

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE

CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

8TH JUNE 2021

REPORT ON HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME (FEAST)

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 From December 2020 through to March 2021, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have operated a Covid Winter Grant Scheme, providing funding for local authorities to flexibly operate a local eligibility framework and approach to support vulnerable individuals and families. The scheme ended on 31st March 2021 although this has been unexpectedly extended for the Summer half-term period through the Covid Local Grant Scheme (CLGS). Both of these scheme are, in effect, replaced by a Department for Education (DfE) scheme – the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.
- 1.2 The Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) is intended to provide healthy food and enriching activities to disadvantaged children. Pilot schemes have operated in England since 2018, but has not previously been rolled out to North Yorkshire. The programme is intended to cover a minimum of one week at Easter, four weeks over the Summer and one week at Christmas.
- 1.3 The aim of the programme is to make free places available to children eligible for free school meals for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week, six weeks of the year. Local authorities – and partners – will have flexibility to determine how to deliver this level of provision to serve the needs of children and families in their area.
- 1.4 The DfE have stated that the local authority's co-ordinating role includes:
- a) mapping the holiday provision in North Yorkshire in order to ensure that holiday provision exists and is supporting the areas of greatest need;
 - b) establishing a steering group to support implementation and delivery and that should include representatives from a wide range of local bodies including local police and other uniform services, local public health officials, school leaders, youth services, social services, charities and the voluntary sector;
 - c) drawing in wider support to enhance the local programme e.g. bringing in funding from philanthropists, sponsors, food providers, supermarkets and local business;
 - d) developing a local plan for provision in the area, based on an understanding of local supply and demand;
 - e) ensuring that sufficient, adequate provision is available across the area for children with SEND/ additional needs;
 - f) awarding funding to holiday club providers in order to ensure there is enough provision to meet demand;

- g) supporting all providers to meet the framework of minimum standards (including safeguarding requirements and meals that meet school food standards) and to improve the quality of their provision;
- h) working with families to reduce dependency by providing nutritional education for children and educating families around purchasing and preparing healthy meals on a sustainable basis;
- i) promoting and advertising provision, including working with local schools and other agencies to encourage the most at need children to attend;
- j) working with other local services or agencies to ensure a joined-up and efficient approach, and;
- k) building local partnerships and sharing learning and good practice among local partners.

1.5 The DfE's stated objectives are that children who attend the provision will:

- i. eat more healthily over the school holidays
- ii. be more active during the school holidays
- iii. take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing along with their wider educational attainment
- iv. be safe and not be socially isolated
- v. have greater knowledge and health and nutrition
- vi. be more engaged with school and other local services.

1.6 Provision throughout the Easter holidays was based around home activity packs which were well received by eligible families. Summer provision will be delivered via face to face activities and this report will outline the planned arrangements for the programme. Following the summer provision a review will be carried out to inform planning for Christmas holiday provision.

1.7 North Yorkshire County Council has received an allocation of £1,319,400 (£132,680 relating to 2020/21 and £1,186,720 relating to 2021/22).

2.0 HAF SUMMER APPROACH

2.1 The steering group that was established for Easter provision - including NYCC services and Community and voluntary sector partners (including North Yorkshire Youth, North Yorkshire Sport, Rural Arts and Two Ridings Community Foundation) - has continued to plan for summer provision with the following activities being completed:

- Asset mapping of existing activities across North Yorkshire
- Financial modelling completed as per children's home postcodes to understand the face-to-face requirements throughout the county over the summer
- Eligibility process defined for children and young people to access free places within the programme
- Detail of provider application process agreed and plan for engagement with providers
- Evaluation of providers and how this will feed into the DfE reporting requirements

2.2 Whilst the local authority will exercise a co-ordinating role, NYCC will work with a lead provider (consortia of North Yorkshire Youth, North Yorkshire Sport and Rural Arts) to undertake some functions including:

- working with a range of local voluntary and community service organisations to build capacity with local groups and clubs and develop new groups, if required, to meet gaps in provision;
- mapping provision;
- award funding to local holiday club providers;
- support providers and help promote provision;
- help develop sustainable approaches;
- support and evaluate the community grant programme.

