

## **COUNCIL 28 OCTOBER 2009**

### **CYP.100 PARTICIPATION WORKING GROUP**

Councillor S Wright, Chair of the Participation Working Group, submitted a final report from the Group. The report set out details of the work of the Group and a number of recommendations.

#### **It was agreed:**

That this Commission supports the following recommendations of the Participation Working Group:

- (i) That the Council be requested to appoint a Youth Champion in order to raise the profile of issues affecting all young people in the Borough
- (ii) That the Council be requested to re-affirm its commitment to UN Convention Article 12, emphasising the need for participation and for children to have a voice.
- (iii) That an audit be conducted of current participation and involvement opportunities across the statutory and voluntary sector and recognise existing good practice.
- (iv) That an annual update of progress against Hear By Right standards to be submitted to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission.
- (v) That the Youth Cabinet be invited to have a co-opted place on the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission
- (vi) That the Minutes of the Youth Cabinet to be made available to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission as a standard for information item on each agenda.
- (vii) That Councillors on School Governing bodies be encouraged to strengthen links with school councils to allow for issues to be fed into the Local Authority decision making process.
- (viii) That the increased use of a range of communications methods to engage with young people including the use of social networking sites and mobile communications be explored and developed

- (ix) That youth forums and the Youth Cabinet look to increase the involvement of young people with learning disabilities.
- (x) That the issue of expenses for young people attending formal meetings be examined with a view to making provision for re- imbursement.
- (xi) That the Scrutiny Management Committee be requested to examine the need to develop formal reporting mechanisms for information/decisions taken through Team Bury/Local Area Partnerships/ Children's Trust.
- (xii) That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission examine proposals for the future management of youth services in the Borough, in light of the reduction in funding approved in the Council's 2009/2010 budget.
- (xiii) That the Chair of the Participation Working Group present the findings of the final report of the Youth Cabinet for comment.
- (xiv) That, subject to approval, progress on the implementation of the recommendations be reported to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission in 6 months time.