

Paragraph 12.02 of Part 4 of the Rules of Procedure contained within the City Council's Constitution provides that a Member of the Council may submit a written question to any Cabinet Member.

This document informs Members of Council of written questions put to Cabinet Members and written replies thereto.

Council is recommended to RESOLVE to note the written questions submitted and corresponding responses.

No.	Question from/to	Question
1.	From Councillor Pullen to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods	<p>In March 2015 the council unanimously passed a motion to develop a Gloucester City Youth Council. Since then there has been very little significant progress on this initiative, no outcomes and no development plan.</p> <p>It appears that the minimal progress is due to a lack of capacity within the council to deliver such a project, a lack of understanding and appropriate skills on the part of officers and a general under resourcing. This is despite several offers of support, ideas and guidance from the Labour Group.</p> <p>Can the Cabinet Member confirm that despite the slow progress, the council is still committed to deliver a youth council. Can she also confirm what steps she will take make sure that significant progress can be made and that the development of youth council is properly resourced</p>
Response		
<p>When the question of a Youth Council was first raised the Cabinet Member was happy to support the proposal and to support it with funding from the County Council Youth grants provided the approach was asset based. The Cabinet Member also stated that if Councillor Pullen knew of a group of interested young people we would be willing to work with them on the initiative.</p> <p>Since March 2015 Council Officers have twice met Members to discuss the structure of a Youth Council. Following these meetings, it was agreed that feedback from the G15 Schools Group would form a necessary primary consultation with young people about the structure and purpose of a Youth Council. The City Council facilitated a meeting between the leader of the G15 Group and the Members. The meeting between Members and G15 took some time to arrange due to the young people's schooling commitments. It is understood that the G15 Schools Group is currently considering the guidance presented by Members in a meeting with G15 in February. There is a commitment to act upon the feedback from G15, as this will make clear what young people want from a Youth Council, and how it will work with the City Council.</p>		

	<p>The Council is committed to the asset based approach to community development and therefore we will not create a Youth Council but will work with Young People if they wish to have such a forum to help them achieve their aspirations.</p>
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