

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**28<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

**Work Programme Report**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

This report asks the Committee to:

- (a) note the information in this report
- (b) confirm, amend or add to the list of matters shown on the work programme (attached at Annex A)

**2.0 Work Programme 2007/2008**

At the last meeting of the Committee the Chairman explained that the items listed on the Work Programme were not in any particular order, were Overview Reports unless otherwise stated, and that some of the matters would be dealt with through the Mid Cycle Briefing. The Chairman went on to say that the Committee has a very wide remit and it is important they are kept up to date in relation to recent developments and changes in government policy.

Members comments in relation to the number of items on the Work Programme and the prioritisation and grading of particular topic issues have been taken into account in developing the Committee's Work Programme for 2008.

At an earlier committee meeting the Chairman confirmed that the Mid Cycle Briefings are open to all members of the committee and an email copy of the Mid Cycle Briefing agenda will be circulated accordingly. Items already planned for the 2008 Mid Cycle briefings are attached at Annex B (Mid Cycle Briefing Work Planner). This is a working document and will therefore be subject to change.

**3.0 Committee Meeting dates and Mid Cycle Briefings 2008**

The Calendar of Meeting dates is being finalised and the Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting dates have been set for:

**Feb 22nd - Friday - Committee 10.00**

**May 2nd - Friday - Committee 10.00**

**July 11th - Friday - Committee 10.00**

**Sept 26th Friday - Committee 10.00**

**Nov 28th - Friday - Committee 10.00**

Last year the Chairman suggested that two additional dates were reserved for extra meetings of the Young Peoples Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Accordingly, Members are invited to comment on the proposed additional meeting dates and if acceptable are requested to make a note in their diaries:

***June 6<sup>th</sup> – Friday – Reserve Committee (time to be confirmed)***  
***31<sup>st</sup> October – Friday – Reserve Committee (time to be confirmed)***

Mid -Cycle dates are as follows:

Mar 28th - Friday - Mid Cycle 10.30

June 20th - Friday - Mid Cycle 14.00

Sept 5th - Friday - Mid Cycle *(time to be confirmed)*

Oct 10th - Friday - Mid Cycle 10.30 *(to be confirmed)*

#### 4.0 **Local Democracy Campaign**

The Local Democracy Campaign (LDC) is normally held around the second or third week of October. Currently there are no plans to hold a single big event this year. The focus will be more about an all year round concerted effort being the best way forward.

However, there are ideas being developed to involve County Councillors during the LDC week, together with a variety of events/activities which are timed to coincide with LDC and include:

- a full page spread in the October issue of NY Times, edited by a group of young people, which will focus on the progress since last years event (attached at Annex C)
- the development of some Youth Councils/Forums across parts of North Yorkshire. Various activities are being considered which will lead up to the election of a young peoples council. The aim being to organise the elections during the LDC week .

Members of the Committee will be kept informed of any developments and events organised.

#### **Recommendation**

5.0 The Committee is asked to:

- note the information in this report
- confirm, amend, or add to the list of matters shown on the work programmed (attached at Annex A)

**HUGH WILLIAMSON**  
**Head of Scrutiny and Corporate Performance**  
**County Hall**  
**NORTHALLERTON**

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Date: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2007  
Annexes: Annex A Work Programme

