

24- 25

ANNUAL REPORT

ayac. Australian Youth
Affairs Coalition



Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture. Most often, we work on the lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today. As the national peak body for young people, we also acknowledge First Nations young people as the future custodians of this land. We stay committed to supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and to supporting the leadership and self-determination of First Nations young people.

Acknowledgement of Sponsors

AYAC receives funding and support from the Commonwealth Government, represented by the Department of Education, Office for Youth. AYAC also receives funding and support from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and the Myer Foundations.



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CEO Report

JOANNA ROSTAMI

The work of a peak body organisation is a dynamic one, and can be fast paced and reactive at times. When combined with the act of rebuilding an organisation after a prolonged period of financial uncertainty, it can be challenging to see the very real progress that is being made. The task of writing these words for the Annual Report, is allowing me to reflect on how much we have achieved this year.

This past year has been one of considerable achievement for the AYAC team. Internally, foundational work was undertaken to review our membership approach, our Constitution was reviewed and endorsed, our rebranding commenced, alongside our website redevelopment. In addition, we developed and released several research reports, consulted widely with young people on many issues, including the social media ban, leadership and civic education. The Federal election also demanded our focus, as well as many opportunities to provide submissions to Government inquiries. We also conducted a large report on social cohesion, involving considerable consultation with young people. We conducted sector training, developed the National Practitioner's Network and briefing note, and delivered on fee for service work with The Youth Cancer Trust, the E-Safety Commissioner and ResetTech. I encourage you to read further on all this valuable work throughout this Annual Report.

I would like to thank the powerhouse AYAC team for their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment this past year. Thank you to our current team of Dean Farquhar – National Youth Engagement Lead, Nellie Wotherspoon – National Policy and Project Officer, Reyhan Aksoyoglu – Business Support Coordinator. Thank you also to former team members Kirsty Kain – former National Policy Advocacy Lead and Patrick Lenton – Communications Coordinator for their contribution to AYAC.

Thank you to the AYAC Board of Governance for their continued support and leadership of AYAC. The Board has achieved much this past year, having finalised the review of the AYAC Constitution. The changes were designed to ensure the organisation's structure is fit for purpose, with adjustments to membership categories and board composition and on improving young people's voices, agency, and representation within the organisation. A Special General meeting of members was





held on 8 October 2024 to endorse this. There were no objections to the proposed amendments and the new constitution was endorsed. Constitutional changes delayed AYAC's 2024 AGM to 6 March 2025. Maia Giardono and Dr Jane Hickey filled two vacant Board positions. The Board thanked outgoing members Kate Munro OAM and Jeremy Hunt for their years of service.

AYAC, as always, is extremely grateful for the backing of our members, including the many young people, who actively support, encourage and engage in our work. AYAC membership has continued to grow this year, and we have enjoyed the opportunity to work with and support you, including through our sector network opportunities, the Youth Brains Trust, and CAMPAIGN program. This year has seen further work towards our membership review, which will help AYAC's future sustainability.

Our appreciation goes to our funders and partners, including the Department of Education's Office for Youth, the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, and the Myer Foundations for their support of Australian young people. We also appreciate the interest and commitment of the Minister for Youth, Senator Jess Walsh, as well as former Minister for Youth, Dr Anne Aly, for her championship of young people.

This coming year is also set to be a busy one. In addition to our policy and advocacy on behalf of Australian young people, we will undertake a strategic planning process, implement membership review changes and continue to focus on organisational sustainability.

We look forward to working with you all and continuing our advocacy for the needs and interests of Australian young people.

Chairperson's Report

STASSI AUSTIN

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2024-2025 annual report on behalf of the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition Board of Directors.

It has been a great honour to Chair this Board and I would like to acknowledge the tremendous contributions of our volunteer Board of Directors; Lucas Walsh, Caitlin Figueiredo, Shannon White, Jemma Rule, Maia Giordano and Jane Hickey – and thank them for their ongoing commitment to ensuring that we continue to advocate for all young people in our country. I value their dedication, insightfulness, and the thoughtful conversations that occur throughout the year.

Several of our longstanding Board members concluded their terms with AYAC; Kate Munro, Sandy McKiernan, Anne Bainbridge and Jeremy Hunt - we thank them for their unwavering dedication and continued support.

Our CEO Joanna Rostami has once again led our stellar team to ensure that we are continually advocating for Young Australians and working in the best interest of all our members. A full complement of staff has allowed us to continue to build upon the strong foundation set last year, including increased national advocacy efforts,

collaboration with other peak bodies, and strong partnerships with key stakeholders. With an enormous thank you to Dean Farquhar, Reyhan Aksoyoglu, Nellie Wotherspoon, Kristy Kain, Patrick Lenton and our placement students, I commend our team for their outstanding work throughout the year.

