



<b>Title of paper:</b>	Participation in Governance Programme and Youth Council Update	
<b>Report to:</b>	Children's Partnership Board	
<b>Date:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	
<b>Relevant Director:</b>	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director of Children and Adults	<b>Wards affected:</b> All
<b>Contact Officer(s) and contact details:</b>	Jon Rea, Engagement and Participation Lead <a href="mailto:Jon.rea@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">Jon.rea@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a> , 0115 8764817	
<b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>	Charlotte Croft, Youth Cabinet representative on the Children's Partnership Board	
<b>Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) objectives(s):</b>		
<b>Stronger safeguarding</b> – With a key focus on ensuring that there are high standards of safeguarding across all agencies and that the Partnership takes a pro-active approach to the elimination of domestic violence.		
<b>Healthy living</b> – With a key focus on increasing the proportion of children and young people who have a healthy weight.		
<b>Reducing substance misuse</b> – Partnership work to lessen the impact on children of parental drug and alcohol misuse and to reduce drug and alcohol misuse amongst children and young people.		
<b>Raising attainment</b> – Raising the attainment levels and increasing engagement in employment, education and training.		x
<b>Improving attendance</b> – Improving rates of attendance at both Primary and Secondary as a key foundation of improving outcomes.		x
<b>Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):</b>		
<p>This report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides a briefing to the Board on the 2014/15 Participation in Governance programme of children and young people's participation groups, meetings and events;</li> <li>• Updates the board about the recent work of Youth Cabinet.</li> </ul>		
<b>Recommendations:</b>		
<b>1</b>	Board partners are invited to work with Youth Cabinet and utilise opportunities to engage with children and young people around the Participation in Governance programme.	
<b>2</b>	The Board agrees to use the findings of participation work to inform plans and strategies for service improvement for children and young people across the Children's Partnership.	
<b>3</b>	The Board acknowledges the work of the Youth Cabinet as the principal youth leadership group for participation in the Children's Partnership agenda.	

# 1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

## a) PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME 2014/15

The Participation in Governance programme supports children and young people to participate in decision making in the Children's Partnership.

This programme consists of meetings, events and group work aimed at empowering children and young people to participate alongside decision makers for the Children Partnership and contribute to the design, development and delivery of strategies and plans for service improvement. The programme is refreshed annually.

The programme provides a thematic schedule to enable partners to plan engagement and participation with various participation groups and engage larger number of children and young people through Youth Council and Primary Parliament events.

### **Participation in Governance Groups**

#### Youth Cabinet

Youth Cabinet meetings are held monthly at on the first Wednesday of the month. Youth Cabinet provides a reference group forum for partners including Councillors, senior officers from the Children's Partnership and voluntary sector service providers. Partners are invited to come to Youth Cabinet to discuss and design participation plans and strategies, and to consult on programme performance. Members contribute to a wide variety of governance boards and projects including Children's Partnership Board, Nottingham Growth Board, One Nottingham forum, Equality and Fairness Commission, STAC Education and Training Group and the Creative Industries Award.

#### UK Youth Parliament

Nottingham City sends two MYP and two Deputy MYP representatives to regional and national meetings of the UK Youth Parliament, including the annual House of Commons sitting.

Elections for Nottingham City UK Youth Parliament representatives were held through National Citizen Service programme this summer. Five candidates from the Youth Cabinet stood for elections and produced short manifestos outlining their priorities for change. 385 young people took part in voting. The candidates returned as UK Youth parliament representatives for 2014/15 were Charlotte Croft and Rachel To.

#### Children in Care Council

The Children in Care Council is convened to support CiC and Care Leavers to participate in decision making with the Corporate Parenting Board. The group meets monthly and consists of around 12 care experienced young people from a range of care backgrounds. The group is a key partner in the annual Have Your Say survey of CiC and Care Leavers and its recommendations for improvement are used to inform the annual Corporate Parenting Action Plan.

#### The Special People Group

The Special People Group is a participation forum for young people with special educational needs and disabilities, currently convened on our behalf by Barnardo's. The group meets

monthly and currently acts as the principal young people's co-production forum for the Children and Families SEN Act reforms.

## **Youth Council and Primary Parliament**

### Youth Council

Youth Council is a large general meeting of young people from across the city, held once a term at the Council House. Meetings are themed and involve focussed activity workshops as well as activities to develop participation skills. Each session concludes with a presentation of workshop findings and a chaired discussion with Councillor Mellen, Portfolio Holder for Children Services. Findings are shared with relevant partners, JSNA and children's commissioning colleagues, and Children's Partnership Board.

