



Bristol City Youth Council, Full Council Report.

Elections

In February 2024 8,956 young people from schools and youth organisation's across the city took part in the Bristol Youth Vote to elect their members for the Bristol City Youth Council.

Representation

The Bristol City Youth Council consists of 29 young people elected by young people in 3 different ways.

- 18 young people are voted in through the Bristol Youth Vote where they stand for election within their school/ youth organisation.
- 5 young people are elected through their equality groups .
- 6 young people are elected through their areas.

This ensures a wide representation of this city's young people.

The main aim of the youth council is to represent the voice of young people.

The Bristol City Youth Council is a 2-year term of office. Young people have 2 meetings a month, one formal meeting and one campaign meeting as well as other opportunities to support and engage young people and organisation that are working on issues affecting young people in Bristol.

Roles

Within BCYC there are various roles which include

Chair/Deputy Chair

UK Youth Parliament members x2 and Deputy members of Youth Parliament x2

Community Lead x3 (North, South and East Central)

Previously we had 2 Youth Mayors, however following the city's vote to not have a mayor anymore the youth council decided they no longer have the role of the Youth Mayors and replace them with 3 Community Leads. This shows the focus of the youth council to represent the young people from the areas they come from as well as Bristol as a whole.



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City Wide Campaign

In October 2023 BCYC held its annual youth voice conference. At this conference over 120 young people from Bristol attended and were asked to vote for their top issue. The most important issue that came from this conference was Knife Crime and Safety. This became the City Wide campaign for the newly elected young people in Feb 2024.

Knife Crime and Safety of Young People.

The BCYC works as a group to represent the voices of young people in Bristol. Together we have gathered opinions of young people and aim to raise awareness surrounding knife crime, safety and various linked aspects. We strive to ensure that young people feel safe in their surroundings. To do this we will work with local young people, police, decision makers, educational departments and youth workers to help everyone feel safer in the city. (Bristol City Youth Council, 2024)

As a part of this campaign the BCYC has divided this campaign into 4 categories these are:

- Knife Crime
- Police and Crime
- Safer Environments and communities
- Prevention, education and welfare

Area Youth Forums

In order to ensure that young people's voices from across Bristol are heard there will be 3 Area Youth Forums a year. These will be held in North, South and East Central on the same evening in March, June and September.

Area Youth Forums make it so BCYC members are visible, approachable and active in the communities they represent and give the opportunity for young people to have their issues, concerns and priorities elevated.



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Youth Voice Conference

Following the 3 area youth forums this will result in a Youth Voice Conference which will be held in November during National Youth Work Week.

UK Youth Parliament

The role of Member of Youth Parliament (MYP) for the United Kingdom Youth Parliament (UKYP) is to represent the voices of the young people of Bristol on a local, regional and national level.

In March 2024 we had the sad news that the British Youth Council which runs UKYP closed its doors and would stop its operations immediately. In May 2024 we received news that the National Youth Agency would be taking on the work of UKYP and we eagerly wait to see what this will look like going forward and to our first South West Regional Youth Conference in July as well as the National Youth Conference in October and the House Of Commons sitting next March.

As we have both recently started our journey's we would like to ask you as adult councillors to pledge support in us achieving our goals in making change for the young people which we represent.

For more information, to offer support and to be a Participation Champion please contact:

Ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk