



Report of:	Meeting	Date
Councillor Callum Baxter, Lead Member for Children and Young People	Council	25 January 2024

Periodic report – Lead Member for Children and Young People

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1** To update the Council on some of the activities I and Councillor Kay have been involved in over the last year as Lead Member for Children and Young People.

2. Summary of Activity

- 2.1** A summary of activity is included relating to the following subjects:
- Wyre Beat Event
 - Local Democracy Week Event

3. Progress Update

- 3.1** I have taken over the role from Cllr Andrea Kay who has taken a temporary period of leave. Therefore, I have only been involved since September 2023. This update will include both of our involvement across the children and young people's agenda since the last report in January 2023.

4. Wyre Beat Event

- 4.1** Wyre Beat is a project coordinated by Wyre Council. Working alongside other authorities including Lancashire Police, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Wyre's Youth Council and Lancashire County Council's Targeted Youth Support Team, the aim of the project is to highlight specific community safety priorities within schools.
- 4.2** Schools from across Wyre came together to highlight the impact of anti-social behaviour at the Marine Hall in June 2023. Working together in preparation for the event has given young people the chance to reflect on important social issues as well as have their say through their performances.

- 4.3** Pupils from Saint Aidan's, Cardinal Allen and Fleetwood High Schools showcased performances at the Wyre Beat event which they had written and produced themselves. Tasked with demonstrating what anti-social behaviour means to them and the impact it has on their lives, each school created a piece of dance or drama to perform to their school and families.
- 4.4** Wyre based mental health support charity Doherty's Destiny kindly provided prizes for the schools taking part and Joanne Hargreaves-Doherty sat on the judging panel alongside Andrew Pratt, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and Councillor Roger Berry, Deputy Leader and Neighbourhood Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder. On the night Cardinal Allen was awarded first place, winning the top prize of £500 for the school. Feedback from all those taking part endorsed that it was a fabulous event and it is hoped this will continue in 2024.

5. Local Democracy Week

- 5.1** Schools across the borough were invited into Wyre Council during October as part of a celebration of local democracy.
- 5.2** Students from Garstang Community, Larkholme, Charles Saer, Scorton, Great Eccleston Copp, Manor Beach, Fleetwood Charity and Calder Vale St. John's Primary Schools, Saint Aidan's High School and McKee College enjoyed a tour around the council's Civic Centre, followed by an interactive session with councillors and officers in the council chamber.
- 5.3** Students learned about democracy and how to vote, as well as the role of local government, the district and county councils and Members of Parliament. They then took part in a task to allocate money to council services based on what their priorities are and enjoyed a lively debate. They also got the chance to take part in a mock election and question time with Wyre Council's Chief Executive Rebecca Huddleston and Director of Environment Mark Billington, Cabinet Member Councillor Le Marinel, Lead Member for Children and Young People Councillor Baxter and Wyre's former Mayor Councillor Alice Collinson. Working with schools in this way has allowed us to speak to young people we might not otherwise have that contact with, and has given them the chance to learn about important things for their future such as how to vote and how to become a councillor if they want to. Whilst young people can't vote until they turn 18, you can register to vote at 16 so hopefully this has armed them with the knowledge of how to do that so they are ready to have their say when the time comes.

6. Questions and Comments

- 6.1** I will respond to any questions or comments on the contents of my report or on any other issues relating to young people in Wyre.

Financial, Legal and Climate Change implications	
Finance	None arising directly from this report.
Legal	None arising directly from this report.
Climate Change	None arising directly from this report.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with an x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
ICT	x
data protection	x

Processing Personal Data

In addition to considering data protection along with the other risks/ implications, the report author will need to decide if a 'privacy impact assessment (PIA)' is also required. If the decision(s) recommended in this report will result in the collection and processing of personal data for the first time (i.e. purchase of a new system, a new working arrangement with a third party) a PIA will need to have been completed and signed off by Data Protection Officer before the decision is taken in compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

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List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None		