

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE	<b>Education and Children's Services</b>
DATE	<b>26<sup>th</sup> of January 2017</b>
DIRECTOR	<b>Gayle Gorman</b>
TITLE OF REPORT	<b>Imagining Aberdeen</b>
REPORT NUMBER	<b>ECS/17/005</b>
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	<b>Yes</b>

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To advise the Committee on the views of three hundred children who imagine Aberdeen as a place where every child is healthy, happy, safe and doing their best.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the views and requests of children are noted.

Children have expressed their views on what key actions adults and services should take. These are:

- Tell children you love them
- Be kind to us
- Give us support when we need it
- All children need enough to eat
- School should be a joyful place
- Families should spend time together
- There should be enough trees and flowers everywhere
- Everyone need to be respected
- Remember we love to play
- We all need to have our say at home and at school
- No-one should feel left out or unwanted
- All playgrounds and parks should be dog-poo free
- All families need to live in a lovely street with nice neighbours.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

#### **4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no other implications.

#### **5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

Children's Parliament has been working with three hundred children from Bramble Brae, Manor Park, Riverbank and Tullos primary schools; as they imagine Aberdeen as a place where every child is healthy, happy, safe and doing their best. Twenty of the three hundred children have become Imagineers. Five children from each of the schools were then selected to take forward the ideas of their peers and their 'imaginings' on a multi-paneled mural.

Children's Parliament staff have continued to engage with the four schools, working with teachers to embed a rights based approach to address attainment issues and improve relationships. This project, called 'Doing your best' is already having a very positive effect in the schools.

Following from their film launch in August, the Imagineers have presented their ideas to a City Wide Head Teachers' meeting, presented at the Integrated Children's Services conference, engaged with Aberdeen City Council employees in the foyer at Marischal and have taken part in three community engagement events. The mural has also been on display in Marischal and the City Library.

The Children's Parliament will present at Aberdeen Learning Festival and are looking to develop a lottery funded project in Torry, which will support families in their communities. The Imagineers also plan to present to full council later in the year, and their vision for Aberdeen is being incorporated into the new Children's Service plan 2017-2020.

Reports from phase one of the work with the children are published on the Imagining Aberdeen blog. They report on children's insight about what human dignity means to children and describe what children, families and communities need to flourish. To view them visit: <http://bit.ly/aberdeenprojectreports>

The Imagineers have created their vision for Aberdeen; they now want to know what you can do to make it happen.

#### **6. Improving Customer Experience –**

The views of children will be taken into consideration when planning/reviewing policies and projects

#### **Improving Staff Experience –**

Staff will be enabled to talk to children and young people about their views, and be confident to give feedback.

**Improving our use of Resources –**

Resources will be targeted more effectively, as they will be aligned to the wants and needs of children and young people.

**Corporate –**

The involvement of young people in their communities and city, and the realisation of children's rights, is a priority in the LOIP

**7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK**

If children's views are not taken into account there is a negative risk to the council's reputation and also to the services being delivered to young people.

**8. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Links to the reports from the Imagineers can be found here:

[https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/BrambleBrae\\_Imagining-Aberdeen\\_phase-1-report-RS.pdf](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/BrambleBrae_Imagining-Aberdeen_phase-1-report-RS.pdf)

[https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/ManorPark\\_Imagining-Aberdeen\\_phase-1-report-RS.pdf](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/ManorPark_Imagining-Aberdeen_phase-1-report-RS.pdf)

[https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/Riverbank\\_Imagining-Aberdeen\\_phase-1-reportRS.pdf](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/Riverbank_Imagining-Aberdeen_phase-1-reportRS.pdf)

[https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/Tullos\\_Imagining-Aberdeen\\_phase-1-reportRS.pdf](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/imaginingaberdeen/files/2016/06/Tullos_Imagining-Aberdeen_phase-1-reportRS.pdf)

**9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS**

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