

## COSW PARTNERS WITH JLS STAR ORITSÉ WILLIAMS TO PROMOTE COMMONWEALTH YOUNG CARER CHARTER

COSW is proud to announce that [Oritsé Williams](#), singer songwriter and JLS founding member, has agreed to be a Young Carer Advocate, working with COSW and the Commonwealth to advocate for young carers and the [Commonwealth Young Carer Charter](#).



Oritsé Williams with  
Layne Robinson (right –  
Commonwealth  
Secretariat and David N  
Jones (left – COSW  
Board)

Marlborough House on  
30<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Welcoming Oritsé, COSW Chair Sylvia Daisy Romanus said: 'Oritsé's experience as a young carer makes him ideally suited to this advocacy role. We look forward to working with him to draw attention to the needs of young carers and the key role of social workers.'

Oritsé said: 'I committed myself to highlighting the situation of young carers when I was a teenager and young carer for my mother. I am now proud to have the opportunity to work with COSW and the Commonwealth as an advocate for young carers and to meeting many young carers during our tour over the coming months.'

Oritsé knows the reality of the life of a young carer because he took on the role himself as a teenager after his mother developed Multiple Sclerosis. He committed himself to championing the cause of young carers long before rising to musical stardom with JLS.

Oritsé has already attended the launch of the Commonwealth Year of Youth at the Commonwealth Headquarters on 30th January when he spoke out about young carers.

To the delight of fans, JLS has announced that they are reuniting and about to embark on a [UK-wide concert tour](#) of major venues reaching thousands of fans. Oritsé will talk about his experience as a young carer during the tour and promote the need for a Commonwealth Young Carer Charter.

COSW will be announcing further joint activities with Oritsé in the months ahead leading to CHOGM 2024, including a Commonwealth young carer webinar in June in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat.

23 February 2023

### NOTE TO EDITORS

JLS reached the final of the X-factor in 2008 and sang at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee concert in front of Buckingham Palace in 2012. They announced a [UK tour](#) on 23 February 2023.

Oritsé will be joining COSW Board Member David N Jones and other COSW guests at the Commonwealth Day service at Westminster Abbey on Monday 13th March. Oritsé's mother and brother, Temisan Williams. (who coached the Arsenal junior team to win the premiere league last year) will also attend the Commonwealth Day Service as guests of COSW and in recognition of the needs of young carers and people with disabilities.

COSW is an organisation for citizens of the Commonwealth who are interested in supporting social work and social development. It is supported by social work associations in the Commonwealth. It aims to promote and support communication and collaboration between social workers and social work associations of Commonwealth countries, and to uphold and promote the code of ethics of the International Federation of Social Workers. This statement can be found on the COSW website [www.cosw.info/cosw-news](http://www.cosw.info/cosw-news)



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