

What's Important to Youth?



Youth policy consultations: methods, results and outcomes

Introduction

“We want to do even more to improve outcomes for all young people, and address gaps in supports, focussing on those who are disadvantaged, disengaged, or facing particular challenges.”

- **Jenny Mikakos MP** Minister for Youth Affairs

Consultation methodology

**Youth and sector
reference groups**

Online consultation

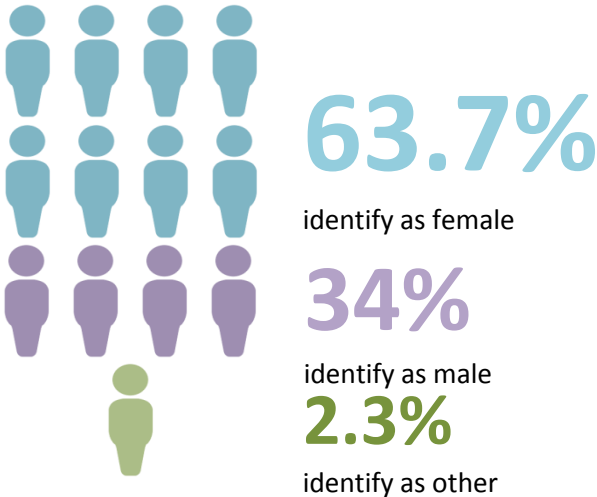
**‘What’s Important to
Youth?’ discussion
paper**

Social media analysis

**‘What’s Important to
Youth?’ youth survey**

**Non-government
organisation
consultations**

Who answered the survey?

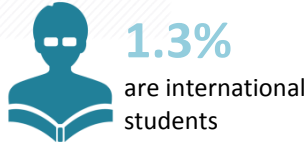
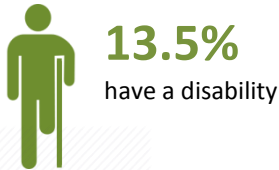
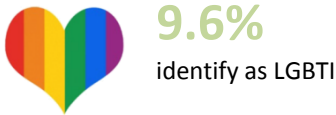
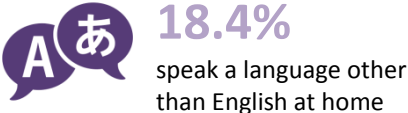


45.9%

live in rural or regional Victoria

54.1%

live in metropolitan municipalities



NGO consultation outcomes

Koorie youth



- Cultural respect and safety
- Education
- Identity
- Health and well being
- Alcohol and drugs
- Employment

Youth justice



- Alcohol and drugs
- Flexible education options
- Transition to employment
- Housing

Out-of-home-care



- Mental health
- Need for assistance to be independent at 18

Youth voice



- Need for youth voice to be privileged
- Use of mediums which young people find comfortable
- Non-token engagement

Education



- Need for a fair and flexible education system
- Improved pathways to employment
- Providing life skills

Discussion paper responses

“Non-mainstream education providers more effectively cater to students who have both disengaged from mainstream schools and who may be exhibiting patterns of behaviour consistent with abuse or the effects of trauma are an important part of the education system...

Young people learn, thrive and prosper if the conditions are right, and if their individual learning needs can be addressed and met.”

- Education 2 Employment Working Group

What young people have told us

36.5% of young people identify education as the issue most important to them.

“I think there should be more schools like the flexible learning centre as it helps kids whom are unable to attend mainstream school and still want/need an education get one as well as being in a safe and concerned environment for kids who would get overwhelmed easily.”

- 15-19 year old male living in Greenvale

“Change the education, get rid of things that we don't need to know. Make learning more flexible around our needs.”

- 15-19 year old female living in Greenvale

“Have more flexible learning options for young people including young people under 15 years old.”