This year we embarked under a new Constitution and updated governance policies, which has and will continue to better inform our operations and solidifies our commitment to embed inclusion, respect and collaboration in all that we do.

We recognize the unique role we play in contributing to systemic advocacy through increased sector capacity building, and civic engagement for young people as well as continuing to offer many collaborative opportunities, including CAMPAIGN, Youth Brains Trust, National Youth Practitioners Network (NYPN) and our well attended Spotlight Series.



Excitingly, we also have undertaken work to revitalize our membership offerings which will be launched in the coming months.

It would be remiss of me not to thank our key funding partners; Australian Commonwealth Government, the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and the Myer Foundation, as well as the others who commissioned us to undertake works for them this year, including eSafety Commission, ResetTech and The Youth Cancer Trust.

We truly appreciate the ongoing commitment from these partnerships that ensure we can continually deliver for our members.

As always, at the core of our work is our continued commitment to including young people, in their diversity, to inform all policies and decisions of AYAC. This can only be achieved by intentional and thoughtful, collaborative work.

Together, we have made significant, systemic change for the 4.7 million Young Australians in our country and I look forward to continuing this work over the next twelve months.

Who We Are

AYAC Board members at 30 June 2025

STASSI AUSTIN

Chairperson

LUCAS WALSH

Deputy Chairperson

CAITLIN FIGUEIREDO

Board member

SHANNON WHITE

Board member

JEMMA RULE

Board member

DR JANE HICKEY

Board member
(elected 6 March 2025)

MAIA GIORDANO

Board member
(elected 6 March 2025)

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of the following departed Board members to the work of AYAC throughout this period:

KATE MUNRO OAM

JEREMY HUNT

SANDY MCKIERNAN

ANNE BAINBRIDGE

Our Staff

JOANNA ROSTAMI

CEO

DR DEAN FARQUHAR

National Youth Engagement Lead

REYHAN AKSOYOGLU

Business Support Coordinator

NELLIE WOTHERSPOON

National Youth Policy and
Project Officer

PATRICK LENTON

Communications Coordinator
(to 14 July 2025)

KIRSTY KAIN

National Policy Lead
(to 31 December 2024)



Policy, Advocacy, and Research

GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY

A core part of AYAC's advocacy for young people is analysing and communicating how current and proposed legislation and policies affect their rights and wellbeing.

Throughout the 2024–2025 financial year, AYAC made several submissions to government, including:

- The Consultation on the Draft Consolidated Industry Codes of Practice for the Online Industry Under the Online Safety Act 2021;
- Inquiry into Australia's Youth Justice and Incarceration System;
- Inquiry into the Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Bill 2024 [Provisions];
- Universities Accord (Student Support and Other Measures) Bill 2024 [Provisions] 5;
- National Housing and Homelessness Plan Bill 2024 (No.2).

Following these submissions, AYAC was asked to present evidence at hearings for the Inquiry into Australia's Youth Justice and Incarceration System, and Universities Accord (Student Support and Other Measures) Bill. AYAC was also directly consulted by the Economic Inclusion Advisory Committee, which provides advice to government on economic inclusion and tackling disadvantage, to advocate for economic equity on behalf of young Australians.

In January 2025, AYAC released its 2025-2026 Federal Pre-Budget submission. This budget submission outlined practical and necessary recommendations to strengthen the youth sector and improve outcomes for young Australians, as well as for AYAC as an organisation. The submission made recommendations across a variety of issues concerning young people, such as homelessness, education, and employment. These recommendations were supported by AYAC's recent youth engagement work, research and reports, including submissions made to

several Government inquiries. It also identified a need for core peak body funding and for national policy forum for knowledge brokering that works towards achieving a national youth strategy.

In addition to these submissions, AYAC provided a briefing report to the Office for Youth (OfY) on the topic of *"What is Youth?"* AYAC also began work on another research report for OfY, on building social cohesion with young people, which is due to be released the following financial year.

AYAC continued to work with sector organisations on advocacy such as supporting the HomeTime campaign through participating in their *"Me at 16"* social media day of action, Duty of Care's social media campaign, and Future Healthy Countdown 2030's campaign on advocating to lower the voting age to 16.



