



STROUD DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL

The active voice for young people in Stroud District

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Sample of letter sent to SDC Political Group Leaders

Dear

Last month Stroud District Youth Council (SDYC) attended the British Youth Council (BYC) annual meeting and proposed an amendment to their manifesto relating to all local authorities throughout the country.

The motion proposal, entitled 'Statutory Youth Voice' was passed by an overwhelming majority and now features as BYC policy. It principally calls on the government to make provision of a youth voice vehicle a statutory requirement for every local authority. The BYC will now work to influence government policy and that of all political parties.

Supported by the SDC youth work team, our consistent approach to being the active voice for young people in the Stroud district, has (for many years) led to us being seen as a well-developed example of an efficient youth voice vehicle, of which we are very proud.

We are aware that the future SDC youth work strategy is being prepared and we look forward to being a part of this planning in the near future.

In light of the above, SDYC call on you: as the leader of your political group within SDC, to maintain support for the current youth voice vehicle. This system and structure enables us to make both an impact locally and nationally.

An imperative part of this vehicle is our local youth forum groups. They enable projects and programs for young people to be determined and acted upon locally, but are also an integral part of our wider youth voice.

Without these groups the majority of what SDYC do would be undermined. The groups promote things locally and give a voice to young people that aren't represented in schools; such as those not as articulate, confident or academic as some. It also enables those that are home-schooled or not in education, employment or training, to also be included.

The groups allow us to represent a large diversity of young people, for example, representing young people from different geographical areas and people with different neurodiversity's.

As we approach the 20th anniversary year we hope with your support, the legacy of youth voice in the Stroud district continues with even more prosper.

Yours Sincerely

Helen March

SDYC Chairperson

Lily Haines

SDYC Vice Chairperson