

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Report Title:	Motion from Council – Survey of Young People
Name of Committee:	Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	30 January 2023
Contact Officer:	Mike Connell, Chief Officer - Digital and Communications
Summary:	<p>On 28 September 2022, Council referred a motion to Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Council Standing Order 11.</p> <p>The Committee is asked to consider the Motion and decide how it should be dealt with.</p>
Financial Implications:	There are no financial implications which may arise from this report.
Risk Management Implications:	There are no risk management implications arising from this report.
Environmental Implications:	There are no immediate environmental implications arising from this report.
Legal Implications:	There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.
Equality and Diversity:	There are some equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

Scrutiny Committee – 30 January 2023

Motion from Council – Survey of Young People

Public Report of the Chief Officer – Digital and Communications

Summary

On 28 September 2022, Council referred a motion to a scrutiny committee in accordance with Council Standing Order 11.

The Committee is asked to consider the Motion and decide how it should be dealt with.

1. MOTION FROM COUNCIL

On 28 September 2022, Council considered a motion submitted on notice by Cllr Slinger and seconded by Cllr Mrs O'Rourke as set out below.

“We call upon the Council to carry out a representative survey of young people in the Borough from the age of 11-25, designed to inform how the Council plans its service delivery, particularly regarding how young people’s needs and aspirations can be best addressed by the Council.”

In accordance with paragraph 11.2(d) of Council Standing Orders the motion stood referred to Scrutiny Committee.

2. BACKGROUND

Ensuring the young people of Rugby feel included in their communities is recognised as crucial to the delivery of the corporate strategy. Our young people engage with the council on matters that are important to them, as highlighted by the significant contribution by the 11-25 age group during the Violence Against Women and Girls survey in May 2021. More than one in four respondents to this survey were girls and young women in the 11-25 age group.

Of the 114,363 people living in Rugby on Census day 2021, 18.1 percent (20,706) were children aged under 15, 63.7 percent (72,851) were adults aged 15 to 64 and 18.2 percent (20,809) were aged 65 and over; 2.4 percent (2,764) of the resident population were 85 and over. ONS data for five-year age bands notes that the Rugby population aged 10-24 was 18,999.

Rugby Art Gallery and Museum has recently joined a Local Cultural Education Partnership (CEP), Shout out for the Arts, joining partner organisations including Compton Verney, Motionhouse and the Royal Shakespeare Company. This collaborative network will support young people to co-lead, take part in, and have better access to the arts, heritage, and culture.

Shout out for the Arts currently has a youth board in Stratford led by the RSC and we have just received funding to launch a second board in Rugby, led by Rugby Art Gallery and Museum. The youth board will provide creative engagement opportunities for young people to develop their creative skills, deliver a youth-led project, learn about creative careers, take part in Arts Ambassador training and be invited to use the arts to have their voice heard on issues that matter to them.

The council has a community leadership role as well as providing services direct to its residents. We use our influence among partners to respond to the needs of our residents, which is driven by ongoing engagement and response to resident needs.

When the Council engage on specific subject matters of interest to the young people of Rugby, then there is good engagement.

3. DEFINING THE OBJECTIVE

To ensure targeted activity and clarity, the objective of the work stream should be defined plainly. Officers consider that an objective to carry out a survey does not fully reflect the ambition of the Notice of Motion and would not result in an ongoing benefit to the council. The suggested objective is therefore:

“To empower young people in Rugby to feel included, have a voice and be able to influence their communities.”

4. DELIVERING THE OBJECTIVE

It is important that the young people of Rugby are represented. The developing Communications and Engagement Strategy 2023-2026 clearly sets out a priority outcome to ensure our communities are informed, engaged, included and involved. The council will seek out the views of communities who are seldom heard, in ways and at times that suit them, and make sure they are represented. Our communities will be included. Engaged communities will have an affinity with – or ownership of – what we’re doing and the way that we’re doing it. During this work, we will be engaging with our communities to ensure that young people’s needs and aspirations are best addressed by the Council by informing plans around service delivery.

The communications and engagement action plan which accompanies the strategy will clearly set out how underrepresented groups including young people will be sought out so we can understand the needs of the seldom heard.

The council has already engaged with Warwickshire College Group and has ongoing partnerships with other youth organisations which can promote the defined

engagement actions. Officers see the crucial role that these partnerships play in engaging with the young people of Rugby.

Officers propose that the communications and engagement action plan is brought back to scrutiny committee once produced to provide significant reassurance that the objective will be delivered through the strategy. These communications and engagement actions will be aligned to the four outcomes of the corporate strategy.

It is also proposed that the specific actions within the action plan should be reported to the Equality and Diversity Steering Group for their consideration on how the Council can include young people in Rugby with this protected characteristic in its ongoing service planning and delivery.

5. MOTION ON NOTICE PROCEDURE

The Constitution requires the Scrutiny Committee to decide whether to consider the motion itself or refer it for consideration by a task group. Any task group so appointed will report back to the Committee. Once the Committee has considered the motion, or received a report back from a task group, it will report to the next available meeting of Cabinet.

Consideration of a motion might take the form of simply dealing with the motion without further scrutiny and reporting to Cabinet accordingly. If, however, the committee were to decide to consider the motion itself in more detail, any scrutiny would need to be supported by evidence that might not yet have been assembled.

6. NEXT STEPS

Officers propose that scrutiny take significant reassurances that young people will be engaged with in the action plan developed from the Communications and Engagement Strategy 2023-2026, ensuring the Council are informed how young people's needs and aspirations are best addressed by the Council in their service delivery.

Officers propose that the initial action plan developed from the Communications and Engagement Strategy 2023-2026 be reported back to scrutiny committee for their further reassurance.

Officers propose that the actions within the action plan should be reported to the Equality and Diversity Steering Group for their consideration on how the council can include young people in Rugby with this protected characteristic in its ongoing service planning and delivery.

Name of Meeting: Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting: 30 January 2023
Subject Matter: Motion from Council – Survey of Young People
Originating Department: Digital and Communications

DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY **YES** **NO**

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Doc No	Title of Document and Hyperlink