

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1st December 2006

Work Programme Report

1.0 Purpose of Report

This report asks the Committee to:

- (a) confirm, amend or add to the list of matters shown on the work programme (attached at Annex A)
- (b) note the information in this report
- (c) consider the start time of future meetings
- (d) note the changes made to Committee dates in 2007

2.0 Developing Democracy – 26th October 2006

A number of young people participated in developing democracy for young people in North Yorkshire. The event was well attended by both young people and County Councillors. The Chairman on behalf of the Committee has requested feedback from this event which should include the views of young people on both the outreach sessions held in each of the seven districts and the wall building event.

As part of the Developing Democracy programme a visit for post 16 young people with learning difficulties from the Dales School, Morton on Swale was organised. The purpose was to provide an opportunity for these young people to meet and ask questions of Members and Officers of the County Council. Members of the Committee will receive feedback from this event in due course.

3.0 In-depth Scrutiny review - Sports Provision Workshop 1

The committee has chosen as its next in-depth scrutiny review to look at Sports Provision across North Yorkshire. The purpose being to look at how sport can play an important part in improving outcomes for all children and young people in North Yorkshire and the role of the County Council's as a partner in North Yorkshire Sport.

The aim of this initial workshop was to provide Members of the committee with a focused and intense look at Sports Provision in North Yorkshire and the partnership arrangements already in place.

Drawing on their own local knowledge and experiences Members set out to determine the scope and range of this next piece of in-depth scrutiny work. (Draft Scoping Report – to follow)

4.0 Mid-Cycle Briefing – 10th November 2006

The following topics and matters were discussed at the mid cycle briefing:

- REOTAS
Members were briefed on collaborative School Partnerships to Improve Behaviour and Tackle Persistent Truancy. Briefing paper is attached at Annex B
- Inspection of Children's Homes

A number of concerns had been raised by Members involved with Regulation 33 inspections. Acting General Manager for the Child Placement Unit

reassured Members that he was trying to resolve some of their concerns and had organized a meeting for all Members undertaking Regulation 33 inspections to take these matters forward.

- Sex & Relationship Education Review – Implementation of recommendations.

Discussions took place with an Officer from the Children & Young Peoples Service relating to the implementation of recommendations set out in the Committee's Report. SRE -Interim Report is attached at Annex C.

Further discussions are to take place shortly to clarify the position with regard to the remaining recommendations.

- Anti Bullying Measures

Members of the committee have previously raised their concerns regarding the supervision of children at lunch times and asked about availability of training for Mid Day supervisors. Members requested that the topic of Anti Bullying Measures is added to their work programme and a briefing has been requested for the January meeting. Protracted

4.0 Work Programme

The Committee's work programme for the next 12 months is beginning to take shape. Members comments are welcomed and any additional work programme items should be forwarded to either the Chairman or the Scrutiny Support Officer.

Revised Committee dates for 2007

Members of the Committee should have received next year's dairies. There have been several changes made to meeting dates and these have already been circulated.

Start time of future Committee Meetings

Committee members will recall that there was a suggestion put forward regarding the start time of future committee meetings. This matter was not finalised and it was therefore agreed to bring this matter back to the next meeting.

Extra Meeting – 9th January 2007

As today's meeting (1st Dec 2006) has been a single item agenda, the Chairman felt it was important that outstanding work programme matters, due to be considered in December, are carried forward. Arrangements have been made for these items to be tabled at the next meeting of the Committee which is being held on the 9th January 2007.

Disability Awareness Session

Following on from the introductory session at Scrutiny Forum on 8 November the Committee is asked to attend a further session on this topic which focuses on what impact the social model of disability has in relation to the work of individual committees.

The purpose is to highlight and identify interactively with members the key issues that each Committee needs to think about when developing their work programme or undertaking a scrutiny review. This session will be run by Simon Cox, supported by an officer from learning and development and from the disability task group (set up by Corporate Equalities). It is proposed that the session should not be part of the formal agenda but could be scheduled to follow on from a scrutiny meeting. It is anticipated the session will run for approximate one hour.

The suggestion put forward to the committee is that this session is held after the close of the overview and scrutiny meeting in February.

Recommendation

6.0 The Committee is asked to:

- Confirm, amend, or add to the list of matters covered by the current work programme (Annex A)
- Agree the start time of future meetings
- Confirm their availability to attend the next full committee meeting to be held in January 2007
- Agree that the Disability Awareness Session is to be held immediately following the February meeting.

