



Subject:	Belfast City Youth Council Update
Date:	6 th December 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director Neighbourhood Services, CNS
Contact Officer:	Kelly Gilliland, Neighbourhood Services Manager Margaret Higgins, Lead Officer – Community Provision

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the Belfast City Youth Council (BCYC) and recommend that the next scheduled special meeting of People and Communities committee with the youth council is postponed until February/March 2023.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Note the update on the Belfast City Youth Council and approve the recommendation that the next scheduled special meeting of People and Communities committee with the youth council is postponed until February/March 2023.
3.0	Main report
3.1	In September, members were provided with an update in relation to the recruitment of the Council's Children & Young People's Co-ordinator (C&YP Co-ordinator) and the impact that this vacancy had had on the operation of the Belfast City Youth Council (BCYC). Members approved an officer request to postpone the special committee meeting with BCYC from October until 20 th December 2022.

3.2	The current cohort of BCYC have not had the opportunity to meet consistently and identify their priorities for the incoming term. Officers highlighted in the September report that the BCYC would need to have the dedicated support of the C&YP Co-ordinator in order to prepare them for the Special committee meeting.
3.3	Unfortunately, due to the requirement for pre-employment checks to be completed prior to taking up post, the newly appointed co-ordinator did not commence employment with Council until the beginning of November. Since then, he has been engaging with the Youth Council membership, but they are currently not in a position to take part in the special Committee meeting in December.
3.4	The next scheduled meeting between the youth council and committee is not until Monday 26th June 2023. If members are content, officers will arrange a special committee meeting in late February/early March and will also arrange a meeting with the Youth Champions of each party and the youth council before that meeting takes place. This will allow the co-ordinator ample time to rebuild relationships with youth council members, identify their needs and priorities for the incoming year, and prepare and support them to be able to actively participate in the rearranged meeting.
	<p>Financial & Resource Implications</p> <p>3.5 There are no financial or resource implications</p>
	<p>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</p> <p>3.6 There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications of this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None