

UK Youth Parliament

South West Regional Manifesto



UK Youth
Parliament **SW**

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MAKING OUR MARK
United Kingdom

Law & Society

X Anti-social Behaviour

The South West believe that we all have a right to live in a safe environment. More resources should be put into tackling the causes of anti-social behaviour by providing young people with places to go and things to do.

Culture, Media & Sport

X Positive image for young people

Young people are often portrayed in a stereotypical way, not only in the media. The South West believe that we need to work together to resolve this negative discrimination.

Transport & Employment

X Transport

The South West believe that bus companies must provide a better service for all their customers. This includes fair and reasonable prices for young people, accessibility for young people and people with disabilities, better treatment of young people by drivers and staff and a general improvement in the quality of travel.

X Work

The South West believe that the Government must do more to ensure that young people in employment are aware of their rights and are protected from exploitation. This includes a decent minimum wage for all (including 16 year olds), health and safety issues, arrangement for leave which takes into account education circumstances and contractual and legal rights and responsibilities.

Health

X Health facilities

The South West believe that health facilities need to be improved. Hospitals, drop-in health centres and doctors/dentists surgeries need to be made more young people friendly. Venues and opening times need to be suitable for young people.

We are concerned that medical professionals are not receiving appropriate training about how to deliver health care specific to young people's needs.

Regional Manifesto

Environment & Rural Affairs

X Affordable Housing

The South West believes that there is a lack of affordable housing for first time buyers and also a lack of situations for young people to rent affordable housing.

We feel that the way forward is to provide incentive schemes for first time buyers (especially in rural areas) and ensure services are in place to support these housing areas. We support the Government's recent actions to help first time buyers, but feel more needs to be done for everyone, not just key workers.

International Matters

X Fairtrade

The South West believe that in order to achieve an international society operating on the principles of Fairtrade, awareness needs to be raised of what Fairtrade is. This should include greater education in schools at compulsory level, as well as aiming to reach the general public through the media. We feel that Fairtrade can only be achieved through reform of unfair subsidy schemes operating throughout Europe and other MEDCs throughout the world such as the Common Agricultural Policy. The governments of many countries need assistance in negotiating with MEDCs to ensure fair prices are obtained for products and countries need to work together to draw up guidelines for international workers rights.

We suggest a sub-group is set up to develop a strategy for communication to young people in all areas as to the real situation as regards to the actions of the global food industry in terms of Fairtrade and ethical issues and how they can help.

Education & Skills

X Bullying

The South West believe that that all schools should have an anti-bullying policy that is adhered to by everyone – staff and pupils alike.

The South West recognises that bullying can grow from anything; however it should not be tolerated by anyone. There should be an effective disciplinary routine within all schools. There should also be a pupil advice system that all pupils can use in all schools.

The UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) aims to give a voice to young people between the ages of 11 and 18 years. UKYP is an independent national charity, our work is endorsed by the three main party leaders and there are currently over 300 elected Members of the Youth Parliament (MYPs). The South West has 29 MYPs and 29 deputies, each who have made their own mark for our national campaigns and contributed to the shaping of this manifesto. Some of our triumphs include raising over £166,000 for the victims of the Tsunami, raising the age for adult fares on public transport from 16 to 18 years and generally raising awareness of not only UKYP, but the participation of young people in their communities and in decision-making.



This manifesto was created solely by means of consultation with the young people who voted for us. Their input has been the most valuable part of UKYP South West – finding out what young people in the region really want and putting it into action and it has ranged from safety on streets to the condition of public transport.

To achieve many of the things in this manifesto, we require the support of those around us. Some of our partners already include the South West Regional Assembly, Government Office South West, Equality South West and the National Housing Federation to whom we are most grateful for their help. Our arms are always open to embrace new partners, friends and supporters – become part of the future by helping us realise our manifesto today.



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