HUGH WILLIAMSON
Head of Scrutiny and Corporate Performance
County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

Author: Stephanie Bratcher

Contact Details: Tel : 01609 532049

E-mail stephanie.bratcher@northyorks.gov.uk

23rdnd November 2006

Background Documents: none

Annexes: A Work Programme

B Briefing paper on School Partnerships

C Draft Scoping Report – to follow

YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2007 - AT A GLANCE

	2006	2007					
	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar		Apr-Jun		Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec
Scheduled Committee Meetings	1 Dec	9 Jan	15 Feb	20 April	29 Jun	28 Sept	30 Nov
Scheduled mid-cycle briefings		23 Mar		25 May		31 Aug	17 Oct
YP Reserve Dates		15 May					31 Oct

In-Depth Scrutiny Projects

Healthy Children: Theme II Sports Provision	Scoping	Research & consultation	Reporting		

Overview Topics (Which may become future in-depth scrutiny projects)

Review of Special Educational Needs & Behaviour Provision	Report				
Corporate Parenting		Annual Report			
Post 16 Home to School Transport		Progress Report			
Anti Bullying Measures		Briefing			
Role of Independent Reviewing Officers		Briefing			
JAR Inspection Report & Action Plan			Briefing		
Youth Justice – Inspection Report			Briefing		
Locality Strategy – integrated local delivery			Overview		
Children’s Information Sharing Index			Briefing		
Community Education six month post implementation review		Jt Meeting in March 07 with ED&R OSC			
Children victims of Domestic Violence				Briefing	
Developing a County wide Parenting Strategy				Briefing	
Scrutiny Review – Sports Provision draft Report				Report	

Educational Achievement of Looked After Children			Briefing			
YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2007 - AT A GLANCE	2006	2007				
	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar		Apr-Jun		Jul-Sept
<i>Scheduled Committee Meetings</i>	<i>1 Dec</i>	<i>9 Jan</i>	<i>15 Feb</i>	<i>20 April</i>	<i>29 Jun</i>	<i>28 Sept</i>
<i>Scheduled mid-cycle briefings</i>		23 Mar		25 May		31 Aug
<i>YP Reserve Dates</i>				15 May		31 Oct
Childrens Service – Measuring & Evaluating Performance of Childrens Service Authority				15 May Progress Report		
Curriculum & Management Advisory Service				15 May - Briefing		
Post Implementation Scrutiny Review – SRE					Progress Report	
Young People with disability and transition into adult services						
Assessments of students with Special Educational Needs						
Monitoring Pupil Roll numbers						
Outdoor Education Service						
Local Area Agreement						
Race Relations – children from BME backgrounds						
Local quality food for Healthier School Meals						
Children not in employment, education or training (NEET)						
Health & Safety Executive Report – Manchester Cave Tragedy						

**YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME – 2006 and 2007**

Every Child Matters Outcomes

1 Be Healthy	2 Stay Safe	3 Enjoy & Achieve	4 Make a positive contribution	5 Achieve Economic Well-Being
---------------------	--------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

In-depth Scrutiny Projects

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE	ACTION/BY WHOM	TIMESCALES
Children & Young Peoples Service - Healthy Children	Theme II Sports Provision and Safe Places to Play	Briefing Seminar and Scoping exercise in preparation for the committees next in-depth Scrutiny Review.	Oct 06

OVERVIEW REPORTS

Review of Special Educational Needs Provision (Single item agenda)	The committee's views are sought on the proposals, including the amended proposals on the Review of Special Education Needs and any recommendations are forwarded to the Executive.	Executive Member and Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	Dec 06
Sports Provision in North Yorkshire	To consider draft Scoping Document and agree timeframe	Chairman and OSC	Dec 06
Corporate Parenting Group	To receive the Annual Report from the Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Group	Cllr Paul Richardson, Chairman of Corporate Parenting Group and Lead Member	Jan 07
Staying Safe	Briefing on the role of the Independent Reviewing Officer	C&YP Service Jan Taylor	Jan 07
Anti-Bullying Measures	Report and briefing on the measures in place for supervision of young children at break times.	Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	Jan 07
Post 16 Home to School Transport	Progress Report on the impact of introducing charges for post 16 home to school transport	Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	Jan 07

**YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME – 2006 and 2007**

1 Be Healthy	2 Stay Safe	3 Enjoy & Achieve	4 Make a positive contribution	5 Achieve Economic Well-Being
SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE		ACTION/BY WHOM	TIMESCALES
Children & Young Peoples Service	Report and briefing on the outcome of the Joint Area Review Inspection and detailed Action Plan		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	Feb 07
Youth Justice	Briefing on the work of the Youth Offending Team and the outcome of the YOT Inspection, together with Action Plan		Manager of the Youth Offending Team	Feb 07
Locality Strategy - Integrated local delivery	Overview on the integrated working in the County and an update on the pilot project.		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	Feb 07
Children's Information Sharing Index	Report on the development of a universal Children's Information Database and governance issues.		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	Feb 07
Community Education Service	Six month post implementation review for Members of both Young People and Economic Development O&SC on the new Community Education Service		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service and Head of Community Education	March 07 Joint sub committee meeting
Children - victims of Domestic Violence	Briefing on systems in place to identify, assess and support children affected by domestic abuse		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	April 07
Parenting Strategy	Briefing on the development of a County wide parenting strategy with NHS Partners		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service and North Yorkshire & York PCT	April 07

**YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME – 2006 and 2007**

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE		ACTION/BY WHOM	TIMESCALES
1 Be Healthy	2 Stay Safe	3 Enjoy & Achieve	4 Make a positive contribution	5 Achieve Economic Well-Being
Educational achievement of Looked after Children	Briefing on developments for improving outcomes for looked after children and their progression towards independence.		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	April 07
Scrutiny Review – Sports Provision	Chairman of the Task Group to present to the Committee, for their consideration, the draft Report of their in-depth scrutiny review on Sports Provision in North Yorkshire		Chairman of Task Group	April 07
Children & Young Peoples Service	Measuring & Evaluating performance of Children & Young Peoples Service as an authority		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	May 07
Curriculum and Management Advisory Service	Members to be briefed on the service provided to schools and to confirm which are or are not mandatory items for the curriculum.		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service and Assistant Director of CAMAS	May 07
Scrutiny Review - SRE	Progress report on the implementation of recommendations following the Sex & Relationship Education Scrutiny Review		Katharine Bruce General Advisor Children & young Peoples Service	June 07
Young people with disabilities and transition arrangements	Briefing on the transition arrangement for young people into adult social care services			
Special Educational Needs Assessments	Briefing on the proportion of students with special educational needs assessed within 18 weeks		To be advised	June 07
Monitoring Pupil Numbers	Briefing on the affects of falling rolls on providing a qualitative rounded education.			

**YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME – 2006 and 2007**

1 Be Healthy	2 Stay Safe	3 Enjoy & Achieve	4 Make a positive contribution	5 Achieve Economic Well-Being
Outdoor Education Service	The value of providing an Outdoor Education service			
Local Area Agreement	Update report on position in achieving LAA Targets and stretch targets			
Race Relations	Children and young people from minority group backgrounds			
Local quality food for Healthy School Meals	Outcome of the pilot for purchasing local quality produce and the take up for School Meals		Nick Postma, Client Catering Manager	
Children not in employment, education or training (NEET)	Briefing on the support, guidance and opportunities provided for young people not in employment, education or training			
Health & Safety Executive Report	Outcome of the HSE report on the Manchester Cave tragedy.		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Mid Cycle Briefing**

10 November 2006

**School Partnerships to Improve Behaviour
and Tackle Persistent Truancy**

1. Five Year Strategy for Children & Learners

In its Five Year Strategy, published in Summer 2004, the Government made the following commitment with regard to behaviour and exclusions.

- “we will support headteachers’ decisions to remove from their school anyone who is behaving in an aggressive way; and make sure disruptive pupils do not ruin learning for others.
- we will also address the issue of schools that are asked to take on large numbers of hard-to-place or disruptive pupils through the year.
- we will expect groups of schools and colleagues including PRUs and special schools, to take collective responsibility for the education of young people in their area; with clear arrangements for collaboration on behaviour policy; and with authorities devolving funds to groups of schools to do this.”

2. Subsequent correspondence from the DfES relating to behaviour in schools outlines the expectation that:

- there should be increased devolution of funds for behaviour support and alternative provision out of school to groups of secondary schools with schools taking collective responsibility for the well-being and education of all their pupils and a strengthening of local alternative provision.
- all secondary schools will be part of a group working together to manage pupil behaviour by September 2007.
- the Admission Forum should set in hand work towards a protocol on admission of hard to place pupils.
 - a. The North Yorkshire Education Inclusion Statement places an emphasis on groups of learners that may be at risk of underachievement, exclusion or marginalization. It states a commitment to learners receiving their education, wherever possible, in a mainstream setting. One of the published aims of the SEN and Behaviour Provision Review is to reduce the number of children and young people educated outside of mainstream settings.

