

NSW Government reaffirms commitment to youth voices with Youth Advisory Council

Thursday, 16 November 2023

Twelve exceptional young leaders from across the state have been selected to join the esteemed 2024 Youth Advisory Council (YAC), further emphasising the NSW Government's unwavering dedication to incorporating the voice and lived experiences of children and young people into its endeavours.

Minister for Youth, Rose Jackson, met with the 12 YAC members in October at their inaugural meeting.

“The NSW Government remains committed to creating better outcomes for young people across the state and a crucial part of that involves listening to young people who are advocating for their generation,” Minister Jackson said.

“We know that listening to people with lived experiences and amplifying their voices is the best way to lead enduring change.

“The diverse members of the Youth Advisory Council will provide valuable advice to the NSW Government on matters that directly impact young people, while also sharing their inspiring vision for the future.”

The NSW Advocate for Children and Young People, Ms Zoë Robinson said even in challenging circumstances, young individuals in NSW remain committed to assisting their peers and contributing to their communities.

“We know that young people want to have a say in the policies, legislation and services that impact their lives, this is one of the ways that government facilitate that voice. Members of the YAC have an authentic opportunity to change NSW for the better, not just for themselves but for everyone,” Ms Robinson said.

Following an extensive recruitment process that saw 717 young people aged 12 to 24 apply, the new Youth Advisory Council held its first meeting over two days in October.

Members of the 2024 Youth Advisory Council include:

- Abbey Brooks, Shellharbour
- Ali Sina Yousofi, Mount Druitt
- Dylan Farr, Barwon
- Ellen Armfield, Wakehurst
- Jesse Alexander-Gordon, Lismore
- Miranda Swift, Newcastle

- Oluhle Gasa, Monaro
- Shakira Toomey, Dubbo
- Sonja Vujanic, Liverpool
- Terina-Grace Rapana-Hotere, Badgery's Creek
- Zak O'Hara, North Shore
- Zanjabella Zoud, Auburn.

Throughout their one-year term, the Youth Advisory Council will be supported by the NSW Advocate for Children and Young People, Ms Zoë Robinson.

“Empowering young people to be part of change benefits all of us. I am excited to work with the 2024 YAC and support them in their work throughout their term,” Ms Robinson said.

More information about the Youth Advisory Council is available [online](#).

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