
UK YOUTH PARLIAMENT

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council is recommended to consider whether it wishes to make a grant of £100 towards the formation of a youth parliament or to sponsor delegates to attend the proposed parliament. This matter was referred to the Council for decision in order that further information might be obtained on the project.
- 1.2 The provision of a grant/sponsorship is not a statutory function.

2 REQUEST FOR FUNDING

- 2.1 A copy of the report first submitted to the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 13 July is attached to this report for information. Members will note that the request for funding was made by Unison.

3 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 3.1 In response to the request of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the following additional information has been obtained to assist Members decide whether they wish to provide financial support to the proposed UK Youth Parliament.
- 3.2 **When will the UK Youth Parliament be established?**
The establishment has been delayed from October 2000 to Spring 2001.

Is there any guarantee that someone will be elected/appointed to the Parliament from the Rochford District?

No. There would be a single representative from the Essex Education Authority area. (This information was not previously provided to the Council when the initial request for funding was received and may be an issue that Members wish to take into account before reaching a decision).

How is the £500,000 start up costs calculated?

It has not been possible to obtain this information from Unison who made the initial funding requests. Further enquiries are being made and an update will be provided at the meeting.

What support is there for the project?

A number of national organisations and charities have lent their support to the project eg Children's Society, Hansard Society, Commission for Racial Equality. The project also has cross party support from 289 MPs.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The project is aimed at involving young people in governance and determination of issues of concern to them. This involvement is in accordance with the aims of the Council's Community Safety strategy.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Unison has suggested that either a donation of £100 or sponsorship of £150 be granted. Given the sums involved, a payment could be met by virement from existing budgets.

6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Council has power to grant aid projects that will have a benefit to its residents.

7 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Council is invited to consider and to **RESOLVE** whether it wishes to provide a grant or sponsor one or more delegates to the proposed UK Youth Parliament. (HAMS)

Andrew Smith
Head of Administrative and Member Services

Background Papers:

Letters from Unison dated 28 March and 14 April 2000.

For further information please contact Andrew Smith on (01702) 318135