

TITLE OF REPORT: Liaison with Gateshead Youth Assembly

REPORT OF: Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning

Summary

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to more pro-active links with Gateshead Youth Assembly. This report outlines activity undertaken by both parties following the 2015 GYA Elections and priorities set by Youth Assembly for 2016.

Introduction

1. Ewan Taws was appointed Chair and Andrew Adams the Vice Chair following the Elections held in October 2015.

Hannah Douglass is the Youth Parliament member who represents Gateshead's young people attending regional and National meetings.

2. GYA supported a selection box and Christmas present collect for Gateshead Foodbank and are campaigning for people to add an extra item to their weekly shop and donate to the Foodbank. Child Poverty continue to be any area of concern that GYA want to support and have done so for a number of years.
3. GYA members continue to join forces with members from One Voice,
4. GYA continues to be called upon by GATESHEAD Strategic Partnership and Public Health to explore how young people can further support issues on Community Safety and Improving and promoting Good Health.
5. GYA want to develop, support and broaden their knowledge on Child Sexual Exploitation. They hope to invite Northumbria Police Cadets (Gateshead) to deliver their presentation on CSE and lobby schools to raise the issue and encourage dialogue between pupils and teachers.
6. Andrew Adams sits on the board of Governors for Gateshead Hospital Foundation Trust and we hope with his involvement it helps shape and influence developments at the QE's Children Unit.
7. GYA have identified Emotional Wellbeing, Staying Safe and Religious and Racial Harmony as issues and topics of interest.

8. Members of Gateshead Youth Assembly meet every week within the Council Chambers and plan to hold three Convivial Suppers and invite Overview and Scrutiny Committee members.

Members will deliver training to GYA on a monthly basis including Youth Work Core Skills, Confidence Building, Committee Skills and Community Volunteering and Activism.

Proposal

9. Members of the new Assembly attend future meetings and continue to discuss their activity in 2015 -16 and agree a focus on their activities to support the wider Gateshead agenda.

Recommendations

10. The Committee is requested to note the information presented in the report.

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