

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

16<sup>th</sup> February 2011

### YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

- 1.0** The Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee last met for an extra meeting of the Committee in December to consider the budgetary and financial arrangements facing the County Council. At this meeting Executive Members and Officers were asked about the 18 savings projects that have been designed to save £19m (19% of the directorate's base budget) by 2014/15. Following the recent local government settlement it is likely that further savings will be necessary. The Committee meets again on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011.
- 2.0** At the Mid Cycle Briefing on the 14<sup>th</sup> January officers from the Children & Young Peoples Service provided us with an update on the decision making and consultation processes being undertaken on the review of education provision in Upper Wharfedale (Grassington, Kettlewell and Arncliffe areas).

The role of overview and scrutiny in these matters has been to examine the decision-making and consultation procedures and to ensure that public consultation meetings have been held in several local venues which are accessible to all; that they were held at times suitable for the local population and that all the necessary information was available in suitable formats; that there were several routes for people to engage with the consultation process whether this was face to face, electronic or written.

We were also made aware that a petition had been received which was considered at a Craven Area Committee.

Officers confirmed that all responses would be included in the summary of responses received and the Executive considered the final report on the 1<sup>st</sup> February. Following the consultations the Executive agreed some modifications to the proposals.

- 3.0** As Chairman of the Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee I attended, as an observer, the **Childrens Trust Board** meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011. There was good attendance by a range of partners who work with children and young people, all of whom contributed to agenda items.
- 4.0** **Committee Agenda for – 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011**
- 4.1** In the present climate of severe budgetary cuts Executive Members have been invited to provide a further update on the progress being made with the Children & Young peoples Savings and Transformation strategy and other areas within their portfolio.
- 4.2** **Core Case Inspection of Youth Offending Work**

Members will be informed of the outcome of the Core Case Inspection of Youth Offending Work in North Yorkshire which was undertaken in October 2010 by HMI Probation. The inspection focussed on three aspects of work:

Safeguarding, Likelihood of Re-offending, and Risk of Harm. Their last inspection was in July 2006.

We have been advised that these inspections are the first of a new 3-year Inspection process led by HMIP and have a quite different format and focus.

**4.3** The outcomes from the third **Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire (HRBQ) for North Yorkshire** will be considered and discussed by the committee. This questionnaire includes responses from more than 15,000 pupils from different year groups which not only provides an important source of intelligence for service planning but an awareness of young people's behaviour and attitudes concerning life issues.

**4.4 In-depth Scrutiny Review – Health Visitor & School Nurse Service in North Yorkshire**

The aim of this review is to obtain a clear picture of the current Health Visitor and School Nurse service across North Yorkshire; and gain a better understanding of what future provision will look like and how equitable that provision will be.

Good progress has been made with this review and includes Task Group Panel Meetings, consultation meeting with parents/users of the Health Visitor/School Nursing service and Expert Witness meeting arranged with Health Visitor Teams.

We have liaised closely with the North Yorkshire & York PCT and with their support arranged a number of these meetings.

The Task Group has produced an interim report on the work undertaken to date which will be considered by the committee.

**County Councillor Keith Barnes**  
**Chairman**  
**Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

4<sup>th</sup> February 2011