



Young People's Access to Counselling project (a2c)

**Tom Wylie, Chief Executive of the National Youth Agency, on behalf of
Youth Access (its partner organisation)**

**today launches at the Youth Summit two *free* national resources
to support the commissioning of youth counselling services
across the country**

Commissioning Counselling Services for young people : a guide for commissioners

John McCracken, Head of Child and Adolescent Mental Health at the Department of Health said of the 'guide for commissioners':

"The development of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) which meets the needs of the ten percent of children and young people who have a mental health problem is important in helping them to realise their full potential. The National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services highlights the key role the voluntary sector can play.

The voluntary sector is often able to engage young people whose needs are not met by other, statutory services. The contribution of the sector is therefore crucial in ensuring progress towards a comprehensive CAMHS. It offers children and families a choice in how and where they access services, and the support that is available can be especially important at times of transition.

This guide showcases some of the excellent work being done by voluntary and community sector organisations across the country. It demonstrates how the creation of partnerships and imaginative use of resources by voluntary organisations can help to meet the needs of children and young people in flexible, responsive ways which are highly valued by them and their families.

Commissioners of CAMHS will find this guide useful in identifying ways in which their local voluntary sector can help them meet the needs of the population for which they are responsible. The guide is also a source of advice about the process of working with the voluntary sector so that the working relationship can be worthwhile and lasting to the benefit of the local community."

**Come to the Youth Access Stand to collect your *free* copy
and to speak to the guide's author
Dr Cathy Street, Health and Social Policy Consultant**



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services for young people
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**youth
ACCESS**
to information, advice and counselling

The national membership organisation for young people's information, advice, counselling and support services (YIACS) working with thousands of young people across the country on a daily basis



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Commissioning young peoples' counselling services in YIACS: a toolkit for managers and fundraisers of YIACS

Tom Wylie, Chief Executive of the National Youth Agency said of the 'toolkit for managers and fundraisers of Young Peoples' Information, Advice, Counselling and Support Services (YIACS)':

"A new landscape of youth structures and processes is being formed. A key element of this is the commissioning of services for young people from a variety of providers – voluntary sector, private sector and local authority.

This toolkit offers the busy manager and fundraiser a helpful resource to dip in and out of in the context of the new Joint Planning and Commissioning Framework and the various outcomes now expected by government and local commissioners. It encourages agencies to build on what you already do well, your existing resources and equips you with information to put you on an equal footing with other providers.

This toolkit offers evidence, information, advice and guidance to assist agencies in presenting and demonstrating how youth counselling services in YIACS settings have a positive impact on young people's emotional and mental health – meeting both local, national needs and targets, and delivering effective and efficient outcomes and benefits to the whole community."

**Come to the Youth Access Stand to collect your free copy
and to speak to the guide's author
Catherine Wilson,
National Development Manager for Counselling Services**



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