

# YOUTH ALLIANCE GM

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## Election Information Pack

June 2025

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## Introduction

As of April 2025, The Youth Alliance is starting it's third year of funded delivery, and we are looking for a Chair and Vice Chair of the Youth Alliance.

The role of Chair is currently held by Stuart Dunne, CEO of Youth Focus North West, who has been acting as interim Chair whilst the governance and operational foundations of the Youth Alliance GM have been put into place.

With over 160 members, the Youth Alliance is growing and being invited into exciting spaces to champion and advocate for the youth sector across the 10 boroughs.

Standing for the Chair or Vice-Chair role at this exciting time for the Alliance presents a brilliant opportunity to be well connected across GM. You will represent and advocate for the strength of the youth and play sector to local and regional decision-makers, raising the profile of our sector's amazing work & ensuring we are collectively seen as trusted, valuable partners who can deliver for our children and young people.

# Roles Up For Election

We are now looking for a new Chair and Vice-Chair to lead the Youth Alliance GM over the next 2 years.

## Role of the Chair

**The Chair will provide leadership and support ensuring the steering group is operating as effectively as possible.**

- Leading the steering group in developing an ethical culture in line with the values and aims of the Youth Alliance.
- Ensures the steering group fulfils its governance role and doesn't stray into areas of management or operations.
- Ensuring updates from the delivery team are communicated and work is being completed in line with the project plan and strategy.
- To ensure smooth running of steering group meetings, managing the meeting process and behaviour of steering group members.
- Following up with steering group members on items or actions outstanding throughout the year.
- Acting as figurehead or spokesperson for the Youth Alliance, including representing the Alliance at external meetings, and events.
- Communicating any opportunities relevant to the Alliance and supporting the steering group to prepare and respond.

## Role of the Vice- Chair

**The Vice-Chair shares the leadership of the steering group and helps to make the role of Chair more manageable.**

- The Vice-Chair acts as a deputy for the Chair, taking on the Chair's role when the Chair is absent.
- To be prepared to lead with authority on key issues when the Chair is not present.
- Provide support and advice to the Chair, and act as a sounding board.
- Provide support to help the Chair manage their workload by sharing tasks.



# How the Election Will Work

- Nominations are now open (opened 8th May 2025). You have until 31st May 2025 (23:59pm) to nominate yourself & secure a supporter from the Steering Group.
- The voting period will start on 4th June 2025 and conclude at the Youth Alliance GM Meeting on 11th June.
- Results will be announced at the Youth Alliance GM Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June.
- Each member organisation of the Youth Alliance gets ONE vote for Chair, and ONE vote for Vice-Chair. Multiple individuals from the same organisation cannot all vote - they must agree on the vote they are placing on behalf of their organisation.
- There will be a Q&A session with all nominated candidates at the Youth Alliance GM meeting on 11th June, with an opportunity to hear more from the candidates and ask them any questions.

## Important Information

- Your organisation must be a member of the Youth Alliance to stand and to vote in the elections.
  - You can check if you are already a member [here](#).
  - Become a member by joining [here](#).
  - To be eligible to vote, your organisation must have been approved as a member **before 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025**.



# How to Stand for Election

## Step 1

Decide you would like to run and which position you would like to stand for.

## Step 2

Ask a member of the Youth Alliance's current Steering Group to support your nomination. Each candidate requires one supporter from the Steering Group - the current members are:

- Stuart Dunne – Youth Focus North West
- Alex Fairweather – GMYN
- Samuel Remi-Akinwale – Young Manchester
- Francesca Speakman – #BeeWell
- Caroline Gleaves – Gorsehill Studios
- Sally Carr – Street Games
- Karina Nyananyo – 42nd Street
- Noah Mellor – Salford CVS
- Anita Chouan – EY Foundation
- Dominic Rice – Bolton Youth Service
- Tim Rumley – Salford Youth Service
- Sam Palmer – Respect for All

## Step 3

Let us know you would like to stand by sending an email:

**To:** [info@youthallianceegm.co.uk](mailto:info@youthallianceegm.co.uk)

**Subject:** [YOUR NAME] nomination for CHAIR/VICE CHAIR (Delete as appropriate)

**Body:** Include the name of the Steering Group member who is supporting your nomination so we can confirm this with them.

We will then send you a personal link to upload your information onto the Choice Voting platform.