3.0 MODELLING AND SUB-COUNTY ALLOCATIONS

3.1 It is anticipated that c.£720k of the grant allocation will be deployed in support of summer activities. Modelling has been undertaken to provide indicative allocations by geographic location proportionate to the number of eligible children and young people. Actual funding deployment may differ from the indicative allocations depending on take-up by children and young people and supply of provision. Table 1 provides the indicative allocations:

Table 1: Indicative Allocations for Summer Activities by district area

Locality	Indicative Allocation (£k)	%
Craven	44	6.1
Hambleton	97	13.5
Harrogate	153	21.3
Richmondshire	49	6.8
Ryedale	58	8.0
Scarborough	193	26.8
Selby	97	13.5
Other	28	3.9
TOTAL	719	100.0

4.0 APPLICATIONS/ ENGAGEMENT

4.1 The engagement approach and application process for both providers and eligible children and young people is described below:

a. PROVIDERS

North Yorkshire Sport (as part of the coordination contracts with North Yorkshire Together) is managing the programming with local delivery partners. Invitations have been issued to over 200 local groups and organisations to submit bids to provide sports, physical activity, arts and activity clubs in line with the DfE requirements. It is likely that some of the clubs will provide a mixed programme. The application and due diligence process has been signed off by the Steering Group and applications will be evaluated by a sub-group. The coordination contract with North Yorkshire Together also includes an element of 'capacity building' in order that potential providers can be supported to

ensure their provision meets all the DfE guidance and robust arrangements are in place in regards to safeguarding, inclusion, food standards, covid safe practices etc.

b. ELIGIBLE PUPILS

The funding will be awarded to delivery partners on a subsidy per eligible child basis. Each partner will be awarded a fixed sum per child, per day to offer free place provision. Partners will set their own charges for non-eligible children. A sum of £2 per child per day is included for the food element. The funding model has been agreed based on an average of 50% take up however it is anticipated that take will be higher in the younger age groups and lower in the older age groups. All eligible families will be written to in late June advising them of how to access the provision, how to book places and how to claim their free places. The booking system is still being developed alongside the use of unique booking codes for free places.

5.0 FOOD PROVISION AND NUTRITIONAL ADVICE

5.1 The programme requires a nutritional meal to be provided for all eligible children as part of the activity. Delivery partners have been invited as part of the application process to indicate whether they are able to include the food element as part of their offer or whether they would need alternative provision. The DfE preference is for a hot meal to be provided that meets the school food standards. Provision of hot meals within the budget across the county is a significant challenge. Some venues will not have the necessary facilities for food preparation and there will be a limited number of delivery partners who will hold the necessary food hygiene certificates to include this as part of their offer. Various alternative options have been considered and the Steering Group has agreed that it will procure packed lunches for eligible children using existing procurement frameworks and these will be delivered on a daily basis, where necessary.

5.2 The programme also requires nutritional advice is made available to children and families. This will be provided by a regional partner who will provide a mix of face-to-face activities, recipe cards, and information and online resources.

6.0 TRANSPORT AND ACCESS

6.1 The programme will seek to offer clubs in the major population centres across the county, ensuring that higher levels of provision are available in the areas with the greater number of eligible pupils. However, it will not be possible to guarantee provision in every locality. It is acknowledged that although there will be public transport options available in some areas, in others they will be limited. Options for car-sharing are being explored, the role of community transport and mini-buses and budgetary provision is being made to provide some additional transport to ensure equity of access. However, this is a significant challenge and the funding provided by DfE is unlikely to meet the cost of adequate transport.

7.0 SEND

7.1 All the provision included in the programme will be inclusive and universal. However, opportunities to partner with the county's special schools regarding specialist provision

will be explored to determine whether this programme could link in to any summer activities they may have planned. Similarly, opportunities to partner with any schools who have registered for the national Summer School programme will also be explored.

8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 For the local implementation of the scheme in North Yorkshire, an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) form has been undertaken and can be found at **Appendix 1**.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The original decision for the HAF programme, primarily dealing with the Easter 2021 period, was made by the Executive on 9 March 2021. Approval was given to delegate authority to the Corporate Director – Children & Young People’s Service to develop the framework and approach for planning and organising activities for Summer 2021 and Christmas 2021 consistent with the scheme aims and objective.

10.0 COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- 10.1 We will promote the holiday activity and food programme and encourage eligible families to take up their free place through a direct mail campaign. This will be delivered through schools at the end of June. We are also exploring other options for direct contact.
- 10.2 There is already a dedicated FEAST area of the North Yorkshire Together website. This will be updated with provider information and FAQs as well as outlining what the programme is about, who is eligible for a free place and how they take part.
- 10.3 North Yorkshire Together will build excitement on their social media accounts in the run up to the summer holidays, which we will help amplify through our own platforms and channels.
- 10.4 General awareness of the programme will be achieved through a combination of print, broadcast, digital and social media content starting mid-June.
- 10.5 We will ensure North Yorkshire schools are ambassadors for the programme by engaging heads and teachers through the Red Bag, head teacher leadership meetings and via school improvement leads. Schools are a key conduit in making sure there is good take-up. A survey to schools will help identify any barriers to participation.
- 10.6 The marketing and communications plan also outlines how we will maximise provider engagement to deliver sufficient countywide availability of places through regular contact from North Yorkshire Together partners.

