



Children & Young People's Cabinet

Joint Meeting with Community Planning Partnership,
Held in Room 2, Shortlees Community Centre

Wednesday 22nd May 2019



Children & Young
People's Cabinet

active connected
vibrant
COMMUNITIES



East Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir an Ear

In Attendance:

Cllr Claire Leitch, Depute Provost; Cllr Neil McGhee; Linda McAulay-Griffiths, Head of Education; Adam Strain, Team Leader, Young People Sport & Diversion; Heather McCormick, Community Worker YPS&D; Kerry Dair, Community Worker, YPS&D; Haykley ullen, Senior Youth Worker and Young People's Cabinet Members : Terri Brown, MSYP, Ryan Bartolo, Sinead McBride, Ryan Chynoweth, Aimee Purdie, MSYP Elect, Eilidh McGinney, Isla Culverhouse, Daniel Butcher, Jack Tognini, Ewan Carmichael, Nicole Hill, Jemma Love, Kirsty Ewart, Liam Armstrong MSYP Elect, Louis Anderson, Naive Craig, Christine Clairmont, Harris Hughes, Yvette McKendrick and Amy Jose.

Apologies:

McAuley Renwick MCH, Chelsea Cree MCH, Alice Brazier, Joanna Niven, Liam Fowley MSYP Elect, Emma Gemmell and Alisdair Rogers. (Cabinet Members), Louisa McEvoy, Community Work Assistant, YPS&D.



East Ayrshire Children & Young People's Cabinet

Meeting of 22nd May 2019

AGENDA

10 am	Arrival and Refreshments
10.15 am	Welcome and Introductions
10.30 am	PSE in Schools Linda McAulay-Griffiths, Head of Education.
12.15 pm	Lunch Break
12.45 pm	YOYP Legacy Kerry Dair, Community Worker
1.45 pm	Feedback and Meetings Calendar Heather McCormick, Community Worker
2.00pm	Thank You and Close.

Kerry Dair, Community Worker, YPS&D, thanked everyone for attending and gave a brief outline of the Agenda.

General Housekeeping rules were given to the attendees which showed the nearest Fire Exits, Muster Points and Toilet Facilities etc.

Kerry then introduced Linda McAulay-Griffiths, Head of Education, to the podium.

PSE in Schools.

Linda welcomed everyone and said how glad she was to be invited to clarify the previous discussion points around PSE from previous meetings. She referred to the latest Scottish Government Document that reviews PSE in Schools.

The framework builds on prior learning and has been piloted in a few schools for young people from 3 to 18 years of age.

They have used external providers who use different skills, are more enthusiastic about what they do and believe in what they are promoting etc, for various PSE learning opportunities for example : Driver Awareness Roadshows, (PASS) and No Knives Better Lives which remove certain barriers by using different learning styles.

Young people did state previously that some teachers were not necessarily trained in certain subjects in PSE classes and their lack of enthusiasm about Health and Wellbeing, Young People's Mental Health etc, made the classes totally futile. People learn better from someone who really believes in what they are teaching/talking about. In order to remove these kinds of barriers, consultations with young people were used to improve these programmes.

Linda suggested a few ways that young people can feed back to their Head Teacher and alert them of any concerns you may have relating to any class or issues within your school curriculum.

Some of these are:

- Pupil Councils
- Head Teacher's Charter (Meet your Head Teacher)
- Pupil Senate
- School Improvement Plan
- HGIOS Document and Pupil Version
- Annual Health and Wellbeing Survey
- Pupil Equity Funding — Head Teachers **MUST** ask pupils how they would like the funding spent, consultations on best use of funds for pupils
- CoSLA National Taskforce on Young People's Mental Health, Dame Denise Coia, has just recently stepped down as Chair of the Healthcare Improvement Scotland, where she was appointed to spearhead the £5M taskforce to improve child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS), which had seen many referrals rejected and the waiting list at present is in the region of 12 months minimum for referrals that do pass the assessment criteria.

Further to this National Review, Linda explained that the Key Findings were out of date with certain practices and this led to repetition. Primary & Childhood Centre staff see young people as mainly "happy".

Secondary school pupils see CAMHs as the only option but it was lacking progression and was overly repetitive. The long waiting times could seriously add to someone's stress or anxieties.

However, schools are now showing progression around topics and choice for PSE.

- Budgeting
- Mortgage and Credit Cards
- Consent and Sex (primary as well, although age and stage appropriate).
- Theory Tests (Driving, CSCS cards)
- Finance
- Mental Health and Anxiety
- Leadership Roles
- Pupil Support
- Peer Education
- LGBT+ (although mostly positive in secondary schools, there is a need for introduction into primaries).

Young people have asked for access to counselling services as and when required. It was noted that not all people may need or want this service.

There were suggestions from young people to be involved in designing and delivering programmes.

