



**AGENDA ITEM: 4**

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**01 July 2008**

### **THE YOUTH COUNCIL**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To seek the views of Overview and Scrutiny Board on plans to provide the Youth Council with opportunities to participate in the Council's decision-making processes.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2. The Executive at its meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2008, considered the attached report (appendix A) which detailed proposals to provide the Youth Council with opportunities to participate in the Council's decision making processes.
3. In summary, the proposals, which were agreed by the Executive, fall into three areas:
  - Consultation – to improve the way the Youth Council is consulted on important issues relevant to young people;
  - Scrutiny – the Youth Council be invited to contribute to Council decision making through the scrutiny process. In undertaking this role, the Council would provide training and support to undertake three investigations per year. Whilst being mindful of existing Council workloads, this would include officers responding positively, where possible, to reasonable requests for information, guidance and attendance at meetings; and
  - Raising Awareness – work jointly with the Youth Council, to produce a young persons' guide on their democratic rights.
4. As part of the consultation process, the Executive also agreed to seek the views of both the Youth Council and the Board. The Youth Council considered the matter at its meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> June and agreed to support the proposals.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

5. The views of the Overview and Scrutiny Board are requested.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS** – No background papers used in the preparation of this report.