11.0 EVALUATION OF THE SCHEME

- 11.1 The DfE require regular monitoring information and this has been built in to the contracting arrangements with delivery partners. The programme will also be subject to national evaluation by the DfE evaluation partner Ecorys. No details have been received to date on what this will cover or how this will be undertaken.

12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 It is recommended that the Corporate Director in conjunction with Executive Members endorse the approach to the local implementation of the Holiday Activities and Food programme in North Yorkshire for Summer 2021.

STUART CARLTON

Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Service

Report Prepared by Howard Emmett, Assistant Director – Strategic Resources

Background documents

Report to the Executive, 9 March 2021

[Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 9th March, 2021, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire County Council](#)



North

Yorkshire County Council

Equality impact assessment (EIA) form: evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

(Form updated April 2019)

Holiday Activity and Food Programme

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please contact the Communications Unit on 01609 53 2013 or email communications@northyorks.gov.uk.



যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are public documents. EIAs accompanying reports going to County Councillors for decisions are published with the committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting. To help people to find completed EIAs we also publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of our website. This will help people to see for themselves how we have paid due regard in order to meet statutory requirements.

Name of Directorate and Service Area	Central Services, Stronger Communities CYPS, Children & Families, Inclusion, Education & Skills
Lead Officer and contact details	Howard Emmett Howard.Emmett@northyorks.gov.uk
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the EIA	Alice Wild, Project Manager Marie-Ann Jackson, Head of Stronger Communities Howard Emmett, Assistant Director, Strategic Resources (CYPS)

How will you pay due regard? e.g. working group, individual officer	Working Group
When did the due regard process start?	4 th January 2021

Section 1. Please describe briefly what this EIA is about. (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)

From December 2020 through to March 2021, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have operated a Covid Winter Grant Scheme, providing funding for local authorities to flexibly operate a local eligibility framework and approach to support vulnerable individuals and families. The scheme ends on 31st March 2021 and has been followed with a time-limited Covid Local Grant Support (CLGS) scheme for the Summer term half-term break. Both of these schemes are replaced by a Department for Education (DfE) scheme – the HAF programme.

The Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) is intended to provide healthy food and enriching activities to disadvantaged children. Pilot schemes have operated in England since 2018, but has not previously been rolled out to North Yorkshire. The programme is intended to cover a minimum of one week at Easter, four weeks over the Summer and one week at Christmas.

The rationale behind the scheme is that families may experience increased pressure points in holiday periods because of increased costs – such as food or childcare – and reduced incomes. This potentially leads to holiday experience gaps with children from disadvantaged families less likely to access organised out-of-school activities, more likely to experience ‘unhealthy holidays’ in terms of nutrition and physical health, and more likely to experience social isolation.

The programme, therefore, seeks to provide consistent and accessible enrichment activities which involve children, and parents, in food preparation. Local authorities are expected to coordinate free holiday provision for all children who receive benefits-related free school meals. Not all eligible children are expected to participate.

The aim of the programme is to make free places available to children eligible for free school meals for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week, six weeks of the year. Local authorities – and partners – will have flexibility to determine how to deliver this level of provision to best serve the needs of children and families in their area.

Section 2. Why is this being proposed? What are the aims? What does the authority hope to achieve by it? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)

The programme’s intended objectives are that children who attend the provision will:

- eat more healthily over the school holidays
- be more active during the school holidays
- take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing along with their wider educational attainment
- be safe and not be socially isolated
- have greater knowledge and health and nutrition
- be more engaged with school and other local services

Section 3. What will change? What will be different for customers and/or staff?

This will be a positive change for eligible children to elect to participate in the scheme.

There will be no long-term changes for staff. Some additional work will be required from Stronger Communities, Finance, Strategy and Performance, Libraries, Education & Skills, Procurement, Project Management, Early Help, Public Health and SEND teams in the short term.

Some additional work was required from schools to distribute the activity packs to eligible children for the Easter holidays.

