

Registered number: 08261562

THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH JUSTICE

(Formerly The Standing Committee for Youth Justice)

A Company limited by guarantee

UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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Company Registration Number 08261562

Company Information

Directors

Gess Aird	Ahmed Ibrahim (appointed 14 October 2020)
Tony Book	Ebinehita Iyere (appointed 14 October 2020)
Jo Cecil	Shadae Cazeau (appointed 14 October 2020)
Hannah Couchman (appointed 14 Oct 2020)	Anne-Marie Day (appointed 14 October 2020)
John Drew	Diane Hart
Gavin McKenna (appointed 14 October 2020)	Nadine Smith ((appointed 14 October 2020)
Hannah Smithson (Chair)	Lesley Tregear
Alexandra Wigzell (resigned 14 October 2020)	

Company Secretary

Jo Cecil

Registered Office

Bootstrap Charity
The Print House,
8-22 Ashwin Street
London
E8 3DL

Bankers

Co-operative Bank PLC

Accountant

Debbie Mace
23 Forgebank Walk
Halton
LA2 6FD

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DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2020

The Directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

INCORPORATION

The company was incorporated on 22 October 2012 as a company limited by guarantee with the name The Standing Committee for Youth Justice. The company changed its name on 12 August 2020 to The Alliance for Youth Justice (AYJ).

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Alliance for Youth Justice (AYJ) is an alliance of over 70 organisations working together to drive positive change in youth justice in England and Wales, for the benefit of children, young people, and society. We bring together the expertise of our members and provide ways for them to collectively shape decision-making. We advocate for distinct systems, services and support that treat children as children first and foremost - underpinned by social justice, children's rights and a focus on positive long-term outcomes. Our work focuses on influencing policy, legislation and practice to address issues affecting children who come into conflict with the law - from diversion and policing to custody and resettlement.

Report from the Chair

Professor Hannah Smithson

I am both proud and delighted to present the first Chair's Report under our new name - the Alliance for Youth Justice. Since my last report in 2020, we have all experienced a situation that none of us could have foreseen. Covid-19 has created unimaginable changes to our lives. Within the youth justice sector, the impact and implications of the pandemic are undoubtedly going to be felt for a long time to come. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the rest of the AYJ board for their continued commitment to the organisation during these extremely challenging times. Our Members have continued to be generous with their time and we remain appreciative of their input and insights. In particular, I would like to thank our Director, Pippa Goodfellow and the staff team – Millie Harris, Millie Hall and Amania Scott-Samuels for their unwavering commitment to the AYJ's work during this unprecedented 12 months. So much important work (much of which is to follow in this report) has been undertaken in the most challenging of circumstances. To re-launch an organisation within the confines of a global pandemic, is no mean feat. It is a demonstration of their dedication that so much progress has been made this year.

I hope you keep safe and healthy and let's hope for a much less challenging time moving forwards.

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Report from the Board of Directors

External context

The unprecedented pressures of the external environment mean have significantly increased demands because of the COVID-19 pandemic - our small staff team was already working at maximum capacity on both proactive and reactive work. 2020 represented a critical juncture in terms of our organisational development, as we are in a key transitional period as we relaunch ourselves as the Alliance for Youth Justice in February 2021. However, we never could have expected that this time of change would come at a time where there are such pressing policy issues for young people in youth justice. As many of our member organisations are focusing on their own crisis management and keeping afloat, with many staff furloughed, the capacity of our sector to focus on policy work has been tightly squeezed at a time when we need to hold the government to account more than ever.

2020 was a year where collaboration, partnership and coming together has been more important than ever. As an alliance, we have been able to convene the wide-ranging, established and growing network of organisations in our membership and draw on their expertise, enabling us to keep up the pressure on policymakers and push the interests of children and young people.

Our strength of our alliance has also been demonstrated by the frequency with which decision-makers have called on our expertise and invited us to inform their work. Our Director has had regular meetings with the then Youth Justice Minister Lucy Frazer MP to raise our concerns at the very highest level. Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Alex Chalk MP has been announced as the new role-holder for youth justice after Lucy Frazer MP was appointed as Solicitor General. We have been a regular source of advice and information for the Youth Justice Board (YJB), meeting every quarter with their Chair and CEO, helping them to shape their new Workforce Development Strategy, case management guidance, and their work to address racial disparity in the youth justice system. We have also been invited by both the Probation and Prisons Inspectorates to inform the development of their inspection standards for inspecting youth offending services and thematic inspections. We have recommended that HMI Prisons to undertake a thematic review of girls in custody, and we are delighted that this is now being planned and will be undertaken in 2021. A very positive relationship has also been maintained with the Head of the MoJ's Youth Justice Policy Unit and we continue to meet at least once every quarter. We have also had regular engagement with officials who are conducting a review of child remand, reform of childhood criminal records, and the long-term strategy for youth custody. In 2021 we will continue to facilitate engagement of our members, and the children and young people that they work with, in our policy work.