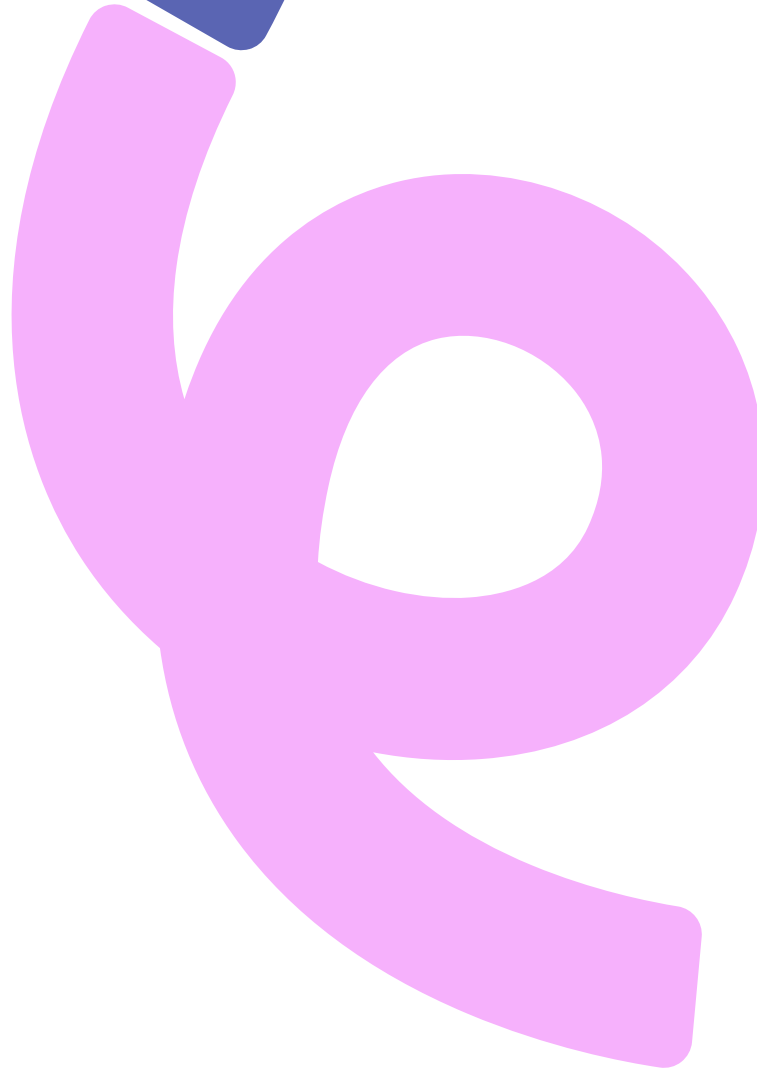


ELECTION ADVOCACY

In the lead up to the 2025 Federal Election, we asked young people what questions they have about the major parties' policies and investigated how politicians had responded to their concerns.

AYAC hosted an RMIT intern student, Ukkasha Oureshi, who led this advocacy campaign. The questions asked by young people covered topics such as housing and homelessness, education equity, and income support payments.

Another part of AYAC's election advocacy was meeting with various members of parliament to discuss issues affecting young people and advocate for stronger action on key youth concerns in future policy and legislation development. Some of the parliamentarians AYAC met with included the Shadow Minister for Youth, Ms Angie Bell MP; Minister for Skills and Training, the Hon Andrew Giles MP; Mr Graham Perrett MP; and Ms Kate Chaney MP.





PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE 2024

In August 2024, AYAC was welcomed to Parliament by co-convenors Mr Andrew Wilkie MP and Ms Rebekha Sharkie MP for the 2024 Parliamentary Friends of Young People (PFOYP) meeting on Ngunnawal country in Canberra.

The meeting theme was Young People’s Experiences of Civic Engagement. Three young speakers took the floor to share their experiences and present ideas to improve youth civic engagement.

Taihan Rahman, 15, and member of the Australian Government’s Youth Steering Committee, proposed a ‘Meet and Greet Day’ for youth to connect with politicians. AYAC Chair Stassi Austin emphasised the importance of listening to young people, while Ella Simons from Make It 16 advocated for

lowering the voting age to 16. Afterward, attendees voted in a mock plebiscite on lowering the voting age, with **36 in favour and 2 against**. The event concluded with remarks from Minister for Youth the Hon Dr Anne Aly MP and Ms Rebekha Sharkie MP.

We look forward to future PFOYP group discussions and collaborations. Since all Parliamentary Friends groups dissolve after each Federal election, AYAC has started re-establishing the PFOYP group.





