

## 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.

### 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?

#### 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.

## Benefits and Entitlements

Name	YouthBorders Member	YouthBorders Subscriber
Fee	£110 per year, plus insurance option	£40 per year, plus additional paid for services
Status	<b>Full Membership</b> of both YouthBorders and Youth Scotland	<b>Associate Membership</b> 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 and YouthBorders training (chargeable at £15 per person per session).
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	Access to specific/appropriate networks
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 Work Nest. Access to Work Nest 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.
News	Weekly YouthBorders E-Bulletin; Youth Scotland newsletter and Magnet magazine.	Weekly YouthBorders E-Bulletin
Child Protection	CPO receives Child Protection News Digest	CPO receives Child Protection News Digest
Recruitment	Free Job Advertisements in the E-Bulletin	Job Advertisements in the E-Bulletin
PVG	Free access to PVG administration	Access to PVG administration
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

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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. Contact a member of the team by email [info@youthborders.org.uk](mailto:info@youthborders.org.uk). Payment will be requested once we have reviewed and approved your application.