

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....23rd February 2023

1. Title of Item/Report

Bright Minds Big Futures - 12 month update

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that provided a 12-month update on the Bright Minds Bright Future (BMBF) 'Big Objectives' document, following Cabinet's approval of the Big Plan. BMBF was a youth-led movement working together with the Council to make the Borough a great place to grow up.

The report was presented by representatives of the BMBF 'Big Committee'.

The Big Objectives were made up of 9 key areas which included:-

- community safety
- communications and engagement
- young people's services
- health and wellbeing
- business, regeneration, and transport
- environment and green spaces
- arts, leisure, and culture
- special educational needs (SEN) and
- equality and diversity

Excellent progress had been made against the above in the last 12 months. Some examples are as following:-

- Being included as a best practice project on the LGA website for their work around knife crime (May 22).
- Holding a Young Persons Environment Question Time Event (October 22).
- Securing £12,000 of funding from Virgin Money to deliver Different Altogether Project (January 2022).
- Securing £10,000 from National Lottery, Together for our Planet Funding (February 2022).
- Winners of the County Durham Community Foundation High Sheriff

Youth Award (March 22).

- Winners of Young Person of the Year Space Award (July 22).
- Won the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services (June 22).
- Recruited 42 young people to be SBC Corresponders at SIRF (August 22).
- Creation of Big Objectives 22/23 (July 22).
- North Tees Hospital Children's Ward Review (October 22).
- Queen's Award Celebration Event (November 22).

As noted above BMBF were the proud award winners of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2022. The award was the highest award given to volunteer groups across the UK and was equivalent to an MBE. The prestigious award recognised BMBF's outstanding work in the community to support young people growing up across the Borough and their work to make Stockton-on-Tees a great place to grow up. BMBF received the award at a celebration event from the Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, Mrs Johanna Ropner.

In addition to the above achievements BMBF members had also been contributing to a range of projects and initiatives such as:-

- Environmental work
- Social action projects
- Health & wellbeing initiatives
- SBC correspondents' coverage
- Equality and diversity
- Improving the voice of the child

The 'new' Big Committee were elected in February 2022 with their new Big Objectives agreed and signed off in July 2022. Each elected member of the Big Committee was responsible for developing their own action plan to achieve their Big Objectives which would be referred to as their Bright Ideas. Bright Ideas would include more detailed information on how they would deliver their objectives, identifying partners, timescales and resources required and this would be used internally to monitor progress and record achievement at Big Committee meetings.

Following the elections, Katie Jenkins left for university and following an election Sally Sheridan was Chair of Big Committee:

Chair and Head of Environment and Green Space - Sally Sheridan  
Head of SEN - Alex Matthews  
Head of Children Services - Emma Smith  
Head of Communications and Engagement - Lilly Crisp  
Head of Community Safety - Vicky Nightscales  
Head of Business, Regeneration and Transport - Bailey Rogers

Head of Arts, Leisure, and Culture - Elise Watson  
Head of Equality and Diversity - Parul Sinha

3. Reasons for the Decision

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

N/A

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Nigel Cooke declared a non-registerable interest in respect of agenda item 5 – Bright Minds Big Futures - 12 month update as he was a board member of Tees Valley Music Alliance.

6. Details of any Dispensations

None.

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

N/A

Proper Officer  
27 February 2023