



Notice of a public meeting of

People Scrutiny Committee

To: Councillors J Burton (Chair), Waller (Vice-Chair), Clarke, Cuthbertson, Mason, Moroney, Nelson, Nicholls, and Runciman

Date: Wednesday, 3 December 2025

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: West Offices - Station Rise, York YO1 6GA

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive and note apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

(Pages 5 - 6)

At this point in the meeting, Members and co-opted members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest, or other registerable interest, they might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

[Please see the attached sheet for further guidance for Members.]

3. Minutes

(Pages 7 - 12)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2025.

4. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. Members of the public may speak on agenda items or on matters within the remit of the committee.

Please note that our registration deadlines are set as 2 working days before the meeting, in order to facilitate the management of public participation at our meetings. The deadline for registering at this meeting is **5:00pm on Monday, 1 December 2025.**

To register to speak please visit

www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings to fill in an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting, please contact Democratic Services.

Contact details can be found at the foot of this agenda.

Webcasting of Public Meetings

Please note that, subject to available resources, this meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The meeting can be viewed live and on demand at www.york.gov.uk/webcasts.

5. York Hungry Minds - Free School Meal Pilot Update (Pages 13 - 44)

This report provides members with an update on the work taking place York Hungry Minds project and on the development of the School Poverty Framework.

6. Early Years and Childcare Reforms (Pages 45 - 54)

The purpose of this report is to update members about progress on the implementation of the Early Years and Childcare Reforms and other related policy developments.

7. Housing Tenancy Policy (Pages 55 - 92)

This report proposes two Housing policy documents for future approval by the Executive Member.

8. Work Plan (Pages 93 - 106)

To consider the Committee's work plan for the 2025/26 municipal year.

9. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer

Reece Williams

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Scrutiny Officer

James Parker

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For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

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 (01904) 551550

Declarations of Interest – guidance for Members

- (1) Members must consider their interests, and act according to the following:

Type of Interest	You must
Disclosable Pecuniary Interests	Disclose the interest, not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.
Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related) OR Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)	Disclose the interest; speak on the item <u>only if</u> the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.
Other Registrable Interests (Affects) OR Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)	Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting, participate and vote <u>unless</u> the matter affects the financial interest or well-being: (a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interest or well-being of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward; and (b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest. In which case, speak on the item <u>only if</u> the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise do not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.

- (2) Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.
- (3) Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	People Scrutiny Committee
Date	8 October 2025
Present	Councillors J Burton (Chair), Waller (Vice-Chair), Clarke, Cuthbertson, Moroney, Nelson, Nicholls, Runciman and Hook (Substitute for Councillor Mason)
Apologies	Councillor Mason
In attendance	Councillor Pavlovic – Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities Councillor Steels-Walshaw – Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care
Officers in attendance	Pauline Stuchfield – Director of Housing and Communities Laura Williams – Assistant Director, Customer, Communities and Inclusion Sara Storey – Corporate Director of Adult Social Care Martin Kelly – Corporate Director of Children and Education Angela Padfield - Head of Adult Learning Service - York Learning James Parker – Scrutiny Officer

1. Apologies for Absence (5:34pm)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mason, who was substituted by Councillor Hook.

2. Declarations of Interest (5:35pm)

Members were asked to declare at this point in the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest or other registerable interest they might have in respect of business on the agenda if they had not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests.

Councillor Nelson declared an interest in item 5, Neighbourhood Model Update, in that her husband was a social worker at City of York Council (CYC).

3. Public Participation (5:35pm)

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

4. Minutes (5:35pm)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2025 be approved as a correct record.

5. Neighbourhood Model Update (5:35pm)

The Director of Housing and Communities and Assistant Director, Customer, Communities and Inclusion presented the report and noted that efforts had now moved on from design principles to building the Neighbourhood Model, in which the main aim was to ensure joint up local services and closer working together.

In response to questions from Members, the Director of Housing and Communities and Assistant Director, Customer, Communities and Inclusion confirmed that:

- Funding through the Housing Estate Improvement Programme (HEIP) was no longer available and had instead been replaced by funding available through the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan. Proposals would come through officers and members where necessary for local improvement priorities.
- There was an intention for community involvement to be included in the plan shortly and would grow organically and differently through differences in areas of the city.
- Areas of the city as identified in the plan were more for staff working in the areas than for residents and were not intended to be hard boundaries, as an example, someone in the East area could access services in other areas if it were geographically preferable. It was understood that people, especially in more rural areas, would need to travel for some services. If transport would be needed, then sustainable transport options would be considered, and this work would tie in with other council transport strategies.

The Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities highlighted that residents and councillors had the opportunity to identify schemes within communities, as done previously with funding through HEIP.

The Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care advised that some areas would need different services than other areas dependent on health needs among other reasons and as such work was ongoing with different areas to highlight necessity.

Members and Officers discussed the report and feedback was provided. The following points were made:

- Local estate Walkabouts needed to be better aligned, and work was continuing to ensure closer working between services.
- Residents in greater and more rural areas would need support as a large amount of travel may be required.

It was resolved that:

- i. The People Scrutiny Committee would request an update from Officers detailing the difference in responsibilities between Estate Workers, Public Realm, and Neighbourhood Caretakers, and that details of staffing levels and capacity of each team, with a geographic breakdown,

Reason: To ensure that members and ward councillors can see what coverage there is in their respective areas and enable the public and members to understand what can be done overall to tackle street level issues.

- ii. The People Scrutiny Committee would request an update from Officers on access to the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan.

Reason: To ensure that tenants and members can apply for funding improvements in their respective areas.

- iii. The People Scrutiny Committee noted the progress made on workstreams and considered any comments or recommendations for consideration in the November report to Executive.

Reason: To enable Scrutiny to contribute to the development of the Neighbourhood Model ahead of further work and reporting to Executive.

[The Committee adjourned from 6:40pm to 6:45pm]

6. Adult Social Care Strategy (6:45pm)

The Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care presented the report and noted that the strategy had been created with every resident in mind in order to allow them to live with dignity. It was acknowledged that CYC was currently underway on working on many of the next steps.

The Corporate Director of Adult Social Care highlighted that consultation had been extended and was open for a long period of time to receive feedback.

In response to questions from members, the Corporate Director of Adult Social Care, and the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care confirmed that:

- Valuing carers was important, and involvement of the carers action group had been sought through the strategy. As many carers didn't identify as carers more work could be done to improve the knowledge of support available to them.
- Much of the vision contained within the strategy was statutory, and Best Value guidance would be considered when considering all social care needs.
- Feedback from the formal adult social care questionnaire continued to be sought on a continuous cycle. The questionnaire as seen on page 42 of the agenda showed a snapshot of the data at the time of reporting. Feedback had also identified the need for a workforce development strategy.
- One main goal was for people's safety, but it was understood that this might not be people's first priority as people may take risks in order to live more independently etc.
- SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound) goals would follow in the next steps of the plan.

It was resolved that the People Scrutiny Committee:

- i. Supported the vision, commitments, approaches, and priorities outlined in the Strategy.

Reason: To allow a shared understanding of direction and purpose of Adult Social Care across the system.

- ii. Supported publication of the Adult Social Care Strategy.

Reason: To enable clear communication of the city's vision and priorities for adult social care.

- iii. Supported the next actions.

Reason: To enable clear accountability for implementation and delivery on the strategy and ensure continued involvement from interested parties.

7. York Learning 2024-2025 Strategic Plan Performance (7:18pm)

The Head of Adult Learning Service - York Learning presented the report and noted that the plan was based on an accountability agreement which must be agreed, before academic year, with the Executive. The Report showed how York Learning performed against the accountability agreement, and how government funding was used to achieve objectives.

The Head of Adult Learning Service - York Learning reported that Trailblazer was a project to help people with issues through health, access, and/or get back into work. York Learning help by investigating work vacancies and in helping develop CVs.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Adult Learning Service - York Learning confirmed that:

- Working with teachers from York College to teach learners in specific subjects to introduce a familiar face. To this end, cyber security was being taught to combat a gap in the job market for cyber security.
- York Learning are also providing a pathway via trailblazers for post-16 age education who are currently NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training), and who don't suit college education – which is a group of people where there was a lack of funding for.
- Development within York Learning had been made to ensure the organisation was best placed for supporting those whose achievements had been affected by mental health issues.
- Regarding functional skills maths achievement results, York Learning were working nationally with Government bodies and exam boards on different wording of questions to ensure that level 2 maths questions are written in level 2 English (equivalent to GCSE level).

- Bootcamps fit a specific funding stream and identified skills need which would be funded by the Government, and the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. Bootcamps did not run if they didn't fit the right criteria.

Resolved:

- That the People Scrutiny Committee considered the Strategic/Service Plan, as seen in the agenda, and approved it.

Reason: To help monitor the service and provide sound governance arrangement for York Learning Services.

8. Work Plan (7:44pm)

Resolved: That Members considered the Committee's workplan for the current municipal year.

Reason: To keep the committee's work plan for the 2025/26 municipal year updated.

Cllr J Burton, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.34 pm and finished at 7.45 pm].



People Scrutiny Committee

3 December 2025

Report of the Executive member for Children and Education

An update on York Hungry Minds and the School Poverty Framework**Summary**

1. This report provides the members of scrutiny with an update on the work taking place York Hungry Minds project and on the development of the School Poverty Framework. The framework is designed to bring together a number of strands of activity which are being led by schools to address the impact of poverty on educational achievement. This work also supports the city's Child Poverty Strategy and recognises the importance of removing barriers to education as being crucial to the long-term improvement in outcomes.

Background

2. Members of scrutiny previously received an update on the York Hungry Minds project in November 2024. This report provides the members of scrutiny with the opportunity to learn from the findings of the full evaluation report provided by the Universities of York and Leeds. The members of scrutiny will be provided with an update on the development of the School Poverty Framework and the role York Hungry Minds plays in this as an innovative approach to better understanding and tackling the barriers to education faced by children experiencing poverty.
3. In February 2025, the number of schools delivering York Hungry Minds increased from 2 to 3. Westfield and Burton Green were joined by Fishergate Primary, who have been supported to deliver a free school breakfast. The benefits reported by the interim evaluation of the two pilot schools, in terms of improved attendance, better behaviour and readiness to learn are being seen at Fishergate Primary.

4. After a successful launch in 2024/25 York Hungry Minds is now in a position to implement the breakfast offer through more schools and a further six schools have completed expressions of interest to be included in the next round of the delivery of the free school breakfast scheme. The York Hungry Minds scheme is uniquely different from the National Breakfast Scheme and as a result provides added value to the city's children through providing them with a 'soft' start to the school day. The independent evaluation of the project by the Universities of York and Leeds also provides an important evidence base to demonstrate the range of improved outcomes that have been achieved through the breakfast offer.
5. As a result of the success of the implementation of the York Hungry Minds pilot a broader Schools Poverty Framework is being developed and implemented across the city. There are various strands of activity sitting under this work which is involving a range of partners including York Schools and Academies Board (YSAB) through their leadership of work on fair admissions and Huntington Research School and Children North- East who are leading on the implementation of the Poverty Proofing Schools Audits. City of York Council have made a further investment in this work through the secondment of a 0.5 full time equivalent School Poverty Officer from the Ebor Academy Trust to lead on the co-ordination of the work with schools on the implementation of the school poverty framework (see Annex A).
6. The role of the School Poverty Officer is to develop a school poverty framework that focuses on a continuum of actions that schools can use to remove barriers to education and promote belonging for those children that are experiencing poverty. These actions include but will not end with:
 - The Poverty Proofing Schools Audit – Working across 7 schools initially, the Poverty Proofing Schools audit is a process for schools to identify and remove financial and social barriers that prevent students from disadvantaged backgrounds from fully participating in school life. It involves reviewing policies and practices to ensure they don't create stigma or exclude students with fewer resources. The goal is to create a more equitable environment where every child can access all opportunities and ensure that all children feel that they belong in school.

- School attendance - Attendance support visits to schools now include poverty to be explicitly discussed as part of the meeting. The newly formed graduated response includes the requirement to complete an Early Help Assessment that will ensure that schools are looking at all the factors that may impact on a child's attendance, to include their financial situation, access to services and wider support networks.
 - Trauma informed response – Using the ARC framework, looking at the impact of trauma as a barrier to education and supporting professionals to understand both their own experiences of trauma as well as reactions to working with trauma, allowing for a workforce that feels confident in forming attachments that encourage a child's sense of belonging.
 - Mental Health – Supporting schools to understand the impact of poverty on a child's mental health. Training is being developed to support schools to have a mental health strategy/curriculum that allows teachers to feel supported with their individual approaches to teaching and learning but embed a collective approach and ethos around how we support children's mental health on a day to day, lesson to lesson basis. This will include a focus on understanding the impact of language, environment, whole school culture, and leadership on a child's sense of belonging.
7. York Hungry Minds has proved successful in demonstrating that tackling the impact of hunger has a positive impact on the attendance and engagement with learning. It also has an important role to play in helping all children to feel that they belong.

Council Plan

8. The York Hungry Minds project and the School Poverty Framework is delivering the Council's corporate priorities listed below:
- a. **Health** – the delivery of the York Hungry Minds project is ensuring that primary age children receive a healthy breakfast or school meal, contributing to public health priorities to reduce childhood obesity and improve dental health;

- b. **Environment** – the delivery of the York Hungry Minds project is being used to monitor the impact of food choices on reducing food waste and the assessment of school kitchens is being used to improve energy efficiency;
- c. **Affordability** – the provision of universal free school meals has ensured that children have access to a good quality meal regardless of their ability to pay; promotion of reducing the costs of school uniforms and audits to poverty proof the school day are contributing to ensuring that children are able to engage fully in the life of their school regardless of their ability to pay and
- d. **Human Rights and Equalities** – the York Hungry Minds project has supported the human right to education and is addressing health inequalities through the provision of access to universal free school meals. The School Poverty Framework, which includes the poverty proofing audits, fair admissions charter and promotion of belonging is focused on reducing the barriers to education for children experiencing poverty.

Recommendations

- 9. Members of scrutiny are asked to support the work of the York Hungry Minds Project and the School Poverty Framework and to note the benefits of both to tackling child poverty in York.

Reason: The work described will provide valuable support to low income families and ensure that more children are able to have barriers to educational achievement removed so that their long term outcomes are improved.

