## WHO ARE NYCI?

01 478 4122 conference@nyci.ie www.youth.ie

THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF IRELAND (NYCI) IS AN UMBRELLA ORGANISATION THAT REPRESENTS AND SUPPORTS THE INTERESTS OF VOLUNTARY YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND USES ITS COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCE TO ACT ON ISSUES THAT IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE.

### the conference

Young people under 25 years have been badly hit by the recession. Youth unemployment has trebled since 2008 with 1 in 3 young men under 25 out of work. There are over 90,000 young people on the Live Register which represents a fifth of the total population on the Register.

The scale of the problem is masked by a big increase in numbers re-entering or staying in education and the numbers emigrating. The numbers of young people under 25 emigrating doubled from 15,600 in 2004 to 30,000 in 2009. Sectors such as construction, retail and services where young people were heavily employed shed thousands of jobs with youth employment in construction and manufacturing slumping by 63.6% and 47.4% between 2008 and 2009.

Government has a crucial role but youth unemployment will not be solved by them alone. This conference is designed to bring together young jobseekers, the youth and community sector, representatives of state agencies, policy makers and academics to discuss the current experiences, barriers and challenges to develop proposals for positive action.

## SOME OF THE ISSUES TO BE EXPLORED:

- The need for an overall jobs plan.
- What lessons can we learn from previous recessions and from other jurisdictions?
- The impact of the social welfare cuts on young jobseekers.
- Supports and services on the ground for young jobseekers.
- Could current resources be better utilised?
- Are the public employment services meeting the needs of young people?
- Are the education and training options available meaningful or are jobseekers just being put through the motions?
- Can the youth/community sector play a role in providing meaningful options?
- Youth Jobs Fund and/or Youth Guarantee should they be introduced?
- Role of internships and work place experience programmes.
- What is the role of the social partners at local and national level?
- Can we better support young people to set up their own businesses?



#### 9.30 REGISTRATION

#### 10:00 INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

Mary Cunningham, Director, NYCI

Marie Fitzpatrick, NYCl Board member and Chair of NYCl's Policy and Advocacy Committee

keynote speakers: Jim Power & Paul Gregg SEE BACK FOR PROFILES

SEE BACK FOR PROFILE

#### 10:15 SETTING THE SCENE

Professor Paul Gregg, Professor of Economics,

Centre for Market and Public Organisation, Bristol University

Developments in the UK to address youth unemployment in the last decade and proposals to reform the welfare and employment services system

Jim Power, Chief Economist, Friends First

Government policy to date and outline what more can be done to support job creation, particularly among young people in the current economic environment

#### 11:30 TEA/COFFEE BREAK

#### 11:45 WORKSHOP 1 - EMPLOYMENT SERVICES & WELFARE

This workshop will explore the current experiences of young jobseekers using existing employment supports and services. In addition we will examine the impact of social welfare cuts on young people and address how services can be reformed to meet the needs of young people

#### 12:45 LUNCH

#### **30** WORKSHOP 2 - FURTHER EDUCATION & TRAINING

Delegates will examine the current provision of education and training, along with challenging the big questions of availability and appropriateness. What is the experience on the ground? Are the places available? How can young people with limited qualifications get back into education and training?

#### **30** WORKSHOP 3 - ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INTERNSHIPS

This workshop looks at options for supporting young people who want to start their own business. In addition it will explore internships and the Work Placement Programme

#### 3:30 TEA/COFFEE BREAK

#### 3:45 PANEL DISCUSSION WITH POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES

Chaired by Vincent Browne, journalist and broadcaster

#### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

- > Opportunity for political parties to put forward their proposals
- > Opportunity for audience to share ideas ask, questions and for there to be a debate about issues/ideas/proposals made during the conference
- > Opportunity for experts/parties to give their comments on views coming from the floor

#### CLOSING REMARKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Eddie D'Arcy, President of NYCI

chaired by: Vincent Browne

### booking form

NAME:
ORGANISATION*:
ADDRESS:
ROLE IN ORGANISATION*:
PHONE NUMBER:
MOBILE:
E-MAIL:
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Please e-mail, fax or post the completed booking form with payment (if required) to: The Administration Manager, National Youth Council of Ireland, 3 Montague Street, Dublin 2.

\*IF RELEVANT

phone: 01 478 4122

fax: 01 478 3974 e-mail: conference@nyci.ie

For more information visit www.youth.ie

#### **REGISTRATION FEE**

- Free Young Jobseekers, plus limited number of travel refunds. NYCl will reimburse
  travel costs for young unemployed people travelling to the event. We can only cover
  public transport costs and approval must be sought in advance.
- $\bullet~$   $\in\!$  40 Youth, Community and Voluntary Sector participants.
- €80 Representatives from State bodies, private sector and academics.

#### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE - SEPTEMBER 24TH 2010**

By taking part in this conference you agree that any images taken at the event can be used for printed material or websites.

#### **PAUL GREGG**

Paul Gregg is a Professor in the Department of Economics, University of Bristol. He recently completed a review of Personalised Support and Conditionality in the Welfare System for the UK Department of Work and Pensions. He is also a Programme Director at the Centre for Market and Public Organisation covering families, children and welfare. He was formally a member of the Council of Economic Advisors at HM Treasury 1997-2006, where he worked on unemployment, welfare reform and child poverty. His research has covered youth unemployment, workless households, child poverty, intergenerational mobility and the drivers of social disadvantage.

#### JIM POWER

Jim Power joined Friends First Group in 2000 as Chief Economist. He previously worked as Chief Economist at Bank of Ireland and Treasury Economist at AIB Group and lectures part-time on the Executive MBA programme at Dublin City University. He is a member of the Waterford Institute of Technology Foundation Board, Board Member of Agriaware, and in 2006 he was a member of the Fáilte Ireland task force on a strategy for tourism. Jim is Chairman of Love Irish Food and has just published a book 'Picking up the Pieces', which plots the demise of the Irish economy and the measures that now need to be taken to get the economy growing again.

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# NATIONAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE





