

# PEOPLE (CHILDREN) SCRUTINY PANEL

21 February 2013

## YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES ON THE CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL

### Report of the Strategic Director for People

STRATEGIC AIM:	<b>Creating a Brighter Future for All</b>
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#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose a mechanism for the membership of the Scrutiny Panel for Children to be augmented by the addition of two young people.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Scrutiny Panel approve the process as outlined in the report at 3.3.

#### 3. CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Issues that have an impact on young people are regular items on the agenda of this panel. Members of the panel have received presentations from young people which have always been informative and created good debate. As a result, it has been proposed that representatives of young people are formally co-opted onto the panel, to enable a direct standing involvement of, and contribution by, young people.
- 3.2 This scrutiny panel is already augmented by statutory co-optees who represent the dioceses and parent governors. If it is agreed that young people should join the panel they would be co-opted but would be non-statutory and would not be entitled to vote.
- 3.3 The proposal is for two young people to be co-opted in order to support each other, and the two representatives would be existing members of the Rutland Youth Council. All members of the Youth Council receive training on their role and engagement with the wider community. There would be an expectation that the young people representatives would communicate with the Youth Council on the issues for debate in order to present a range of views.
- 3.4 An initial discussion has taken place with the Constitution Review Working Group in order to ascertain the feasibility of the proposal. It is suggested that the following process is undertaken. Discussions with:
- a) Rutland Youth Council
  - b) The Children's Scrutiny Panel
  - c) The Council

- 3.5** If all of these parties approve the proposal it can be introduced for the beginning of the next municipal year in May.
- 3.6** There are details that will need to be confirmed, such as the length of office of each young person and the process for selecting or electing the representatives from the Youth Council.

#### 4. RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK	IMPACT	COMMENTS
Time	Low	There are no pressures of time to implement this proposal
Viability	Low	Expanding the membership of the Children's Scrutiny Panel to include young people will broaden the expertise on the panel and bring first-hand experience of the impact of decisions on young people
Finance	Low	There are no financial implications arising from this proposal
Profile	Low	If the proposal is implemented it will increase the profile of the younger generation in Rutland and members' willingness to engage with young people
Equality and Diversity	Low	The inclusion of young people on the panel will lower the age profile of membership

**Background Papers**  
None

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