

SDC backing young Britain campaign

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Stroud District Council has become the first local authority in Gloucestershire to pledge its support for the government's national campaign; 'Backing Young Britain'.

The Backing Young Britain campaign has been set up to help create more opportunities for young people by bringing businesses and public and voluntary sectors together to ensure that the valuable skills and experience of young people aren't being wasted.

Councillor Joe Forbes, Cabinet Member for Community Services at Stroud District Council said:

"Backing this campaign is vital in these tough economic times as we must all ensure that we are investing in the next generation so that business and voluntary organisations can prosper in the future. We would urge local businesses to support this scheme and help the district's young people achieve their full potential."

The council currently has a number of schemes and initiatives that support the aims of the campaign including:

- Mentoring pupils in local secondary
- Providing work experience places
- Apprenticeships for 16-24 year olds
- Member of the local Education and Business Partnership
- Innovative history tours of council offices for Year 6 pupils aimed at encouraging young people into local government

Stroud District Youth Council has also thrown its support behind the campaign and was delighted to learn that Stroud District Council is supporting the initiative.

Tom Lydon, Chair of SDYC, said:

"It's great to see that our district council is willing to invest and support its young people by backing this national campaign. After all, we are tomorrow's engineers, politicians, teachers and care workers etc."

He added: "As community leaders, the council have made a clear statement that they value the contribution that we as young people make - in backing us to make Stroud district even better, it highlights growing confidence in us to be actively involved now in shaping the future".

Further information on Backing Young Britain can be found at www.hmg.gov.uk/backingyoungbritain

Further information on Stroud District Youth Council can be found at www.youth.stroud.gov.uk

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