

# Full Council

17 January 2017



**Title:** Annual report from Youth Mayors & progress report on Youth Council manifesto

## Recommendation

**To note and acknowledge the annual report and recommendations of the Youth Council:**

**The recommendations of the Youth Council are:**

1. To request continued support for Bristol City Youth Council, Youth Mayors and UK Youth Parliament.
2. One evening per month, Bristol City Youth Council to host other youth participation groups and youth forums at City Hall (City Hall Youth Takeover).
3. To support the next youth council elections which will take place on February 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 and encourage Bristol's schools and young people to get involved.

## Summary

This is the exit report of Bristol City Youth Council and Bristol Youth Mayors.

**The significant issues in the report are:**

Highlights of the impact of Bristol City Youth Council and Youth Mayors Including:

Freedom of Mind Festival  
Contribution to Youth Strategy and Children and Families Partnership Strategy  
Bristol's Shadow Safeguarding Children's Board  
Public Transport and meetings with First Bus  
Shadow Councillor Scheme  
Should Bristol be a Sugar Smart City?

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## **Policy**

### **Children and Families Partnership Strategy 2016 – 2020**

Ensure that children, young people, families and communities, including the most vulnerable, lead in how to deal with challenges and are involved in citywide decision making.

Children and Young People Have a Voice in the City

### **Bristol City Council adheres to the National Youth Agency Hear by Rights Standards**

If your organisation provides services for young people it is vital that you make sure that they take part in the decision-making process, and their voice is heard. Hear by Right helps you follow best practice on the safe, sound and sustainable participation of children and young people in the services and activities they take part in.

## **Consultation**

### **1. Internal**

Bristol City Youth Council, Youth Mayors and UK Youth Parliament work closely with all departments of Bristol City Council and with many external organisations. Bristol City Youth Council, Youth Mayors and UK Youth Parliament are available to be consulted. There are protocols for consultation. Please contact the Participation and Involvement Team for more details.

Complementary to Bristol City Youth Council, Youth Mayors and UK Youth Parliament is the Children and Young People's Voice Network. This is a forum for lead workers who support youth voice work in the city. There are currently over 20 organisations represented. Minutes can be available on request. This network increases the reach of Bristol City Youth Council to well over 100 young people.

### **Proposal / recommendations from Youth Council**

Continued Support for Bristol City Youth Council, Youth Mayors and UK Youth Parliament  
Bristol City Youth Council would like Bristol City Council to pledge further support for the duration of the term of office for the newly elected 28 young people from Feb 2017 to Jan 2018 and to strengthen the voice of children and young people the city.

Bristol City Youth Council would like to host other youth participation groups youth forums at City Hall under the banner #cityhallyouthtakeover one evening per month. This is an opportunity to pull together key youth forums such as the Children in Care Council, Young Carers Voice and Unity (BME Youth Forum). This would increase reach and ensure that minority voices are heard. This could be paid for by the Youth Council's working budget.

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## **Other Options Considered**

Bristol City Council could decide not to invest in Bristol City Youth Council, Bristol Youth Mayors and UK Youth Parliament. There may be other ways to ensure that children and young people's voice is heard and that children and young people are involved in decisions.

Bristol City Youth Council could be outsourced to an external organisation and not delivered through the council. This is a possibility, however, it is important that the Youth Council is seen as a key and integral function of Bristol City Council and is also seen as having political independence at all times.

## **Risk Assessment**

All staff that work with children and young people are based in the Early Help Teams, part of the Early Intervention and Targeted Support division of the People Directorate. This ensures that all staff are working within a safeguarding framework. The highest safeguarding standards are adhered to at all times.

## **Legal and Resource Implications**

### **Legal**

Not Applicable

### **Financial (a) Revenue**

The Youth Council has £76k of direct staffing costs and over £25k of overheads such as management time and democratic services.

In addition, there is budget of £39k for CYP voice and Youth Council work. This includes the costs of running the elections, travel and expenses for the young people attending events locally and nationally. The annual elections cost around £12k , attendance at equality forums and events around £10k , the two annual residentials are costed at £5k. The UK Youth Parliament costs are approximately £4k. The balance includes travel and support costs.

A small budget of £2k has been provided by commissioners for the Freedom of Mind events this autumn. The money will be held for them by Off the Record, (local voluntary sector organisation that provides free and confidential mental health support to young people 11-25)

*(Financial comments provided by Michael Pilcher, Finance Business Partner)*

### **(b) Capital**

Not applicable.

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**Land**

Not applicable.

**Personnel**

Not applicable.

**Appendices:**

**Youth Mayors' report / Bristol City Youth Council's Report**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**Background Papers:** None