

AGENDA FOR YOUTH CABINET



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To: All Members of Youth Cabinet

Councillors : L Smith, D Duncalfe, J Rydeheard,
R Bernstein, N Frith, L Ryder and S Haroon

Dear Member/Colleague

Youth Cabinet

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Youth Cabinet which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Tuesday, 28 January 2025
Place:	Town Hall Bury – Peel Room
Time:	5.00 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
Notes:	

AGENDA

YC.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

YC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Members of the Youth Cabinet are asked whether they have any interest in any item on the agenda and if so, to formally declare that interest.

YC.3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING *(Pages 5 - 8)*

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 15 October 2024 are attached.

YC.4 MATTERS ARISING

YC.5 UPDATE ON VAPE SCULPTURE

The Youth Cabinet motion was passed at full Council on the 20 March 2024. The motion was around vaping which was one of the main issues for young people from the Circles of Safety Event.

The Council had agreed that the Youth Cabinet should looking for funding to commission an artist to build a sculpture with discarded vapes to use as a part of a wider education programme delivered by Bury Youth Service.

The artist commissioned to complete the sculpture will attend to update Youth Cabinet on the progress made.

YC.6 YOUTH CABINET NOTICE OF MOTION *(Pages 9 - 10)*

The Youth Cabinet may submit a motion to be considered at a meeting of Council .

The previous motion was submitted in March 2024 in relation to vaping – attached for information.

The Youth Cabinet are invited to submit a Motion to Council at the meeting being held on 19 March 2025 at 7pm.

Members of the Youth Cabinet are asked to decide on the motion to be submitted, and the contents of it and confirm who will attend the meeting to present the Motion.

YC.7 MEMBER OF YOUTH PARLIAMENT - UPDATE

An update will be given at the meeting.

YC.8 THE BIG DEBATE

The Youth Members of the Youth Cabinet will be asked to decide a topic for the Big Debate.

The Debate will be held and voted on.

YC.9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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Minutes of: YOUTH CABINET

Date of Meeting: 15 October 2024

Present: Councillors L Smith, D Duncalfe, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, S Haroon and S Arif

Youth Members - Violet, Daniel, Alex, Samir, Leighton, Noah, Cayden, Amiee, Duncan, Tyler, Kael, Ray, Tobais, Areeba, Amelia, Laraib

Also in attendance: Scout Stirling – Youth Service, Adele Crowshaw – Youth Service, Jenny Mills – Family Resources Service Manager, Kelly Barnett – Democratic Services

Public Attendance: No members of the public were present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor R Bernstein, Jeanette Richards – Director of Children and Young People, Heather Walton – Youth Service

Youth Members – Adam, Michelle and Mohammed

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence are noted above.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 18 July 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING

Scout Stirling gave an update about the vaping sculpture and reported that an artist and the funding for the sculpture has now been sourced. The Youth Service need to source the used vapes for the sculpture.

Samir provided an update on the Student Council Project and reported that they have put together some guidelines and are awaiting approval for these. Kael has been working hard with Bury Church High School to pilot the project as Bury Church High School did not have a student council. They will see how the pilot goes before rolling it out to other high schools.

CO-PRODUCTION KITE MARK

Jen Mills provided an update around the Co-Production Kite Mark and reported that over the last year the Youth Cabinet have been working on creating the Co-Production Kite Mark and it has now been signed off by the Children's Strategic Partnership Board. The Youth Cabinet is

at a point where we can approach partners around issuing them with a bronze, silver or gold award around how their co-production with young people. There is work to be completed around setting up the panel of young people and working through what the training will look like. It is hoped by the February half term the panel can undertake the first Kite Mark assessment. There have been 3 partners which have put themselves forward for the assessment which are the Corporate Parenting Services, Early Break and the Youth Service.

Councillor Smith suggested that on reflection from the last Circles of Influence Event, the Youth Cabinet should challenge the Police, Community Safety Team and Transport Team to take part in the Co-Production Kite Mark.

Samir advised that he sits of the Greater Manchester Police (GMP) Youth Advisory Panel every month which is linked to Youth Focus North West. Daniel suggested collaborating with the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority (GMYCA) around the GMP Youth Advisory Panel. Jen Mills reported that Heather Walton, Youth Service had been attending meetings to look at how the Youth Advisory Board will be shaped across the North West.

CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE EVENT UPDATE

Adele Crowshaw reported that a new date has been set for the Circles of Influence event, which had been previously postponed. The invites are currently being sent out to professionals and schools. The chosen circles this year are:-

- Transport
- Education and life skills
- Crime and safety
- Places to go and safe spaces
- Mental health and wellbeing

Adele Crowshaw asked Youth Cabinet members to split up into group and look at questions and themes that they may wish to ask on the day in the circles and share their ideas around these. Each group fed back their ideas and recorded their thoughts on flip chart paper.

