



Agenda

Notice of a public meeting of Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

To: Councillors Janet Jefferson (Chairman), Gillian Quinn (Vice Chair), Val Arnold, Lindsay Burr MBE, Stephanie Duckett, Mel Hobson, Cliff Lunn, Stuart Martin MBE, John Mann, Zoe Metcalfe, Richard Musgrave, Joe Plant and Annabel Wilkinson.

Co-opted Members: T Cavell-Taylor, S Maltby, D Sharp, R Strachan and David Watson

Date: Friday, 26th February, 2021

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Remote Meeting

Pursuant to The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, this meeting will be held using video conferencing with a live broadcast to the Council's YouTube site. Further information on this is available on the committee pages on the Council website - <https://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk/>

The meeting will be available to view once the meeting commences, via the following link - www.northyorks.gov.uk/livemeetings. Recording of previous live broadcast meetings are also available there.

Business

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2020** (Pages 3 - 8)
3. **Any Declarations of Interest**
4. **Public Questions or Statements**
Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have delivered notice (to include the text of the question/statement) to Ray Busby of Policy & Partnerships (*contact details below*) no later than midday on Tuesday 23 February 2021. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:-

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or e-mail

Website: www.northyorks.gov.uk

- at this point in the meeting if their questions/statements relate to matters which are not otherwise on the Agenda (subject to an overall time limit of 30 minutes);
- when the relevant Agenda item is being considered if they wish to speak on a matter which is on the Agenda for this meeting.

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Chairman who will instruct those taking a recording to cease while you speak.

5. Chairmans remarks

Any correspondence, communication or other business brought forward by the direction of the Chairman of the Committee.

6. Portfolio Holder Statement and Update to Committee - County Councillor Patrick Mulligan

The Chair has invited the Portfolio Holder to give an update on educational issues facing the local authority

7. Portfolio Holder Statement and Update to Committee - County Councillor Janet Sanderson

The Chairman has invited the Portfolio Holder to address the committee on the impact of the pandemic on NYCC children's social care.

8. Review of Traded Services in Education and Skills due to Covid-19 (Pages 9 - 16)

The committee review the report of Corporate Director for Children and Young Peoples Services, considered at the Executive meeting on the 16 February 2021, which addressed the financial shortfall facing the Outdoor Learning Service due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.

9. Work Programme (Pages 17 - 22)

Purpose of the Report – To consider, amend and adopt the committee's work programme for the remainder of the municipal year

10. Other business which the Chairman agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances

Barry Khan
Assistance Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

18 February 2021

North Yorkshire County Council

Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 11 December 2020 at 10am.

Present: County Councillor Janet Jefferson in the Chair.

County Councillors: Val Arnold, Lindsay Burr MBE, Stephanie Duckett, Cliff Lunn, Zoe Metcalfe, Richard Musgrave, Gillian Quinn, Joe Plant and Annabel Wilkinson.

Co-opted Members: Stephen Maltby (Primary Teacher Representative). David Sharp (North Yorkshire Youth), Ross Strachan (Secondary Teacher Representative) Tom Cavell-Taylor (Governor representative) and David Watson (North Yorkshire Sport)

Portfolio Holders: Cllrs Patrick Mulligan and Janet Sanderson.

Officers: Ray Busby (Principal Scrutiny Officer (Central Services)), Stuart Carlton, Howard Emmett (Assistant Director - Strategic Resources (CYPS) Integrated Finance (CSD)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stuart Martin MBE,

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

201. Minutes

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2020 having been printed and circulated be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

202. Any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest to note.

203. Public Questions

There were no public questions or statements

204. Covid Winter Grant Scheme - funding allocation for North Yorkshire County Council

Considered –

A report of the Corporate Director for Children Services:

- a) responding to the committee's request for information on how the Children and Young Families Service is supporting vulnerable children and families during the Covid pandemic;
- b) setting out the funding allocation for North Yorkshire County Council and the conditions of grant relating to the Covid Winter Grant Scheme; and
- c) setting out the local eligibility framework and the approach which will be deployed for the Covid Winter Grant allocation to support vulnerable households and families with children affected by the pandemic.

The committee noted that the Chief Executive acting under Emergency powers had agreed these proposals.

