NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

19 FEBRUARY 2014

STATEMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER

COUNTY COUNCILLOR TONY HALL

Medium Term Financial Strategy

The Children and Young People's Service has continued to meet its savings targets. The scale of budget cuts required – and achieved to date, whilst maintaining service levels, has been a significant challenge. The objective has been to protect front-line services as much as possible, thus enabling a restructured Directorate to operate effectively across its universal, preventative, targeted and acute service responsibilities, in line with legislation.

Over the four year period 2011-15, the Directorate will have made savings of over £20m. As Members will be aware, the Council faces continuing work to deliver a balanced budget over the period 2015-19 and the Directorate's target within the 2020 North Yorkshire programme is a further £16m for which proposals to date are included in the main agenda item at this county council meeting. Although these proposals will result in a major transformation of delivery arrangements for some of our services, targeting our support on the most vulnerable and those with the greatest level of need, we have recognised the importance of early intervention and of delivering our statutory responsibilities in terms of safeguarding, special educational needs and disabilities and school improvement. Many will of course be subject to public and staff consultation at appropriate stages in their progression.

This information appears in the Statements to Council for both Executive Members for the Children and Young People's Service as this reflects our joint responsibility for all the relevant resources.

Looked After Children

At the end of December 2013 (Quarter 3) the number of Looked After Children was 473. This is a welcome decrease from the Quarter 1 position (494) and is now below the number at the end of 2012/13 (489). The total number of Looked After Children has fallen in five of the last six months. In the first three quarters of 2013/14 there were 80 new admissions to care, compared to 156 in the same period 2012/13.

Success for Woodleigh Outdoor Adventure Project

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the Woodleigh Children's Home Outdoor Adventure Project on their recent success in the Children and Young People Now Awards in London. This is the fourth year running that they have had national success and they are nominated for a further award (Local Government Chronicle Awards) still to be judged in March.

This unique project was voted a unanimous winner at the Children and Young People Now's awards in London. Judges, including Children's Commissioner Dr Maggie Atkinson, chose the project to win in the "professional development" category for offering value-for-money and empowering all staff to gain the necessary qualifications and risk management know-how to ensure its sustainability.

The service provides outdoor adventure activities for some of the county's most vulnerable children and young people, taking on 8-17 year olds who are so disabled or have such challenging emotional and behavioural needs that other mainstream organisations and schools are unable to manage the risks related to giving them the chance of activity holidays or off-site visits. The project is based at Woodleigh Children's Home and Outreach Support Service, which acts as the county's emergency unit for the care system. It offers outstanding 24/7, year-round rapid-response and

emergency support and residential care to children and young people who are either looked after by the local authority, on the "edge of care" or who suffer severe disability. Last year the project provided over 8,000 hours of adventure activity such as canoeing, abseiling and climbing, to 122 children and young people with complex needs, giving them invaluable life experiences, therapeutic support and a sense of achievement.

Children's Social Care Performance

At the end of Quarter 3 the percentage of initial assessments completed within the expected timescale (10 working days) was 89.8% with 87.8% of core assessments completed within the expected timescale (35 working days). This continues to represent top quartile performance for both. The number of children subject to a child protection plan at the end of Quarter 3 was 358. This is a reduction from the 375 plans in place at the end of Q2 and is a notable reduction from the peak of 494 recorded in April 2013.

Adoption Scorecard

In January the government published the latest set of local authority adoption scorecards. North Yorkshire's performance against the three main indicators was good, as follows:

<u>Indicator 1</u>: The average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted, 2010-2013 (lower numbers indicate better performance) North Yorkshire's performance was 564 days, which met the required performance threshold (608 days) and was more than 80 days better than the England average (647 days). North Yorkshire's national ranking is 37th, placing the county in the top performance quartile.

<u>Indicator 2</u>: The average time between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family, 2010-2013 (lower numbers indicate better performance). North Yorkshire's performance was 154 days, which met the required performance threshold (182 days) and is more than 50 days better than the England average (210 days). North Yorkshire's national ranking is 38th, placing the county on the borderline of the top and second performance quartiles.

