



Young Mayor Max Update to Cabinet 23rd January 2023

Hello Everyone,

I hope you enjoyed a great Christmas and wish you all the very best for the New year,

North Tyneside Youth Council were saddened by the sudden loss of one of our most active members, Daniel Taylor, he passed away on 18th December. We sent our condolences to his family to let them know he will be missed by us all.

Daniel was standing as Member of Youth Parliament for North Tyneside and as a powered wheelchair user had pledged to work with decision makers to increase awareness and provide more accessible activities. He understood that there is a range of different things that prevent young people from accessing activities. We are looking at ways in which we can continue his ideas.

The Swap Shop held in North Shields Library on Saturday 10th December which coincided with Northumberland Square Christmas Fayre. It went well, some people brought unwanted clothes and books to the swap shop and took away swapped items. Others who wanted the goods but hadn't brought anything to swap were able to donate to the charity Walking With and take away the items they wanted. There were a lot of people asking if the Swap Shop was going to be a regular event as they thought it was a great idea. Everything left over after the swap had finished, was taken to the local charity shop Age UK. We were pleased that this saves lots of items going to landfill.

We are working on whether this is doable monthly and now we have the commitment from Youth Councillors we will develop our plans.

Many Youth Councillors took part in the Christmas wrapping of gifts for the Make Christmas Special Project, as you will know each year isolated people living in North Tyneside can receive a Christmas meal and a gift provided by the social action project. We are always pleased to be able to help with this important initiative.

Some Youth Councillors and I took part in the council's budget consultation. We found it a very interesting discussion and were able to have our say about what we thought were priorities for young people in the borough.

Several Youth Councillors and I held another collection at Morrisons in Whitley Bay on Sunday 11th December over 50 bags of groceries and over £100 in cash were donated by the kind shoppers. The money which will be added to the running total, will be presented to Walking With at the March Youth Council meeting.

Some Youth Councillors visited Walking With in Wallsend to find out more about the work they do, they attended the stay and chat session where they met with volunteers and asylum seekers. Youth Councillors were surprised to learn that some highly qualified people had been waiting several years for their assessment on whether they can stay in the UK and during that time are prevented in using their skills and knowledge in the workplace. It's planned for more of us to visit over the coming weeks.

The first stage of online voting in the two elections for Young Mayor and Member of Youth Parliament has concluded and candidate numbers have been reduced to the top four in each election. There are young people from all areas of the borough still in the race, with candidates from George Stephenson, St Thomas More, Marden High, Monkseaton High, and Burnside.

The 2nd stage of voting on paper ballots will take place in schools and colleges in February.

Thank you