Howard Emmett and Stuart Carlton explained that, in the autumn, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), announced funding for local authorities to meet this objective. Prompt action was essential if we were to be ready to deliver the scheme by early December 2020.

Howard took members through the details of the scheme and how it would be implemented in North Yorkshire.

Members expressed their support for the principle of a scheme of grant payments to schools and academies, early years' providers and post-16 schools and colleges. Funding allocations will also be made to support eligible Care Leavers and through the North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund (NYLAF).

Members agreed that the framework sets out the conditions very clearly.

Resolved –

- a) That the report be received.
- b) Members expressed the view that:
 - (i) The eligibility framework agreed would ensure North Yorkshire County Council's allocation of £1,435,400.85 was being deployed wisely and effectively.
 - (ii) The grant will undoubtedly provide support to vulnerable households and families with children particularly affected by the pandemic throughout the winter period where alternative sources of assistance may be unavailable.

205. Portfolio Holder Statement: Free School Meals and related matters

Considered –

Cllr Patrick Mulligan updated the committee on Free School Meals and related matters. He expanded upon the issues covered by the Covid Grant report.

Schools and colleges receiving allocations should organise the purchase and distribution of food vouchers or supermarket vouchers for eligible households and individuals. To enable households and individuals to retain maximum choice in their purchase of food and essential items, those recipients should avoid the purchase and distribution of hampers, without the prior written consent of the Council. To minimise the risk of fraud, recipients should not, under any circumstances disburse the grant as cash payments to households.

All these measures had scrutiny members' support.

Resolved –

That the information given be noted

206. Coastal Opportunities Programme

Considered –

Presentation by Richard Benstead, Programme Director, North Yorkshire Coast Opportunities Area, Education and Skills (CYPS)

Richard explained that the opportunity area has achieved so much since the early successes of the Scarborough Pledge - a £750,000 investment by NYCC to raise aspirations and improve prospects for children and young people. In July 2020, the programme was extended for a further year to August 2021 and an additional £1m was allocated.

The scheme's successes include:

- Raised attainment in In Key Stages 1 and 2 across the borough.
- Improved Behaviour and Exclusion rates.
- Recruitment: Filled 200+ teacher and support role vacancies across 43 schools, bringing 38 teachers and support professionals from outside the area.
- Improved access and provision of speech and language support.
- Initiatives to improve and encourage a love of Maths.
- Initiatives to improve Literacy.

Richard highlighted some of the challenges that remain:

- The programme is currently funded only until August 2021.
- Scarborough remains well below the national average in all indicators of attainment in education. Covid-19 is having a further negative impact on attainment in the area and future social mobility.
- There are a small number of bigger primary schools with high levels of disadvantage and lower levels of attainment –some are maintained schools and others are academies. Attempts to improve these schools have had limited successes.
- Attainment in secondary schools has shown limited improvement. However, this has been a time of considerable change in secondary schools. Those with weaker performance now have stronger leadership and there are signs of further improvement.

Members agreed that clearly much of the success comes down to having a dedicated and significant resource. This has enabled genuinely positive outcomes to be achieved in terms of tackling disadvantage and underachievement.

Recognising, however, that performance has not been consistent across all areas of the county, the Chairman stated that the challenge would be not only to sustain improvements in the medium and longer term but also to spread and share the lessons learned and embed good practice where possible.

Resolved-

- a) That the report be received.
- b) The Committee review again next year the continuing benefits and learning from the Coastal Opportunities programme

207. Impact of Covid on Youth Organisations

The committee discussed the Impact of Covid on Youth Organisations. The two co-opted members from the Community and Voluntary sector helped the committee understand the seriousness of the challenges.

Topics and themes covered in discussion included:

- For young people, and especially for vulnerable youth, the COVID-19 crisis poses considerable risks in the fields of education, employment, mental health and disposable income. Evidence shows that young people aged 12–24 years are one of the worst affected groups, particularly in terms of the labour market and mental health outcomes.
- Lockdown has significantly impacted on young people's wider relationships - at such an important time in their lives - the period between 12 and 24 is a critical time for creating and maintaining relationships with family, friends and the wider community.
- There are questions about the worsening impact of Covid upon youth organisations – especially those providers that help vulnerable young people thrive - creative arts, theatre, music, sports, outward leisure centres and what this means for their future operational sustainability.
- Nationally, youth services have taken a significant hit during the pandemic with an estimated one in five youth centres not expected to reopen after lockdown.
- Youth work is a massive community asset that builds confidence and boosts self-esteem. It aids personal relationships and helps young people manage personal and social relationships. These organisations tend to rely on volunteer work and already face major challenges in accessing sustained and flexible funding. Many youth organisations have been able to adapt their physical spaces and their operations, with limited resources, but for how long this can continue is in doubt.

