

# Youth leadership: youth-led research & youth governance



# Agenda

- Introduction to OPEN
- What do we mean when we say 'youth-led'
- Peer Research
- OPEN Board
- Q&A

# What comes to mind when you think about youth leadership?



TYPE IN

[padlet.com/jessicacarlyle2/OPENYL](https://padlet.com/jessicacarlyle2/OPENYL)

# Who is OPEN?

**OPEN's vision is to make Shetland a place where young people thrive**

Our ambition is to cultivate a youth-led environment in Shetland where young people can thrive. Embracing a holistic approach, we aim to address the challenges faced by young people and establish a comprehensive framework for positive change. We highly value collaborative relationships and are committed to working together.

**OPEN's values are grounded in the guiding principles that define who we are, these values are the essence of OPEN, shaping our vision and driving for change:**

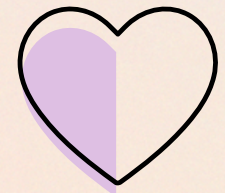
- Diversity
- Supportive
- Inclusive
- Compassion
- Trust
- Innovation

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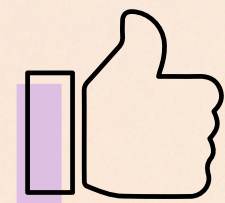
# What do we mean when we say youth-led?

"As the name suggests, for an organization to be truly youth-led all of its decision-making positions must be filled by young people. These positions should not be symbolic – young people should have real decision-making power and are leading the organization... Furthermore, for an organization to be youth-led most, if not all, of its members should be young people, although it is possible for some 'adults' to have a role in the organization." – CHOICE

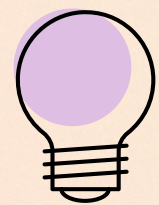
# Peer research Methodology & Learning



Grassroots approach



Youth-led



Transformational change

“There has been challenges to our work, but we have recognised the benefits of relationships within our community.”

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# Peer research projects



OPEN Space  
Project



OPEN Alcohol &  
Other Drugs  
Research



Children's  
Services

# Research task

Take 10 minutes to carry out some research on your box of Celebrations.

Some things to think about:

Who do I ask?

How can I ask my questions?

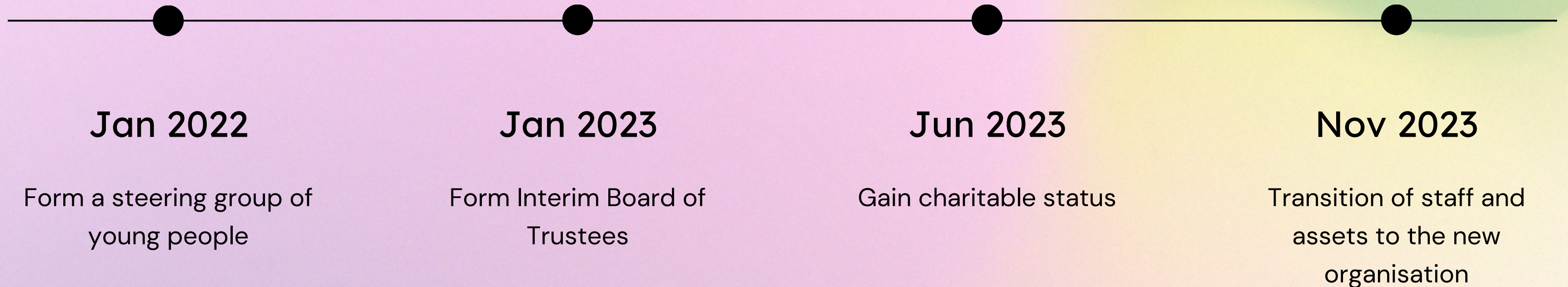
What do I ask?

What do I need to know?

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# OPEN Board



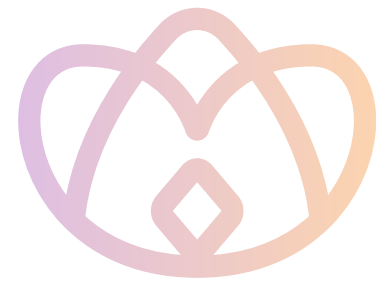
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# Support

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Training



Regular 1-1s



Mentoring



Holistic View

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# Activity

This is an example we have used with volunteers when practicing decision making skills.



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# Q&A

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# Thank you for listening!

Presented by

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**Chloe** – Treasurer

**Shannon** – Peer Research Development  
Worker

**Jess** – Organisation Development Lead

To get in touch



OR type in

[linktr.ee/theopenproject](https://linktr.ee/theopenproject)