Taihan Rahman, Youth Steering Committee



Sector Support

DR DEAN FARQUHAR, NATIONAL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT LEAD

In my first full year at AYAC after arriving in Australia in June 2024, I found strong collaboration and goodwill in the youth sector. Over the year, I developed valuable relationships with dedicated individuals supporting young people.

To provide additional fora for the exchange of ideas across the sector, AYAC has implemented its plans to establish a National Youth Practitioners' Network (NYPN) and accompanying sector blog NYPN Briefing this year.

The NYPN launched in October with a roundtable on building social cohesion with young Australians. Kano Rivalji (Third Culture), Andrew Johnson (Youth Action NSW) and Professor Robyn Broadbent (Youth Workers Australia) joined us for an insightful panel on social cohesion and its relevance to young people.

Over 80 people joined the discussion and shared their thoughts during breakout rooms and Q&A. AYAC's summary of key takeaways is [here](#).

Our follow-up NYPN workshop on youth civic and political participation with Professor Pip Collin was held in April, attracting **over 30 participants**. The workshop challenged unhelpful, deficit-laden narratives of youth apathy by exploring the nuances of young people's experiences and perspectives of various modes of civic and political participation. You can check out AYAC's summary of the key takeaways [here](#).

While still in its infancy, NYPN Briefing has proved a useful tool for igniting critical debate and sharing insight across the youth sector. We have had thought-provoking pieces across a variety of topics, including the enduring relevance of the national definition of youth work; trauma informed practice and mental health toolkits for youth workers; the importance of practitioner training; and systemic advocacy with young people. We aim to broaden and deepen this work to continue diffusing knowledge and showcasing the expertise within the sector. You can explore our submission criteria [here](#).

AYAC continues to attend meetings with our State and Territory counterparts to share our work and align priorities across a range of issues. We have been very thankful for the continued support of the State and Territory peaks and the many contributions they have made to our work by connecting us with young people in their networks.

We acknowledge the enduring support of Youth Workers Australia (YWA) who have connected us with fellow youth workers, shared our opportunities with their networks, and supported us to run sector events. We look forward to continued collaboration around promoting a shared professional identity among youth workers and a sense of partnership within the youth sector.





Over the year, we strengthened our partnership with the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN), who supported young people in our CAMPAIGN program and their youth-led event, *Young Migrants: Getting Migrant Voices Heard*. We also connected participants from AYAC to MYAN opportunities like the FUSE program and look forward to continuing this collaboration.

We have deepened our connection with the Australian Child's Rights Taskforce. As the custodians of the national definition of youth work, with its commitment to rights-based youth engagement, it has been a great opportunity to advance such work through feeding into the work of the Taskforce. Through this work we have built valuable relationships that enhance our engagement, research, and advocacy. We will share further updates in the next report.

AYAC also participated regularly in the work of ACOSS, attending their CEO Network, Policy and issue-specific meetings.

Further collaboration with the youth sector include:

- **Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)**
– In early 2025, AYAC linked IEP with several youth sector organisations to discuss partnership working around the theme of social cohesion.
- **Youth Bank International (YBI)**
–AYAC has worked closely with YBI to explore how its internationally successful, grassroots participatory youth budgeting model might be implemented in Australia. To encourage interest in the model within the youth sector, AYAC facilitated a knowledge sharing session with YBI.
- **Malaysian Youth Council**
- We met with the Australian chapter of Malaysian Youth Council and look forward to reporting in how this relationship has developed in the next reporting cycle.

This year has also proved positive for enhancing AYAC relationships with stakeholders in academia. Our National Youth Engagement lead took up an Adjunct Fellowship with Victoria University. We have hosted placement students from RMIT. Members of staff at Western Sydney University have support us with a variety of initiatives. Furthermore, we have been an active participant in the Schoolyard Greenprint research being undertaken by academics at the University of Canberra.

Reflecting our deepening ties within the youth sector and academia, our monthly newsletter and social media channels have been greatly enhanced by the commitment of others to reach out and enable us to share a variety of opportunities, spanning youth engagement, training and research, with our networks. We look forward to building on this progress in the year ahead.



