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Green Influencers Scheme



YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

June 2020

Green Influencers Scheme

Brief for the Youth Advisory Board Members

The Ernest Cook Trust is looking to recruit a number of young people to play a key role in our new youth-led Green Influencers Scheme.

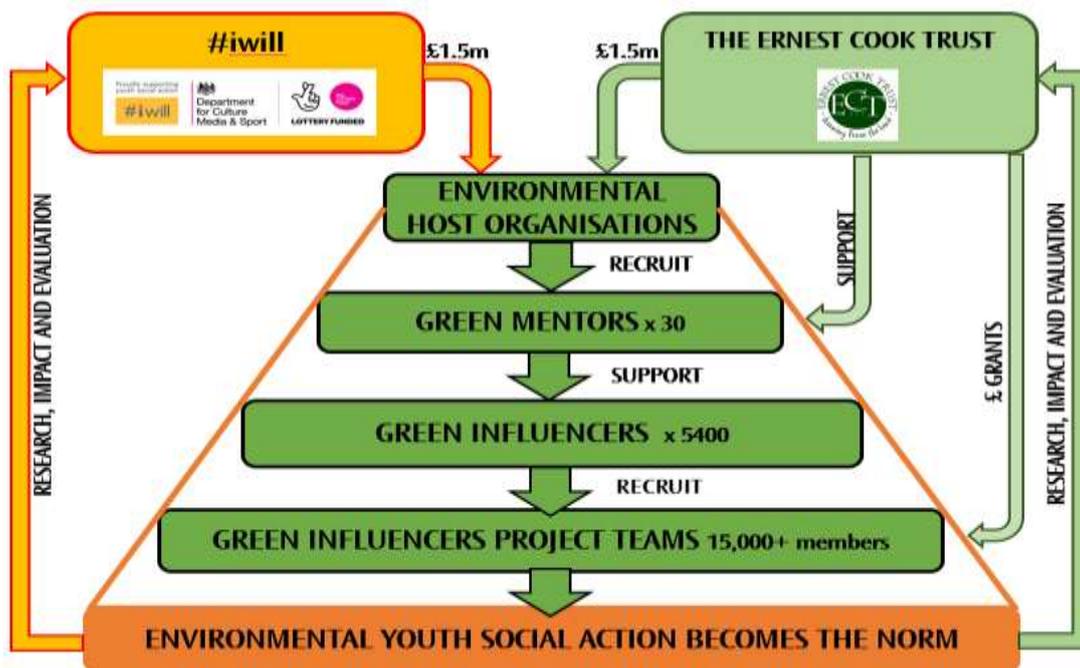
The Ernest Cook Trust and the #iwill Fund

The Green Influencers Scheme is a project funded by The Ernest Cook Trust (ECT) and match funded by the #iwill fund. The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department of Culture, Media & Sport are each investing £25 million seed funding to create the #iwill Fund. The Ernest Cook Trust is acting as a match funder and awarding grants on behalf of the #iwill fund.

#iwill was set up to promote youth social action and was designed to make participation in social action the norm for young people under 20. Currently only 4 in 10 young people participate in meaningful social action and those from less affluent communities are much less likely to take part than their wealthier peers.

To achieve this, the #iwill campaign communicates with, connects and challenges organisations across the UK to embed support for youth social action into their culture and practice. Youth social action refers to activities that young people do to make a positive difference to others or the environment.

The Green Influencers Scheme



Green Influencers Scheme – Pyramid Flow Chart Illustration



The Green Influencers Scheme Explained

Target Age 10-14 years. The mission of the Green Influencers Scheme is to assist young people (target age 10-14 years) to create deep, lasting and meaningful connections with the natural environment. Through this scheme we hope that young people will learn and build skills which will help contribute to their local community through environmental action.

Green Mentors in Environmental Charities in England. ECT will achieve this mission by providing grants to registered host charities and non-profit organisations across England to employ Green Mentors (youth workers) to help young people to create environmental projects in local schools, youth groups and communities. There will be a focus on supporting disadvantaged communities based in areas of high deprivation.

Green Influencers Once employed, these Green Mentors will recruit a group of passionate and motivated young people (Green Influencers) to carry out research in their peer groups and design and carry out environmental action projects. Examples could include a plastic reduction scheme in a local school, a youth group organising a litter pick of a local park or an awareness raising event in a community centre. The Ernest Cook Trust will pay £360 for every project started (representing 360° of influence), plus a possible additional award for a Green Influencers Project Grant of up to £5,000.

