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For 58 years, Milton Keynes has been an amazing addition to the list of cities in England. Throughout the course of its official existence, our city has been subject to change and many new beginnings. Its dynamic nature and ingenuity is evident in various ways: from the 6,000 acres of green space, to its central shopping centre completely lit by natural light. However, I am led to believe that one of the most impressive aspects of our city is its Youth Council.

As a teenager living in the 21st century, I am very friendly with the concept of change. I feel extremely proud of the many 'firsts' MK has been able to obtain, but I do recognise that there is still an immense amount of difference that could be made.

Firstly, I am a firm believer in mental health awareness and I constantly make efforts to break away the stigma surrounding it. I believe that maintaining positive mental health is necessary when growing up, especially considering the societal pressures we face in this generation. If I were to be inducted into the Youth Council, I would highly prioritise making support accessible to every young person in Milton Keynes (even if they do not have a formal diagnosis / referral). Similarly, I am optimistic that change could be made within schools to accommodate all types of intelligence - rather than just focusing on academics like we have done for many centuries. Achieving this would make school a more enjoyable place for a wider range of students.

If I had the honour to be a member of our Youth Council, it would be a huge accomplishment of mine and I would not take advantage of the responsibility bestowed upon me. I am willing to give up whatever time is necessary if it implies I would be able to contribute my ideas towards important issues.

I am very interested in activism and fighting for equality, so being a member of the Youth Council would benefit me immensely. I'd feel so pleased to express my viewpoint on topics that have been of interest to me for various years. Becoming an influential member of our society would make me extremely elated, and I would not take it for granted.