
NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

20 February 2018

Cabinet

Title: **Year of Young People (YoYP) 2018: North Ayrshire Council Strategic Group**

Purpose: To seek Cabinet's approval to set up the YoYP Strategic group and to seek approval for the membership and approach.

Recommendation: That Cabinet:

- i) Approves the YoYP Strategic group; and
- ii) Agrees to accept a future report in 2019 which will report on the legacy contribution made by the group to young people in North Ayrshire.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 As part of its themed years programme the Scottish Government has made 2018 the Year of Young People.

A global first, the Year of Young People 2018 will provide a platform to showcase the personalities, talents and achievements of Scotland's young people.

North Ayrshire has already created an events and activities steering group and now wishes to set up a Strategic Group which will identify and act on those issues that matter to young people in North Ayrshire, as an ongoing legacy of the Year of Young People.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Scottish Government's Year of Young People will give young people aged 8 to 26 new opportunities to influence decision making on issues affecting their lives and be involved in cultural and sporting opportunities across the country.

- 2.2 Young people have been involved in designing the programme, with more than 500 signed up to volunteer as Year of Young People 2018 Ambassadors. EventScotland will deliver a programme of events for all ages, and Young Scot, Children in Scotland, the Scottish Youth Parliament and YouthLink Scotland will lead youth participation and involvement in the Year.
- 2.3 North Ayrshire Council reaffirmed its commitment to young people in December 2017 with the official launch of its Year of Young People 2018 plan. It is based on the national themes: health and wellbeing, participation, culture, education, equality and discrimination and enterprise and regeneration.
- 2.4 The plan aims to inspire all ages through its young people (aged 8-26) by celebrating their achievements, valuing their contributions and creating new opportunities for them to shine. In North Ayrshire, this will be done through a year-long programme of events and activities that will give young people the opportunity to show what they are made of.
- 2.5 Activities include 'Joint Cabinet Live' which will bring together young people from all over North Ayrshire via a live video link, to interact with the Council's Cabinet Members on the issues faced by young people living in the area.
- 2.6 There's also a special YoYP Participatory Budgeting exercise that will see those aged 8-26 voting on projects, either organised by or for the benefit of young people, that they want to see happen during 2018. The winning bids will receive up to £1,000 to help deliver their project.
- 2.7 In March, Saltcoats will play host to the 65th sitting of the Scottish Youth Parliament. The annual event and national awards ceremony will be attended by people from across Scotland.
- 2.8 At the 7 December 2017 launch, the Council Leader announced plans to develop a YoYP Working Group, to be chaired by a young person and with an Elected Member as vice chair. The group will ensure that what matters the most to young people is discussed during the year, and that there is a real legacy left from the work that will be taking place.
- 2.9 North Ayrshire currently has 11 YoYP Ambassadors who have been selected to help raise awareness of the year and galvanise support from their peers.

2.10 Year of Young People Strategic Group

A terms of Reference has been created for the purposes of ensuring appropriate membership and functions of the YoYP Strategic Group:

2.10.1 Membership

The members shall be:-

- Six Councillors to be appointed by Cabinet who shall include the Portfolio Holder for Connected Communities (Councillor Louise McPhater); the Young Persons' Champion (Councillor Shaun Macaulay); the Vice Chair of the Integration Joint Board (Councillor Robert Foster); a representative from the SNP Group (Cllr Jean McClung); a representative from the Conservative Group (Cllr Angela Stephen); and a representative from the Independent Group (Cllr Donald L.Reid).
- Six young persons identified by the Head of Connected Communities, with links to each Locality of North Ayrshire.
- The Working Group may also agree to appoint additional members, to participate depending on the experience and subject matter of the issue to be examined. In particular, such participation by experience may include experience relating to children in care, the LGBTI community, YOYP Ambassadors or specific officers with particular specialist expertise.

The Group will be supported by four Council Officers, being Head of Connected Communities; the Community Empowerment Manager; the Senior Manager Intervention Services of the Health & Social Care Partnership; and the Head of Service (Inclusion).

2.10.2 Chair

The Chair of the Working Group shall be a young person chosen by the Working Group. The Vice-Chair will be the Portfolio Holder for Connected Communities.

2.10.3 Quorum

Four members of the Working Group will constitute a quorum, providing at least two Councillors and two young persons are present.

2.10.4 Delegated Powers

The Working Group does not have delegated powers, except for the delegated powers of the Council officers present. All other recommendations of the Working Group will be considered by Cabinet, the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) or Community Planning Partnership (CPP) as appropriate.

2.10.5 Meetings and Lifespan of Committee

The Working Group will have time-limited lifespan from 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2019. The first meeting of the Working Group will be convened at a time and place to be determined by the Head of Connected Communities. The business of the first meeting shall be to agree a programme of work, based on the views of our young people. Thereafter the Working Group shall meet monthly at such place as may be agreed by the Group. Meetings in 2019 would be to agree and sign-off the end-of-life report.

The Chair or the Head of Connected Communities may convene Special Meetings if it appears to him/her that there are items of urgent business to be considered. Such Meetings will be held at a time, date and venue as determined by the Head of Connected Communities

2.10.6 Procedures for Dealing with Items of Business

The Agenda of items for consideration will be issued by electronic means to all members no later than two days (not including Saturday and Sunday) prior to the start of the meeting.

Every effort shall be made by members to ensure that as many decisions as possible are made by consensus. Only in the event that there is no consensus should a decision be taken by a vote. Participants by experience will have full voting rights only in relation to the item or items they are participating in.

2.10.7 Functions Referred

The Working Group shall have the following strategic functions:

- To take evidence on matters effecting children and young persons.
- To ascertain and consult upon themes of importance to children and young persons.
- To use such data to make recommendations on policy and strategy effecting children and young persons.
- To inform Council, HSCP, CPP and stakeholder policy and strategy in relation to children and young persons.
- To advise Council, the HSCP and CPP on matters and themes of importance to children and young persons in relation to their health and wellbeing and otherwise.
- To work closely with the Year of Young People Events and Activities Group, chaired by the Head of Connected Communities, to identify shared priorities and activities.

- To support and facilitate (but not organise) events to celebrate the Year of the Young People
- To produce an end-of-life report to Cabinet outlining themes and matters considered, along with any recommendations for future actions and/or policy development.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is proposed that Cabinet agrees the above Terms of Reference, including membership, as detailed at 2.10 above.
- 3.2 It is proposed that Cabinet agrees to receive a further report from the YoYP Strategic Group on the legacy contribution made by the group to young people after its termination in March 2019.

4. Implications

Financial:	There are no financial implications arising from this report
Human Resources:	There are no human resource issues arising from this report
Legal:	There are no legal implications arising from the report.
Equality:	There are no equality implications arising from the report.
Children and Young People:	There are no implications for Children and Young People associated with this report.
Environmental & Sustainability:	There are no environmental and sustainability implications arising from the report.
Key Priorities:	The proposal contributes to developing stronger communities.
Community Benefits:	There are no Community Benefit implications arising from the report.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 The YoYP approach is very inclusive and is founded on the views of young people. Elected members, young people and CPP partners attended the launch event and will be represented on the North Ayrshire YoYP working groups.



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For further information please contact **Audrey Sutton, Head of Service (Connected Communities)** on **(01294) 324308**.

Background Papers

Nil.