- b. The principles of the draft Behaviour and Attendance strategy include:
- recognition of the need to ensure that high quality mainstream provision is available locally before out of school provision is reduced.
 - the promotion of inclusive education in line with the Education Inclusion Statement.
 - schools working together in localities to enhance their capacity to meet the needs of children and young people.
 - effective partnerships with other agencies to deliver co-ordinated services to these children and their families.
3. The children and young people whose education is currently provided by the LEA out of school include some of the most vulnerable. To the extent that revised arrangements for meeting their needs can reduce interruptions to their education, then this will contribute to meeting the 5 statutory outcomes in the Children Act: being healthy; staying safe; enjoying and achieving; making a positive contribution and achieving economic well being.
4. As the new developments for Information Sharing and Assessment, Lead Professional and Common Assessment Framework are implemented, these will be helpful to the operation of the Behaviour Collaboratives.

Current Provision for Pupils Out of School

5. Three Collaboratives of the 13 secondary schools in the Eastern Area of the county were established in January 2006. Working to an Agreement, the Collaboratives and the Local Authority are committed to key outcomes including:
- a reduction in the number of exclusions.
 - a reduction overall in unauthorised absence and in the number of persistent truants.
 - improved quality and availability and appropriateness of provision in and out of school.
6. The 3 Collaboratives have DfES “pathfinder” status which means that they will be used to demonstrate success and evidence progress in this way of working. The DfES are in regular communication with the Principal Adviser, Inclusion about the measurement of outcomes and performance, including baseline and termly information. This will be gathered and monitored by the Collaboratives in December 2006 and reported to the Corporate Director and Executive Members.

7. A copy of the Agreement (without its appendices) which governs the running of the Collaboratives is attached at Appendix 1.
8. Provision elsewhere in the county for pupils who have no school place is through the Pupil Referral Unit in Harrogate catering for pupils in key stages 3 and 4 who have been, or are at risk of being, excluded and 4 satellite centres across the county. These are organised and staffed by the REOTAS service (Reintegration and Education Otherwise Than at School). The REOTAS service also provides home tuition in appropriate cases.
9. All secondary schools have to be part of a Collaborative by September 2007. Attached at Appendix 2 is a timeline of key actions to achieve this.
10. A key issue which has arisen is the need to clarify or confirm the resources available to each Collaborative at implementation in September 2007. This will be considered by the Schools Forum. This will include the REOTAS Service but does not mean that the provision made by the Service will cease or that the 4 satellite centres will close. On the contrary, the Headteacher groups are indicating the need to retain and improve the off site provision.
12. The consultation document for the Review of SEN and Behaviour Provision describes the continuum of provision for BESD which the Local Authority wishes to develop. Behaviour Collaboratives are one element of this continuum. They are being provided and developed earlier than other proposed provision in the Review because of the imperative from the DfES.

APT/JR
7 November 2006

YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
IN-DEPTH SCRUTINY REVIEW - SEX & RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION
INTERIM REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF SRE RECOMMENDATIONS

Purpose of report

This report aims to advise Members of the progress being made in relation to the recommendations as set out in the committee's in-depth scrutiny review on Sex and Relationship Education.

Background

In May 2006 the final report of the Committee's in-depth scrutiny review on Sex and Relationship Education was presented by Chairman Cllr Heather Garnett and members of the Task Group to the Executive for their consideration and agreement of the recommendations as set out in the Executive Summary of the final report. The report was welcomed by both the Lead Member and Corporate Director of the Children and Young Peoples Service.

Executive member Cllr Patmore said that the Scrutiny Team had clearly built up substantial knowledge in this area and expressed the hope that the sexual education of young people today would not only help them but, through a better understanding of their own children's needs, would carry these benefits forward through future generations. It was then proposed that further work should be carried out by officers on the Scrutiny Group's recommendations and that a further report be made to the Executive on the matter later in the year.

The Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service said she believed the review had been a very good piece of work leading to valuable advice on a topic which was uncomfortable for some. The report was considered to be timely, since it related to a priority area within the Children and Young People's Plan.

