

## **TRAFFORD COUNCIL**

**Report to: Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Report of: Trafford Youth Cabinet**

### **Report Title**

Trafford Youth Cabinet report on 2018 'Make Your Mark' consultation.

### **Summary**

In July 2018 members of Youth Parliament from across the country came together to discuss the issues they felt were most important to young people. They voted on a list of issues they had collated and the top ten issues were put forward to young people in the country to vote on. The vote was called 'Make your Mark'.

The ten issues were:

1. Mental Health
2. End Period Poverty
3. Votes at 16
4. End Knife Crime
5. Curriculum for Life
6. Support Youth Services
7. Equal Pay, Equal Work
8. Homelessness
9. Transport
10. Welcome Refugees

From August to October young people voted for their top issue. In Trafford 12 schools got involved in the vote. When the votes for Trafford were counted the top five issues were:

1. End knife crime (1221 votes)
2. Homelessness (824 votes)
3. Equal pay, equal work (801 votes)
4. Mental health (723 votes)
5. Transport (716 votes)

Since the vote, Trafford Youth Cabinet have done work in their meetings and have consulted with other young people at their annual 'Let's Talk Youth' conference in November.

### **Recommendation(s)**

To note the contents of the report and for C&YP Scrutiny Committee and partners to work with Trafford Youth Cabinet on a response to these issues raised.

## 1. End knife crime

Trafford Youth Cabinet ran a workshop at our annual 'Let's Talk Youth' conference on this topic. Young people told us that they think that knife crime is on the rise and people are starting to fear for their safety and that some young people are getting knives to protect themselves. There is easy access to knives and knife crime is unique in that it is harder to detect than gun crime. Some young people believed this was fuelled by gang culture and some said rising knife crime was helped by video games and social media. We believe there is a lack of knowledge about knives and some young people don't understand the consequences of having knives and getting involved in knife crime. When pupils were asked in November at the 'Let's Talk Youth' conference, half said knife crime was a problem in Trafford.

## 2. Let's Tackle Homelessness

Homelessness has long been a visible presence in Manchester but we have noticed that there are now homeless people in Altrincham, Sale and Urmston. Members of Youth Cabinet have given their own money to homeless people as well as supporting charities who work with them. We are also concerned that there are more young people homeless and that there is now a stigma around homelessness.

## 3. Equal pay, equal work

We believe we are discriminated against in the job market. We believe it is unfair that we can be paid £3.63 less an hour for doing the exact same job as an adult over 25 (Minimum wage 25 and over: £7.83. Under 18: £4.20). This makes us feel unappreciated and that we are there purely as cheap labour. It means we have to work much longer hours to earn the same amount.

## 4. Mental health

We are concerned about pupil's lack of knowledge about school nurses and that school nurses need more training about mental health. We believe that some schools are doing good work on this issue. School listeners, wellbeing ambassadors, wellbeing rooms with teachers and worry boxes are good. ChildLine is well known but only half the pupils at the recent 'Let's Talk Youth' conference knew about Kooth (online emotional health support). We believe all teachers need training on mental health. We all need to talk more about mental health.

## 5. Transport

We believe transport should be accessible, cheap and safe. Tram fares are very expensive and we can feel unsafe at tram stations (particularly in winter) and when on trams. We are happy about the GM Mayor's plan for free bus travel for 16-18 year olds as this has been an issue for a long time. However it would be better if it was extended to trams as well.

**Contact person for access to background papers and further information:**

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**Implications**

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	
Financial	
Legal Implications:	
Equality/Diversity Implications	
Sustainability Implications	
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	
Risk Management Implications	
Health and Safety Implications	

## Schools results 2018 'Make Your Mark' consultation

### Appendix 1

Name of school, college or youth group	Mental Health	End Period Poverty	Votes@16	End Knife Crime	Curriculum for Life	Support Youth Services	Equal Pay, Equal Work	Homelessness	Transport	Welcome Refugees	Total
Altrincham college of Arts	94	34	35	110	42	20	76	77	52	33	573
Altrincham Grammar School for Girls	70	181	31	173	101	12	129	154	130	69	1050
Ashton On Mersey School	26	16	18	66	21	1	33	36	30	9	256
Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College	80	10	33	181	101	27	72	74	102	44	724
BROADOAK SCHOOL	37	19	7	61	28	3	65	62	64	16	362
Lostock College	35	16	11	31	18	2	42	45	38	6	244
Manor Academy	25	6	9	22	5	6	2	25	9	8	117
Sale Grammar	114	74	70	147	53	6	82	99	85	66	796
Stretford Grammar School	20	22	27	54	33	1	70	37	39	38	341
Urmston Grammar	20	12	5	18	13	3	8	20	11	4	114
Wellacre Academy	54	11	27	96	56	7	71	51	74	9	456
Wellington School	148	119	43	261	123	7	151	143	81	35	1111
Online Votes		1		1				1	1	1	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>1221</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>6149</b>

Appendix 2 –The top three areas identified by School votes

**Altrincham College of Arts:** End knife crime; Mental health; Homelessness  
**Altrincham Grammar School for Girls:** End period poverty; End knife crime; Homelessness  
**Ashton On Mersey School:** End knife crime; Homelessness; Equal pay, equal work  
**Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College:** End knife crime; Transport; Curriculum for life  
**Broadoak School:** Equal pay, equal work; Transport; Homelessness  
**Lostock College:** Homelessness; Equal work, equal pay; Transport  
**Manor Academy:** Homelessness; Mental health; End knife crime  
**Sale Grammar:** End knife crime; Mental health; Homelessness  
**Stretford Grammar School:** Equal work, equal pay; End knife crime; Transport  
**Urmston Grammar:** Homelessness; Mental health; End knife crime  
**Wellacre Academy:** End knife crime    Transport    Equal work, equal pay  
**Wellington School:** End knife crime    Equal work, equal pay    Mental health