

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE - 22 MAY 2018

ANGUS YOUTH ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

REPORT BY MARK ARMSTRONG, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - PEOPLE

ABSTRACT

This report details the Angus Youth Engagement Strategy as specified in report 427/17, The Year of Young People 2018. This report recommends that the Children and Learning Committee endorse the Angus Youth Engagement Strategy to strengthen Angus Community Planning Partnership's engagement with Angus' young people.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee:

- (i) Considers the Angus Youth Engagement Strategy;
- (ii) Endorses the principles of the Angus Youth Engagement Strategy; and
- (iii) Supports young people in Angus and the Angus Community Planning Partnership to strengthen engagement with each other.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017-2030:

4. The best start in life for children
5. More opportunities for people to achieve success
6. Improved physical, mental and emotional health and well-being
9. Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 This report refers to the Angus Council Committee Report 427/17, The Year of Young People (YOYP2018) 7 December 2017 which details:

- The Year of Young People is an opportunity to celebrate the amazing young personalities, talents, and achievers that make up Scotland.
- The Year of Young People 2018 aims to inspire Scotland through its young people, celebrating their achievements, valuing their contribution to communities and creating new opportunities for them to shine locally, nationally and globally.
- The Year of Young People 2018 has the following objectives:
 - Provide a platform for young people to have their views heard and acted upon
 - Showcase the amazing talents of young people through events and media

- Develop better understanding, co-operation and respect between generations
- Recognise the impact of teachers, youth workers and other supporting adults on young people's lives.
- Provide opportunities for young people to express themselves through culture, sport and other activities.

3.2 Activities in the Year of Young People are based around six key themes, which were developed by young people and guide everything that is done across the year.

Culture – Share and celebrate young people's talent and contribution to Scottish culture and arts.

Education – Allow young people to have more say in their education and learning

Enterprise and regeneration- Celebrate young people's role in innovation, greener, entrepreneurship and the Scottish economy as well as making Scotland a more pleasant place to live.

Equality and discrimination – Recognise the positive impact of young people in Scotland and encourage them to take the lead in challenging all forms of prejudice and discrimination.

Health and Wellbeing- Make sure young people have the chance to lead healthy, active lives and understand the importance of mental health and resilience.

Participation – Give young people the chance to influence decisions that affect their lives.

4. CURRENT POSITION

4.1 Young people from Angus and members of Angus Community Planning Partnership (ACPP) co-designed the Angus Youth Engagement Strategy. Young people identified a set of principles that is important to them about how they would like to be engaged in decisions that affect their lives.

4.2 Over 290 young people from secondary schools and the local community in Angus completed a survey about how they would like to be involved in decisions that affect their lives. Young people and members of ACPP participated in an event to identify principles and methods for engaging young people. A working group was established involving young people from Arbroath, Brechin and Kirriemuir secondary schools and ACPP members. The working group met three times to fully develop the principles, methods for engagement and designed the strategy. Young people and ACPP sought comment around the draft strategy from wider groups of young people and ACPP. The draft strategy was then discussed at the Integrated Children's Services Group.

4.3 Members of the working group will also present the strategy to the ACPP board to request their endorsement.

4.4 The working group have started to establish ways to review the impact of the strategy to strengthen engagement and empower young people in Angus.

4.5 Members of the working group are planning the launch of the Youth Engagement Strategy for June 2018 in line with the YOYP2018 and to celebrate young people's achievements.

5. PROPOSALS

5.1 It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee supports and endorses the Angus Youth Engagement Strategy as part of the YOYP2018 and beyond, to celebrate, engage and empower the young people of Angus.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no financial implications arising as a direct result of the recommendations within this report. All activities that will be undertaken in support of the YOYP2018 will be resourced within existing budgets.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Angus Youth Engagement Strategy