

THE YOUNG EXPLORER'S TRUST

AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2013 TO 2015

The current aims and objectives of the Trust were reviewed in 2012 and it is the intention that the strategic direction of the Trust for the next three years identifies with these aims and objectives.

Aims and Objectives

.Mission statement of the Trust:

"The Young Explorers' Trust seeks to promote safe and responsible youth expeditions. It aims to give young people the opportunity to widen their experience and education by taking part in exploration, discovery and challenging adventure which develops the personal qualities of service, self-sufficiency and leadership."

The Young Explorers' Trust (YET) is an independent, nationally based, educational charity representing charitable, corporate and independent providers of youth expeditions or ventures.

YET champions active, challenging and safe expeditions involving young people by:

- promoting to all young people the benefits of participating in expeditions from independent self-run ventures to those provided by special interest groups, charitable and commercial organisations, and schools
- advocating the value of youth expeditions as a unique and excellent outdoor educational experience to parents, schools, education managers, local authorities, voluntary youth services, regional and national government bodies and the media
- providing advice, sharing experience and good practice, and supporting expedition leaders and providers in the planning of safe, challenging, ventures.

YET supports and enables its objectives by:

- representing the common interests of its member organisations on a wide variety of other national bodies
- offering all individual expeditions and corporate venture providers the opportunity to benefit from its nationally recognised scheme for 'Evaluation of Expedition Plans'. Experienced evaluation panels assess individual expeditions for good practice, safe and sensible procedures, educational and development quality, challenging activities, ethical, environmental and community content to the level expected by the national standard BS 8848. Alternatively, organisations may undertake a corporate evaluation to the same standard to demonstrate their overarching adherence for all ventures in their name
- awarding grants in support of individuals

- offering mentoring support for individuals, expedition leaders and venture providers
- signposting training opportunities for Trust members and the public
- the provision of a regular series of the 'YET Forum' covering pertinent diverse topics such as expedition planning, expedition medicine and leadership development
- producing and promulgating publications containing essential guidance on common expedition issues. These may be downloaded from the website or ordered directly from the Trust.



The strategic direction of the Trust was last set in 2010, a period of three years that ended in June 2013.

Following recent meetings of Council and Trustees and a proposal for the re-structuring of the operation of the Trust, it is appropriate and opportune designate the strategic direction that YET wishes to take over the next three years.

Strategic Direction

The working arm of the Trust is its Officers and those they gather around them in Working Groups to deliver key aims.

Area of Focus	Deliverables	Action through Officer & Group
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Note: the deliverables within each section are not in any order of priority.

A. Provide a membership service for all stakeholders in Expeditions and other ventures	Offer a representative membership of Council to organisations	Chairman & Trustees
	Offer a range of corporate / single membership – adult / youth	Membership Secretary & Treasurer
	Develop a members “welcome” pack	Membership Secretary
	Develop and promote a range of membership benefits & services	Membership Secretary & Web Editor
B. The “voice” of the Expedition sector	Gather views of representative organisations of current issues	Trustees and Council
	Network, by being represented on key committees	Chairman
	Lobby to represent collective views to Government	Trustees & Chairman
	Debate issues and promote innovation at Forum	Forum Co-ordinator
	Publication of papers & use of web site	Publications & Web Officers
	Minimise impact of negative coverage from incidents and crises.	Chairman & Media Officer
	Stimulate media interest to promote success and achievement	Chairman & Media Officer
C. Encourage the safe and responsible delivery of expeditions	Promote the YET Evaluations Scheme	Evaluations Officer and Web Editor
	Evaluate single ventures	Evaluations Officer & Team
	Evaluate Corporate organisations	Evaluations Officer & Team
	Publicise evaluated providers operating to known standard	Evaluations Officer & Web Editor
	Maintain profile in development of standards (BS8848)	Liaison Trustee and Chairman
	Offer support & advice to providers to improve standard of delivery	Mentoring Co-ordinator & Advisors
	Develop and keep current guidance of good practice (web guide)	Publications Officer & Web Editor

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D. Support new / "one off" providers of expeditions	Publication of an Expedition planning manual	Publications Officer & Web Editor
	Promotion of good practice (web guide)	Publications Officer & Web Editor
	Development of mentoring service	Mentoring officer & Advisors
	Signposting routes for leadership development	Training Officer
	Evaluation of single ventures	Evaluations Officer
E. Encourage participation in expeditions through awards and grants	Publicise range of Trust grants and awards	Awards & Media officers & Web Editor
	Operate a transparent grant and awards process	Awards Officer & Team
	Promote and celebrate achievement in expeditions	Awards & Media Officers & Web Editor
	Manage funds for grants and awards	Awards Officer & Treasurer,
	Publicise range of Trust grants and awards	Awards & Media officers & Web Editor
F. Promote and develop training opportunities.	Signpost training opportunities in expedition related skills	Training Officer, Media & Web Officers
	Identify gaps in training provision	Training Officer
	Sourcing and providing training courses for training gaps	Training Officer
	Contribute to developments in expedition employment (OEG)	Chairman, Training Officer
	Promote good practice in expedition leadership	Training Officer & Web Editor
G. Develop a Resources Group to secure funds to better enable the Trust to fulfil its aims	Recruit Officer and form resources group	Trustees & Treasurer
	Funding required for Evaluations service to enhance provision	Evaluations Liaison Trustee & Team
	Membership fees to relate to cost of providing information & admin.	Chairman & Membership Secretary
	Fees for Training Courses to cover costs and contribute to admin.	Training Officer
	Additional Awards & Grants and enhance value of Awards	Trustees, Chairman & Awards Team
	Support in kind / direct funding for administration of Trust	Trustees, Council & Officers