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| **7.1**  | **Develop their ambitions**Positive goals & ambitions |
| **Young person:** |   |
| **Practitioner:** |   |
| **Date:** |   |

Many young people who offend **feel excluded from society**. Some feel already stigmatised, and **continuing to offend becomes a more logical choice than it would otherwise be.**

For some, they **prefer to be a success (at offending) than a failure (at a pro-social life).**

All young people share at least the same basic aspirations towards mainstream goals like having a house and a family and a respectable job that the rest of us have.

**Young people’s interests, passions, goals and aspirations are vital in their desistance journeys, and our job is to help nurture and develop them, giving these young people not only other options, but something to hope for.**

**Ultimately, it is only when offending has more costs than benefits that young people will begin the journey to desistance from crime**

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|  | **Talk to young people about their goals and ambitions. Encourage them and show enthusiasm, no matter if they are basic, grand or unrealistic. Specifically, explore the following:** |
| 1. **What are they interested in?**

What are they curious about? What knowledge do they have, or want to gain? Are they keen to learn about themselves, others or a specific subject? Do they want to develop a skill or a passion (even if it is unconventional)? 1. **What are they passionate about?**

Nurture any desire to be good at what they do, whether that is work, hobbies or leisure activities. Having passions or hobbies (even unconventional or illegal ones) represents a foundation from which a pro-social life can be built. 1. **What are their goals and aspirations?**

Finding meaning in life is an important piece in all of our lives. What sense do they have of who they are, where they are going, and what they want to do? |