

Setting up Young Fabian Local Groups

The Young Fabian Executive wants to enable and support members across the country and in universities to organise local events and set up local groups. The Regions & Universities Officer is dedicated to supporting members in the regions and universities and will help in any way they can - from helping with setting up an event, to assistance organising speakers, and support and guidance in setting up a local group. The rest of the YF Executive will also support where appropriate - for example if a local group wanted to do something in co-ordination with the schools project, the schools officer would offer their expertise.

The interest in setting up local and university groups has invariably changed according to demand, so the YF Executive has agreed an organic approach so that local members can be as proactive and involved as they are able to - from organising a local event to setting up a formal or informal local or regional group. The Regions & Universities Officer is also keen to engage with members across the UK so that they can be put in touch with each other and they can share ideas, successes on events and lessons learnt. For example, some members have had difficulties in setting up a Young Fabian Society at a University with a Labour Students Society, and shared ways of overcoming this would be useful.

Working Guidelines

1. Any member wishing to organise a local event or set up a local or university group should contact the Young Fabian Regions & Universities Officer as the first point of contact. They will then act as the liaison between regional members and local groups and the Young Fabian Executive.
2. The Regions & Universities Officer will provide support and guidance but, as these positions are voluntary, is unable to actually attend events on a normal basis.
3. In setting up a local or university group the lead will need to decide whether they want to adopt an informal or formal set-up.

Informal

The Young Fabian Executive is happy for members across the country to set up informal and loosely organised groups. In this type of set-up a lead member in a regional area would be able to organise a local event or local meetings on an ad hoc basis. The same approvals for using the Young Fabian name and with regards to funds raised - points 4-8 below - will still apply.

Formal

If a member or group of members based in a university or local area wish to set up a more formal group there are some procedures that need to be satisfied.

- The member(s) should contact the Young Fabian Executive to let them know and gain their support in establishing a formal Young Fabian local or university group.
 - By consenting to the establishment of a formal Young Fabian group, the Young Fabian Executive reserves the sole right to approve the constitutional rules (including any subsequent proposed changes) of the group. As a basic rule of thumb the lead will need to fill some key positions: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer - these are the minimal number of positions for a group to run effectively. These can be appointed in the first instance but once the group has 6 members these positions should be democratically chosen. The Young Fabian Executive is happy for local groups to decide their own governance structure but this must be approved by the Young Fabian Executive.
4. All local Young Fabian events should be cost-neutral and all costs must be covered by the local group concerned. The Young Fabian Executive is not responsible for costs incurred by local events.

5. The Young Fabian Executive reserves the sole right to approve any proposal for a Young Fabian event.
6. All approved events can use the 'Young Fabians' name. The Young Fabian Executive suggests that the name of the particular region, town or institution is used in the title to emphasise the local nature of the event e.g. an individual organising an event in Leeds University could call it "Leeds University Young Fabians", "Leeds Young Fabians" or "Yorkshire Young Fabians" as suits.
7. The Young Fabian Executive reserves the right to request information about local groups' finances. Where a local group is no longer active and has a surplus of funds, these funds shall be remitted to the Young Fabian Treasurer for use in Young Fabian events and publications.
8. The Young Fabian Executive can assist in providing guidance in terms of speakers and promotion and can advertise the event(s) through email updates and Anticipations.
9. Recognised local groups based at universities should register as student societies with their respective students' unions.