Contact Details

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Tel No. 01904553007

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Martin Kelly
Corporate Director, Children and
Education

Report
Approved



Date 20 November 2025

Wards Affected: *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

All

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For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes:

Annex A: School Poverty Framework and Plan

Annex B: Policy Brief; York Hungry Minds: Evaluating Universal Free School Meal Initiatives

Annex C: Presentation slides; York Universal Free School Meal Pilot: Quantitative Analysis

Annex D: Presentation slides; York Hungry Minds: Qualitative Evaluation Findings

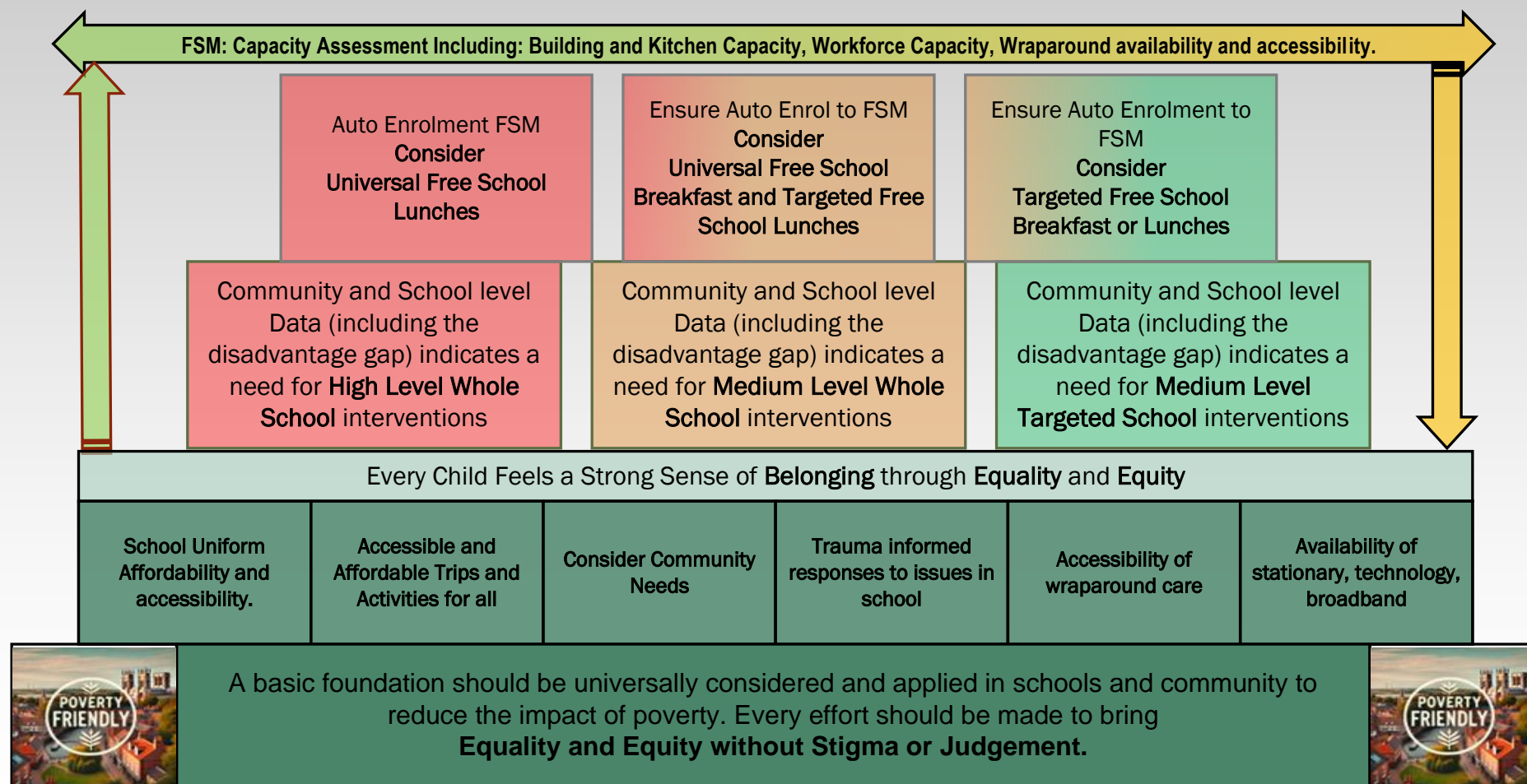
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A framework for addressing Child Poverty in York Schools

It is universally recognised that addressing child poverty requires intergenerational whole system change at a societal level, through better access to well paid jobs, affordable housing, accessible and targeted health care, equitable access to good quality early years and education along with strong community collaboration.

As we do more to address these systemic issues it is our collective responsibility across all public services to mitigate the impact of Child Poverty affecting young people now.

This framework enables us to consider these issues with a laser focus on the impact of food poverty.



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Research from the University of York, School for Business and Society and the University of Sheffield, School of Psychology and Institute for Sustainable Food.

York Hungry Minds

Evaluating Universal Free School Meal Initiatives

Aniela Wenham, Katherine Smith, Rebecca Kerr & John Hudson, University of York
Eloise Tann, Louise Dye & Neil Boyle, University of Sheffield

Summary

- The Universities of York and Sheffield conducted an evaluation of City of York Council's (CYC) Universal Free School Meal (UFSM) pilot, which included a breakfast club at Burton Green School and a free school lunch initiative at Westfield School.
- Qualitative and quantitative data indicates a number of positive outcomes associated with the provision of UFSMs at both schools, including enhanced readiness to learn, improved pupil wellbeing, and most notably improved attendance and reduced lateness over the course of the pilot.
- The importance of universality to the success of the policy is emphasised by both qualitative and quantitative elements of the research.

Recommendations for policy

For local and national policy makers:

1. The findings emphasise the importance of universality. The inclusion of all pupils, and ideally all schools within a locality, **reduces stigma** associated with accessing free school meals (FSMs) and **encourages uptake**.
2. With national trends indicating rising primary school absences since the COVID-19 pandemic, evidence from the pilot shows universal breakfast clubs **improve attendance, punctuality, and pupils' readiness to learn**.
3. Pilot schools highlight the need for **sufficient planning time** to implement UFSM, including addressing practical issues and developing **effective communication** strategies for parents and carers.
4. Policy-makers should consider the **long-term sustainability of funding models** for UFSM initiatives. **Staff and parents expressed concerns about the long-term viability of donation-based funding models**, especially in the context of food insecurity.

York Hungry Minds: Context of the Research

In January 2024, the City of York Council (CYC) launched a UFSM pilot (also known as “York Hungry Minds”) in two York primary schools. The pilot is supported by funding from both the CYC and the York Community Funds’ Hungry Minds Appeal. It included:

- A universal free breakfast club at Burton Green Primary School, an academy school;
- A universal free school lunch initiative at Westfield Community Primary School, a local-authority maintained school.

At time of the evaluation, on a national level there is an existing Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme, however, pupils in Key Stage two are generally only eligible for FSMs if parents or carers have an annual income below £7,400 (GOV.UK, 2024). In contrast, the York pilot adopts a universal model, making all children in the pilot schools eligible. Nationally, the government elected in July 2024 promised free breakfast clubs in all primary schools.

This research briefing provides key findings that will facilitate the broader implementation of UFSM across York, but also key messages for the wider national roll-out of the programme. Our evaluation focuses on key aspects of the universal offer, guided by the Council’s four core commitments around:

- Health
- The Environment
- Affordability
- Human Rights and Equalities.

It also focuses on pilot design, rollout, and processes to inform both longevity of the pilot, and lessons to expand the UFSM pilot beyond the two schools.

Methodology

We gathered available **quantitative anonymised data** from Burton Green School comprised of pupils’ termly attendance and lateness, end-of-year academic attainment from years 2 and 6, termly behavioural data and data on breakfast club attendance. Data from Westfield school lunch consisted of pupils’ daily lunch choice, termly academic attainment data and termly

attendance. In addition, each school provided the gender, year group and FSMs eligibility status of each pupil. Comparisons between the pupils who are eligible for FSMs, and those who are not eligible are used to demonstrate any specific impacts that the pilot programmes may have on children from more socioeconomically deprived backgrounds.

For the **qualitative analysis**, we conducted interviews with 11 members of staff at Westfield, 10 members of staff at Burton Green, 6 parents or guardians of pupils attending Westfield and 7 parents or guardians of pupils attending Burton Green. We completed interviews with staff and parents (n34) in August 2024. Additionally, we conducted 19 creative workshops, involving participatory and arts-based methods with over 100 pupils across the two schools.

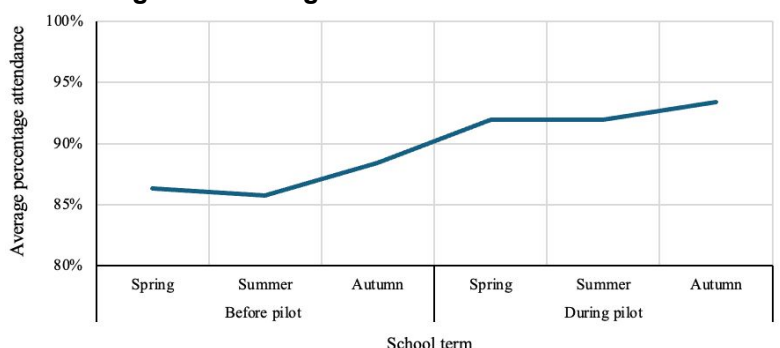
Key Findings

The pilot demonstrated strong evidence of positive impacts over a number of key areas:

Attendance and Punctuality

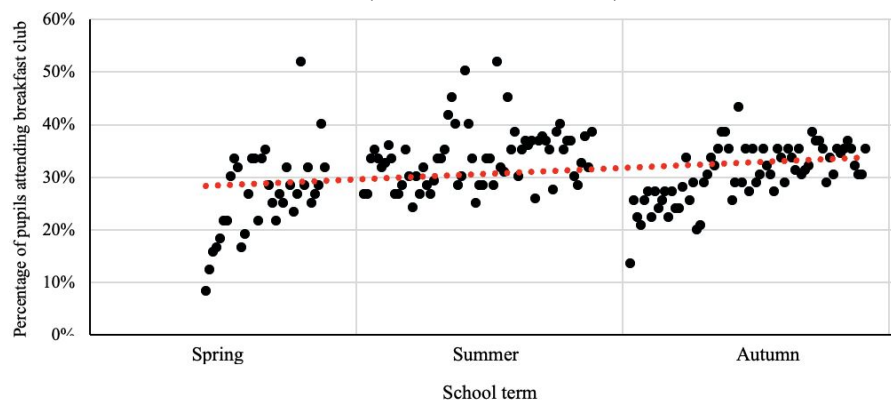
- Both schools in the pilot observed overall increases in attendance during the pilot.
- Quantitative data from Westfield School showed that attendance consistently increased over the pilot (Figure 1).
- Data from Burton Green School (Figure 2) showed that attendance consistently increased over the pilot amongst pupils eligible for FSMs (under the means-tested system) who attended breakfast club. While summer term attendance fell during the pilot (aligning with national trends), the steepest declines were among pupils not attending breakfast club.
- At Burton Green School, the breakfast club initiative reduced lateness among pupils. This trend was particularly evident among FSM-eligible pupils. These trends are also reflected in the qualitative data with staff at both schools commenting on the positive impacts of reduced lateness. Creative outputs from workshops with pupils also referred to busy morning routines, and how breakfast club meant ‘you don’t have to rush’.

Figure 1: Average Attendance at Westfield School



“It’s been amazing, my attendance has gone up massively...it wasn’t that the children weren’t coming to school, but I had quite a big cohort in my class that were late all the time, and that means that they’ve missed their learning at the start of the day”
(Burton Green School Member of Staff)

Figure 2: Daily Breakfast Club Attendance as a Percentage of Pupil Roll (Burton Green School)



"It's great ... nobody's penalised ... it's everybody across the board, so you're not segregating anybody and saying, oh, they're free school meals, and I think that helps, I really do think that helps as well"
(Westfield School Parent)

Education and Readiness to Learn

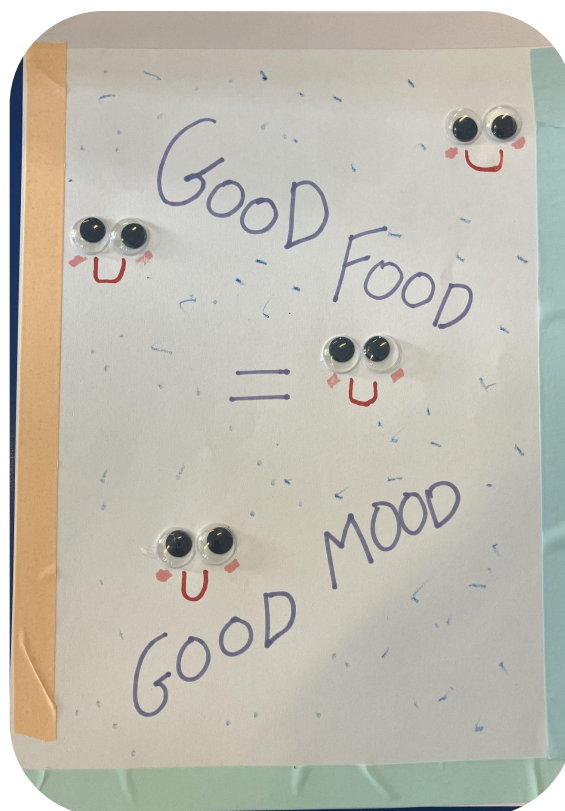
- A strong theme identified in staff interviews at Burton Green School was the impact of breakfast club attendance on pupil readiness to learn. The timing of the initiative at the beginning of the school day reduced lateness and also provided a social environment that was calming and facilitated positive interactions between children and adults that better prepared them for the school day.
- Staff at both schools described improvement in behaviour throughout the UFSM pilot. Staff noted fewer packed lunches at Westfield reduced intake of sugar and unhealthy food, with positive impacts on behaviour.
- Reduction in hunger was perceived to have a positive impact on behaviour in both schools. Staff at both schools referenced improved concentration and cognitive functioning amongst pupils. Similarly, during the creative workshops with pupils, discussions included how food gave them energy and helped them concentrate better in the classroom.

Children's Health

- There are overwhelmingly positive qualitative assessments of the healthiness, choice and quality of food provided at both schools. There was also evidence of children's overall relationship and engagement with food improving throughout the pilot.
- Improved consumption of healthy food was also shown in the quantitative analysis of breakfast and lunch uptake (regulated by strict food standards), and the reduction in packed lunches and unhealthy alternatives to breakfast (crisps, chocolate), observed by staff.
- Staff and parents also expressed some early indications of improvements to physical and mental health. As also expressed in creative workshops with pupils, there were strong indicators of the UFSM pilot's positive impact on wellbeing, happiness and mental health of pupils via improved mood regulation, but also the social interactions associated with both the breakfast club and school lunches.

Uptake and Stigma Reduction

- The results of quantitative analysis from both schools clearly demonstrated that universal access to school meals increases uptake. At Westfield School, uptake increased during the pilot both amongst non-FSM eligible pupils and FSM eligible pupils.
- While there is no baseline data at Burton Green with the breakfast club being a new initiative, the number of pupils attending each day exceeds the national average. The high rates of attendance among KS2 non-FSM pupils, demonstrates a desire to access school meals within this group.
- Increased uptake, while a positive outcome in its own right, also suggests a reduction in stigma as a result of the pilot. There was also a strong feeling among staff and parents that the pilot's universality reduced or eliminated stigma. Similarly, creative workshops with pupils indicated that it was positive that FSMs were for everyone.
- Despite these positive impacts, staff, parents and carers had an awareness that only two schools who reside in the most deprived wards in the city had been chosen for the pilot, which in itself may have had unintentional stigmatising impacts.



Creative research output by a pupil from Westfield School

Impacts on Families and the 'Cost of Living Crisis'

- Interviews with staff and parents revealed that some of the pressures on families had been reduced throughout the UFSM pilot. For example, parents shared that children had a simpler morning routine and were eager to attend school in the mornings due to the availability of breakfast. Parents had extra time in the morning for other activities (like getting to work), and tasks like preparing packed lunches and shopping for food had been minimised.
- Alongside easing the time pressures many families faced, the initiatives played an important role in alleviating the financial strain of purchasing food. For families who were experiencing poverty, the UFSM provision played an important role in helping to address food insecurity. Pupils also indicated a strong awareness of financial pressures on families and several children mentioned that it was positive that the meals were free.
- Staff from both schools acknowledged the scale of cost of living pressures and the economic insecurity affecting many families in the community. Parents referred to the financial pressures they were facing, or referred the financial struggles they could see others facing.

