



**Notice of a public meeting of
Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors Taylor (Chair), Fitzpatrick (Vice-Chair), Reid, Potter, Gunnell, Brooks and Wiseman
Mr Thomas (Co-opted Statutory Member) and
Mr Pennington (Co-opted Statutory Member)

Date: Wednesday, 19 November 2014

Time: 5.30pm

Venue: The Auden Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G047)

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point, Members are asked to declare:

- any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests
- any prejudicial interests or
- any disclosable pecuniary interests

which they may have in respect of business on this agenda

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 September 2014.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. The deadline for registering is **5.00pm on Tuesday 18 November 2014**. Members of the public can speak on agenda items or matters within the remit of the committee.

To register to speak please contact the Democracy Officers for the meeting, on the details at the foot of the agenda.

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The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/download/3130/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_of_council_meetings

4. York Museums Trust Partnership Delivery Plan: (Pages 9 - 24)
Performance Update 2014/15

This report updates Members on the current progress of the York Museums Trust (YMT) towards meeting the targets agreed in the Partnership Delivery Plan, and provides an update on the implementation of the approved recommendations arising from the previously completed YMT Scrutiny review.

5. Explore Libraries and Archives Mutual: (Pages 25 - 52)
Bi-annual Performance Update 2014/15

This report updates Members on the performance of Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd (Explore) during the first 6 months of 2014/15.

6. Schools Outturn Data 2014 (Pages 53 - 60)

This report provides information about school performance in 2014 and the position of schools according to Ofsted judgements as of 4 November 2014.

- 7. Scoping Report on Proposed Scrutiny Review of Narrowing the Gap in York** (Pages 61 - 74)
This report explores the feasibility of the committee undertaking a scrutiny of actions taken to narrow gaps in attainment and progress in York.
- 8. Update Report on the Membership of Entrepreneurship Scrutiny Review Task Group** (Pages 75 - 78)
This report asks Members to consider a slight addition to the membership of the Entrepreneurship in York Schools Task Group in light of changes to the composition of the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee made at the recent Extraordinary Council meeting on 23 October 2014.
- 9. Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee Workplan 2014/15 including a verbal update on ongoing reviews** (Pages 79 - 80)
Members are asked to consider the Committee's workplan for the 2014-15 municipal year and receive a verbal update on ongoing reviews.
- 10. Urgent Business**
Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officers

Catherine Clarke and Louise Cook (job share)

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551031
- Email catherine.clarke@york.gov.uk and louise.cook@york.gov.uk

(If contacting by email, please send to both Democracy Officers named above).

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officers responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 (01904) 551550

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	17 September 2014
Present	Councillors Reid (Chair), Fitzpatrick (Vice-Chair), Scott, Potter, Gunnell, Brooks and, Taylor Mr E Thomas (Co-opted Statutory Member) and Mr A Pennington (Co-opted Statutory Member)

19. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the register of interests, any prejudicial interest or disclosable interests which they might have in respect of the business on the agenda or any other general interest they might have within the remit of the committee. Councillor Fitzpatrick declared a personal non prejudicial interest in agenda item 4 (York Theatre Royal: 2013/14 Part Year Performance Update) as she was a trustee of York Theatre Royal.

20. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the last meeting of the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Tuesday 22 July 2014 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

21. Public Participation

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

22. York Theatre Royal: 2013/14 Part Year Performance Update

Members received a report that informed them of the progress and performance of the York Theatre Royal under the current Service Level Agreement (SLA).

The Chief Executive of York Theatre Royal reported that the organisation had had a successful six months with many performances, high audiences and high participation figures. In terms of sustainability into the future, during this time the organisation had been successful with two significant things, firstly they had been able to confirm their three year funding with the Arts Council for 2015-18 and secondly they had been successful with an application to their capital lottery funds for £2.9m to support their £4.1m capital investment in the theatre for the next year. This left them only about £450,000 short of their target which, with many other applications in to trusts and foundations, was considered manageable.

The Chief Executive confirmed that the plan was to close the theatre in March 2015 and reopen in time for the pantomime later that year. Members asked whether closing the theatre for eight months would impact on any other funding or outreach work and work with the youth theatre. The Chief Executive advised that a full business continuity plan was in place and confirmed that the planned works would not impact on funding and that work with existing groups would continue although some would be relocated. The theatre would be going into residence at the National Railway Museum during this time and several productions were planned to take place there.

Resolved: That the report be noted and members' comments be taken into consideration.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's role under the service agreement.

23. Single Equality Scheme Update and Refresh

Members considered a report which informed them on the refresh of York's Equality Scheme and asked for their comments on the draft priorities detailed in annex 1 and the draft measures relevant to this committee as table in paragraph 9 of the report. Members were asked to confirm whether these should form the area of focus in the revised equality scheme or whether any others should be considered.

The Assistant Director, Communities, Culture and Public Realm, confirmed that once the areas of focus were agreed as being correct, the tables in the reports would be populated with data which would enable the committee to determine if there was anything they wished to scrutinise.

Members made the following suggested changes::

- Paragraph 8 of report/Annex 1 – Add young carers and service families to those listed under Learning and Educational Wellbeing (reducing the numbers of people with no formal qualifications and improving educational attainment). Also add other ethnic groups and LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transexual).
- Annex 1 – Add older people and people of different religions to list of people under the sub- heading “Community Wellbeing focuses on”
- It would be useful to see some comparative data on educational achievement of boys and girls separately.

Members raised concerns at the use of long sentences in annex 1 as they felt this lead to a loss of clarity and focus and they asked officers to take this into consideration.

Resolved:

- (i) That the progress made in the refresh of York’s Equality Scheme be noted.
- (ii) That members comments on the draft priorities and draft outcomes be noted as well as the suggested amendments put forward.
- (iii) That agreement be given that these should be the areas of focus in the revised Equality Scheme.

Reason: To help ensure that relevant equality issues are reflected in the revised Equality Scheme.

24. 2014/15 First Quarter Financial Monitoring Report

Members considered a report which analysed the latest performance for 2014/15 and forecasted the financial outturn position by reference to the service plan and budgets for all of the relevant services falling under the

responsibility of the Director of Communities & Neighbourhoods and the Director of Children's Services, Education & Skills.

The Finance Manager of Children's Services, Education and Skills, advised the committee that the council, at this stage, were looking at a projected overspend of approximately £100,000 and explained that this was a significant reduction on the projections which were reported at the same stage in the year during 2013-14. The Finance Manager responded to queries raised by members regarding the information contained in the report.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

Reason: To update the committee on the latest financial and performance position for 2014-15.

25. Update on Parks Development

Members received a presentation by the Head of Parks and Open Spaces on recent developments and future plans for parks and open spaces across the city. A copy of the presentation was included within the agenda papers.

The Head of Parks and Open Spaces provided an update on work taking place in West Bank Park, Rowntree Park, Rawcliffe Country Park, Glen Gardens and Hull Road Park and within other open spaces across the city.

Members were advised that the four tennis courts at Glen Gardens had been restored by City of York Council and transferred to Heworth Tennis Club, who now held responsibility for the management of the courts. Members raised concerns over the loss of what they considered a public facility, stating that transferring the courts to Heworth Tennis Club would take away the opportunity for casual players to use the courts without joining a club, which many would not be able to afford. They felt that as the council would no longer have any control over charges, there would be no way from preventing it from becoming unaffordable to the general public. In response to a question from Members, Officers confirmed that they had been approached by Rowntree Park Tennis Club regarding a similar arrangement but that they had not come to any agreement on this yet. The Committee asked to be involved in any consultation regarding this decision.

In view of reduced budgets, the Committee acknowledged the importance of community involvement in the city's parks and open spaces and the need to get community groups, friends groups and residents associations working with the council to improve these spaces. Officers advised that for the first time the council would be able to insure individual volunteers for grounds work/litter picking whereas before this had been limited to groups. They confirmed that training and equipment would be provided to volunteers.

Resolved: That the presentation be noted.

Reason: In order to keep members informed on developments in York's parks and open spaces.

26. Annual Report of the City of York Safeguarding Board 2013/14

Members considered a report which provided an indication of the key areas of progress in implementing actions from the previous annual report and business plan between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014. The report identified areas for further improvement and key priorities for safeguarding across the city for 2014-15 and the Committee were asked to consider these priority areas in its scrutiny activities where appropriate.

The Independent Chair of the City of York Safeguarding Children Board explained that he had discussed the relationship between, the Safeguarding Children Board, this scrutiny committee and Children's Services with the Chief Executive and in terms of the reporting procedure for next year proposed that the Committee should first receive a report from the Safeguarding Children Board then at the next meeting consider a report from Children's Services. At the end of the year, the Chief Executive would attend with him to present the annual report of the Safeguarding Children Board.

The Independent Chair asked the committee to recognise the five priorities set out in the report as follows: Early Help, Neglect, child Sexual Abuse, Domestic Abuse, and Missing Children, and to consider these priorities when agreeing their forward plan as to whether they would like to receive reports on any of these areas.

With regard to progress around one of these key priorities, child sexual exploitation, the Independent Chair explained the important distinction between sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation. He briefed

Members on what work was taking place in order to provide assurances around historical issues of child sexual exploitation, noting that the way these were recorded and labelled historically would provide challenges, and also how they would look at current activity. The Assistant Director informed Members that an effective countywide strategic group had been established and was led by the police to investigate child sexual exploitation. Through awareness raising and information shared around the country, knowledge of child sexual exploitation had improved considerably. In the last 18 months, they had trained over 1100 professionals in child sexual exploitation and associated issues.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Annual Report of the City of York Safeguarding Children Board 2013-14 (Summary) be noted.
- (ii) That consideration be given to considering the safeguarding Board priorities set out on page 14 (Early Help, Neglect, child Sexual Abuse, Domestic Abuse, and Missing Children) in future scrutiny activity where deemed appropriate.

Reason: To allow Members to be fully informed on areas for further improvement and key priorities for safeguarding across the city.

27. School Improvement Update

Members considered a report which updated them on primary and secondary school performance in 2014 together with information about the position of York schools according to Ofsted judgements during 2013-14. The Senior Advisor, Early Years and Principal Advisor, 14-19 were in attendance, as well as the Director of Children's Services, Education and Skills.

With regard to primary performance, the Senior Advisor, Early Years, informed the committee that the percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development had increased by eight percent. This had been achieved across 12 areas of learning. The gap between Free School Meal (FSM) pupils and non FSM pupils had narrowed in reading and mathematics at both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 with the gap closing

by 13 % in reading at KS2. The gap remained the same in writing at both Key Stage levels and progress in writing was a priority for 2015.

With regard to secondary performance, the Principal Advisor, 14-19 advised Members that the Key Stage 4 results were provisional at this stage and performance tables would be published in February 2015. However provisional figures were good and put York (along with North Yorkshire) in equal first position in the Yorkshire and Humber Region.

- Resolved:
- (i) That the update on primary and secondary school performance in 2014 be noted.
 - (ii) That the position of York schools according to Ofsted judgements during 2013-14 be noted.

Reason: To inform Members consideration of possible future areas for scrutiny review.

28. Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee Workplan 2014/15

Members considered the Committee's workplan for the 2014-15 municipal year.

Members acknowledged the proposed change to the reporting procedure for Children's Services and the City of York Safeguarding Children Board for the forthcoming municipal year.

Resolved: That the workplan be agreed.

Reason: To keep the Committees workplan updated.

Councillor A Reid, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.20 pm].

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Learning and Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee 19 November 14

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities, Culture & Public Realm)

**York Museums Trust Partnership Delivery Plan:
Performance Update 2014/15 - First 6 months report****Summary**

1. This report updates Members on the current progress of the York Museums Trust (YMT) towards meeting the targets agreed in the Partnership Delivery Plan, and provides an update on the implementation of the approved recommendations arising from the previously completed YMT Scrutiny review.

Background

2. YMT was set up as an independent trust in order to achieve a business turnaround of the museums and art gallery and to enhance the cultural provision within the city. It successfully addressed its initial targets which were concerned principally with: stabilising visitor numbers, delivering new income streams, creating new exhibitions and interpretative services, creating an education strategy, increasing use and involvement by residents and cataloguing of the collection.
3. The current Partnership Delivery Plan (PDP) approved by the Cabinet Member in March 2013 outlined the key targets and objectives which the Council requires YMT to work towards over the period 2013-18:
 - To protect and conserve the collections, gardens and buildings.
 - To promote access to the city's collections, gardens and buildings appropriate to the 21st century.
 - To attract more visitors to all the YMT sites, increasing visitor numbers from 660,000 to 900,000 by 2018, thus contributing to the local and regional economy.
 - To create learning opportunities and improve skills for all and develop innovative programmes springing from the collections, gardens and buildings.