Partners are invited to submit ideas and material for workshops in advance through the Youth Cabinet.

Dates for 2014/15 are:

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015

### Primary Parliament

Held termly, these meetings are for Year 5 and 6 children and are organised in conjunction with the Nottingham Learning Trust. The meetings have the same thematic content as Youth Council but workshop activities are different and age appropriate. Meetings conclude with presentation of findings and a chaired discussion with Councillor Mellen, Portfolio Holder for Children Services.

Partners are invited to submit ideas and material for workshops in advance through the Youth Cabinet. Provisional meeting dates for 2014/15 are:

Friday November 14<sup>th</sup> 2014  
Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Friday June 12<sup>th</sup> 2015

The Youth Council meeting programme for 2014/15 is as follows:

### **Education, Work and Training for the Knowledge Economy**

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014 (10am - 3pm, Council House)

Proposed workshops:

1. "Motivation and Aspiration – acquiring qualities for success"  
A peer-led youth cabinet workshop on personal behaviour, attitudes to work and training.
2. "STEMWORKS: Young People into Science Careers"  
Developing a STEM manifesto for attendees youth project, school or college.
3. "Sharing The Future- skills for active participation"  
Development workshop to build participation skills and knowledge in young citizen using the new Sharing the Future participation model.

## **Safe Lives, Positive Communities**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015 (10am - 3pm, Council House)

Proposed workshops:

1. "Police Crime Action Plan - Youth Council review"  
Assessing performance of the current PCAP and making recommendations for change to the PCC.
2. "Youth provision review"  
Workshop to assess how young people use local youth provision, with locality youth coordinators.
3. "Sharing the Future- Skills for active participation"  
Second development workshop to build participation skills and knowledge in young citizen using the new Sharing the Future participation model.

## **Happy, Healthy, Creative You**

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 (10am-3pm, Council House)

Proposed workshops:

1. "Teenage Pregnancy Strategy- youth council review"  
Workshop led by TP strategy lead and Youth Cabinet members.
2. "The Early Citizen- programme launch activity"  
Celebrating and supporting the new Health and Wellbeing Board-sponsored framework for mental health and emotional well-being services.
3. "Sharing the Future- Skills for active participation"  
Third development workshop to build participation skills and knowledge in young citizen using the new Sharing the Future participation model.

## **b) UPDATE ON YOUTH CABINET WORK**

- Following the successful delivery of the NEEC Youth Conference earlier this year in July Youth cabinet undertook a reciprocal trip to Newcastle to meet with the Newcastle Youth Council and do research into science and technology engagement. The group visited the Centre for Life Science Centre and spoke to organisers about how the centre engages children and families in science and technology learning, The findings from this will feedback into STEMWORKS action plan for science communication.
- While in the North East the group also visited the Baltic centre and took part in workshops to develop the new Sharing the Future participation model which is being used by the Youth Cabinet to help partners plan participation activities.
- Youth Cabinet is now a reference group for the new Early Citizen framework for children and young people's mental health and emotional well-being. Early Citizen is being developed by the Institute of Mental Health at the University of Nottingham on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board. An initial focus group session has been held with the programme lead and Youth Cabinet has been included in the co-production plan for the work.
- Every Christmas Youth Cabinet helps plan and deliver Pies and Pledges, the annual celebration of children, young people and family participation in Nottingham. This year we are proposing to change the focus of the event to be around science and technology, launch of the STEMWORKS action plan and promote opportunities for

science and technology learning and careers in the city. The provisional date for this event is December 2<sup>nd</sup> and partners are invited to help us plan and deliver this event.

#### 4. RISKS

None

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

#### 6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

#### 7. CLIENT GROUP

Children and young people

#### 8. IMPACT ON EQUALITIES ISSUES

None

#### 9. OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED

This work contributes to the following CYPP outcomes:

**Stronger Safeguarding**, through improving the skills and confidence of children and young people and empowering them to have a voice that is heard;

**Raising attainment**, through improving young people's focus on their personal development and skills and providing opportunities for learning in informal settings;

**Improving attendance**, by motivating them to take a more active role in their own personal and educational development and improving their understanding of how organisations and institutions work and benefit them.

#### 10. CONTACT DETAILS

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