



Eastern Synod Youth Work Advocate

Introductory Comments

The Eastern Synod Youth Work Advocate will be appointed by the Synod Meeting to work with the Children and Youth Development Officer (CYDO) and alongside the Synod Children's Work Advocate. In previous years there has been a single role of Children's and Youth Work Secretary, but it is recognised that the skills and focus are different and may be carried out to better effect if Advocates are appointed to each of these areas of work.

The Youth Work Advocate will work in collaboration with:

- Children and Youth Development Officer
- Synod FURY rep
- Synod Children's Work Advocate
- National Youth Work Development Officer
- Regional Pilots Officer
- The Youth Work Advocate is accountable to the CYDO through the Synod Pastoral Committee.

The tasks will include:

- Exploring the best ways to be in contact with church youth workers across the Synod;
- Assessing:
 - support requirements and the best way to offer that support ;
 - the training needs and delivery along with the CYDO.
- Cascading information to young people, youth workers, and others as necessary;
- Promoting and supporting Synod youth 'events';
- Advocating the importance of youth in the Synod;
- Sharing good news stories across the Synod;
- Promoting the National and Synod Child Friendly Church Award;
- Supporting the Synod FURY representative to develop initiatives.

Time requirement:

- Time, emphasis and direction will be determined by the person carrying out the role in consultation with the CYDO.
- The Youth Work Advocate, along with the Children's Work Advocate, will be invited to attend the full Synod Pastoral Committee Meetings, held in May and November each year.
- It is hoped that the Youth Work Advocate would attend the Synod Meetings in March and October.
- This is a termed Synod appointment for a 3 year period, which may be renewable.

Resourcing:

- Support for carrying out the role is available from the Synod office, eg there is an existing data base of church youth workers, elders for youth and children's work, safeguarding link person. The Youth Work Advocate is on the mailing list of the national youth work office.
- There is a Youth and Children's Work budget, submitted to the Resource Committee by the CYDO, Youth Work and Children's Work Advocates and Synod FURY representative.