



Tender for consultancy: YIACS outcomes literature review.

Youth Access is looking to hire a consultant, partnership or organisation with an understanding of health economics, YIACS, young people's mental health services, and young people's outcomes.

About Youth Access

Youth Access is the national membership body that represents and champions organisations delivering support for young people. We are the voice of the youth advice and counselling sector, and we support young people to campaign for services and systems that meet their needs and fulfil their rights.

Along with our growing network of over 123 'Youth Information, Advice and Counselling Services' (YIACS), also known as 'early support hubs', rooted in local communities all over the country, providing free, easily accessible and age-appropriate support on a wide range of issues to young people aged 11-25. We champion young people's right to access high-quality local services which offer a range of support to help young people tackle the diverse challenges they face as they move into adulthood.

Aims

The aims of this research are:

1. To understand and review the impact of a Youth Information, Advice, and Counselling Service (YIACS) or YIACS-like service on young people's life outcomes including employment, education, housing, and well-being etc. This study aims to provide an understanding of the effectiveness of YIACS in improving the quality of life for young people and identify the gaps in the literature.
2. To gain an in-depth understanding of the wider health economic implications associated with implementing a YIACS or similar service, for example on services such as the NHS and future homelessness, etc.

3. To evaluate and collate the current literature and research the cost-effectiveness or cost benefits of a YIACS in improving the overall well-being and life outcomes of young people.

Objectives

1. Review and analyse existing literature: The researcher should conduct a thorough review of relevant papers, reports, and studies related to YIACS or YICAS like services. This includes examining the impact of these services on various aspects of young peoples' lives, such as mental health, education, employment, and other elements of their well-being. To understand the long-term benefits of these services on young people and services.
2. Examine health economic implications: The researcher should explore the health economic implications associated with running a YIACS. This includes assessing the potential savings or cost benefits that may arise from improved outcomes and reduced healthcare utilisation.
3. Synthesise and report findings: The researcher should synthesise all the collected information and findings into a comprehensive report. This report should include a clear executive summary of the literature review, an analysis of the health economic implications, an assessment of cost-effectiveness or cost benefits, and recommendations for Youth Access, policymakers, service providers, and other stakeholders.

Research questions

In commissioning this piece of work, we are seeking to develop insight into the following areas:

1. What does the current literature say about the impact of YIACS and YIACS-like services on the life outcomes of young people aged 11-25?
2. What research or evaluations about the effectiveness on young people's life outcomes of YIACS currently exists?
3. What research or evaluations about and health economics of YIACS currently exists?
4. What robust evidence is there to demonstrate that the YIACS model is economically beneficial?
5. What is the wider impact on services/systems when young people receive a service from YIACS?

Timeline & deliverables

The deliverables for the project are:

- 1) Work closely with Youth Access’s Evaluation and Impact Officer in designing the research questions.
- 2) Produce a report with the consolidated comprehensive evidence-relevant literature, including but not limited to academic articles, reports, and policy documents.

The work should analyse and synthesise the existing evidence to address the research questions listed above. The report should be clear, concise, and accessible, and will inform the work of Youth Access and our members. It should include a 2-page executive summary with the key summaries for the research questions and include wider recommendations from the findings.

- 3) An appendix attached with the literature and research
- 4) Present the key findings to Youth Access.

Action	Deadline/Timeframe	Responsibility
Bids	July 3 rd	Consultant
Partner chosen	July 10 th	YA
Introductory meeting	July 18 th	YA + Consultant
Literature review	July 18 th – October 18 th	Consultant
First draft	October 18 th	Consultant
Review of report	November 3 rd	YA
Present the findings	December 5 th	YA + Consultant
Final report	December 5 th	Consultant

Timescale: Project to be completed December 5^h.

Bids

We are seeking proposals from consultants with a proven track record in conducting literature reviews. The successful bidder will have experience in conducting rigorous research, analysing data, and producing high-quality reports.

They will also have an understanding of the current landscape of YIACs and their role in supporting young people.

To bid for this tender, please respond to sarah@youthaccess.org.uk by no later than Monday 3rd July 12pm with a proposal for how you would like to approach the work, suggested timelines and milestones, costings, and examples of your work that illustrate your suitability to deliver this piece and any other relevant information that you feel would support your application.

Please include:

- A proposal for how you would like to approach the work,
- Suggested timelines and milestones,
- A breakdown of costings, and,
- Examples of your work that illustrate your suitability to deliver this piece

Please note, Youth Access is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all staff and stakeholders and the successful person/partnership will be expected to adhere to our Safeguarding Policy.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss this tender any further, please contact sarah@youthaccess.org.uk