And lastly, to expand AYAC’s sector services we have started reviewing our training options. While many of these are still under development, we were able to launch our training on the Nested Model of Youth Work. Early feedback has been encouraging:

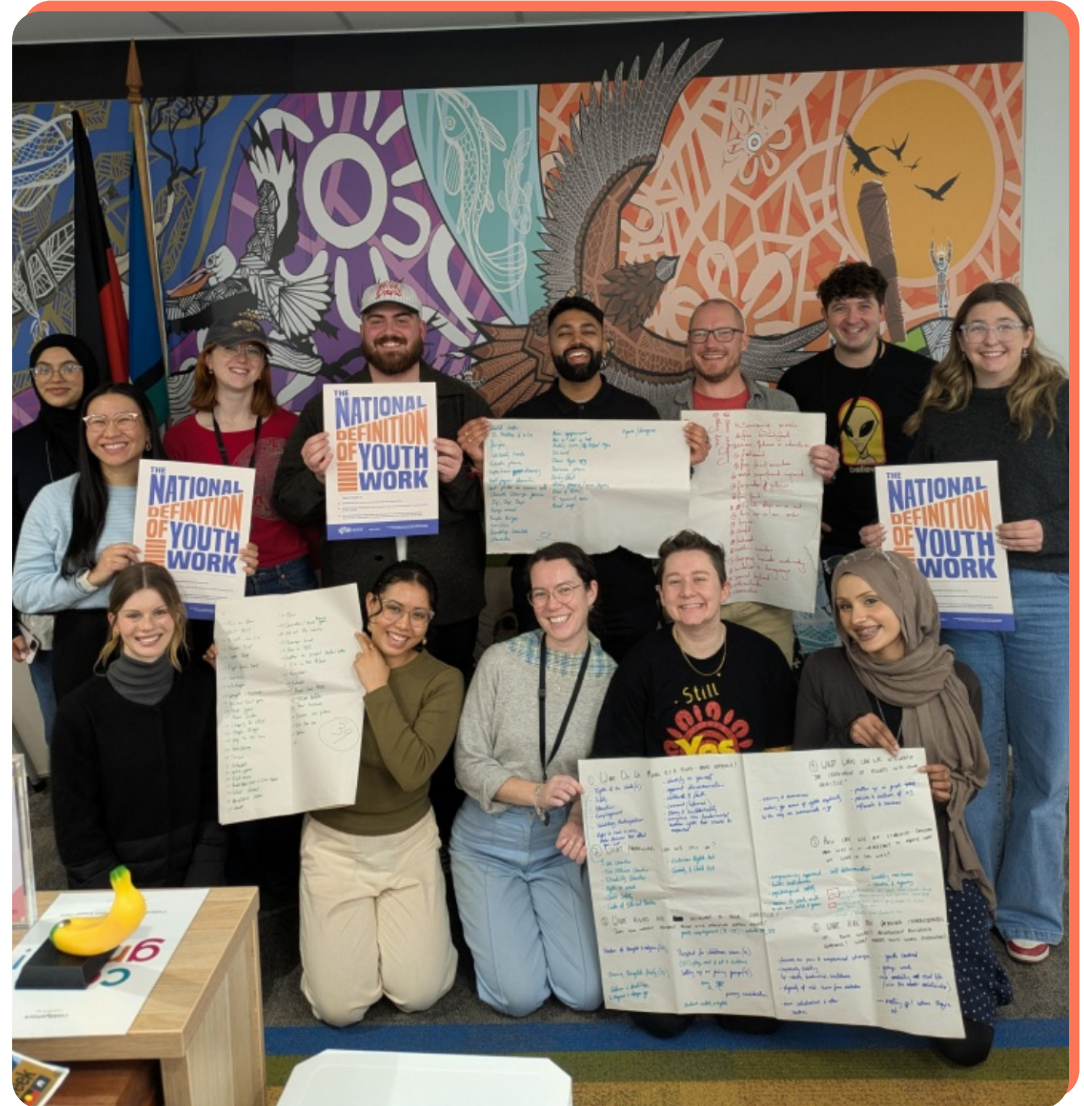


I really enjoyed the good mix of theory and practice/the interpretation of activities and fun bits. The easy-to-understand concepts in the nested model – the model gives really good vocabulary to articulate complex theories.



I enjoyed the balance of theory and activity, being able to link frameworks to the everyday work we do. It was fun! And was really good for hearing/learning from other’s practice.

You can find out more about the Nested Model of Youth Work [here](#).





Engagement

DR DEAN FARQUHAR, NATIONAL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT LEAD

Australian Government Office for Youth

We have continued to work closely with the Australian Government Office for Youth (OFY) on its youth engagement work. During 2024-25 AYAC supported OFY to coordinate the Youth Steering Committee (YSC) meetings, consultation and engagement. This has included coordinating travel, transport, accommodation, meals, honorarium and volunteer agreements for the YSC, including **two face-to-face meetings**.

