



Job Description

Job Title:	Youth Engagement Officer
Accountable to:	Partnership and Engagement Manager
Salary:	£25,000
Location:	166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow, G1 2LW. (The AFS team are working from home in line with current Scottish Government guidance. Subject to future restrictions, it is envisaged that the post-holder would attend the office on average two days a week, with occasional travel to other locations).
Status:	1 year fixed term full-time post (34.5 hours)
Working hours:	Ability to work variable hours at times, including evenings and weekends, to accommodate engagement with children and young people.

1. Alcohol Focus Scotland's Vision and Mission

Alcohol Focus Scotland's (AFS) vision is a future free from the widespread health and social harm caused by alcohol. Our mission is to deliver effective and cost-effective action to reduce alcohol consumption and harm in Scotland and beyond. We make a unique contribution to preventing alcohol harm in Scotland by promoting evidence-based interventions that work for people and communities and which reduce health inequalities.

2. Job Purpose

To work closely with children, young people and the youth sector to understand and raise awareness of the impact of alcohol, and to develop creative initiatives which will help to ensure that every child in Scotland can grow up:

- Free from the emotional and physical impact of other people's drinking.
- Free from commercial, environmental and social pressure to drink.
- Free from health and social harms caused by consuming alcohol themselves.
- Supported and encouraged to make positive, healthy lifestyle choices as they enter adulthood.

In order to deliver the job purpose, the Youth Engagement Officer will work with our policy and research team to expand the evidence base and our policy advocacy work to protect children and young people from the impact of alcohol by:

- Supporting children and young people to gather evidence on the visibility and availability of alcohol and to challenge what they see, including through creative initiatives and engagement with decision makers.
- Identifying and supporting children/youth organisations to gather evidence and input to the forthcoming Scottish Government consultation on alcohol marketing.
- Building knowledge of the up-to-date alcohol evidence base.
- Strengthening links with key stakeholders on this issue.
- Communicating and building upon AFS's existing work on this topic using appropriate channels, including events, presentations, social media and other communications activity.

The post holder will also work with our communications and learning and development teams to develop information for children and young people about alcohol by:

- Working with young people and partners to co-produce materials and information for children and young people.
- Assisting in the development of AFS's website, social media platforms and learning and development resources, including by creating content such as graphics, blogs, news items, podcasts and videos.

3. Critical knowledge, experience and skills required

Essential

- Educated to degree level or equivalent.
- Experience of engaging widely with a broad youth audience and organisations.
- A strong commitment to young people and an understanding of the factors affecting their lives.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, with the ability to establish and maintain good relationships with young people and partner organisations.
- In-depth understanding of social media platforms, with strong IT and digital skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication, report-writing and presentation skills, with the ability to articulate key messages to a range of audiences.
- Understanding of the Scottish policy and political environment and decision making structures.
- A commitment to equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practices.
- Excellent organisational skills.

Desirable

- Experience or understanding of the impact of alcohol on children and young people (as a result of their own or other people's drinking).
- Knowledge of human rights and the rights of children and young people.
- Knowledge of the alcohol policy, research and practice development in Scotland and awareness of the UK, European and international context.
- Experience of undertaking research and communicating evidence and to influence change.
- Experience in organising and hosting events for young people, and engaging with young people using digital platforms.
- Experience of creating content for websites and social media.

4. Responsibilities of all Alcohol Focus Scotland Staff

- Manage and prioritise workloads and ensure that deadlines are met.
- Maintain positive working relationships with all members of the Alcohol Focus Scotland staff team and ensure that colleagues are kept up to date with relevant issues and developments.
- Undertake all work in line with AFS organisational values, and contribute to team activity across work programmes as required.
- Undertake relevant professional development activities and training as agreed with line manager.
- Maintain confidentiality, including day to day observance of data protection guidelines.
- Adhere to all internal and external policies, procedures and contribute, as required, to their ongoing development.
- If required, work outside normal working hours for which time off in lieu (TOIL) will be given.
- Key holders should secure premises as necessary.
- Have regard for your own and others' health and safety.