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Staffing and board configuration

Pippa Goodfellow continues to lead the organisation as our Director and has been delighted to have been able to expand the staff team in 2020, allowing us to grow and develop our work, as well as being in a much stronger position to withstand the additional demands on our organisation during the pandemic. In May we welcomed Amania Scott-Samuels, our Policy and Engagement Assistant who has been working on membership engagement, our youth participation work and producing the youth justice newsletters. In July we welcomed Millie Hall, our Communications Assistant, who has been working on developing our digital platforms and online presence. These fantastic appointments were made possible thanks to the generous investment in our team by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Paul Hamlyn Foundation. Millie Harris also took up the role of Senior Policy Officer on a part-time basis and we are delighted that this increased to full-time in 2021.

Our Board is comprised of volunteer members, overseen by the Chair Hannah Smithson, who was elected in September 2019. She is a Professor of Criminology and Youth Justice at Manchester Metropolitan University. In the Summer of 2020, we undertook a recruitment drive for new board members to help expand the expertise on our current board. We identified gaps in our board in terms of grassroots and community-based frontline work, communications expertise, and experience in strengthening our work to address racial and ethnic disparities in the youth justice system. We were also particularly keen to incorporate younger voices onto the board and so actively encouraged applications from those between 18 and 25 years old, with an interest in and/or experience of the youth justice system. At our AGM in September 2020, we welcomed seven new board members: Shadae Cazeau, Gavin McKenna, Ebinehita Iyere, Hannah Couchman, Anne-Marie Day, Ahmed Ibrahim and Nadine Smith. Board Member Ali Wigzell, previously Chair of the Board, stepped down at the AGM, following many years of playing a key role in leading and developing our work. The Board extend many thanks to Ali for her dedication and the huge contribution she has made to the organisation.

Sustainability

Throughout 2020 we have been working hard to develop our organisation internally and to enhance our external profile, aiming to put the alliance in a stronger position to achieve system-wide impact and influence. Following an extensive consultation exercise, we have developed work to achieve greater clarity in communicating 'who we are, what we do and what we want to achieve'. In July 2020 our members voted unanimously to change our name to the Alliance for Youth Justice. Following the development of this work throughout 2020, in February 2021 we relaunched under our new name, branding, website and social media. This has also been an opportunity to refresh and enhance the organisational vision, mission and strategic objectives.

We continue to seek further resources to support the organisation fulfil its mission. 2020 was the first year of a two-year grant to support core funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation's Youth Fund.

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This has enabled us to make significant progress in enhancing our external profile, professionalising our organisational infrastructure, developing our young people's participation group, strengthening our voice with specialist expertise and advancing our influencing strategy. Core funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Paul Hamlyn Foundation has strengthened our foundations, enabling us to explore opportunities for project-specific funding, to address issues that will further our overall aims. We have had several key successes in this area during 2020.

We have launched our youth participation project, thanks to Children in Need awarding us a small grant (£10,000 per annum) to fund direct project costs to embed engagement and participation of children into our policy work for three years from 2020-2022. We have launched a two-year Young Women's Justice Project with Agenda Alliance, funded by Lloyds Bank Foundation from 2020-2021. This covers £7,841 per annum of staff costs over two years to undertake a joint project on developing the evidence-base and influencing policy and practice for girls and young women in contact with the criminal justice system. We have secured a grant from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) with Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), to examine the exceptional impact of COVID-19 on children involved with the youth justice system in a new partnership project.

The additional funding secured this year has enabled us to expand the staff capacity and support for the Director during 2021. Our priority for 2021 is to secure long-term sustainable core funding to support our staff team, to enable us to continue the significant progress we have made in recent years, and to develop further projects and partnerships to further our objectives for children and young people.

Membership engagement

In 2020, we were delighted to welcome a number of new organisational members, including Abianda, The Traveller Movement, EQUAL, Black Learning Achievement and Mental Health (BLAM), Reach Every Generation, Solve: The Centre for Youth Violence and Conflict, Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services (CWVYS), LifeLine Projects and The Skill Mill. We also welcomed a number of new Associate Members: Hannah Wishart, Nicky Hill, Thirza Smith, Danica Darley, Luke Billingham, Áine Kervick, Kate Aubrey Johnson, Hannah Wishart. At the end of 2020 we had 70 organisational members and 21 associate members.

Despite the challenges of 2020, we have been able to facilitate exchanges of ideas and networks, welcoming more members than ever to our meetings and share valuable discussions and debates.