- To network and collaborate with partners and contribute to the development of the economic and cultural life of the city and the region and support York's world class cultural offer.
 - To raise substantial funds to realise these aims through the development of sustainable income streams and relationships with Grants and Trusts.
4. The specific activities and outcomes are summarised under five main headings:
- Income improvement – to further develop YMT financial sustainability
 - Capital Project – to ensure the delivery of key capital improvements to the YMT estate
 - Public programmes – to promote the collections, buildings and gardens ensuring visitors and residents have leisure and learning opportunities
 - Working in partnership – to delineate the specific areas where YMT support our corporate priorities
 - Governance – to ensure the continued security of the collections and the appropriate governance of the business.
5. The report from YMT (see Annex 1) sets out how they have been addressing these issues in the period to September 2014, and also gives an outline of what they will be developing moving forward.
6. YMT have also provided an update on their implementation of the approved recommendations arising from this Committee's previous YMT scrutiny review – see Annex 2.

Options

7. The report at Annex 1 is for information and there are no options to consider.
8. In regard to the implementation update at Annex 2, Members may choose to:
- i. Sign off any recommendations that have been fully implemented
 - ii. Request a further update in 6 months time for any outstanding recommendations

Council Plan

9. YMT contributes to a number of corporate objectives including developing opportunities for residents and visitors to experience York as a vibrant and eventful city, improving opportunities for learning, and in strengthening York's economy through investment in the tourism infrastructure.

Implications

10. **Finance:** The Council makes an annual grant to YMT. In 2014/15 the grant is £1,107k, a reduction of £400k compared to 2012/13. The grant will reduce by a further £500k in 2015/16.
11. The report has no implications relating to: Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology, Property.

Risk Management

12. This report is for information and there are no risks to consider.

Recommendations

13. Members are recommended to:
 - i) Comment upon the performance of the York Museums Trust as detailed in Annex 1.
Reason: To fulfil the Council's role under the partnership delivery plan.
 - ii) Sign off any previous recommendations that have now been fully implemented, as detailed in Annex 2.
 - iii) Request a further implementation update if required.
Reason: To conclude the work on the review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols.

Contact Details

Authors:

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Ext. 3371

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Charlie Croft
Assistant Director (Communities, Culture and Public
Realm)

Janet Barnes
Chief Executive
York Museums Trust

Report Approved



Date 3 November 2014

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Annex 1: York Museums Trust Performance Report to September 2014.

Annex 2: Previous recommendations

Abbreviations

YMT - York Museums Trust

PDP - Partnership Delivery Plan

York Museums Trust Performance Report: April 2014 – September 2014

Executive Summary

YMT opened the new exhibition *1914: When the world changed forever* at the Castle Museum on 28 June 2014. It has been very popular with visitors. This was funded largely by the Heritage Lottery Fund. YMT have also led on a publication listing all the 1914 related events across the county. This was done in association with the Imperial War Museum in London.

The York Art Gallery project is now proceeding well after a structural problem with the gable end wall. This has resulted in delay to the hand over date by Simpsons of York. We are now working towards an opening date in summer 2015. The gallery is looking marvellous with the mezzanine gallery in place and the new Upper South gallery in situ. Both these galleries will be the home of CoCA, the new Centre of Ceramic Art.

YMT have also submitted planning permission for the new gardens that will connect the historic Museum Gardens with the area behind York Art Gallery. We are planning to have two of the garden areas open to the public in time for the opening of the gallery.

Other major events include the Museums at Night event on 15 May with Grayson Perry who gave a public interview in the Tempest Anderson Hall. The afternoon included an enjoyable bear hunt for visitors in the Museum Gardens and Yorkshire Museum with numerous bears made by students from York College.

Since the last report to Scrutiny we have successfully applied for funding from the Arts Council Major Partners Museum funding (£1,230,000 per year to 2018) and the Museums Development Yorkshire, who are part of YMT, has successfully applied for three year funding from 2015-18 at £315,000 each year. This means we can continue working to help smaller and medium sized accredited museums across Yorkshire and Humberside in a variety of ways. We see this work as a vital tool to increase YMT's profile and influence in the region and beyond.

Whilst York Art Gallery is closed we have continued to display as much of the collection elsewhere as possible. Our regional touring exhibition

Masterstrokes: Great Paintings from York Art Gallery has now been on display over the last 6 months to Scarborough, Barnsley and it is due to be shown at the Mercer Gallery in Harrogate as its final venue. We also continue to have a few works on display at Fairfax House and also the National Gallery and at Tate Britain.

Staff Numbers at the end of September were: 71 full time, 40 part time, 51 casual totalling 162.

Analysis of Performance

a) *Stabilising visitor figures*

The York Castle Museum did very well over the reporting period; the decrease in numbers at the Yorkshire Museum is due to the Richard III exhibition last year which attracted a lot of media coverage.

Total Visitors: 6 months from April 2014
to September 2014
(excluding venue hire visitors)

	Actual	Last year	% Change
York Castle Museum	148,736	142,894	+ 4%
York St Mary's	19,588	19,982	-2%
Yorkshire Museum	48,289	60,229	-20%
Grand Total	216,613	223,105	-3%

b) **Delivering new income streams**

We have been working on researching a new initiative of a YMT Membership scheme that will help make us more sustainable and resilient over the years. Given that we will have a lot less funding from the City of York Council in 2015 we are also rethinking our business model in order to survive and thrive. The change will be moving from a museum service to becoming a museum business. YMT has strived, since we began in 2002, to create new and varied income streams and the success of our Trading Subsidiary is testament to this. It continues to show a strong performance and in the financial year of 2013/14, retail,

catering and venue hire delivered a profit of over £223,000. This income feeds back in to support the Charity under a tax-free Gift Aid arrangement.

This financial year has begun very well, with profit on these activities up by 18% in the first six months. York Art Gallery will present further opportunities to increase retail and catering income.

The support we receive from the Arts Council England has become more and more significant as the support from the City of York Council declines. So we are pleased and relieved that the Arts Council has awarded YMT funding until 2018 although the amount may change from 2016 - 18 due to the outcome of the government elections and the Comprehensive Spending Review. The application process for Major Partner Museum funding was competitive across England. There are now 21 MPM's in this second round compared with 16 MPM's in the first allocation. Applications were judged in accordance to the Arts Council's five goals. YMT was deemed to be 'strong' in four of the goals and 'outstanding' in the goal judging sustainability and resilience.

c) New exhibitions and interpretative service

Due to the closure of York Art Gallery, York St Mary's has become York Art Gallery's contemporary art space. Earlier in the year we reported on the second ***Aesthetica Art Prize***. This exhibition showcases excellence in contemporary art and features shortlisted artists in the categories of Photographic & Digital Art, Three Dimensional Design & Sculpture, Painting & Drawing and Video, Installation & Performance. Aesthetica is a York based organisation that publishes a magazine and organises the short film festival in York. This was followed by *Finding the Value* an exhibition that displayed new work by five commissioned artists who created new work from some items of the Madsen bequest.

The main new exhibition is *1914: When the World Changed Forever* at the Castle Museum.

d) Create an education strategy

Headline educational figures for the period April – September are as follows:

Formal Learning

The focus on work for this period has been in preparing a brand new programme of primary school workshops which meet the requirements of the new National Curriculum. Numbers of pupils taking part in taught

	YCM		YM		Total	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
Pupils from York schools	993	1,176	806	829	1,799	2,005
Pupils from non-York schools	10,386	9,705	2,643	2,443	13,029	12,148
School Pupils taking part in a taught session	2,742	3,278	2,550	2,979	5,292	6,257
York Pupils taking part in outreach activities or projects	-	1500	-	165	-	1,665
HE and FE student visits	705	1,996	239	80	785	2,076
	YCM		YM		Total	
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
Pupils from York schools	993	1,176	806	829	1,799	2,005
Pupils from non-York schools	10,386	9,705	2,643	2,443	13,029	12,148
School Pupils taking part in a taught session	2,742	3,278	2,550	2,979	5,292	6,257
York Pupils taking part in outreach activities or projects	-	1500	-	165	-	1,665
HE and FE student visits	705	1,996	239	80	785	2,076

sessions continued to increase at both museums towards the end of the 2013/14 academic year. With the introduction of new sessions such as *Prehistoric Progress*, *Life in Anglo Saxon York* and the *Life of Charles Darwin* the Yorkshire Museum there has been a significant increase in booked taught sessions at the start of the 2014/15 term at the Yorkshire Museum. The majority of pupils visiting the Yorkshire Museum also take part in a taught session with museum staff.

In partnership with NYBEP (North Yorkshire Business Education Partnership) and with funding from the Yorkshire Philosophical Society and Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) the Yorkshire Museum ran a special STEM outreach project *The Pyramid Challenge* with York Primary Schools with 165 pupils taking part.

Numbers of school pupils visiting the York Castle Museum have remained stable despite Victorians not being a specified subject on the Primary history curriculum. The opening of the First World War exhibition has resulted in a high level of demand from schools for both self led visits and the new taught sessions *Total War* and *Child of the Great War*.

Informal Learning

The museums have provided additional events and activities over the school holiday periods aimed at visitors and family audiences. These have been linked to significant objects going on display for the first time, in the case of the *Dinosaur Detectives* summer trail at the Yorkshire Museum, and for new exhibitions, particularly linking to the anniversary of the outbreak of war at York Castle Museum. Hands on and participatory activities have been very well received, particularly children taking part in drill with the museum's First World War Recruitment Officer.

The Learning staff also attended the Great Yorkshire Show and engaged with over 7,500 members of the public. YMT worked with York Minster and York Explore on an arts project throughout the summer aimed 11/12 year olds achieving their Discovery Arts Award.

Family Learning

The Museum Monkeys programme of sessions for Under 5's and their carers continues to be very popular. In May the Yorkshire Museum won the *Connect Ten-Museums at Night* competition for Grayson Perry to visit and take part in a special *Meet the Museum Bears* family event, which was attended by over 800 people.

On 25th September a special event in partnership with the University of York was held on the international Researcher's Night, celebrating and promoting careers in Research. The museum's free *In the Museum Night Garden* event was themed around 'Underground York' and was attended by approx 1500 people. This event will be repeated next September.

Adult Learning

YMT continues to be part of York's Community Learning Partnership; taking part in the Adult Learning Festival in June and sponsoring an award at the York Adult Learning Awards. Four volunteers working on projects at YMT won the Learning Projects award at this year's ceremony. In addition to learning projects taking place the events project has continued and links in with City wide festivals such as the Festival of Ideas and run special events linked to the museum collections. Notable events this year from the museum's programme were the *In Focus on Shakespeare's First Folio* and *Grayson Perry in Conversation*.

Genesis

YMT provides creative opportunities for 14-24 year olds to engage with heritage and cultural and to work with the museum's collections. Over 1500 York school pupils worked with staff at York Castle Museum and NYBEP to create interventions for the First World War exhibition. They pitched their ideas to a panel of judges at a special finals day and the winning teams went on to make their idea a reality working with professional animators. Special art and archaeology summer schools for young people also took place in August and were oversubscribed.

Territories

The community arts programme has been taking place at York Castle Museum, while York Art Gallery is closed. Projects have been themed around the First World War and remembrance linked to the exhibition at the Museum. *Remember Me* is a project which has involved an artist working with a group with a mental health focus. We have also worked with families in three Children's Centres in the Acomb, Clifton and St Lawrences areas, with the artist being supported by care workers. Both projects aim to provide creative learning opportunities and access to the collections, as well encourage participants to visit the museum.

e) Increase use and involvement by residents

We have worked with 427 volunteers from 1 April to 30 September 2014, who have contributed 8,261 hours during this period. This is a 30% increase in hours from the same period in 2013. We have run 145 individual volunteer training sessions in subjects such as object handling, customer care, manual handling, drug awareness as well as bespoke activity training.

In addition to their regular volunteer role, we have been able to give our volunteers the opportunity to get involved with special events such as the Great Yorkshire Show, the Grayson Perry event, a Fossils Roadshow and the Scarborough Fossils Festival.

Several of our volunteers have been successful this year in receiving awards in recognition of their volunteer contributions, from both the Higher York Awards and CYC Adult Learner Awards schemes.

As our core Hands on Here! project goes from strength to strength, we are looking to extend our public offer by creating costumed volunteer roles on Kirkgate, volunteer talks on gallery and volunteer-led guided tours at the Castle Museum for visitors with mobility issues. The tours will take in all the accessible spaces and will be complemented by an object handling session and talk, using objects similar to ones on display in areas that are not accessible to the visitor.