The Executive in their considerations resolved that further work should be undertaken by Officers with the Scrutiny Team to show how each of the recommendations in the report on Sex and Relationship Education was being taken forward; that this work be incorporated into the work being undertaken on the review of the Children and Young People's Plan; and that a report covering those issues be brought to the Executive later in the year.

It is now six months since the committee's Final Report was presented to the Executive and a decision was taken by Chairman Cllr Heather Garnett to meet with Katharine Bruce General Adviser for CAMAS (Curriculum and Management Advisory Service) & Healthy Schools Coordinator to obtain an interim update on developments and implementation of the recommendations

and to report these findings to Members of the Committee. The Chairman was also keen to confirm what approach would be most appropriate in distributing the committee's report on Sex & Relationship Education to Schools, Governing bodies and the NHS. (Copy of recommendations as set out in Final Report is attached at Appendix A)

The recommendations were worked through individually, several being integral to the Children & Young Peoples Plan; and a number which are inter related. The main points arising are as follows

Developments

Recommendation 1 & 2

In April 2006 the North Yorkshire Children & Young Peoples Service commissioned the Schools Health Education Unit to survey the health related behaviour of children and young people in North Yorkshire. The aim was to provide much needed baseline data with which schools, the PCTs and the Local Authority could more effectively target work with young people.

All schools were invited to participate in the survey and the response resulted in representation from a good cross section of schools – 165 schools, including 26 secondary and 3 special schools and 1 pupil referral unit. 8275 children and young people participated in the survey.

In summary the outcome from the survey underpins and supports the work of the Young People OSC Task Group findings. It confirms that the consultation outcomes with children & young people in just a few areas across the County are reflected across the whole patch. It would appear to replicate the messages Members received from young people about their sex and relationship education and that it is important that young people are included in realising the content and material used when delivering this very important topic. (A copy of this report is attached as Appendix B)

Recommendations 3 & 4

Professional training - There continues to be good take up of the PSHE certification training courses by both teachers and school nurses. (A further 22 schools)

With reference to Governor training - There are several opportunities set out in the 2006-07 Governors Training brochure offering training sessions on "Developing sex and relationships education in schools: Guidance for school governors" during January and February 2007.

Recommendation 5

The committee considered that a pro active approach in raising Governors' awareness and responsibilities in relation to sex and relationship education was important.

The new updated version of the Governors summer term 2006 newsletter included an extremely useful and informative article covering governing bodies statutory responsibilities, what should be taught about sex and relationships in school, who is responsible for choosing the materials used in sex and relationship education etc. (Copy of article is attached at Appendix C)

Governors' unable to attend training may obtain a Governors Pack on SRE which contains relevant and important information and is available from CAMAS.

Recommendations 6 & 19

Developments are soon to be underway in relation to "Peer Education" with the Youth Service and the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Coordinator working together to include, help and support for young men in sexual health matters.

Recommendation 8

Distribution of the Final Report was delayed because it was felt that sending the report out close to the end of the July term and the beginning of the new September term would find it lost amongst a deluge of other papers.

A more decisive approach would be to coordinate the distribution with the circulation of the School Health Education Unit survey on health related issues. Each Report would compliment and support the findings of the Scrutiny Team and the survey undertaken. It was considered that the message would be stronger and louder.

Recommendation 9

The Children & Young Peoples Service together with PCT partners will undertake to develop a Parenting Strategy that will incorporate the particular aspects raised in this recommendation.

Healthy Schools Programme

Members of the Task Group will be aware that the Healthy Schools Programme played an extremely important role in developing specialist trained staff to deliver high quality PSHE/SRE education. An element to achieving Healthy Schools status included the development of a robust sex and relationship education policy.

It is important to note that under the Local Area Agreement - Children and Young People block one of the proposed targets is for 70% of North Yorkshire schools to achieve Healthy Schools status by 2009. The proposed stretch target put forward for this indicator is 85% by 2009.

Conclusions

It is clear that a considerable amount of action is happening in relation to the health and well being of children and young people in general.

With regard to the recommendations set out in the SRE Final Report it is noted that several of these recommendations have already been actioned or are in the process of being developed. Further work needs to be undertaken to obtain an interim position in relation to the remaining recommendations. Therefore discussions with relevant officers from the County Council and representatives from the PCT will be undertaken to update and inform Members of the committee.

Report prepared by Stephanie Bratcher, Scrutiny Support Officer
2nd November 2006