

YouthLink Scotland Position Statement on Disclosure Scotland's Proposals to End Fee Waiver for Volunteers' PVG

YouthLink Scotland believes that [Disclosure Scotland's proposed plan](#) to remove the membership fee waiver for the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme will increase stress on already threadbare youth work services.

The legacy of the coronavirus pandemic and the cost of living crisis means volunteers and organisations who support them are under increased pressure. This is coupled with added demands for accessing our services. Over 40,000 youth work volunteers in Scotland support young people, often furthest from mainstream services and some of the most vulnerable people in society

YouthLink Scotland believes now is not the time to add another layer of cost and administrative burden to an already stretched sector. It is counterintuitive if we want to sustain and bring in new volunteers to youth work.

Therefore, we urge Disclosure Scotland to reconsider and support Volunteer Scotland's call for the Scottish Government to intervene.

We understand the consultation is about suggesting ideas for the future to deliver sustainably (including volunteers), so we encourage YouthLink Scotland members and broader stakeholders to respond to the consultation.

The [National Voluntary Youth Work Organisations Network](#) supports this statement.

ENDS

For any further information on this position statement, please contact YouthLink Scotland's Policy & Research Manager Kevin Kane via kkane@youthlink.scot.

NOTES

This [consultation](#) seeks views to enable Disclosure Scotland to consider fee discounts for certain groups applying for Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme membership disclosures and views on the fees applied to organisations acting as accredited bodies. The consultation closes on 28 May 2024.