In the August 2024 face-to-face meeting held in Canberra, AYAC supported OFY with the onboarding of new YSC members and led an interactive session exploring a rights-based vision statement for the Committee's work which they presented to OFY. During this trip, AYAC also facilitated a Parliamentary Friends event, which enabled YSC members to hear powerful contributions from their peers and network with decision-makers. A Committee member, Taihan, was also afforded an opportunity to pitch an

initiative outside of his OFY role concerning a National Youth Meet and Greet Day, aiming to support young people to better interface with politicians.

At the February 2025 face-to-face meeting, AYAC facilitated a day of consultation with the YSC. This included discussion on the importance of rights-based youth engagement. During the session, the Committee participated in a self-directed, interactive activity on the theme of supporting the department communicate its commitment to rights-based youth engagement across government. Using the media equipment provided, the Committee developed some social media content.

AYAC also supported the YSC to develop a briefing document for the Age Assurance Taskforce through an informal, drop-in consultation session, further optimising its capacity to shape emerging policy debate.

AYAC facilitated honoraria to the YSC throughout 2024-25 for online and face to face meetings, and the payment of honoraria to the Youth Advisory Groups, as well as agreed upon reimbursements transport and other associated participation costs. Finally, AYAC also facilitated the payment of honoraria on behalf of other Government Departments, to support youth engagement and participation. **Over 370 honorarium payments** were processed to support the Australian Government's youth engagement work.

AYAC has further supported the recruitment of the next cohort of YSC members by promoting the application process online and participating in the interview process. We look forward to providing an update on our work with this new cohort in the next reporting cycle.



YOUTH BRAINS TRUST (YBT)

This year we expanded our youth engagement through the YBT. As at June 2025, the YBT included **1295 young AYAC members**. To ensure that the YBT are kept informed of developments, AYAC has used monthly YBT alerts to direct members to its various social media channels. AYAC keeps YBT members updated with monthly alerts that link to social media, where members can access the latest news and opportunities. As a result, recruitment from the YBT has been strong

AYAC supported Reset.Tech facilitate consultations with **17 young people** on online safety and privacy. As part of this work, the group led meetings with the Privacy Commissioner and the Online Safety Review Team. Members of the group also made a video submission on their thoughts on online safety and privacy for a consultation facilitated by Reset.Tech, while another member was offered an opportunity to participate in a panel discussion in Sydney.

AYAC joined with others to support Reset.Tech facilitate a consultation with young people about the Children's Online Privacy Code. In total, **20 young people** recruited by AYAC participated in the consultation. You can access the briefing paper Reset.Tech provided to the Office of the Australian Privacy Commission [here](#).

We were further delighted to work with the Youth Cancer Trust to deliver a bespoke series of workshops to its Youth Advisory Group (YAG). This work involved **20 young people in 4 workshops** covering facilitation, advocacy and media training. Feedback was positive:



The facilitation was great. There was active participation and we felt comfortable.



I liked that it was collaborative and focused on us speaking.



I loved the collaborativeness. It is always fun to get to have those types of conversations.



I liked that there was a wide range of resources used on our specific training.



You could tell there was a lot of effort and preparation. We all learnt something to take away.

We also closed out our grant deed supporting the eSafety Commission with its Youth Advisory Council, with some informal drop-in sessions and facilitation training. We look forward to reporting on our more recent work with the eSafety Commission on the Social Media Minimum Age Restrictions in the next reporting cycle.

Building on our enhanced youth engagement, this year we launch our advocacy program CAMPAIGN. Aimed at those with more limited advocacy experience, CAMPAIGN initially engages young people in a series of capacity building workshops exploring civic values, political institutions, communication and advocacy. Participants are then invited to work in teams on an advocacy project as a team that AYAC.

12 young people participated in the pilot of CAMAPAIGN. One team worked alongside Share the Dignity and AYAC to raise awareness around period poverty. The other team established delivered a youth-led event centering the voices of young migrants with the support of AYAC and MYAN. You can check out the Young Migrants: getting Migrant Voices Heard event [here](#).

Feedback for CAMAPAIGN was positive: All participants found the program enjoyable and engaging, felt it increased their understanding of values in advocacy, improved their teamwork skills, and said they would recommend it to others. Pre - and post-questionnaire responses showed positive evidence of learning was recorded in enhanced knowledge of citizenship and government, and improved advocacy and teamwork skills. Narrative feedback was also consistently positive:



Thank you so much for the opportunity to be part of this program and for being so supportive of all of us. It's been an incredibly rewarding experience—I've enjoyed every moment and loved working with everyone.



