

Dumfries & Galloway's Youth Council (DGYC)

January Meeting

Meeting Note

Physical Meeting: Dalbeattie Learning Campus, Sunday 12th January 2020, 1pm – 5pm

1. Welcome, Apologies, Member Update

22 Members attended the physical meeting

9 Members submitted their apologies, however all met with their locality Youth Issues Worker to go through the meeting agenda in the two weeks following on from the 12th.

It was noted that 6/9 Members had put in last minute apologies due to illness either on the morning of or the night before the meeting.

Members were updated that the elections process for the Dee & Glenkens Ward vacancy had been paused due to prelim examinations. 5 candidates had expressed an interest, however all candidates felt unable to participate in an elections process during the prelim diet and so the decision was made to pause this until February.

DGYC were also notified of Charmaine Burns resignation from her position as Care Experienced Youth Councillor, due to her turning 26. Courtney Turner, Youth Councillor for Mid Galloway & Wigtown West has subsequently been voted to fulfil the role of Care Experienced Youth Councillor by the Listen2Us group creating a vacancy for a Ward Youth Councillor in Mid Galloway & Wigtown West.

Members were also updated that Terri Smith has withdrawn as the Young Parent Youth Councillor due to poor health. There has still not been any success in identifying a representative to fulfil this role or the Gypsy / Traveller Youth Councillor positions.

At present there are 31 out of 35 positions filled, there will be a programme in place for February that outlines how these vacancies will be filled.

Youth Work staff supporting the meeting: Rhona Jones, Rebecca McQuaker, Tracey Wood, Cara Hyles and Regan Jackson

2. Members were divided into 3 groups to participate in sessions focussed on developing their knowledge of the 3 committee themed groups that will feature in the Joint Meeting between Dumfries and Galloway Council and the Youth Council on February 18th. The session included learning surrounding the remits and areas of responsibility for each committee, background information on the overall structure and legalities of the Council were also included. All Members had the opportunity to participate in each committee group and to generate potential actions that would fall into the remit of each. Thereafter, each Member

submitted their 1st and 2nd preference votes for groups. This will inform Members allocation for the Joint Meeting.

3. Members worked in their locality groups and nominated group to finalise their community-based postcard consultations that will gather information about the specific changes they feel are needed within their local communities. Consultation responses will be gathered from January 15th – February 5th with Ward and Nominated meetings taking place from February 6th – 10th, in which Youth Councillors will determine their action plans for the coming year.
4. Leadership Group elections took place that saw the following Youth Councillors Elected:
 - Youth Councillor Cloe Allison will represent Wigtownshire
 - Youth Councillor Lindsay Thomson will represent Stewartry
 - Youth Councillor Lucy Jin will represent Nithsdale
 - Youth Councillor Sophie Blair will represent Annandale & Eskdale
 - Youth Councillor Connor Johnston will represent the Nominated Youth Councillor group
 - Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP) Hannah Birse will represent the MSYP group

Elections were facilitated during DGYCs physical meeting with the Members unable to attend having the opportunity to vote online. The Leadership Group will be in their positions for the year ahead.

5. A motion was put forward by a Member that asked for DGYC to:

‘Work with Young People’s Service to change the gendered questions asked within trips and visits paperwork. This includes updating forms and having space for young people to identify their preferred pronouns’

Voting count:

- ... 22 voted in favour
- ... 0 abstained from voting
- ... 0 voted against

A decision was then made by Mark Molloy, Service Manager for Young People to accept the Youth Councils recommendation, with this being implemented by April 1st 2020.

6. DGYC made the decision to carry forward motions related to sanitary products and the environment to the next meeting due to the Member who proposed the motion being unable to attend the meeting due to ill health.

7. Members were made aware of an upcoming opportunity to participate in the #InvestInYouthWork cross-party group at the Scottish Parliament in February.