Resolved-

- a) The committee recognised that reduced access to youth work provision, including outdoor activities, safe spaces and contact with trusted professional youth workers may have a significantly adverse effect on young people's physical and mental health.
- b) Members agreed to further their interest in this area, especially in relation to the provision of outward bound and leisure provision.

208. Work Programme

Considered -

The report of the Scrutiny Team Leader inviting comments from Members on the content of the Committee's Programme of Work scheduled for future meetings.

The Chairman reported that the Executive forward plan included an item in relation to the Youth Accommodation Pathway. The expected timing was such that, with members' agreement, this subject would be the main item at the next committee meeting. The expectation was that the committee would effectively be a consultee once the proposals were subject to a formal consultation process.

Resolved –

Members again confirmed the content of the Work Programme.

The meeting concluded at 12.20pm
RB

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Tuesday 16 February 2021

Review of Traded Services in Education and Skills due to Covid-19

Report of the Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Service

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. To seek approval to implement immediate short-term solutions to address the financial shortfall facing the Outdoor Learning Service due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. This would include mothballing both sites (include winterising both sites and draining down services, plus the installation and monitoring of CCTV systems) and commencement of consultation to reduce staffing.
- 1.2. To seek approval for a strategic review of the service with the ambition to ensure a long-term sustainable operating model is developed and established, subject to detailed consideration and approval of a business case by the Executive later in 2021.

2. CONTEXT

- 2.1. The Education and Skills Service has responsibility for the delivery of a number of key traded services for schools. Many services have been adjusted or restricted in their delivery over the last 12 months; small group music teaching is delivered via video link, training for teachers and governors has been digitalised and delivered remotely and although very few meetings have taken place in school buildings, much of the traded delivery has continued.
- 2.2. The Outdoor Learning Service (OLS) was forced to close to all customers in March 2020. Since this time Department for Education (DfE) guidance has advised against residential school visits. This guidance was most recently reviewed in November 2020, and no changes were made.
- 2.3. The income into the service each year is typically £2,257,400. This includes residential income (£2,105,600), outreach income (£137,800) and tenancy income (£14,000). There is no subsidy from the council's core budget. Staffing costs amount to £1,500,800 and in 2019-20 the outturn was a deficit of £78,813.
- 2.4. However, the forecasted outturn for 2020-21 as of Q3 shows a deficit of £984,182 if no immediate action is taken given the cessation of all income streams.
- 2.5. Management actions have been taken swiftly to ameliorate the financial position. The majority of OLS staff have been 'furloughed' under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and five staff are seconded to the Covid locality response teams until March 2021; relevant income for these staff have been accounted for in the forecast in 2.4. The current furlough scheme is due to end in April 2021.
- 2.6. Each year the service employs a group of trainees; eight staff were on fixed term contracts but these expired on 31 December 2020. One tutor is currently also employed on a fixed term contract and this will expire on 28 February 2021.

- 2.7. There are two sites used by the service. The Bewerley Park estate, comprising of a series of wooden buildings constructed immediately post-war, with an expected life span of 10-20 years, and East Barnby, a site currently subject to a lease with a break clause in 2023. The Bewerley Park site requires significant investment to maintain and improve the facilities; there is a capital maintenance backlog and the design and layout of the current buildings do not meet the demands and function required by a modern outdoor education centre. A strategic review of the service was planned in early 2020 but was put on hold due to the pandemic.

3. IMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19

- 3.1. From January to December 2019, 133 North Yorkshire schools and a number of schools outside of the county enjoyed residential visits to one of the Outdoor Learning Service centres. From a sample of 132 North Yorkshire schools surveyed in September and early October 2020, 97 schools indicated that they were still planning outdoor learning residential visits in the spring and summer term 2021 however, current guidance continues to prevent these from taking place.
- 3.2. Furthermore, it is important to note that when a school residential visit is arranged, a long lead in time is required for schools to seek commitment from parents to sign-up to, and financially contribute to the visit before the visit takes place. Due to the current closure of the service, it is expected that there will be a further time lag between an announcement of a change in government guidance and schools being able to confirm and undertake visits following a period of planning and consultation with parents and staff. The effect of the current public health and economic situation and their impact on schools and parents' willingness to commit to residential learning experiences is not yet understood.
- 3.3. The prospect of sufficient confirmed bookings of residential visits with numbers to produce a viable income for the service to balance its budget is unlikely to improve in the next financial year. When residential visits are permitted it is likely that risk mitigation measures will lead to much smaller sized cohorts accessing the residential centres at any time and this will significantly affect levels of income.
- 3.4. The current additional national restrictions mean that it is becoming increasingly unlikely that residential visits will take place in the spring term and there is continued uncertainty about the summer term of 2021 and beyond this into the autumn-winter season 2021-22.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The Outdoor Learning Service contributes to Young and Yorkshire 2 across at least seven of the nine priorities.
- Protect those at risk of harm
 - Encourage fun, happiness and enjoyment of life
 - Promote health and wellbeing through positive choices from conception to adulthood
 - Improve social, emotional and mental health and resilience
 - Reduce health inequalities
 - Equip young people for life and work in a strong North Yorkshire economy
 - Raise achievement and progress for all

5. **SHORT TERM PROPOSAL**

- 5.1. The proposal offering the most cost effective solution in the short term would see both sites being mothballed before the end of the financial year. This would necessitate a whole service staffing review.
- 5.2. The associated savings achieved through this proposal are detailed in the Forecast 2020-21 table below:

Proposal	2020/21
Property costs 'Mothballing'	£36,000
Forest/ Beach School Training- refund est	£12,774
Total Change from Forecast (Q3)/ Budget	£48,774
Current Forecast (Q3 excluding mothballing costs)/ Budget position	£984,182
Total Forecast Outturn	£1,032,956

- 5.3. The key risks associated with this decision are a loss of expertise in the service, the potential loss of customer base (should government announce plans for residential centres to re-open) and the impact of long-term periods of non-occupancy.

6. **LONG TERM SERVICE PROPOSAL**

- 6.1. Alongside the short-term proposal above, a long-term review of the service will be undertaken. In part, this is due to the need for significant re-investment in the building facilities for the service and at the highest level, the review would determine the requirements of outdoor learning provision for children and young people of North Yorkshire and match this to an operating model designed to deliver these educational requirements in the long term.
- 6.2. The staffing and estate requirements to re-launch and deliver a sustainable model would be evaluated upon the outcome of the review, and specific recommendations for the longer term future of the service would be brought back to the Executive for decision at that time.
- 6.3. It is intended that the review commence at the earliest opportunity so that associated service development plans can be established with minimal delay and disruption to existing customers. The ability to do this in a transparent and open arena would enable the council to seek the widest range of business delivery options, including partnerships with voluntary and community sector organisations.
- 6.4. The aims of the review have been identified as:
- Identify stakeholders and build a review team with a nominated business lead
 - Review the core objectives and benefits of the service
 - Review alternative operating models, taking into account a broad view of the outdoor activity market and competitors
 - Review the property and infrastructure position and provide costed options for improvement and/or replacement to support one or more proposals for re-launch of the service

- Provide a view of the commercial business case for the service, balanced against a realistic cost base including staffing, equipment, property and infrastructure investment so that the operating model is self-sustaining.
- Produce a strategic proposal for the future of the service, supported by an outline business case

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (SHORT TERM PROPOSAL)

- 7.1. Minimum losses to staffing and redundancy costs would be achieved if staff are successfully redeployed in like for like roles.
- 7.2. Redundancy costs are applicable for both STPC and NJC staff. The earliest redundancy date for individuals on school teacher pay and conditions is 31st August 2021 and notice would need to be served in May 2021. The job retention scheme (if available after April 2021) ceases to apply if employees are issued with notice. Maximum redundancy costs are expected to be £202,950, as detailed in the Spending Plan 2021-22 table below:

