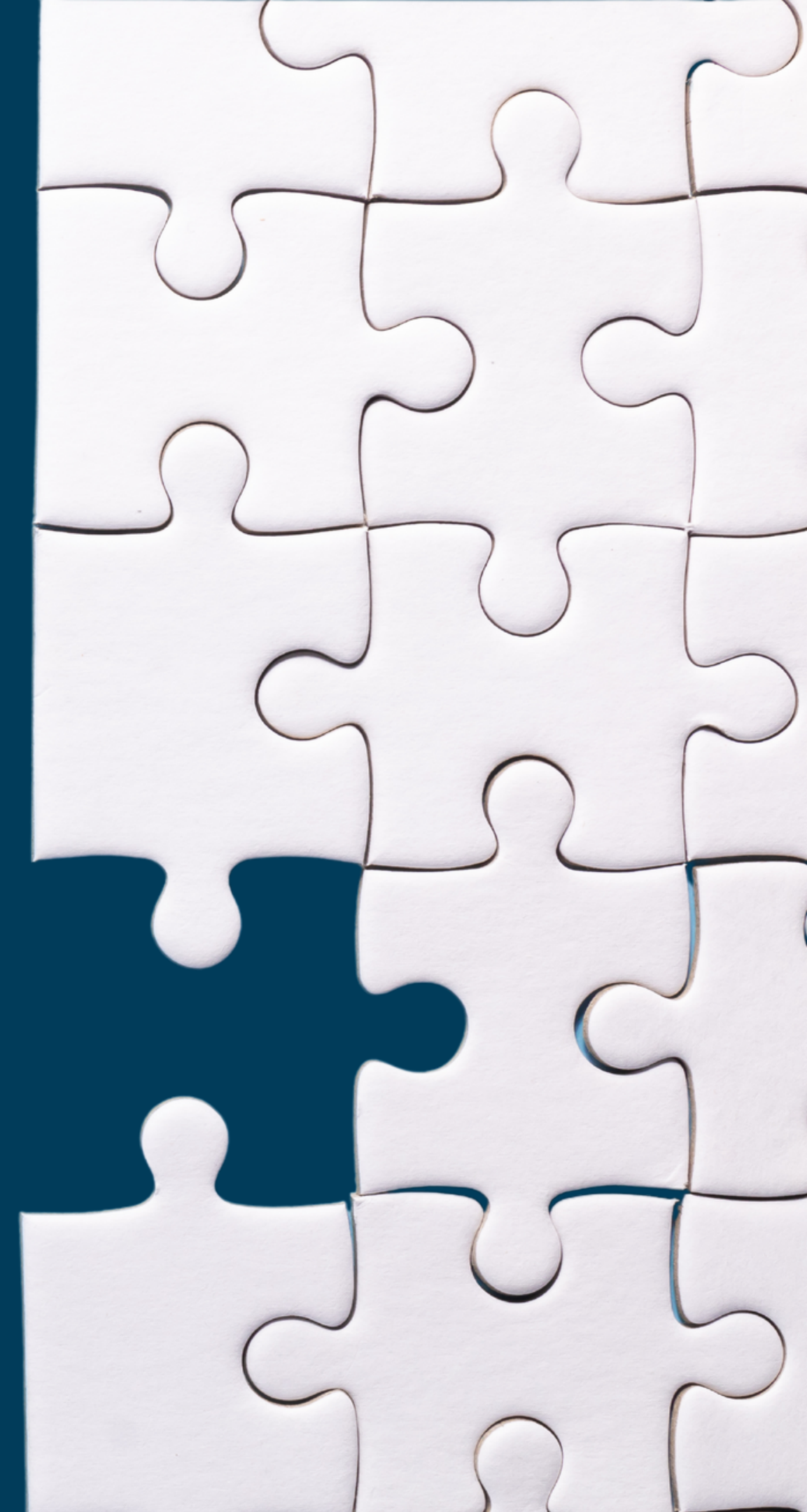




Youth Action Groups

An Introductory Course

Session 2





Aim:

To understand how YAGs can promote processes of partnership and social capital

OBJECTIVES

- 1** Recap on local services from the previous session and introduce the idea of 'different categories' of YAG partners
- 2** Understand that youth action groups can create bonding and bridging social capital
- 3** Create a platform where equal partnership and a cohesive dynamic is upheld



OBJECTIVE 1:

Recap on local services from the previous session...

Let's recap on the previous session's activity and discuss the different services in an area.

OBJECTIVE 1:



... and introduce the idea of 'different categories' of YAG partners.

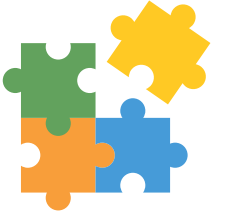
There are different 'categories' of services that can form part of YAGs.

*e.g. Community residents, police, Local Authority
ASB prevention officers, youth workers etc*

Can you think of any more?...

OBJECTIVE 1:

... and introduce the idea of 'different categories' of YAG partners.



Similarly - There are different 'levels' of YAG partners

e.g. Senior manager of a statutory service, practitioner, local volunteer, youth worker etc

Can you think of any more?...

OBJECTIVE 2:

These different partners can all have different backgrounds and perspectives. The process of them coming together can be referred to as Bridging Social Capital. The process of them coordinating and working together collectively as a group can be referred to as Bonding Social Capital. (Putnam, 2000)



Activity 1



Let's discuss in groups the different categories of partners that can attend the YAGs.

Consider the different strengths that each may bring to the group

For example what may a small grass roots youth organisation bring to the group? What may a police chief inspector bring to the group? What may a community resident bring to the group?

Do they bring similar strengths or unique strengths and perspectives?



Objective 3:

Create a platform where equal partnership and a cohesive dynamic is maintained

- ✓ What aspects of the YAG do you feel may help to strengthen the cohesive group dynamic?
- ✓ What factors do you feel may undermine these processes of equality and inclusion?

Let's discuss in groups what aspects of the YAG promote equality and social inclusion

- Partners with different 'roles' come together as equals around one table
- Partners from different 'levels' come together as equals
- Everyone is given time to discuss matters that affect them
- Everyone has an equal right to raise agenda items

The greatest strengths of YAGs can be their simplicity. Multiple partners coming together from different backgrounds and perspectives is a complex process enough. By coming together and discussing local issues and the planning of services, a network is formed.

Objective 3:



Create a platform where equal partnership and a cohesive dynamic is maintained

A Typical YAG Agenda

Below is a typical agenda for a YAG meeting. The key items are presented below with strengths for each item briefly explained.



Does this agenda format enable the core benefits of the YAG to be achieved?
What could undermine these key benefits?



THANK YOU

END OF SESSION 2