<u>Indicator 3</u>: The percentage of children who wait less than 20 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family, 2010-2013 (higher percentages indicate better performance). North Yorkshire's performance was 61%, which is better than the national average of 55% (no performance threshold is applied to this indicator). North Yorkshire's national ranking is 44th, placing the county in the second performance quartile.

North Yorkshire is one of only 29 local authorities to have met the two performance thresholds in all three annual adoption scorecards published to date.

Developing Stronger Families

As at 30 September 2013, 442 families had been identified as meeting the criteria for the DSF programme. A new data matching exercise was carried out over the autumn period to identify further eligible families for the programme resulting in a total of 761 families now being identified as meeting the criteria for the DSF programme.

In terms of operational delivery, 148 families are currently being worked with directly under the DSF programme. At the DSF Strategic Stakeholder event, Louise Casey (Director General, Troubled Families) set North Yorkshire an unofficial target of working with 50% of the total number of troubled families (423 families) by January 2014. As at 31 December 2013, a total of 417 (49%) identified families had been worked with under the framework of the DSF programme.

In the October 2013 claim window, the DSF programme team was able to make a claim for 156 outcome payments for families meeting the nationally defined outcome measures. The October

2013 claim is additional to the 82 outcomes payments received as part of the July 2013 claims window. The claim submissions made in July and October translates into 28.2% of the total number of families needing to be 'turned around' in North Yorkshire by the close of the Troubled Families programme.

On 25 November 2013, the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) issued a press release announcing that nationally, over 62,000 families have been worked with and over 22,000 families have been turned around by the Troubled Families programme. Alongside this, the DCLG published a summary table to illustrate the progress made by each local authority. Based on the percentage of families turned around as at the end of October 2013, North Yorkshire ranked 24th out of 152 areas nationally but ranked highest when compared with its statistical neighbours. Work is now underway to prepare for the next outcomes monitoring process in readiness for the forthcoming claims window, which closes on 14 February 2014.

Restructuring to Create a Single SEND service (0-25)

Council services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities have been reorganised to promote integrated working and improved access for parents and carers. The new service will better enable the delivery of the new SEN duties in the Children and Families Bill, which was included in the Member seminar last November and which will be implemented in September 2014. The new service will also better enable the management of the revised SEN funding arrangements for schools and colleges which is being implemented as part of School Funding Reform, and to achieve savings targets as part of 20/20 North Yorkshire.

Consultation on a strategy for Specific Learning Difficulties

Approval has been given to public consultation on a strategy to meet the needs of children and young people with specific learning difficulties. This includes dyslexia and developmental coordination difficulties. The strategy aims to achieve greater integration and consistency in approaches at universal, targeted and specialist levels. It will be delivered within existing resources in the Dedicated Schools Grant and should help schools and settings to identify needs earlier and meet them more effectively,

County Councillor Tony Hall, Executive Member for Children's Services

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN – MEMBERS GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

31st January 2013

1.0 Purpose of the Report:

To provide an Annual Report to inform Members of the Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the wider Council on the work of the Looked after Children-Members Group.

2.0 Background and Context

Corporate parenting places a collective responsibility and accountability on Local Authorities to achieve good parenting for all children and young people in their care.

Good corporate parenting means that all the needs of children in care are met to the highest standard possible. It requires ownership and leadership at a senior level with a central principle that every elected member and every employee within North Yorkshire along with partner agencies should seek the same outcomes for the children in our care as they would for their own children.

The remit of the Group is attached as Annex A.

3.0 The Looked after Children-Members Group (LAC MG)

The Looked after Children-Members Group is made up of nine elected members and one non-elected member (a representative from the voluntary sector) and provides a sounding board and alert system for the Lead Member for Children & Young Peoples Service; County Councillor Tony Hall. As a group we not only monitor and analyse all aspects of the Council's responsibilities as a corporate parent but also champion the role and the responsibilities of elected Members as corporate parents.

I took over the chairmanship of the Group in the summer 2013 and it has been a very steep learning curve but one that has been both interesting and extremely rewarding.

