



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children and Young People's Participation Update from Scrutiny Review

24th November 2021



Recommendations – April 2021

- Collate recommendations relating to mental health and emotional wellbeing with the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review Panel for Supporting Young People’s Mental/Emotional Wellbeing & Counselling in Schools, ie, to ensure that there is improved awareness raising about services and provisions available for young people; that information includes messages which remove stereotypes and stigma attached to mental health in order to promote active engagement by young people;
- Invite young people to attend Children and Families Scrutiny Committee every six months to speak directly to elected members about topical issues and for elected members actively seek to attend young people’s groups and hear directly about the work they undertake as messages directly from young people are heard more strongly;
- Support active promotion of participation activities for young people, particularly through schools, to engage and have their voices heard through the various groups available;
- Feedback on the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review to be provided to the young people in attendance by 30th April 2021 to ensure momentum is maintained for working with young people;
- Explore and promote opportunities for financial awareness training and ‘guardian accounts’ for young people’s debit cards to enable ease of access for public transport;
- Establish links with work around transport to ensure young people’s voices directly influence planning and development, particularly around public transport, cycle networks, buses;
- Explore access opportunities with the National Trust in support of wellbeing in line with previous undertakings for Stockport residents, and other leisure providers as appropriate.



Collate recommendations relating to mental health and emotional wellbeing with the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review Panel for Supporting Young People's Mental/Emotional Wellbeing & Counselling in Schools, ie, to ensure that there is improved awareness raising about services and provisions available for young people; that information includes messages which remove stereotypes and stigma attached to mental health in order to promote active engagement by young people;

- Stockport Youth Council - working on Mental Health Services and Education campaigns
- Children in Care Council - working on life skills, and use of language
- The Autism Ambassadors formed on the basis of a young person who is an Autism Ambassador for their school. They wish to improve experiences at school and with services for other autistic young people. Working with the Greater Manchester Autism Consortium on what information is helpful for them. The Ambassadors are working on a guide to Stockport for Autistic Young People.
- Week of action will be held 7 – 13 February to link with the national children's mental health week. Developed in liaison with Beacon, Kooth and 42nd Street. Linking to mental health in schools programme



Invite young people to attend Children and Families Scrutiny Committee every six months to speak directly to elected members about topical issues and for elected members actively seek to attend young people's groups and hear directly about the work they undertake as messages directly from young people are heard more strongly;

- The Youth Council have a request to attend future meetings to discuss
 - More facilities for young people
 - Environment - Plant more trees, solar panels cheaper, renewable energy in council buildings
 - Regeneration
 - Transport - Improve public transport connections
 - Crime - Ban on knives
- Elected members have attended the Youth Council on the 'White Ribbon Campaign' and '20 is Plenty'.
- Cllrs. Foster and Meikle attend the Children in Care Council / Care leavers Forum Business Meeting, which takes place every six weeks. This meeting is also attended by Senior Officers from the council and on occasion young people. The work of the CiCC and CLF is discussed in this meeting and the young people's views are put forward.



Support active promotion of participation activities for young people, particularly through schools, to engage and have their voices heard through the various groups available

- Schools have been helpful in promoting the Autism Ambassadors group and encouraging young people to join.
- Schools will be helping with the running of 'Make Your Mark' and the elections to the U.K. Youth Parliament.
- Stockport Youth Council has a YouTube channel where any videos made by the group are hosted. The channel will also host any videos relating to the Children in Care Council and Autism Ambassadors. The channel can be found by searching for 'Stockport Youth Council'.
- There is also a presence on social media – Twitter and Instagram (@stockportyouth for the youth council and @autismstockport (Twitter only) for Autism Ambassadors).



Explore and promote opportunities for financial awareness training and 'guardian accounts' for young people's debit cards to enable ease of access for public transport; establish links with work around transport to ensure young people's voices directly influence planning and development, particularly around public transport, cycle networks, buses; and develop accessible greenspace and leisure opportunities.

This has been focused on at the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority – Stockport Youth Council has two reps on this group.

Each month the reps from the 10 Greater Manchester Councils, plus reps from 10 voluntary sector organisations meet and the meeting generally has a theme. At the previous Stockport Youth Council meeting the YCA theme will be on the agenda, so that our reps are able to reflect the views of Stockport young people at the YCA meeting. The main focus of the YCA work has been on 'Our Pass', but the group have also looked at the plans relating to the 'Bee Network'.

Involving young people in the development of the Local Plan to ensure their requirements are reflected especially in the town centre.

Conversations have started with the National Trust at Lyme Park, this work will be progressed at pace when the new general manager comes into post early 2022



Going forward

- New Strategic Participation Lead appointed with involvement of Autism Ambassador Lead
- Continued engagement and participation of young people in SEND Improvement and wider service design
- Engage with Youth Council and other groups in the development of the Local Plan
- Progress work with the National Trust early 2022
- Report back on developments regarding the transport and leisure improvements

