

# North Yorkshire County Council

## Executive

12 January 2021

### Area Constituency Committee Feedback

#### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

To bring to the attention of the Executive key issues considered at the meeting of the Skipton & Ripon Area Constituency Committee on 17 December 2020.

#### 2.0 Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee on 17 December 2020, held remotely using MS Teams

2.1 The Rt Hon Julian Smith MP was unable to attend the meeting of the committee due to commitments at Westminster.

2.2 There were no Public Questions or Statements at the meeting.

2.3 County Councillors Carl Les and Gareth Dadd provided details of the anticipated Local Government Settlement and progress with Local Government Review. There followed an in-depth discussion about sustainable funding for adult social care and the need for central government to consider the use of national taxation and possibly some form of insurance scheme.

2.4 The committee considered the proposed changes to the Healthy Child Programme and raised the following as matters for the Scrutiny of Health Committee to take into account at their meeting of 18 December 2020:

- The committee broadly supported the proposed changes, as outlined in the consultation document
- The financial pressures that Public Health is under were acknowledged
- Reassurances were sought that everything reasonably possible has been done to promote engagement with a broad range of agencies, organisations and people as part of a consultation undertaken during a pandemic, where there has been a heavy reliance upon remote means of communication
- Reassurances were sought that the dispersed model of services for 5 to 19 year olds does not result in people finding access to services more difficult, particularly in rural areas
- Further consideration may be needed as to how the Healthy Child Programme will support children and young people with mental health problems and/or those at risk of poor mental health. The past 9 months of the pandemic and social restrictions has seen a decline in children and young people's mental health.

2.5 The committee also considered the Annual Education Report and noted strong secondary school performance and attainment in the committee area, low levels of academy conversion and an increase in the number of children being taken out of mainstream school and educated at home. The committee also raised its concerns about secondary school funding and that the national funding formula tends to benefit urban areas.

2.6 The next meeting of the committee will be held remotely at 10am on 7 January 2021 using MS Teams. The substantive items on the agenda are:

- Update from Rt Hon Julian Smith MP – discussion with the committee
- Council Budget proposals
- Harrogate Transport Improvement Programme.

**3.0 Recommendation**

3.1 That the Executive notes the report and considers any matters arising from the work of the Area Constituency Committees detailed above, that merits further scrutiny, review or investigation at a county-level.

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)  
County Hall  
Northallerton

21 December 2020

Background Documents: None  
Appendices: None