

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Report subject	Children and Young Peoples' Participation
Meeting date	10 September 2019
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>The purpose of this report is to enable Members of the Committee to consider proposals related to:</p> <p>How the voice of children and young people can be represented on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during the interim period pending the establishment of a long term BCP model for the participation of children and young people.</p>
	<p>It is RECOMMENDED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Committee considers the proposal for interim arrangements for young peoples' attendance at Overview and Scrutiny as co-opted members. b. The Committee notes the proposed outline of the work that will be undertaken to establish a new long-term BCP Children and Young Peoples' Participation Strategy and model for young peoples' participation.
Reason for recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. This interim arrangement is to enable a direct response to the Committee as requested in July 2019. The arrangements will enable the Committee to consider the views of children and young people during the interim period. b. To inform the Committee of the plans to coproduce a BCP Children and Young People's Participation Strategy to support the participation of a much broader group of young people in both strategic development and democratic structures.

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Wards	All BCP Council Wards
Classification	For Information

1. Background

1.1 July Overview and Scrutiny discussed three options to ensure that young people could be represented on the Committee. The options were:

1.1.1 Option 1 - Young people are co-opted onto the committee once the new strategy and delivery arrangements are in place (date dependent on model adopted);

1.1.2 Option 2 - As the only currently elected representatives, the Member of Youth Parliament and Deputy Member of Youth Parliament for Poole are co-opted until the new arrangements are in place; and

1.1.3 Option 3 - The three previous authorities are asked to nominate two young people each to attend until the new arrangements are in place.

1.2 The Committee voted for Option 3.

2. Details

2.1 To ensure that a wider group of young people can participate in the discussions at Overview and Scrutiny a number of meetings have been scheduled to engage young people from across BCP and from a variety of forums to support their engagement in the Committee's activities. We propose that the new group of young people will be able to attend from November 2019.

2.2 However, we propose that this is an interim arrangement as these initial meetings will form part of the development of a wider Participation Strategy co-produced by young people from across BCP, including young people from school councils; children in care and Young People with Care Experience; young carers; young people attending alternative provision: SEND.

2.3 The new Participation Strategy will be completed by December 2019, with the intention of officers bringing the draft Strategy to the Committee for consideration in the new year.

3. Summary of financial implications

None.

4. Summary of legal implications

None.

5. Summary of human resources implications

None.

6. Summary of environmental impact

None.

7. Summary of public health implications

None.

8. Summary of equality implications

The purpose of the proposal is to support the voice and engagement of young people in decision making, they are an under represented group in decision making.

As part of the new approach we will ensure that we recognise and ensure effective participation of key minority groups of children and our children in care and care experienced young people.

9. Summary of risk assessment

Not applicable.