



Subject:	Belfast Youth Forum Special Committee meeting
Date:	20 th October 2020
Reporting Officer:	Cate Taggart, Neighbourhood Service Manager, East Belfast
Contact Officer:	Grainne O'Hare, Community Development Officer,

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 an agenda for the meeting between the Belfast Youth Forum (BYF) and P&C Committee which takes place on 20 th October 2020.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	There are no recommendations contained within this report. Members are asked to note the agenda items prior to the meeting.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Meeting Agenda</u>
3.1	Youth Forum Campaigns

3.2

BYF members are currently working on the following campaigns:

- **Relationship & sexual health education** (Any Use? Campaign);
- **Racism and diversity** project;
- **Mental Health** (Elephant in the Room campaign);

Item 1: Introductions and purpose of meeting

Item 2: 'Any Use' Relationship & Sexuality Education (RSE) campaign **Shántana Mc Cullough**

BYF will discuss report findings and recommendations with Members as well as potential replication of the research in other parts on Northern Ireland and possible future presentation to Education Committee in Stormont.

Item 3: Diversity project **Harry Booker**

BYF will update members on the most recent progress of this project.

Item 4: 'Elephant in the Room' (EITR) mental health campaign **John Jo Mc Grady**

BYF will update members on the most recent progress of this campaign including the presentation to the Executive Working Group on Mental Wellbeing, Resilience and Suicide Prevention, as well as the production of the 'Heads Up' mental health toolkit designed in partnership with NIYF and NICCY, to help and support young people to take action and campaign on local mental health issues.

Item 5: Sister City Podcast **Carter Wickham**

BYF will update members on a podcast project they are creating with young people from the Mayors Youth Council in Nashville.

Item 7: BYF Recruitment

Members are asked to note that at the last joint Youth Forum / People and Communities meeting in January 2020, Members agreed to amend for the BYF recruitment process to begin in September and end in October in line with the academic year. The previous timeframe was during April and May which conflicted with the exam season for BYF members.

Members are also asked to note that at the People and Communities meeting in August 2020, members agreed to extend the current cohort of members' term for 1 year. This was due to the impact of Covid-19 and the limitations the environment presented for positive active engagement with young people, schools and service providers during this time.

The next recruitment time line will now be as follows:

July 2021-September 2021	Engage with youth providers across Belfast regarding upcoming recruitment
September 2021	Expressions of Interest forms distributed
Sep / Oct 2021	Youth Forum information session
Oct 2021	Young people invited to attend for interview – 40 young people recruited
Late Oct 2021	Induction night for young people and their families

	<p>In response to Member’s recommendations at People and Communities Committee in August 2020, any current vacant places within the BYF, now or within the next 12 months, will be filled with the intention of using targeted recruitment to address any gaps in relation to communities which are currently underrepresented in the Forum. Communication will be made with Elected Members, youth providers, statutory agencies and local communities in order to encourage young people residing in these areas to apply. Although targeted recruitment will be used to encourage young people who are currently underrepresented to apply, applications will be accepted from young people in all areas and communities within Belfast.</p> <p>Item 8: Any Other Business</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations implications. No rural needs assessment is needed.</p>
4.0	Appendices
4.1	N/A