

July 2025

Our joint response to [Government's Young Futures Hubs announcement](#):

We express deep concern over the direction of the Government's Young Futures Hubs programme. The Government's manifesto pledged £95 million per year for these hubs offering open access, drop-in mental health support for children and young people in their local community, alongside support to prevent young people from being drawn into crime.

The 10-Year Health Plan reaffirmed that mental health support would be embedded to ensure there is no "wrong door" for those seeking help.

We welcomed the roll out of the hubs model, which has been proven effective in local communities for decades. Its strength lies in a holistic approach, supporting young people across all areas of their lives - including those at risk of being drawn into crime. Successful hubs are co-created with young people to ensure they feel safe, welcoming, and genuinely supportive.

However, framing these services as crime prevention - as the Government's launch this week did - risks deterring young people from accessing them. To truly help young people thrive, the Government must involve them at every stage of developing and delivering Young Futures Hubs, nationally and locally. The commitment to only around 50 hubs backed by £250,000 per hub falls short of the comprehensive network of support and funding initially pledged.

Young Futures Hubs present a vital opportunity for the Government to deliver on its ambitions to move care into the community, take a preventative approach, and raise the healthiest generation of children ever, so they feel equipped to on their journey into adulthood. Achieving this requires mental health and wellbeing at the core, robust design with young people and long-term investment. Without doing so, these ambitions will be meaningless for children and young people.

Amy Whitelock Gibbs, Chair, Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition

Andy Bell, Chief Executive, Centre for Mental Health

Audrey Muwandi, Programme and Partnerships Manager, Black Thrive

Dr Phil James CEO, British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy

Cassandra Harrison, CEO, Youth Access

Mark Russell, CEO, The Children's Society

Lucy Taylor-Mitchinson, Director of Policy and Communications, YoungMinds

Sarah Hughes, CEO, Mind

ENDS