

# **Mayor and Cabinet**

### Young Mayor's budget proposals

**Date:** 11 March 2020

Key decision: No

Class: Part 1

Ward(s) affected: Boroughwide

Contributors: Young Mayor, Advisers to the Young Mayor, Director of Strategy &

Communications

#### **Outline and recommendations**

This report is set out into two sections. The first section updates Mayor & Cabinet on the work of the Young Mayor and Young Advisors for 2018-2019. The second section sets out the former Young Mayor, Adam Abdullah's proposals for spending the Young Mayor's budget.

Mayor & Cabinet are recommended to agree the Young Mayor's budget proposals set out in section 8.

#### Summary

- 1.1 On 11 October 2018, Adam Abdullah was elected the fifteenth Young Mayor of Lewisham and Nike Ajijola was elected Deputy Young Mayor. The Young Mayor and Young Advisors worked throughout that year to develop and then consult on a range of ideas that now form the Young Mayor's Budget proposals for 2018-19 that will be spent in 2020-21.
- 1.2 This report is set out into two sections. The first section updates Mayor & Cabinet on the work of the Young Mayor and Young Advisors for 2018-2019. The second part sets out the former Young Mayor, Adam Abdullah's proposals for spending the Young Mayor's budget.
- 1.3 These proposals are intended to provide improvements in services for children and young people in the borough. The Young Mayor for 2018-19 has a budget of £25,000 to be allocated after consultation with young people.
- 1.4 The report summarises the proposals which the 2018/19 Young Mayor is recommending to spend £25,000.

#### Recommendations

2.1 Mayor & Cabinet are recommended to agree the Young Mayor's budget proposals set out in section 8.

#### **Policy context**

- 3.1 The Young Mayor Programme is a key priority for the Council in delivering on its commitment to giving children and young people the best start in life and building an inclusive local economy.
- 3.2 The Young Mayor Programme makes an important contribution to the objectives and priorities identified in the 2018-2022 Corporate Strategy. These priorities are:
  - Open Lewisham Lewisham is a welcoming place of safety for all where we celebrate the diversity that strengthens us.
  - Tackling the housing crisis Everyone has a decent home that is secure and affordable.
  - Giving children and young people the best start in life Every child has access to an
    outstanding and inspiring education and is given the support they need to keep
    them safe, well and able to achieve their full potential.
  - Building an inclusive local economy Everyone can access high quality job opportunities, with decent pay and security in our thriving and inclusive local economy.
  - Delivering & defending: Health, Social Care and Support Ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need.
  - Making Lewisham greener Everyone enjoys our green spaces and benefits from a healthy environment as we work to protect and improve our local environment.
  - Building safer communities Every resident feels safe and secure living here as we work together towards a borough free from the fear of crime.
- 3.3 The work of the Young Mayor and Young Advisors make a particular contribution to many of the outcomes set out in the Children and Young People's Plan.

#### Background

4.1 The Young Mayor Programme has been in place since April 2004. Adam Abdullah is the Fifteenth Young Mayor. Adam Abdullah won the election on a turnout of 58.37%

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which represents 9,617 young people voting.

4.2 An evaluation of the project continues to be undertaken by Dr Kalbir Shukra of Goldsmith's, University of London with further exit polls at the election and interviews with candidates

#### **Budget Expenditure and Achievements, 2017/18 Young Mayor Laurelle Henry**

5.1 Following consultation with young people across the borough, the Young Mayor and Young Advisors identified three areas of work. An update of how that work has progressed is outlined below.

#### 5.2 Project 1: Developing the Curriculum for Life (C4L)

Small pot grants were advertised to schools and voluntary organisations and some have been allocated funding in order to try out different activities in line with the **Curriculum for Life**.

These activities include first aid workshops, public speaking, film making, financial literacy, young people planning and delivering a music showcase, fitness equipment, cookery classes amongst others The organisations will all be feeding back to a conference at the end of the term to share how their activity contributes to the Curriculum for Life and how it might be scalable/replicable for other organisations. £10,000 was allocated for this work.

The **Schools Conference** will take place at the end of Spring term 2020 to share the best practice of projects funded by the small pot grants and/or other activities which fit into the Curriculum for Life. £3,000 was allocated for the Schools Conference.