Communication and Sustainability

- Schools highlighted the need for better collaboration with the Council on a clear communication strategy before announcing participation in the pilot. They struggled with the short preparation time, which included creating a communication plan and addressing practical concerns, while media coverage spread rapidly. This led to confusion and inconsistent communication with parents about pilot expectations.
- The pilot also emphasised the importance of having adequate staffing, resources and coordination. Interviewees noted that staff dedicated extra time to ensure the pilot's success, with catering staff working additional hours and other school staff assisting where possible.
- Despite the resource challenges, staff felt the pilot provided a safe space for pupils, strengthening their connections with trusted adults beyond their parents/carers.
- There are concerns about the sustainability of the funding model, particularly for economically-vulnerable families who may need to adjust their budgets if changes occur. While additional funding from YCF should be sought, there are worries about the stability of charity-based funding models, which are susceptible to shifts in business or other funders' contributions.



Creative research output by a pupil from Burton Green School

Further information

Contract the researcher:

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Access to Reports

[Quantitative Data](#) & [Qualitative Data](#)

Funding and support:

Wenham, Smith, Kerr & Hudson's research was supported by The University of York Cost of Living Research Group, the Research England Policy Support Fund, and the Yorkshire and Humber Policy Engagement Research Network (Y-PERN).

Tann, Dye, & Boyle completed this work as part of the UKRI-SPF 'Transforming UK food system' programme funded H3 project (Grant No: BB/ V004719/1)



ANNEX C

HEALTHY SOIL
HEALTHY FOOD
HEALTHY PEOPLE



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York Universal Free School Meal Pilot: Quantitative Analysis

Eloise Tann, Neil Boyle, Louise Dye
The University of Sheffield



University of
Sheffield

Breakfast Pilot

- 121 pupils (54% girls, 46% boys), 36% eligible for a FSM.
- Daily free breakfast club run for 20 minutes before school in addition to existing paid-for childcare.
- Fortnightly menu rotation.

Lunch Pilot

- 470 pupils (50% boys, 50% girls), 36% eligible for a FSM.
- Free school lunch available to all pupils at the school (previously £2.50 per day).
- Three-week menu rotation each term. Four choices: main, vegetarian main, jacket potato, cheese panini.



Data routinely collected by schools was made available:

Burton Green: Breakfast Pilot

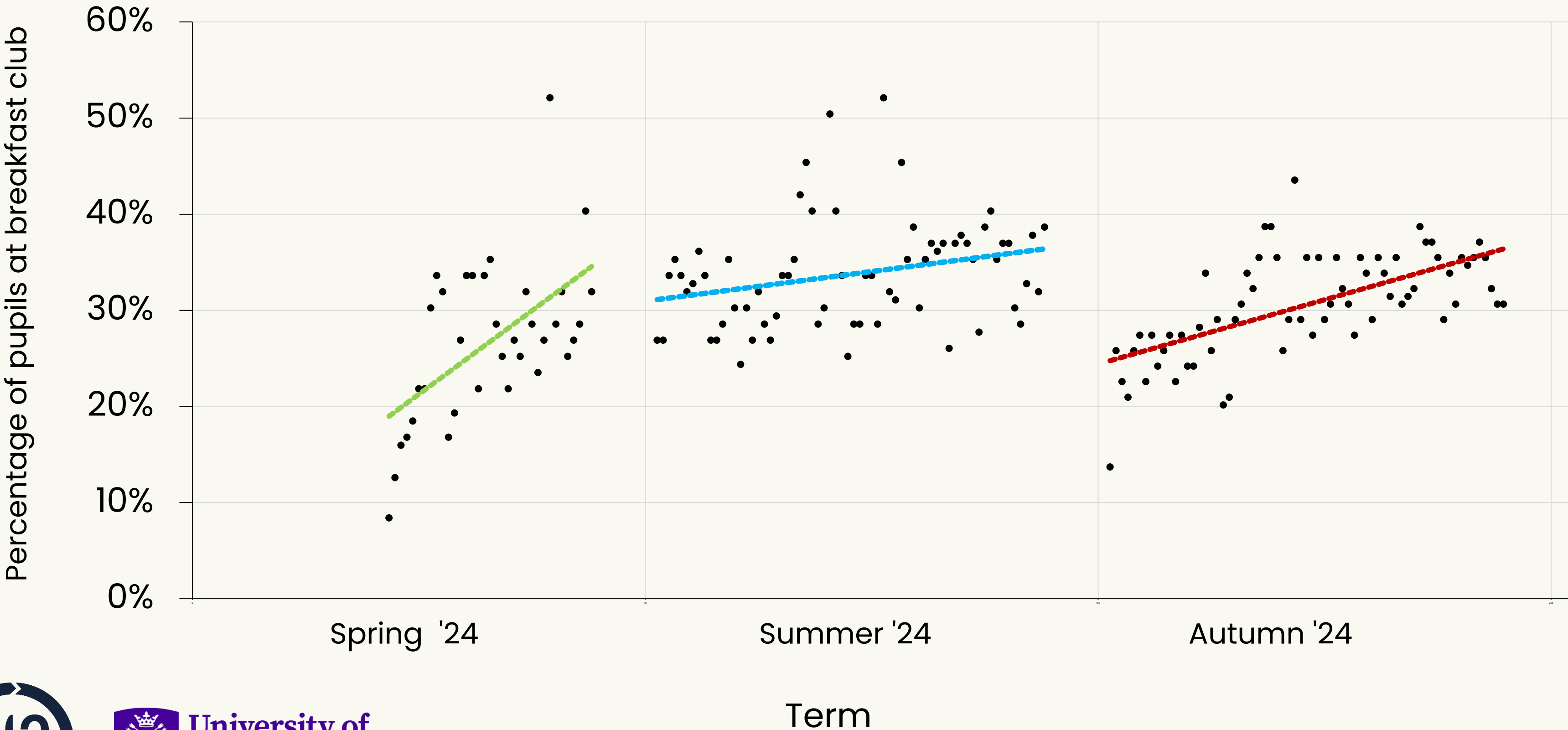
- Individual attendance & punctuality by term (4 x terms)
- Number of pupils attending BC each day

Westfield: Lunch Pilot

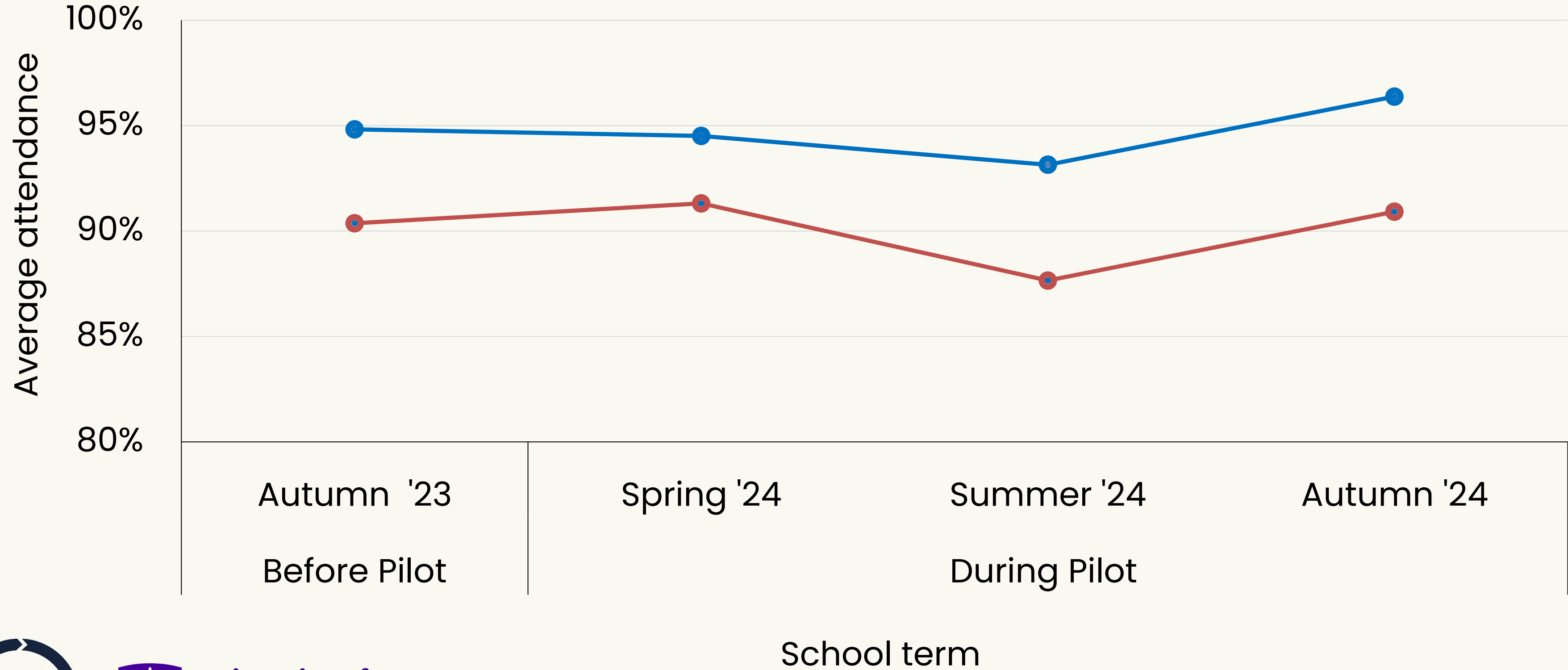
- Individual attendance data by term (6 x terms)
- Each pupils daily lunch choice

