






**CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL
LISTENING TO THE VOICE OF THE CHILD – ACTION PLAN**

4 SEPTEMBER 2018

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	POST TITLE	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
<p>a) The Panel feels that a “Top Tips” for Working with Children/Young People should be developed in conjunction with children/young people. This should then be embedded in all departments that work with children and young people.</p>	<p>The participation officer works with the manager of Rose Croft, Gleneagles and Holly Lodge residential homes to work with their young people to identify the top tips for working with children and young people.</p> <p>UPDATE: Top tips presented in 2 posters. One for the younger cohort and one for an older cohort and professionals.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  Top Tips Poster - Early Years.pub </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Top tips poster - Offices older cohort </div> </div> <p>Further participation work to take place with the Children with Disabilities team to support practitioners working with Children and Young People with autism and other disabilities.</p>	Beth Bradshaw	n/a	July 2018
<p>b) An e-learning module on the importance of child participation is developed or alternatively a conference is held for staff to attend to ensure that all relevant Council staff understand the importance of child participation.</p>	<p>The Participation officer to create an e-learning module and send to the professional development team to be build and uploaded to MBC learns.</p> <p>Facilitate a Participation Conference for the Children’s Services workforce. The conference will share good practice based on national good evidence; and feedback from Children and Families</p>	Beth Bradshaw Sharon Davey	n/a	October 2018 January 2019

	in Middlesbrough. There will be a particular focus on the findings from the Coram Voice (Bright Spots) survey for all Looked After Children aged 4-18 taking place between September – January 2018.			
c) Young people should be involved in the recruitment process of staff who will be working with children and young people. This will ensure that the views of young people are taken into account on what qualities and skills they feel individuals should possess.	Develop a Young Recruiter Panel. The Panel will support the appointment of Senior Leaders in Children’s Service. HR are reviewing Recruitment policies and are going to provide training to the Young People. An action plan will be developed along with a job description for young people.	Beth Bradshaw Jane Wilson Sharron Holland	Budget to be confirmed	October 2018
d) The number of forums in Middlesbrough for children/young people who are not currently engaged in statutory services to express their views is limited. The Panel recommends that an annual conference is held for all youth groups to come together to discuss current issues and express their views.	The Participation officer has created a leaflet advertising yourvoiceyourmiddlesbrough@middlesbrough.gov for children and young people, parents and carers to sign up to be involved in decisions about Middlesbrough. This leaflet has been distributed to over 200 families at the FEELGOODBORO event & has been added to the local offer.  yourvoiceyourmiddlesbrough.pub	Trevor Dunn Jane Wilson	n/a	March 2019
e) The Panel recommends that the Member of Youth Parliament is supported to develop a Youth Council. All schools and academies should be invited to become active members on the Youth Council. The Panel also strongly agreed that once the Youth Council is established it should be provided with its own budget to be	The Participation officer is working with the Democratic officer, the MYP and the Head of British Youth Council to pull together a structured action plan to take forward a recruitment campaign within schools and youth settings. The Participation officer is scheduled to attend the next Head teachers briefing to promote the plans for the Youth Council.	Beth Bradshaw	Budget to be confirmed	February 2019

<p>used to support campaigns, training, activities and participation and is to be used at the sole discretion of the Youth Council. The Panel also recommended that the Voice of the Child Participation Coordinator be awarded a budget to support the work around child participation.</p>				
<p>f) Once a Youth Council is established, its Chair or Vice Chair should be invited to attend Full Council. The Panel recommended that the Youth Council have a standing item on its agenda to provide updates on its work that can be fed back to Middlesbrough Council.</p>	<p>Following the recruitment process and the campaign a chair and vice chair will be elected and invited to full council meetings. Details to be further discussed with the Elected Mayor and Lead Members.</p>	<p>Beth Bradshaw</p>	<p>To be confirmed.</p>	<p>May 2019</p>
<p>g) To ensure that all children and young people in Middlesbrough are aware of their rights, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (child friendly) poster is displayed in all Council buildings that are accessed by children/young people. All schools in Middlesbrough should also be encouraged to display the poster. It was recommended that a mapping exercise is carried out as to where information can be accessed on children's rights and emailed to all schools and academies.</p>	<p>This poster has been created and circulated to Heads of Service in Children's Services, School Networks and Middlesbrough Achievement Partnership.</p>  <p>UNCRC Poster w Logo.pub</p>	<p>Beth Bradshaw</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>August 2018</p>
<p>h) As well as displaying the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child</p>	<p>This leaflet has been created and circulated to Heads of service to be distributed to front line staff to</p>	<p>Beth Bradshaw</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>September 2018</p>

<p>poster it is also recommended that a child friendly leaflet “Do you know your rights?” is produced and given to all children/young people accessing Middlesbrough Council services.</p>	<p>hand to children and young people</p>  <p>UNCRC Leaflet w Logo.pub</p>			
<p>i) A young person should become a co-opted member on the Children and Young People’s Trust to ensure that the voice of the child is embedded into the aims and values of the Trust and that it is reflected in plans and strategies developed by the Children and Young People’s Trust.</p>	<p>Plans are in place to create a ‘Children in Care Council’ and a Care Leavers Forum. Once these two groups are established it would be their responsibility to nominate a member to attend the Children’s Trust on behalf of both groups</p>	<p>Beth Bradshaw Trevor Dunn</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>April 2019</p>
<p>j) That a child friendly version of the Scrutiny Report on Listening to the Voice of the Child is produced and posted on the Children’s Services section of the Middlesbrough Council website.</p>	<p>To be published by October 2018.</p>	<p>Selinda Chouhan</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>October 2018</p>
<p>k) The use of Social Media to engage with children/young people should be explored.</p>	<p>Developed a Children’s Services Communication Plan which supports a social media engagement strategy.</p> <p>Launching the ‘Mind of My Own’ app (MOMO) to support Children and Young People’s ability to get involved in key meetings and decision making which effects their lives.</p>	<p>Kim Flynn</p>	<p>£26,505</p>	<p>January 2019</p>