4.0 Young People's Council (YPC)

It is important for us to link with the children and young people in the care of the County Council directly and so we encourage young people from the Young People's Council (YPC) to attend our meetings and share their news, views and ideas with us. The YPC has a place on the agenda for every meeting of the LAC MG. Since taking over as the chairman of the LAC MG I have put in place some changes to the agenda, not only do we now have a glossary of acronyms associated with Looked After Children, but we also include the photographs of all the members and officers associated with the Group. I hope this will help to develop the relationship between the LAC MG and the YPC by helping them to quickly assimilate within the group. I know it can be a daunting experience taking part in a meeting when you do not know others sitting round the table! To develop the links further we are also arranging a joint meeting between the two groups with the intention that this is a regular occurrence.

5.0 Regular Reports

The reports the LAC MG have considered over the past year have included:

5.1 Quarterly Data Reports

This report is provided to the LAC MG at every meeting and allows us to monitor the statistical position with respect to Children Looked After by North Yorkshire. The latest information we have looked at was at the end of Quarter Two 2013/14 (30 September 2013). This saw the total number of Looked After Children had fallen from 494 at the end of quarter one to the current figure of 472. This decrease is due to a significant drop in admissions during August and September, whilst the number of discharges remains fairly steady resulting in a net decrease in the number of Looked After Children. This decrease in the number of Looked After Children (per 10,000 0-17 population) in North Yorkshire remains lower than the National average and the average of our statistical neighbours.

It is important to us that children and young people come into our care as a last resort. Our preference would always be to give support to families so that where possible the family can remain together. However we also accept that in some cases this is just not possible so we want to see those children and young people in our care in stable placements. It is reassuring for us to see that placement stability in North Yorkshire continues to be good. The percentage of Looked After Children in the same placement for 2 years or more and the percentage having more than 3 placements in a year continues to be better than both the national average and that of our statistical neighbours. We are reassured to see, however, that this does not mean the authority sits back and does nothing but, for example, it is currently working on increasing the number of foster carers to improve stability still further.

5.2 Missing Looked After Children

Our latest report informed us about looked after young people who have been reported missing to the police during April to September 2013. The Statutory guidance defines missing as - Looked after child missing from their placement: Where a looked after child is missing from their placement, and his/her whereabouts are not known and/or the child is known or suspected to be at risk, considered to be at risk they should be reported to the police as missing and a record of this should be made.

During the reporting period April-September 2013 we were advised that 40 young people were reported missing to the police and out of that 40, 29 of them had more than one missing episode and 10 young people met the trigger where a strategy meeting should be considered (being reported missing 9 times out of 90 days).

To help the Group develop their understanding case studies had been included. We found this helpful and agreed it would be useful to have an anonymised 'pen portrait' of a child or young person in the care of the County Council presented to each of our meetings. In the hope that this would give us a more personal approach to corporate parenting.

5.3 Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) for Looked After Children

The Group had some concerns about initial health assessments for looked after children after receiving a report that informed us that the timeliness of IHAs was not in line with National requirements. We asked that officers working closely with health colleagues to look at how this could be improved and to report back to us. It was reassuring to receive a report that identified a clear action plan including further training for the Specialist Nursing Team (SNT) on the computer system used for recording IHAs and a bi-weekly secure email being set up from Children's Social Care to the SNT advising them of any new looked after children.

We have also invited Dr Natalie Lyth the designated Doctor for safeguarding children to report back on the findings of the re - audit of IHAs that should be completed in the summer 2014.

5.4 Fostering and Adoption Service

As I mentioned earlier in this report, work is ongoing to increase the number of foster carers and work is also being undertaken to increase the number of adoptive parents for older children, sibling groups and children with special needs. It proves more of a challenge to place an older child as so many prospective adoptive parents want to adopt a young child or baby.

The Department for Education has published the results of the adoption scorecards for 2010-2013. (The scorecards were introduced as part of a new approach to address delays in the adoption system.) North Yorkshire County Council has again been rated as doing 'very well' in achieving timeliness of adoptions. With the thresholds for this being made more stringent each year it is encouraging to see we continue to be rated as doing very well and with the work to increase the numbers of adoptive parents we hope to see this continue.

5.5 Independent Reviewing Officer Annual Report

It is a statutory requirement for the Independent Reviewing Service to report to the Corporate Parenting Board of the Local Authority on an annual basis. We were advised that during the 2012/13 period there had been some staffing difficulties which had led to challenging caseloads and prioritising of the chairing of meetings. This has now been addressed and the team is now working at full strength.