Both schools: each pupils' year group, gender, & FSM eligibility status

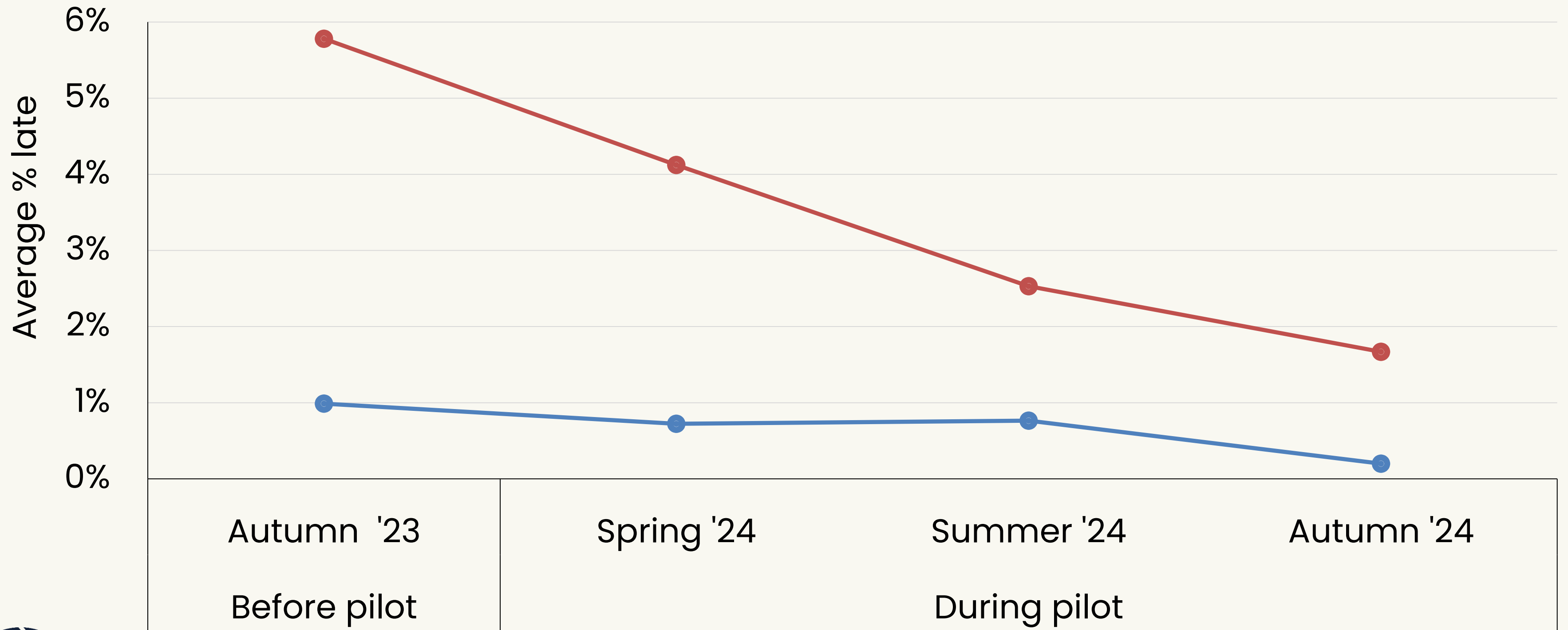
Breakfast Pilot: Uptake



Breakfast Pilot – school attendance split by FSM eligibility



Breakfast pilot – punctuality split by FSM eligibility

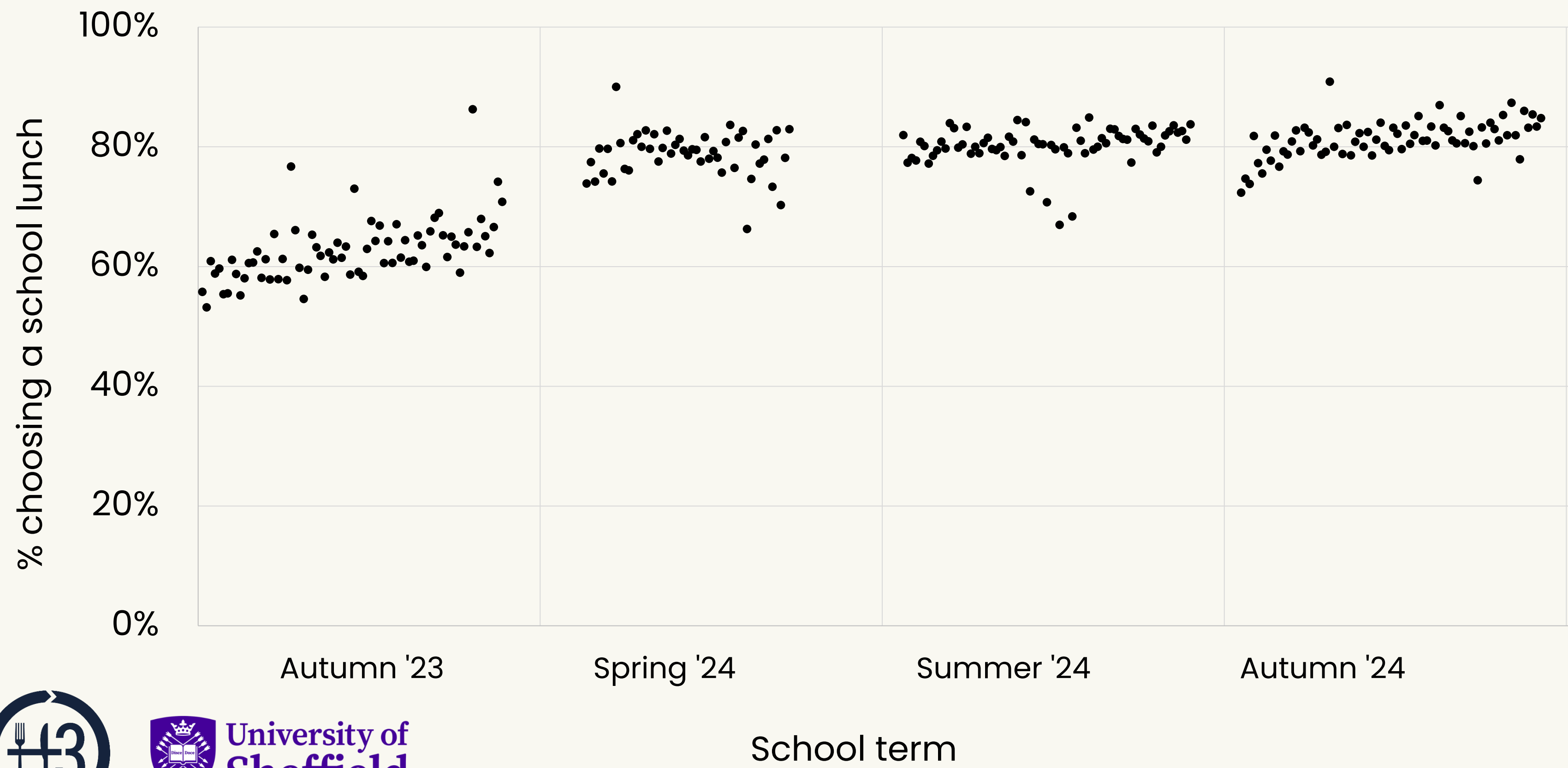


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School term

● Not FSM ● FSM

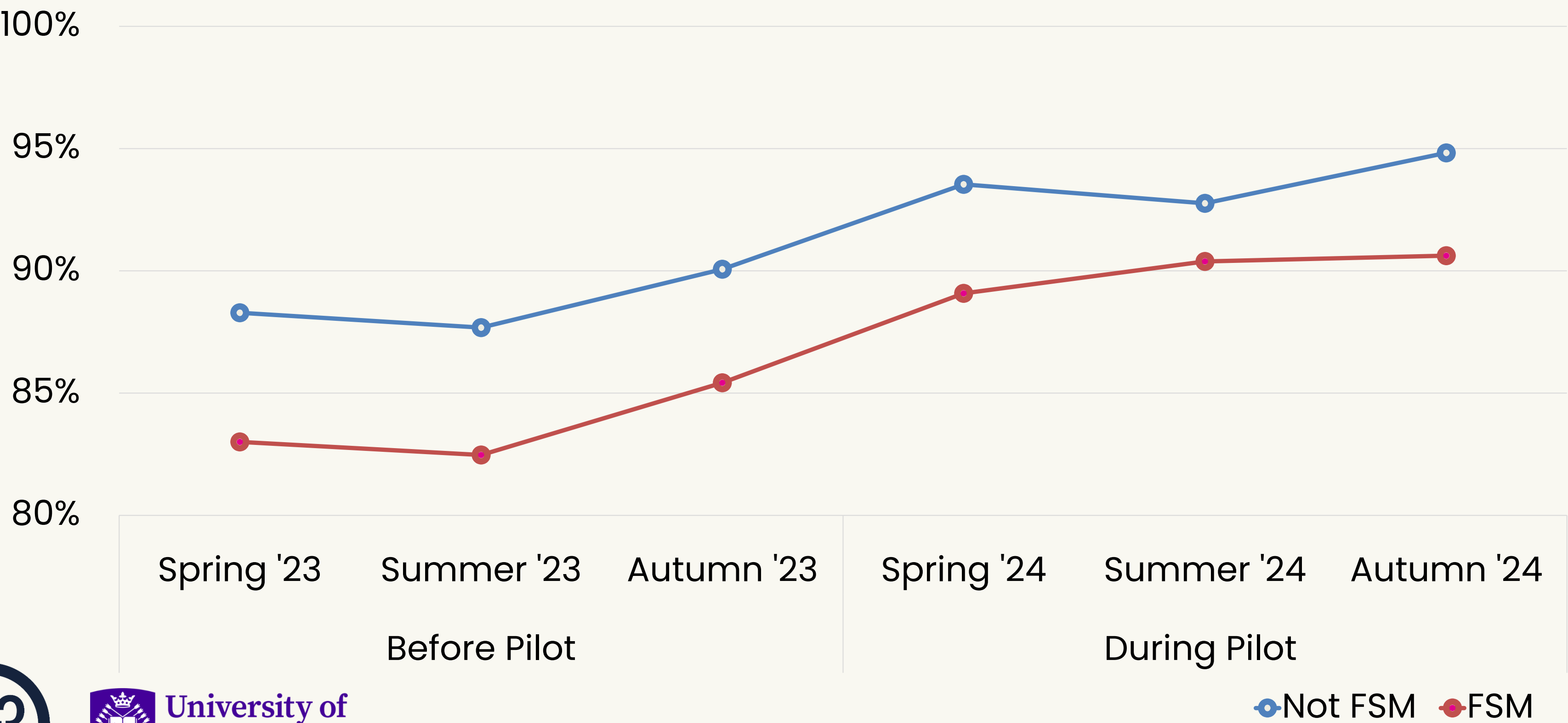
Lunch Pilot – lunch uptake



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School term

Lunch pilot – attendance split by FSM eligibility



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● Not FSM ● FSM

Key takeaways

- Universal lunch provision increased uptake, particularly for those not previously eligible.
- The universal breakfast club encouraged greater-than-average uptake.
- School attendance increased for all groups in-line with lunch uptake.
- The universal breakfast club decreased lateness & increased time spent in school, particularly for FSM eligible pupils.



Thank You

Professor Louise Dye

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York Hungry Minds

Qualitative Evaluation

Findings

City of York Council
Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee
3rd December 2025
People Scrutiny Committee



Methodological approach

- ❖ Westfield Primary Community School and Burton Green Primary School
- ❖ Qualitative focus
- ❖ Interviews (n=34)
- ❖ Staff including catering staff, pastoral staff, class teachers and school leadership at both schools were interviewed (n=21)
- ❖ Parents of pupils (n=13)
- ❖ Fieldwork dates: June - August 2024

Previous key findings

Reaching children in poverty

- Awareness of the cost of living pressures
- UFSM helped ease financial pressures
- Added reach of the universal model

“there is a lot of children here as well [and] that it's possibly their only meal a day”
(Westfield School Staff)

Reducing stigma

- Universalism was felt to reduce or eliminate stigma
- Pupils comfortable to sit with their food
- Concerns that two school were put under ‘the spotlight’

Tackling educational inequalities

- Improved attendance and attainment
- Greater pupil readiness to learn
- Positive impact on pupil behaviour
- Improved health and wellbeing

“It's had an enormous positive effect on attendance ... families that ... struggle to get the children in on time or in regularly enough. It's had a massive impact.”
(Burton Green School Staff)

Practical implementation

- Rapid implementation led to challenges in comms and expectations

“At first I kind of thought it was only for people who were on free school meals. I didn't realise it was for everybody.”
(Burton Green School Parent)

Further methodological approach

- ❖ Creative research methods with pupils from Burton Green Primary School and Westfield Community Primary School
- ❖ 19 creative workshops with over 100 children aged 4-11 (Year groups reception to Year 6)
- ❖ Activities included:
 - ❖ Brainstorming
 - ❖ Drawing
 - ❖ Writing activities
 - ❖ Collaging
 - ❖ Zine-making
 - ❖ Rainbow and cloud activities
- ❖ Fieldwork dates: January – March 2025



Ready for the day

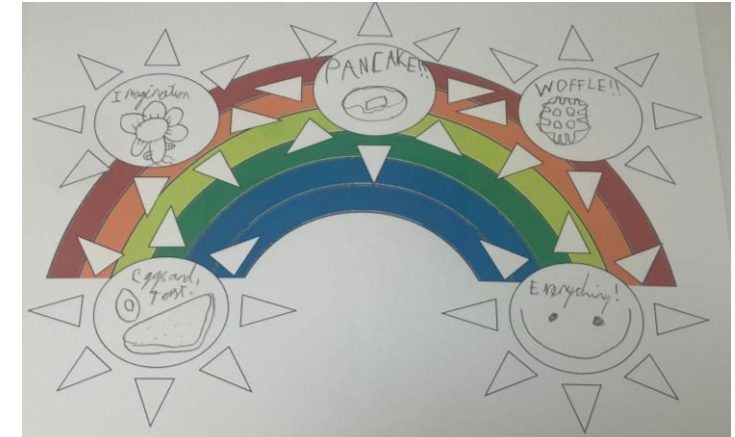
- Previous analysis found that breakfast provision reduced morning stress and improved punctuality for parents and pupils.
- This is reflected in pupils' artwork, with one noting that breakfast club helps when mornings are busy: *"I love this because it's very busy in the morning and I can come here for breakfast"*
- Other pupils shared that they look forward to school and enjoy the breakfast meals.



Work by pupil at Burton Green Breakfast club



A Year 4 pupil at Burton Green outlines what he likes about breakfast club



A collage by a Year 6 pupil at Burton Green School

Children's perception of cost

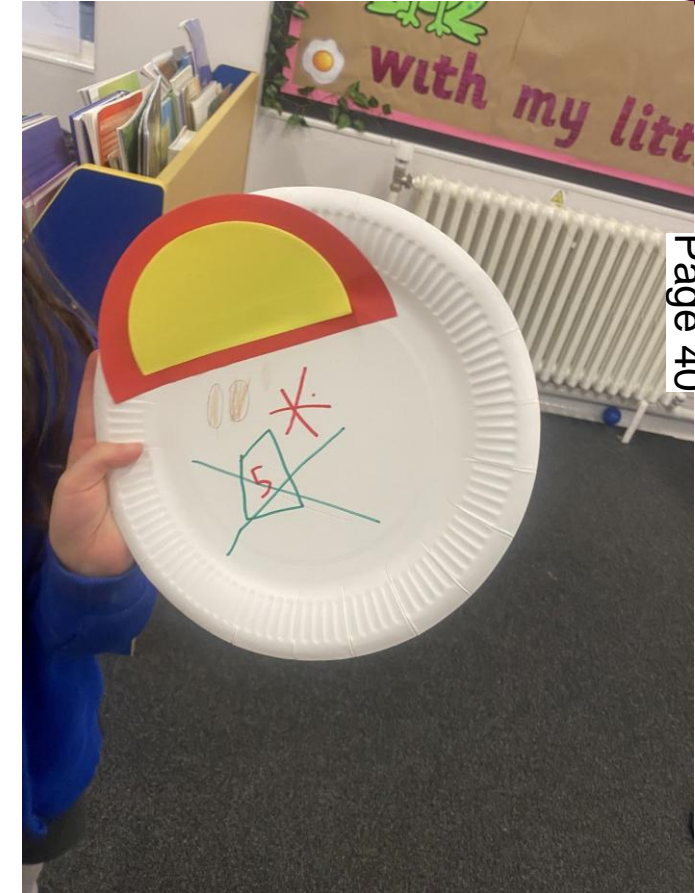
- Pupils show awareness of the value of money, noting that running out of money might make you feel sad
- One pupil mentions enjoying breakfast club because it is free
- Pupils note that they do not need to pay for their food

If you don't have much money, and you run out of pennies you might feel sad.

A researcher writes down something spoken by a pupil at Westfield (Year 1/Year 2 session)



A collage by a Year 6 pupil at Burton Green highlighting that the breakfast club is free



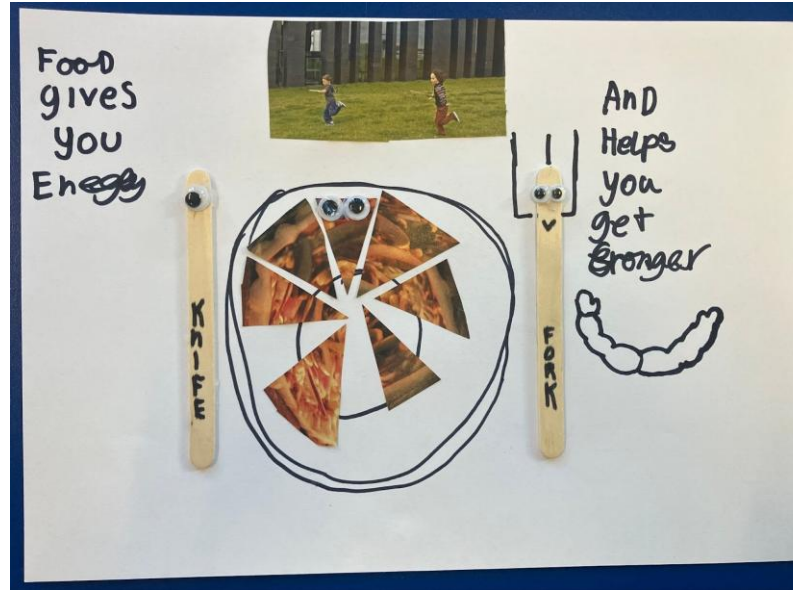
A drawing by a pupil at Westfield Primary School, with the crossed-out £5 note indicating that "you don't have to pay"

Good learning

- Pupils reflect that the food gives them energy and supports good learning.
- This demonstrates their awareness of the importance of healthy eating.
- These views align with feedback from parents and staff, who note that pupils experience fewer energy dips and are fully ready to start their day.

“their behaviours are starting to do the peaks and troughs. We don't see an awful lot of that anymore, which is really nice. And the kids are coming out, you know, after eating, you can tell.”
(Westfield School Staff)

“Instead of rocking up late for school because, X, Y, and Z's happened, or they haven't had a good breakfast, they are actually, they're 100 percent ready to face the day alongside their peers.”
(Burton Green School Parent)



A collage by a Westfield pupil (Year 5/Year 6 session)



Drawing by a child from Westfield (Year 5/Year 6 session)

Friends and food

- Pupils' creative work indirectly reflects the value of universalism, showing them sitting with friends while eating.
- This supports staff observations that pupils enjoy sharing mealtimes with their peers.
- Pupils mention liking to try different foods, echoing staff and parent feedback that they're more open to new foods when friends are eating them too.
- There were also increased opportunities for social interaction between children and staff.

"He won't really like trying them, but he seems to be at school ... Maybe they see other children having it. That might encourage them a bit."

(Westfield School Parent)

"I've spoken to some parents, they're like, my child would never eat it, they're such a fussy eater, but they see their friends eating it, they are going to eat it."

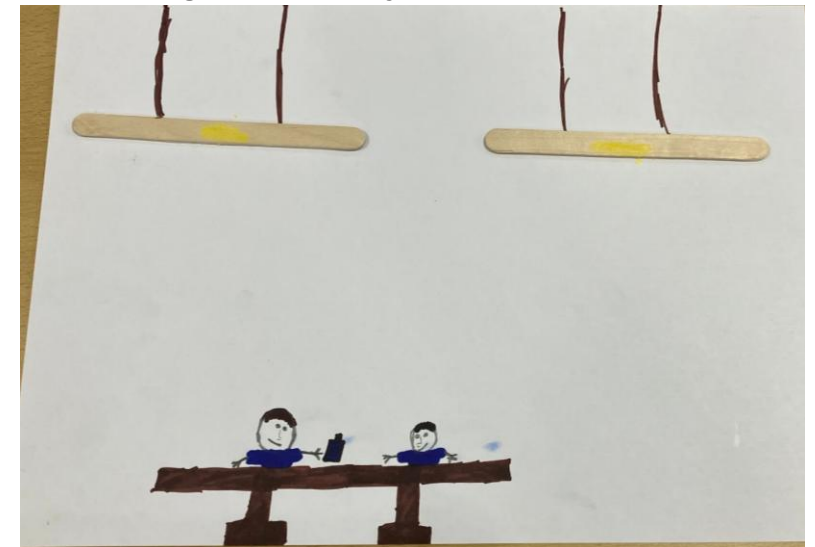
(Westfield School Staff)



A page of a 'zine' made by a Year 5 pupil at Burton Green School



A drawing by a child at Westfield (Year 3/Year 4 session)
"I like eating lunch with my friends"



A drawing of the dining hall by a Westfield pupil (Year 3/Year 4 session)
"Me eating lunch with my friend, the shapes above are the dinner hall lights"



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People Scrutiny Committee

3 December 2025

Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Education

Early Years and Childcare Reforms Progress Update**Summary**

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Scrutiny Committee about progress on the implementation of the Early Years and Childcare Reforms and other related policy developments.
2. For members to understand the progress being made to ensure successful local implementation so that families can benefit from the new early education entitlements and extended wraparound care.