**For information:**

**Outstanding Committee Dates:**

31<sup>st</sup> October 2007

30<sup>th</sup> November 2007

**Mid-Cycle Briefing:**

18<sup>th</sup> October 2007

**YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
WORK PROGRAMME – 2007/2008 (updated September 2007)**

**Every Child Matters Outcomes**

1 Be Healthy

2 Stay Safe

3 Enjoy &amp; Achieve

4 Make a positive contribution

5 Achieve Economic Well-Being

**In-depth Scrutiny Projects**

SUBJECT	AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE	ACTION/BY WHOM	TIMESCALES
<b>Sports Provision and participation for Young People in North Yorkshire</b>	To consider how the County Council works with partner organisations to improve and increase the percentage of 5 – 16 year olds accessing two hours or more of high quality PE and School Sport within and beyond the curriculum each week; understand the importance and benefits of physical education and sport for young people.	<b>Briefing Seminar and Scoping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task Group Meeting</li> <li>• Consultations</li> <li>• Draft Report to Committee</li> </ul>	<b>January 07</b> <b>March/April/June</b> <b>September 07</b>
<b>School Meals</b>	Following the job evaluation review and the significant increase in pay rates for Cooks, the Committee will Review the options available to the Catering Service whilst maintaining minimal nutritional standards and continuing to offer healthy meals.	<b>Task Group - Final Report to autumn meeting of the committee</b>	<b>September - November 2007</b>
<b>Children as Victims of Domestic Violence</b>	Proposed that the next in-depth scrutiny review looks into the support offered and provided to children, young people and their families as victims of domestic violence.  Included in this review would be the role of Children's Centre's and partnership working.	<b>Briefing Seminar and Scoping Exercise with Scrutiny Review Group and Officers from the Children &amp; Young Peoples Service</b>	<b>Oct 2008 – April/May 2008</b>
<b>OVERVIEW REPORTS</b>			
Trust Schools	Briefing and overview on the Schools Trust model and how differently schools will work in the future	Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	<b>September 07</b>
SEN Review	Progress Report on the implementation of SEN Review.	Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	<b>September 07</b>

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<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>AIMS/TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>		<b>ACTION/BY WHOM</b>	<b>TIMESCALES</b>
School Absences in North Yorkshire	Overview Report on the impact and usefulness of Truancy Patrols in reducing School Absences.		Pupil And Parent Services Dave Griffin Attendance Strategy Manager	<b>September 07</b>
Youth Offending Service	Progress report on the YOT Action Plan		Lesley Ingleson, Youth Offending Team Manager	<b>October 07</b>
Corporate Parenting	Briefing from the Chairman of the Corporate Parent Group and Officers from the Children & Young Peoples Service and the implications of the White Paper – Care Matters.		Chairman of the Corporate Parent Group and Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	<b>October 07</b>
Transformation of Local Education Office Administrative Functions	Briefing on the County Council's plans to transform and improve the way in which it administers some of its services for parents.		Corporate Director of Children and Young Peoples Service	<b>October 07</b>
Monitoring Pupil Numbers	Overview report on falling rolls.		Corporate Director of Children & Young Peoples Service	<b>November 07</b>
Anti Bullying	Progress Report on the take up of Anti Bullying practices by Schools in North Yorkshire		Nigel Ogley	<b>November 07</b>
14-19 year olds Education & Skills	Briefing on the radical reform of the system for 14.-19 education and plans to transform secondary and post-secondary education so that all young people achieve and continue in learning until at least the age of 18.		Corporate Director of the Children & Young Peoples Service	<b>November 07</b>
Health Related Behaviour Survey	Overview Report on the outcomes and recommendations arising from Health Related Behaviour Survey undertaken on behalf of NYCC and NY&Y PCT		John Bell	<b>Feb 2008</b>

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Young People and diversity	Children and young people from minority group backgrounds		To be advised	<b>Feb 2008</b>
Drug and Alcohol Treatments and services	Members to be briefed on the services, treatments and partnership arrangements available to young people with drug and alcohol problems.		To be advised	<b>Feb 2008</b>
Multi Agency Looked After Partnership	Responsibilities towards other LA's Children who live in North Yorkshire.		Paul Nixon and Nigel Ogley	<b>May 2008</b>
Young Carers	Overview on the support and funding arrangements for this vulnerable group of young people		Director of C&YPS and Director of Adult Social Care	<b>May 2008</b>
Delegated Resources	Progress Report on the processes for Monitoring, Challenging and Supporting Schools who use delegated resources for children with special needs and underachieving gifted and talented children		John Bell	<b>May 2008</b>
C&YPS Partner organisations	Fire Service and Voluntary sector to be invited to contribute on their contribution to the Every Child Matters agenda		To be advised	<b>July 2008</b>
Public Health Agenda for Children & Young People in North Yorkshire	Briefing by the Public Health Directorate on young people health related issues and the standards associated to the National Service Framework for Children and Maternity Services.		Director of Public Health	<b>July 2008</b>
Commissioning for the Children's Health Agenda	Update from the North Yorkshire and York PCT on Childrens Services		Director of Commissioning and Director of Operations NY & Y PCT	<b>July 2008</b>
Children with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities	Transition planning for children & young people with learning difficulties and disabilities.			<b>Sept 2008</b>

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Contact Point	Progress report on the policy guidance for users of Contact Point		Andrew Whittaker and Lynette Wise, Integrated Childrens Systems	<b>Sept 2008</b>
Extended Schools agenda	Progress report on the development of the Extended Schools programme		Bernadette Jones and Carolyn Bird	<b>Sept 2008</b>

