



## **The Youth Endowment Fund**

### **Assistant Director of Public Affairs and Partnerships**

**Reports to:** Director of Change, with significant engagement with Director of Public Affairs and Comms and CEO

**Salary:** £75,500 per annum

**Location:** Central London or remote

**Contract:** 2-year fixed term – potential to extend. Open to 0.8 FTE for the right candidate

**Closing date:** Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September by 12pm

#### **About the Youth Endowment Fund**

*We're here to prevent children and young people becoming involved in violence. We do this by finding out what works and building a movement to put this knowledge into practice.*

Last year, 244 people in England and Wales tragically died after being assaulted with a knife. Of these, 32 were children. Every child captured in these numbers is an important member of our community and society has a duty to protect them. Even when violence doesn't strike directly, we know that the fear of violence has a terrible effect on children's lives.

The Youth Endowment Fund exists to try and permanently change things. To succeed, we must build an exceptional body of knowledge about violence affecting young people and how we reduce it. This knowledge has to be both rigorous and highly relevant to those making decisions about how to support vulnerable young people. We need to find out what works and what doesn't through evidence synthesis, data analysis and qualitative research into children's lives. We need to convert this into highly accessible content on what works, how delivery organisations need to change their practice and how the systems they operate in need to be reformed. We then need to work with the right people that can make change happen, across systems, policies and practice, to have a real impact on reducing violence affecting children's lives.

We can't do this alone, we have to build and maintain brilliant partnerships across government, with other funders and with wider society. We are looking for an exceptional individual to lead on this work. We also need to have an eye for the

future. Our present endowment must be spent down by April 2029. We need someone who can lead on planning for the future.

### **Key responsibilities**

You ensure that we:

- **Are ready for the future:** Born with a ten-year endowment, the YEF has become the leading authoritative voice on how to reduce violence affecting children. We must spend down this endowment by April 2029, so need to start thinking about after this date. You will lead on ensuring we have a great plan for post 2029. You will spot the best opportunities, assess them and, over time, take them. This includes both building great external relationships and also ensuring there's a clearly articulated, inspiring narrative – filled with facts, examples and case studies – of what has been delivered to date and what needs to happen between 2029 and 2039 to double down on our mission. To do this, you will orchestrate the expertise and knowledge of colleagues across the organisation – ensuring that what you need comes together perfectly.
- **Build and maintain great relationships across government:** We have an increasingly large number of relationships across government – providing advice and support on what works to prevent violence. You will be ready to offer advice to colleagues on those relationships where needed. You will build new relationships and maintain them where they are needed so we are ready for the future. You will be really well organised too ensuring that internal colleagues know which relationships they own and making sure that key regular meetings are in place. We have a simple process that tracks these relationships; you will make this process work well for us – with minimum bureaucracy and maximum effectiveness. You will also provide help and advice and coaching as YEF colleagues think through how best to get system changes to happen that will ultimately reduce violence.
- **Build great relationships with other organisations that will be key to the future:** As the lead organisation on reducing violence affecting young people, we increasingly receive and see a host of opportunities to partner with other organisations including funders on projects, co-funding and research. You will support this work – leading on relationships that are essential in making us ready for the future. You will spot the opportunity, build relationships, bring in other YEF colleagues, pull together key information, write brilliant documents where needed, win others over. In short, you will make great things happen.

As a senior member of staff in the organisation you also:

- **Lead on culture:** Build and maintain a culture where it is natural to perform well and support colleagues brilliantly.
- **Deliver on strategy:** Contribute to setting the strategy, delivering results, and building and modelling the culture that we need to succeed.

## About you

### You are this sort of person:

- **You make things happen.** You're organised, delivery-focused, and produce high-quality work, even under pressure. You work independently and to a high standard. You are quick at really understanding something so you can make good decisions quite fast. You put plans together and make them happen. Wherever you work, people think of you as someone who makes things happen. You do it in a generous, kind way that means people are feel delighted to see you succeeding, never trampled upon.
- **You like bringing order and clarity to a big project that involves lots of people.** You are at home bringing order to a big project: working out who is going to do what by when, having a regular steering group to ensure progress, keeping everyone on side and delivering a great result at the end.
- **You understand how government works – as in really understand.** You understand the nuance of how decisions are made within government. You understand that there is no such thing as 'the department's position' (instead there are different views competing) and that while some decisions are very rational, some are more about personalities and politics. You find the process of how decisions get made within government departments, and with Number 10 and the Treasury, fascinating.
- **You are fantastic at spotting how to get something done in Whitehall or Westminster.** You are really good at thinking about how to make change happen. To some, Westminster and Whitehall can seem like a blob but you are brilliant at spotting how to make change happen there. You can think through the intricacies of who to get onside, who to get advice from, who to persuade and how to get the job done. You have a track record of doing this.
- **You write really well.** The idea of writing one or two pivotally important longer documents (30-40 pages) for the organisation that makes the case for something and pulls in content from lots of colleagues, synthesising and making it all fit together sounds interesting. You know – from experience – that you would be good at it.
- **You win people over.** People tend to warm to you and respect you. You easily build good relationships with both very senior and very junior people. You can

be at ease talking to a senior politician or a 15 year old. It is important to you to be humble. You acknowledge how much you don't know as well as how much you do.

