the participation of young people in civic engagement and decision making.
- To consult in advance on any action at any level which might have consequences for fellow youth partners.
- To receive into membership local and regional organisations only in their own nation/ jurisdiction.
- To prioritise fellow youth partners in all partnership opportunities, funding applications and policy discussions over other youth agencies or organisations.