Proposed spending plan	2021/22
Minimum staff costs	£ 611,167
Staff savings- Furlough income estimate	-£ 52,604
Potential redundancy costs	£ 202,950
Potential pension strain costs	£ 47,553
Property Costs- Superintendent	£ 40,000
Property Costs- Rates	£ 36,000
Property Costs- Maintenance	£ 141,700
Property Costs- East Barnby Property Insurance	£ 3,900
East Barnby Lease	£ 10,000
Tenancy income	-£ 5,833
Total Budget	£ 1,034,832

- 7.3. Pension costs are approximately £47,553.
- 7.4. Mothballing costs of £36,000 include winterising both sites and draining down services, plus the installation and monitoring of CCTV systems.
- 7.5. Superintendent activity will be required to maintain a service and security schedule at both sites in order to cover insurance expectations. Property Services could fulfil this requirement at a cost of £20,000 per site per year from 2021-22.
- 7.6. Specific issues regarding the surrendering of the lease at East Barnby will require further investigation.
- 7.7. Other costs include estimates around disposal and subsequent repurchase of residential equipment, for example, mattresses that would be required after a substantial period of no use. However, the current reactive and preventative maintenance costs of up to £64,100 remain in the budget for 2021-22 and some savings will be made whilst the centres are mothballed.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. Potential legal implications regarding the lease arrangement for East Barnby and a potential long-term period of no occupancy.
- 8.2. Contractual arrangements around repair and maintenance of East Barnby, and requirements to continue maintenance to ensure compliance with the lease.
- 8.3. A small number of individuals have tenancy agreements at Bewerley Park linked to their employment. Where necessary, tenancy agreements would need to be terminated in line with legal requirements and notice periods.
- 8.4. Laying off staff is not considered an appropriate option.

9. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

- 9.1. A survey of 132 schools across North Yorkshire took place in September and October as to their intentions over the rest of the school year 20-21 (subject to government restrictions being lifted) with regard to educational visits, outdoor learning and residential visits. All schools planning an outdoor learning residential experience said they would consider an alternative delivery model if the residential element were not possible.

10. IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICES/ORGANISATIONS

- 10.1. There will be an impact on schools who wish to organise residential outdoor learning visits if government guidance is relaxed in the near future, and one or both of the centres is closed. During the first lockdown in summer 2020, the centres worked with Children and Families and hosted individuals in need of short-term placements. This might be possible again, if at least one of the centres remains open, but would require pre-planning to organise staff and facilities.
- 10.2. There could be an impact on out of county schools and non-school groups, with potential long-term loss of these customers. However good communication and involvement in the long-term strategic review could mitigate against this risk.
- 10.3. The short-term mothballing of the centres will require liaison with the Communications Unit to ensure appropriate public messaging is maintained.
- 10.4. Mothballing of the sites will require oversight from within Property Services to ensure the sites are maintained and kept secure and may require additional start-up costs after a period of mothballing. This would be factored into the long-term review.
- 10.5. The greatest impact is on children and young people having restricted access to the outdoors and outdoor learning opportunities. Purposeful experiences in the outdoors can be a catalyst for powerful and memorable learning. Education visits advisers in the school improvement service will continue to work with schools on maximising the potential of learning outside the classroom - in the local area.

11 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Suspending the residential offer may initially result in lower uptake in future years when the residential service is re-instated, as schools may break with their annual tradition, transfer to other providers (where these are able to open), move to a day outreach model or cease to return for future visits.

- 11.2 There is a risk of loss of existing personnel with experience and skills in outdoor learning. This would be detrimental to the service should the strategic review determine that the existing residential model is an appropriate future option, and this may affect the ability of the centres to re-open at pace.
- 11.3 In addition to this, there is a risk of additional costs to bring elements of the service (buildings, furnishings) up to an appropriate standard following the period of mothballing.
- 11.4 The Outdoor Learning Service has a long history delivering to generations of children in North Yorkshire. There is a requirement for careful communications to all stakeholders.