The Group have questioned the caseload of the IROs which is currently averaging at around 70 (the IRO Handbook suggests a caseload of 50-70). We were advised that their workload is currently being reviewed to identify those elements that could be undertaken by others, for example chairing some meetings.

One strong message that came through the report was the need to ensure that there is consistently good communication between social workers and foster carers and that effective partnership working is in place. The Group feel that good, clear communication is a sound basis for all elements of children's social care and welcome its reinforcement in this instance.

5.6 Educational Attainment

The Education for Looked After Children Virtual School monitors and supports all North Yorkshire Looked After Children wherever they are placed, to ensure their educational needs are met. The annual report to the LAC MG gives us the statistical information on the attainment of Looked After Children and provides examples of intervention strategies employed by the team to improve achievement, ensure progress and remove barriers to learning.

It was particularly pleasing for the Group to hear that 23 care leavers are currently attending university and the numbers of care leavers who are engaged in further education is 8% with only one person currently not in education, employment or training (NEET). There is good progress reported at the end of KS1 and clearly becoming involved in the education of young children, in early years settings has been helpful. There has been a recent announcement of an increase in the pupil premium and the group have asked for further information on how schools use the pupil premium and how school governors could be encouraged to challenge its use.

5.7 Regulation 33 Inspections

Members continue to undertake Regulation 33 Inspections with Officers across the five North Yorkshire County Council Residential Children's Homes. It is a good opportunity for Members to inspect the premises, speak to staff and meet and talk with the young people who are in residence at the time. As a Group we receive reports from officers but it is of

paramount importance for us to get out and about and see for ourselves our frontline services. Undertaking regulation 33 inspections is not just a tick box experience but one that allows us to see first hand the home environments we, as an Authority, are providing for our looked after children and young people. It gives us an insight into their lives which in turn helps us critically assess and evaluate the information provided to us in reports from officers.

The forward plan for the Group is attached at Annex B

6.0 Next Steps

The LAC MG is ready for the challenges of the coming year with preparations for OFSTED inspection already underway. We will continue to develop our links with the Young People's Council and we will also look to District and Borough Councils to see how we can work together for the benefit of Looked After Children and Young People and those young people leaving care.

We intend to continue our work in monitoring the service provision and outcomes for looked after children highlighting any areas for improvement to relevant officers and the Executive Member whilst also raising the profile of the role of the corporate parent. At every opportunity we will remind County Councillors that it is the responsibility of all of us to ensure our looked after children and young people have the best possible care and are given the best possible life chances. It is not just the remit of the LAC Members Group.

7.0 Recommendations

The Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the information in the report and comment on the work of the Looked After Children Members Group

County Councillor Janet Sanderson
Chairman Looked after Children-Members Group

Annexes: Annex A Extract of NYCC constitution; remit of Looked After Children

Members Group

Annex B LAC MG Work Programme

The role of the Looked after Children- Members Group

Extract from North Yorkshire County Council Constitution (Issue 7 – October 2012, Page 128)

9.5 The role of the Looked After Children Members' Group will include the following (which is not exhaustive):

- a) Monitoring and reporting to the Executive Member on all aspects of the Council's responsibilities as a Corporate Parent in relation to looked after children, and on any specific issues they are required to consider.
- b) The monitoring shall include performance against key indicators for the quality, stability and outcomes of Looked After arrangements for all children and young people in the preceding year.
- c) Enquiring into issues about looked after children who are also disabled.
- d) The numbers of teenage pregnancies arising in relation to looked after children and their health and sex education.
- e) Health issues affecting the Council's looked after children.
- f) The educational attainment of the Council's looked after children and the work of the Virtual Head Teacher.
- g) Considering the minutes and reports from the Young Person's Council.
- h) The recruitment and retention of social workers and staff and the morale of all service staff and officers.
- i) Any issues affecting looked after children in relation to drugs, alcohol and smoking.
- j) The transition arrangements for all looked after children as they enter adulthood.
- k) The work of the Young People's Champion.
- The Looked After Children Members' Group will undertake inspections under Regulation 33 of residential homes. This will involve reporting any concerns from the residential homes and receiving any concerns raised by officer Inspections of residential schools.
- m) Any other relevant matter considered appropriate by the Lead Member for consideration by the Group.

LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN – MEMBERS GROUP Forward Plan 2014

Date	Recurring Items	Safeguarding	Performance & Items for	Attainment	Health
	_		Information		
15 Jan 2014	YPC feedback – James Parkes / YPC Chair LAC quarterly data & analysis report - Alan Tucker Members Reg 33 Inspections / summary report – Martin Kelly	Missing LAC Update – Kathy Peacock IRO Annual Report for 2012/13 – Angela Murray	Preparation for OFSTED highlight report – Judith Hay / Emma Chawner	LAC education attainment – Annual report - Alan Clifton	Preparation for CQC Inspection highlight report - Elaine Wyllie LAC Initial Health Assessments progress report – Vicky Metheringham
11 April 2014	Joint meeting with Young Peoples' Council LAC quarterly data & analysis report - Alan Tucker Members Reg 33 Inspections / summary report - Martin Kelly Care Leavers Service - Howard Smith	Children and young peoples version of the IRO annual report – Angela Murray		Pupil Premium – Alan Clifton	
19 June 2014	YPC feedback – James Parkes / YPC Chair LAC quarterly data & analysis report - Alan Tucker Members Reg 33 Inspections / summary report – Martin Kelly				LAC Initial Health Assessments progress report – Vicky Metheringham

27 Oct 2014	YPC feedback – James Parkes / YPC Chair LAC quarterly data & analysis report - Alan Tucker Members Reg 33 Inspections / summary report – Martin Kelly				Feedback from re-audit of initial health assessments - Dr Natalie Lyth		
15 Jan 2015	YPC feedback – James Parkes / YPC Chair LAC quarterly data & analysis report - Alan Tucker Members Reg 33 Inspections / summary report – Martin Kelly Care Leavers Service – Howard Smith	IRO annual report and feedback on progress on action plan – Angela Murray					
Proposed agenda item – to be scheduled	 Information on children and young people looked after by friends and family including but not exclusively: How many children and young people fall into this category within NYCC? What is the County Council policy on family and friends carers? What is the statutory guidance on payment to friends and family carers? What checks are made with family and friend carers to ensure suitability of arrangements? 						

Please be aware that this is a working document and therefore alterations to the timing of agenda items may be unavoidable



REPORT FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHAMPION FOR 2013/14

Responsible Councillor Janet Sanderson

e-mail: cllr.janet.sanderson@northyorks.gov.uk

Telephone: 01751 474516 **Mobile:** 078 3355 3014

1. Summary

The Annual Report for North Yorkshire County Council on the activities of the Young People's Champion for the year 2013/14.

2. Recommendations

To note and approve the report and request a further report in 12 months on the activities of the Young People's Champion.

3. Background

- 3.1 The County Council appointed me to the role of Young People's Champion at their council meeting on 15th May 2013.
- 3.2 My first task was to look at how we had previously worked this role, how other councils interpreted the position and how best to continue work already in progress.

4. Role of The Young People's Champion

- 4.1 The role as defined in the Champion report last year:
 - To help raise standards and performance
 - Promote effective communication and positive working
 - Ensure that the views of children and young people and other interested parties are heard
 - Foster relationships with the voluntary and community sector and help facilitate communication between the Council and this sector.

4.2 I have sought opportunities to

- Act as spokesperson promoting the positive aspects of the Councils work with young people.
- Link the work of the County Council to the work of other organisations in supporting the activities for young people and involving them in developing our services.
- Supported the work of the various Youth Councils to encourage young people to play an active role in shaping policies.
- Help to create opportunities for the marginalised groups of young people including our children in care.
- keep up to date with the issues affecting young people.

4.2 In order to gain a greater insight into the daily lives of our young people, I am a school governor of a secondary school outside of my division.

