

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

10th February 2015

**REPORT OF THE ACTING STRATEGIC DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN
&
YOUNGER ADULTS**

Derbyshire Youth Council Update – (Children and Young People)

1. **Purpose of the Report**

To update Cabinet on the work of Derbyshire Youth Council (DYC).

2. **Information and Analysis**

Make Your Mark is a national campaign run through UK Youth Parliament to select the top national issues for young people to campaign on over the next 12 months. In Derbyshire, this was led by Youth Council members and delivered through schools, with 14,341 young people participating, giving a percentage turnout of 19% compared to 9.2% (6822) in 2013.

Derbyshire Members of Youth Parliament (MYP's) took part in the national debate in the House of Commons, with Lucy Boardman MYP speaking from the dispatch box as debate lead. The top 2 national campaigns were selected:

- National campaign - **Everyone should be paid at least the living wage of £7.65 per hour (£8.80 in London)**. Anyone who works, regardless of age, should have a decent standard of living.
- Devolved for England campaign - **Mental Health Services should be improved with our help**. We should learn all about common mental health issues at school and negative stereotypes should be challenged.

The top 5 issues in Derbyshire were:

- **Everyone should be paid at least the Living Wage** of £7.65 per hour (£8.80 in London). Anyone who works, regardless of age, should have a decent standard of living. (3566)
- **Bring back exam re-sits in Maths and English** in English schools, and help us achieve our potential (2200)
- **Work Experience.** We should have the chance to do at least a week's placement, at a place of our choosing. We should have access to professionals who inspire us. (1617)
- **Euthanasia.** With the assistance of a doctor and working within strict rules, terminally ill and extremely sick people should have the right to end their own life. (1604)
- **A curriculum to prepare us for life.** Schools should cover topics like finance, sex and relationship education, and politics (1215)

Over the next year, Council members will be developing campaigns in line with these priorities, and will keep Cabinet informed as well as asking for support and involvement of members.

Other Projects

Fearless is a campaign led through Crimestoppers and supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner, to encourage more young people to report crime. Youth Council members have trained as Fearless ambassadors and will be taking the Fearless campaigns into their schools.

Work with the Canal and Rivers Trust has started with the Big Day Out held in October 2014. More work is planned for 2015, including exploring establishing a Derbyshire Young Ambassadors scheme.

Work with the Peak District National Park (PDNP) is continuing and is now moving into its second year to support the PDNP to establish their youth voice and youth forum work.

DYC hold full council conferences every 2 months, with next conference being 14th March 2015. Full sets of notes from these meetings will be submitted to cabinet following each conference.

3. **Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: - human; financial; legal and human rights;

equality of opportunity; prevention of crime & disorder; health, environmental, property and transport considerations.

4. **Key Decision**

No

5. **Acting Strategic Director's Recommendation**

For Cabinet to note the work of Derbyshire Youth Council.

**Ian Johnson, Acting Strategic Director for Children &
Younger Adults**