In February 2020 we held our only face to face meeting of 2020 at the New Horizon Youth Centre, where the CEO Phil Kerry welcomed us, and we heard from Steve Chalke and Clare Wilson from Oasis Global about their plans for the first Secure School 'Oasis Restore' in Medway. In April we

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heard from the Youth Violence Commission about their final report and shared COVID-19 updates from our members. In July members heard from Keith Fraser, Chair of the YJB and the Centre for Justice Innovation presented about their new research report. We were also delighted to have 3 of the Young Adult Advisors on Criminal Justice to support of the launch of our Young Advocates project. In October we held our AGM and heard from RECLAIM, the Manchester-based working-class youth charity, about the views expressed by young people regarding staying safe from violent crime. We also heard from the MoJ's Youth Justice Policy Unit and began discussions about some key areas of the government's Sentencing White Paper.

We held several issue-specific meetings for members to engage directly with key decision-makers, including with the Youth Custody Service (YCS) about their response to COVID-19, with HMI Probation on measuring outcomes for children, and an expert members' meeting to inform recommendations of a working party focused on racial disparity in the youth justice system, convened by JUSTICE. In December we held several membership reflection sessions, where members offered feedback and ideas for 2021.

We regularly co-produce publications such as consultation responses and parliamentary briefing papers with expert groups of our members. This year we have launched a number of exciting projects, giving our members additional opportunities to contribute their expertise and inform our policy work.

Driving positive change

We continue to have strong relationships with senior officials responsible for youth justice policy. We have quarterly meetings with the Head of the Ministry of Justice Youth Justice Policy Unit, the Chair and Chief Executive of the YJB, and the Executive Director of the Youth Custody Service. Our Director was also regularly consulted by the Youth Justice Minister Lucy Frazer on issues pertaining to youth justice. A highlight of the past year was working closely with the Justice Select Committee on their Youth Justice Inquiry and our Director being invited to give evidence at their oral evidence session into youth custody and the impact of COVID-19 on the youth justice system; raising long-term issues in need of serious review, as well as the issues emerging during the lockdown.

We were proud to publish a new report, 'Ensuring custody is the last resort for children in England and Wales', developed with an expert group of our members, setting out proposals to ensure that custody for children is only ever used as a genuine last resort and address racial disparity. We published a briefing 'Childhood criminal records: Undermining positive developments across youth justice', examining how welcome developments in youth justice are being undermined by the current childhood criminal records system, strengthening the call for a widespread review. In particular, the briefing discusses the YJB's priorities for youth justice, highlighting how efforts to improve outcomes in these areas are actively impeded by criminal records.

We responded to the Home Office consultation on Serious Violence Reduction Orders (SVROs), working with an expert group of our members to develop our submission—stating our opposition to

their introduction and concerns that they will exacerbate racial disproportionality and discrimination,

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increase tensions and further erode trust in police. In response to the Government's Sentencing White Paper, we have worked closely with members and MoJ officials on the proposals. Developed with a group of experts from the membership and specialist youth legal practitioners, we have submitted a response on 'Reducing the number of children remanded to custody to the MoJ outlining our position on remand and proposals for reducing remand to Youth Detention Accommodation (YDA) for children. We also developed a response with an expert group of our members on 'Reform of childhood criminal records', outlining how we can and should go further for children and calling for a wide ranging review.

We worked closely with the Youth Violence Commission on their final report and alongside a number of our members, our Director wrote an 'expert reflection' for the report, considering what rethinking 'justice' for young people might look like. We worked with partners on the End Child Imprisonment campaign to publish 'The case for ending child imprisonment'. Our Director and a number of our members made a significant contribution to the Working Party on Racial Disparity in Youth Justice convened by JUSTICE, with a view to making positive, practical recommendations for change, seeking to ensure that children are not needlessly criminalised by improving the attitudes, processes and procedures. AYJ joined the Damilola Taylor Trust's Hope Collective and Hope 2020 Campaign which aims to champion young people and their stories of ambition and hope in honour of the 20th anniversary of 10-year-old Damilola's untimely death.

In relation to the impact of COVID-19, throughout 2020 we worked with our members to gather information and insight, enabling us to highlight issues and make practical suggestions. We are committed to providing a channel for our members' concerns, questions and suggestions to be raised with decision-makers. We have also supported collaborative actions to raise issues with government and key decision-makers.

Other initiatives

It was a longstanding aim of the AYJ to develop opportunities for youth participation in our work. From 2018-2019, AYJ developed a participation strategy in consultation with a member expert group, including plans for the AYJ's first youth participation project. Children in Need have generously supported us with a small grant to cover the direct costs of this project for a three-year period from 2020-2022. From this, the Young Advocates project was created, with the title and role intended to encourage embodiment of the advocacy role beyond the group's meetings, within each young participant's community and wider society.

