



Report by the Shared Service Community Planning Manager and Working4U Youth Team.

Management Group : 13th May 2021

Subject: Young People Engaging in Community Planning

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the existing structures for young people in West Dunbartonshire and to connect community planning with these where relevant and where this is of mutual benefit to the aspirations and goals of young people in their programmes of work and activity.

2. Recommendations

2.1 CPWD is asked to:

- Note the existing structures for young people, and contact details for more information or to engage.
- Consider whether anything is missing from the youth structures noted within this paper.
- Invite candidates for the upcoming Scottish Youth Parliament election to the meeting in August to exchange information on matters of importance in West Dunbartonshire.

3. Background

3.1 There is opportunity for the Community Planning Management Board to engage with Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament, supporting the current election cycle and including MSYPs in future meetings.

3.2 There are existing structures within West Dunbartonshire for young people, and those working with young people, to come together and discuss issues of importance.

3.3 Community Planning can engage with these structures to support work on long term outcomes, and shorter term action planning.

4. Main Issues

4.1 How to engage community planning with young people

The route to engage with young people is with existing structures. These include:

- Youth Alliance (The lead service is currently Working4U, which also provides secretariat support to the Youth Alliance. The operation of the Youth Alliance is a shared responsibility between West Dunbartonshire Council, voluntary sector partners and other stakeholder partners working with young people e.g. Skills Development Scotland, Fire and Rescue, Third Sector).
- The West Dunbartonshire Youth Council
- Champions Board
- Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs)

4.2 Good engagement with young people includes:

- Setting out the nature and purpose of why young people are being engaged
- Clarity on the level of commitment expected and the roles
- A clear benefit for the young person of being involved
- Feedback and next steps; being clear on the difference that young people's input makes.

4.3 Partners wishing to engage young people through the existing structures for work on individual key priorities, such as those in the DIG, can contact: Clare English, Working 4U (W4U) Co-ordinator for Youth. clare.english@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

4.4 For the Community Planning Management Board there is opportunity to engage directly with the Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP). A timetable for engagement, to correspond to the current election cycle for MSYP's, is proposed as:

- **By end summer** - Prepare young people to be involved in Community Planning meetings
- **August Community Planning Management Board meeting** – Candidates for MSYP in West Dunbartonshire present manifesto ideas and partners share information for young people at this meeting.
- **From November** – agree frequency and roles and expectations of young people in Management Board.

4.5 More information on the MSYP election process:

The next SYP Election will be in November and expressions of interest are now open for any young people interested in standing. Any young person in Scotland aged 14-25 can stand as an election candidate. Expressions of Interest are open until 30 June and will be done directly on the SYP elections portal.

4.6 Timeline for Members of Scottish Youth Parliament:

- 1 April – 30 June 2021 – Phase 1: Expression of Interest.
- 1 July -31 August 2021 – Phase 2: Confirmed Candidacy.
- 1 September – 30 October 2021 – Phase 3: Promote the Vote.
- 8-21 November 2021- Phase 4 – Elections.

4.7 While the perception may be that a young person has to be politically minded to be an MSYP, this is absolutely not the case. They just need to be passionate about a subject such as climate change, young people's rights, LGBTQ+ etc. SYP are producing a short promotional video called "Passion over Politics" which will be available once they have completed the final edit.

4.8 Opportunities for engagement with Community Planning

There is opportunity for partners to support the passions of young people interested in coming forward to be a member of the Scottish Youth Parliament.

1. Partners can provide information on subjects that are a passion to young people as part of their candidacy.
2. When elected, MSYP's for West Dunbartonshire can attend the CP Management Board or working groups within DIGs to engage with partners actively on their areas of passion and focus.

5. People Implications

5.1 Existing resources

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications at this stage

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 Risk is predominately in being able to have good and meaningful engagement between the Community Planning structures and youth structures. This is viewed as low risk due to the officer support and commitment to working together.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment was not required for this report. Ensuring the voice of young people is heard within Community Planning is fundamental to inclusion and equity.

9. Consultation

9.1 This report has been developed between the Shared Service Community Planning Manager and Working4U Youth Team.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 Involving young people in Community Planning as outlined in this report ensures West Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership is inclusive and equitable in delivering the strategic priorities for the citizens of West Dunbartonshire.

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Appendices: West Dunbartonshire Youth Alliance Terms of Reference

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All