The **Lewisham Alumni Programme** launched in June 2019 – Past students from Lewisham schools meeting together to develop ideas about how they can contribute to supporting current students through sharing their experience and stories and through taking part in classes which relate to their jobs, careers and experiences. The programme aims to influence and raise aspirations of students thinking about who they want to be and what they want to do and showing how to collaborate and continue to work as part of the community. The group have met three times, have a regular newsletter and individuals have contributed in different ways, inviting young people to their work places and identifying ways of sharing knowledge and opportunities with young people. They are also taking up leadership roles in the borough for example becoming school governors and supporting events. The programme is also an opportunity for older young people (18-30yrs) to network and find ways to support each other and contribute to borough life. £3,000 was allocated for the Alumni Programme.

#### 5.3 Project 2: First Aid

Three schools have been identified who are going to run First Aid training in school to enable young people to be better prepared to help others.

In partnership with other organisations to try and enable certification and sustainability, officers are developing various options around delivering first aid in Lewisham hoping to have a sustainable option as this continues to be an area of interest from young people. £7,000 was allocated for this project.

#### 5.4 Project 3: Enterprise and showcase

The Blue Borough showcase was held at Goldsmiths in June 2019 run by a local young entrepreneur organisation Spiela who have particular expertise in digitisation

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and robotics. The event included workshops, speakers, information stalls and a music showcase. Supported by the widening participation team at Goldsmiths, this is an ongoing piece of work to support young people and enterprise, which we hope will feed into the Creative Enterprise Zone which is being developed in New Cross. £2,000 was allocated for this project.

# Activities during 2018/19 by Young Mayor Adam Abdullah, Deputy Young Mayor Nike Ajijola and the Young Advisors Group

- 6.1 Since October 2018, the Young Mayor and Young Advisors have continued to represent their peers at the local, regional, national and international level. Working collaboratively with the Mayor and Cabinet, scrutiny committees, councillors, council officers, partner agencies and other key stakeholders, the Young Mayor and Young Advisors have made an important contribution to local policy development over the course of the last year. They have also continued to support projects that relate to and address issues which concern young people.
- 6.2 The below table provides an update of some of the project, work and activities that have been carried out by the Young Mayor and Young Advisors over the year:

Project or work area	Activity		
Young Advisor's meetings	<ul> <li>Regular meeting time for young people to plan and organise their activities and for partners, colleagues and peers to consult and discuss issues with the group. Forty two Young Advisor meetings were held during 2018/19.</li> </ul>		
Employment and enterprise	<ul> <li>Supporting opportunities for young people, activities, jobs and training through sharing on Facebook and through informal networks</li> <li>Working with Goldsmiths widening participation team to organise enterprise and entrepreneurship opportunities and events for young people</li> <li>6 Work experience students from Lewisham schools and 2 students from Goldsmiths with the Young Mayor's Team</li> </ul>		
Intergenerational activities	<ul> <li>Working together with older people to build understanding through intergenerational projects.</li> <li>Attending Positive Ageing Council meetings</li> <li>Silver Sunday with Positive Ageing Council</li> <li>Filming project with Positive Ageing Council as part of the Creative Aging Festival</li> </ul>		

Project or work	Activity		
area			
Social justice and diversity	<ul> <li>Participating in debates and panels on social justice and diversity. Young people's voices and opinions being heard and shared with other community members and professionals such as the police and others, to help create change and influence policy making.</li> <li>Young Advisors helped plan and host an International Women's Day event, workshops included debating and creating a Feminists society, STEM and spoken word workshops and supporting other IWD events including the Feminism in Schools Conference</li> <li>Begin part of the Youth AIG – youth advising police group</li> <li>Adam attended and spoke and the UNHCR Event in Newham and spoke to the UN Raconteur about poverty in the UK and young people experiences</li> <li>Drumbeat School Council meetings resulting in a summer event with students</li> <li>Attended the Children's Rights Enquiry at Portcullis House</li> <li>Participating in the Jimmy Mizen Safety Conference, with parents and young people.</li> <li>Campaigning around Period Poverty, meeting with Red Box and politicians – the government is now providing support for schools</li> <li>Supporting the BAME Staff Forum launch</li> <li>Attended Equality for All – British Youth Council Conference</li> <li>Working on the Local Democracy Review to ensure young people's views are identified and important within the development of how the council functions.</li> <li>Four consultation workshops around the Democracy Review at secondary schools.</li> <li>Recommendations as part of the review include identifying methods and improving communications between young people and the council and partners for example exploring the use of social media. Providing</li> </ul>		
	Question Times in schools for Young people to be able to hold politicians and others accountable.		
Health	<ul> <li>Young people learning and contributing to public health strategies and young people's services.</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Attending the launch of Compass (the commissioned group for the YPHS)</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Working with CYP mental health commissioning team around mental health services and CAMHS – developing a young people's group</li> <li>Working with Healthwatch to set up the Young Peoples Board</li> </ul>		
	Supporting the Sugar Smart consultation and trailblazer bid		
	<ul> <li>Healthy Eating workshops</li> <li>Reviewing young people's programmes with St Johns Ambulance Service</li> </ul>		

