



## Bristol One City Children & Young People’s Board

<b>Date/time</b>	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024, 9:00am – 12:00pm
<b>Location</b>	2D01, City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR
<b>Co-chairs</b>	Councillor Christine Townsend, Children and Young People Policy Committee Chair Rachel Robinson, Bristol Play and Youth Alliance
<b>Attendees</b>	Adelaide Morgan (OTR), Annabel McGregor (Raised In Bristol), Beth Williams (City Office), Ellen Sheehy (Youth Council), Hannah Woodhouse (BCC), Mark Coates (Creative Youth Network), Melanie Vaxevanakis (The MAZI Project), Ruth Pickersgill (BDEC)
<b>Apologies</b>	Afzal Shah (Wellspring Settlement), Amanda Coffey (UWE), Amy Woodrow (CoBC), Catherine Howett (CoBC) Des Brown (Growing Futures UK), Emily Bailey (SBY), Fiona Tudge (BCC), Guy Cowper (Youth Moves), Lucinda Parr (UoB), Margaret Simmons-Bird, Martin Bisp (Empire Fighting Chance), Victoria Bleazard (BNSSG), Vik Verma (BCC),
<b>Observers</b>	Claire Corrigan (BCC), Chris Duncan (BCC), Jo Williams (BCC), Nina Skubala (City Office)
<b>ITEMS</b>	
<b>1) Welcome from Co-Chair (Cllr Christine Townsend, Chair of Children and Young People Policy Committee)</b>	
<p>CCT welcomed colleagues to the room, noting that Guy Cowper has replaced Alistair Dale as CEO of Youth Moves and as member of CYP Board.</p> <p>CCT welcomed Ellen Sheehy, Youth Councillor in attendance representing the Youth Council.</p> <p>Apologies noted from Afzal Shah, Amanda Coffey, Amy Woodrow, Catherine Howett, Des Brown, Emily Bailey, Fiona Tudge, Guy Cowper, Lucinda Parr, Margaret Simmons-Bird, Martin Bisp, Victoria Bleazard, Vik Verma.</p> <p>CCT highlighted the purpose of today’s meeting, taking colleagues through the agenda.</p>	

## **2) Board Introductions**

CCT asked colleagues to introduce themselves, their organisation and role, and how long they have been on the Children and Young People Board.

The following was noted:

CCT – new to CYP Board and first official board meeting

RR – member of CYP board since its creation, CEO of Learning Partnership West which encompasses play work, youth work, and a school for children who have been permanently excluded from mainstream school. RR also represents the Bristol Play and Youth Alliance, a voluntary sector organisation operating across the South.

HW – member of CYP board since February 2024, background in Local Government.

AM – member of CYP board since February 2024, CEO of Raised in Bristol. Background working with schools particularly in creative arts sector. Focus now on early years and supporting the very youngest in Bristol.

AM – member of CYP board since February 2024, CEO of Off the Record focusing on children and young people's mental health in England and Wales.

MC – member of CYP board since the 2022 refresh. CEO of Creative Youth Network, representing a charity supporting youth services, and part of the Bristol play and youth alliance.

MV – member of CYP board since 2022 refresh, founder of MAZI, a company which empowers 16 – 25-year-olds through food, social mobility.

BCYC – member of CYP board since its creation. EH joined youth council in 2022 as a campaign advisor, then officially in Dec 2022 as a councillor.

RP – represent the disability commission on this board and represents WECIL on the disability commission.

## **3) City Office Update (Nina Skubala)**

NS provided an overview of the One City Approach and shared an update on the positive transition to a Committee System model and the support the City Office has received from the leader and new policy committee chairs.

NS shared that City Office has closed its Instagram and X accounts but explained that we still maintain a busy Linked In.

NS reminded board members that the City Office acts as a convener encouraging collaboration across the city, making the most of interdependencies and network densities.

NS explained the infrastructure which underpins the One City Approach, i.e., multi-board (opportunities for cross board collaboration), governance board (reps from all funding partners and key anchor institutes), city partner calls (fortnightly high-level updates) and breakfasts (quarterly deep dives), city gatherings (biannual city-wide events).

