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***Announcement of New Chair***

***18th July 2016***

The Trustee Board of the National Association for Youth Justice is delighted to announce that Ross Little, who has served as our Deputy Chair for the past year, will take over as Chair of the charity following the retirement of Pam Hibbert OBE. Ross has considerable experience of working in a wide range of job roles as a lecturer in criminology (De Montfort University), in criminological research (University of Leicester), youth work policy and practice (National Youth Agency, YouthBank UK) and as part of the national youth justice participation project, U R Boss, at The Howard League for Penal Reform.

Ross is committed to understanding how the youth justice system works from the perspective of the children and young people involved in it. He is interested in how we can respond appropriately to children who break the law in our society, minimise the use of custody for lawbreaking and encourage effective reintegration back into our communities for those children who do experience imprisonment.

On his election, Ross commented, “I am really pleased to have been elected Chair of this great organisation and very grateful for the support of my fellow trustees. Pam is an incredibly tough act to follow but I’ll do my best to continue her work in promoting the rights of and justice for, children in conflict with the law. As a team of trustees we very much value the support of our members to help us promote a vision of positive youth justice.”

The Trustee Board would like to pay tribute to Pam, for all her dedication and hard work over her period as Chair. We would also like to thank Barry Anderson, who is also stepping down having served as Secretary for many years; their dedication to the promotion of children and young people’s welfare in the youth justice system has been inspirational and both will be greatly missed by the Trustee Board.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the email address: info@thenayj.org.uk