

**Findings of *Online Forums Topics Survey* September 2020:
Enabling Youth Workers and Service Providers to Influence Policy**



youth affairs network qld

Youth Work Online Forums

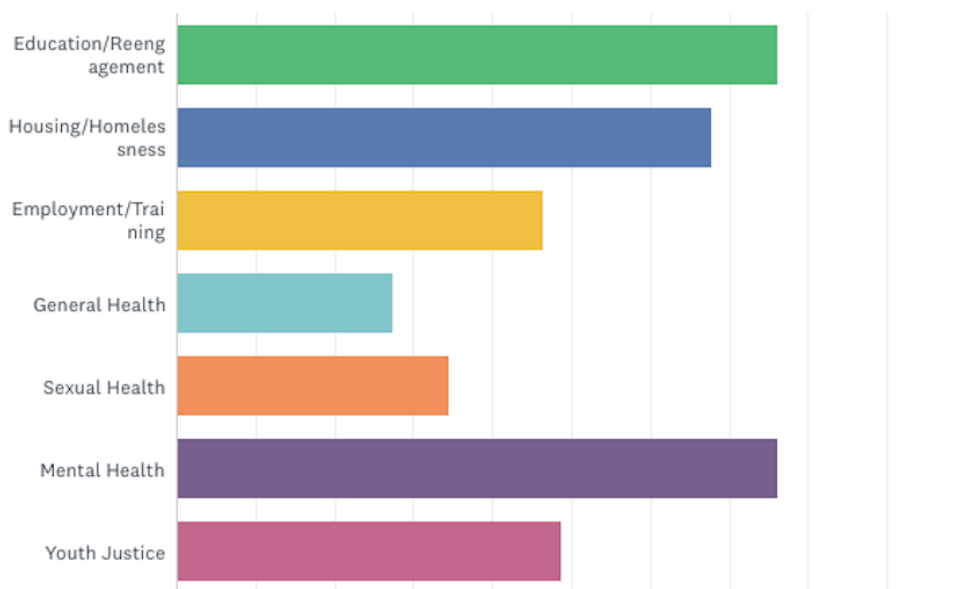
YANQ, in partnership with Office for Youth, is planning to run a number of online forums over the next few months. The forums aim to provide a vehicle for transfer of knowledge and sharing of learnings amongst youth sector members. It is anticipated that discussions at these forums will inform youth sector policy development which in turn should enhance program design and delivery.

The one-hour sessions will include a 10 -15 minute introduction by a subject matter expert to set the scene, followed by a 45 minute facilitated discussion. Ideas and outcomes from each session will be recorded by YANQ and outcomes shared with the sector and other relevant agencies.

To assist us with prioritising relevant topics for the upcoming forums, YANQ administered an online survey asking youth sector members to indicate the importance of topics based on their current work with young people.

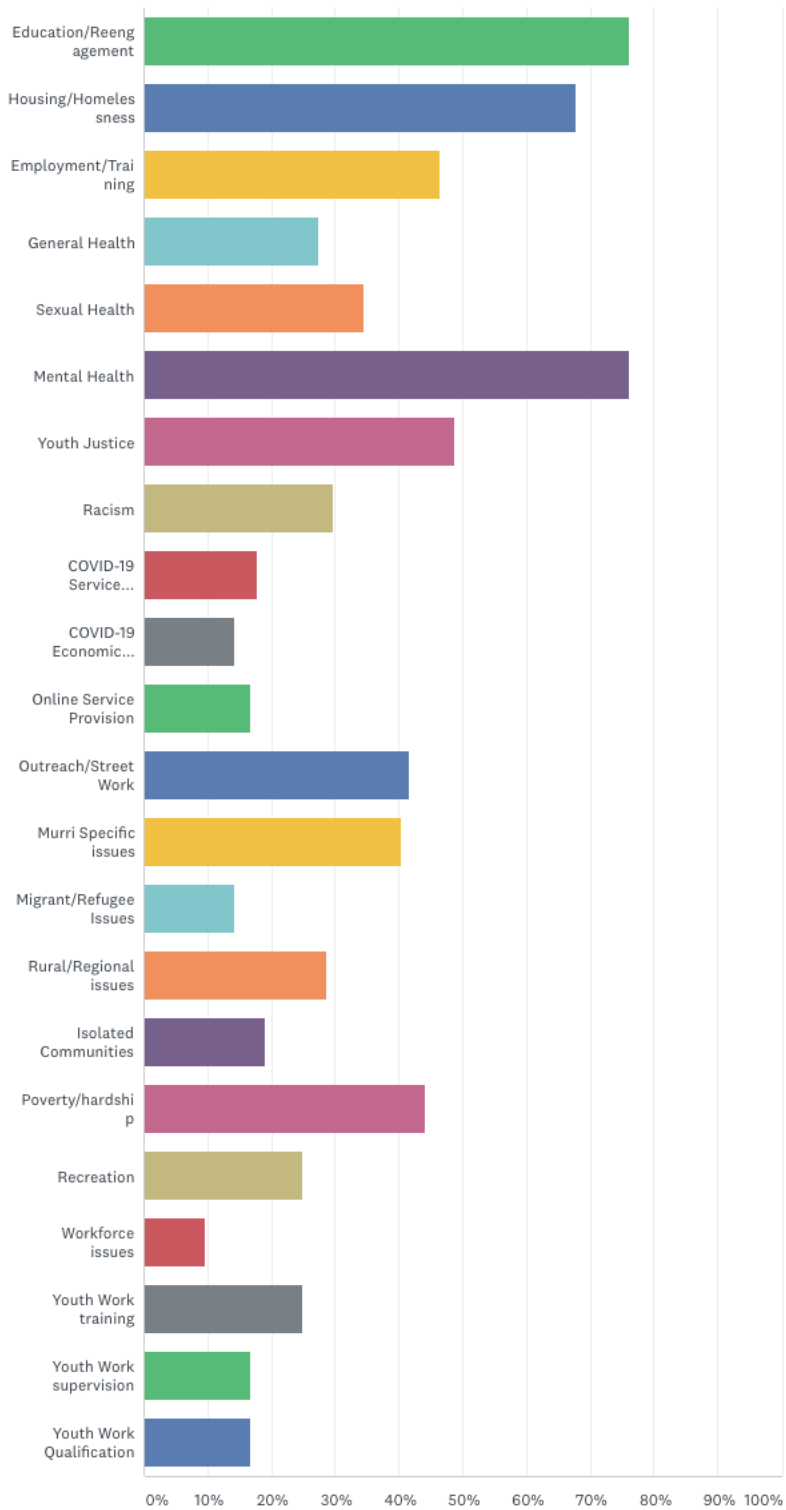
The survey was promoted to youth sector members through YANQ's electronic newsletter and social media accounts. During the 10 days when the survey was open a total of 84 responses were received. The participants came from a wide geographic area across the State. Postcodes and localities of the survey respondents are listed later in this document.

