

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**YOUNG PEOPLES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**29 JUNE 2018**  
**NORTH YORKSHIRE COAST OPPORTUNITY AREA UPDATE**

**Reference Documents:**

**Delivery plan for the North Yorkshire Coast Opportunity Area**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/675038/Social\\_Mobility\\_Delivery\\_Plan-NYC.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/675038/Social_Mobility_Delivery_Plan-NYC.PDF)

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This document outlines the progress to date on the North Yorkshire Coast Opportunity Area (NYCOA) Programme.

**2.0 CONTEXT**

2.1 The Opportunity Area programme was announced by the then Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening, in October 2016. There are 12 Opportunity Areas across the country in which the Department for Education (DfE) will invest funding of £72 million before the end of March 2020. These areas were identified as social mobility 'cold spots' following the 2016 State of the Nation report by the Social Mobility Commission. A full list of Opportunity Areas is included in Annex A.

2.2 The North Yorkshire Coast Opportunity Area covers Scarborough, Whitby and Filey. It is led by a Partnership Board chaired by Sir Martin Narey. The Board consists of local school leaders, as well as individuals drawn from business and the public and voluntary sectors. The programme is run by a local programme director working for North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). A list of Partnership board members can be found in Annex B.

2.3 The North Yorkshire Coast was chosen as an opportunity area because of well-recognised challenges in improving outcomes for young people in education and in later life. More information can be found in Annex C, but the evidence for this includes:

- In 2016, some 400 children failed to reach a good level of development – at a time of critical development in a child's life;
- All pupils in the area are underperforming in maths at GCSE – with both attainment and progress poor. In 2016, at the end of KS4, disadvantaged pupils attained almost 9 percentage points lower than disadvantaged pupils nationally;

- At the end of year 1, just over a quarter of children do not reach the expected standard in phonics (40% of young people on free school meals). Children not securing sound phonetic knowledge fall behind their peers from the start of their schooling. Key stage 2 attainment and progress in reading is also below national average for all children and disadvantaged children; and
- Those schools with the highest levels of deprivation have the weakest outcomes for pupils at end of key stage 4 – achievement is lower than the national average for all, but particularly for disadvantaged pupils (35.6 compared to 41.2 nationally). Some 2,000 young people currently do not have a place in a good or outstanding school.

2.4 The delivery plan for the NYCOA was published in October 2017. The plan identified four priority areas: Early Years, Literacy, Numeracy and improved Secondary Schools. It also identified four critical enabling themes: mental health, teacher talent management, skills for employment and aspiration and ambition.

2.5 The content of the delivery plan builds on the successes of the Scarborough Pledge – a £750,000 investment by NYCC to raise aspirations and improve prospects for children and young people. Projects funded by the Pledge will continue until the end of August 2018 and have included: intensive support for language development at Primary Schools and opportunities for young people to engage in cultural activities through the Stephen Joseph Theatre.

2.6 The Partnership Board meets monthly and considers funding proposals that will deliver the objectives stated in the NYCOA Delivery Plan.

### **3.0 ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE**

3.1 Initiatives and projects have already begun with support from the NYCOA programme.

#### **3.2 Early Years:**

- 13 early years settings have had assessments to improve early years teaching and practice. This will help the development of improvement plans and professional development opportunities that strengthen the interaction between adults and children and support all children to get ahead start in life.

#### **3.3 Numeracy:**

- An investment of over £100k will create a Maths Centre that builds leadership in the area, working with the Yorkshire Ridings Maths Hub, and initially focusses on primary schools. 2 primary mastery specialists have been recruited and 8 schools are now working towards mastery (an evidence based approach to teaching maths). Over 30 schools have signed up to participate in training opportunities.

### 3.4 Literacy:

- The programme has partnered with the National Literacy Trust to launch a literacy hub that will engage parents, schools and children in innovative events that promote a love of reading. Activity will begin from September 2018.
- The Thinking Reading programme will support readers in secondary schools who have fallen behind to catch-up with their peers quickly and permanently.
- Over 20 schools have signed up to receive additional support in the development of speech, language and communication skills of children. This is led by Overdale school, with schools benefiting from being able to respond to children according to their level of need and current development.

### 3.5 Secondary Schools

- A new approach to recruiting teachers across the area is being implemented, with dedicated resource to attract, develop and keep teachers in the area.
- The Careers & Enterprise Company are working with all secondary schools to help young people secure at least four high quality encounters with the world of work. This is being supported by the enthusiasm and commitment of local employers, particularly Sirius Minerals, GCHQ and Dale Power Solutions.