**ASK:** Has there been opportunities for the young people from these boards to attend City Gatherings? How can we better involve young people?

NS shared details of the upcoming University Research Project which will undertake an independent review of One City. Questions to be explored will include – what is the impact of One City? What have been the results? What are the recommendations for taking the One City approach forwards.

**OFFER:** Board Members to contact City Office team if they would like a City Office pass to work from the Cash Hall.

**OFFER:** Any work CYP member organisations are doing which align with One City goals, or organisational offers/ asks can be shared on Bristol One City Linked In page.

NS highlighted that the One City Plan refresh is due in May 2025; it used to be refreshed annually, now it is biannual.

**OFFER:** An opportunity for board members to join a working group to develop an approach to the One City Plan refresh.

NS explained how the City Office is funded. BCC is the host organisation of the City Office but resources only part of it. Several partners also fund the City Office. We are considering alternative ways of securing funding and how best to resource the team.

NS shared the forward plan of activity for the City Office, highlighting that all boards will undergo a membership refresh in the coming months.

Board should include organisations that have budget and decision-making powers to make change, but also those who represent the relevant groups to ensure diversity.

**ACTION:** City Office will consider how Board membership can include representation from the equality commissions.

**ASK:** Cllr Townsend/ CYP Board to consider how CYP board wants to feed into CYP Policy Committee.

**ACTION:** City Office to arrange a joint development session with Economy and Skills Board (plus WECA) exploring post 16 services and plus 18 careers. Need to understand how these two boards are working together.

**ASK:** What are the other boards doing for children? Need a clear work plan where we have time limited asks, to be made at multi-board.

**ASK:** CYP Board asks that there be a focus at the City Gathering on school attendance; a city-wide focus to employees/ parents urging children to attend school every day.

The board is not a decision-making board however it can make decisions about changes we want to implement and can make asks/ champion action of other boards.

The benefit of a strategy is to make it really clear what our goals are. Then we can articulate what the benefits are to the public and private sectors.

Important for young people to know this board exists, that there are adults fighting for them, and to share what they will do.

#### 4) Board workshop

The following discussion took place:

Need to clarify the purpose of the board so we can best support the board. Are we an advisory board? Are we a lobbying group? What does the board need from its members?

Need clarity around what we are prioritising? Is it attendance or is it suspensions?

Meetings which have had more of an emphasis on information sharing has been very helpful to share with respective organisations/ voluntary sectors.

What is the overlap with other One City boards?

There are lots of other boards looking at the goals depicted in the One City Plan so where can this board add additional value? We can be experts at describing a problem, we need to be experts are solving a problem.

Who else is looking at attendance? What can we do that others aren't? How can we avoid the overlap and start looking at the really difficult questions.

Child poverty is something we could all get behind as a board. What does CYP board need from statutory services?

Board could have soft power influencing other boards, policies, and strategies.

**OFFER:** As part of developing clarity of the board, what policies do the council maintain that this board could influence?

Important to share more what young people want and need. Safety is the most important priority for young people; knife crime, feeling unsupported, not able to access school, mental health, transport. Youth Council are very keen to be involved in these meetings.

**OFFER:** City Office to programme in meetings with young people and City Partners

**OFFER:** Young people invited to participate in a series of youth led meetings in the run up to COP 2024.

**OFFER:** City Office to link youth council into other board meetings

The board agreed the need for clarity about this groups purpose. What is the board/ what isn't the board?

**ASK:** Need to understand geographically where everything sits and within sector specialisms.

**ACTION:** City Office to invite CYP members to join an external collaboration channel where we can work on shared documents.

CYP Board agreed two priority areas of focus: teenagers and workforce.

CYP board can be creative about bringing people into teaching roles, making it appealing to young people from an early age to enter these careers.

**ACTION:** Link into Our City 2030 (Early Years, Education, Youth and Play).

**ACTION:** What is your organisation already doing? What would be good moving forwards?

**ACTION:** CYP board to do some analysis to understand what we are already doing across the city under teenagers and workforce to identify the gaps.

**ACTION:** CYP Board to produce a plan on a page.

Will the plan on a page supersede the Belonging Strategy or will it be the beginning of a new iteration of the Belonging Strategy?