Background

3. The Department for Education (DfE) acknowledged the crucial role local authorities (“LAs”) play in supporting local early years and childcare markets. From April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds have been eligible to access 15 hours early education and care. From September 2025, most working families with children aged between 9 months and 5 are eligible for 30 hours each week of early education and care. The changes were introduced gradually to make sure that the providers could meet the needs of more families. The DfE’s 2023-24 Childcare Capital Expansion grant allocation to York was £333.6k. This funding had to be used to increase the physical capacity of early years *and* wraparound provision in local areas where demand is likely to exceed existing supply. There are conditions of grant relating to the allocation alongside grant determination and guidance to support LAs how to best use their allocation.
4. The DfE also allocated £579.2k revenue funding to York to support the creation of wraparound places to make sure all families of primary school children who need it can access childcare between 8am and 6pm. It also supports LA capacity for the delivery of this work. Allocations are administered by a non-ringfenced Section 31 grant.

Alongside the allocations there is a programme handbook to give clarity on the programme expectations so that LAs could begin to plan for the implementation of the wraparound programme, ready to deliver an increase in the availability of high quality, inclusive and sustainable wraparound care.

5. Regulations for the new entitlements came into force on 1 January 2024 and therefore these are new statutory duties for CYC to deliver.
6. Timescales have been tight and the DfE expected each LA to confirm its Delivery Plan for capital and revenue spend, so that a value for money assessment could be made by the strategic support partner prior to the release of funding. The assessment includes consideration about reach, increased supply of places, costs, addressing of barriers and alignment with the analysis of supply and demand. Year 1 funding was released by the DfE and Year 2 funding can be requested once year 1 funding is allocated.
7. At its meeting on 23rd January 2024 Scrutiny were informed about the proposed early years and childcare reforms.
8. Since then, there has been a change in government with confirmation by the new government of their commitment to the Early Years and Wraparound childcare reforms and the same delivery timescales. There have also been a number of significant national policy announcements such as Best Start In Life, School Based Nursery School Programme and Free Universal Breakfast Clubs. The forthcoming Schools White Paper may also have implications for early years inclusion fund arrangements.

School Based Nursery Programme

9. As part of its drive for a Best Start in Life the Department for Education launched the School Based Nursery Programme (SBN) earlier this year. The SBN programme was available for state funded primary phase schools and maintained nursery schools to apply for up to £150,000 of capital funding to create or expand a school-based nursery if there was evidence of need and no impact on existing provision. One York school was successful with their application in round one (Poppleton Road) and support remains available to schools for round 2 of the programme and will be available when round 3 is launched in 2026.

10. Some schools have also applied to the DfE outside of the School Based Nursery Programme to lower and/or expand their numbers and this is still being done in a considered way to meet a sufficiency need for places and minimising impact on 'good' and 'outstanding' provision. Details of changes are:
- Knavesmire Primary School has recently received DfE approval to lower its nursery age range to two-year-olds and expand those places to meet a sufficiency need in the local ward.
 - One other primary school is currently seeking DfE approval to lower the age range of its nursery to two-year-olds.

Free Breakfast Clubs

11. Under the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, the government is committed to offering a free breakfast club to every primary aged pupil in England to break down barriers to opportunity and help tackle the impact of poverty. This is to be phased in over a three-year period following a first round of early adopters. In York there has been a successful application to the DfE for a York Primary school to be an early adopter, and this started in June 2025. The DfE expects that LA wraparound reform leads manage the transition to the new breakfast club programme given local knowledge, expertise and skills about the wraparound sector, minimising impact on existing paid for breakfast, sustainability and join up with other initiatives such as the Holiday Activities and Food Programme and for this LA York Hungry Minds. The LA is awaiting the confirmation of an allocation of capacity funding from the DfE to support the new free breakfast clubs. For the first phase of the national rollout, priority will be given to those schools with 40% or more pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM), or the most disadvantaged school in an area, whichever is lower. Delivery will begin from April 2026.

Progress on Implementation of the Early Years and Wraparound Reforms

12. The team works closely with the DfE's strategic support partner Childcare Works and DfE readiness surveys have been regularly completed with oversight from senior officers. There are also regular meetings with a DfE representative to understand progress in more detail and to escalate possible emerging challenges.

13. The new and expanded early education entitlements were implemented fully from September 2025 following place creation via procurement rounds by the local authority and settings offering more places themselves in response to parental demand.
14. In September 2025 which was the key milestone for the extended entitlements, the LA had created sufficient places to continue meeting its statutory duty to secure 'as far as practicable' enough provision overall for parents to take up or remain in work. Even though there are sufficient early years and childcare places across the city as a whole, some wards have less availability especially for under 3s, and whilst parents could reasonably travel to other providers, the LA is committed to continuing to grow high quality and inclusive provision in a considered way using DfE and S106 capital monies to give parents an even better range of options, more choices and increased flexibility to meet their needs. There have been some localised gaps in after school provision and those are in the Dringhouses and Woodthorpe ward, Rural West York ward and the Rawcliffe and Clifton Without ward. The revenue funding via the national wraparound programme is working to address these localised gaps.
15. The Autumn Term is also consistently the lowest term for occupancy as older children move into school reception. Whilst the key milestone for September 2025 has been met the LA continues to plan for the Summer Term 2026 which will see the largest impact from the roll out of the new entitlements as this is the busiest term for occupancy in private nurseries, voluntary playgroups and with childminders. The development of new sustainable, high quality and inclusive places continues to focus on where places are needed and not just where the market can respond more easily. Priority wards for potential additional early years places include: Acomb, Clifton, Dringhouses & Woodthorpe, Fulford & Heslington, Haxby & Wiggington, Heworth & Heworth without, Holgate, Hull Road, Micklegate and Westfield. In the majority of priority wards places are required for children aged under 3 years and this would give more options and choice to parents to be able to take up a place closer to home.
16. There remains a small gap for after school provision for children with complex needs and the LA continues to work on longer term sustainable solutions for these families.
17. The local authority is working to ensure eligible two-year-olds of non-working parents are not displaced by the new reforms which are focused on working families.

18. A Procurement Project Board remains in place with representation from Early Years and Wraparound, Commercial Procurement, Finance and Legal to support this work and they developed a competitive grant application process and associated documentation.
19. Market engagement events have taken place to promote the opportunity to apply for capital funding and to date three rounds have taken place to commission new places in wards where there has been a need for additional places.

Early Years Places

20. More details on place creation includes:
 - A first round of procurement took place in Spring 2025 for use of capital funding and awarded a successful provider in the Acomb Ward to create 12 additional places from September 2025. This provider has a strong focus on inclusion. The tender process was then re-opened to provide a further opportunity for providers to apply. The second round was undertaken in Summer 2025 with a further successful applicant in the Fishergate ward who will increase by 12 places which will be available from Summer 2026. These places will support the Fulford & Heslington families as well as Fishergate families. Alongside the expansion of places via the reforms capital funding the LA has S106 developer contributions to create childcare places due to increased demand from housing developments. Applications have followed the same procurement process as the reforms capital funding. To date there has been one commissioning round undertaken using S106 developer contributions from the Chocolate Works development. One provider will be delivering an additional 18 places from Spring 2026, and a further application is currently being considered.
 - As mentioned there has been a successful school-based nursery application to the DfE which created 26 additional places for September 2025.
 - Targeted 1:1 business support is promoted and is provided on request and has been well received by providers. The LA has also developed a bespoke Business Support training package in partnership with York Learning and funded through the Economy Team. Further training is planned for early 2026 and will be funded via wraparound revenue funding. The Local Authority also promotes online tools that are available to the sector e.g. business support webinars, national resources etc.

- Revised statutory guidance to give clarity on charging parents for extras over and above funded hours was issued in February 2026. The national communications about the changes caused some challenge for the DfE from providers. However, this was mitigated locally by providing group support and an offer of 1:1 support about the charging arrangements and how providers could implement the guidance within their settings.
- An early years funding consultation was undertaken in January 2025 to provide feedback from the sector on the early years funding formulae and proposed funding rates, this included the new rates for 9 months plus. The rates were agreed at the full council meeting in February 2025.
- In December 2024, the DfE announced two grants - Early Years Expansion Grant (EYEG) and National Insurance Contribution's Grant (NICs). Using a local based formula the total allocation of the EYEG was paid to eligible providers in August 2025 to support the delivery of the expansion of early education funded places from September 2025. NIC's grant is for school-based provision, and this is being administered by the Finance Team.
- Provider and parent surveys to further understand childcare needs in the coming year have been undertaken to support sufficiency of places.
- Funding sessions / Leaders & Managers briefings have been held regularly to keep the sector informed as the new reforms were being introduced. Weekly updates have been sent to providers with information, support, and guidance.
- Tax Free Childcare continues to be promoted to parents across the City.
- A national recruitment campaign known as 'Do Something Big' is continually being promoted to the sector, both by the LA and in partnership with Department for Work and Pensions. There remain ongoing pressures to recruit and retain staff. However, this year's provider survey highlighted less reliance on agency staff being used by the sector. Monthly payments of early education funding are paid to providers in line with DfE guidance. The providers welcome the monthly payments, and this supports sustainability and cash flow for all provider types.

Developing sufficiency assessments and responses to the DfE for School based nurseries are produced to support applications where applicable and support is available to schools with understanding local demographics / sufficiency.

21. Whilst the roll-out of the entitlements has been taking place this has required the system to process payments to be implemented. York uses a system called Synergy to process payments for providers and upgrades have been required to meet the changing nature of the rollouts. From Spring 2026 the DfE will be requiring LAs to undertake termly census returns, however further details are not yet available on the full requirements of the census returns.

Wraparound Places

- A wraparound childcare sufficiency assessment was undertaken to map supply and demand.
- The Wraparound Delivery Plan which details LA proposals to increase availability of wraparound care has been submitted and approved by the DfE.
- Following the closure of an out of school provider in the Hempland Without Ward a grant application process has taken place for a new provider to be procured for the site. In the meantime, parents were signposted to FIS for brokerage and Hempland Primary School's Out of School provision. The new provision reopened in the autumn term and offers 56 places before, after school and during the holidays.
- Grant application rounds take place monthly, and this has led to an increase in the expansion of hours and places at a number of clubs across the city. In total 348 places have been created to date towards the DfE target of 390 places.
- The LA continues to highlight the barriers to delivery of wraparound provision at the Primary Special School with the DfE as this continues to be financially unsustainable due to higher staffing levels and lower group sizes. Recent surveys by the Primary Special School indicate that families would prefer access to holiday provision and the LA is committed to finding a solution more widely across funding streams, such as HAF and Short Breaks.

- Further briefing sessions have been held for Headteachers and Wraparound care providers including childminders, alongside information shared with school governors via the Governance update.
- Representation at and feeding into the DfE's National School aged Childcare steering group.
- A training offer is part of the wraparound programme and Playwork training was delivered over the summer term, with plans to repeat this in the spring term; Neurodiversity training is planned for the Spring Term with four sessions planned for delivery by Inspired Children Ltd. The service has also linked with York Learning to commission training which can support all types of childcare providers to ensure their provision is sustainable. This is called 'Building Brilliant Settings' and will begin roll out from February 2026 and builds on the previous sessions delivered last term.

22. It should be noted that the operating environment for all early years and wraparound providers remains challenging due to historical low funding as well as rising costs. A recent annual Childcare Provider Survey was carried out by the LA for open dialecut about sustainability, business support needs, and overall readiness for the extended entitlements from September 2025. The vast majority of the respondents felt that they were reasonably confident that the setting would be financially sustainable for the next year and had generated a surplus in this financial year, however it was noted that four providers identified that they were not confident that they would be financially sustainable for the next year and eight others were not sure. One to one support has been offered to providers and to date one provider who was unsure of future sustainability has engaged with this targeted support.

Council Plan

23. Education and Skills: High Quality Skills and Learning for All
24. City of York Council 'CYC' has a statutory duty to secure sufficient high quality early years and childcare provision for children aged 0-14 (and up to 18 for children with SEND) which includes early education places for eligible children.

Recommendations

25. The Committee is asked to note the content of this report including related national policy developments.

Reason: For members to understand the progress made for successful local implementation so that families can benefit from the new early education entitlements and extended wraparound care.

Contact Details

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Maxine Squire
Assistant Director Education and Skills

Report
Approved



Date 25 November 2025

Martin Kelly
Corporate Director of Children and Education

Report
Approved



Date 25 November 2025

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background papers:

Early Years and Childcare Reforms – Children, Culture and Communities
Scrutiny Committee 23 January 2024

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1066&MId=14333>

Commissioning of New and Expanded Places for Childcare Reforms –
Executive Committee 12 September 2024

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MId=14500>

Early Years and Childcare Reforms Progress Update – Children, Culture and
Communities Scrutiny Committee 1 October 2024

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1066&MId=14656>

Annexes:

None.



People Scrutiny Committee

3 December 2025

Report of the Director of Housing and Communities

New Housing Tenancy and Rent Policies**Summary**

1. This report proposes two Housing policy documents for future approval by the Executive Member: Tenancy Policy and Strategy (Annex A) and the City of York Living Rent (Appendix A to Annex A).
2. It is a legal requirement for Local Housing Authorities to publish a Tenancy Strategy under the Localism Act 2011. The Tenancy Strategy sets expectations for all social landlords in the city to take into account in their Tenancy Policies.
3. It is an expectation of the Regulator for Social Housing that social landlords have in place an up to date Tenancy Policy. The role of the Tenancy Policy is to set out what types of tenancy City of York itself will issue alongside related matters around succession, mutual exchange, joint tenancies and similar decisions.
4. The proposed Tenancy Policy and Strategy for City of York integrates both approaches, setting out overlapping areas and delineating functions of the Policy and Strategy elements where these are separate.
5. It is important for the council to approve an updated Policy and Strategy as the current document expired in 2018.
6. This final draft proposed for approval which has been through a process of review and amendment with involvement from Housing service managers, the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities, Registered Providers with homes in the City and the council's Tenant Scrutiny Panel.

7. It may be noted that the Tenancy Policy and Strategy addresses tenancy matters only and is limited in scope. A separate review of the Housing Allocations Policy is underway which addresses prioritisation and access to social housing for housing register applicants and residents in housing need.
8. It is also proposed to develop a Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy following on from the Tenancy and Policy Strategy that will sets out the council's existing approach to implementing Government and Regulatory requirements for Housing Revenue Account rent setting, to support consistency of decision making and transparency across the service.
9. This will support the objectives of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy. The proposed Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy prioritises rental income opportunities where these are manageable for tenants, to maximise supply and quality of the council's homes, and access to the government's Social and Affordable Homes Programme (SAHP) 2026-2036.

Background

10. Extensive consultation with stakeholders was undertaken in 2012 to develop the initial Tenancy Strategy, which reflected did the issues raised by the Localism Act 2011 which permitted the discharge of statutory homelessness in the private rented sector and the introduction of Fixed Term and Flexible Tenancies in limited circumstances.
11. In 2024, a new set of Consumer Standards¹ were implemented in the sector by the Regulator for Social Housing. This represents a significant ambition from Government for the social housing sector and extensive work has been carried out across the council and other social landlords in delivering this.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/regulatory-standards-for-landlords>

12. This Tenancy Policy addresses the Regulator's Tenancy Standard² expectations as follows:

[1.3] Tenure [all provisions]

[1.4.1] Registered providers must support relevant tenants living in eligible housing to mutually exchange their homes.

