

<b>Title of paper:</b>	Youth Cabinet Q4 17/18 and Q1 18/19 update	
<b>Report to:</b>	Children's Partnership Board	
<b>Date:</b>	27.06.18	
<b>Relevant Director:</b>	Alison Michalska	<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>	
<b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>		
<b>Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) priority:</b>		
<b>Safeguarding and supporting children and families:</b> Children, young people and families will benefit from early and effective support and protection to empower them to overcome difficulties and provide a safe environment in which to thrive.		x
<b>Promoting the health and wellbeing of babies, children and young people:</b> From pregnancy and throughout life, babies, children, young people and families will be healthier, more emotionally resilient and better able to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.		x
<b>Supporting achievement and academic attainment:</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for independence, work or further learning.		x
<b>Empowering families to be strong and achieve economic wellbeing:</b> More families will be empowered and able to deal with family issues and child poverty will be significantly reduced.		x
<b>Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):</b>		
Update on work of the Youth Cabinet and associated CYP Participation in Governance programme groups and activities in Q4 17/18 and Q1 18/19.		
<b>Recommendations:</b>		
<b>1</b>	The Board acknowledges and supports the achievements of children and young people engaging in participation and active citizenship work through the Participation in Governance programme and the work of the Youth Cabinet.	
<b>2</b>	Board partners are asked to consider how they can use the CYP participation in Governance programme to further participation in their organisational strategies, plans and processes.	

# **1 BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS**

## **1.1 Background**

The last quarter of 2017/18 and the first quarter of the 2018/19 programme of children and young people's engagement and participation has been a busy time for all groups involved in the Board's Participation in Governance Programme (PiGP) and wider Participation Strategy.

The focus of Q4 2017/18 coincided with the spring term theme 'Safe Lives, Positive Neighbourhoods, Smart City' in line with Early Help strategic goals around 'A Resilient City'. During the Q4 2017/18 period 22 activities took place, in addition to the general Festival of Science of Curiosity programme which provided a substantial engagement platform in its own right.

Partners, strategies and plans engaged in this period included:

- Smart City programme
- Energy Behaviour Change strategy
- Stemcity partnership and Festival of Science and Curiosity
- Education Partnerships
- Budget Consultation
- Centenary Cities programme
- Neighbourhood Action Teams

During the Q1 2018/19 period, the focus has been on the theme of Healthy, Creative You, in line with the Early Help strategic goals around 'A Healthy City'. 10 engagement activities took place during the Q1 period, attracting 253 participants. Partners, strategies and plans engaged in this period included:

- Public Health team
- SRE strategy partners
- Education Partnerships
- Community Cohesion and Hate Crime teams
- Smart City: REMOURBAN project

### **Performance indicators**

The Nottingham Plan contains two performance indicator targets for CYP Engagement:

- Number of children and young people engaged per year – 1,000
- Number of engagement events held per year - 60

The numbers of children and young people and the range of participation events remained strong in 2017/18, reflecting resilience in the engagement and participation offer; the ongoing appeal of co-creative ways of working; the ability of this work to make a positive impact on decision making across the Children and Young People's Plan themes; and the commitment and hard-work of both Board partners, contributing organisations and the children and young people themselves.

Performance indicators:

<b>2017/18</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Number of CYP engaged	203	96	255	412	<b>966</b>
Number of events	13	8	15	22	<b>58</b>
<b>2018/19</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>TOTAL (to date)</b>
Number of CYP engaged	253				<b>253</b>
Number of events	10				<b>10</b>

## **1.2 CYP Participation in Governance groups**

### 1.2.1 Primary Parliament

Primary Parliament sessions in March focused on the theme of 'Safe Lives, Positive Neighbourhoods, Smart City', with activities designed to stimulate interest and active involvement in co-creating our future city. 120 year 5 & 6 students from 30 City primaries, including two special schools, took part in the sessions, which were supported by colleagues from the Research, Engagement & Consultation team, Education Partnerships, Smart City programme REMOURBAN Stemcity and various school trust partners.

Using a now established design thinking-based approach to problem solving, the students engaged in workshops to design and build part of a city, incorporating elements of safe, positive and smart into their design. Working in pairs of schools, the students were given different urban sectors to consider, for example housing, leisure, schools, shopping, energy production, waste disposal and open spaces. Each group then designed and built a model of their sector and then demonstrated how it met the criteria for being safe, positive and smart. Students had to consider how the sector could be self-sustaining while also being part of a wider city infrastructure. Presentations to the full Primary Parliament session in the afternoon gave the Portfolio Holder and fellow students the opportunity to quiz each group and discuss the benefits and risks of each idea. Schools then pledged to take their models and presentations back to school for further exposure and development.