Need to understand where the priorities of the city are being looked at, where are they held and governed, how do all different boards all fit together.

Important to maintain an understanding of where elements of the Belonging Strategy i.e., maternity care/ early years is being looked at, whilst we're focusing on a different priority.

## 5) Youth Council update (Ellen Sheehy)

- Bristol City Youth Council's (BCYC) Draft Manifesto
- Area Youth Forums

EH provided an overview of the Youth Council.

Last election was in February. Following the election, youth council works on their campaigns/ manifesto.

Annual Youth Conference in November asking young people what they want to focus on. Campaign for this year is Knife Crime and Safety.

EH provided an update on the subgroups.

Prevention, Education and Welfare sub-group – what support and education do schools provide for young people to help them feel safe in and surrounding schools. Learning best practice, but also what isn't working and then asking schools to implement new practices to help young people feel safer.

**ASK:** Education sub-group to attend a meeting with all head teachers to improve communication with schools they don't attend.

Police and Crime sub-group – what does the police do to support young people? Asking in area youth forums what information they want from the police to help them feel safer i.e., building trust, more police presence).

Safer communities and environments – at a local level, ensuring there are more safe and enjoyable spaces for young people to attend and take part in activities.

Area Youth Forums – March, June, Sept, Dec (in East Central, North and South). Youth Council share what they are doing in their campaigns across the city and ask young people what else they want to see.

Is there still a specific group for black and minoritised young people? Unity – currently not being ran due to staff capacity.

**OFFER:** As a board, can we feed this back to those who make the funding decisions? This group needs to have a formalised voice.

**ASK:** The youth council would like to be involved in bringing the Knife Angel to Bristol.

**ASK:** Access the One City data.

**ACTION:** ES to go back to youth council and ask what campaigns young people want CYP board to get around

**ACTION:** Circulate manifesto.

**ASK:** City Office and CYP members to share manifesto amongst their networks when it has been made accessible for young people.

**ASK:** CYP Members to attend campaign meetings. BW to get dates and info from Claire.

- Area Youth Forums

## 6) Member updates

This item was not discussed.

## 7) AOB

- Membership refresh

As it has been more than 2 years since the last membership refresh, all One City Boards are undergoing a refresh. The City Office will be sending an email round in the next couple of weeks launching this process, outlining criteria and expectations. If you/ your organisation wishes to remain a member of One City CYP Board, please submit a short expression of interest (a maximum of 250 words) to [city.office@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:city.office@bristol.gov.uk) by 4<sup>th</sup> October.

- External partner co-chair EOI launch

Now that Cllr Townsend is in post as political co-chair, we will be launching an Expressions of Interest process for a new external partner co-chair. Please submit a short expression of interest (a maximum of 250 words) to [city.office@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:city.office@bristol.gov.uk) by 4<sup>th</sup> October. Following an expression of interest process, the external organisation board Co-Chair will be nominated by the Political co-chair and City Office.

Board member refresh AND new partner co-chair expression of interest process will take place at the same time. New board members and external partner co-chair will be in place by November's board meeting.

- Next meeting – September 26<sup>th</sup> for 1 hour (4-month break between meetings otherwise)
- Agenda

**ASK:** If you have any suggestions for future agenda items/ topics for discussion, please contact the City Office/ Beth

- Venue

**OFFER:** Melanie Vaxevanakis/ MAZI Project can host a future meeting at their Vassal Centre.

**OFFER:** Raised In Bristol can host smaller meetings (i.e., subgroups).

- Board Support Officer Vacancy

We are keen for the Board to have a dedicated Board Support Officer (BSO) in line with the other thematic boards and we are looking to our partners to ask if anyone would like to volunteer. The ideal candidate will have sector experience and / or an interest in working

with the Culture board. It is a great opportunity for a member of your organisation to develop collaboration skills and develop a wider network across the city. We anticipate the role to require no more than 1 day per week.

**ASK:** Please contact the City Office if you would like more information or if you would like to nominate someone from your organisation.

- Thank You

Thank you everyone for attending and contributing to a rich discussion.