Section 4. Involvement and consultation (What involvement and consultation has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results? What consultation will be needed and how will it be done?)

No formal consultation is required as part of this process however schools will be communicated with via the Red Bag and letters. Updates will be added to the NYCC website and social media where relevant. The steering group will engage Locality boards comprising school leaders to discuss the implementation of the scheme for Summer 2021.

No face-to-face provision took place over the Easter holidays. Face-to-face provision will take place over the summer holidays and planning is currently underway for this. Providers will be engaged with directly through email / letters / contracts to be part of the scheme, the provider application is currently live until June 2021.

All information about the scheme for parents, carers, children and young people will be available on the North Yorkshire Together website.

Section 5. What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

It is not anticipated that there will be any impacts on Council budgets.

Section 6. How will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics?	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
Age		X		There will be a positive impact for children and young people who are eligible for the scheme during the school holidays.
Disability	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and disability will not be taken into account as part of this.
Sex	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and sex will not be taken into account as part of this.

Race	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and race will not be taken into account as part of this.
Gender reassignment	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and gender reassignment will not be taken into account as part of this.
Sexual orientation	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and sexual orientation will not be taken into account as part of this.
Religion or belief	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and religion or beliefs will not be taken into account as part of this.
Pregnancy or maternity	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and pregnancy or maternity will not be taken into account as part of this.
Marriage or civil partnership	X			Places as part of the scheme will be provided to children and young people who are eligible and marriage or civil partnership will not be taken into account as part of this.

Section 7. How will this proposal affect people who...	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
..live in a rural area?		X		<p>There will be a positive impact for children and young people during the Easter holidays who live in a rural area; if a child or young person is eligible, they will receive an activity pack.</p> <p>There may be a positive impact for eligible children and young people who live in a rural area if provision during the summer holidays is available near to where they live that ordinarily would not be available unless part of this scheme.</p>
...have a low income?		X		There will be a positive impact for children and young people during the Easter holidays who live in a low income family; if they are eligible for the scheme they will receive an activity pack.

...are carers (unpaid family or friend)?		X		This may have a positive impact for any young people who are carers and are eligible for the scheme as they will receive an activity pack during the Easter holidays and access to face-to-face provision during the summer holidays.
--	--	---	--	---

Section 8. Geographic impact – Please detail where the impact will be (please tick all that apply)	
North Yorkshire wide	X
Craven district	
Hambleton district	
Harrogate district	
Richmondshire district	
Ryedale district	
Scarborough district	
Selby district	
If you have ticked one or more districts, will specific town(s)/village(s) be particularly impacted? If so, please specify below.	
N/A	

<p>Section 9. Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men) State what you think the effect may be and why, providing evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that this will affect a combination of protected characteristics.</p>

Section 10. Next steps to address the anticipated impact. Select one of the following options and explain why this has been chosen. (Remember: we have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us)	Tick option chosen
1. No adverse impact - no major change needed to the proposal. There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact identified.	X
2. Adverse impact - adjust the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We will change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or we will achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people.	
3. Adverse impact - continue the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We cannot change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, nor can we achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people. (There must be compelling reasons	

for continuing with proposals which will have the most adverse impacts. Get advice from Legal Services)	
4. Actual or potential unlawful discrimination - stop and remove the proposal – The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It must be stopped.	
Explanation of why option has been chosen. (Include any advice given by Legal Services.) This will be a positive change for children and young people who are eligible for the scheme.	

Section 11. If the proposal is to be implemented how will you find out how it is really affecting people? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)

Monitoring will be completed as per the DfE requirements.

Section 12. Action plan. List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA, including post implementation review to find out how the outcomes have been achieved in practice and what impacts there have actually been on people with protected characteristics.

Action	Lead	By when	Progress	Monitoring arrangements
Steering Group to continue planning for delivery of scheme for Easter	Marie-Ann Jackson	19/03/21	Completed	To be completed as per DfE monitoring requirements
Steering Group to continue planning for delivery of scheme for Summer provision	Marie-Ann Jackson	28/05/21	On-going	To be completed as per DfE monitoring requirements

Section 13. Summary Summarise the findings of your EIA, including impacts, recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

The proposed framework and approach has a potential positive impact for children and young people and their families who are eligible for the scheme. There are no identified adverse impacts.

Section 14. Sign off section

This full EIA was completed by:

Name: Alice Wild
Job title: Project Manager
Directorate: Central Services
Signature: Alice Wild

Completion date: 28th May 2021

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Howard Emmett

Date: 28th May 2021