The YMT Volunteer Team is leading on the revival of the Regional Heritage Volunteer Managers Forum, which had dwindled over the previous 18 months under the model of being led by an independent facilitator. There is a great need for a regional forum for heritage sites who work with volunteers and the YMT team already spends regular time supporting and mentoring smaller volunteer programmes across the region, so it was a natural progression to expand this support to a wider field. We are working closely with York Minster and the NRM on this, and also working with the NRM on the fledgling National Heritage Volunteering Advisory Board, which has drawn up a Charter for Heritage Volunteering.

f) Achieve high visitor satisfaction

Visitor surveys carried out in summer/autumn 2014 by Spirul Research showed that at:

York Castle Museum:

- 99% of visitors were either satisfied or very satisfied with their visit

- 99% would recommend the museum to others
- 90% would visit again

At Yorkshire Museum:

- 97% of visitors were either satisfied or very satisfied with their visit
- 95% would recommend the museum to others
- 92% would visit again

g) Ensure the cataloguing of the collection

We have developed a full digitisation strategy of the collections. The streamlining and improving of photography being the cornerstone of this new push to raise the standard of collections documentation for both internal and public access.

The new websites have some of the collections online and we have 162,885 having added 12,000 records to the database during this period as well as uploading a further 10,000+ images to the searchable online collection.

We continue to engage with regional partners, offering digital asset and content creation advice. And will soon be advising on image policy and intellectual property rights.

Our digital volunteering programme is being developed and already incorporates a programme dedicated to increasing the amount of digital images the trust makes available of its collections - improving access.

We have also written a formal image policy which will see YMT become one of the most open in the country with its images.

Digital has also been incorporated into the YMT's accreditation bid.

We were successful with our funding bid to Wikimedia UK to extend and expand the previous digital project into a regional role. We are now working to embed our digital expertise into the Museum Development Yorkshire programme of regional museums.

Janet Barnes, Chief Executive
York Museums Trust, October 2014

Abbreviations

CoCA - Centre of Ceramic Art

YMT – York Museums Trust

MPM - Major Partner Museum

NYBEP - North Yorkshire Business Education Partnership

IET – Institute of Engineering and Technology

STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

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Recommendations as Approved by the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Tourism & Culture on 23 February 2013	Update on Implementation of Approved Recommendations as of Nov 2014
(i) Request YMT to provide to the next meeting of the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee a presentation on the key principles that their Acquisition and Disposal policy review will be based on - in order to help frame and support YMT's work on those revisions	Presentation on key principles provided to scrutiny committee on 20 March 2013
(ii) Request YMT to provide a revised version of the Acquisition and Disposal policy for the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee's consideration at their meeting in May 2013, prior to it being approved by the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism.	Revised Acquisition & Disposals Policy presented to scrutiny committee on 1 May 2013
(iii) Note the willingness of YMT's Volunteers Manager to attend ward meetings / community events to identify ward residents who may have useful skills and to help facilitate the recruitment of additional volunteers	This was a note for council member and officers.
(iv) Ask YMT to provide for the Scrutiny Committee a brief report on their processes for training volunteers and passing on knowledge to enhance the training of new guides and volunteers	The Director of Knowledge and Learning attended Scrutiny Committee on 12 June 2013 to report on this.

<p>(v) Restate with YMT the relevant section of the legal agreement between YMT and the Council with regard de-accessioning unwanted / damaged / duplicate collection items, in order to provide clarity on the procedure and to allow the progression of work on the collections and the implementation of YMT's plans for the future.</p>	<p>The existing procedure was clarified with Council officers at the time of the scrutiny report.</p> <p>The legal agreement between YMT and the Council is being reconsidered as part of the ongoing funding discussions.</p>
<p>(vi) Ask YMT to continue their bi-annual update reports to Overview & Scrutiny Committee, ensuring that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify their progress against the Collections Loan Agreement and Collections Management Protocol agreed in 2002 • Include information on any items disposed of since the last update report. 	<p>The final section of the update reports deals with collections issues and progress.</p> <p>Disposals are reported to Council officers as a matter of course but have not to date been included in the update reports. This can be done in future.</p>
<p>(vii) Note YMT's continued efforts to improve storage arrangements for the collections and continue to reflect the shared ambition to improve collections management and documentation in the next Partnership Delivery Plan.</p>	<p>YMT is currently negotiating the purchase of a new store adjacent to the existing one at Birch Park. The Council is supporting this through its capital programme.</p>



Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee 19 November 2014

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities, Culture & Public Realm)

Explore Libraries and Archives Mutual: Bi-annual Performance Update 2014/15**Summary**

1. This report updates Members on the performance of Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd (Explore) during the first 6 months of 2014/15.

Background

2. Explore was set up on 1 May, 2015 as a Community Benefit Society with exempt charitable status, jointly owned by staff and the community, with the aim of delivering a comprehensive and efficient public library service, increasing access to library services by providing excellent services, encouraging everyone to be a library member from birth, and giving York residents universal membership of all public libraries in England and Wales. Explore's vision is *to enable people to live fuller, more connected and engaged lives*.
3. Explore is tasked with making a major contribution to helping the Council engage with its communities, facilitating adult learning, getting people on line, promoting the health and wellbeing agenda, and supporting vulnerable people, e.g. housebound people and people with mental health issues.
4. £450k savings were made immediately on establishing Explore with a further £50k saving in 2015/16. This was achieved whilst maintaining paid staff in every library, ensuring no closures, and driving service improvement.
5. The Council has entered into a 5 year contract with Explore for the provision of services. The contract specification sets out the key requirements with respect to service levels including book stock, professional staffing, service points, and the outcomes to be achieved (see Annex 1).

6. The report from the Chief Executive of Explore (see Annex 2) sets out performance issues in the period to September 2014, and the relevant performance indicators are detailed in Annex 3.

Options

7. This report is for information and there are no options to consider.

Council Plan 2011-15

8. Explore contributes to a number of corporate objectives including developing opportunities for residents and visitors to experience York as a vibrant and eventful city, improving opportunities for learning, and in strengthening York's economy through investment in the tourism infrastructure.

Implications

9. **Finance:** The contract sum for the full year in 2014/15 is £1,942,000 (the actual payment reduced to reflect the 1 May start date). It reduces by £50k in 2015/16.
10. The report has no implications relating to: Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology, Property.

Risk Management

11. This report is for information and there are no risks to consider.

Recommendation

12. Members are asked to comment upon the performance of Explore.
Reason: To help monitor the service received under the contract.

Contact Details

Authors:

Charlie Croft
Assistant Director
(Communities, Culture and
Public Realm)

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Charlie Croft
Assistant Director (Communities, Culture and
Public Realm)

Fiona Williams
Chief Executive
Explore

Report Approved



Date

7.11.14.

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

Annex 1 - Schedule 2 of the Contract for the Provision of Services

Annex 2 - Report of the Chief Executive of Explore

Annex 3 - Performance Indicators to Quarter 2

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Schedule 2

1. Description of the Services

The service shall fulfil the Council's statutory duty under the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 which states that: *It shall be the duty of every library authority to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for all persons desiring to make use thereof.*

The service shall further Explore's vision, *to enable people to live fuller, more connected and engaged lives.*

Explore will deliver a comprehensive and efficient public library service increasing access to library services by providing excellent services, encouraging everyone to be a library member from birth, and giving York residents universal membership of all public libraries in England and Wales through membership of the Society of Chief Librarians.

Explore shall provide the following core offers:

i. The Health and Social Care Offer:

- A network of local hubs offering non-clinical community space where people can access free, impartial information and advice
- Community outreach supporting vulnerable people such as a home library service, and books on prescription
- Expert staff with up to date knowledge of health care services and providers in their local community and who will be able to signpost customers effectively to providers where clinical or specialist support is needed. They will do this with respect and confidentiality.
- Assisted on-line access to a range of websites by staff who are expert in mediated searches and able to locate information and online resources appropriate for the customer need and to facilitate and enable digital literacy
- Self-help, independent library resources including impartial health information to support people in making independent life decisions
- Health and care information services through partnership with agencies such as Age UK, Macmillan to signpost customers
- All sites to be dementia friendly
- Public health promotion activity working with the public health team
- Social and recreational reading opportunities like reading groups

- Volunteering and community engagement activities

ii. The Universal Reading Offer:

- Promoting the joy of reading through a range of activities and events
- Free access to book stock to browse and borrow in a variety of formats for all ages in which readers claim a legitimate interest
- A stock policy that reflects the community's requirements, promotes the stock, and provides the widest range of material within the resources available
- Average number of items added to stock per year over the life of the contract to be no lower than the number of items added to stock by the Council during the financial year 2013/14
- Access to the national book collection through inter library loan
- Support for reading groups
- Interactive catalogue and events that support and develop a community of readers. Connecting readers to other readers
- Promoting reading for children and young people, working with schools and early years settings
- Supporting literacy development at all ages
- Taking part in national reading promotions
- Services for targeted audiences within the universal offer

iii. The Universal Information Offer:

- Information from all sources, which has been researched by information professionals, giving a level of quality assurance to the user
- Expert staff, trained in reference work
- Provision of community information at each site and management of Yortime.org.uk
- Impartial reference and information allowing people to make informed decisions
- Access to local and family history resources
- Business and enterprise information supporting SMEs and people looking to start up in business
- Information on jobs and careers as well as job search workshops in partnership with York Learning
- Work with the Council's benefits team to deliver information on the range of and changes to benefits

- Expert help accessing rights, democracy and citizenship information
- Expert help accessing Gov.uk, york.gov.uk and other national and local government websites

iv. The Universal Digital Offer:

- Free access to the Internet for every resident
- Free WiFi in every library
- Clear and accessible online information about library services
- A range of online reference sources
- Ebooks
- Free help to get online and support once you are online
- Targeted work to get people online
- Surgeries to try out new technology such as tablets, ereaders etc.
- Mediated help online
- Staff trained to help customers access digital information
- Ability for customers to join online
- Ability to be contacted online/via email for answers to customer enquiries
- 24/7 access to services through a virtual library presence
- Ability to reserve & renew items remotely via an online catalogue

Explore shall deliver the following additional services:

i. An archive and local history service:

- Promoting access to the collections
- Ensuring, conservation, acquisitions and disposal of the collection
- Achieving archive accreditation within 4 years
- Supporting local democracy and accountability by identifying and preserving the key original records of York's local government through best practice professional records management
- Maintain free hands-on public access to the archive and local history collections both in York Explore and throughout our network of libraries
- Maintaining York as a National Archives Approved repository for legally-protected Public Records and Manorial Documents

- Developing partnerships with local community groups to increase the use of the archive and local history collections, and volunteer opportunities to get involved in preserving the collections
- Increasing the proportion of the archive and local history collections which are available online
- Working with local partners to increase educational use of the archive & Local history collections, and to develop the archives collections to support economic and tourism development
- Pursuing external funding to support these objectives
- Working in partnership with the Council to deliver all the Heritage Lottery Fund approved purposes of the York Gateway to History project grant, and specifically
- Delivering Approved Purpose Three (“to give hands on access to the archives”) through the HLF approved Activity Plan attached as Appendix1 of this contract.

ii. Management of the Learning Network:

- Developing it in partnership with York Learning to support the curriculum

iii. Administration of YorkCard for the Council:

- Issuing YorkCards in accordance with the Council’s eligibility criteria
- Negotiating new discounts from other providers
- Marketing the benefits of YorkCard
- Maintaining a marketing database for the use of the Council and administering the Yortime ebulletin

iv. Administration of the Yortime Service:

- Administering the Yortime mailing, maintaining the database of individuals’ details in compliance with data protection requirements and seeking user permissions in order to make the data available to the Council free of charge for appropriate Council communications
- Operating the Yortime booking system, ensuring that the system is supported and maintained and leading on future system development in consultation with the Council’s Learning Services. Where further development of the system is required by the Council and this incurs a development cost then the Council will be liable to pay for any further support costs. Where these

development costs lead to further annual support costs these will be met by Explore. Where further development of the system is required by Explore and this incurs a development cost then Explore will be liable to pay for these further costs. (NB the data will remain in the ownership of the Council).

