

# Children and young people's rights Q&A

*Monday 31 October 2022, 2pm*

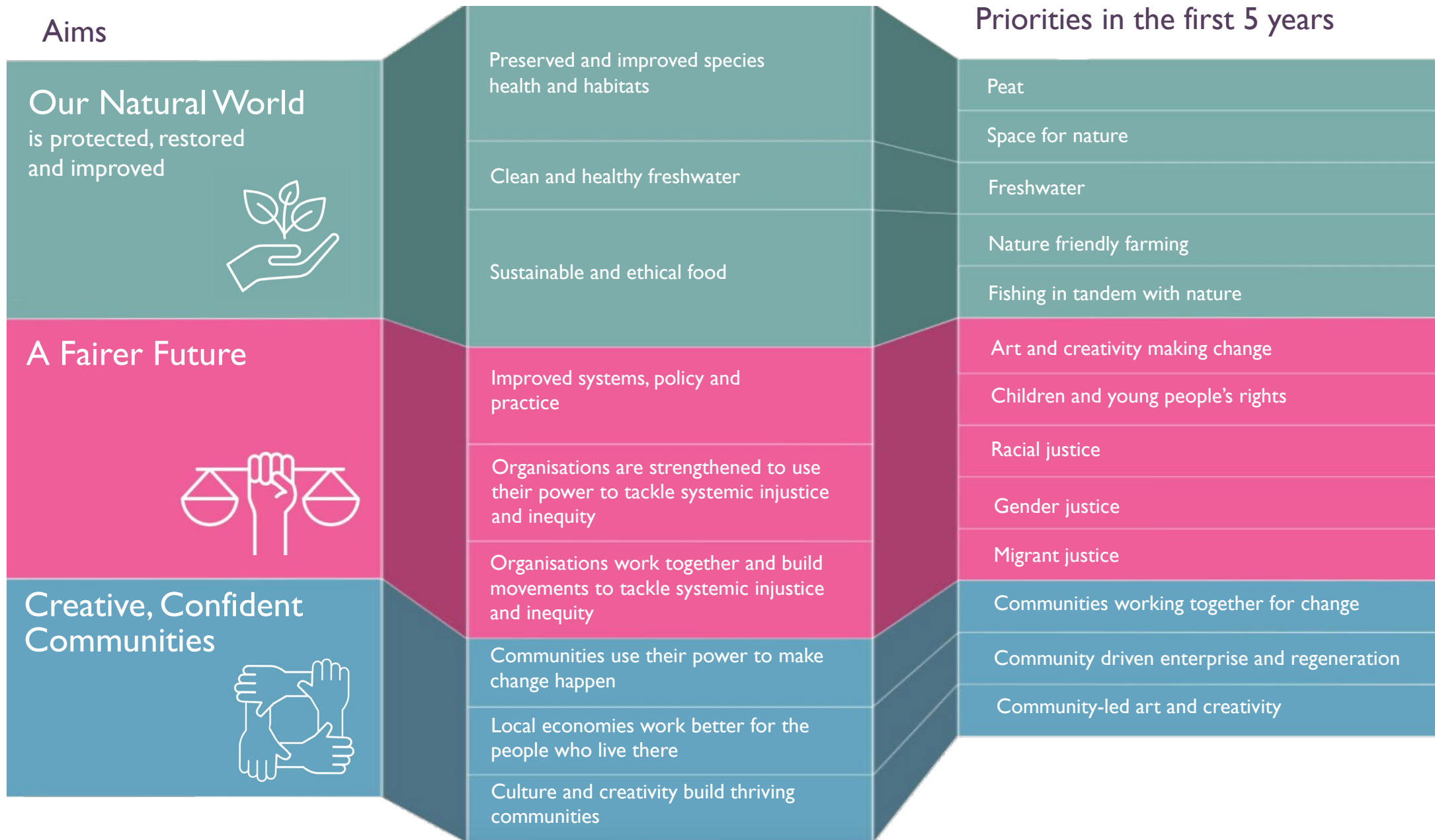
## **Panel:**

- Veda Harrison, Director of A Fairer Future and Creative, Confident Communities
- Catherine Hillis, Funding Manager and Children and Young People Lead
- Laura Lines, Funding Manager and Social Change Lead
- Luna Dizon, Communications Manager (Q&A Host)

Thanks for joining us! We'll be starting soon. Please note this webinar will be recorded and available at [www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk](http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk) in the next few days.

# Strategic framework

## Impact goals by 2030



# A Fairer Future



A fairer future will require changes to systems and structures, while building the power and capacity of people and organisations. We want to provide the support and space to enable others we work alongside to create lasting change, and to challenge systems that stand in the way.

We have five priority areas where we believe we can make the most effective contribution; using our existing knowledge and relationships, by working at the intersections of issues; and by building our understanding through working with others, especially those with experience of the issues we are trying to address.

We want to contribute to a socially just and anti-racist society, where people have their rights protected, as well as the opportunity to speak and be heard, and the freedom to express their creativity. And across all our work in A Fairer Future, we are keen to support organisations led by the people they serve.