Thank you so much for facilitating this program over the past few months, it has certainly been a great experience. The program has really helped me gain more insight into how a campaign operates from the start... Meeting people from different backgrounds showed me how important it is to consider other perspectives when working toward change. I really liked the interactive sessions and the chance to share ideas with others. It made the program feel engaging and meaningful.



Overall, I loved the experience and learned so much more about advocacy and social justice.

We look forward to sharing our work on the second iteration of CAMPAIGN in the next reporting cycle.

Over the year, we continued to platform the voices of young people on the issues that matter to them through our youth blog, *Raise Your Voice*. **15 pieces from young people** were published. You can check out their insightful contributions across a range of issues [here](#).





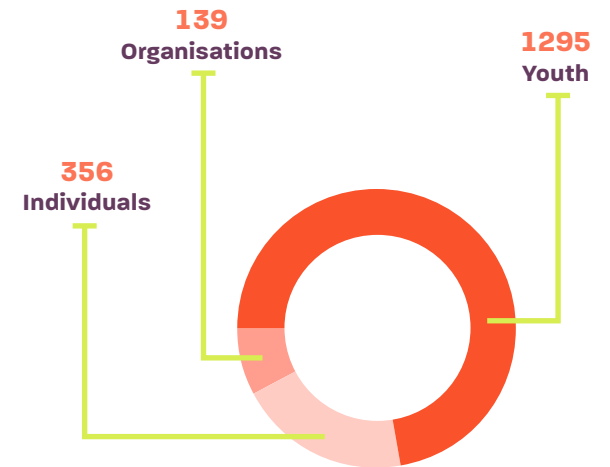
Membership

During 2024-25 AYAC's membership continued to grow with 1790 members.

Our membership categories include youth (12-26yrs), individual membership and organisations (which include peak bodies, youth and community organisations).

We expect to implement the outcome of a membership review during 2026.

MEMBERSHIP 2024-25



ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND NINTY FIVE

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SIX

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY NINE

ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERSHIP



Communications

We continue to build our connection with members, sector and young people through regular e-newsletters.

AYAC has two e-newsletters, with one focused on information for general members and sector, and the other directed to our youth members, known as the 'Youth Brains Trust.' These newsletters enable information and resource sharing, updates on policy and reports, as well as provide an opportunity to share opportunities for engagement and consultation.

AYAC continues to receive media requests for commentary on youth affairs, maintaining our role as a bridge between the media and young people.

We remain active across social media with posts directed at both the youth sector and young people on multiple platforms.

GENERAL E-NEWSLETTERS

12

YBT E-NEWSLETTERS

11

INSTAGRAM POSTS

131

+

FACEBOOK POSTS

131

LINKEDIN POSTS

73

INSTAGRAM LIKES

4724

Treasurer's Report

MAIA GIORDANO ACTING TREASURER

We are pleased to present the financial report for the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition Inc. (AYAC) for the year ended June 2025.

Overall, AYAC achieved a surplus of \$12,992.

During the reporting period, the organisation received income totalling \$777,762 from the following sources:

- Grants \$509,692
- Philanthropy \$231,901
- Fee for Service and miscellaneous income \$36,169

AYAC has met all its statutory and regulatory obligations.

We sincerely appreciate the ongoing financial support from the Australian government and our

philanthropic partners. We are pleased to have secured these collaborations for the upcoming financial year.

AYAC remains committed to fulfilling the outcomes established by our government and philanthropic stakeholders, and to pursuing our vision in partnership with young people.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We look forward to further collaboration with young people and all our members.

Board Members' Report

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2025

Director's Report

Your board members submit the financial report of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

Board Members

We gratefully acknowledge the departed Board of Governance members for their contribution the work of AYAC. The names of board members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Board Member	Position	Date Started	Date Ended
Caitlin Figueiredo	General Member	9/12/2020	
Stassi Austin	Chair, Young Person	30/11/2021	
Shannon White	General Member	18/12/2023	
Lucas Walsh	Deputy Chair	18/12/2023	
Kate Munro	Co-Chair	30/11/2021	6/3/2025
Jemma Rule	Young Person	18/12/2023	
Jeremy Hunt		30/11/2022	3/12/2024
Maia Giordano	General Member	6/3/2025	
Jane Hickey	General Member	6/3/2025	

Operating Results

The surplus for the financial year is \$12,992. (2024: Surplus of \$9,436)

Principal Activities

The Associations objects are to pursue the following charitable purposes:

- To promote and protect the human rights of young people
- To promote respect, tolerance, and inclusion of young people
- To advance education by providing leadership training, support and opportunities to young people
- To advance the health and welfare of young people
- To promote laws, policies and practices which advance charitable purposes for the benefit of young people

The entity is incorporated under the Association Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT) and is an incorporated association. If Australian Youth Affairs Coalition is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$0 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity. As at 30 June 2025, the total amount that members of the entity are liable to contribute if the entity is wound up is \$0.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2025 can be found in this financial report.