Environmental Action Projects The Green Influencers Scheme will employ youth and environment workers (Green Mentors) across England to work with young people in their communities to plan and run environmental action projects that are designed to empower other young people in caring for and connecting to the environment.

What are we looking for?

We have eight spaces on our Youth Advisory Board who will make key decisions on the direction and development of the Green Influencers Scheme.

It will be:

- A chance to ensure youth leadership across England in environmental action.
- A chance to help design an engaging youth programme and feed your experiences into a national project.
- Excellent experience for your CV in decision making processes and youth engagement for a large funding organisation.
- A chance to meet other influential and committed young people and share expertise.
- Training opportunities (all expenses and travel costs paid).

If this sounds like a good opportunity for you, we would love to hear from you!



Youth Advisory Board role description

The Ernest Cook Trust is seeking up to 8 youth (aged 14-20 years old) members for the Green Influencers Scheme Youth Advisory Board.

Purpose of role: To sit on the Youth Advisory Board and contribute actively to decision making processes around funding for youth environmental action projects and wider strategic aims of the project. As a youth member, your input will be vital to ensure that we are making good funding choices that engage young people in the right way and ensure ongoing sustainability of projects.

Frequency: The Advisory Board will meet quarterly via video chat (approximately every three months) to review new applications and decide on funding priorities. On rotation, one member of the board will attend a Green Influencers Scheme board meeting every 3 months to provide insight and advice from a youth perspective.

As social distancing measures are lifted, there will be more chances to meet in person, including attending an annual networking and training conference for outdoors educators and young people. (Travel expenses will be reimbursed). The Green Influencers Scheme will run until March 2023 and there will be a chance to step down as a board member every year as we re-open the application process to new members.

You will be:

- Passionate about protecting our natural world and about the power of youth social action to do so.
- Ready to take on a new challenge, learn new skills and meet new people.
- Understand (or be willing to learn) about what makes an effective youth-led opportunity and how to engage young people in new opportunities.
- Committed to attending quarterly (every three months) meetings online and occasional in-person meetings (travel costs reimbursed).
- Prepared to speak out, in a supportive and friendly environment.
- Able to encourage other board members to speak and be respectful of their opinions.

NB: you do not have to have experience of being on boards or committees. We will provide training in decision-making processes, grant funding and other necessary skills, as requested by board members.

When: We are beginning the project in a pilot phase from June/July – December. This will allow us some excellent reflection time to make sure that the project will fully achieve its aims when launched in January 2021.

If you are interested in the role and think you would make a good fit for the board, please fill out the application [APPLICATION LINK](#)

and send to greeninfluencers@ernestcooktrust.org.uk by **12pm on 10th July 2020.**

We will acknowledge all applications by Friday 17th July 2020.

If your application stands out as especially suitable, we will get in touch to arrange an informal chat over the phone or Zoom to talk through your interests and experience.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Equality & Diversity

We are committed to representation of diverse backgrounds and experiences on our youth board to represent the diversity of communities that we work with. We encourage applications from young people of different ages, backgrounds, races and religions.

We can support a variety of learning needs and physical abilities.

GDPR

In line with GDPR regulations, we will not share any of your private data with any outside parties. We will, however, need to keep your contact details to inform you of next stages in the application process.

Safeguarding

At The Ernest Cook Trust we are committed to safeguarding all children and young people that we work with. This means:

- All of our staff have an up-to-date DBS check and training in current safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Staff will never be alone (online or in person) with a young person, another member of staff or young person will always be present.
- If you have any concerns regarding the safety of a young person, please get in touch with our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Emily Crawley, at emily.crawley@ernestcooktrust.org.uk. If your concern is immediate or urgent, please call 101 to speak to the police.

Terms of Participation

We operate a zero-tolerance policy for online harassment and cyber bullying. The following behaviours are unacceptable.

- Use of discriminatory language of any kind (racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic etc.)
- Derogatory or discriminatory comments made towards another individual in the group, through private chats or in group chats.
- Any other action that is intended to hurt or upset another member of the group.

Any member of the group who partakes in any of the above will be immediately removed. If you witness or are victim of any of the above, please let a member of ECT staff know as soon as you can so that it can be dealt with.

Many thanks for taking the time to apply for this role. If you have any questions or clarifications, please do get in touch.

Regards Robyn

Robyn Riddoch Project Officer

The Ernest Cook Trust

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