# A Fairer Future



## Impact goals by 2030

Improved systems, policy and practice
Organisations are strengthened to use their power to tackle systemic injustice and inequity
Organisations work together and build movements to tackle systemic injustice and inequity

## Priorities in the first 5 years

Arts and creativity making change
Children and young people's rights
Racial justice
Gender justice
Migrant justice

# Children and young people's rights



## Rationale

Creating a fairer future requires lasting changes to policy and practice that gets support to children in the vital first years of life, and to young people at important transitions in adolescence. This particularly includes those at risk of school exclusion or in contact with the care or youth justice system, along with earlier support for disabled young people and those with special education needs. Through everything we do, we commit to supporting young people who have known injustice in their lives to drive change, reimagine and create a fairer future.

## Long-term outcomes

1. A shift in early years provision to ensure that young children (0-5) and their families facing barriers have quality support.
2. Fewer young people, particularly those experiencing racial inequity, in contact with the youth justice system, excluded from school, and entering state care.
3. Children's rights are better met, with specialist legal support and better protection for marginalised groups.
4. Young people (14-25) with experience of injustice create and lead positive change, and shape decision making.
5. An end to the 'cliff edge' of support for young people leaving care.

# What we're looking for...

## Applicants will need to show that:

- Their organisation is **leading the way** itself, or as part of a collaborative movement or partnership.
- Their work is **driving change for the future** by breaking new ground, or by using tried and tested models to push things forward.
- Their work aims to make a lasting difference, reaching beyond those directly engaged to **influence policy, practice and behaviour**.

# When making decisions, we consider:

- **Track record:** we look at successes, but also what was learned when things don't go to plan.
- **Connections:** how could this link to and complement other work we support, and increase the combined impact?
- **Broader context:** what are the opportunities and barriers? Who are the allies, and collaborators? What influence or leverage will the work have?
- **The difference our support could make:** what value could our funding and extra support add to this work?



# Children and young people's rights

## Involving Young People Values

Developed by the Involving Young People Collective



We want the views and voices of children and young people to be at the heart of our work in Children and young people's rights. To help us do this, we will use the [Involving Young People Values](#) to support our decision-making.

These were developed by Esmée's [Involving Young People Collective](#) and offer guidance and learning for organisations on co-production with young people.





# Children and young people's rights

Long-term outcome	We want to support work that:	Case studies
<b>I. A shift in early years provision to ensure that young children (0-5) and their families facing barriers have quality support.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is strategic and takes a collaborative approach to influence national policy.</li><li>• Makes the case for models that tackle inequality early for families and young children facing the greatest challenges, who are not getting the support they need from services.</li><li>• Goes beyond service delivery to influence the early years sector and spread effective approaches to reach more young children and their families.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parent Infant Foundation</li><li>• Coram Family and Childcare - access for disabled children</li><li>• Sutton Trust – early language support</li></ul>

# Children and young people's rights

Long-term outcome	We want to support work that:	Case studies
<b>2. Fewer young people, particularly those experiencing racial inequity, in contact with the youth justice system, excluded from school, and entering state care.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is designed and driven by young people with lived experience of the youth justice, school exclusion and care systems</li><li>• Challenges injustice in systems for young people, particularly for those experiencing racial inequity, disabled young people and those with special educational needs.</li><li>• Goes beyond delivery of preventative programmes to share learning and spread effective approaches in statutory services.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Power the Fight</li><li>• Ethnic Minorities &amp; Youth Support Team (EYST, Swansea)</li><li>• Alliance for Youth Justice</li></ul>

# Children and young people's rights

Long-term outcome	We want to support work that:	Case studies
<b>3. Children's rights are better met, with specialist legal support and better protection for marginalised groups.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is driven and shaped by young people with experience of injustice.</li><li>• Improves and protects the rights of marginalised children and young people through influencing and strategic litigation.</li><li>• Builds understanding of children's legal rights amongst organisations working with children and young people, as well as their confidence to identify issues earlier and better use the law.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Just for Kids Law</li><li>• Children's Law Centre Wales</li><li>• Child Law Network (hosted by CLAN, Scotland)</li></ul>

# Children and young people's rights

Long-term outcome	We want to support work that:	Case studies
<b>4. Young people (14-25) with experience of injustice create and lead positive change, and shape decision making.</b>	<p>Using what we have learned from <a href="#">funding youth activism</a>, we will continue to invest in young people's drive, talent and passion to tackle issues of injustice and inequality that they experience, through organising and campaigning for change.</p> <p>We want to support work that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engages young people with experience of injustice, building their capacity to lead and secure change in unjust systems.</li><li>• Supports young people to develop creative solutions to social justice and environmental issues as well as build strategic alliances to create change.</li><li>• Enables young people to increase their understanding of the root causes of social injustice, with pathways to develop their changemaking and activism.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The 4FRONT Project</li><li>• We Belong</li><li>• Reclaim</li><li>• Northern Ireland Youth Forum</li></ul>

# Children and young people's rights

Long-term outcome	We want to support work that:	Case studies
<p>5. An end to the 'cliff edge' of support for young people leaving care.</p>	<p>We are closed to applications for this outcome. We are currently supporting a cohort of organisations working in this area and are focusing our time on working more closely with them to achieve our desired outcomes. We may make new grants where we identify a gap in one of our focus areas, but these will be small in number and by exception.</p> <p>Please note we are unlikely to fund work with care leavers under other outcomes and priorities. However, if applying for support for work with care leavers under another outcome or priority, please read the relevant guidance to understand whether there is a good fit for your work.</p>	<p>Young People Leaving Care Learning Programme</p>