



Young Mayor Amelie Ferris 1st April 2019

Hello I'm Amelie Ferris the new elected Young Mayor of North Tyneside. I was thrilled to win the election and look forward to achieving my pledge over the coming year; it's to help support education on diversity. I hope by providing easily available information, to help common misconceptions, specifically surrounding feminism. Through colleges and schools I hope to open discussions on issues such as sexism, homophobia and racism.

The new elected Member of UK Youth Parliament is Oscar Daniel and his pledge is to improve the environment to make North Tyneside a cleaner place to live. 21 young people both Youth Councillors and Childrens Council support Oscar's ideas and we took part in a beach clean on Saturday. We enjoyed a lovely afternoon on the beach but must admit that there wasn't a lot of litter to pick up. Next time we will make sure we litter pick in a place more in need.

I chaired my first Youth Council Meeting on the 18th of last month, I was inspired to see a cheque for £4,000 presented to Jackie from The Bay Food Bank Youth Councillors had raised a fantastic £2,295.37 and the Chair of the Council, Councillor Mulvenna has contributed a further £1,704.63.

Later in the meeting Youth Councillors put forward their ideas for the coming year's charity. The nomination that received most votes is St Johns Ambulance; all of the Youth Councillors will be involved in raising as much money as possible through a variety of fundraising initiatives.

Also at the beginning of the Youth Council meeting there were presentations to our longest serving members. Amy has been with youth council for 5 years, while Niamh has been on Youth Council for 6 years and Bethan 7 years. They have all been committed Young Cabinet members and contributed such a lot over their time. They are all expecting to be moving on to University soon.

Youth Councillors, Oscar and I looked at our priorities for the coming year. The priorities are from our own pledges, Youth Councillor's annual debate and their vote for more First Aiders in the community.

The Make Your Mark campaign's highest vote in North Tyneside was young people's mental health and this will continue to be developed through supporting MH2K and their recommendations.

Tackling Knife Crime was the second highest issue for young people in North Tyneside and nationally it came out as the highest and became the UKYP campaign for this year. Although we know knife crime isn't the huge issue that is in other communities around the country, we have reintroduced the Young Cabinet position for Community Safety and the working group will develop a project in response to this issue. The Young Cabinet Member for Community Safety will sit on the Safer North Tyneside Board.

Youth Councillors have been invited to apply for the Young Cabinet positions and Oscar, Bethan and I will be looking at the Young Cabinet applications this week and we will select the new Young Cabinet and they will lead on the various campaigns over the year.

I attended the first Soundfest 2019 planning meeting, I'm really excited to be a member of the planning group and really looking forward to see the young performers. This year it will be a different format from previous Young Mayor festivals and will be held outside at the Spanish Dome.

I also attended my first adult council meeting and found it very interesting.

I am looking forward to working with you all and my new young cabinet members to achieve our priorities.

Thank you