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Project or work area	Activity		
Environmental issues	<ul> <li>How to work towards carbon neutrality and address the Climate Emergency</li> <li>Instigated a climate meeting for young people to look at Climate issues and come up with recommendations, meeting with council officers to look at recommendations</li> <li>Primary schools meeting around air pollution and environmental issues</li> </ul>		
Community safety, policing and youth justice	<ul> <li>Helping develop the Violence Reduction Board</li> <li>Working with the Public Safety team around Violence Reduction and the Public Health approach to serious youth violence.</li> <li>Taking part in Community Conversations</li> <li>Adam worked closely with Vicky Foxcroft MP and Supporting the Youth Violence Commission</li> <li>Developing knowledge of and supporting young people involved in the Youth Justice System, through the YOS engagement group.</li> <li>Hate Crime Awareness week supporting the White Ribbon Campaign, awareness building in the community and for young people</li> <li>Meeting with the Prevent officer and developing and participating in a workshop around democracy, rights and prejudices</li> </ul>		
Housing and regeneration	<ul> <li>Contributing to the consultation with Team Catford including a discussion on affordable housing</li> <li>Speaking with Lewisham Homes engagement team about the needs and interests of young people</li> <li>UKYP representative and Young Mayor judging the Guardian newspapers public sector awards</li> <li>Discussion and working with local groups around developing a young people's forum for Convoys Wharf</li> </ul>		
Sports and arts	<ul> <li>Open Mic night as part of Lewisham Live with Midi Music</li> <li>Supporting the Primary School Football League with a football kit</li> <li>Providing open football sessions at the Jubilee Ground</li> <li>Working with Fusion to promote opportunities for young people in their leisure centres.</li> <li>Supporting local football tournaments</li> </ul>		

Project or work	Activity		
area Working with schools and colleges	<ul> <li>Visits to primary, secondary schools and colleges: campaigning, raising awareness, budget consultations and feedback through assemblies, citizenship days and school councils. Supporting other young people at exhibitions, achievement events and activities</li> <li>Curriculum for Life Conference and funding pot allocated to some schools</li> <li>Primary school visits to the Civic Suite with the Mayor</li> <li>Negotiating with Goldsmiths, University of London for local year 11 students to be able to use the library for GCSE study</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Workshops and Pantomime at Athenley Primary school</li> <li>Hosting Prendergast Ladywell School Teen Summit</li> <li>Primary schools meeting about Air quality and pollution</li> <li>European Futures event – explores students ideas and views on Europe</li> <li>Deptford Green School Feminist Conference</li> <li>Visiting John Ball Primary school and school council</li> <li>Young Advisors visit Gordonbrock School visit to year 6 about transitioning to Secondary school</li> <li>Lewisham College Awards event</li> <li>Assemblies with candidates in preparation for the next election</li> </ul>		
Working with Children and Young People Directorate and Youth First	<ul> <li>Update and discussion on progress of Youth First, attending Youth Forum. Visit to Youth First sites, contributing to young people's training days. Supporting schools work.</li> <li>Participating in Youth Stories project.</li> <li>Supporting the Celebrating success event</li> <li>Budget consultations and discussion on the Curriculum for Life at some youth clubs and centres</li> <li>Meeting with CYP Select Committee and to identify in depth review of an area of Children and Young People's Services</li> <li>Presenting the Curriculum for Life at the Lewisham Learning Conference</li> </ul>		
Community events and organisations	<ul> <li>Attending community events representing young people, recognising achievement, encouraging participation, cohesion and volunteering, for example:</li> <li>Blackheath Fireworks, Sedgehill Summer Sizzler; Phoenix Futures</li> <li>National Citizen Service professional visits and Dragons Den events</li> <li>Curriculum for Life focus group at Somerville adventure and coordinating visit with Six Counties/ Northern Ireland Youth Group ongoing relationship with the Youth Service and receiving youth groups</li> <li>Speaking at Prison Ministries event (local Church and voluntary organisation) around safety and knife crime</li> <li>Taking part and Young People presenting at VAL Young People's Forum meetings</li> </ul>		