12 HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 Service staffing is 42 individuals in 31.7 FTE positions.
- 12.2 One tutor (28/02/2021) and eight trainee tutors (31/12/2020) were on fixed term positions that will not be replaced at the current time.
- 12.3 Staffing structure (directly employed staff from 1/1/21)

	Staff in post	FTE	Annual budget (funded by generated income)
Total directly employed staff	42	31.7	£1,200,402

- 12.4 It may be possible to redeploy some-facilities staff to Property Services, and for Property Services to provide on-going superintendent services at both centres to ensure contractor access and limit degradation and damage. It may be possible to redeploy domestic staff, including cooks and cleaners to Facilities Management. However, any redeployment of staff is dependent on there being vacancies and opportunities in the outgoing service.
- 12.5 Redeployment of business support staff (not shown in the table above) normally allocated to working in the service can take place into the Business Support Service.
- 12.6 Once decisions are taken around the future of the service, appropriate consultation with staff and unions will take place in line with NYCC policies and procedures and timeframes adhered to.

13 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 A full equalities impact assessment will need to take place as part of a staffing consultation.

14 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/BENEFITS

- 14.1 The impact of any renovation to the sites as a result of the long term review, in particular Bowerley Park, which is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, needs to be determined.
- 14.2 There is an added requirement to undertake a climate change impact assessment <http://nyccintranet/content/climate-change> prior to any proposal being presented to full council.

15 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1 Requirements around maintaining the site and additionally preventing misuse or vandalism will need to be managed through the CCTV monitoring and superintendent cover.

16 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 16.1 Postponement of a strategic review of the service occurred in early 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic.
- 16.2 The service is temporarily restricted in its activities due to DfE coronavirus guidance and this is unlikely to change in the timescales required to avoid significant financial shortfalls in the service during the current or next financial year.
- 16.3 As service costs are normally fully recovered through income generation, urgent action is required to address the forecast deficit for 2020-21 and to ensure the minimum impact into 2021-22. Reduction and potential redeployment of staff into vacant positions in other services could reduce the burden of staffing costs on the council during and after the furlough scheme ends, whilst income generation is continues to be negligible.
- 16.4 Increased awareness of the benefits of the outdoors will be capitalised upon by using other NYCC services to assist in marketing and promoting outdoor learning and leisure outreach activities.

17 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17.1 To commence the mothballing of both sites as soon as possible.
- 17.2 To commence a consultation with regard to reducing the staff levels, including through redeployment wherever possible and as soon as possible. The aim of this would be to retain sufficient expertise in the area but reduce the financial burden on the service.
- 17.3 To bring recommendations resulting from the strategic review for decisions later in the year.

Stuart Carlton
Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Service
County Hall
Northallerton

February 2021

Author of report – Amanda Newbold, Assistant Director – Education and Skills

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North Yorkshire County Council

Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

26 February 2021

Work Programme

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report invites Members to consider the committee's work programme for 2020/21, taking into account the outcome of discussions on previous agenda items and any other developments taking place across the county.
- 1.2 The work programme schedule is attached at Appendix 1.

2.0 Scheduled Committee dates/Mid-Cycle Briefing dates

2.1 Committee Meetings

- Friday 26 February 2021 at 10am
- Friday 25 June 2021 at 10am
- Friday 3 September 2021 at 10am
- Friday 10 December 2021 at 10am

Mid Cycle Briefing Dates

- Friday 16 April 2021 at 10am
- Friday 28 May 2021 at 10am
- Friday 23 July 2021 at 10am
- Friday 15 October 2021 at 10am
- Friday 28 January 2022 at 10am
- Friday 14 April 2022 at 10am

3.0 Youth Accommodation Pathway

- 3.1 At the last meeting the Chairman reported that the Executive forward plan included an item in relation to the Youth Accommodation Pathway.
- 3.2 The proposal puts forward options for the future commissioning of arrangements. A decision is required to approve the approach and to agree a public consultation with service users
- 3.3 The expectation was that the committee would effectively be a consultee once the proposals were subject to a formal consultation process. The expected timing was such that, with members' agreement, this subject would be the main item at your meeting today. However, the item has now been deferred to the 20 April 2021 Executive meeting. Your Chairman will invite the Committee to consider how it wishes to handle the matter bearing in mind the next scheduled Committee meeting is not till the 25 June, 3 days after the Executive is likely to be asked to review the consultation results and decide a course of action.

