

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

31 January 2014

**Sports funding to support primary school aged children****1.0 Purpose of Report**

To explain the current funding arrangements to support primary aged children in Physical Education and Sport and outline ways in which this funding can improve teaching and learning and extend sporting opportunities outside of the curriculum.

**2.0 Funding to support Primary aged children**

- 2.1 The government initially committed £150 million a year for the years 2013 to 2015 to improve the quality of and opportunities for PE and Sport in schools. The money will go directly to Primary School Headteachers to spend on improving the quality of sport and PE for all their children. In the latest Autumn Statement the Government announced the extension of the Primary Sports premium for the academic year 2015/16. Sport England is also due to launch a £18 million Lottery-funded scheme called the 'Primary School Sports Facilities Fund' to improve sports facilities in primary schools, to benefit both school children and the wider community.
- 2.2 The sport funding or 'premium' can only be spent on sport and PE provision in schools.

**3.0 Who is eligible**

- 3.1 All schools with 17 or more primary-aged pupils will receive a lump sum of £8000 plus a premium of £5 per pupil. Smaller schools will receive £500 per pupil for two years. In North Yorkshire that means that the smallest primary school will receive £7,500, and the largest £10.925 per annum. It represents over £5.5 million worth of funding across the county in the first two years alone.
- 3.2 With such an investment the government will expect to see an improvement in the quality of physical education and an increase in participation levels in competitive sport. This is intended to happen as a result of improved curriculum provision and increases in after school sport. Schools will be required to publish on their website details of both curriculum PE and provision beyond the school day. In addition the guidance to inspectors will be amended and OFSTED will then be required to comment on the quality and quantity of provision for physical education and sport.

**4.0 How should the funding be spent?**

- 4.1 Schools will have to spend the sport funding on improving their provision of PE and sport, but they will have the freedom to choose how they do this.
- Possible uses for the funding include:
- hiring specialist PE teachers or qualified sports coaches to work alongside primary teachers when teaching PE
  - new or additional Change4Life sport clubs ( maintaining a healthy weight)
  - paying for professional development opportunities in PE/sport
  - providing cover to release primary teachers for professional development in PE/sport
  - running sport competitions, or increasing participation in the school games
  - buying quality assured professional development modules or materials for PE/sport

- providing places for pupils on after school sport clubs and holiday clubs.

## **5.0 Recommendations**

5.1 The Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the information in this report.

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