They asked if teachers could be upskilled for guidance positions, and be brought up to career education standards where necessary.

Youth Cabinet members stated that they do not get PSE in some schools especially in S5 and S6.

Linda McAulay-Griffiths emphasised that S5 and S6 are entitled by law to receive PSE in schools.

There are many laws about entitlements.

In order to help redesign PSE in line with the Scottish Government document, there would be timelines set to make the necessary improvements to ensure that all pupils receive PSE.

There are many factors that influence change in schools linked to local priorities.

Head Teachers are encouraged to use that power to consult and work with young people when choosing how to spend the Pupil Equity Funding. In some cases this might mean employing relevant staffing, who are enthusiastic and passionate about their subjects within PSE for example.

Youth Cabinet members were given the opportunity to ask relevant questions at this time. The main theme throughout was about referral systems in school.

The experiences in the room varied but the common denominator was that there was a huge difference in referral systems depending on the guidance teacher's interpretation.

Differences in learning and teaching styles are also evident with guidance teachers and youth workers and are seen as poles apart in some situations, but you have to take into account the nature of the relationship. This can be attributed to the approach used as a youth worker as it is very informal and they have time to listen when in a one to one support situation. With youth work they are not bound by the same restrictions as teaching staff are under GIRFEC and this can make young people more comfortable in a youth work setting.

The youth work team and other various vibrant communities staff welcome these developments and seeks to co-operate with those who contribute to young people's social and personal development.

Linda thanked everyone for their input so far and said she felt **this was a really constructive step forward** to addressing PSE in schools.

The Cabinet Members were split into groups to :

- Recommend any further improvements to PSE classes
- Identify solutions and proposals for improved curriculum
- Questions for Head of Education

After full discussions in groups Linda McAulay-Griffiths agreed that the feedback from the groups was very constructive, and positive responses to the answers she gave to their questions.

This session ended really positively and trust was built throughout as Linda gave some personal information to the young people who said they realised that she was not just a Head of Service, but a “fierce and friendly” person, with a “wicked” sense of humour.

Year of Young People Legacy

Kerry Dair, led this session on developing a Steering Group to lead the legacy plans for young people in East Ayrshire. Groups then rotated around the various themed tables; headings were taken from the consultation around the legacy plans from the Year of the Young People report.

The 5 key themes are :

- a. Growth in volunteering opportunities for young people
- b. Celebrating our Young People
- c. Embedding our Youth Voice
- d. Recognising Wider Achievement
- e. Improve the Health and Wellbeing of our young people



[a] Volunteering

- Better promotion
- Increased opportunities from outside agencies and shops as well as EAC
- Awareness raising
- Show progression through gaining recognition for volunteering
- Looks good on UCAS applications

[b] Celebrating our successes

- Awards evenings
- Publicity / social media
- Producing an annual “year book” featuring successful learners/ volunteers pictures and stories
- Awards for youth work staff nominated by young people
- Cabinet Steering Group to co-design, and co-produce events, taking lead roles with support

[c] Youth Voice

- UNCRC awareness of rights
- Develop the Youth Cabinet
- Members of Scottish Youth Parliament surgeries
- Continue Joint Meetings with Cabinet and Community Planning Partnership and others
- Calendar that blocks out Prelim and Exam periods for planning purposes
- More involvement in council policy development where young people have a say in relevant Cabinet papers prior to going for approval.

Recognising Wider Achievement

- Benefits from accreditation and recognition
- Online opportunities and maybe a recording system for hours completed
- Saltire Awards
- Youth Achievement
- Dynamic Youth
- Young Ambassadors
- Sports Awards
- Hobbies
- Participation certificates
- Thank You events for young people from all themes.
- Modern Apprenticeship opportunities
- Duke of Edinburgh (Expeditions)
- Young people on Judging Panels

Health and Wellbeing

- Engage our young people in health and wellbeing workshops etc
- Young people actively involved in developing mental health and wellbeing services and activities
- PSE peer delivery
- Training for Cabinet to help with delivery where appropriate
- Develop a young persons mental health check / toolkit or something similar
- Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Van — have more young people's mental health and wellbeing information on display including fitness centres, swimming timetables and diet club contacts in local communities

Heather concluded this session and thanked all those in attendance, for their continued dedication and passion; for working together advocating for young people's voices to be heard on a bigger platform.

The Youth Cabinet constitution has been drafted and will be emailed out to members for approval/amendments etc.

Date for the Diary



Date of next meeting is 12th August 2019 and will be a **Joint Cabinet with Council Executive Officers and Children and Young People's Cabinet.** Council Chambers, London Road, Kilmarnock. 9.45 am start.

Please ensure all mobile phones are switched off or on silent mode whilst in the Council Chambers.

Thank You



Children & Young
People's Cabinet

active connected
vibrant
COMMUNITIES



East Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir an Ear