



Endorsement of the Election of Youth Mayor for 2018/19

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The authority undertook inaugural citywide elections for the Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor during January and February this year. More than 10,000 ballot papers were circulated to 17 city secondary schools, of which 7,000 were returned to give 11-18 year olds a first taste of participating in an election process.
- 1.2 More than 30 young people were nominated by the schools as candidates. Following an initial 'selection process' involving the council's Voices in Action Youth Council, a list of candidates to be included on the ballot paper was finalised.
- 1.3 The final result saw Frederico Almeida, of Bemrose School, elected as the Youth Mayor for 2018/9, and Sonja Sebastian, of Derby College, elected as Deputy Youth Mayor.
- 1.4 The candidates are now put forward to Council for members' endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To thank Tiny Simbani and Jawaria Nadeem for the time they have given representing young people in Derby as Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor over the past 12 months, and to invite them to receive certificates.
- 2.2 To commend the efforts of all the candidates who participated in the Youth Mayor elections in 2018.
- 2.3 To endorse the election of Frederico Almeida and Sonja Sebastian as Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor for Derby for the 2018/9 municipal year.
- 2.4 To invite the newly elected Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor to make a declaration of office before Council.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The council introduced a Youth Mayor in 2014. The role has developed in that time and this formal recognition by Council of both those elected and other participants is proposed to firmly acknowledge their role representing young people in Derby.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background and process

- 4.1 Council agreed to establish the post of Youth Mayor in June 2014 as part of the authority's strategy to improve engagement with children and young people.
- 4.2 The roles were initially reserved for members of the Voices in Action Youth Council, but the process has been rolled out to involve more young people each year.
- 4.3 In 2017, officers from Young People's Commissioning and Democratic Services attended a forum of secondary school head teachers to present proposals for a citywide election. With the endorsement of the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, the citywide elections took place during January 2018 following an initial shortlisting process and selection of candidates by Voices in Action.
- 4.4 An election count involving volunteers from Young People's Commissioning, Democratic Services, Voices in Action and the Derbyshire Constabulary Cadets took place in February 2018, resulting in the outcomes detailed in the recommendations.

Role of the Youth Mayor

- 4.5 Since 2015, the Youth Mayor has played a more active role in decision making. The Youth Mayor has been invited to attend meetings of Council Cabinet and, at the discretion of the Chair, speak on matters under the consideration of members.
- 4.6 The Youth Mayor also attends selected ceremonial events alongside the Mayor. The current incumbent has been present at a number of ceremonies held in the Market Place, including Remembrance Day.
- 4.7 The Youth Mayor is expected to champion the objectives of Voices in Action, decided by the young people annually. They do this through attendance at school assemblies across the city.
- 4.8 The Youth Mayor is also the chair of Voices in Action.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	N/A
Financial officer	N/A
Human Resources officer	N/A
Estates/Property officer	N/A
Service Director(s)	N/A
Other(s)	Don McLure – Interim Strategic Director of Corporate Resources

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	None