

## **How we'll ensure the views of communities & young people are integrated throughout the Fund**

The YEF's leadership team will ensure that evidence, expertise and lived experience are all considered in setting priorities for the fund, with the advisory council playing a key role in this. The breadth of representation on the advisory council will ensure that evidence carries due weight in defining and scaling appropriate interventions, whilst also taking local knowledge and the direct experience of young people and their families into consideration. This approach will be mainstreamed through partnership working, using the best evidence and developing excellent data and information sharing in ways that will be intentionally inclusive of those affected by violence, not only those commissioning for its reduction.

In developing an overarching funding framework and identifying gaps in existing research, we will draw on examples of established cross-stakeholder approaches that involve experts and delivery organisations working alongside those with lived experience. These include the Blgrave Trust's Listening Fund and the James Lind Alliance's (JLA) Priority Setting Partnerships (PSP). The Listening Fund invests in learning and scaling practice at an organisational level that enables young people to be agents of change, listens to and responds to their needs, and analyzes the difference this makes. JLA brings together clinicians, practitioners, patients and their families to set research priorities for health conditions. JLA publishes a detailed guide to establishing effective PSPs, which bring patients, carers and clinicians together on an equal footing. This makes the consultation process genuine and meaningful, whilst voting rights on final priorities remain with the experts involved. This balance maintains the importance of evidence-driven approaches to public health, whilst at the same time securing the crucial buy in of practitioners and the authenticity of user voice.

The PSP approach would enable us to set the overarching priorities for the fund in an inclusive and transparent way. PSPs could also be used by hotspots to identify their priorities, if they choose to adopt this model. An intentional and deliberative process of this kind has been shown to be more effective in securing long term positive outcomes than expert judgment alone, and takes the involvement of those directly affected by violence with due seriousness.