

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

21 July 2010

**STATEMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER
(Children's Services Issues, children's services, special educational needs, and youth justice)**

COUNTY COUNCILLOR CAROLINE PATMORE

Netherside Hall Special School

Statutory consultation is underway regarding the proposed closure of Netherside Hall Special School in July 2012. A report will be made to the Executive in August seeking authority to publish Statutory Enhanced Notices.

Enhanced Mainstream Schools

Following consultation, statutory notices have been published to secure Special Educational Needs/Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulties (SEN/BESD) provision at 23 mainstream schools across the County from September 2010.

Forest Moor Special School

The new BESD Special School at Forest Moor will open in January 2012. A detailed implementation schedule is being taken forward to achieve this.

Young People's Council Update

The Young People's Council has been running for over two years now. During this time the young people have produced an action plan and a pledge, both of which have been endorsed by the Children's Trust. The Young People's Council, with assistance from the four participation groups, are influencing developments in the fostering and Leaving care service. Representatives from the YPC have also made presentations at national/regional conferences to promote their work.

The latest edition of the Young People's Council newsletter is about to be sent out to all North Yorkshire looked after young people and care leavers. The newsletter will promote the work of the YPC and inform young people about events which are taking place.

The newsletter, along with the "Gimi Care" part of the NYCC Gimi website, will enable the Young People's Council to hear the voices of more looked after young people and care leavers thus enabling services to improve to meet their needs.

**County Councillor Caroline Patmore
Executive Member for Children's Services**