Jen Mills, agreed to circulate the action plan from the Circles of Safety Event ahead of the Circles of Influence Event for the young people to look at around feeling safe.

REVITALISATION OF THE CYP PLAN AND STRATEGY

Jen Mills provided an update in relation to the revitalisation of the Children and Young Persons Plan and Strategy and reported that at the Children's Strategic Partnership Board a discussion took place around how they can better support young people across the borough as the strategy is due for a re-fresh this year. The Children's Strategic Partnership Board would like to involve young people in the creation of the new strategy to look at what they can do better, to create the safety plans for young people. The discussion were around creating thematic pieces of information rather than a reporting body, which is a slight shift in approach to the current strategy. The idea would be for Youth Cabinet to look at the strategic plans and break it down in a way that all young people can understand it across the borough.

FEEDBACK FROM THE CHILDREN'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

This update was provided within the Co-production Kite Mark and Revitalisation of the CYP Plan and Strategy items.

SEND IMPROVEMENT AND ASSURANCE BOARD

Scout Stirling provided an update around the SEN Improvement and Assurance Board. Following the SEND Ofsted inspection there were 6 priority action plans developed and 6 themes that Bury Council had to improve on. Since the inspection, there has been a SEND Improvement and Assurance Board developed and a young people's working group which sits underneath the Board. There are currently 9 young people who attend the group, they have updated their group name to 'Bury Change Makers'. At the last Bury Change Makers Group agenda items discussed were around a trip to the GM Combined Offices in Manchester to meet other Young People in GM, planning a visit to all of the high schools in Bury to ensure the voice of all YPs across the borough are being heard. Scout Stirling advised of creating promotional material on behalf of the group.

In response to a Youth Member's question around the plans to promote the work of Bury Change Makers, Scout advised that she was planning on writing a letter to schools that can be sent home to parents, plans to visit schools and place posters online and across the borough.

URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair agreed to re-order the agenda.

Daniel provided an update from the September and October GMCA meetings and advised that discussions took place around transport and the Bee Network expansion, crimes and GM reform, good employment and the refresh of the Youth agreement.

Scout Stirling asked youth members if they would like to sign up to develop a training session to be delivered to Police Officers around talking to teenagers and advised them of the dates if they wished to take part.

THE BIG DEBATE - SHOULD MORE HIGH SCHOOLS BE ACADEMISED?

Youth Cabinet members took part in the debate, there was a side for and against.

It was agreed by a majority vote that more high schools should not be academised.

It was agreed:

The next debate topic is: 'Is the commercialisation of Christmas a good thing?'

**Areeba – Youth Mayor
Chair**

(Note: The meeting started at 5.05 pm and ended at 7.00 pm)

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Youth Cabinet Vaping Motion February 2024

Presented by Bury Youth Mayor, Daniel Lewis and supported by Youth Cabinet Members

In December 2023 young people from Bury's secondary schools came together to meet with decision makers and discuss issues around safety at Bury's First Circles of Safety Conference. Following the conference Bury Youth Cabinet sent a survey to all secondary schools to gain the views of a wider cohort of pupils on the issues raised. Over 1000 pupils took part. The biggest issue that young people raised as making them feel unsafe was vaping. Young people said that:

- Witnessing vaping in school makes pupils feel the environment is unsafe
- Seeing the sale of vapes to young people makes young people feel unsafe
- Young people worry about the content of vapes
- The sale of vapes causes arguments among young people
- Young people have witnessed vapes being stolen which makes them feel unsafe
- Young people are unsure about the risks of using vapes
- Young people feel vapes are targeted at children and young people

Bury Youth Cabinet acknowledges that young people are susceptible to marketing and many become addicted to vaping. Therefore they resolve that there needs to be a careful balance between sanctions and deterrents for young people who are caught vaping. Youth Cabinet resolves that there must be robust mechanisms for tackling the sales of vapes to anyone under the age of 18.

This council notes:

- According to data held by Early Break: Levels of tobacco smoking amongst young people in the local authority area continue to fall but the percentage of young people in Bury claiming to vape regularly continues to rise (16% claimed to vape more than once a week, compared to 10% in 2020)
- Increasingly young people are trying vapes either before or instead of tobacco cigarettes.
- Young people try out of curiosity and because their friends vape.
- The flavours are a key factor in tempting young people to vape, and also in what they buy.
- Vapes contain chemicals that can cause lung disease as well as cardiovascular disease.

Therefore this council resolves to:

- Ensure schools have relevant information for their pupils about vaping.
- Ensure schools are delivering PSHE lessons that examine assertiveness and peer pressure.
- Support Youth Cabinet with a vape amnesty project where a number of vape bins are placed around the borough. Youth Cabinet would like funds to commission an artist who would work with pupils in our schools to use the discarded vapes to build a

sculpture which would then be used as part of a wider education programme delivered by Bury Youth Service.

- Lobby the government about making disposable vapes illegal and tighter restrictions on marketing.
- Investigate the sales of vapes to young people under 18.