

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

YOUNG PEOPLE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

30 November 2007

Executive Member Briefing Notes

Issues considered over the last annual quarter:

Children & Young Peoples' Plan 2006-2009 Year 2 Revision. The revised version of this plan has now been published.

Visits to all the Scarborough and Harrogate Offices and Residential Centres. These have been undertaken by Paul Nixon and I. These visits were requested by the JAR Inspectors, and are proving to be very valuable. Further dates for visits to all other establishments are now in our diaries and will take place within the next few months.

County Wide MALAP (Multi Agency Looked After Partnership). The purpose of this partnership is to bring together all the various agencies working with Looked After Children. The partnership is chaired by Paul Nixon.

Strategic Safeguarding Board. This Board has taken over the work of the Area Child Protection Committee. The Board is made up wholly of professional officers concerned with safety and protection of our children. As it is the responsibility of the Lead Member, I now attend to observe their work.

YOT Board (Youth Offending Team). Funding is still an issue despite more investment by this authority and the Police last year. However work has improved greatly and reparation is now being used where possible.

Talking About Care Conference. Was held in Harrogate in early October and attended by representatives from most of the northern authorities. There were excellent speakers, but it was the workshops that were particularly informative. e.g. Corporate Parenting and Treatment Foster care.

Restorative Practice. Training by two American experts took place in Harrogate last month. This practice, I believe, could be helpful in many areas, particularly in schools coping with bullying etc.

SEN Update on Progress. A report has been to both the Executive and to full council on the progress made within the first year of this Review.

Children in Care Council. An initial meeting to explore the way this new Council is to be run has taken place with representatives of the young people in our care or leaving our care. We are expecting Government guidance to help put this in place by the spring 2008.

Numbers of Looked After Children. At present we have 413 LAC. The number has dropped over the summer.

Cllr Caroline Patmore
14th November 2007