- **You are great at building lasting partnerships with other organisations.** You have experience of building partnerships or collaborations with other organisations, winning them over, doing conflict well when you need to, communicating clearly so that the work gets done and people feel as good as possible about it.
- **You are a team player.** You work brilliantly in a team. You are not motivated by being the individual winner. You want the team as a whole to succeed. You enjoy coaching other people so that they perform excellently in a meeting. You are not possessive of your contacts. You don't care who gets the credit as long as things get done. You like the idea of being part of a small, well-motivated team and are ok with the downside of this – that we don't have a lot of junior admin staff to do the jobs we like less.
- **You think and communicate really well from the big picture to practical reality.** You're a strategic thinker who can see the big picture without losing sight of the detail. You find it quite easy to summarise in a few sentences, a few pages or a few words a complex argument or case. Whether speaking or writing, you break down complicated concepts in ways that make sense to different audiences – without oversimplifying. You bring clarity where others bring jargon.
- **You care about our mission.** You can be easily motivated to do work to prevent violence. This is something that matters to you. You believe in getting people to do things that are most likely to save lives, rather than just things that sound good.
- **You're committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion.** Not just in theory – but in how you work, who you listen to, and what you prioritise.

While it's not a criterion, we are especially interested to hear from applicants who have lived experience of violence affecting young people.

It's also important to us that the people we hire do not discriminate. We believe in being inclusive and giving everyone an equal chance to succeed. Applications are welcome from all regardless of age, sex, gender identity, disability, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, race, sexual orientation, transgender status or social economic background.

We are open to candidates that would prefer to join us on a 2-year secondment or career break. Secondment candidate should ensure that their current organisation is in support of this in principle, all candidates will go through the full interview process. Candidates should state clearly in their covering letter if they would like to join us as secondee.

### **Hybrid Working Details**

The office is based in Central London. Those living in and around London are expected to be in the office for a minimum of 2 days per week. If you live outside of London and work remotely, you'll be expected to work from the London office 2 days per month.

As part of our commitment to flexible working we will consider a range of options for the successful applicant. All options can be discussed at the interview stage.

### **To Apply**

To apply, please send a CV and cover letter, and complete the monitoring form click on "**Apply for this**" button by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025**.

When applying for this role, please ensure that your cover letter can answer, within a maximum of 1000 words (there is no need to be this long though) the following questions:

1. Tell us in two paragraphs about something you made happen. We are keen to find someone who is good at be a self-starter, organised and finding the way to make something happen. Tell us what you were trying to get done, how you organised the task and how you made it happen.
2. Summarise in one or two paragraphs your experience of working with or in central government. We are keen to find someone who knows how decisions are made in government and has seen them being made.
3. Tell in two paragraphs about someone or an organisation you won over or built a good relationship with. Tell us how you went about it. We are keen to find someone who quite easily builds good relationships with other organisations.

### **Interview Process**

This will be a two-stage interview process. The first stage interviews will take place in **the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025**. Second stage interviews are currently scheduled for **the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

PLEASE NOTE: We do not sponsor work permits and you will be required to provide proof of your eligibility to work in the UK.

### **Benefits Include**

- £1,000 professional development budget annually
- 28 days holiday – 3 of which are taken between Christmas and New Years – plus Bank Holidays
- Employee Assistance Programme – 24hr phone line for free confidential support
- Volunteering days – 4 half days per year
- Death in service – 4 times annual salary
- Flexible hours. Core office hours 10am – 4pm
- Financial support including travel and hardship loans
- Employer contributed pension of 5%.

### **Personal Data**

Your personal data will be shared for the purposes of the recruitment exercise. This includes our HR team, interviewers (who may include other partners in the project and independent advisors), relevant team managers and our IT service provider if access to the data is necessary for performance of their roles. We do not share your data with other third parties, unless your application for employment is successful and we make you an offer of employment. We will then share your data with former employers to obtain references for you. We do not transfer your data outside the European Economic Area.