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Project or work	Activity		
visits to Westminster and engagement with national politicians	<ul> <li>Young people developing knowledge and understanding of party politics and democratic engagement which can then be shared with their peers.</li> <li>Visit to the House of Lords and meeting with Lords, developing an understanding of how decision making process work.</li> <li>Young Mayor participating in the Positive Activities Summit at Downing Street</li> <li>Debating Votes at 16 event at Houses of Parliament</li> <li>Regular meetings with the Mayor and Cabinet Members</li> <li>Young Mayor speaking at the National Education Union meeting about education cuts</li> <li>Meeting of the All Parliamentary Group on the future of</li> </ul>		
UK Youth Parliament (UKYP), British Youth Council (BYC) and other regional and national work	<ul> <li>the Youth Service</li> <li>Engagement with the national Youth Voice Strategies and meeting other young people who are representing their areas</li> <li>Representing Lewisham at House of Commons UKYP Annual Sitting.</li> <li>Attending the UKYP conference in Leeds</li> <li>Attending BYC conventions and meeting other young people who are active in their communities across London and the South East</li> </ul>		
European visits and welcoming visitors	<ul> <li>Erasmus+: Youth Mobility Projects (European funded projects) with youth groups in Alingsas near Gothenburg, Sweden. Prague 7, Czech Republic, Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal. Young people creating relationships, working and sharing ideas and aspirations about being European raising aspirations and being part of a wider world.</li> <li>Working with Folk School alternative education in Sweden around Curriculum for Life ideas and ways of working with young people in a holistic and support way, to offer opportunities to young people with most needs. Sharing ideas and creating projects around lifelong learning and community based education</li> <li>With the aid of the Erasmus+ grant, started an evaluation project of the experiences of Young Advisers who have participated in visits and projects over the last 10 + years.</li> <li>Erasmus+ project Interview Champ project; with European partners designing an app to help young people with the interview process and job search</li> </ul>		

Project or work area	Activity		
Civic events	<ul> <li>Young Advisers attend events to recognise the importance for the wider community of events with important historical roots. Recognising achievements and being involved in and learning about other civic institutions. As elected representatives this is part of the role and is important both for them to attend and for others to see they recognise and take these responsibilities seriously</li> <li>Primary School Council Meetings</li> <li>Holocaust Memorial Day event</li> <li>House of Lords Visit with Speaker of the Council and dignitaries.</li> <li>Visit to the Goldsmiths Hall</li> <li>Council AGM / Full council Meetings</li> <li>Visit to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office</li> <li>Remembrance Day Service and World War 1 Celebration Event</li> <li>Mayors Awards For Volunteering</li> <li>Opening Bellingham Festival</li> <li>Attending and speaking at the Fostering Awards</li> <li>Islamic Centre visit</li> <li>Asquith Gibbs Memorial event at Lewisham Police Station</li> </ul>		
Research and evaluation projects	<ul> <li>Taking part in interviews and helping evaluate the Young Mayor Project. Interviewing candidates and recording their journey and experiences</li> <li>Continue to follow candidates and record their experiences, creating a longitudinal study conducted by Dr Kalbir Shukra at Goldsmiths. Discussing possibilities of creating an archive of the Young Mayor Evaluation and materials</li> </ul>		