Additional outcomes of the session include:

- REMOURBAN, the low carbon energy sustainability project currently in operation in Sneinton, engaged with William Booth School in Sneinton to spend two sessions with a year 6 class developing ideas for marketing smart tech projects to communities
- The Energy Change Behaviour team developing an eTeacher project workshop for use in schools

The Q1 2018/19, the June 2018 Primary Parliament sessions focused on the theme of Healthy, Creative You, using drama and digital media to create a dialogue about how to develop positive self-esteem and the meaning and importance of healthy relationships. Learning from the session will feed into the development of Relationships and Sex Education strategy for primary school and other public Health commissioned work on RSE education and engagement.

### 1.2.2 Youth Council

Youth Council members planned and helped deliver a special youth engagement session in February, based on the theme of unity. Based at Take One studio in Hyson Green, (the former Hyson Green library) the session saw young people from Central locality and further afield gather to discuss issues such as community cohesion, knife crime, integration and improving youth engagement opportunities, while engaging in creative activities and discussion with youth workers, community workers and volunteers. 30 young people took part. As a result of this event taking place in the February half-term, the regular termly Youth Council meeting did not take place.

Regular Youth Council attendees from all three localities featured highly in the nominations for the inaugural Play & Youth Awards night in May. Around 60 young people attended the celebration event, which included awards to commemorate the life, work and inspirational example of the late Jean Case.

### 1.2.3 Youth Cabinet

The main work of the Youth Cabinet in Q4 2017/18 focused on the Council's annual budget consultation. As a youth leadership forum, Youth Cabinet regular inputs into the budget consultation and tries to represent young people's views in the process. For this year's consultation, the group mainly supported the Council's budget measures, however they raised questions over proposed reductions in drug and alcohol service provision as it was felt it would increase homelessness, which Youth Cabinet members regard as the biggest problem in the city. Overall, while not uncritical, support for the Council's agenda and delivery programme was positive and supportive,

Youth Cabinet session work in Q1 included providing the first scoping for engagement work for the summer term theme 'Healthy, Creative You' and support for the programme, with advice on young people's engagement provided to the Council's Centenary Cities project lead and attendance at the Long Road to Gender Equality debate at the Council House

In Q1 2018/19 Youth Cabinet engaged in consultation with Community Cohesion and Hate Crimes to support the co-production of new plans to deliver better, more effective anti-hate crime engagement and support plans, including the possible introduction of bystander training for young volunteers. A steering group is being convened in Q3 to design engagement sessions suitable for a range of younger and older children, for delivery to primary and secondary aged children in Q4 2018/19.

The Children's Partnership Board's Youth Cabinet representatives are Natasha Tulley and Theresa Jennings. Sara Ahmed represents the group on the One Nottingham Board.

### 1.2.4 Children in Care Council & Your Voice groups

In Q4 2017/18 members of the Children in Care Council and Your Voice (care leavers) groups participated in meetings to assess and mark the annual CiC Have Your Say survey. Overall this year's survey provided mainly positive responses around care post-care provision, showing general satisfaction with how the Council respects, involves, safeguards and supports CiC and care leavers. However, three areas were identified by CiC Council and Your Voice members for further work. Meetings with Councillors and senior officers in the coming year will focus on:

- Educational support and attainment of CiC
- Reducing unnecessary change in children and young people's lives
- Improving skills for independent living

In May, our termly inclusion session took place at NGY, enabling young people in care with SEND to participate equally in a fun, accessible session. The group worked with SOVA and the Placement's Team to develop ideas for marketing independent advocacy and independent visitors services to other CiC. They also developed stories for the new CiC Council newsletter.

In June, eight members of the CiC Council group travelled to Mansfield to participate in a regional CiC Council event featuring groups from across nine local authority areas. Children's Commissioner Anne Wakefield attended the event and met with our group, and listened to their presentation on their work and achievements. The group also made good contact with other groups in the area, laying the groundwork for future collaborations.

The CiC Council currently has around 16 active members, including inclusion sessions, while the Your Voice group has around six regular participants, and we have a number of new members waiting to join. This is the highest number of participants for many years and is a reflection of the growing reputation and information sharing about the work of the group. New volunteer officers from the Council and Board partners are welcome to help out at the monthly sessions and spin-off work.