- [2.3.1] Registered providers shall publish clear and accessible policies which outline their approach to tenancy management, including interventions to sustain tenancies and prevent unnecessary evictions, and tackling tenancy fraud, and set out:
- a) The type of tenancies they will grant.
 - b) Where they grant tenancies for a fixed term, the length of those terms.
 - c) The circumstances in which they will grant tenancies of a particular type.
 - d) Any exceptional circumstances in which they will grant fixed term tenancies for a term of less than five years in general needs housing following any probationary period.
 - e) The circumstances in which they may or may not grant another tenancy on the expiry of the fixed term, in the same property or in a different property.
 - f) The way in which a tenant or prospective tenant may appeal against or complain about the length of fixed term tenancy offered and the type of tenancy offered, and against a decision not to grant another tenancy on the expiry of the fixed term.
 - g) Their policy on taking into account the needs of those households who are vulnerable by reason of age, disability or illness, and households with children, including through the provision of tenancies which provide a reasonable degree of stability.
 - h) The advice and assistance they will give to tenants on finding alternative accommodation in the event that they decide not to grant another tenancy.

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tenancy-standard>

- i) Their policy on granting discretionary succession rights, taking account of the needs of vulnerable household members.
- 13. The provisions of 2.3.2 – 2.3.6 will also be embedded in landlord service delivery and 2.4.1 – 2.4.4.
- 14. A refreshed Tenancy Policy and Strategy is now needed for City of York Council to meet its obligations both as a regulated social housing landlord, and as strategic Local Housing Authority.
- 15. The Government's 2025 Plan, "delivering a decade of renewal for social and affordable housing"³ offers key support for the council's ambitions around housing affordability and tackling poverty and homelessness in the city. Effective rent setting approaches that provide a strategic foundation for investment are key to the Plan and the Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy will present a statement of the council's policy on this.
- 16. This would entail rent increases at Consumer Price Index + 1% in line with the government's "10 year rent settlement for social housing", alongside additional increases up to £2 per week for for any rents that are below the statutorily defined formula rent for social rent⁴. Formula rents set the standard for social rents across the sector. This responds to a recognised shortfall of investment capacity in the Local Authority landlord sector due to rents below formula rent⁵.

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/delivering-a-decade-of-renewal-for-social-and-affordable-housing/delivering-a-decade-of-renewal-for-social-and-affordable-housing>

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/how-to-implement-social-rent-convergence/how-to-implement-social-rent-convergence>

⁵ <https://www.cih.org/news/rent-convergence-updated-analysis-for-the-social-housing-sector/>

Consultation

17. Consultation has been carried out on draft versions of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy as shown in Table A.

Table A: Summary of consultation

Consultation Stakeholders or Group	Responses and any changes made
Registered Provider partners with stock in the City	No substantive responses and no changes proposed
Tenant Scrutiny Committee	Some changes of detail proposed for Tenancy Policy elements, which have been incorporated into final document draft
Housing Senior Management Team meeting	Seme changes of detail proposed to fully align approach to service priorities, which have been incorporated into final document draft

18. The approaches to using Fixed Term and Flexible Tenancies in exceptional circumstances only, and the York Living Rent, have been developed through the consultation and member engagement process.
19. Consultation with the Tenancy Scrutiny Panel will be carried out in development of the Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy following this meeting of Scrutiny and ahead of final approval by the Executive Member.

Options

20. The key issues set out in the proposed Tenancy Policy and Strategy are:

Table B: Key Issues Summary, with more detail in Section 2 of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy document

Tenancy Policy and Strategy Key Issue	Reference and any relevant Option Summary
York Living Rent policy approach to the use of Affordable Rent in the city	<p>Option 1 (Recommended): Affordable Rent to be limited to below 80% of market rent through with the York Living Rent reflecting local lower quartile incomes and the Local Housing Allowance (Appendix A of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy)</p> <p>Option 2: Affordable Rent is limited to below 80% of market rent only, at national government policy maximum level – <i>not recommended as likely to be unaffordable for lower income local residents</i></p> <p>Option 3: Affordable Rent is not used in the City – <i>not recommended as it could reduce delivery of rented affordable housing suitable for residents in the highest levels of housing needs, due to reduced development viability</i></p>
Use of Fixed Term and Flexible Tenancies	<p>Option 1 (Recommended): This is proposed for use only in a set of defined criteria that represent exceptional circumstances, to balance security of tenure for tenants alongside making best use of social housing stock (Section 3.6 of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy)</p> <p>There will be a presumption that Flexible Tenancies will be renewed, otherwise tenants will be offered an alternative suitable property provided they are not in breach of their existing tenancy.</p>

Tenancy Policy and Strategy Key Issue	Reference and any relevant Option Summary
	<p>Option 2:</p> <p>It is possible to extend Fixed Term and Flexible Tenancy use to offer short term tenancies to all new tenancies – <i>this is not recommended due to the lack of long term security and limited benefit in stock management for most properties</i></p> <p>Option 3:</p> <p>It is possible to propose no use at all of Fixed Term and Flexible Tenancies – <i>this is not recommended as in some circumstances use would contribute to management of much needed social housing stock</i></p>
The acceptable use of Licences	Licences have a limited range of uses in social housing but are essential in a number of cases that are set out in the proposed final draft document
Registered Providers implementation of relevant aspects of the Renters' Rights Bill	<p>The current usage cases of Assured Shorthold Tenancies by Registered Providers are recognised and the anticipated move to Periodic tenancies in their place is recognised</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-renters-rights-bill/guide-to-the-renters-rights-bill</p>
Discretionary Succession for surviving non-tenant occupants following bereavement	Some further clarification will be added on this point of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy prior to final approval.
City of York Prisoner Protocol	A review of the Prisoner Protocol will be carried out to align with objectives of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy, and Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-29.

21. A detailed procedure will be developed for implementation of the approach to process for Fixed Term or Flexible Tenancies, once approval is confirmed for a new Tenancy Policy and Strategy.

22. Under the Recommendation proposed for this report, this procedure would set out use of Fixed Term or Flexible Tenancies only in the exceptional defined circumstances, including where a property serves a very specific need that is met by only a small number of properties within the stock, for example larger properties that have extensive accessibility adaptations. This is to ensure maximum availability of such properties for households with a high need for this property type.
23. For the Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy, the options are:

Recommended: Option 1 – Support the proposal to develop a Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy that maximises investment capacity through rental income, where this is manageable or mitigated for tenants, for example through the welfare benefits system

Option 2 – develop an alternative Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy approach that may restrict future investment opportunities in the quality and supply of council homes

Analysis

24. The Tenancy Policy and Strategy is designed to meet the council's relevant legal and regulatory obligations: the legal requirement for Local Housing Authorities to publish a Tenancy Strategy under the Localism Act 2011, and the expectation of the Regulator for Social Housing that social landlords have in place an up to date Tenancy Policy.
25. The priorities set out in the document also align with the council's strategic objectives by setting a framework for working with Registered Providers across the City to make the best use of social housing stock. This supports the aims of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-29. The York Living Rent approach to Affordable Housing provides a strategic, evidence based approach to rent setting for the Housing Delivery Programme and is intended to support viability of new build developing in that programme.
26. The council's [Housing Charter](#) vision of One Team, Healthy Homes, Better Lives and principles including We Think Forward, We Think Together and We Think You are embedded within the partnership based and wellbeing focused approach taken in this Strategy.

27. The Tenancy and Policy Strategy is intended to align with the council's Regulatory and Statutory obligations and support their delivery.
28. Social rent and affordable rent levels will remain substantially below private rent accommodation under the proposed approach, but investment capacity for increasing the supply of new homes and improving the quality across our stock will be maximised. The government has set out the intention of continuing to mitigate rent increase impacts for the majority of tenants who have low incomes, through the welfare benefits system.

Council Plan

29. Housing affordability is a key challenge for the City, with an average cost of homes around 9 times higher than average earnings and rent levels that are amongst the highest in the north of England. Providing good quality housing to meet the range of needs across the City's residents is recognised as central to the Council's 2023-27 Plan as part of Core Commitments, Affordability and Health and Wellbeing, and to the vision of "One City, for all".

Implications

30. For the Executive Member Decision Session, the following Implications will be provided:
 - **Financial**
 - **Human Resources (HR)**
 - **Equalities**
 - **Legal**
 - **Crime and Disorder**
 - **Information Technology (IT)**
 - **Property**

Risk Management

31. There are no significant risks or challenges identified in approval of this document, although consideration of options and analysis of the approach that is taken are considered in this paper.

Recommendations

32. The Committee is asked to:
- i. Provide feedback on the proposal to ask the Executive Member to approve the Tenancy Policy and Strategy document, appended as Annex A.
 - ii. Provide feedback on the proposal to develop a Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy, building on the City of York Living Rent approach (Appendix A to Annex A) that maximises investment capacity through rental income, where this is manageable or mitigated for tenants, for example through the welfare benefits systems.

Reasons: To achieve legal and regulatory compliance in respect of matters covered by the Tenancy Policy and Strategy, and to achieve the benefits from the proposed document as set out in this paper.

Contact Details

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Director of Housing and Communities

**Report
Approved**

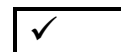


Date 20 November 2025

Specialist Implications Officer(s) – to be included prior to final approval

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

- Regulatory standards for landlords:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/regulatory-standards-for-landlords>
- Social and Affordable Homes programme 2026 to 2036:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/social-and-affordable-homes-programme-sahp-2026-to-2036>
- Consultation, July 2025: How to implement social rent convergence
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/how-to-implement-social-rent-convergence/how-to-implement-social-rent-convergence>

Annexes

- Annex A: City of York Draft Tenancy Policy and Tenancy Strategy
 - Annex A - Appendix A: City of York Living Rent
 - Annex A – Appendix B: Informing the Draft Rent Setting and Service Charges Policy; Refusal Grounds for Mutual Exchange

Abbreviations

No abbreviations have been used in this paper.

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Annex A: DRAFT City of York Draft Tenancy Policy and Tenancy Strategy

Version:	V0.9 17/11/2025
Approval status:	Not approved – draft for review prior to presentation at Executive Member Decision Session: Discretionary Succession provisions to be finalised
Author:	Ian Taylor, Assistant Policy Officer Andrew Bebbington, Housing Strategy Officer
Review date:	No more than 2 years following approval

1. Introduction

1.1 What is the Tenancy Policy?

1.1.1 This sets out the tenancy types and their intended use across the stock owned by City of York Council.

1.1.2 It is influenced by the CYC allocations policy, the wider Tenancy Strategy, regulatory and legal frameworks including meeting the Regulator for Social Housing's Tenancy Standard¹.

1.2 What is the Tenancy Strategy?

1.2.1 The strategy is an expression of how the council expects the various tenancy types will be used across the city. It therefore extends across all Registered Providers in the city. The Localism Act 2011 sets a requirement for Local Authorities to have an updated Tenancy Strategy. The Act sets out some procedural requirements for producing the Strategy and defines its scope as guiding local Registered Providers on:

- (a) the kinds of tenancies they grant,
- (b) the circumstances in which they will grant a tenancy of a particular kind,

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tenancy-standard> - this is part of the Consumer Standards which are currently subject to consultation for revised and expanded standards.

- (c) where they grant tenancies for a term certain, the lengths of the terms, and
- (d) the circumstances in which they will grant a further tenancy on the coming to an end of an existing tenancy (Localism Act 2011, paragraph 150).

1.2.2 Extensive consultation with stakeholders was undertaken in 2012 to develop the initial Tenancy Strategy, which reflected did the issues raised by the Localism Act 2011 which permitted the discharge of statutory homelessness in the private rented sector and the introduction of Fixed term and Flexible tenancies. Further consultation has been carried out with Registered Providers, and the council's Tenant Scrutiny Panel, on this document draft during 2023-24. The table below (Section 2) sets out the core elements of the refreshed policy and strategy.

1.3 Tenancy Policy and Strategy Objectives

- 1.3.1 This refresh supports the council's implementation of the 2024 Consumer Standards² set by the Regulator of Social Housing. . The document also anticipates changes in the Renters' Rights Bill³, expected to end fixed term tenancies in the Housing Association sector and to require that Housing Associations issue either full Assured tenancies, or 'Periodic' tenancies in place of Assured Shorthold Tenancies.
- 1.3.2 The Policy and Strategy is intended to make the best use of social housing stock, and to protect tenant wellbeing while enabling the Council and Registered Provider partners to apply flexibility in management of homes where needed. Effective use of social housing stock can deliver better outcomes for disabled residents with a need for accessible housing, supporting access to specialist and adapted homes where appropriate.
- 1.3.3 Principles of transparency, clear communication and either meeting, or balancing, needs of individual tenants and tenants as a whole will be embedded within deliver of the policy.

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/regulatory-standards-for-landlords>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-renters-rights-bill/82ffc7fb-64b0-4af5-a72e-c24701a5f12a#tenancy-reform>

1.3.4 This supports the Housing Charter⁴ vision of *One Team, Healthy Homes, Better Lives* and the principles *We Think Forward, We Think Together and We Think Home*.

1.3.5 Section 3 sets out expectations in respect of assignation, exchange, succession and fraud. These sections are part of the Tenancy Strategy and would also form the council's Tenancy Policy.

1.3.6 Appendix A sets out the City of York Living Rent framework, implementing Affordable Rent tenure in the context of our local evidence base.

1.4 Regulator of Social Housing Tenancy Standard: Relevant Expectations

1.4.1 This Tenancy Policy addresses the Regulator's Tenancy Standard⁵ expectations as follows:

[1.3] Tenure [all provisions]

[1.4.1] Registered providers must support relevant tenants living in eligible housing to mutually exchange their homes.

[2.3.1] Registered providers shall publish clear and accessible policies which outline their approach to tenancy management, including interventions to sustain tenancies and prevent unnecessary evictions, and tackling tenancy fraud, and set out:

- a) The type of tenancies they will grant.
- b) Where they grant tenancies for a fixed term, the length of those terms.
- c) The circumstances in which they will grant tenancies of a particular type.
- d) Any exceptional circumstances in which they will grant fixed term tenancies for a term of less than five

⁴ <https://www.york.gov.uk/HousingCharter>

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tenancy-standard>

years in general needs housing following any probationary period.

e) The circumstances in which they may or may not grant another tenancy on the expiry of the fixed term, in the same property or in a different property.

f) The way in which a tenant or prospective tenant may appeal against or complain about the length of fixed term tenancy offered and the type of tenancy offered, and against a decision not to grant another tenancy on the expiry of the fixed term.

g) Their policy on taking into account the needs of those households who are vulnerable by reason of age, disability or illness, and households with children, including through the provision of tenancies which provide a reasonable degree of stability.

h) The advice and assistance they will give to tenants on finding alternative accommodation in the event that they decide not to grant another tenancy.

i) Their policy on granting discretionary succession rights, taking account of the needs of vulnerable household members.

1.4.2 The provisions of 2.3.2 – 2.3.6 will also be embedded in landlord service delivery and 2.4.1 – 2.4.4.

2. Tenancy Policy and Strategy Overview

	Decision for Tenancy Policy only
	Tenancy Strategy Only
	Tenancy Policy & Strategy

Issue	Relevance: Tenancy Policy and/or Strategy	Policy / Strategy Approach
Introductory Tenancies	Tenancy Policy City of York Council (CYC)	<p>City of York Council continues to offer Introductory Tenancies to all new tenants as a probationary arrangement.</p> <p>Introductory Tenancies should not be extended beyond 18 months. There should be clarity on whether to offer a Secure tenancy or in rare cases, to pursue eviction by that point.</p>
Discretionary succession to Introductory or Secure Tenancies	Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy	Detailed consideration in 3.1 below.

