

BRISTOL ONE CITY

Children and Young Peoples Board

Date/time	15 th May 2024 2:00 – 5:00pm
Location	Creative Youth Network, The Station, Silver Street, Bristol BS1 2AG
Co-chairs	Emily Bailey, South Bristol Youth Rachel Robinson, Bristol Play and Youth Alliance
Attendees	Alistair Dale (Youth Moves), Annabel McGregor (Raised in Bristol), Amy Woodrow (CoBC), Emily Bailey (South Bristol Youth), Hannah Woodhouse (BCC), Margaret Simmons-Bird, Mark Coates (Creative Youth Network), Rachel Robnson (Bristol Play and youth Alliance), Ruth Pickersgill (BDEC), Lewis Woodlock (OTR) – sub for Adelaide
Apologies	Adelaide Morgan (OTR), Amanda Coffey (UWE), Des Brown (Growing Futures), Martin Bisp (Empire Fighting Chance), Melanie Vaxevanakis (The Mazi Project), Reena Bhogal Welsh (BCC), Fiona Tudge (BCC), Lucinda Parr (UoB), Afzah Shal (Wellspring Settlement), Victoria Bleazard (BNSSG)
Observers	Councillor Christine Townsend (BCC)
Additional Invitees	Lewis Wedlock (OTR), Vik Verma (BCC), Mary Akinoroye (Bristol City Youth Council Chair), Neve White (United Kingdom Youth Parliament Member - UKYP), Zara Sarfraz (United Kingdom Youth Parliament Member - UKYP), Ezra Neyrng (Deputy United Kingdom Youth Parliament Member - UKYP), Samuel McGauley (South Community Lead), Jesse Hall (North Community Lead), Chris Duncan (BCC), Karen Blong (City Office), Nick Bond (BCC), Claire Corrigan (BCC)
ITEMS	
1) Welcome from Host (Mark Coates)	
Bristol One City Children and Young People’s Board were welcomed to Creative Youth Network by Mark Coates.	
2) Welcome from Interim co-chairs (Rachel Robinson/ Emily Bailey)	

Rachel Robinson welcomed board members to the meeting and introduced Annabel McGregor, CEO of Raised in Bristol who is new to the board, and Lewis Woodlock, Head of Research and Development at Off the Record.

RR noted that Bristol City Council has moved into a committee model of governance. By July's board meeting the political co-chair of CYP board will be in place and an expressions of interest process will be launched to appoint the external partner co-chair.

Acknowledging the change in political governance of the council, it is important to note that the politics may have changed but the purpose of the meeting hasn't. As we move forwards, we will continue to work collaboratively as a partnership, ensuring we are an action-oriented board focussed on driving delivery.

3) City Office update (Beth Williams)

One City Goals

BW shared an update on progress against One City goals delivery. Activity is continuing against all three CYP goals for 2024:

Goal 55: Bristol schools are supported to deliver Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education, including life skills, nutrition, sustainability, disability, mental and sexual health, menstruation, gender identity, gender reassignment and sexual orientation

Goal 56: Citywide action to ensure the trauma informed practice model is embedded across all of Bristol's statutory organisations and trauma informed practice is commonplace

Goal 57: Tackle child-on-child abuse, violence and discrimination by working with the Keeping Bristol Safer Partnership to reduce youth violence

BW also provided an update on the priority goal chosen at November 2023's City Gathering:

Goal 39: By reducing suspensions and exclusions, school attendance rates are on track to be in line with the top quarter of best performing local authorities and suspension rates are below the national average (particularly for SEND and racially minoritised young people) by 2028

Activity to deliver this goal includes 'Anti-Racism in Education Strategy', a spotlight on Education at March's City Gathering, project 'Inclusion not Exclusion' launched by Bristol's High Sherrif, 'Race in Education' workshop at April's Race and the City event.

CYP will continue to be looped into activity and will be invited to join an Exclusions Strategic Working group which will sit within the Anti Racism in Education strategy.

Serious Youth Violence Roundtables

City Office has convened a series of roundtables on serious youth violence to bring together strategic organisations within the wider SYV ecosystem to develop a shared understanding of SYV data, the wider SYV ecosystem, opportunities to better support children and young people from becoming victims or perpetrators.

Emerging workstreams include an academic research hub led by the University of Bristol, and the opportunity to create an Office for Violence Prevention.

Committee Model

Clr Tony Dyer, leader of the Green party, is leader elect of Bristol City Council until Full Council on 21st May. It is proposed that the chairs of the policy committees will become the political co-chair of One City Boards. This will be formally agreed at Full Council on 21st May.

4) The Belonging Strategy (Rachel Robinson/ Hannah Woodhouse/ Chris Duncan)

RR introduced the Belonging Strategy highlighting how partnership way of working is important to all sectors in Bristol and the Children and Young People's board is an effective partnership model and partnership working will continue around the Belonging Strategy regardless, however the assumption is the new political administration will endorse our existing approach.

RR emphasised that as we move forwards with the Belonging Strategy refresh, we have the opportunity for challenging and robust conversations to ensure we, as a board, are holding ourselves to account and combining the collective efforts of everyone in the room to continue building on the successes of the first iteration.

Hannah Woodhouse and Chris Duncan took the board through what the data is telling us highlighting both the challenges and the opportunities across the four pillars of the Belonging Strategy.