#### 7. The Young Mayor's Budget Proposals 2018/19 Young Mayor Adam Abdullah

#### 7.1 Consultation

- 7.1.1 The Young Mayor has worked closely with both the Young Advisors and with schools and youth organisations in identifying how to best spend the allocated budget. An online survey was created to gain young people's views on what the budget should be spent on.
- 7.1.2 Initial ideas for spending proposals were gathered from a range of sources and forums, including from candidates manifestos and the election campaign. These were then discussed at Young Advisors meetings and the long-list put into a postcard format. The Young Advisors designed a tick box postcard to make it easier when talking to others and gathering views, it also had a space to write more where if required.
- 7.1.3 This long-list was taken to schools and youth projects and used at events, where a wider group of local young people were able to debate and discuss about the merits of the emerging proposals.
- 7.1.4 This is the long list as it went out to schools, colleges, youth clubs and the voluntary sector for consultation:

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- Arts, sports and performance opportunities
- Employment and enterprise opportunities
- Healthy Living and lifestyles
- How to support work with faith groups, and diverse projects
- Environment issues, plastic waste, air pollution and rubbish
- Being safe, working together to help everyone feel and be safe
- School; what we learn and why, linking school to working life, support in school.
- Informal education, youth services

#### 7.2 <u>Consultation outcomes</u>

The ideas, interests and concerns that young people in Lewisham have identified during the consultation include:

#### 7.2.1 Arts, sports and performance opportunities

- Support young people's talent
- Interschool sports/dance competitions and workshops
- More sports tournaments
- Music showcases to display the talents of young people
- More youth events for young people to attend

#### 7.2.2 Employment and enterprise

- Learning about enterprise and setting up business
- Financial literacy
- More career opportunities like work experience, interviews and what the different pathways after education could be.
- Workshops in schools to develop own more offers and taster sessions for diverse
  jobs to help year 11s know what industry they'd like to enter

#### 7.2.3 <u>Healthy living and lifestyles</u>

- First aid workshops
- Bring awareness of mental health and wellbeing
- Workshops to help with life skills
- Counselling to be in schools for students to express their feelings more
- LGBTQ information and support
- Help housing problems
- Obesity and exercise, eating less sugar
- Sexual health and relationships information, workshops

#### 7.2.4 Work with faith groups, intergenerational and diversity projects

- Politics workshop and debates to help learn about other religions and cultures and the wider world
- Show how diverse, cultural and creative Lewisham is by organising a cultural showcase day to celebrate our diversity
- Disability and autism awareness workshops across all Lewisham schools
- Work with older people and learn from their experiences

#### 7.2.5 Environmental issues

- Less plastic use
- Less pollution and cleaner air

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- Cleaner streets
- Less cars near school
- Tackling the Climate Emergency

#### 7.2.6 Being safe and working together

- Anti-knife crime campaign and workshops to support young people
- Make the streets safer for young people, more police and better CCTV
- Welcome refugees to Lewisham
- Support service for those affected by gangs, weapons and related threats.

#### 7.2.7 School and education issues

- What we learn and why, linking school to working life, support in school
- Learn about politics
- More interactive lessons that pupils can debate and find out what they are
  interested in and what their views are on difficult subjects to be intrigued such as
  having conversations about issues going on around us and how subjects at school
  relate to the work environment
- Life skills; budgeting, finances, running a home
- Counselling to be in schools for students to express their feelings
- Support from people we are happy to talk to about all kinds of issues

#### 7.2.8 Informal education, youth services

- More places for young people to go after school
- Support votes at 16
- Make sure young people know their rights

#### 8. Budget Proposals for 2018/19

8.1 Having worked with the Young Advisors and talked to other young people across the borough, including the consultation set out above, these proposals recognise that many of the interests, concerns and experience of young people in the borough are related to poverty and the lack of opportunities. The climate emergency is also a growing priority for young people in the borough

The impact of poverty has been widely documented. Poverty impacts young people's potential and development leading to reduced chances in in the areas below:

- Educational outcomes
- Employment outcomes
- Mental and physical health outcomes
- Youth safety outcomes

The following proposals have been identified to address these outcomes:

#### 8.2 Proposal 1 - Young Mayor's Youth Poverty Fund - £8,000

- This fund will be used to provide small grants to youth organisations, schools and other organisations for schemes that show how they can address any of the four outcomes listed above
- A mixed panel chaired by former Young Mayor Adam Abdullah formed of young people, alumni and others will develop the criteria, assess bids for funding and evaluate the fund. These proposals for funding will then be referred to Mayor and Cabinet and/or delegated officers for agreement.

