



25 November 2023

Inaugural youth panels begin work on tackling issues of concern amongst youths

Since the announcement of the youth panels initiative in April 2023, more than 300 youths have shared their aspirations for the youth panels. They are eager to contribute to policymaking, and hope that the youth panels will provide the opportunity for them to do so, by demonstrating inclusivity, diversity, and openness. These insights were crucial in guiding the design of the youth panels, which is supported by the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) and the National Youth Council (NYC).

2 Four youth panels, **#LifeHacks**, **#JobHacks**, **#TechHacks**, and **#GreenHacks**, have been set up to address issues on financial security, careers and lifelong learning, digital well-being, and environment and sustainability respectively – topics which are top-of-mind among youths today. The youth panels will work with government agencies to deliberate on these policy areas, conduct research, and engage other stakeholders – in a process that will take around a year. Recommendations from the panels will be submitted to the Government and may be tabled in Parliament for further debate, where appropriate, or addressed by the Government via other channels such as written responses. This closing of the loop will demonstrate to youths that their ideas and recommendations are considered seriously by the Government.

3 David Chua, Chief Executive Officer of NYC said: “We have heard and recognise the importance of co-creating policies with youths in areas that they are deeply concerned about. Youth panels will provide an avenue for our youths to voice their views and participate in policymaking in such areas, further strengthening government-youth partnerships.”

4 Each panel comprises around 30 youths from different backgrounds, with diverse skillsets and experiences. They were selected through an open call to ensure good representation of views across the youth population. Four youth leads, who are passionate about policy-making and well-versed in the topic, have been appointed to lead each panel. Each panel is also supported by youth advisors from NYC’s networks, who will guide the youth panel’s approach and strategy.

5 The youth panels convened their first meeting on 18 November 2023, when they underwent a curated policymaking workshop to help them to better appreciate the broader considerations of policymaking.

6 Besides policymaking, the youth panels were also equipped with design innovation skills during a workshop on 25 November 2023. This seeks to help youths develop a deeper understanding of how policies are crafted and implemented and enable them to carry out tasks such as stakeholder mapping and designing a problem statement.

EMBARGOED TILL 25 NOVEMBER 2023, 4.00pm

7 These workshops are important in equipping the youth panels with a better understanding of the policymaking process, and with the skills to co-create and co-review policies with government agencies. In the coming months, the youth panels will be conducting research and engaging other stakeholders as they deep-dive into the topics. More details on the progress of the youth panels' work will be shared progressively on nyc.gov.sg/youthpanels.

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About the National Youth Council

At NYC, we believe in a world where young people are respected and heard and have the ability to influence and make a difference in the world. Together with our partners, we develop future-ready youth who are committed to Singapore by instilling in them a heart for service, resilience, and an enterprising spirit. We acknowledge the diverse needs and aspirations of young Singaporeans and ensure our youth have opportunities to develop self-awareness, deepen community spirit, and be future-ready. We hear youth, we empower youth and are **HERE FOR YOUTH.**