- Working in partnership with Learning Services to manage content generation and user access maintaining a joint post (this arrangement to be reviewed annually)

v. *Provision of learning space for York Learning:*

- Making no less than 50% of available room capacity for hire, free of charge, to York Learning

vi. *Toy Library:*

- Administering the toy library on the Library Mobile service in partnership with Children's Centres

Explore shall ensure that appropriate staff are deployed to carry out the service by:

- Retaining a professionally qualified chief librarian
- Retaining a qualified and designated Civic Archivist
- Retaining a core of qualified professionals
- Staff and volunteers appropriately trained to deliver the comprehensive and efficient service
- Paying all staff no less than the living wage

2. Specification Outcomes

The service shall deliver the following outcomes:

a. Increased opportunities for residents to shape local services through volunteering roles and opportunities, evidenced by:

- A widening range of volunteer roles within the service to support paid staff
- Active membership of the York Volunteering Partnership
- Partnerships with organisations to deliver services such as with the Royal Voluntary Service to deliver the Home Library Service

- b. “Co-production”: the active involvement of residents in decisions and service redesign of Explore’s services to meet local needs, evidenced by:
- Opportunities for residents to elect two board members and to stand for the board
 - Friends groups and advisory groups which will be open to everyone of all ages
 - Workshops designed to include everyone and actively encouraging people from disadvantaged communities to take part which will build capacity through topics such as “how to be a board member”
- c. Residents increasingly supported to engage in planning, priority setting and problem solving generally in their communities, evidenced by:
- Partnership working with the Council’s Communities and Equalities team to deliver a programme of engagement activities at each library designed to build community capacity
 - An identified space at every library where the Council can engage with and consult communities both online and face to face
- d. Increased investment in and championing of innovation, evidenced by:
- Seeking out national and international models of excellence and innovation, working with innovation platforms, such as Genius, promoting innovation through case studies, and implementing ideas in York where appropriate.
 - Innovative approaches to the preservation of and public access to the archives and local history collections through the “Gateway to History” and the “City Making History” projects including
 - Attracting external funding to invest in innovation
 - Partnerships with the Council’s ICT service to deliver innovative approaches to the use of new technology
- e. A wide range of communication channels enabling new ways for the Council and other agencies to interact with residents, evidenced by:
- Partnership working with the Council’s Customer Services to develop a new model of customer services in communities ranging from telephone access, to web access to face to face contact, with staff trained to support Council enquiries and to help people to get online

- f. Opportunities for children and young people to be actively involved in shaping Explore, evidenced by:
- Development of a special Advisory group for those age groups
 - Regular consultation with children and young people undertaken across the City
- g. Residents increasingly enabled to find answers to local problems, evidenced by:
- Improved access to life-critical information
 - Partnerships developed with other local providers to identify local need and develop appropriate solutions
 - Work with residents to develop skills that increase self-sufficiency, reducing demand on public services
- h. Communities placed at the heart of everything Explore does through the development of community hubs – a flexible and welcoming space where everyone can come together for a wide range of activities and events – evidenced by:
- Realigned service provision within a network of community assets meeting identified community need providing a single point of co-ordination for community management
 - Modern, outward looking, welcoming, customer first, flexible spaces where local residents can come together for a wide range of community activities
 - The transition of other Council and third sector community based services into the hub
 - Initiatives that reduce the Council's service delivery
 - New “paid for” services for example linked to economic growth, new jobs
 - Opportunities and resources to support residents to get involved in their community and the decisions that affect its development

The Council and Explore will cooperate to further the co-location of services within the hubs. Explore will not charge the Council or its key partners for their location and/or operation within hubs (other than to achieve cost recovery).

- i. Enhanced transformation and efficiency across the business of the Council and other delivery agencies, evidenced by:
 - Support to the Council's transformation projects notably in the area of Adult Social Care
 - Provision of facilities and resources to engage the community in new ways of working

- j. Inspiring learning available for all, evidenced by:
 - Partnership with York Learning to support their delivery of a range of programmes in skills development and to prepare people for work
 - State of the art learning spaces accessible to all
 - Explore's active membership of the York Community Learning Trust
 - Management of the Learning Network, planning developments with York Learning
 - Delivery of a range of learning programmes such as family and local history, reading, IT
 - Delivery of a digital inclusion learning programme that will get people online for free. All of our sites are UK Online Centres
 - Support for literacy at all ages
 - Access to the national book collection through inter library loan
 - Information literacy programmes delivered
 - Resources to support the National Curriculum
 - Developing self-organised learning
 - Quiet study spaces for individuals and groups

- k. Good relations between different communities living in York, evidenced by:
 - Opportunities to celebrate diversity such as the Human Library, book displays and lectures
 - The building of York's multiple collective identities and memories by working with local people to identify and preserve the key records of all cultures and communities in the city

- l. The creation of high quality employment opportunities, evidenced by:
 - New employment opportunities for residents including apprenticeships, employment support and employee assistance programmes

- We will work with York Learning to provide a range of opportunities for NEETs, adults with learning disabilities and people recovering from mental health
- m. A Fairer York and narrowing the gaps, evidenced by:
- Furthering the principles of the Fairness Commission
 - Support for the financial inclusion strategy through the Small Changes partnership with CAB and Aviva
- n. Increased customer satisfaction with the service
- Explore's Customer First standard, an in house programme to ensure excellent customer care
 - Achievement of the Customer Service Excellence award by year two of the contract

3. Performance Information

Explore shall provide information in respect of each quarter of the financial year, to be received by the Council no later than 6 weeks after the end of the quarter, detailing Explore's progress against the targets set out in Appendix 2 to this contract.

Abbreviations

SMEs - Small and medium enterprises
HLF – Heritage Lottery Fund
ICT - Information and communications technology
NEETS – Not in Education, Employment, or Training

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Explore Performance Report: May – September 2014

On 1 May, the Council's libraries and archives were transferred to Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd. Schedule 2 of the Contract for Services sets out what is to be delivered (See Annex 1).

The first six months have been very busy, creating a new organisation, delivering the library service as well as managing the major HLF Archive project - Gateway to History. We are finding our feet and looking to the future. It has been a challenging road and our skills have developed and improved in different areas. Explore staff have embraced the challenges and remain committed to this model of provision, they are an amazing group of people and they deserve every credit for the commitment and support they offer.

Delivering on our vision to enable people to live fuller, more connected and engaged lives, is very exciting. The vision and values inform our decisions and strategy:

- We will be Enterprising – innovating and striving for excellence
- We will be Community focused – working in partnership to deliver high quality services
- We will be Fair – free and open to all, impartial in all that we do
- We will be individually and collectively Accountable for the stewardship of our collections and on the delivery of our commitments
- We will learn – building reflective practice into everything we do to continuously develop and improve

From the first we have aimed to be transparent and are putting all key documents and statistics on our website. We will be developing this over the next six months. We sent an Explore leaflet to all houses with photos of all staff with email addresses. We want people to easily be able to find the right person to talk to.

Highlights

- Completion of the capital element of the Gateway to History project
- Summer Reading Challenge. This year was The Mythical Maze and 3377 children took part. That is 1 in 5 of all children in York in that age group.

- Big City Read, returning after a year off. Tom Harper's *The Orpheus Descent* proved a very popular choice. Tom lives in York and it was good to support a local author. We had a Flashread, our first Skype author event with Madeline Miller from Boston USA and an extreme reading challenge photographic competition
- A series of Mint Yard Lectures have been touring the libraries during York's closure
- Community Archive work. Sarah Tester joined us as community archivist working within the Gateway to History project. She has met with 43 community groups and delivered a number of projects, for example with York's Normandy veterans
- 3,702 people helped to get online
- 50 residents of Askham Grange Prison attended an evening with Tom Harper at the prison, giving them a chance to talk directly with an author
- Developing a project to support adult digital learning with Be Independent, the other CYC "spin out".
- We have agreed a partnership with the RVS to improve our home library service and our delivery to older people more generally
- We are working with CYC to establish community hubs around libraries and to develop a model for explore wellbeing
- Rowntree Park Reading Café has been very successful through the summer. Our new manager has made a great difference to all aspects and we are very excited about how we replicate that success in York Explore Reading Café

"Rowntree Park Reading Cafe keeps going from strength to strength! Each day we are seeing lots of new faces and of course our regular ones. During the summer holidays the extended opening hours went down a treat, with people loving the longer cafe and library service. The Reading Café is a vibrant hub for local families, ensuring the young people of York understand the values of a library service. New and exciting events are being held at the cafe to attract local people, and also visitors to the area. I expect the cafe to get even busier, as its reputation for excellence spreads throughout the City of York."

Jason Bailey Explore Café Manager

National Excellence

In August I was invited to Number Ten Downing Street to a reception hosted by Francis Maude. This was a celebration of the first hundred mutuals. As the 100th public service mutual, Explore and CYC have been nationally recognised as innovators in the reform of public service delivery. We have

spoken to many other authorities about what we have done and are helping some to go down the same path. This sharing of our learning is a part of the Cabinet Office support programme.

We continue to work with the Cabinet Office to promote what we are doing and we are being recognised as good practice. The Chief Executive has delivered a number of presentations and discussions at the Cabinet Office's Commissioning Academy.

Partnership with CYC

We are continuing a strong partnership with CYC, from developing community hubs to working with Customer Services on how to provide access in communities and how to get people online. We have also facilitated access to several consultations for CYC including: the Local Plan consultations; Lendal Bridge Consultation; NYCC Minerals and Waste Plan, and the Local Flood Risk Strategy.

The partnership with CYC is important to us and we value the support offered in this our first year.

Performance

The contract is measured by a series of performance indicators (see Annex 3). The targets have been set for year three and year five to facilitate a longer term plan than one year.

York Explore closure has had a significant impact on numbers, as would be expected. We added opening hours to other libraries, but that would never completely cover the loss. Attempting to factor out York's closure, it appears that issues are down by about 4% on last year. This is expected as that has been the trend for a few years. We have formed a reading development group that is charged with looking hard at the statistics across all book types and categories. Following on from this work, the group will make recommendations to improve the issue figures. We are able to do this because recent IT upgrades are allowing us to interrogate our data in more depth than before.

Bucking the downward trend however, are ebooks and audio downloads. Following a promotion, issues here have risen from 800 a month to around 1300 a month – a 62% increase. Problems remain in the number of titles we are able to offer readers (due to publisher concerns over loss of income), but excellent selection and monitoring have made a huge difference.

Visits have also been affected by the closure and so although they look down, individual libraries are reporting increased numbers. Once Explore York reopens, it will be possible to get a clearer picture overall.

Similarly with Yorkcard sales, Explore York sells most of these. Once we reopen, we expect a rush on them as people prepare for Resident's Festival.

Governance

Working within a different governance structure has been exciting and challenging. Staff have much more input to decision making and planning strategy. We have all developed additional skills and we are enjoying the opportunity to make a difference.

Board

This is set up and running with just the CYC nomination to be identified. We have a good mix of skills and knowledge on the Board. Our Chair is James Henderson. All Board Members have been going through an induction process to get them up to speed with the complete range of services that we offer. The Staff Director, Vicky Pierce, (who was voted for all staff) is providing the frontline view and will be chairing our Reading Advisory Panel.

"These first few months as Explore have been an exciting and challenging time for us all - with a steep learning curve! However, the enthusiasm, flexibility and motivation of all our staff is constant and reflects our commitment to our core purpose. Everybody cares hugely about what they do and why they do it. Having the opportunity to be the staff director while also working on the frontline, I think, reflects just how much we have transformed as an organisation. I think it is crucial that we have that connection between the board and the frontline and that ground level engagement with the decision making process going forward. I think we have come a long way in six months and I feel positive about the progress we will make in the next six."
Vicky Pierce

Advisory Panels

There will be a number of Advisory Panels set up to look at specific issues or projects. These will be chaired by a Board Member with a selection of partners, Community Members and expertise from our specialists. The Archives one has had its first meeting (see below for more details). The Children and Young People's one is in the first stages of set up. There is a staff Advisory Panel as well that is looking at how we recognise and celebrate excellence in our staff.

Friends Groups

We have been working with local residents in Dunnington to pilot a Friends Group, focussed on fundraising. Once the pilot is complete, we will look to set them up for every library.

Community Members recruitment

We are now able to begin recruiting for Community Members. Everyone over the age of 16 is eligible to join. Membership comes with voting rights and the right to stand for election to the Board. Community Members will make up two thirds of the ownership of the organisation (with staff the other one third). We are very keen to ensure that children and young people are also included in the governance and the Advisory Panel will be tasked with making recommendations as to the best way of doing this.

The Cultural Life of the City

Explore took on Dave Fleming as Inclusive Arts and Media Coordinator. Libraries and archives are a key contributor to the cultural life of the city and we want to discover how we can make that better known through improved partnership working and more grant funding

The development process includes:

- Identifying local to international funding, investment and income generation opportunities (e.g. Tang Hall Big Local, EU Creative Europe funding)
- Consulting and speaking to current and potential partner organisations from local cross sector grass roots community groups, artists, residents, arts/cultural organisations
- Building upon and enhancing successful projects, programmes, initiatives and collaborations e.g. CYC Inclusive Arts programme, EY's digital inclusion offer to large scale media arts, Big City Read, author events, York's vibrant literary and arts scene
- Ensuring Explore is at the core of the city's cultural offer and it's initiatives such as UNESCO Media Arts, York TV, York@Large, Red Letter Nights
- Being at the forefront of creative innovation for the benefit of the cultural life of communities and promoting active citizenship through creative participation e.g. developing community cinema network, community radio, makerspaces, hackspaces, coding
- How arts, media & cultural contribute to and enhance the delivery of Explore's core services, aims & objectives and the library universal offers e.g. the role of community/participatory arts within Health & Well Being

To support the programme Explore are planning a £100k+ Arts Council England (ACE) bid to its Libraries Fund by March 2015. We are also looking to work closely with ACE on a local to national level to ensure libraries are at the core of ACE's 10 year vision for arts & culture.

