

PRESS RELEASE

Friday 29th October

FRIENDS LISTEN MOST TO YOUNG PEOPLE, FINDS BRITISH YOUTH COUNCIL POLL

Friends listen more to young people than anyone else according to a recent online poll run by the British Youth Council as part of their Take Action Day! on Monday 25th October, which marked the start of this year's BT's Big Listen week 25th-31st October.

The British Youth Council helped young people from across the UK to take up a local issue and act on it as part of Take Action Day! One of the ways young people could take action was by answering BYC's Big Question 'Who do you feels listens to you?' The results of this reveal that 36% of young people think their friends listen to them, 29% put their youth workers/advisers, 10% think parents/family and 5% put teachers. Only 9% of young people thought that their Elected Representatives listened to them.

Take Action Day! was led by young people on BYC's Local Youth Council Committee. Chair of this committee, Sean Donnelly (aged 20), said:

"The British Youth Council brings together young people to agree on issues of common concern and campaign nationally, but we also wanted to give children and young people the support and opportunity to take action locally as well! Whether it's writing a letter to their MP or organising a meeting locally, we wanted to show that young people's views matter. Unfortunately it's clear from the results of our Big Question that elected representatives are still failing to engage with young people locally. We hope that Take Action Day and BT's Big Listen week will show that, unlike popular belief, young people can make an enormous contribution to our society and that it is important to listen to what they have to say."