

SOUTHEND YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES



**WEDNESDAY 7 APRIL 2021 AT 5PM
@ MICROSOFT TEAMS**

ITEM	Action
1	<p>Madi opened the meeting and welcomed invited guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stuart Hastings, Programme Development Officer • Ginny Fisher, Team Manager Assessment and Intervention Team 3 • Ashleigh Stock, Social Worker • Julie Jones, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Team, Team Manager • Emily Reader, CYP and Family Services' Manager • Faye Creasey, Graduate Management Trainee (Observer) • Sacha Edwards, Positive Activities Manager
2	<p>Apologies for Absence: James F, James S, Sophie, Chelsea, Scott, Ethan, Eliana, Grace and Zachary, Tristan and Sude</p>
3	<p>Attendance: Teddy, Esha, Jessica, Marion, Madi, Noel, Merril, Nizle, Ollie and Jacob Madi welcomed two new members; Iris and Bayley.</p>
4	<p>Minutes: Members review and agreed minutes from the Youth Council meeting on the 3 March 2021. Lucy presented an update from Brin Martin, Director of Learning on the summer break start date for exam years 'regarding the exam period when students can leave, this is down to individual schools in the absence of DfE guidance. There is a school of thought that with missed education, for example Y11 going in to y12, that this could take place immediately coursework and assessments have been completed in order to give more time for the new course. No decisions as yet.'</p>
5	<p>Youth Mayor, Deputy Youth Mayor & Member of Youth Parliament Updates</p> <p>Madi, Youth Mayor: Madi has attended a meeting with SVP to discuss the foodbank project, The People Scrutiny committee, the monthly officers meeting and has been asked to write an article for Siblings Day by the Local Offer Team.</p> <p>Nizle, Deputy Youth Mayor: Nizle has attended The People Scrutiny committee where there were discussions about the Covid-19 response and questions from the public, the SVP meeting, on-going meetings about the worry box webinar and the officers meeting.</p> <p>Ollie, Member of Youth Parliament: Ollie attended the 'Making a Bigger Mark' event where there were discussions about the 3 main UKYP campaigns for the year and the partner agencies. The 3 main campaigns are mental health, stop plastic pollution and transforming education. There were direct actions which include writing to the local MPs.</p> <p>Action: Ollie and Lucy to arrange follow up meeting to draft letters, Iris expressed interest in being involved and there was interest from other members too.</p>
6	<p>Youth Council Officer updates</p>

	<p>In Grace's absence Lucy presented a request from make Southend Sparkle who have offered to steward a litter pick, there was interest in this from members.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to discuss with Grace and have agenda point at the Officers meeting next week</p> <p>Noel, Junior Environmental Officer: Noel told members about the 2021 Great British Spring Clean, they want #LitterHeroes across the country to get outside and get active to clean up a million miles of UK streets, coastline, parks, footpaths and neighbourhoods by making a simple pledge and letting them know how many minutes you'll clean-up for during the campaign (28 May – 13 June 2021).</p> <p>Action: Noel to enquire and look at signing the Youth Council up, agenda point at Officer meeting and to be discussed at May youth council meeting.</p>
7	<p>NHS keyworker project update & feedback</p> <p>Madi said that the certificates and mugs had been delivered to the hospital and certificates had been sent to keyworkers who had been involved in the covid recovery, including schools, emergency services, voluntary sector organisations and covid testing and vaccination sites. Nizle confirmed that she, Merril, Noel and Madi, hand delivered certificates to their schools. Madi said that they'd received lots of feedback and congratulated members on this project. A press release has been drafted and will be circulated shortly.</p>
8	<p>Report back from North Sea Commission project</p> <p>Madi has continued to attend the Youth Advisory Group and has been involved in discussions about the Youth Conference planned for November in Bruges. Madi will continue to attend and update members.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to contact Esme about Madi's involvement.</p>
9	<p>Worry box webinar</p> <p>Nizle told members that the worries have been analysed and themed and the panel meeting is scheduled for the 21 April. Nizle asked for volunteers to attend and Madi and Bayley expressed interest.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to share details with Madi and Bayley</p>
10	<p>Primary Care network website testing</p> <p>Lucy told members about the testing for the Primary Care network which is open to all members, details were circulated by email on 07/04/21.</p> <p>Action: All members to take part in testing</p>
11	<p>Youth Council debate</p> <p>Bayley offered to step in and hosted the debate and came up with the following topic, 'Will the impact of attractions re-opening cause more problems in the long run?' members had the opportunity to comment and vote, the results were Yes – 8 and No – 2.</p> <p>Madi thanked Bayley for chairing the debate so well.</p>
12	<p>Children's Services Vision</p> <p>Stuart told members about the work he is doing with Ginny and Ashleigh in reviewing the Children's Services vision and strategic intent. They've held sessions with Staff, Team Managers and Service Managers and were keen to get involvement from children and young people to shape this and ensure it is meaningful to them. Stuart shared some draft documents and members were able to comment. Members had lots of comments and were impressed with the work they'd done so far but felt it is important that they connect more with young people. They had some ideas including videos and stories from young people themselves and having contact details for teams. Some members volunteered to have further discussions around this project to ensure there is a focus on young</p>

	<p>people's involvement. Those who were interested included Bayley, Madi, Jessica, Nizle, Noel, Merril, Teddy, Esha and Aila.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to book follow up meeting with Stuart and the team and circulate details to members.</p>
13	<p>Domestic abuse</p> <p>This was a key priority for young people from the recent Make Your Mark ballot. Julie Jones and Emily Reader gave some statistics and an overview of the work they do in the local area. Last year there were 423 high risk referrals to the service. The Essex helpline, received 200 calls in March 2020 and 640 calls in March 2021, this shows the impact of the pandemic. Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship and can be emotional, physical, sexual, financial or psychological. Emily manages the Children and Family service and this includes break the cycle, dove and fledglings. They also do awareness raising in schools and have recently taken a play around to schools in the borough, some of the members had seen this. Emily said that awareness is really important and its important for people to know that it is not ok and there is help out there. They are keen to develop their work with young people and are keen to work with members, several members expressed interest in this.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to arrange a follow up meeting to discuss next steps.</p>
14	<p>Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor Elections</p> <p>Lucy said that elections will be taking place next month and that information will be circulated to members via email next week.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to send email</p>
15	<p>Any Other Business.</p> <p>YMCA - Sacha thanked Madi and Youth Council members for taking part in Sleep Easy and for the money they'd raised. In total the project raised 4.5k. Sacha thanked Noel, Merril and Nizle for attending the recent Youth IAG and said that next meeting is taking place in May, more details to follow. Sacha asked if Marion could meet with the schools rep & have 10mins at the next meeting to discuss the Racial Inequality Tackled in Education - RITE Charter.</p> <p>Action: Lucy to share request with officers.</p> <p>UKYP - Ollie said that he'd like to share the UKYP campaign materials with members and would like to hold a separate meeting/have slot at next Youth Council meeting.</p> <p>Action: To discuss request at officers meeting</p> <p>Children's Transformation – Ruth introduced Faye who is a graduate and will be joining the team, she hopes to work closely with the Youth Council.</p>
16	<p>Close meeting</p> <p>Next meeting 5 May 2021</p>

If you have any queries please contact: LucyBissell@Southend.gov.uk or
The Youth Mayor on: YouthMayor@Southend.gov.uk