



Subject:	Belfast City Youth Council (BCYC) update
Date:	8 August 2023
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Nicola Lane, Neighbourhood Services Manager, CNS Margaret Higgins, Lead Officer, CNS

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; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an update on the operation of the Belfast City Youth Council (BCYC) • Provide update of all groups that will be contacted as part of the recruitment exercise for new members
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the content of the report relating to the Belfast City Youth Council • note the list of groups that will be contacted as part of the recruitment exercise for new members
3.0	Main report
	<u>Overview</u> Background

3.1	At June committee members received an update on the work of the Belfast City Youth Council and the recruitment exercise which will begin in the Autumn for the Belfast City Youth Council. Members asked for further information to be provided in relation to the operation of the BCYC at this month's committee.
3.2	Officers advised that the key focus of work at present is reviewing and designing the recruitment process and engagement approach to encourage applications from young people across the city. As previously advised, over the summer months the youth council will prioritise outreach with youth providers and youth services to promote recruitment.
3.3	<p>Regular social media post, e-shots, mailing, emailing, telephone calls and face to face contact with a wide range of groups are all scheduled over the coming months. This will ensure a diverse range of young people receive an opportunity to apply to BCYC. Contact will be made with youth organisations in each of the 10 Council DEAs as well as larger citywide organisations which will include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Work Alliance • Voluntary Sector Youth Providers • Street Beat • Community Restorative Justice • Shankhill Alternatives • Common Youth • Transgender NI • ACT Initiative • Rainbow project • EA Youth Service • R City • NIYF • NICCY • Extern • Volunteer NOW • Cara Friend • Belfast Met
3.4	Members can contact the Young People's Co-ordinator at mulhollandstevie@belfastcity.gov.uk to suggest specific youth organisations or clubs that should be contacted or if they have other queries about the youth council.
3.5	Officers have made contact with party group leaders to seek confirmation of existing nominees and to seek new nominees, once confirmed these members will be invited to attend a meeting with the Belfast City Youth Council members.

3.6	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>All costs associated with the Youth Council have been agreed in the budget setting process. A dedicated Young People’s Co-ordinator has been assigned to facilitate the Youth Council.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None identified at present. Recruitment for the Youth Council seeks to ensure representation for young people from all sections of society, particularly relevant Section 75 groups and promotion and engagement is designed to support this.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	None