The group discussed the need to look at issues holistically; particularly the intersectionality of children from disadvantaged backgrounds, who are also from black/ racialised communities, and experience poverty, who might also be on free school meals. It is where the data intersects that we need to focus our attention, so we can be more specific about what the problems are, and therefore consider what the solutions might be.

ASK: CYP board were asked to consider how we might enhance the youth voice across the city. Could we have a focus on teenagers?

The group were asked to split up into groups and workshop the following questions:

- What specific data, evidence and understanding do we need to take on board to make the strategy more impactful?
- Where do we have the most influence as a partnership?
- Who is missing from the conversation?

Based on the discussion in the room:

- Does the data show us interventions are different at different ages? We've got all the data but what now?
- Need to intervene when we see young people are struggling, not wait until they are drowning
- Schools are missing from the conversation. We cannot discuss exclusions without their input. Multi Academy Trusts (Mats) need to be engaged; they could make a huge difference
- Representatives from Police, Housing and Health could also be considered to join the board.
- A 5th pillar of 'Workplace' should be included within the Belonging strategy as this is where young people are heading; we need to make sure they belong there. Young people find it difficult to access the workplace; matching up businesses and young people to help them be fully prepared for the workplace would enhance their sense of belonging.
- Do headteachers/ schools share resources with other schools? How are schools with better attendance sharing their strategies and policies?
- If 100% of all children went to school, would the school be equipped to support them? Schools are prepared to support 90% of their communities, not 100%. If you weren't allowed to offrole any child from school, schools would need to rely on partnership working more.
- Do teachers know how to teach children from disadvantaged backgrounds (SEND/ FSM)?

ACTION: When board membership is refreshed, invite representative from Multi Academy Trusts to join the board

ACTION: Board members to gather information from their organisations/ networks re Belonging Strategy priorities and share feedback with City Office in advance of July's board meeting.

5) Off The Record (Lewis Woodlock)

Lewis Woodlock shared the mission of Off the Record; to work with young people, particularly young people racialised as black and brown and expanding the lens through which mental health is defined and addressed.

As head of Research & Development, priorities include:

1. Developing innovative ways that young people access and experience mental health interventions (e.g., destigmatising)
2. Impacting and influencing local government – working collaboratively with change makers, policy drivers, policy creators – bring young people along with us. Young people are important to inform services, but also futures
3. Working in collaboration with partners in localities

More broadly, Off the Record is in the process of thinking about organisational intentions and developing a strategy. Key provocations include what is the intention of the work we do? We know it's young people but how can we expand our way of working with communities we are a part of?

LW talked about OTR's approach with young people who are not ready to talk about their trauma, acknowledging their need for more gentle handling and access to community spaces.

ACTION: City Office to meet with Lewis Woodlock and learn more about approach to working with young people experiencing trauma, particularly following episodes of serious youth violence.

ASK: Board members to engage with case study available on the OTR website exploring anti-racism in education [INSPECTING AND INFLUENCING THE MICROCOSM | The Buckingham Journal of Education \(ubplj.org\)](https://www.ubplj.org/)

6) Youth Council Leads (Mary Akinoroye, Neve White, Zara Sarfraz, Ezra Neyrng, Samuel McGauley, Jesse Hall, Nick Bond, Claire Corrigan)

EB welcomed the youth council representatives to the board meeting, emphasising how important it is for young people to have their voices and opinions heard, something which the CYP board is advocating for and will continue to encourage at every opportunity.

The young people shared with the board information on how they are structured, what their priorities are, and who leads on these priorities.

ASK: CYP members to advertise area youth forums to their networks, encouraging as many young people as possible to engage and attend.

ASK: The Youth Council asked Hannah Woodhouse to convey to Cllr Christina Townsend their top priorities around safe spaces in the community for young people, and more accessible bus routes.

OFFER: City Office to broker introduction between Transport Board and Youth Council so discuss priority around transport safety and accessibility. The youth council shared stories of young people having to walk for over an hour to get to their educational setting.

OFFER: City Office to arrange an opportunity for young people to meet with city partners at a time convenient to young people.

7) Board Member updates

The following board updates were noted:

- Alistair Dale (Youth Moves) is stepping down as CEO and will therefore no longer be attending CYP board. EB thanks Alistair for all his contributions and wishes him all the best in the future.

- Ruth Pickersgill provided an update regarding sanctuary in the city. 5 schools in Bristol this year have become a school of sanctuary (strategic systemic approach to good practice) and there is a celebration event taking place on Thursday 23rd May and all are welcome.
- South Bristol Youth – convened a meeting with Universities, CoB, and local academy trusts to talk about post-16 provision in south Bristol. **OFFER:** There is a working group meeting regularly; who else needs to be involved in this conversation?

8) Any Other Business

- Next meeting – next CYP board will take place on 18th July 9:30 – 12:30pm
- Agenda – our next agenda will include introductions to board members and political co-chair plus feedback on Belonging Strategy exercise.

ASK: If board members have suggestions for future agenda items, please contact City Office/ Beth Williams.

- Venue

ASK: A board member organisation to host our next board meeting on 18th July. Please contact City Office/ Beth Williams if you can host.

- Board Support Office Vacancy - We are keen for the Board to have a dedicated Board Support Officer (BSO) in line with the other thematic boards and we are looking to our partners to ask if anyone would like to volunteer.

ASK: Please contact the City Office if you would like more information or if you would like to nominate someone from your organisation.

- Thank You - Thank you to Mark Coates and Creative Youth Network for hosting the board meeting.