



## Children and Young People's Team

Pilot Project for *'Encouraging the development of new opportunities for young Quakers aged 11 – 18 through local and area meetings'*

Funding has been granted for a pilot project to provide paid full time youth development workers in two (or possibly three) areas in Britain.

### Background

The numbers of children and young people who engage with Quakerism has fallen throughout the past 60 years (as have the numbers of adults). This continues in spite of our current work. In response to this trend, the “**Developing New Opportunities for Young Quakers Locally**” pilot project will test whether employing local youth development workers in local areas makes a difference to the engagement with young Quakers aged 11 to 18 with local and area meetings. This pilot will take place in two (or possibly three) parts of the country over three years. Its impact will be carefully monitored by external evaluators to evidence the difference the project is making.

The youth development workers will be centrally managed and will work closely with meetings in a geographical area. Youth development workers would be expected to offer around five to six opportunities per year to increase the number of opportunities for young Quakers locally.

This might include things such as:

- linking with young people who engage with local provision, providing a quarterly youth provision opportunity across the area where they are located.
- working with meetings to offer youth provision to meet the needs of the local community, seeking to create and build strong local and all age communities.
- providing training and support for meetings to enable them to engage with and respond to young Quakers in meeting; advocating and supporting young people in having a voice, taking on roles and being involved in decision making in meetings.
- working with meetings to offer all age worship and other all age activities including intergenerational work.
- linking with existing summer event and link/youth group provision to engage those young people who attend summer and link groups, but do not link with Quakers in other ways.

### Expressions of Interest

If you are interested in being one of the pilot areas for this work please go to <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/expression-of-interest-for-cyp-local-worker/>. Expressions of interest will be taken until **30 November 2017**, after which time they will be considered. All those who expressed an interest will be contacted by end of January 2018 and notified of the outcome.

If you have questions, queries or would like to discuss this before completing the expression of interest form, please contact Lucy Sam, Children and Young People's Officer [lucys@quaker.org.uk](mailto:lucys@quaker.org.uk) or 020 7663 1160.