

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**7 MARCH 2019**

### **MEDWAY YOUTH COUNCIL – ANNUAL CONFERENCE FINDINGS**

Report from: Ian Sutherland, Director of People – Children and Adults’ Services

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#### **Summary**

The report set out at Appendix 1, prepared by the Medway Youth Council (MYC), provides the committee with the findings and outcomes from the MYC Annual Conference held in November 2018, which was entitled ‘Are You[TH] Safe?’.

#### **1. Budget and Policy Framework**

1.1 The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that a report on the outcomes of Medway Youth Council (MYC) Annual Conference be presented to the Committee on an annual basis.

#### **2. Background**

2.1 The MYC’s last Annual Conference was held on 7 November 2018 and was entitled ‘Are You[TH] Safe?’ The conference consisted of three workshops:

1. Does Gang Activity Make You Feel Unsafe?
2. What is an Unhealthy Relationship?
3. When Does Substance Abuse Become Dangerous?

2.2 The report attached at Appendix 1 gives further details of the Conference and key findings from each session.

#### **3. Conclusions of conference**

3.1 The MYC felt that they had received conclusive and reliable responses from the young people that participated in the workshops at the conference and

that this had enabled the MYC to gather the views of young people in Medway on the workshop topics which looked at factors which could influence their safety.

3.2 The information gained from the conference will inform the delivery of actions as set out in 3.3.

3.3 Actions that will be taken forward by the MYC include:

- MYC will produce a resource which provides information on relationships; including identifiers of an unhealthy one and the available support of organisations that can also help.
- To work with partners, including the police and the Youth Police Advisory Group (YPAG), to inform strategies that aim to equip young people with skills and knowledge that can protect them from gang and knife crime.
- To work with the community safety team to inform their strategy for engaging with young people.
- MYC will disseminate the report's findings to schools, youth organisations and other partners.
- To work with organisations, such as Open Road, to review and inform the guidance provided to schools regarding substance misuse education.

#### **4. Risk Management**

4.1. There are no specific risk implications for Medway Council arising directly from this report.

#### **5. Legal and Financial Implications**

5.1. There are no legal or financial implications for the Council arising from this report.

#### **6. Recommendation**

6.1. The Committee is asked to note the Medway Youth Council Annual Conference Report 2018, attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

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#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – MYC Annual Conference Report 2018

#### **Background papers:**

None