

Establishment of the post of Youth Mayor

SUMMARY

- 1.1 In November 2012 a high level strategy was agreed to improve further engagement with children and young people, by building on significant strengths, applying learning and adopting best practice from other local authorities. The strategy addressed engagement with children and young people on both universal and specific children's services.
- 1.2 During the last the last 16 months significant progress has been made towards implementing the strategy, which has also evolved to reflect changing external and internal requirements and, most importantly, the expressed needs and experiences of children and young people in the city.
- 1.3 A key element of the strategy is the establishment of the post of Youth Mayor and work has now concluded on the criteria for nominations, election and anticipated activity, all set out in Appendix 2. An application form is included at Appendix 3.
- 1.4 A timetable for the election of a Youth Mayor has been developed. It is designed to coincide closely with the term of the Mayor.
- 1.5 The Monitoring Officer does not consider that the establishment of the post requires a change to the Constitution, but recommends that approval for establishment of the role be sought from Council.
- 1.6 The establishment of a Youth Mayor has the potential to raise the profile of democracy and civic participation amongst young people in Derby.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the establishment of the post of Youth Mayor, subject to the criteria set out in Appendix 2.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To enable a key element of the CYP Engagement Strategy to be realised.
- 3.2 To improve engagement between the Mayor's Office and the young people of Derby.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Youth Mayor will be based in the Mayor's Office and his/her activities will align with those of the Mayor
- 4.2 The Youth Mayor will chair the Voices in Action (ViA) Youth Council.
- 4.3 The Youth Mayor will be expected to champion the objectives of ViA, being Mental Health Awareness for the first term of office.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 To not proceed with the appointment, but this would leave a key element of the CYP Engagement strategy unfulfilled.
- 5.2 To appoint to a role more akin to a directly elected mayor, but this would not mirror the Council's governance model.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Janie Berry – Director of Legal & Democratic Services Not applicable Not applicable Not applicable Janie Berry – Director of Legal & Democratic Services Gavin Thompson – Head of Policy, Research and Engagement Adele Styles – Engagement Officer – Children and Young People Philip O'Brien – Head of Democratic Services
For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Philip O'Brien 01332 643644 phil.o'brien@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Youth Mayor Information Pack Appendix 3 – Youth Mayor Application Form

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 Any costs arising from the appointment, which will be minimal, will be met from the existing Mayoral budget.

Legal

- 2.1 The Public Health and Housing Act 1999 requires the Council to consult its citizens on its general direction and on issues relating to specific services. The Council must also show how the results have been used to improve services.
- 2.2 The Children Act 1989 requires the wishes and feelings of children to be ascertained, insofar as is practicable, when making decisions regarding the provision of services for children in need under section 17, making enquiries under section 47 and making decisions about accommodation under section 20 of the Act.

Personnel

- 3.1 None arising directly from the report.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 By developing a more robust systematic process this will help to improve and develop services based on the wishes and feelings of children and young people.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 None arising directly from the report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 None arising directly from the report.

Property and Asset Management

- 7.1 None arising directly from the report.

Risk Management

8.1 None arising directly from the report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

9.1 The report supports the Council Plan objectives...

- An inspiring start in life.
- An inspiring working life.
- An inspiring place to live.