- 20-24 year old female living in Kilmore

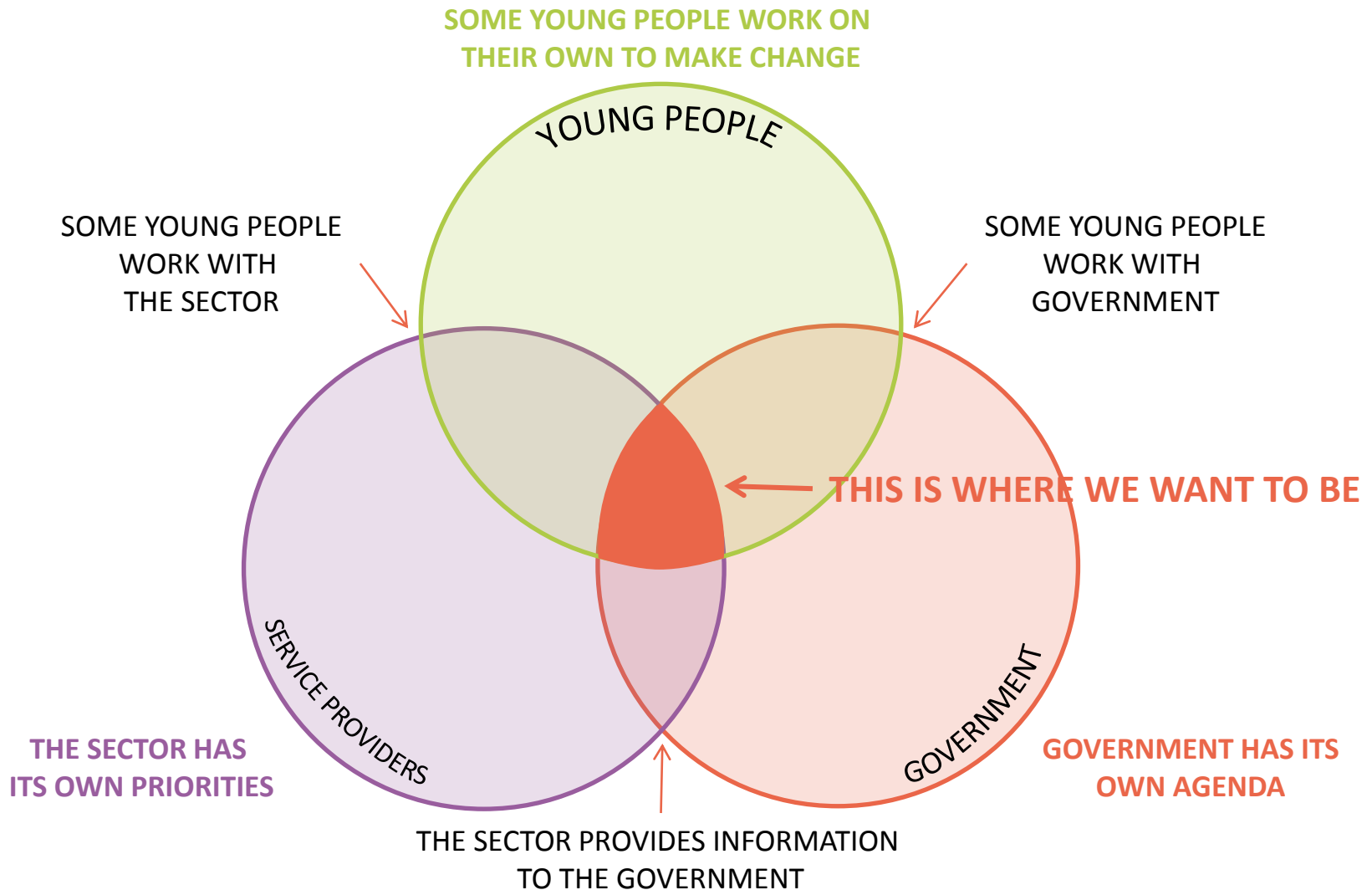
“Flexibility of education and assistance to youth to ensure they have a chance of training/education in a sector they may be able to get jobs in. I understand how ludicrous it is to expect the government to create and know what jobs people will need to train for the economy in 20 years, that is beyond your control, but estimates and guesswork will be needed to try and mitigate and reduce those headed for professions at high risk of automation. This is extremely important, mitigation is the best that can be planned for as automation cannot be stopped.”

- 20-24 year old male living in Parkville

“Create more flexible education options (eg online study for more areas) to help young people who find it hard to engage get back 'on the grid'.”

- 20-24 year old transgender person living in St Kilda

Shifting the relationship



Minister Mikakos' aspiration for Victorian young people

“We want to amplify the voices of young people, and illuminate the issues they face”

- **Jenny Mikakos MP** Minister for Youth Affairs

Questions

