

## Scrutiny Review – Cabinet Response Template

**Scrutiny Committee:** Children and Families Scrutiny Committee  
Panel - Councillors Linda Holt (Lead), Grace Baynham, Becky Senior & Mark Weldon

**Review title:** Children and Young People's Participation

**Date completed:** 27 April 2021

**Officer responsible for response:** Carolyn Anderson

**Date response(s) agreed:** 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Original Recommendation	Agreed response	Timescale
<p><b>Recommendation 1</b></p> <p>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 &amp; 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</p>	<p>Ensuring children and young people have access to mental wellbeing support and are involved in the development and promotion of these services is a key priority. We are working with Stockport Youth Council on Mental Health Services and Education campaigns and with the Children in Care Council on life skills and use of language.</p> <p>A group of young people have formed a group called The Autism Ambassadors, building on the experience 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.</p> <p>In addition, a week of action will be held 7<sup>th</sup> – 13th February 2022 to link with the national children’s mental health week. Developed in liaison with Beacon, Kooth and 42nd Street. This links with the scrutiny review recommendation from ‘supporting young people’s mental/emotional wellbeing and counselling in schools.</p>	<p>This work is ongoing with the week of action scheduled for 7 to 13 February 2022</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 2</b></p> <p>Invite young people to attend Children and Families Scrutiny Committee every six months to</p>	<p>The attendance of young people at Children and Families Scrutiny Committee will bring the voice of the child into the heart of democracy. This is not only welcome but essential.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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<p>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</p>	<p>The Youth Council have requested to attend future meetings to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>More facilities</b> for young people</li> <li>• <b>Environment</b> - Plant more trees, solar panels cheaper, renewable energy in council buildings</li> <li>• <b>Regeneration</b></li> <li>• <b>Transport</b> - Improve public transport connections</li> <li>• <b>Crime</b> - Ban on knives</li> </ul> <p>Elected members have attended the Youth Council on the 'White Ribbon Campaign' and '20 is Plenty'.</p> <p>Cllrs. Foster and Meikle attend the Children in Care Council (CICC)/ Care Leavers Forum (CLF) 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.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendation 3</b></p> <p>Support active promotion of participation activities for young people, particularly through schools, to engage and have their voices heard through the various groups available</p>	<p>Much work has been done to encourage the active participation of young people on their own terms, especially through the SEND coproduction workstream. There have been some successes but we are aware that the pandemic has affected progress and a refresh of the action plan is planned for early 2022. In the meantime schools have been helpful in promoting the Autism Ambassadors group and encouraging young people to join. Schools will also be helping with the running of 'Make Your Mark' and the elections to the U.K. Youth Parliament.</p> <p>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'.</p>	<p>Refreshed plan March 22</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

	<p>There is also a presence on social media – Twitter and Instagram (@stockportyouth for the youth council and @autismstockport (Twitter only) for Autism Ambassadors).</p> <p>The Climate Action Now Summit was held on 9<sup>th</sup> November with 146 attendees, including 66 young people from across 24 schools. The specific session within the summit called Young People CAN was coproduced with the Youth Council, SAYS and Autism Ambassadors. This gave the young people an opportunity to lead and share their ideas and requests for action on climate change with the full summit. This resulted in a set of actions in particular around carbon literacy that is proposed to be delivered through a schools climate assembly.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendation 4</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p>This has taken place and there is continued involvement of the young people through the various groups and organisations involved.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 5</b></p> <p>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;</p> <p>And</p>	<p>This has been a focus at the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority (YCA). Stockport Youth Council has two representatives on this group.</p> <p>Each month the representatives from the 10 Greater Manchester Councils, plus those from 10 voluntary sector organisations, meet together, with each meeting focussing on a specific theme.</p> <p>The YCA theme will form an item on the Stockport Youth Council meeting</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 6</b></p> <p>Establish links with work around transport to ensure young people's voices directly influence planning and development, particularly around public transport, cycle networks, buses;</p>	<p>agenda so that our representatives 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'.</p> <p>As part of the consultation and engagement around the Local Plan, there are sessions planned with young people to ensure their requirements are reflected especially in the town centre.</p>	
<p><b>Recommendation 7</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Spring 2022</p>