

DEPUTATION 1 – MAYOR FOR THE DAY

THE LORD MAYOR: Joe, good afternoon and welcome to today's Council meeting. Could you make your speech to Council, which should not be longer than five minutes, and could you begin by saying who you are and also introducing your colleague.

JOE SMITH: Hello, my name is Joe Smith from Strawberry Fields Primary School and my colleague is Ethan, he is one of my friends from school.

THE LORD MAYOR: Thank you, and are you going to tell us what you have come to say?

JOE SMITH: Yes. When it comes to keeping kids active, Leeds leads. If I was Children's Mayor of Leeds I would like the opportunity to work with other children to improve their health, fitness and self-confidence. I would do this by developing a Kidzone in each public gym in Leeds. It would be a place where kids could go to get fit and also have fun and spend time with their friends. They might even make some new ones.

Each Kidzone would be installed with exactly the same equipment as the adults' gym – treadmills, rowing machines, etc – but smaller and specially built for children, and would have interactive games built in to make keeping fit more fun. Each Kidzone would have at least one personal trainer to supervise. The personal trainer's job would be to set up sessions, exercises, circuits and challenges for kids to complete or have a go at. They would also talk about the benefits of having a healthy lifestyle. Each Kidzone would also have a TV, music station or stereo so kids could also watch TV or listen to music while doing their exercise.

I know there will be a cost to buy equipment and run Kidzone but in the long run the benefits will be improved fitness levels for kids, less kids being overweight, improved self-confidence for kids that visit Kidzone, parents will know where their kids are, less money spent in hospital on unhealthy children, introducing kids to the positives of exercise, parents being able to exercise and keep fit at the same time. I think it will be money well spent.

When it comes to keeping kids active, Leeds leads. *(Applause)*

THE LORD MAYOR: Councillor James Lewis.

COUNCILLOR J LEWIS: Thank you. I move that the matter be referred to Executive Board for consideration.

THE LORD MAYOR: Councillor Lobley.

COUNCILLOR LOBLEY: I am delighted to second, my Lord Mayor.

THE LORD MAYOR: *(A vote was taken)* CARRIED.

Joe, thank you for coming along, thank you for what you have had to say and what you have had to say will be taken to one of the Boards on the Council and then we will let you know what is going to happen. OK? Thanks ever so much indeed, you have been a star. *(Applause)*