

**Motherwell, 26 October 2016 at 2 pm.**

**A Meeting of the YOUTH AND EQUALITIES COMMITTEE**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Griffin, Convener; Councillors Beveridge, Lyle, McCulloch, McNally, H. McVey, Sullivan and Zambonini.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Councillor A. McVey.

**CHAIR**

Councillor Griffin (Convener) presided.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Administrative Officer (Committee and Civic Governance Services); Head of Education (Skills, Lifelong Learning and Youth Employment); Community Learning and Inclusion Manager; Youth Work Manager; Service Manager (Young People), and Development Officer Youth Work (Information and Engagement).

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Andrew Lees, Thomas Mair, Chelsea Reid and Mark Stewart, North Lanarkshire Youth Council.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN TERMS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2000**

1. There were no declarations of interest.

**PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTIES – REVIEW OF EQUALITY OUTCOMES**

2. There was submitted a report dated 7 October 2016 by the Head of Education (Skills, Lifelong Learning and Youth Employment) (1) advising that, in terms of the Equality Act 2010, the Council was required to review and refresh its equality outcomes every four years; (2) intimating that, as the Council's first outcomes had been published in April 2013, there was a need to publish the Council's new equality outcomes by 30 April 2017; (3) indicating that guidance from The Equality and Human Rights Commission stated that, as equality outcomes would focus the equality work of the Council, they should be closely linked to the Council's strategic priorities; (4) providing details therein of the rationale of the proposed equality outcomes, and the impact on the general equality duty for each of the outcomes; (5) informing that, if the Committee approved the proposed equality outcomes, arrangements would be made to undertake a period of engagement with key stakeholders, in particular, people with protected characteristics; (6) intimating that, following the period of engagement, the proposed outcomes, in their final form, would be shared across Council services to enable them to consider the specific outputs and actions which they could take to progress the delivery of the outcomes over the course of four years, and (7) stating that, thereafter, a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on the final equality outcomes.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the proposed equality outcomes, as detailed in the report, be approved;
- (2) that the arrangements for consultation with key stakeholders and people with protected characteristics on the proposed equality outcomes be approved;
- (3) that the gathering of information from Services on the actions and outputs to be taken to deliver the proposed equality outcomes be approved, and
- (4) that the Head of Education (Skills, Lifelong Learning and Youth Employment) submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee on the Council's proposed equality outcomes in their final form.

**PRESENTATION - NORTH LANARKSHIRE STRATEGY FOR WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE 2014-18**

3. There was submitted a report dated 26 October 2016 by the Head of Education (Skills, Lifelong Learning and Youth Employment) (1) advising of the progress made in relation to the nine key actions detailed within the North Lanarkshire Strategy for Working with Young People: "Going the Extra Mile – The Journey Continues", 2014-18; (2) attaching, as an Appendix to the report, the mid-term commentary which (a) detailed the activity that had been undertaken in the first two years of the Strategy, and (b) highlighted the key successes achieved, to date, in respect of the Youth Strategy; (3) intimating (a) that a North Lanarkshire Youth Work Expo event had been organised to take place on 17 November 2016, to coincide with National Youth Work Week, and (b) that a series of events would take place across North Lanarkshire to mark National Youth Work Week, and (4) recommending that the mid-term commentary on progress made in relation to the Strategy be published and launched at the North Lanarkshire Youth Work Expo event.

Thereon, the Development Officer Youth Work (Information and Engagement) gave a brief presentation on each of the nine key actions of the Strategy, following which she responded to Members' questions.

Thereafter, the Convener thanked the Development Officer Youth Work (Information and Engagement) for the presentation.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the presentation be noted;
- (2) that the mid-term commentary on the progress made in relation to the nine key actions detailed within the North Lanarkshire Strategy for Working with Young People: "Going the Extra Mile – The Journey Continues", 2014-18, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be noted;
- (3) that the arrangements for the North Lanarkshire Youth Work Expo event and associated National Youth Work Week activities in November 2016 be noted, and
- (4) that the arrangements to publish and launch the mid-term progress commentary, as part of the proceedings at the Youth Work Expo event, be approved.

Prior to consideration of the following item of business, the Convener welcomed Andrew Lees, Thomas Mair, Chelsea Reid and Mark Stewart, representatives of the North Lanarkshire Youth Council, to the Committee.

**INVOLVEMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WORK OF THE YOUTH AND EQUALITIES COMMITTEE**

4. There was submitted a report dated 14 October 2016 by the Head of Education (Skills, Lifelong Learning and Youth Employment) (1) proposing that members of the North Lanarkshire Youth Council be involved in the work of the Committee, and (2) advising that a representative group of young people from the Youth Council had been invited to attend this meeting to provide an overview of their current involvement in the youth engagement and participation infrastructure in North Lanarkshire.

Thereon, Andrew Lees, Thomas Mair, Chelsea Reid and Mark Stewart, as representatives of the Youth Council, gave a short presentation on their individual experiences of youth work within North Lanarkshire and of membership of voluntary organisations. They then responded to Members' questions.

Following a brief discussion on the involvement of members of the Youth Council in the work of the Committee, it was suggested that two members of the Youth Council be invited to attend future meetings of the Committee, as observers.

**Decided:** that the Head of Education (Skills, Lifelong Learning and Youth Employment) invite two members of the North Lanarkshire Youth Council to attend future meetings of the Youth and Equalities Committee, as observers.