### 1.2.5 SEND engagement

In partnership with our participation contract holder Rainbow Parent Care forum we delivered five CYP engagement sessions in Q4 2017/18, helping co-produce with SEND and SEMH children and young people the new Measuring Outcomes framework and accompanying support tools. One of the outputs of this engagement was the development of a prototype game that can be used to prompt and support discussion with SEND/SEMH children and their families about what's important to them, what their aspirations are and where they think they need help.

In Q1 2018/19 responsibility for SEND engagement was due to pass to the new Integrated Advice and Support Services contract holder Futures, however delays in the setting up of the new service arrangements meant a short hiatus between the old engagement offer of Rainbow and the new one of Futures. In order to bridge this gap Rainbow's engagement agreement has been extended by one quarter to enable them to further develop the game tool through additional sessions with children, young people and families in schools and community groups; market analysis for the potential commercialisation of the game tool; product development and testing with local partners.

The finished SEND Measuring Outcomes framework meanwhile now reflects the changes and improvements gained as a result of extensive consultation with young citizens.

### Festival of Science and Curiosity 2018

In Q4 2018/19 the annual Festival of Science and Curiosity achieved its best year yet, with over 3,500 engagements with children, young people and families across a range of STEM learning activities in schools, the city centre and neighbourhoods. Over 90% of participants were from Nottingham and around 40% of all those engaging were aged 11 or under, fulfilling FOSAC's mission to get children turned on to STEM early in their lives. FOSAC provided a platform for direct engagement of young people through the PiGP programme including at the launch event and Research in Schools network conference, as well as with peer led student showcases at Wollaton Hall, Central Library and local libraries.

## **1.3 Looking forward**

### **1.3.1 Forthcoming themes**

The theme for the forthcoming autumn term covered by Q3 is Earning and Learning. Areas currently under consideration for activity include raising awareness of career options, peer led learning and developing life skills. Partners currently in scoping discussions include the Metropolitan Strategy, Futures, Opportunity Notts, Lab 13 and Research in Schools Network. Board partners with an interest in the theme are invited to contribute to the scoping discussion up to the end of July.

### **1.3.2 Takeover Challenge**

The provisional date for Takeover Challenge week 2018 is 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> November. Our Takeover Challenge activities support young people to take on shadowing roles and work experience. Board partners who wish to take part in this year's Takeover Challenge week are asked to register their interest with the Engagement Lead before the end of July.

### **1.3.3 Chengdu visit**

Six young people, including three from our CiC cohort and three engaged through Early Help Play and Youth work, have been invited to attend a free international summer school in Chengdu, China this July. Work is currently underway to fundraise money for their flights and visas (the only direct cost). It is hoped that this will be the first of a regular annual visit programme to Chengdu, and a way for a select number of young city residents who would not normally get this opportunity to have the chance to take part in a life-changing experience.

### **1.3.4 Urban Room**

Urban Room is a new project creating a dedicated public engagement space from an empty shop unit on Carrington Street in the heart of the city centre's Southside. Financed through English Heritage and managed through a partnership involving RIBA (Royal Institute for British Architecture), the Urban Design Council, University of Nottingham, Nottingham Trent University and the Council, the space will be known simply as 38, and will provide a physical location for a wide range of public dialogues for up to 5 years.

The Engagement Lead is working with the Urban Room project manager Laura Alvarez to design a programme of public facing engagement events, starting with a public showcase for Smart City in time for the Q3/Autumn term. The venue will feature in the next Participation in Governance Plan (for the 2018/19 academic year) as a location for Youth Cabinet, Youth Council, CiC Council and bespoke SEND engagement sessions.

## **2 RISKS**

2.1 None identified.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The Engagement and Participation Lead has a budget of £12,500 per annum to support the delivery of the Participation Strategy Action Plan including the Participation in Governance programme. Additional support for participation comes via commissioned services and discreet service budgets which are variable.

#### **4 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The strategy supports the fulfilment of statutory duties around Children in Care, Child Protection and SEND.

#### **5 CLIENT GROUP**

- 5.1 Children, young people and young adults aged 9 - 21

#### **6 IMPACT ON EQUALITIES ISSUES**

- 6.1 Work contributes to active citizenship and community engagement.

#### **7 OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED**

- 7.1 All CYPP strategic priority and CYPP cross-cutting theme of Children and Young People's participation in decision making.

#### **8. CONTACT DETAILS**

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