



BYP REPORT



To be the voice of young people in Brent

- Brent Youth Parliament, or BYP, is the voice that represents the 77,500 young people in Brent. Founded in 2007, the members strive to amplify the opinions of Brent's youth in the local council. We meet on the last Saturday of every month at the Brent Civic Centre to discuss important issues, which young people face on a regular basis.

- Attendance at the monthly parliament sessions has remained over 70-75% per session. The sessions are planned and facilitated by the BYP executive - chair, vice chair, secretary and UKYP representatives, to provide a space where young people can talk about issues that are important to them. The sessions also act as a consultative forum for policy makers.

Some of the items discussed at BYP parliament sessions so far have included:

- Updating the BMyVoice website
- Creating a theme tune with members of the MYPs at the Roundwood youth centre
- The direct input of MYPs ensuring that the views of young people are taken on board right from the beginning and that the issues raised have been addressed
- Highlighting local issues that are of importance to young people in Brent and presenting these to local councillors and senior officers across different organisations
- Planning of our local campaign
- Having a young person create our BYP video and giving them the work experience they are looking for to include in their CV/ Portfolio- taking our first steps into our campaign

Background on the campaign:

MYPs democratically voted for helping youth into employment and training as their campaign for 2014. The main focus of the campaign is to help young people with their search in finding jobs, apprenticeships, work experience and training courses in society by :

-Planning on have a fair where there will be different agents offering jobs, apprenticeships, work experience or training courses



- Planning and hosting the fair bringing together young people from across the borough, local and national business offering placements to young people

Outside of Parliamentary sessions:

In addition to attending the monthly parliament sessions, BYP members have taken part in meetings outside of the sessions that require young people's input. They regularly attend the monthly Brent Youth Matters 2 forum to listen to the views of other young people.

Some of the work that MYPs have done outside of the parliament sessions includes:

- Meeting regularly working on the promotion video for Brent Youth Parliament
- Working with young people and workers from Roundwood in helping to create the theme tune
- Attending the council budget meeting
- Administering the BYP account Twitter and Facebook to communicate with non members
- BYP executive members attending fortnightly meetings to plan and set the agenda

for monthly parliament sessions and provide strategic direction for the youth parliament

- planning and organising the Campaign
- attending and observing Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings to ensure that BYP members are actively involved in building better communication links with local councillors



Future plans

- To carry on building positive relationships between different organisations and youth projects reaching out to young people.
- To engage with the wider young community within Brent by providing them with a platform and channel to publicise their views and good work in the local media.
- To continue working with UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) and influence national policy
- The Children and Families department will continue to support and build on BYP's achievements.
- The longer objective is to further increase the proportion of children and young people in Brent given opportunities to influence local decisions whilst ensuring young people have a voice to influence policy and decision making at every level.