

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

20th February 2008

YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee has met once since the last County Council. The committee continues to address a full work programme that reflects the priorities of the Council and the five key outcomes under Every Child Matters. I would like to highlight the main areas of the Committee's work and these are set out below:

1. In-depth Scrutiny Reviews

Both Scrutiny Reviews on Sports Provision - 'A Sporting Chance' and 'Learning in the Wet and Mud', a review of the Outdoor Education Service, were presented to the Executive in January and will be presented to the Children and Young People's Partnership Strategic Board shortly. These two reviews are closely linked to one another and the committee will include Progress Reports in their Work Programme.

2. Review of the School Meals Service

The aim of the review was to inform the decision making process on the possible future shape of the service. It considered alternative methods of provision, how the take-up of healthy school meals is being encouraged and promoted and consulted with other Authorities who have experienced similar issues.

The report of the Task Group was considered by the Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee earlier this year. The next step is to present the findings of the Task Group at the next meeting of the Catering Board for their comments.

3. Next In-Depth Scrutiny Review – Domestic Violence children and young people

Young People experiencing domestic violence are likely to suffer long term emotional harm unless the appropriate interventions are available to support them. The Committee agreed as their next scrutiny review to look into the interventions and support provided in North Yorkshire to this group of vulnerable young people.

The review is in the early stages of planning, but it is hoped to arrange a Seminar/Workshop shortly.

4. Overview Report - Monitoring Pupil Numbers

At the last meeting of the Committee received a report detailing future trends in the number of pupils in North Yorkshire schools and the implications for school organisation and funding.

5. **Trig Meeting – 8th January 2008**

This was the third meeting to take place between the Director of CYPS, Executive Members and the Scrutiny Chair/vice-chair/group spokesperson. It was convened to update Scrutiny on the challenges and issues facing the Children & Young Peoples Service so that the O&SC work program could be updated accordingly.

6. **Forward Work Programme**

The Committee continues to work towards developing an annual work programme for in-depth scrutiny reviews and overview reports which has the flexibility to include topics and issues to be brought to Committee as and when they arise.

**County Councillor Heather Garnett,
Chairman Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

12th January 2008