



Subject:	Belfast City Youth Council (BCYC) – joint workshop with People and Communities Committee
Date:	11 th June 2024
Reporting Officer:	Jim Girvan, Operational Director, Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Stephen Mulholland, Children & Young People Co-ordinator

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime 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/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the recent workshop of the People and Communities committee and the Belfast City Youth Council on 21st May 2024.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	Members are asked to note the contents of the report.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Members of the new cohort of the Belfast City Youth Council attended a workshop with members of the People and Communities committee on 21st May 2024.
3.2	The workshop began with a presentation from Montserrat Fargas, QUB, who provided an overview of the Radical Programme. RADICAL (Respect and Disrespect in Children's and Adolescents Lives) is a two year study that aims to develop theories of dis/respect that can better inform policies and interventions that impact the lives of children and young people. The BCYC are acting as an advisory group for the Belfast area, the programme will involve engagement with over 7000 young people across the region.
3.3	The Children & Young People (C&YP) Co-ordinator gave an overview of the operation of the BCYC to date following the welcome event for the new cohort on January 10 th , 2024. The young people meet every fortnight and have met ten times to date. A residential will take place in the summer and during the residential the young people will elect office bearers for BCYC including the roles of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.
3.4	There will be an article within the summer addition of City Matters highlighting work to date; the RADICAL programme and future work of BCYC. The C&YP Co-ordinator has been working with the corporate communications team to develop a social media presence for BCYC and a communications plan, which will be a key area of work.
3.5	Members of the youth council then took the opportunity to share the detail of some of their priorities for 24/25. A number of key areas of interest have emerged, which include; Environment, Education, Poverty, Health and Wellbeing and Sectarianism and Inclusion.
3.6	Elected members congratulated the BCYC members in attendance on the areas of work that they had identified as priorities and committed to providing whatever support they could to BCYC in their efforts to develop projects and campaigns to address these issues.

3.7	The next steps for the BCYC will be to develop an action plan for their key areas of work for 24/25. This will include linking with the Children & Young People Internal Officer group and sharing the detail of their priorities with other departments and the committees that they report to.
4.0	Appendices
	N/A