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| Higher Education and Skills Group  **Participation Branch Memo**  **Department of Education and Training** |

***NUMBER:*** *2015 / August / 26*

**TO:**

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| All Learn Local organisations | Adult Education Institutions | ACFE Regional Councils |
| Learn Local stakeholders | LLENs  *Chairs and Executive Officers* | Workplace Learning Coordinators |

**FROM:** Bronwen Heathfield, Director, Participation Branch

**DATE:** 26/08/2015

**SUBJECT:** *New Youth Policy*

**FOR ACTION / CRITICAL DATES:**

* Consultation on the development of a new youth policy was launched last Friday, 21 August 2015.
* Young people are invited to join the conversation by visiting [www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au](http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au) and participate in an online survey.
* The online survey will be available until 31 October 2015.
* Please distribute this information, as appropriate, to your networks.

On Friday, 21 August 2015 the Minister for Youth Affairs, Jenny Mikakos launched a consultation on improving government support and services for young Victorians.

There will be a particular emphasis on engaging and connecting vulnerable and disadvantaged youth with the community and helping them find the right support.

A main priority of the framework’s development is getting young people’s feedback to ensure that the services the Victorian Government provides are relevant and give them the opportunity to stay at school, get a job and be connected with their community.

Young people are invited to join the conversation by visiting [www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au](http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au) to participate in an easy online survey where they can let the government know their needs.

Once finalised, the framework will be used across Government to inform policy decision related to youth issues, increasing focus on early intervention and family support services, and boosting youth participation in the development of policies and programs.

Consultation with youth services organisations and the broader community will take place throughout August through to October. The online survey will be available until 31 October 2015.

Please distribute this information widely through your networks, to ensure a strong contribution from young people.