Toy Library

We have taken on the delivery and management of the toy library. It will be live from February 2015. Our Children's Librarian has worked with The Avenues Children's Centre to review what there was and remove them to storage in Explore York. The toys are being catalogued and will appear on the library catalogue. So people will be able to request and borrow them.

What the new Toy Library Service will look like and how it will work:

- Parents will go on line at home (or in a community venue that has access to the internet) and be able to view details of the toys and see which ones they want to borrow.
- They will then choose a toy and the library from which they want to collect it
- The toys will be issued from the Central Storage point and delivered to the nearest library (using the existing driver & transport system that the service has in place)
- Parents will then go into their nearest library to collect the Toy and the Library service will log the borrowing and returning, via their existing systems.

This will enable city wide, equal access for parents across York. We are really pleased to be managing this service as otherwise it would have been stopped. Children will be able to take home books and toys from their local library.

Community Hubs

Explore is fully engaged in enabling community hubs to develop across the city. We are working closely with the council to identify opportunities and take the lead in supporting other venues through our buildings.

To further this work, Explore has been clarifying its different levels of service. We are being asked more and more for services in different places. The success of the Reading Café has fuelled requests for similar services locally. For instance, the consultation from the JRF Loneliness Project in Carr clearly asked for a library in the area. The local community are developing a hub at Lidgett Grove and asked Explore if we could provide that service there. We have considered how we would do this with no additional resources. This fed into other thinking about how we can deliver the elements of our services in different ways. In response to this we are developing the concept of Explore Neighbourhood. Neighbourhoods will all be different depending on the building and project. Ideally they will be on the ground floor and completely accessible. They would be run by volunteers supported by library staff and

act as satellites to Explore Centres. This relationship will be developed as we plan the services. The Lidgett Grove neighbourhood would be run from Acomb Explore and staff from there will support the delivery with specialists coming in for specific activities. We envisage these spaces being planned with local communities but they would have a base of the functions above and the following:

- Popular fiction and non fiction books
- Children's and young adults books
- Mixture of traditional shelving and modern bookshop style display
- Comfortable seats
- Public access to the internet via WiFi and pcs and tablets. The number of these will vary depending on need and space – power sockets for people to recharge their devices and data and power sockets for pcs.
- Self issue terminal with drop box and trolley - this needs 1 data socket and 1 power socket
- Local history specialists and outreach will work with communities to interpret the history of the area and York and introduce people to family history
- Specialist drop ins will provide a range of library services e.g digital inclusion, reference, learning and skills, employability, digital media

They are very much not a library as such, rather a space that offers a range of library services at different times with different specialists supported by volunteers. Self issue terminals enable us to offer this flexibility. The first step is to ensure the superfast broadband access. This is helping communities to become more digitally literate and we work with CYC ICT department to deliver this. Neighbourhoods will always be in addition to our existing library network. We want to monitor how this different way of delivering services works as a way of responding to community need.

So, our network consists of:

Flagship Explore Centre - City Library Learning Centre as a flagship offering a wide range of services.

Explore Centres - Four smaller Library Learning Centres situated across the City

Explore Reading Cafes – these can be separate or part of a centre or gateway

Explore Gateways - Library provision staffed with trained staff at community level will be offered in a variety of venues in partnership with local people.

Explore Neighbourhood – new provision in response to community demand centred around book lending with specialist surgeries

York Explore has been closed since 1 June and this has had a big impact on everything. We are looking forward to its reopening on 5 January 2015. Explore has continued to deliver an excellent service from all service points. However, York Explore's closure has had a big impact. It has been closed for an additional four months above what was anticipated when the business plan for Explore was written. It has been a strange beginning as a new organisation with our main building closed. We now have access to the upstairs and so can begin to bring the Archives back from their storage.

Other libraries' opening hours have been extended during the closure. The Reading Cafe at Sycamore House has become very popular with people as a city centre library. It was largely unknown before, but now has a big following. The story times there are very popular. Library staff have been on hand to help people.

Asset development

We are placing communities at the heart of a number of projects looking at our buildings:

- In New Earswick we are working with Joseph Rowntree to look at moving the public library into the Folk Hall. This opportunity arose from the redevelopment of Red Lodge and the Folk Hall. JRHT are building a community for all ages and it is right that a public library is at the heart of that. The current public library is one of our poorest performers. We would also be able to offer a local history service, celebrating the rich history of the village. If successful this would happen in 2015/16.
- We are planning a thoroughly modern and different service in the community stadium to reach non traditional library users. This offers us a real opportunity to take our services out into a different community. We will be working with local sports organisations to help them preserve their archives.
- Explore is also involved in the project looking at the possibilities for the future of the Burnholme School site.

Health and social care

Our work in this area mirrors the Universal Health Offer developed by the Society of Chief Librarians. This ties the work to an agreed national standard.

Explore is working in partnership with City of York Council to design Explore Wellbeing, a discrete collection of health information, wellbeing opportunities and a wellbeing sign posting service staffed and supported by information

and health professionals that seeks to connect communities and individuals to relevant information and activities at crucial life stages within a confidential and non-clinical space. This will be piloted at York Explore initially.

Outcomes

- A continually improving information and signposting service that encompasses information, health, and wellbeing professionals
- Improved health and wellbeing in York's communities
- Customers are able to access specialist advice and support through the library
- More digitally literate population and greater independence for customers accessing information on health and wellbeing
- York's communities are able to make informed health and wellbeing decisions, accessing information to facilitate this locally
- Customers are informed about opportunities and new initiatives in relation to health and wellbeing
- Reduce and divert call handling by CYC

Books on Prescription

The Books on Prescription scheme is a social prescribing model for mental health and wellbeing, whereby healthcare professionals refer patients to self-help literature as part of their cognitive behavioural therapy treatment. The Books on Prescription scheme is currently run from 8 of our libraries. Indicative expansion:

The second iteration of Books on Prescription will be a new collection focussing on early stage dementia. One complete set of this collection has been purchased for York Explore.

Digital Inclusion

Our overall aim is to reach the "hidden" digitally excluded people of York. We work in partnership with CYC ICT team to provide the infrastructure and the York Community Learning Partnership to put on events such as Get Online Week. We are involved in the Universal Credit team, preparing people for the change. We also work with CYC Customer Services to help residents get online and use the council's website.

All libraries are UK Online Centres, Explore provides free access to computers, Wifi, the internet and digital support. We get people online for free and support their online journey. Our tablets and e-readers taster sessions provide a method of trying a wide selection of technology before buying devices. In a society where the "hard sell" is unavoidable when

purchasing digital equipment, including the purchase of internet security, we feel that it is our job to support computer beginners not only in the basics of using the technology but also in staying safe and secure right from purchase onwards.

As well as offering regular digital taster sessions we are, just now, piloting a tablet loan scheme in which learners who have enrolled on the Explore Digital Care course may take home a Tesco Hudl for one week to practice their new skills and demonstrate what they have learned to those for whom they care.

We are working with JRF and York Carers Centre on a project that is hosting weekly clinics at the Folk Hall in New Earswick. Our digital experts will be on hand to talk to the elderly and carers about their digital needs and demonstrate technology. It is our intention over the coming months to create a reliable 'Explore Experts' service in our centres, not unlike the model used by Apple in their stores, to help people with all digital queries and resolve issues with technology and online resources. We have already constructed a team of Digital Champions across our service who are beginning to deliver this support.

The team are running a wide range of events focusing on different elements of being online. For instance, banking, library catalogue, shopping, local history. We are being asked for more one to one tablet sessions to help people make the most of their device. We can go to wherever people need us to be and are a key providers of helping people to get online in York.

Archives and Local History

Explore is committed to the delivery of the £1.8m York: Gateway to History project, funded with a £1.6m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and £200,000 support from City of York Council. This project brings together York's internationally important City Archives and Local History Library for the first time in a state-of-the-art facility at York Explore in the heart of the city. During the last 6 months, Explore's City Archivist Victoria Hoyle and Project Manager David Burton have overseen the completion of the capital element of the project, including:

- The **construction of a conservation Archive store at York Explore**, extending the Grade II listed building and completing architect Walter Brierley's original vision (see attached visualisation and photographs). The new store will house 2/3 of the city's archives in secure climate-controlled conditions which meet the latest European standards for preservation. This will enable us to achieve Archives Accreditation, will ensure the long-term conservation of collections and maintain our status as a National Archives Approved repository for deposit of Public Records.

- The refurbishment of the first floor of York Explore to create **a suite of public spaces for hands-on access to archives and local history**. The new Archives Reading Room, Local History Library and Family History room will enable people of all ages, abilities and interests to engage with their pasts in all sorts of ways. The spaces are equipped with the latest digital technologies to remove barriers to exploring the collections. They are all flexible and can be configured for private work, group study, formal and informal learning, volunteering and public events.

The new Archives and Local History Library will open along with the rest of York Explore on 5th January 2015. Scrutiny members will be invited to preview the facilities and explore the archives in December.

Explore has also been working to ensure that the new Archives service is as inclusive and engaging as possible. We have established **an Archives Advisory Group of representatives from local groups and equalities organisations** who are working with our Public Services Manager Laura Yeoman to ensure we remain customer focused and accessible to all. The group met for the first time on 13th October, and will meet bi-monthly throughout 2014/15. Our front-line staff have participated in weekly specialist training sessions since June and visited flagship services such as Hull History Centre.

Explore is investing in the promotion of the Archives with communities and with local partners to increase their reach and profile. We have:

- **Created the first online catalogue to the Archive**, which will be launched on 5th January. Our Archive Assistants Francesca Taylor and Georgie Myler have catalogued 70 community collections in just 3 months, including the records of the York branch of the British Legion, the First World War VAD hospital, the York Mystery Plays and papers of the Royal Observer Corps. Our Archivist for Civic and Public Records Justine Winstanley-Brown has also extended the catalogue of the civic archive by 525 entries. When launched in January this online catalogue will mean that people from around the world will be able to discover original documents at the click of a button.
- **Extended the online catalogue of the Local History library** to include over 5000 titles. This is an increase of 400% on 2013/14, and the number continues to grow as a team of volunteers converts our outdated card catalogue index.
- **Worked with community groups to develop their own Archives and archive projects**. Since May 2014 our HLF funded Community and Outreach Archivist Sarah Tester has met with representatives of 30 organisations throughout the city, from Parish Councils to local

charities, to talk about how Explore can support them. She has helped Wigginton Parish Council to create its own Archive store; partnered with Poppleton History Society to provide access to their collections at Poppleton Library and worked with the Normandy Veterans' Association on a project to collect oral histories and preserve personal papers. In 2015 Sarah will be taking the Archives out on a 'roadshow' around the city, appearing at local fairs, festivals and events, as well as running archiving workshops throughout the year.

Explore has continued to service the information needs of City of York Council, and to support democratic accountability through Freedom of Information. Since May 2014 our Archivist for Civic and Public Records Justine Winstanley-Brown has responded to 32 enquiries from Council officers from Legal, Property and Democratic Services. She has also supported officers to respond to three Freedom of Information requests. In addition she has facilitated two research visits from the Police serious crime unit and two from the Coroner's Officer.

Investing in Volunteers

Explore's work is supported by a team of 143 volunteers delivering 5845 hours since April. We have a range of volunteer roles from shelving to storytimes to helping people get online. We will be recruiting more volunteers to support the archive and local history service at York Explore in the new year.

We've been working hard over the past 6 months, updating our processes, creating new roles and working with our volunteers and staff to improve how we work with volunteers throughout Explore. We are now confident that we are in a position to arrange for our assessment in order to obtain the Investors in Volunteers accreditation.

Investing in Customers

We have been working to prepare for the Customer Service Excellence standard. This has involved completely reviewing and improving our already good customer service procedures and policies. We have created Customer First, which is our own standard, covering how libraries should look, staff behaviours and engaging with customers.