Issue	Relevance: Tenancy Policy and/or Strategy	Policy / Strategy Approach
Notice Required from the tenant to terminate a Secure tenancy and Prisoner Protocol	Tenancy Policy (CYC)	<p>That CYC can consider a request from a tenant to terminate their tenancy with less than the standard 28 days, if exceptional circumstances apply. Granting the request would be at the council's discretion.</p> <p>That CYC continues to offer the Prisoner Protocol, where an imprisoned person, who surrenders their CYC tenancy on imprisonment, is reallocated a suitable home on their release (subject to the terms and conditions of scheme).</p>
Mutual exchanges	Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy	That RPs recognise the statutory grounds for refusing a mutual exchange request as per 3.1 below. Mutual exchange is a valuable tool for meeting housing need and RPs should use reasonable discretion to facilitate mutual exchange where appropriate as per 3.1 below
Affordable Rent	Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy	That CYC and other RPs participate in the government's Affordable Rent scheme only when this contributes to meeting housing need in the city. In these circumstances, Affordable Rents must be at a level which is genuinely affordable for low income residents.

Issue	Relevance: Tenancy Policy and/or Strategy	Policy / Strategy Approach
		<p>Where Affordable Rent is used, it must be demonstrated that the % figure of market rent used to calculate the level of Affordable Rent, considers the needs of lower paid working households.</p> <p>York has an expensive housing market and it is anticipated that Affordable Rents will not generally exceed 60% of market rent. Compliance with Rent Standard and Guidance must be ensured in all cases⁶.</p> <p>This Policy introduces the York Living Rent for Affordable Rent properties, set out in Appendix A alongside additional analysis of this tenure in the City of York local context.</p>
<p>Demoted tenancies</p> <p>Family Intervention Tenancies (FITs)</p>	<p>Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy</p>	<p>That CYC and other RPs in the city retain the ability to demote secure and assured tenancies for the better management of Anti-Social Behaviour.</p> <p>RPs may also consider the use of FITs, which originated with the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008. These are an</p>

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/rent-standard-and-guidance>

Issue	Relevance: Tenancy Policy and/or Strategy	Policy / Strategy Approach
		<p>alternative to Eviction for families who are facing an Eviction warrant for Anti Social Behaviour.</p> <p>The household's tenancy is demoted to the status of a Licence, allowing intensive support to be provided, with the tenant's consent. Should the support be ineffective, repossession would be secured under the Licence, without having to go to court.</p>
Secure and Assured Tenancies	Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy	That the standard post probationary social tenancies in the City are Secure (CYC) and Assured (other RPs) unless Fixed term, Flexible or Equitable tenancy are in use (see below)
Flexible (5 year) and Fixed term (2 year) tenancies	Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy	<p>CYC will consider issuing new Flexible and Fixed term tenancies in exceptional circumstances only in accordance with section 3.6 below, and government guidance. Tenancies would be</p> <p>CYC does not intend to issue Flexible or Fixed term tenancies for all new tenants.</p> <p>All RPs can consider incentivising existing tenants to move, to better meet housing need, in circumstances such as under-occupation or accommodation with adaptations which are no longer required.</p>

Issue	Relevance: Tenancy Policy and/or Strategy	Policy / Strategy Approach
Licences	Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy	<p>Licences have a limited range of uses in social housing as they offer the tenant very limited security in their home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licences can be used by Housing Associations to create a probationary arrangement for new tenants. • Licences can be used by all RPs in the city. Usually, this will be for residents needing support in the 'Exempt Accommodation' sector or where this is agreed as part of a delivery plan for multidisciplinary support provision such as through the 'Housing First' programme <p>A probationary arrangement should not be extended beyond 18 months as above.</p>
Equitable tenancies (16- and 17-year olds)	Tenancy Policy (CYC) and Tenancy Strategy	<p>Minors cannot legally have any form of direct social tenancy.</p> <p>Where a minor needs social housing it is required that appropriate provision such as Equitable Tenancies (tenancies in trust) are used, as is existing practice across the sector.</p>
Assured Shorthold Tenancies (ASTs)	Tenancy Strategy	It is acceptable for ASTs to be used by Housing Associations for purposes of creating a probationary

Issue	Relevance: Tenancy Policy and/or Strategy	Policy / Strategy Approach
and the Renters' Rights Bill		<p>arrangement or providing and 'Exempt Accommodation' service to people needing support.</p> <p>CYC will issue Introductory Tenancies for new tenants as above as Local Authorities cannot issue ASTs.</p> <p>ASTs are expected to become a legacy arrangement if the provisions of the former Renters' Rights Bill become law. Periodic tenancies are expected to be required in place of ASTs.</p>
New rented social housing: includes Social Rent and Affordable Rent homes provided under s106 or similar future arrangement	Tenancy Strategy	<p>New social and affordable rent housing will be made available through the City's housing register when it is first released and either wholly or predominantly when re-let.</p> <p>Requirements will be set in a section 106 agreement or other nominations agreement with the council's standard terms applied.</p> <p>Historic developments will be subject to the original nomination arrangements with RPs encouraged to provide nominations in excess of original arrangements where appropriate, in recognition of the high levels of housing need in the City.</p>

Issue	Relevance: Tenancy Policy and/or Strategy	Policy / Strategy Approach
Shared Ownership and Discounted Sale	Tenancy Strategy	<p>There will be a single point of access for registering interest in each of these services.</p> <p>These products are for households with stable employment, access to savings and the ability to secure a mortgage but would experience difficulty in affording 'open market' prices.</p>
Discharge of statutory homeless duty in private rented sector (PRS)	Tenancy Strategy	<p>This is an acceptable option, provided there is a realistic chance of tenancy sustainment and that the property identified has been vetted by CYC.</p> <p>If the customer is subject to 'no fault eviction', within 12 months of duty discharge through this route, then that household must be recategorised as statutorily homeless.</p>

3. Consideration of Key Policy Areas

Further detail is set out on the council's tenancy processes and decision making criteria in the set of factsheets available on the council's website: <https://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/download/780/council-housing-factsheets>

3.1 Succession, Termination and Exchange

3.1.1 This Strategy includes within its scope the terms for succession, termination, assignation and mutual exchange (swap) of social housing tenancies. The council has an existing set of policies for its landlord function covering these elements.

3.1.2 Registered Providers (RPs) in the City are expected to apply the following approaches:

1. Where RPs in the city are considering a mutual exchange, they can refuse an exchange if such an exchange would entail adaptations to the property or properties that would entail major and unreasonable expense, for example installation of a through floor lift. This is expressed in the current allocations policy for the city⁷.
2. Discretionary Succession to a social tenancy can be considered on request, where survivorship, statutory or contractual succession do not apply. Whilst at the discretion of the landlord, fairness towards applicants on the city's housing register must be considered.
3. It is anticipated that discretionary succession will not be considered if the applicant has not acted in good faith.
4. Where an applicant who is seeking to succeed to a social tenancy does have a legal or contractual right of succession, then the RP can consider an alternative offer of accommodation if the succession proposed would be unsustainable or unaffordable for the applicant. If the applicant is not willing to

⁷ <https://www.york.gov.uk/EligibilityForCouncilHome>

accept a suitable offer, then the RP will use its legal powers to recover the property.

5. Persons on any form of probationary tenancy will not have any rights of assignation, exchange or transfer. Succession rights still apply.
6. Tenants in breach of their tenancy, or subject to demotion or Notice of Seeking Possession, may not seek a transfer or exchange. Breach of tenancy would also be considered when assessing assignation.

3.2 Grounds for refusing a Mutual Exchange

3.2.1 The grounds for refusal for mutual exchange requests which RPs must give consideration to are set out in Schedule 14 of the Localism Act 2011⁸, summarised in Appendix B below.

3.2.2 As noted above, mutual exchange is recognised as a useful and affordable means of meeting need. It is strongly supported that RPs in the city to facilitate mutual exchange where this would help meet housing need. For example, this may be assistance in helping one of the parties obtain a minor accessibility adaptation. It is expected that all RPs allow free access to approved online mutual exchange services, for the council's tenants this is <https://www.homeswapper.co.uk/>.

3.3 Deceased tenant

3.3.1 The council would expect all RPs to obtain a death certificate for any of their deceased tenants and not to terminate the tenancy until it is determined that there is no legal successor or survivor under the terms of Housing Acts 1985, 1988, 1996 as appropriate.

3.4 Fraud

3.4.1 Where a tenant of any RP in the city has obtained a tenancy by providing false information in a wilful, negligent or deliberate

⁸ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/schedule/14/enacted>

manner then there are grounds for repossession under the relevant Housing Acts and it is entirely reasonable for a RP to pursue that route.

3.4.2 Obtaining a tenancy fraudulently is covered by the council's existing allocations policy. Provision of fraudulent information by an applicant or tenant is further penalised by exclusion from the housing register for a period of five years and a fine of £5,000 can be imposed, based on the current allocations policy.

3.4.3 Where a criminal inducement is used to obtain or attempt to obtain a RP tenancy within the city, then it is expected that this would be referred to the Police in addition to action under any tenancy agreement.

3.5 Joint Tenancies

3.5.1 RPs will issue new joint tenancies where the parties have been accepted as joint application through the allocations and/or statutory homelessness process and are aged over 18, providing that no refusal criteria apply.

3.5.2 RPs will have discretion to refuse a request to add a non-dependent person to an existing tenancy. These requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. An application for someone to join a tenancy may be refused if they have been previously evicted from any accommodation or have a proven history of relevant criminal activity, anti-social behaviour or outstanding housing related debt (such as rent arrears or repair recharges) with any landlord. Arrears would not be taken into consideration where the applicant was subject to Domestic Abuse in the tenancy which the arrears relate to.

3.5.3 City of York Council tenancies will be issued and amended in accordance with the council's policies and procedures. The council would not normally agree to add anyone to the tenancy unless they were the spouse or partner of the tenant.

3.6 Flexible Tenancies

- 3.6.1 The 2011 Localism Act permits local authority landlords to issue Flexible tenancies for a fixed term period, which are reviewed at the end of the term. The fixed term is expected usually to be a minimum of 5 years but with a minimum 2 years in exceptional circumstances. The council's policy is to offer Flexible Tenancies in exceptional circumstances only, as a result 2 years is likely to be appropriate where these are used.
- 3.6.2 The Renters Reform Bill⁹ proposed a requirement that Housing Associations to issue periodic tenancies. This issue relates to Housing Association housing only and sits within the Tenancy Strategy.
- 3.6.3 Flexible Tenancies will be used for the purposes of effective stock management to meet tenant needs as a whole. Prior to the Flexible Tenancy commencement an Introductory Tenancy would be offered.
- 3.6.4 Where a Flexible Tenancy is not renewed, tenants will be offered an alternative suitable property provided they are not in breach of their existing tenancy.

Flexible Tenancy Allocation Criteria

- 3.6.5 The council will allocate Flexible Tenancies on a fixed term basis in circumstances as follows:

Circumstance for offering Flexible Tenancy	Likely fixed term period
1. Significant accessibility adaptations are carried out or already present in a property, which meet a tenant's needs at the point of allocation.	5 years
2. Tenants with a history of significant Antisocial Behaviour and/or arrears where recurrence is considered a potential risk.	2 years

⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-renters-rights-bill/guide-to-the-renters-rights-bill>

Circumstance for offering Flexible Tenancy	Likely fixed term period
<p>3. Tenancies with significant needs that may present challenges in tenancy sustainment.</p> <p>A suitable support package would usually be expected to have been identified prior to tenancy commencement.</p>	<p>2 years – at the end of the period, if a renewed tenancy is not considered appropriate alternative “step down” accommodation with extra support should be sought</p>
<p>4. Tenants allocated a property following award of high priority due to a being a foster carer, or being approved to adopt prior to the adoption taking place.</p>	<p>2 years – at the end of this period a Secure tenancy would be expected providing the household continues to need the property type allocated</p>
<p>5. Tenancies allocated a property of exceptional type in high need example, very large homes.</p>	<p>5 years</p>
<p>6. Other exceptional circumstances where a Flexible tenancy would meet the needs of stock management and tenant needs as a whole.</p>	<p>2-5 years</p>

3.6.6 Outside of these circumstances, new tenants will be allocated an Introductory tenancy with provision to become Secure and existing tenants will be allocated a Secure tenancy at a new property.

3.6.7 Prior to the end of the fixed term a review will be carried out and the council may decide to:

- Offer another fixed term tenancy at the same property
- Offer a secure tenancy at the same property
- End the tenancy and offer an alternative, more suitable property
- In cases where there is a tenancy breach, the council may end the tenancy without offering an alternative property, but would offer support to access alternative housing options if needed

3.6.8 The principles of this Tenancy Policy and the Allocations Policy will be applied in making this decision. The communication and

decision making process will ensure the expectations of Tenancy Standard¹⁰ 2.3.3 are met:

“Before a fixed term tenancy ends, registered providers shall provide notice in writing to the tenant stating either that they propose to grant another tenancy on the expiry of the existing fixed term or that they propose to end the tenancy.”

Flexible Tenancies Implementation

3.6.9 Flexible tenancies will only be implemented by CYC once available resources and systems are in place to do this. This will be determined through an appropriate Senior Officer decision.

4. Review of Tenancy Policy and Strategy

- 4.1 Impacts of the Tenancy Policy and Strategy will be monitored against the objectives.
- 4.2 A review will be carried out no later than 2 years from the approval of the policy. Earlier review may be implemented if impacts are identified supporting this.

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tenancy-standard>

Appendix A: City of York Living Rent

A1 City of York Living Rent Summary

Affordable Rents should in all cases meet City of York Living Rent expectations that:

- Rents are set in accordance with the government's Rent Standard and National Planning Policy Framework definitions, at up to 80% of market rent inclusive of service charge (for a new tenant)
- Rents are set at up to Local Housing Allowance rates as provided by central government, or
- In exceptional cases where robust viability evidence demonstrates that Local Housing Allowance levels would not be viable for a housing development, rents are set up a maximum of 35% of local low income levels for a relevant household (see A3 below)

A2 Evidence Review: Rents and Incomes

The Affordable Rent¹ tenure enables higher rates to be charged to support expansion in delivery of social housing. Homes provided under the scheme by Registered Providers, including the council, are fully eligible for Housing Benefit/Universal Credit Housing Element. The data that comprises the evidence base in this Appendix and reference figures for decision making will be indexed to relevant measures on an annual basis.

Affordable Rent levels are set up to a maximum of 80% of market rent, which can be significantly higher than traditional Social Rents, calculated via the Target Rents system. Affordable Rents must include any service charges. It is proposed to use a lower level in the City of York, taking into account local incomes and market rent levels.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rent-standard>

Appendix A: City of York Living Rent

Social Rent is used as the required rented tenure for most Section 106 affordable housing through the planning process. In cases where there are exceptions to this, for example when national policy requires the use of Affordable Private Rent² which is a similar tenure to Affordable Rent, a similar evidence based policy approach is applied alongside viability and planning law considerations.

In the City of York it is recommended to use Affordable Rent for additional affordable supply only where it is clearly demonstrated that additional affordable homes are provided as a result. This is in view both of the exceptional need for affordable homes locally, and the estimated 60-65% of social housing tenants who will be in receipt of Housing Benefit / Universal Credit Housing Element.

There are a number of considerations to take into account in utilising Affordable Rent:

- An affordable rent may create financial challenges for households in lower paid employment if they are not entitled to Housing Benefit / Universal Credit Housing Element or in receipt of benefits and subject to a non-dependent deduction.
- If an Affordable Rent investment plan is agreed with Homes England, a certain number of re-lets across the landlord's entire stock may be expected to be re-let at the Affordable Rent level. There is no such agreement in place by the council currently however local RPs may be required to do this.
- Affordable rent is unlikely to be affordable to the lowest quartile of incomes unless in receipt of Housing Benefit / Universal Credit Housing Element.

