

Embargoed to Monday, 31 January 2022, 5.00am

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR NSW YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL 2022

Young community leaders and passionate advocates from across NSW are being encouraged to nominate for the 2022 NSW Youth Advisory Council (YAC) with applications opening today.

Advocate for Children and Young People, Ms Zoë Robinson said that is more important than ever for young people to come forward to have their say on the policies and services that affect them.

“In the last few years young people in NSW have been at the centre of a rapidly changing environment. It is important that they are a key part of decisions that affect their lives and being on the YAC is one way of doing that,” Ms Robinson said.

“All NSW young people, aged 12 to 24 years, who want to advocate on behalf of their peers are welcome to apply. We want to hear from people with diverse backgrounds and a broad range of life experiences that reflect the diversity of the 2.5 million young people in our State,” Ms Robinson added.

The 12 member Council has a statutory role to advise the NSW Government on issues of importance to young people. They meet regularly throughout the year to provide advice to the Government and the Advocate and to monitor and evaluate policies and legislation which affect young people. One of the key priorities of the Youth Advisory Council is promoting a diverse range of views, including the voices of rural and regional young people.

“Throughout their 12 month tenure, YAC members will have an opportunity to engage with and give advice to government on a broad range priorities. In recent years the YAC have advised on the NSW curriculum, the Statement of Consent, COVID communications, consultation projects and much more.

“As Advocate, I cannot do the work that I do without the trusted advice of the YAC,” Ms Robinson added.

YAC members are sought from all over NSW, from all backgrounds and life experiences to reflect the diversity of young people living in NSW. Young people from all walks of life are invited to apply, as the more diverse the council members are, the more insightful the results are.

Applications are open until Sunday 13 March 2022, for more information and to complete an application visit www.acyp.nsw.gov.au

ENDS

**For more information or to arrange an interview with
the Advocate for Children and Young People, Ms Zoë Robinson contact:
Una O'Neill on 0491 2240 049**

**Would you like to know more about the Advocate for Children and Young People? Please visit
www.acyp.nsw.gov.au**