Fiona Williams
Chief Executive

Abbreviations

HLF – Heritage Lottery Fund

CYC – City of York Council

NYCC – North Yorkshire County Council

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

ACE – Arts Council England

JRF – Joseph Rowntree Foundation

ICT - Information and communications technology

JRHT - Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust

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Explore Performance Indicators to Quarter 2

Category	Historic				Q1 + Q2 previous	Current year (cumulative)		Targets	
	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14		Q1	Q2	Year 3 (16/17)	Year 5 (18/19)
Number of physical visits across all libraries	940,251	1,009,148	1,005,595	1,042,985	546,403	222,514	414,827	1,180,000	1,250,000
Issues of all stock including renewals	1,111,327	1,062,054	984,593	940,868	494,399	207,584	405,770	900,000	1,000,000
Number of new books added to stock	15,981	33,005	28,029	29,044	15,021	6,686	15,002	30,000	31,000
Number of (community) Explore Members	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0	250	500
Number of residents with current Yorkcards	NA	NA	NA	35,712	NA	43,199	31,775	38,000	40,000
Number of visits to Archives & Local History spaces	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1453	1495	2,800	5,600
Number of hours per week for access to archives	14	14	14	14	14	61	61	45	60
Number of people helped to get online	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1529	3072	800	500
Number of volunteer hours in the year	4,301	4,042	NA	6,205	NA	2,812	5,846	22,000	30,000

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Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee 19 November 2014

Report of the Director of Children Services, Education and Skills

Schools Outturn Data 2014

Summary

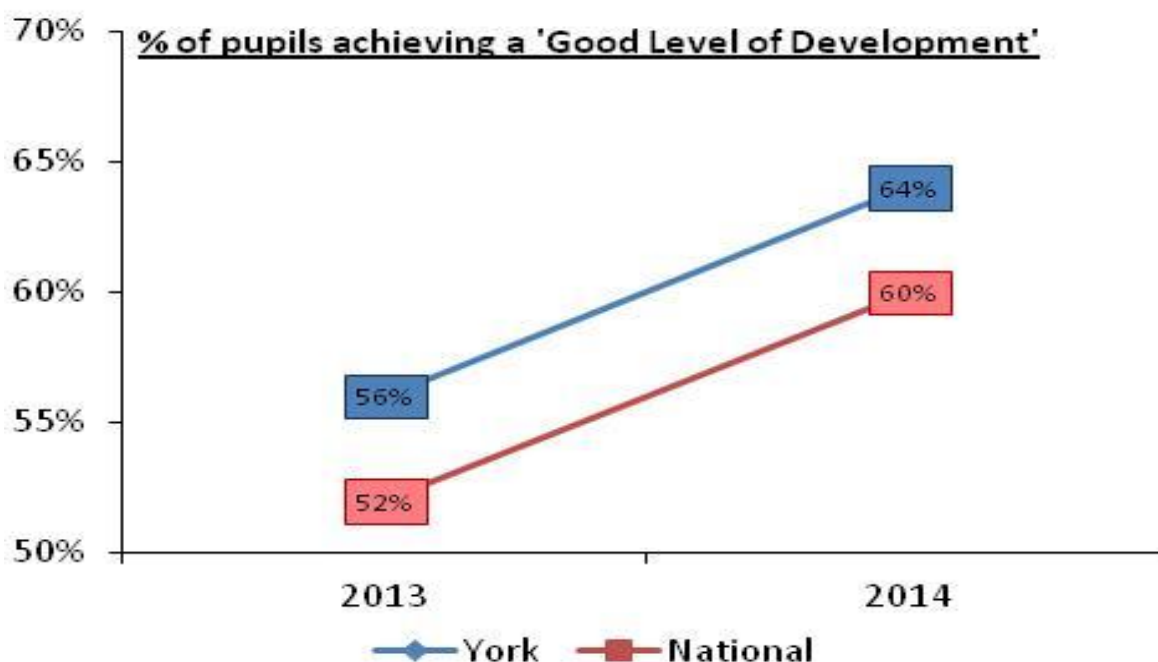
1. This report provides information about school performance in 2014 and the position of schools according to Ofsted judgements as of 4 November 2014.

School Performance in 2014

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP)

Statutory assessments for children at the end of Year Reception (age 5)

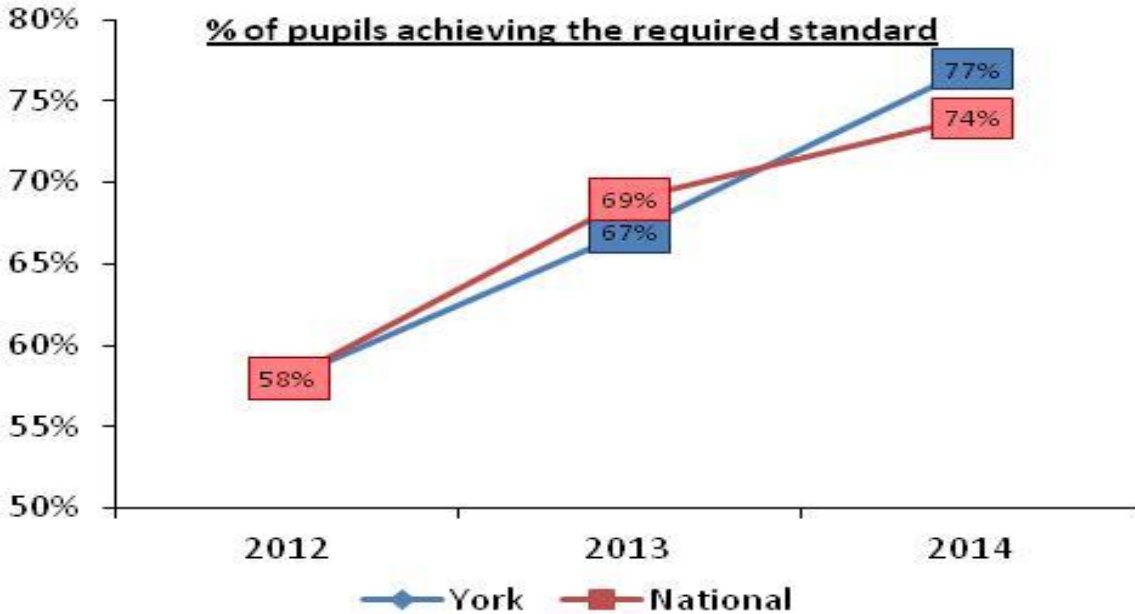
2. Outcomes in the EYFSP have shown improvements since 2013 that are in line with the national rate of improvement. This places York in the top 20% of authorities in the country. The gap between the achievement of pupils eligible for Free School Meals and their peers has narrowed since 2013 by 8 percentage points.



Phonics Screening Check

Statutory assessment for children at the end of Year 1 (age 6)

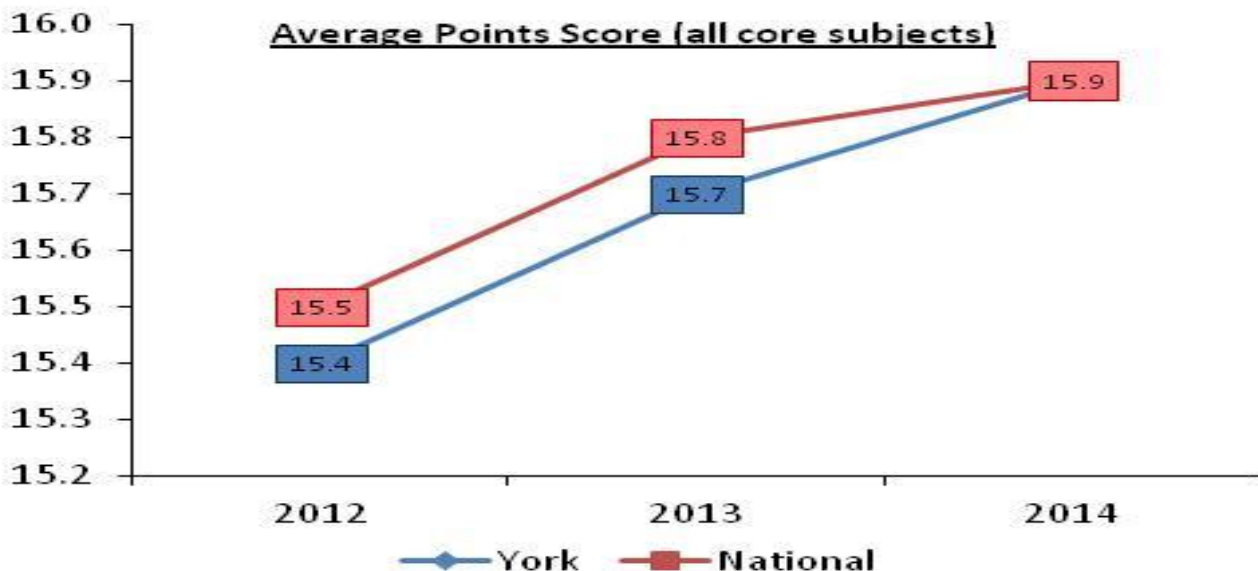
- York has moved from being below national in 2013 to above national in 2014.



Key Stage 1

Statutory assessments for children at the end of Year 2 (age 7)

- York's overall performance has improved in 2014 and is now in line with national having been tracking slightly below national for the past two years.



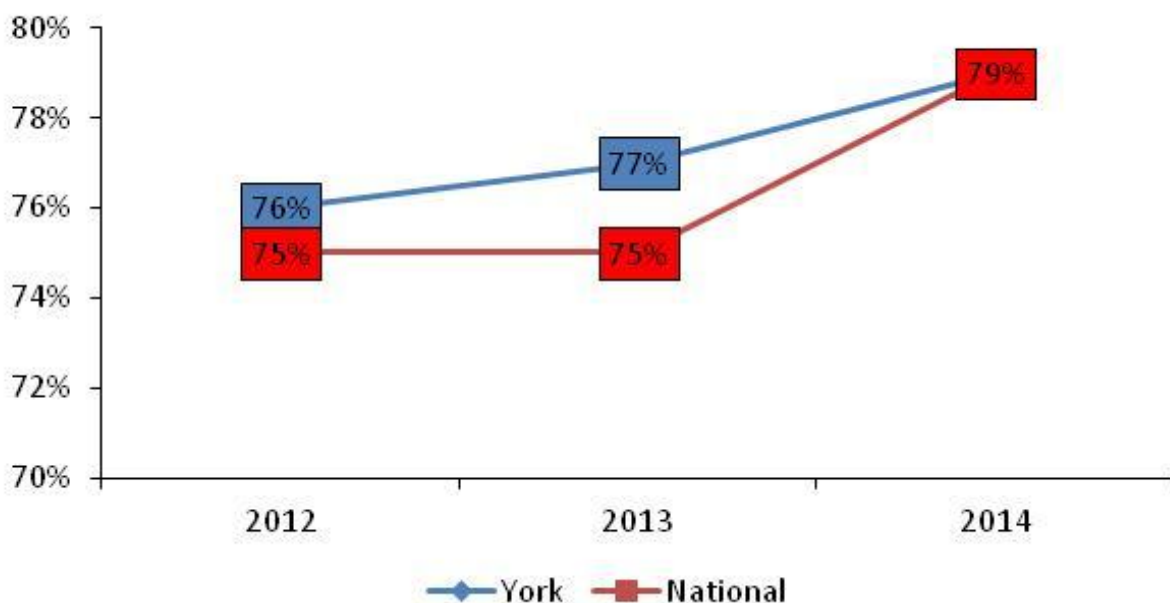
5. However, this disguises some continuing areas of lower performance, particularly with pupils achieving higher levels in Writing (level 3+), and the performance of Free School Meals (FSM) pupils and pupils with Special Educational Needs when compared to similar pupils nationally. York continues to perform broadly in line with national figures in most key areas, however performance in science is particularly strong.
6. The gap between disadvantaged (FSM eligible) pupils and their peers has not narrowed by any significant degree since 2012, and has widened fractionally since 2013. This is due to the improvement of non-FSM pupils outstripping that of pupils eligible for FSM.