² <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/build-to-rent> this is comparable to Affordable Rent in some respects, for Build to Rent purpose built private rental schemes

Appendix A: City of York Living Rent

In York, with its expensive private rentals market, a rent level set at 80% of market is not likely to be genuinely affordable. and any social landlord in York using Affordable Rent would need to utilise a lower percentage of market rent.

This is shown in the table below using recent market evidence, and a reference household earnings amount of £41,606, **reference income**: this is 1.5x the 2025 Lower Quartile full-time earnings for the City, of £27,737 as provided by the Office of National Statistics (using the Work Geography measure to represent lower paid employment in the City)³. A typical affordability benchmark is that housing cost below 30% or 35% of gross earnings.

A review of individual Rightmove lettings carried out recurrently and last updated during October 2024, provided evidence for the typical advertised market rent average for the York area. Lower end market rents for 3-bed properties were identified between £1,095/month and £1,400/month, or from 32% to 41% of reference income. Of relevant for new build develop rent setting however, new build examples range from £1,650/month to £1,990/month (48%-58% of reference income).

Property / rent type: advertised rents in York	Average rent	% of reference household earnings	Comments
3 bed average private rent property in York @ 100% of advertised market price	£1,812/month	53%	Most Affordable Rent homes will be new build. This may be higher still albeit there is significant variability within the whole-market advertised average.

³ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/datasets/placeofworkbylocalauthorityashetable7>

Appendix A: City of York Living Rent

Property / rent type: advertised rents in York	Average rent	% of reference household earnings	Comments
Source: home.co.uk average advertised rent, March 2025			The dataset of new build only private rent properties in the City is too small to provide a meaningful reference point.
3 bed @ 80% of market price	£1,450/month	42%	Maximum permitted within tenure type however this is not recommended for the City of York.
3 bed @ 65% of market price	£1,178/month	34%	Approximately double equivalent social rent, but potentially affordable for lower income working households in many circumstances
3 bed @ 45% of market price	£815/month	24%	Likely to achieve sustainable affordability for higher value properties
City of York Local Housing Allowance (LHA) for a 3 bed property ⁴	£824.99/month	24%	Local Housing Allowance is here for comparison only as 'Affordable Rent' homes are still a form of social housing.

A3 Affordable Rent: evidence review summary

⁴ <https://www.york.gov.uk/LHARates>

Appendix A: City of York Living Rent

Affordable Rent within the City of York may be considered against three affordability thresholds, dependent on the property type and its individual valuation, as this can vary significantly between properties and schemes.

- 65% of typical market rent: risk of unaffordability, in particular for higher market value homes
- 45% of typical market rent: reduced potential for unaffordability
- Local Housing Allowance currently at 46% of typical market rent: wider affordability, and significantly below 35% of Reference Income

A3 Reference Income table by bedroom need as at February 2025

Bedroom need	Example lower income house type	Reference income (RI)	Monthly Rent: 35% of RI	Monthly Rent: LHA
1-bed	Single full-time Lower Quartile earnings	£27,737	£809	£674.99
2-bed	1.25 full-time Lower Quartile earnings	£34,671	£1,011	£775.02
3-bed	1.5x full-time Lower Quartile earnings	£41,606	£1,213	£824.99
4-bed	2x full-time Lower Quartile earnings	£55,474	£1,618	£1,199.98

Source: ONS Work based geography, annual full-time income for York

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/datasets/placeofworkbylocalauthorityashetable7>

Appendix A: City of York Living Rent

Appendix B: Refusal Grounds for Mutual Exchange

Number in Act	Ground for refusing consent to the exchange¹
1	When any rent lawfully due from a tenant under one of the existing tenancies has not been paid.
2	When an obligation under one of the existing tenancies has been broken or not performed.
3	A court order for possession or a suspended possession order has been made for either property.
4 & 5	The landlord has served a notice of seeking possession and the notice is still in force, or possession proceedings have commenced
6	An injunction order under section 153 of the Housing Act 1996 or an anti-social behaviour order or a Demotion Order or a possession order under Ground 2 for secure tenancies or Ground 14 for assured tenancies is in force or an application for one of those is pending either against the tenant, the proposed assignee or a person who resides with either of them.
7	The property is substantially larger than is reasonably needed by the proposed assignee.
8	The property is not reasonably suitable to the needs of the proposed assignee and their household.
9	The property is part of or close to a building that is held for non-housing purposes, or it is situated in a cemetery and was let in connection with employment with the landlord or with a local authority, a new town corporation, housing action trust, an urban development corporation, or the governors of a grant-aided school.
10	The landlord is a charity and the proposed assignee's occupation of the property would conflict with the objects of the charity.
11	The property has been substantially adapted for occupation by a physically disabled person, and if the assignment went ahead a physically disabled person would not be living there.
12	The landlord lets properties to people in difficult circumstances (other than merely financial circumstances) and the proposed assignee would not fulfil these criteria.

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/schedule/14/enacted>

Appendix B: Refusal Grounds for Mutual Exchange

Number in Act	Ground for refusing consent to the exchange¹
13	The property is let to people with special needs and there is a social service or special facility nearby to the properties to assist people with those special needs, and if the assignment was to go ahead no person with those special needs would be living there.
14	The dwelling is the subject of a management agreement where the manager is a housing association of which at least half the members are tenants subject to the agreement and at least half of the tenants of the dwellings are members of the association, and also that the proposed assignee is not such a member nor is willing to become one.

People Scrutiny Committee
Work Plan 2025/26
Reviewed November 2025

Date of Meeting	Item	Lead Officer / Exec Member	Scope
11 June 2025			
	Work-planning for the municipal year 2025/26		Work planning
9 July 2025			
	SEND Strategy, Update	Maxine Squire/Victoria Coyle/Cllr Webb	Update report
17 September 2025	<i>Informal work planning meeting</i>		<i>To consider allocation of work plan items</i>
8 October 2025			
	Neighbourhood Model	Pauline Stuchfield/Laura Williams/Cllr Pavlovic	Pre-decision scrutiny
	Adult Social Care Strategy	Sara Storey/Michael Melvin/Elaine Taylor/Cllr Steels-Walshaw	Update report
	York Learning 24-25 strategic plan performance	Angela Padfield	Annual update report
3 December 2025			

Date of Meeting	Item	Lead Officer / Exec Member	Scope
	York Hungry Minds – Free School Meal Pilot Update	Maxine Squire/Cllr Webb	Update report
	Early Years and Childcare Reforms update	Maxine Squire/Cllr Webb	Update report
	New Housing Tenancy and Rent Policies	Pauline Stuchfield/Andrew Bebbington/Cllr Pavlovic	Pre-decision scrutiny
11 February 2026	TBC Benefit Changes Task and Finish Group Draft Report		Task and Finish report
	TBC Food Insecurity Task and Finish Group Draft Report		Task and Finish report
15 April 2026	TBC		

Unallocated items and items recommended from previous scrutiny committees – to be considered for all-member briefing sessions or public meetings

Item	Origin	Lead Officer and Exec Member	Notes	Type of Scrutiny
Neighbourhood Policing Review	CCC	Director of Housing and Communities, Cllr Pavlovic, Exec. Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities	Suggested for committee report, date TBC	

Item	Origin	Lead Officer and Exec Member	Notes	Type of Scrutiny
School Attendance	CCC	Assistant Director, Education and Skills, Cllr Webb, Exec. Member for Children, Young People and Education	Suggested for Scrutiny Member Briefing Session, date TBC.	
Attainment Gap	CCC	Assistant Director, Education and Skills, Cllr Webb, Exec. Member for Children, Young People and Education	Suggested for Scrutiny Member Briefing Session, date TBC.	
Virtual School Annual Report	CCC	Assistant Director, Education and Skills, Virtual School Headteacher, Cllr Webb, Exec. Member for Children, Young People and Education	Suggested for briefing, date TBC	Annual Report

Item	Origin	Lead Officer and Exec Member	Notes	Type of Scrutiny
Children Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report	CCC	Corporate Director of Children and Education, Cllr Webb, Exec. Member for Children, Young People and Education	Briefing (already considered by Health and Wellbeing Board); to be shared with members via email.	Annual Report
Urgent Care Update	HHASC	Director of Public Health; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC	Suggested for briefing. Led by ICB colleagues. Follows previous update to HHASC in November 2025.	
Healthy Weight	HHASC	Director of Public Health; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC	Briefing to coincide with launch of new service offer. To be considered at Scrutiny Member Briefing Session on 4 December 2025.	Briefing
Draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025	HHASC	Director of Public Health; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC	Briefing only; consultation details have been shared with members.	

Item	Origin	Lead Officer and Exec Member	Notes	Type of Scrutiny
Dignity in Retirement Council Motion	HHASC	Cllr Lomas, Executive Member for Finance, Major Projects and Equalities	Follows September 2024 Council Motion: To request that the Executive Member for Finance, Major Projects and Equalities work with officers to create a plan for consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee(s) which sets out a range of measures that could be taken to mitigate the impact of the above decisions on York's pensioners, including maintaining financial support for warm spaces in York through allocation of Household Support Fund grants.	
Health and Artificial Intelligence – benefits and challenges	HHASC	Director of Public Health; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec	Specifics yet to be worked out.	

Item	Origin	Lead Officer and Exec Member	Notes	Type of Scrutiny
		Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC		
Telecare/reablement technology – briefing from relevant academics	HHASC	Corporate Director ASC and Integration; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC	Follows HHASC members' telecare demonstration in April 2025. Suggested for briefing along with for information on AI implementation.	Briefing for information only.
LD Provision – The Glen and Lowfields	HHASC	Corporate Director ASC and Integration; Corporate Director of Children and Education; Director of Housing and Communities; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC; Cllr Pavlovic, Exec Member for Housing Planning	Specifics yet to be worked out. (Note that Lowfields not yet built).	

Item	Origin	Lead Officer and Exec Member	Notes	Type of Scrutiny
		and Safer Communities		
Relevant outputs from LGA Peer Review – Housing Partners	HHASC	Director of Housing and Communities; Cllr Pavlovic Exec, Member for Housing Planning and Safer Communities	Suggested that relevant housing partners could be invited to report to the committee; specifics yet to be worked out.	
Update on Dentistry Provision	11/06/2025	Director of Public Health; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC	Suggested for Scrutiny Member Briefing Session; date TBC (municipal year 2026-27).	
Changes to Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB)	11/06/2025	Director of Public Health; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC	Suggested for Scrutiny Member Briefing Session; date TBC.	
Trauma Informed City Council Motion – possible wider discussion	HHASC	Director of Public Health; Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Exec Member for Health, Wellbeing and ASC	Follows March 2024 Council Motion and update from TEWV at HHASC in May 2025; to be considered along with ICB	

Item	Origin	Lead Officer and Exec Member	Notes	Type of Scrutiny
			changes during next municipal year (26-27).	
Gardening Assistance	11/06/2025	Director of Housing and Communities; Cllr Pavlovic Exec, Member for Housing Planning and Safer Communities	Suggested for briefing on assistance offered and closure of list.	

Scrutiny Member Briefing Sessions

- Thursday 21 October (Library Needs Assessment)
- Thursday 4 December (Healthy Weight/Capital Project Management)
- Thursday 26 February (TBC)
- Thursday 16 April (TBC)

Agreed Task and Finish Groups

Topic	Origin	Aims and objectives	Membership
Food Insecurity February 2026?	CCC, following Council resolution 20/07/2023	'Request that the council's scrutiny function undertakes a review of community food growing opportunities and makes recommendations to Executive to expand these opportunities,	Cllr Knight Cllr Nelson

		including considering the prospects for expanding an Edible York project in Tang Hall to other parts of the city to bring more underused gardens into use for food growing'	
Preparing for proposed changes to long-term sickness and disability benefits February 2026?	Corporate Scrutiny Committee (CSC), formerly Corporate Services, Climate Change and Scrutiny Management Committee (CSCCSMC), following Council resolution 27/03/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquire a detailed understanding of the scope of the proposed changes and the likely direct and indirect impacts • Establish the number of York residents likely to be affected by the changes if they are implemented as currently proposed • Identify what additional financial or other support affected residents may seek to access from the council and partners • Identify how affected residents can best be supported to access help, such as applying for other benefits for which they may be eligible 	<p>Cllr Fenton Cllr Runciman Cllr Steward Cllr Coles Cllr J Burton</p> <p><i>Meetings held 15 July 2025, 19 August 2025</i></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish whether capacity exists to meet a potential increase in demand for services or support <p>Make recommendations as to how the council and partners can most effectively allocate resources to support affected residents</p>	
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Possible Task and Finish Groups

Topic	Origin	Aims and objectives	Membership
Home Care Commissioning	HHASC – agreed by the committee in March 2024 but work not yet underway.	To better understand the commissioning of home care in the city, including monitoring, performance, cost, difference within contracts, companies, how the council's policy and social value policy apply to the commissioning and what the Council's direction of travel, incorporating the Council Plan 2023-2027 will affect commissioning.	Was previously: Cllrs Myers, Vassie, Baxter
Review and development of working	11/06/2025		

arrangements with York Youth Council			
Review of repair service satisfaction with a particular focus on responses from the Housing Annual Survey	11/06/2025		

People Scrutiny Committee remit:

- Develop & maintain close working with Corporate Parenting Board and York Schools & Academies Board and deliver complimentary agendas where appropriate;
- Children's Social Care
- The Virtual School for children in care
- Early Years and childcare
- School effectiveness and achievement, including school attendance and school safeguarding
- School services: School place planning and capital maintenance; School transport; Admissions; The School governance service and SENDIASS; Behaviour and attendance; Elective home education; Children missing education
- SEND services & Educational Psychology
- Skills, inc monitoring of York Skills Board; York Learning
- Neighbourhood Working, Community Centres
- People & Neighbourhoods Strategy & Policy
- Community Safety inc Safer York Partnership, Substance Misuse, Anti Social Behaviour
- Youth Services
- Voluntary Sector

- Digital inclusion strategy
- Develop & maintain close working with Health & Wellbeing Board in order to deliver complimentary agendas and avoid duplication; hold HWB board to account on HWB Strategy
- Public Health
- Maintain oversight of Health Services as appropriate to Scrutiny, including monitoring of the Integrated Care Strategy
- Consider any substantial changes to Health service provision within the local authority area
- Services for carers
- Adult Safeguarding
- Adult Social Care Provision
- Adult Social Care Community Teams
- Commissioning, Quality Improvement and Partnerships
- Early Intervention and Prevention
- Housing Revenue Account
- Housing Services
- Housing - Building Services, Repairs and maintenance, Standards and Adaptations
- Older People's Accommodation Programme
- Landlord services
- Homelessness and rough sleeping

In addition to the general powers and delegated authorities of Scrutiny Committees of the Council, the People Scrutiny Committee is also responsible for:

- a) the discharge of the health and scrutiny functions conferred on the Council by the Local Government Act 2000
- b) undertaking all of the Council's statutory functions in accordance with section 7 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001, NHS Reformed & Health Care Professional Act 2002, and section 244 of the National

Health Service Act 2006 and associated regulations, including appointing members, from within the membership of the Committee, to any joint scrutiny committees with other local authorities, as directed under the National Health Service Act 2006.

- c) reviewing and scrutinising the impact of the services and policies of key partners on the health of the City's population
- d) reviewing arrangements made by the Council and local NHS bodies for public health within the City
- e) making reports and recommendations to the local NHS body or other local providers of services and to evaluate and review the effectiveness of its reports and recommendations
- f) delegating functions of scrutiny of health to another Local Authority Committee
- g) reporting to the Secretary of State of Health when:
 - i. concerned that consultation on substantial variation or development of service has been inadequate
 - ii. it considers that the proposals are not in the interests of the health service

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