This is a working document therefore topics and timeframes could alter

**Young People OSC – Mid-Cycle Briefings Work Planner 2007 - 2008 (updated Sept 07)**

Youth Democracy	Progress Report on Youth Participation	Ian Marr	<b>October 2007</b>
4Youth Service	Progress Report on the development of Area Improvement plans	Terry Begley	<b>October 2007</b>
Young People Arts Strategy	Briefing on the development of a C&YP Art Strategy and possible involvement of members of the committee	Paula Taylor	<b>October 2007</b>
Engaging Hard to Reach Groups	Consider the recommendations set out in the scrutiny review on 'Hard to Reach Groups undertaken by the Communications Overview & Scrutiny Committees	Task Group Chairman Cllr Bill Hoult	<b>October 2007</b>
School Governors	Raising the profile of YP OSC with Schools and governing bodies	James Fairburn	<b>Jan 2008</b>
Hear by Rights	4Youth Service – progress report on where the County Council is with 'Hear by Rights'	Ian Marr	<b>Jan 2008</b>
Parenting Strategy	Update from the Parenting Support Strategy Group	Chris McGee	<b>March 2008</b>
CRB Policy	Update on NY CRB policy/guidance	Judith Johnson	<b>March 2008</b>



# Another brick in the wall

IN the democracy week of 2006, groups of young people from around North Yorkshire were asked to put their ideas onto bricks, which were then built into a wall and presented to County Hall. These ideas were to help services get young people more involved in democracy and for them to have their say in politics. This article will look at what has changed from last year, and if there have been any developments on that young people wanted.

- Roseanna

## Communication

- Communication is very important as it builds trust and understanding, and some small steps have been taken to improve this.
- 4Youth has used a texting software programme to gather bookings for gigs, and we would hope for the return of cow cam, a video diary booth that young people can use to express their views.
- However, more still needs to be done on promoting access to councillors' contact info and how we should approach each other.

## Young persons' showcase events

Events during the past year have included:

- Gateshead Conference;
  - Festival 07;
  - Pioneers – the young people who are developing the young mentors scheme;
  - Kidz Karnival, Scarborough;
  - Last Gig Before Christmas.
- ...to name but a few



## Youth councils/forums

- Youth councils and forums have been set up to get young people more involved in politics and to let them have their say. However, they have been a bit hit and miss across the County.
- This autumn a new approach has been taken and more youth councils are being set up. These will form a wider network of councils and groups (see panel below).
- To add to that a group of young people has also sat on a focus group to help identify the key spending priorities for the NYCC budget (£770m!)

## Better understanding

- Several workshops and seminars have been run for councillors to help them understand what young people want from councillors and how they can be better at engaging with them.
- A new electronic voting system has been adapted to use to get young people's input. This system was also used by us at the Young People's Conference in Gateshead (see report below).
- Councillor Tony Hall is the current Young People's Champion (YPC). The young people's development workers have reviewed the role of the YPC and their recommendations are with the executive members.

## Access

- A new team has been appointed to identify and find solutions to the barriers that young people with learning difficulties and disabilities face.
- We are also encouraging councillors to meet young people in schools and youth clubs. However, this needs to happen more often.

# Politics - it's not all bad

WHEN approached and asked to attend a conference about young people and politics I couldn't help but think I was in for a boring two days.

How wrong could I have been? It's not often you get to visit the Sage (a big glass conference building in Gateshead), eat food that has obviously eaten into someone's budget and play with an electronic voting system very similar to that used on Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?

Through all this fun it would be hard to believe we were discussing important issues such as the "hoodie" crisis and the legal age to vote.

What's even more surprising is that this wasn't all run by "adults". Me and a small group of young people actually ran a workshop, which other young people took part in and had the chance to express their views on politics.

- Jenni



## marks the spot

ELECTIONS are taking place to form youth councils in various localities across North Yorkshire, including Harrogate, Knaresborough, Pickering, Malton, Boroughbridge, Ripon and

Selby. Here's what will happen after the September 28 deadline for candidate nominations:

- October 1 for one week:** Meetings, mainly through schools, with prospective candidates;
- October 8 for two weeks:** displays of candidate publicity in schools;
- During w/c October 15:** Elections through schools and colleges;
- October 29:** Declaration of results;
- November 5:** First Youth Council meetings.

## Meet the editors



THIS issue's Young Times was written and designed by Jenni Myers and Roseanna Scott.



If you would like to get involved in writing or designing Young Times, contact Martin Feekins on 01609 533109 or email martin.feekins@northyorks.gov.uk