Key Stage 2 (KS2)

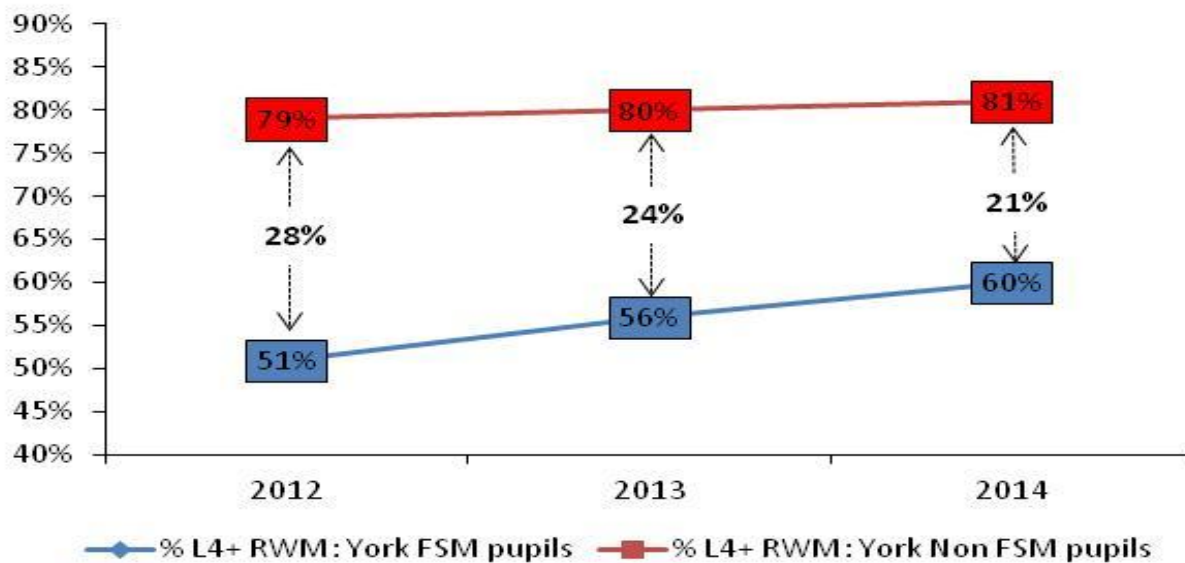
Statutory assessments for children at the end of Year 6 (age 11)

7. 2014 saw York's overall attainment performance fall, relative to the national picture. Despite a steady improvement over the past three years, a sharp rise in national performance in 2014 is the main reason behind this.

% of pupils achieving Level 4+ in Reading, Writing & Maths



8. The attainment gap between FSM pupils and their peers in KS2 has been consistently narrowing in York over the past 3 years.

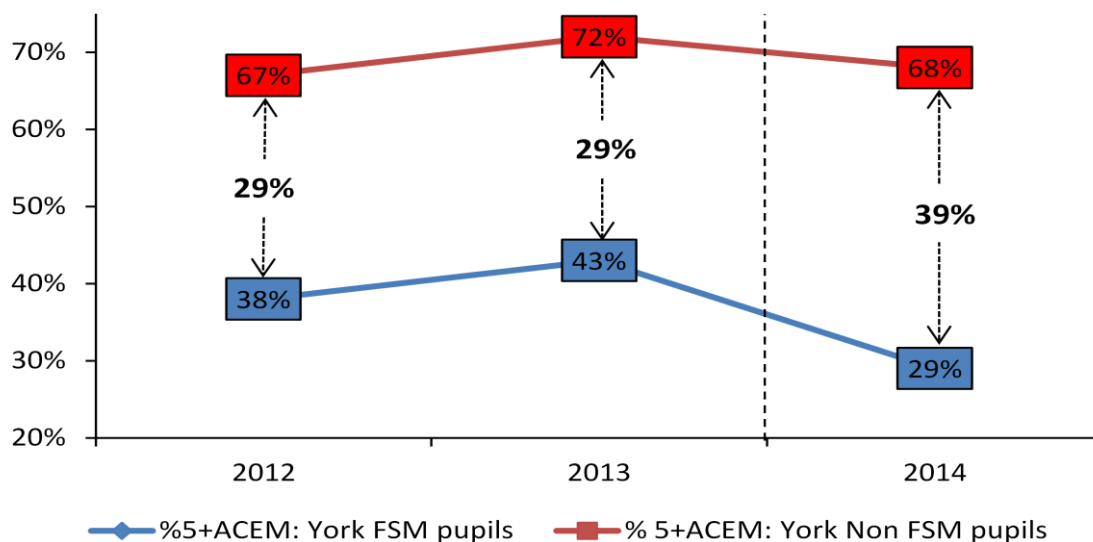


Key Stage 4 (KS4)

9. In 2013 -14 significant changes took place in KS4 assessment. These changes have included the move away from modular to linear end of course examinations and changes to the performance tables which have meant that the tariff for GCSE equivalent courses e.g. BTEC, has been reduced meaning that they now count as one GCSE grade rather than as multiple grades as in previous years. The school performance tables in January 2015 will for the first time report the percentage of pupils achieving 5A*-C including English and mathematics on first entry for the examinations rather than the best entries achieved by pupils following retakes. As a result of these changes there has been considerable turbulence both nationally and locally in the calculation and reporting of the 2014 results, with some schools reporting best entry rather than first entry data. This has meant that it has proved difficult to establish an accurate picture both nationally and locally however, the statistical first release data recently published by the Department for Education shows that:

- 62% of pupils achieved 5A*-C including English and mathematics on first entry in 2014 this ranks York as 1st in the region, and 20th out of 152 LAs nationally (13th percentile rank). Nationally 56% of pupils achieved 5A*-C including English and mathematics which means that York's KS4 performance remains significantly above the national average in 2014, which has maintained the city's previously strong performance and places York in the top quartile nationally for this measure.
- 75% of pupils achieved expected progress in English, this ranks York as 2nd in the region (behind Rotherham) and 48th out of 152 LAs nationally (32nd percentile rank)

- 68% of pupils achieved expected progress in mathematics, this ranks York as 2nd in the region (behind North Yorkshire), and 53rd out of 152 LAs nationally (35th percentile rank).
- Early indications are that the gap between the percentage of pupils eligible for the pupil premium achieving 5A*-C including English and mathematics and their peers has widened in 2014



Ofsted Judgements - update

10. Our ambition in York is that every child and young person attends a school that is judged as good or better. As of 1 September 2014 89% of our secondary schools are good or outstanding, and 87% of our primaries with 87% overall.
11. This takes us closer to our ambition for 90% of schools to be good or outstanding by 2016.
12. The outcomes of Ofsted inspections since September 2014 are:
 - Wigginton Primary moved from serious weakness to good
13. In October 2014 York was assigned to a new group of statistical neighbours. The table below shows our relative position against our statistical neighbours at the beginning of October 2014 (this was before the inspection of Wigginton Primary).

% of schools good or better	Overall effectiveness
Primary	Stockport (94%)
	Cheshire East (93%)
	C. Bedfordshire (91%)
	Worcestershire (91%)
	York (86%)
	CW&C (84%)
	Hampshire (84%)
	Hertfordshire (83%)
	Warrington (83%)
	Warwickshire (80%)
	Bracknell Forest (65%)
Secondary	York (89%)
	Worcestershire (83%)
	Warwickshire (78%)
	Stockport (77%)
	Cheshire East (75%)
	Hertfordshire (75%)
	C. Bedfordshire (71%)
	CW&C (68%)
	Bracknell Forest (67%)
	Hampshire (67%)
	Warrington (60%)

Recommendation

14. Members are asked to note the update on school performance in 2013/14 and the outcomes of Ofsted inspections since September 2014

Reason: In order to provide the Committee with an update on developments in the city.

Contact Details

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Jon Stonehouse
Director, Children's Services Education &
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Report Approved



Date

06.11.14

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: None

Abbreviations

Ofsted - Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills

EYFSP - Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

FSM – Free School Meals

KS – Key Stage

GCSE - General Certificate of Secondary Education

BTEC - Business and Technology Education Council

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**Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny
Committee****19 November 2014**

Report of the Director of Children Services, Education and Skills

**Scoping Report on Proposed Scrutiny Review of Narrowing the Gap in
York****Summary**

1. This report explores the feasibility of the committee undertaking a scrutiny of actions taken to narrow gaps in attainment and progress in York.

Background to Proposed Review

2. In July 2014, the Committee received a feasibility report on a proposed scrutiny topic on 'Narrowing the Gap' in York. The Assistant Director of Education & Skills informed Members that by the age of 19, the gap in attainment between disadvantaged young people (as defined by them being in receipt of Free School Meals at age 15) and their peers in York, were amongst the widest anywhere in the country. She felt a review would help to own this as a collective issue to help improve national performance indicators and narrow the gaps in attainment.
3. It was also confirmed that Officers had been working to establish an accurate profile of the York 300 cohort and had chosen to do a pilot scheme using 350 pupils in the 2013/14 Year 5 group. As those Children would move into Year 6 in September 2014 and sit their Key Stage 2 (KS2) tests in summer 2015, it would enable officers to retrieve a faster return on the work undertaken with those pupils and help identify any barriers by analysing their attainment at KS2. Following the July scrutiny meeting additional analysis of the York 300 cohort took place which compared the performance of the York 300 against that of their peers. A copy of the updated report is included as Annex 1.
4. York schools had been divided into geographical and attainment cluster groups for analysis, to provide schools with information on how to improve their intervention work. Whilst the results varied from school to

school, it appeared those with a smaller number of disadvantaged pupils were struggling to close the gaps, possibly due to funding issues.

5. Members also received information on a narrowing the gap conference to be held in October 2014 to enable schools and partners to work together, share information and examples of best practice.
6. Members questioned why some clusters and schools in York had narrower gaps and what could be learnt from their practice, and how those schools with small numbers of pupils eligible for the pupil premium might use that premium more effectively to narrow the gap. They also agreed it would be useful to look at good practice by other Local Authorities achieving narrower gaps, including early years.
7. With this in mind, the Committee agreed in principle that the topic was suitable for scrutiny review and requested a review scoping report in November 2014 once the school outturn data became available.

Update on the York Context from 2014 school outturn data

8. The 2014 outcomes data shows that progress in narrowing the gap has been made in some key stages, but is not consistent across all key stages.
9. Gaps have narrowed in Early Years Foundation Stage and in Key Stage 2, but have widened in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 4. This may suggest that currently work to narrow the gap is inconsistent and gaps may narrow due to fluctuations in the contextual profile of cohorts rather than the impact of actions taken.
10. Analysis of data at school level shows that a number of schools are narrowing the gap consistently over time and it would be useful to focus on the specific actions they are taking in order to identify what makes the greatest difference in narrowing gaps in attainment and progress. This can then be used to inform strategies to narrow the gap in Key Stages 1 and 4.

Review Remit Proposals

11. Based on the outturn data, the following review remit is proposed:

Aim

To identify and disseminate best practice guidance on narrowing the gap to York Schools.

Objectives

- i. To examine:
 - The actions taken by identified schools whose outturn data shows an established trend of narrowing the gap
 - The use of the pupil premium to narrow gaps in attainment and progress in those schools which are consistently narrowing the gap
 - Good practice from other Local Authorities achieving narrower gaps, including early years.
- ii. To draft some guidance proposals for dissemination through York Schools

Recommendations

12. The Committee are recommended to:
- a) Agree a remit for this review, as suggested in paragraph 11 above
 - b) Set up a Task Group to carry out the review on their behalf
 - c) Agree a strict timeframe for completion of the review

Reason: To carry out the review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols and conclude the review before the start of the forthcoming purdah period.

Contact Details

Author:

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Jon Stonehouse
Director, Children's Services Education and
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Report Approved **Date** 06.11.14

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

Annex 1 – York 300 Analysis Update: Pilot Cohort Compared with Peers

Strategic Business Intelligence Hub

York 300 Analysis Update: Pilot cohort compared with peers

Author: Hannah McNamee,
Strategic Support Manager (Services for Children, Young People & Education)
 Date: September 2014

Contents

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1. Introduction

The links between poverty and multiple poor outcomes are well documented. The *York 300 Brief* outlined how we used *Pupil Premium eligibility* to define a cohort of young people within the 2014/15 academic year 6 who are most at risk of failing.

2. September 2014 update

Following feedback about the *York 300 Pilot Cohort Analysis*, this report has been written to compare the York 300 Pilot Cohort with their peers. Their **peers** are defined as the pupils in the same year group (2014/15 Year 6) who are **not** in the York 300 Pilot. Comparing these two groups will bring the York 300 Pilot in line with national methods used to analyse “narrowing the gap” between disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

To recap, there were 1791 pupils in the whole year group, 350 of whom were identified for the York 300 Pilot using the criteria outlined in the *York 300 Brief*. This means that there are 1441 pupils in the “Peer group”.

Throughout this report, comparisons are drawn between the “Pilot cohort” and their “Peer group”.

Demographic

The main characteristics of the pupils in the Pilot and Peer groups do not differ greatly.