## Step 4

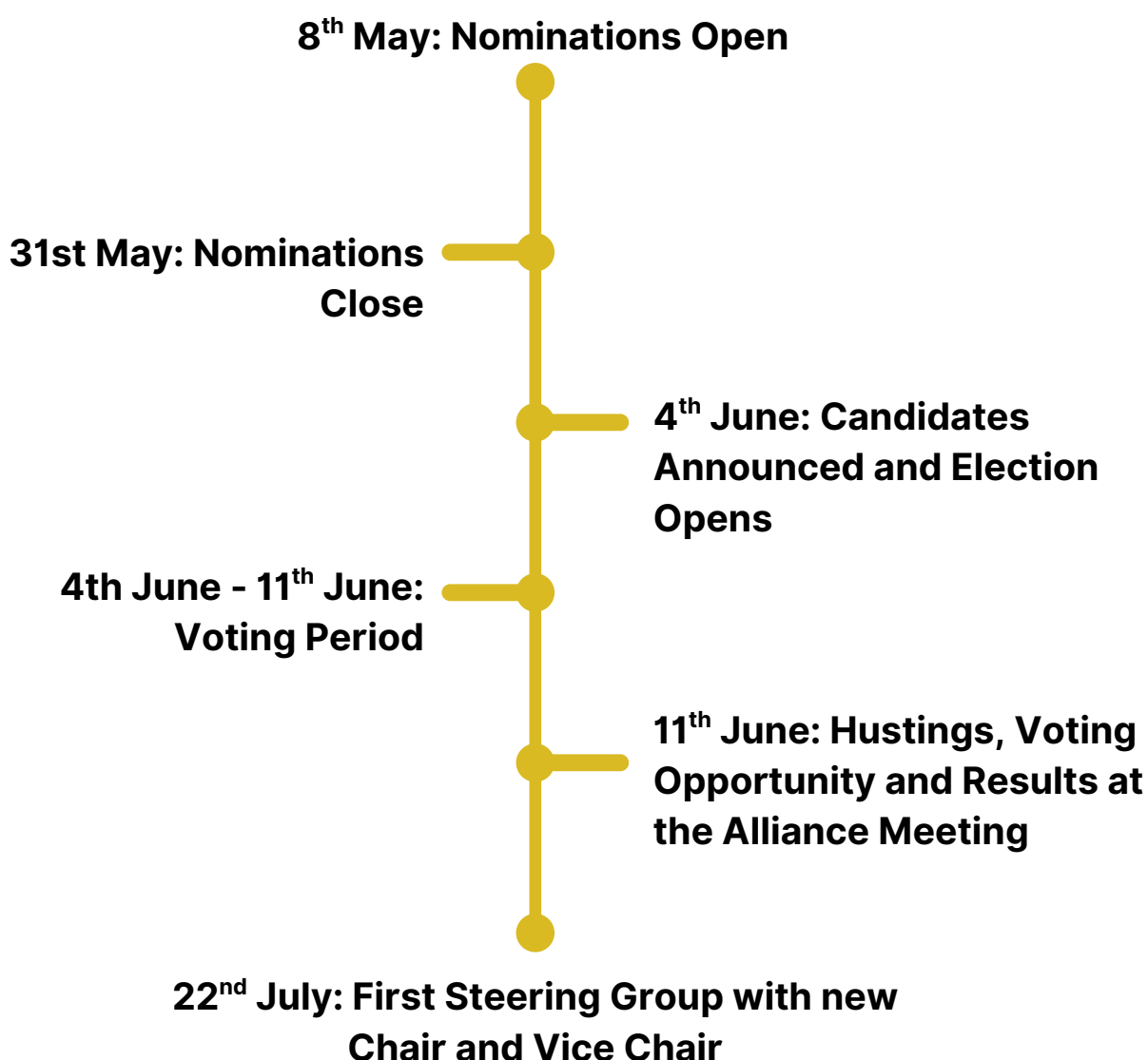
Upload your nomination onto the Choice Voting platform using the personal link sent to you. This will ask you for:

- Which position you are standing for
- Your name
- A Photo
- A 500 word statement on why you are standing for the role

## Useful Information and Links

- We are using the Choice Voting Platform to handle the nomination and elections process. [Find out more about this here.](#)
- The election will be counted using Single Transferable Vote. [You can read more about this here.](#)
- When voting is open you can use this link to vote:  
<https://vote.choicevoting.co.uk/e/PpoP4EBokj> We will also send this round via email.
- If you have any problems using the software, please contact [info@youthalliance.co.uk](mailto:info@youthalliance.co.uk)
- The current Chair, Stuart Dunne is happy to meet with and speak to anyone considering standing who wants to know more about the role(s). You can contact Stu on [s.dunne@youthfocusnw.org.uk](mailto:s.dunne@youthfocusnw.org.uk)

## Timeline



## About the Youth Alliance

At the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic, purpose driven leaders and organisations came together and recognising a need for joint and collaborative working to mitigate negative impacts on children and young people across our region. These individuals and organisations worked together in informal partnership and collaboration.

Several years on and this informal partnership has swelled, to over 140 organisations drawn from local VCS sector, public sector youth services, housing associations and national charities.

We believe that this collaboration is a force for good, providing the opportunity for us to collectively mobilise our resources for the benefit of children and young people in our city region.

The overarching purpose of Youth Alliance GM is to:

- Collectively improve young people's wellbeing across Greater Manchester – linking strategically with the #BeeWell programme.
- Provide more equity for all by working collaboratively to increase opportunities for young people across Greater Manchester.
- Make systemic change by shaping and influencing services for young people across Greater Manchester.

Find out more about the Youth Alliance GM by visiting:

**[www.youthalliancegm.co.uk](http://www.youthalliancegm.co.uk)**

## Our Strategic Priorities 24-26

- Improve young people's wellbeing across Greater Manchester
- Create a sufficient youth work offer for children and young people in GM.
- Support the youth work force through learning, training and qualifications
- Focus collective effort on the Disabled children living in all GM boroughs so that they have access to a high quality and child-led SEND support offer, without barriers based on their postcode.
- Support the creation of a safe space for young people in every community.
- Strengthen the Alliance itself, ensuring we have a sustainable model and mechanism to drive long term change

## Get in Touch

For any support or questions, please get in touch with the Youth Alliance Project Team (Bri and Lou) at:

**[info@youthalliancegm.co.uk](mailto:info@youthalliancegm.co.uk)**

If you wish to make a complaint about a candidate or the way the election is being handled, please contact the Returning Officer: Emma Sims at [e.sims@youngmanchester.org](mailto:e.sims@youngmanchester.org)

**YOUTH  
ALLIANCE GM**