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#### 8.3 Proposal 2 - Work Experience programme - £5,000

- A parallel program, working with existing providers to make a website with a list of meaningful work experience placements available for the most disadvantaged young people in Lewisham
- To work with institutions, particularly local anchor institutions, to develop placements with a follow up process
- Placements will be sourced from whatever contacts can be pooled from young people, councillors, MPs, Lewisham Alumni etc.

#### 8.4 Proposal 3 - Educational Support - £10,000

- Sponsor disadvantaged young people to provide: books, stationary, grants, work experience and mentoring. These proposals for funding will then be referred to Mayor and Cabinet and/or delegated officers for agreement.
- To work with institutions, particularly local anchor institutions, to develop outreach programmes

#### 8.5 **Proposal 4 – Youth Climate Forum - £2,000**

• To provide funds to support and maintain a Lewisham Youth Climate Forum

#### 8.6 Summary:

Young Mayor's Youth Poverty Fund	£8,000
Work Experience programme	£5,000
Educational Support	£10,000
Youth Climate Forum	£2,000
Total	£25,000

#### 8.7 <u>Progress and Evaluation</u>

- 8.7.1 The new Young Mayor and Young Advisors will report progress in implementing these proposals to Youth forums, School Councils, Mayor and Cabinet and on social media.
- 8.7.2 An ongoing consultation and evaluation process will take place with local young people through the Youth Service, School Councils, the Voluntary and Community Sector and People's Day, as well as the B-involved website.

#### 9. Financial implications

The cost of the proposed programme is £25,000 and will be met from the budget for the Young Mayor's programme.

#### 10. Legal implications

10.1 Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 empowers the local authority to do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of all or any persons within the local authority's area. It enables the Council to incur expenditure under these wellbeing powers which could include a budget for the Young Mayor. The sum of £25,000 is a reasonable for the purposes outlined in the report.

#### 11. Equality Implications

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- 11.1 The Young Mayor and Young Advisors have considered the equalities implications in all of the proposals and will ensure an inclusive approach to all activities undertaken. For example working with the special schools and groups such as Looked after Children and Young Carers who might find it more difficult to participate.
- 11.2 The various activities described in this report (e.g.: intergenerational activities; healthy lifestyles; social justice and diversity; environmental issues; community safety, policing and youth justice and education & employment) make an important contribution to the five objectives of the Council's Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016-20 as follows:
  - Tackle victimisation discrimination and harassment
  - Improve access to services
  - Close the gap in outcomes between citizens
  - Increase mutual understanding and respect within and between communities
  - Increase participation and engagement

The activities described in this report will benefit all protected characteristics, but in particular that of age. Lewisham's population is driven by the birth rate and one in four Lewisham residents is aged 0-19.

Although socio-economic status is not a characteristics protected under the Equality Act 2020, the activities described in this report will also make a contribution to tackling socio-economic inequality. Nearly one in four Lewisham children under 16 live in a low income household (over three in ten after housing costs have been considered). The Young Mayor's proposals for the coming year, includes specific proposals to tackle poverty affecting children and young people living in the borough.

#### 12. Climate Change and Environmental Implications

12.1 There are no negative environmental implications arising from this report. The Young Mayor is recommending investing £2,000 of his budget to the Lewisham Youth Climate Forum which will work directly with the Council to promote the implications of climate change and be part of the Council's response to the climate emergency.

#### 13. Crime and Disorder Implications

13.1 There are no negative crime and disorder implications arising from this report. The Young Mayor's proposals relate to the development of activities, resources and information that will provide young people with diversionary activities, contribute to community initiatives and provide opportunities for young people to address issues concerned with their safety.

#### 14. Health and wellbeing implications

14.1 There are no negative health implications arising from this report. The Young Mayor and Young Advisors will continue to support public health projects and contribute to involving and representing young people in discussions around health and wellbeing. They have a long standing interest in young people's mental health and well-being in the borough and remain keen to contribute and support young people where possible.

#### 15. Report Author and contact

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