4.0 SACRE Annual Report

- 4.1 A number of members of this committee serve on the North Yorkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education. At the last meeting, the Annual Report for the School year 2019/20 was agreed for publication.
- 4.2 The report stands on its own - it needs no confirmation for any body or committee of the council. The SACRE Chair and supporting officers would like to raise awareness of the work SACRE does, as an advisory body, in advising the Local Authority on matters related to Religious Education and Collective Worship. The Annual Report is an ideal starting point.
- 4.3 It is suggested that Annual Report be taken to the upcoming Mid Cycle Briefing. This would certainly raise awareness and the profile of SACRE as it allows for a more in-depth, informal discussion on matters. Having discussed this with the SACRE Chair, who would attend the briefing to give a presentation; this might also be useful act as a trigger for discussion on matters such as promoting religious tolerance and understanding within educational settings.
- 4.4 Taking the report to an informal meeting should also put SACRE members and the Committee in a good position to take a view on how we might want to handle this exercise again next year.

5.0 Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is asked to confirm, comment or add to the areas of work listed in the Work Programme schedule.

DANIEL HARRY
SCRUTINY TEAM LEADER
County Hall,
Northallerton

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18 February 2021

Background Documents Nil

YOUNG PEOPLES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scope

The interests of young people, including education, care and protection and family support.

Meeting Details

Committee Meetings	Friday 26 February 2021 at 10am
	Friday 25 June 2021 at 10am
	Friday 3 September 2021 at 10am
	Friday 10 December 2021 at 10am
	Friday 25 February 2022 at 10am

Programme

Friday 25 June 2021 Committee Meeting at 10am			
LEAD	LEAD	LEAD	LEAD
Adoption procedures	An overview of Adoption arrangements, including planned work on the directorate's policies and procedures in relation to adoption.	Presentation – extending scope to service issues during pandemic.	Martin Kelly and Mel Hutchinson
Impact of Covid	How we supported vulnerable children and families. School preparedness and supporting schools to reopen. Educational poverty and closing the attainment gap. Impact on physical and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people. Impact on engagement, decision making and youth organisations	Presentation/briefing Report	CYPS
Young Carers	Especially those who support adults with mental health issues. The practical and emotional support made available to young people to ensure they enjoy and achieve, just like their peers. How NYCC works in partnership with schools, and GPs to identify young carers,	Consideration of Briefing Paper	

	raise much-needed awareness of their situation, and offer the support that they need, when they need it.		
Special educational needs and disability (SEND)	review progress on the SEND Strategic Plan – focussing especially on Targeted Provision at Mainstream Schools		Jane le Sage
CYPS financial position	1. Update on the latest financial position in relation to local authority maintained schools 2. highlight the areas presenting with the most significant financial pressures facing CYPS	Report	Howard Emmett
Friday 3 September 2021 Committee Meeting at 10am			
Children, Adolescents and the Media (online networks, social inclusion and bullying)	The challenging social and health issues that online youth experience. Benefits and Risks of Youth using social media. Examination of the core issues of bullying, popularity and status, depression and social anxiety, risk-taking, and sexual development.	Consideration of Implications. Particular focus on Cyberbullying and Online Harassment. Possible witness sessions.	
Education is our Greatest Liberator	Annual Attainment Report	Published Report	Amanda Newbold
School Place Planning – Shaping future education provision	Update on the overall picture, both current and forecast, in terms of pupil numbers in North Yorkshire schools and report on the issues and challenges for school place planning in North Yorkshire. (revisiting consideration by the committee in December 2017)	Report	
Friday 10 December 2021 Committee meeting at 10am			
Children's Safeguarding	Chair of NYSCP Executive and Independent Scrutineer's Annual Report	Discussion	Professor Maggie Atkinson

Mid Cycle Briefing Items at 10am

Date	Probable Item
Friday 16 April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scarborough Pupil Referral Unit – Lowering of Age Range. Consultation information

Date	Probable Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy Services - Extension of contract
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Covid Winter Grant Scheme
Friday 28 May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Schools – revisit material considered on the number of small schools, especially those in rural areas, which were finding it difficult to manage the financial pressures - a potential examination of recent cases of local authority maintained schools which had proceeded to full closure • Possible focus on Key Stage 2 attainment issues • Possible revisit of Elective Home Education
Friday 23 July 2021	Review/Update of the implementation of the Medical Education Service
Friday 15 October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions year review update. Overview of the customer journey. • Healthy Child Programme - progress and situation report
Friday 28 January 2022	
Friday 14 April 2022	

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