

GUIDELINES, PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

1. Guidelines

1.1 About the Inner West Youth Alliance (IWYA)

The IWYA is a network of youth and community service providers that engage with and advocate for young people aged 12 – 24 years and their families. The IWYA also provides support to networks in the Sydney Inner West Local Government Areas of Burwood, Inner West, City of Canada Bay and Strathfield.

1.2 Aims

- Facilitate opportunities for information exchange
- Facilitate opportunities for networking
- Encourage resource sharing and interagency collaboration
- Facilitate opportunities for planning, consultation and partnerships
- Facilitate opportunities for strategy development
- Build capacity and skills of local youth services providers
- Advocate for and on behalf of young people
- Promote a positive profile and narrative of young people in the community

1.3 Meetings

Meetings of the IWYA will take place bi-monthly on Tuesdays from 9:30am – 11:30am commencing in February each year at various accessible locations throughout the Local Government Areas of Burwood, City of Canada Bay, Inner West and Strathfield (refer to page 4 for details).

Meetings of the IWYA will be convened by Council Officers from Inner West Council.

1.4 Email list

An email list of IWYA meeting attendees will be maintained by the IWYA convenor/s.

1.5 Procedures

- The IWYA meeting convenor/s will prepare an agenda for IWYA meetings and distribute meeting minutes to attendees.
- Meeting agendas and previous meeting minutes will be sent via email prior to each meeting.
- A meeting chairperson and minute taker will be nominated at each meeting.

- Decisions at IWYA meetings will be made by a majority vote of those in attendance.
- Correspondence written on behalf of the IWYA requires discussion and approval at IWYA meetings. The signing and/or sending of correspondence will be determined at IWYA meetings.

1.6 Review of Guidelines

The IWYA Guidelines will be reviewed annually at the final meeting of the IWYA in December.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The IWYA acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora Nation, the traditional owners of the land.

An Acknowledgement of Country will be performed at all IWYA meetings by the meeting chairperson.

3. Principles / Values

The principles and values of the IWYA reflect a community development and social inclusion approach, recognising:

- Young people in the Inner West are unique and bring their own histories and experiences when contributing to the local community.
- Young people are respected and acknowledged for their contributions to the local community.
- Young people have a right to express themselves and have the expertise and knowledge to express opinions about their lives.
- Young people are valued members of family units and other support networks.
- The importance of supporting and valuing collaborations and partnerships between services.
- Youth and community service providers are committed to principles of social justice. This ensures that they are proactively addressing the needs of the most disadvantaged and marginalised.
- Youth and community service providers value holistic approaches that recognise the roles of families and other support networks in young people's lives.

4. Youth Programs and Activities

The IWYA values youth programs and activities that:

- Are developed in consultation with young people (for example - through youth advisory groups, youth reference groups and other youth interest groups). Outcomes should reflect the needs expressed or identified by young people.

- Can be reproduced and include sustainable outcomes and benefits for the self-sufficiency of young people.
- Enhance the cultural diversity of the Inner West, encourage cultural awareness and acceptance, and create a positive community spirit.
- Raise community awareness of the issues impacting on young people and involve other groups/stakeholders in the community (such as schools, business, churches, and the media).
- Utilise a range of approaches and resources and be creative, innovative and embrace artistic and cultural activities.
- Are equally available and accessible to all young people across the Inner West regardless of their circumstances and life experiences.

5. **IWYA Meeting Convenor – 2022**

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6. **Local Councils**

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| Inner West Council | 9335 2153 9335 2057 | www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au |
| Burwood Council | 9911 9911 | www.burwood.nsw.gov.au |
| City of Canada Bay | 9911 6555 | www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au |
| Strathfield Council | 9748 9999 | www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au |