5. Activities of the young person's champion over the last year

- 5.1 I have followed through and taken the initiative from the previous Champion in promoting the cause of the Looked After Children group (LAC) This has been done through my work as Chairman of the Looked After Children Member Group (our corporate parenting board) working with the officers involved with LAC and The Young Peoples Council (YPC).
- 5.2 Over the last 12 months I have been involved in various other initiatives. These include supporting young people at events and meetings such as the youth festivals across the county, youth council meetings and National Voice. (see appendix 2&3)
- 5.3 I have promoted a joined up approach across the County Council by meeting with officers and attendance at a variety of meetings such as Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny, Transport Economy & Environment Overview and Scrutiny, Education for Looked After Children Virtual School, Voice Influence Participation.

- 5.4 I have encouraged membership of all youth councils (including schools councils) and created links between Youth Councils, District and County Councils. Last year our chairman started a debating competition across the county aimed at year 5 & 6 primary schools. This was a very successful event which we are repeating and expanding. It is planned to have a second phase linked to the Town Youth Councils and then to Districts to promote each level of council representation.
- 5.5 I have dealt with several safeguarding issues drawn to my attention. These have arisen mainly out of communication break down or lack of understanding.

6. Future developments

In July 2012, the Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee set up a task group on Youth Participation and my aim over the next 12 months is to promote points 3 – 5 of their recommendations.

- 6.1 "Before engaging and involving young people in any consultations identify the best method of communication"
 - We are sometimes slow to recognise that our young people communicate in a very different way since the rise of social media and smart phones and perhaps there is an opportunity to use this to our advantage. Being a rural county, it is difficult for young people to attend events and when they do, it usually involves taking a day of school or college. I am a firm believer in face to face contact however if we could increase youth participation and be more inclusive by using these methods it would be of benefit to us all.
- 6.2 "The Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee should continue to improve its links with the three county level youth councils and raise awareness of all Elected Members to youth councils in their areas."

 See 5.4 work in progress.
- 6.3 "The three county level youth councils should be encouraged to find ways to meet and share some of their common issues"

 I see this issue linked to 6.1 and would expand this to include all youth councils.

6.4 Internet safety

Social media and the internet are tools in daily use by most young people. It is vital we address safety aspects surrounding these communication methods. I will be following through the work of the YP Overview and Scrutiny task group to address any issues of concern.

6.5 I will continue to support our children in care through all the methods discussed in 5.1. The YPC are upgrading to electronic methods of conducting their meetings and I hope to exchange ideas with them on this matter.

Wild Card!

Is there a possibility to link the two champion roles?

- Is there any scope for older people to mentor younger people?
- Could young people act as "internet buddies" to older non internet users?

7. Conclusion

As Young people's Champion, I have taken the opportunity to move between the various bodies involved with children and young people. This has given me valuable insight into the services we offer and how we might address the present and future needs of our young people.

Appendix

List of activities and meetings undertaken by the Young Persons Champion 2013/14

1. Committees and Meetings

- Young People Overview & Scrutiny
- Looked After Children Members Group
- Scrutiny Board
- Education for Looked After Children (ELAC Virtual School)
- Voice Influence Participation (VIP)
- Youth Councils
- Online Safety working group
- Joint Online Safety working group at Newby Wiske NSPCC
- Transport Economy & Environment O&SC joint with Young People O&SC

2. Events attended

Youth Festivals -

- Ripshock Festival Ripon
- Culture Shock Hambleton
- Ryefest
- "C-Day" Carlton Lodge

- Rural Shock Colburn
- ELAC Celebration Day Bedale
- Culture Shock York St. Johns

Other events -

- National Voice Leeds
- Sexual Health Easingwold
- Specific learning difficulties strategy
- Young people's voice
- Opportunity Knocks Lady Lumley's School
- Youth Voice Summit York Royal Hotel
- Youth Creative Art Event Harrogate Pavillions
- Sherburn Show Judging Children's Classes
- Sherburn Pathways Project

3. Other associated meetings and visits.

- Regulation 33 visits
- Tour of Children's residential homes in Harrogate and Scarborough
- The Street Scarborough
- NYBEP Sue Gradwell
- LEP Derwent Training
- Pickering business opportunity
- Youth Debate meetings

4. Meetings and correspondence with members staff and officers

Since taking up the position, I have had numerous discussions, meetings and exchanges of emails throughout the year with members, officers and other staff associated with young people's services.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson Young People's Champion 23rd January 2014