This Board Members' report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Governance on: **28 October 2025**

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Lucas Walsh

Name: Lucas Walsh

Position: Deputy Chair

Date: 3 November 2025

Maia Giordano

Name: Maia Giordano

Position: General Board Member

Date: 3 November 2025

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Statement of Profit or Loss

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2025

	NOTES	2025	2024
Income			
Government Grants		509,692	509,000
Other Grants		231,901	121,218
Service income		35,078	18,182
Other income		1,091	1,239
Total income		777,762	649,639
Expenditure			
Employee Benefits		570,293	356,027
Program Expenses		4,401	79,812
Administration Expenses		52,319	57,147
Participation and Volunteer Expenses		69,333	50,730
Travel Expenses		15,953	39,987
Occupancy Expenses		14,947	17,878
Communications and IT Expenses		32,611	15,265
Meeting and Event Expenses		2,577	14,873
Governance Expenses		525	7,974
Depreciation		1,810	510
Total Expenditure		764,770	640,204
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		12,992	9,436

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Statement of Financial Position

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition As at 30 June 2025

	NOTES	30 JUNE 2025	30 JUNE 2024
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents		358,797	411,727
Trade and Other Receivables		3,061	26,316
Prepayments		1,182	23,224
Total Current Assets		363,040	461,267
Property, Plant, Equipment		3,795	3,969
Total Assets		366,835	465,236
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables		48,785	101,426
Contract Liabilities		77,500	162,135
Leave Entitlement Provision		34,172	8,290
Total Liabilities		160,458	271,851
Net Assets		206,377	193,384
Equity			
Accumulated Funds		206,377	193,384

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Statement of Cash Flows

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2025

	NOTES	2025	2024
Cash flows from Operating Activities			
Receipts from grants, contributions and donations		656,958	671,734
Receipts from customers		36,169	23,741
Payments to suppliers and employees		(696,122)	(593,187)
Finance costs		(136)	(94)
Cash payments from other operating activities		(48,164)	(7,500)
Total Cash flows from Operating Activities		(51,294)	94,694
Cash flows from Investing Activities			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(1,635)	(4,479)
Total Cash flows from Investing Activities		(1,635)	(4,479)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(52,930)	90,215
Cash Balances			
Opening cash balance		411,727	321,512
Closing cash balance		358,797	411,727
Movement in cash		(52,930)	90,215

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Movements in Equity

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2025

	NOTES	2025	2024
Equity			
Opening Balance		193,384	183,949
Increases			
Surplus for the Period		12,992	9,436
Total Increases		12,992	9,436
Total Equity		206,377	193,384

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached auditor's report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Board Members' Declaration

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2025

In accordance with a resolution of the Board of Governance of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition, the directors of the Registered Entity declare that, in the board members' opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out in the previous pages, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
(a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and

(b) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the registered entity as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. In the board members' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022.

Lucas Walsh

Name: Lucas Walsh

Position: Deputy Chair

Date: 3 November 2025

Maia Giordano

Name: Maia Giordano

Position: General Board Member

Date: 4 November 2025

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Auditor's Independence Declaration Under the ACNC Act

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2025

To the board members of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition

In accordance with Subdivision G0-C of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, I am pleased to provide the following declaration of independence to the directors of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition. As the lead audit partner for the audit of the financial report of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition for the year ended 30 June 2025, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2025 there have been no contraventions of:

(i) the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and

(ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

William Jonathan Griffin

William Jonathan Griffin

APL Financial Pty Ltd

32 Business Park Drive
Notting Hill, Victoria 3168

Dated: 22-10-2025

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Board Members

Australian Youth Affairs Coalition For the year ended 30 June 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (the registered entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the board members' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the registered entity is in accordance with the Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (the ACNC Act), including:

1. giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
2. complying with Australian Accounting Standards

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Registered Entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ACNC Act, the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The board members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the registered entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Board Members for the Financial Report

The board members of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act and for such internal control as the board members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the board members are responsible for assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the board members either intend to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative

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but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Registered Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the board members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the board members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the board members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


William Johathan Griffin
APL Financial Pty Ltd

32 Business Park Drive
Netting Hill, Victoria 3168

Date: 22-10-2025

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