### 3.6 Critical Enabling Themes

- Schools and youth-led groups have bid for up to £5k funding to deliver a distinct social mobility project that is linked to the objectives in the delivery plan. 11 projects have been supported so far, these range from work to increase recruitment and retention at university with Scarborough Sixth form, investment in East Ayton Primary School's approach to outdoor learning and support to upgrade the library in Airy Hill Primary School.
- Support is available to all schools to develop the resilience of pupils in learning and in life. This is a partnership between NYCC, the Esk Valley Teaching Alliance and Compass Buzz to provide training and develop a 'community of practice'.

### 3.7 Cross-cutting achievements

- £820k is being invested in extra-curricular activities through the Essential Life Skills Fund, which is being run with the Stronger Communities team. Awards have already been made to: the Stephen Joseph Theatre, North Yorkshire Youth, North Yorkshire Sport, Northstead Community Primary School, Creative Briefs and NYMAZ.
- Nearly 300 education professionals attended an event with Dame Alison Peacock (the Chief Executive of the Chartered College of Teaching) as

part of a National Speakers programme. We will promote it as a fantastic area to live, teach and learn by inviting the leading speakers on education and social mobility.

- The North Yorkshire Coast Research School was launched in January 2018. The Research School is working with schools across the area to support evidence-driven practice.

#### **4.0 CHALLENGES**

4.1 Urgent progress is needed on a number of priority areas, including secondary school improvement, the attendance and behaviour of some students and support to promote the importance of the home learning environment in outcomes for young people.

#### **5.0 COMMENTARY: LOOKING AHEAD**

5.1 The programme must continue to invest in ambitious, evidence-based approaches to improve outcomes for young people and to boost social mobility.

5.2 The programme must embrace partnership working across the most diverse group of stakeholders. This should particularly focus on cross-service working within CYPS to develop coherent and effective support for young people, particularly vulnerable groups and those from more disadvantaged backgrounds.

### **STUART CARLTON CORPORATE DIRECTOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES SERVICE**

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21 June 2018  
Background documents – Nil

## **Annex A – Opportunity Areas across England**

The 12 opportunity areas are:

- West Somerset
- Norwich
- Blackpool
- North Yorkshire Coast
- Derby
- Oldham
- Bradford
- Doncaster
- Fenland and East Cambridgeshire
- Hastings
- Ipswich
- Stoke-on-Trent

## **Annex B – North Yorkshire Coast Opportunity Area Partnership Board**

The Programme's Partnership Board is chaired by Sir Martin Narey. Sir Martin is a highly experienced senior leader – and resident of Whitby. Sir Martin's career developed in the Prison Service, leading to his appointment as CEO and Director General for the National Offender Management Service in 2003. In 2005, he took the role of CEO for leading children's charity Barnardos. Sir Martin is currently a non-executive director at the Ministry of Justice and adviser to the government on children's social care. Sir Martin was made Knight Bachelor in 2013 for services to vulnerable people.

### Partnership board members

- Andrew Galbraith: Headteacher, Ebor Academy Filey
- Annabel Jelley: Head of Skills, York, North Yorkshire & East Riding Enterprise Partnership
- Craig Gaskell: Provost, Coventry University, Scarborough Campus
- David Read: Headteacher, Scalby School, and CEO, Scalby Learning Trust
- Gareth Edmunds: Director of External Affairs, Sirius Minerals
- Jane Douglass: Executive Headteacher and National Leader of Education (NLE), Castleton and Glaisdale Primary Schools and teaching school lead, Esk Valley Teaching School Alliance
- Jane Pepper: Headteacher of Childhaven Nursery School, NLE and teaching school lead, Scarborough Teaching School Alliance
- Mel Bonney-Kane: CEO, Coast and Vale Community Action
- Stuart Carlton: Director of Children and Young People's Services, North Yorkshire County Council

The meetings are also attended by Janet Renou (Regional Schools Commissioner), Alison Wilson (Department for Education Head of Delivery and Area Lead) and Richard Benstead (Programme Director) who provide advice and support to the partnership board

# Despite strengths and recent achievements – there are huge challenges



**312<sup>th</sup>**  
out of 324 districts

– the North Yorkshire Coast's ranking in the Social Mobility Index\*. The Index compares the chances that a child from a disadvantaged background will do well at school and get a good job in areas across the country.