At the start of the year, we were delighted to be awarded funding from Lloyds Bank Foundation for England and Wales to work in partnership with Agenda, the alliance for women and girls at risk, on a

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In November we were delighted to announce that the exceptional impact of COVID-19 on the youth justice system will be documented in a new partnership project between the AYJ and Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU). The project aims to understand the unprecedented implications that the pandemic has had on the system and the vulnerable children it works with. Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), findings and recommendations from the 18-month project will be shared widely with practitioners and decision-makers to shape policy and practice.

RESULT FOR THE PERIOD

The Directors report an excess of income over expenditure of £23,052. Funds in hand at the end of the period totalled **£68,771**. Of this £32,736 is restricted funding and £36,035 is unrestricted.

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent on any purpose of the company, and to be used as a financial reserve.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period.

- i) In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:
- ii) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- iii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iv) prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation

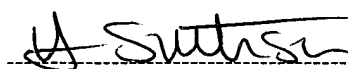
The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime

This report was approved by the Board on 24th March 2021 and signed on their behalf by



H. Smithson, Chair

THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH JUSTICE
(formerly known as The Standing Committee for Youth Justice)
(A company limited by guarantee)

Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Y.E 31.12.20		P.E. 31.12.19	
		£	£	£	£
GROSS INCOME					
Grants received	3	120,641		50,000	
Subscriptions received		<u>9,366</u>		<u>10,080</u>	
			130,007		60,080
GROSS EXPENDITURE					
<u>Direct activity costs</u>					
Salaries and associated costs	4	83,707		37,915	
Staff training		609		0	
Freelance staff fees		1,431		8,738	
Participation		4,352		85	
<u>Support costs</u>					
Office rent		2,880		3,217	
Website and email hosting costs		3,829		374	
Other office costs		373		312	
Office equipment		3,116		472	
Travel and meeting costs		470		932	
<u>Governance costs</u>					
Board and company costs		991		2,558	
Insurance		397		374	
Legal fees (charity registration work)		-		744	
Accountancy fees		750		1,150	
Branding AYJ and website development		<u>4,050</u>		<u>0</u>	
			<u>106,955</u>		<u>56,871</u>
SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION			23,052		3,209
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	6		<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD AFTER TAXATION			<u>23,052</u>		<u>3,209</u>

All of the activities of the company are continuing operations.

The company has no other recognised gains or losses other than the results for the period.

The notes on page 11 form an integral part of these accounts.

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(A company limited by guarantee - co number: 08261562)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	31.12.20		31.12.19	
	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors and prepayments	240		240	
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>70,200</u>		<u>47,256</u>	
		70,440		47,496
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	1,670		1,777	
		<u>1,670</u>		<u>1,777</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>68,771</u>		<u>45,719</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>68,771</u>		<u>45,719</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES				
Profit and loss account	7	<u>68,771</u>		<u>45,719</u>


For the year ending 31 December 2020 the company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and no notice has been deposited under Section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss (surplus or deficit) for the financial period in accordance with the requirements of Section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Signed on behalf of the Directors



H. Smithson

Approved by the Board on 24th March 2021.

The notes on page 11 form an integral part of these accounts.

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Notes to the accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting Policies

Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102 - effective January 2015). The company has taken advantage of the exemptions provided by Section 1A for a small entity.

Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement has been taken under FRS 1, on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small undertaking.

The directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income receivable from grants and donations is recognised in the period in which they are received.

Expenditure on assets costing less than £1,000 is expensed

2. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. In the event of winding up the liability of the members is limited to £1 each.

	2020	2019
	£	£
3. Grants Received		
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	60,000	40,000
BBC Children in Need	2,800	10,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	50,000	0
Agenda	<u>7,841</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>120,641</u>	<u>50,000</u>

4. Analysis of staff costs, and directors' remuneration and expenses

	£	£
Salaries	76,900	35,834
Employer's National Insurance Contributions	6,908	3,566
Less Employers allowance	(4,582)	(3,566)
Employer's pension contributions	3,619	1,555
Recruitment	354	0
Other costs	<u>508</u>	<u>527</u>
	<u>83,707</u>	<u>37,915</u>

The directors all give freely their time without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or in kind.

Three directors received reimbursement of travel expenses totalling £416 (2019 seven totalling £2612).

5. Staff numbers

The average monthly head count was three during the year (2019 - one)

6. Tax

There is no tax chargeable on the results for the year

	2020	2019
	£	£
7. Profit and Loss Account		
Balance brought forward	45,719	42,510
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	<u>23,052</u>	<u>3,209</u>
Fund balance at end of period	68,771	45,719