Overall, Reengagement with Education and Mental Health are the two top priorities indicated by respondents. They are followed by Housing and Homelessness, Employment and Training and Youth Justice.



YANQ, in partnership with Office for Youth, will now commence the planning and hosting of the initial three online forums in 2020. Further forums will be planned and delivered in 2021.

The overall prioritised topics:



The survey respondents were asked if there were other issues that they would like to include in the list of topics of interest for the sector. The following responses were received:

- Parent incarceration
- Child safety
- Sexual assault
- Youth suicide & self-harm
- LGBTI young people
- Domestic and family violence
- Community development approaches to youth work
- AOD-Substance use - rehabilitation specific options for under 18s
- AOD (specifically inhalants)
- Alcohol fetal syndrome
- Dual diagnosis
- Drug and alcohol psychoeducation and harm minimisation practices
- Leadership, engagement
- Intergenerational trauma
- Funding for youth sector & funding advocacy
- Young parents/adolescent pregnancy
- Engaging the disinterested strategies
- Trauma informed care in youth work
- Young people who require support to access and manage NDIS
- Family intervention services for young people that are NOT in the Department system
- Young parents' drug and alcohol
- High school mentoring programs
- Better ways of linking those that work in the youth industry - better ways of feeding info to advocacy bodies e.g. MyQ (Multicultural Youth QLD) - Exploring existing training opportunities such as National Youth Settlement Framework
- Family breakdown, lack of safe place/home
- Relationships, the environment, workforce issues: professionalisation of the sector/ national standards/ national code of ethical practice
- Different ways of approaching and supporting more aware kids. While principles are important the we support young people's needs to change.
- Young men would benefit from education around toxic masculinity/what it means to "be a man" especially in regional and rural areas
- Young people residing in SHS housing not eligible for social housing
- Waiting times to access mental health support (e.g. Headspace) for clients with complex needs/ issues is months away before they can see a psychologist.
- Young people held in detention as there are a lack of housing options for them
- Lack of coordinated support for young people while in detention, yp that are released do not have the necessary supports in place for when they leave detention. Services (internally/ externally of detention centre) need to work more cohesively to ensure young person doesn't exit into homelessness and has housing, Centrelink sorted upon release. Needs for a service that will support the most complex young

people as they are falling in the gaps again and again. A support service that provides housing and onsite intensive case management support for young people with complex mental health issues, AOD issues, challenging behaviours - these yp are excluded from mainstream SHS services unfortunately (left in the "too hard basket"), but they still need to be housed and supported. A service that only houses and supports high to very high complex clients is needed. Specialized support whose framework adapts to the client needs.

Post Code and regions of the survey respondents:

4000	Brisbane	4304	Bundamba
4006	Brisbane	4305	Ipswich x 2
4034	Brisbane (Aspley)	4500	Warner/Strathpine x 2
4101	Brisbane x 4	4810	Townsville x 3
4102	Brisbane (Wooloongabba) x 2	4814	Townsville x 5
4104	Brisbane (Yeronga)	4815	Townsville x 2
4105	Brisbane (Moorooka)	4817	Townsville x 2
4006	Brisbane (Valley) x 4	4820	Charters Towers
4007	Brisbane (Hamilton)	4850	Ingham
4012	Brisbane (Nundah)	4870	Cairns
4053	Brisbane (Everton Park)	4655	Maryborough
4031	Brisbane (Kedron)	4405	Dalby
4118	Brisbane (Brown Plains)	4830	Doomadgee
4170	Brisbane (Morning Side)	4311	North Gatton (Lowood)
4178	Brisbane (Wynnum)	4825	Mt Isa x 2
4017	Sandgate x 2	4680	Gladstone
4077	Inala x 3	4670	Bundaberg x 3
4114	Woodridge	4740	Mackay x 3
4127	Slacks Creek	4380	Stanthorpe
4505	Burpengary	4625	Mundubbera
4510	Caboulture	4744	Moranbah
4215	Gold Coast	4551	Caloundra
4216	Gold Coast	4413	Chinchilla
4217	Gold Coast	4470	Charleville
4218	Gold Coast	4490	Cunnamulla
4220	Burleigh Heads		