Pilot cohort		Peer group
48%	Boys	53%
7% (25 pupils)	Not White British	7%
36%	Summer-born	37%
3% (12 pupils)	Speak English as an additional language	6%
7%	Non White British	11%

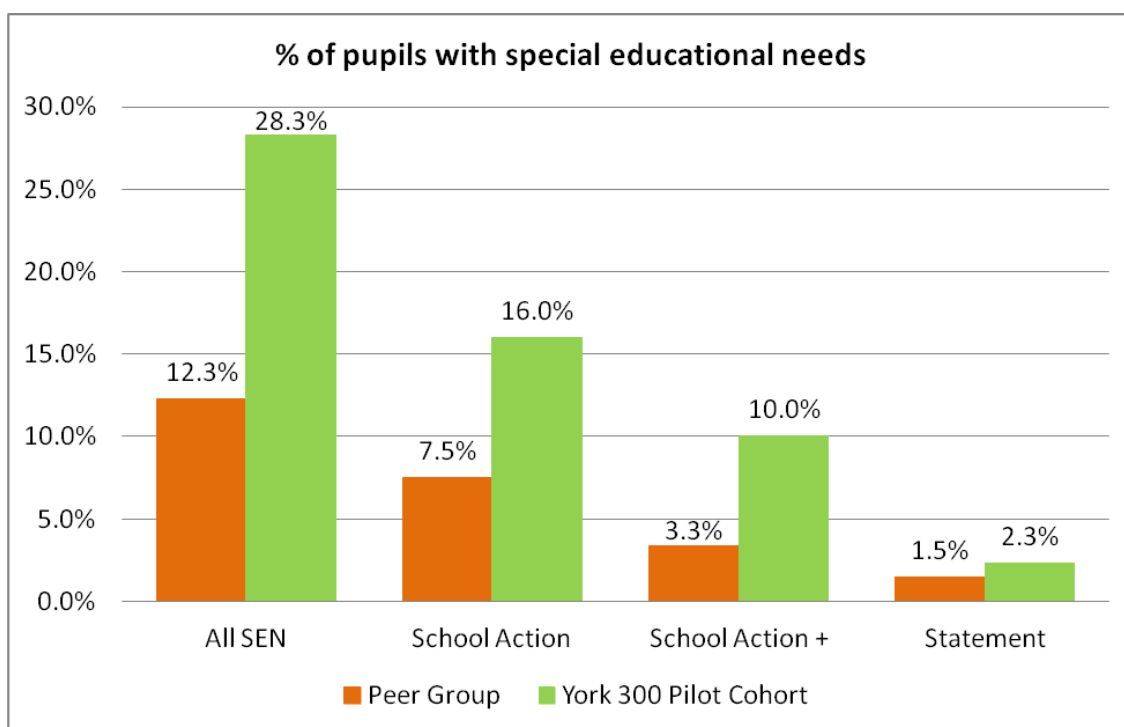
The differences between the Pilot and Peer groups are seen when wider education information is analysed.

We looked at characteristics and factors that are known to be linked to multiple poor outcomes for children and young people.

Special Educational Need

28.3% (99) of the Pilot cohort had some form of special educational need (SEN) in January 2014. This compared to 12.3% of the Peer group indicating a 16%pt gap, indicating a greater challenge for the Pilot cohort

Looking at the different levels of SEN, School Action and School Action Plus had the largest gaps when comparing the Pilot and Peer groups.



Attendance

A persistent absentee is defined as a pupil whose **unauthorised** absence is more than 15%.

6.3% (22) of the Pilot cohort were defined as persistent absentees in the Autumn Term of 2013/14 (most recent available attendance data). Only 1.6% (23) of the Peer group were persistent absentees during the same period.

Exclusions

2.0% (7) of the Pilot cohort pupils received exclusions in the Autumn Term of 2013/14, compared to 0.2% (3) of the Peer group.

4 pupils in the Pilot cohort were excluded in both the 2013/14 Autumn Term and the 2012/13 academic year.

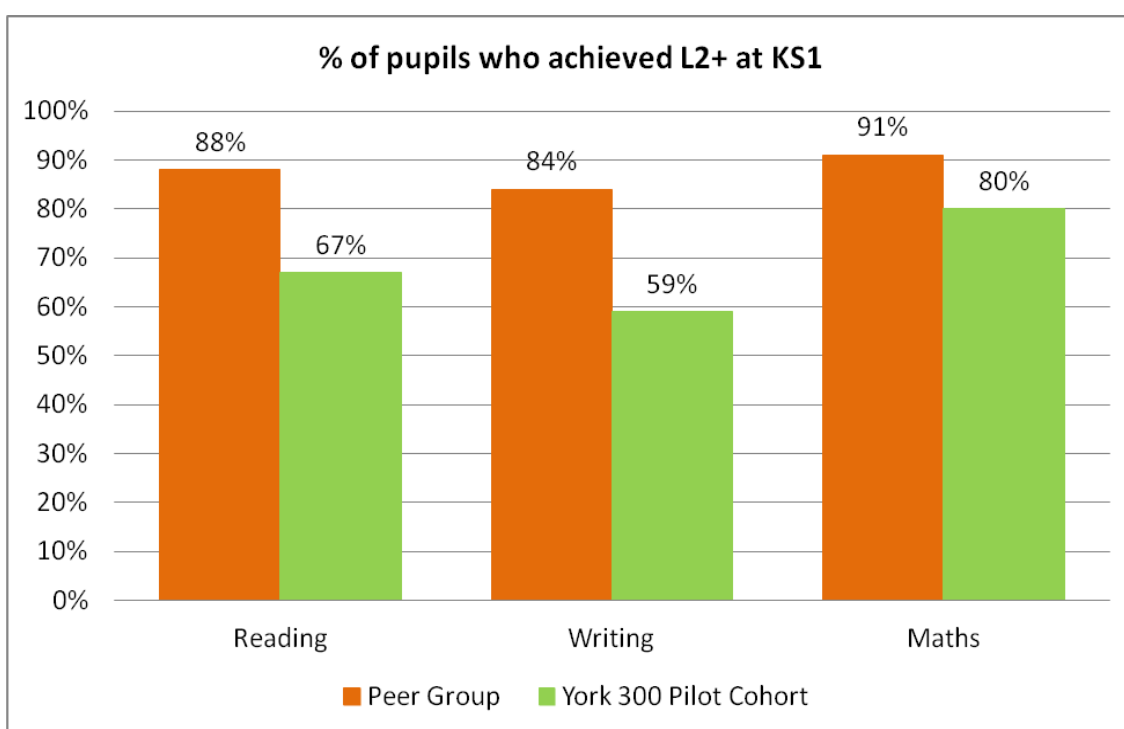
Mobility

2.9% (10) of the Pilot cohort had moved schools 3 or more times since they started KS1. Less than 1% (0.6%, 8 pupils) of the Peer group had experienced the same level of mobility.

Key Stage 1 Attainment

The attainment gaps between disadvantaged children and their peers are well documented. Research shows that pupils from poorer families who do not achieve 'expected' levels at a young age are less likely to close the gap later in education (*Too Young To Fail*, 2013).

The graph shows the percentage of pupils who achieved expected levels at KS1 in Reading, Writing and Maths for the Peer and Pilot cohorts.¹ In all subjects, the gaps between those achieving expected levels are an area of concern. Also of note, boys have a larger gap than girls in all three subjects.



Partnership involvement

The associations between multiple poor outcomes are well documented nationally and in York. We looked at whether the pupils in the Pilot cohort had any current or past involvement with partnership agencies.

With this in mind, we collated partnership involvement data about the Pilot cohort:

- 12 (3.4%) of the 350 pupils in the Pilot cohort had experience of the care system. Approximately 0.6% of children and young people in York are looked after, highlighting an over-representation in the Pilot cohort.
- 23 (6.6%) of the 350 pupils had a current and/or existing Child Protection Plan. Again, this is an over-representation when compared to the York population (0.4%).
- A small number of the *whole year group* were known to the Traveller service.
- There was no record of any pupil in the year group working with Personal Support and Inclusion workers (Youth Support Services).

¹ We did not obtain KS1 results for 41 pupils in the Peer group and 8 in the Pilot cohort.

3. Cluster groups

York schools work in Cluster groups to support school improvement. The clusters largely align with geographical areas of the city. For a list of schools in each cluster, go to [Annex A](#).

The whole year group was split into cluster groups based on current school in January 2014.

36% of the Pilot cohort attended schools in the West cluster, compared to only 18% of the Peer group. Whilst this finding is not unexpected given that the West cluster aligns with some of York's most deprived areas, this is a vast over-representation in the West cluster.

Cluster	Pilot cohort	Peer group	% difference (rounded)
West	36%	18%	18%pt
North East	18%	24%	-7%pt
East	14%	10%	4%pt
North	13%	14%	-1%pt
Southbank	11%	19%	-8%pt
South	8%	14%	-5%pt

Attainment by cluster

We divided pupils into their current cluster groups (in January 2014) then looked at their KS1 attainment in Reading, Writing and Maths. In the three core subjects, there were attainment gaps between the Pilot cohort and their Peer group.

The data showed that pupils in the East and West clusters struggled to keep up with York averages, regardless of whether they were eligible for Pupil Premium. This indicates a wider challenge for those clusters as both the Pilot and Peer groups fall below average.

Reading

An area of concern is in the South cluster where there was an 18%pt gap. The Pilot cohort were below average whereas their peers were above average.

Conversely in the Southbank cluster, the Pilot cohort were above average and their peers below, with only a 2%pt gap.

Writing

The largest gaps were seen in this subject, something that was documented in 2011 when these results were released. There was a 22%pt gap in the North cluster and a 20%pt gap in the East cluster.

Maths

The East cluster had the largest gap (15%pt) in Maths as well as the poorest performance in comparison with other clusters.

The South and Southbank clusters had very small gaps (4%pt and 6%pt respectively).

4. Considerations and Next Steps

As anticipated, this update which compares the Pilot cohort with their Peers shows larger gaps than the original analysis. To recap, this is because the Pilot cohort were a sub-set of the original comparator group.

The challenge continues to be to work with the Pilot cohort and monitor their progress over the academic year.

Considerations:

- Are pupils in the Pilot cohort getting additional support from partnership agencies?
- Do we focus on the poor performing clusters, or the clusters with the largest gaps between the Pilot cohort and their peers?
- Do we focus additional support in the West, North East and East clusters?
- How do we ensure the voice of pupils and their families is incorporated?

Next steps:

- Update cohort when October Census data is complete – e.g. remove any pupils who have moved out of area
- Engage schools and partners to work with the 350 pupils, or a subset of them, during the 2014/15 academic year.

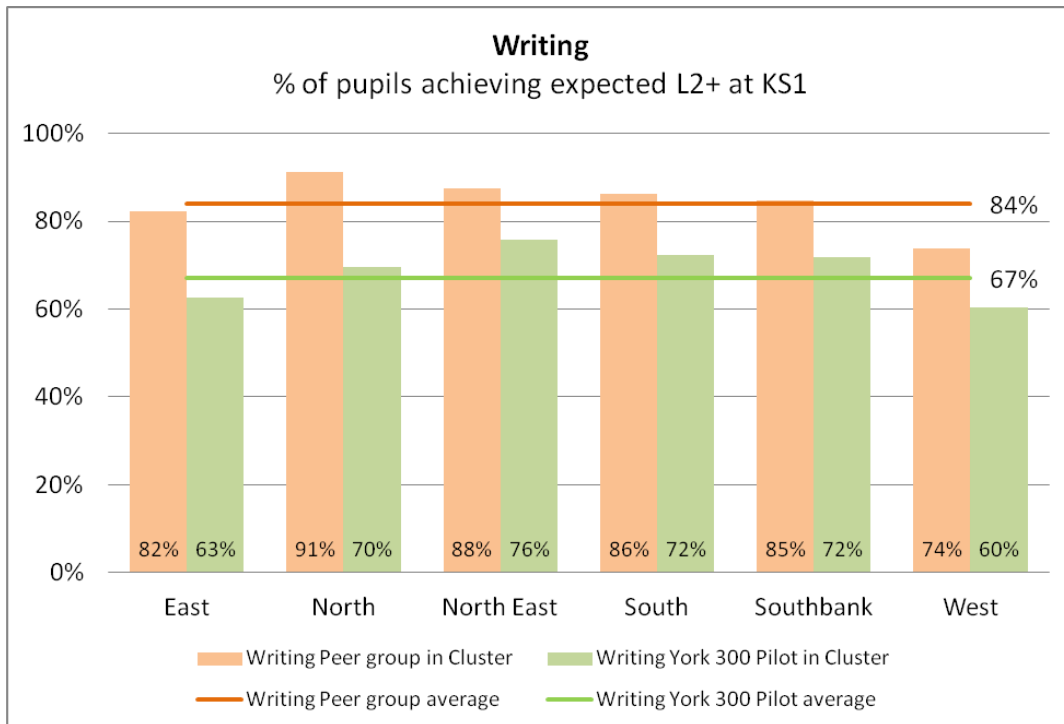
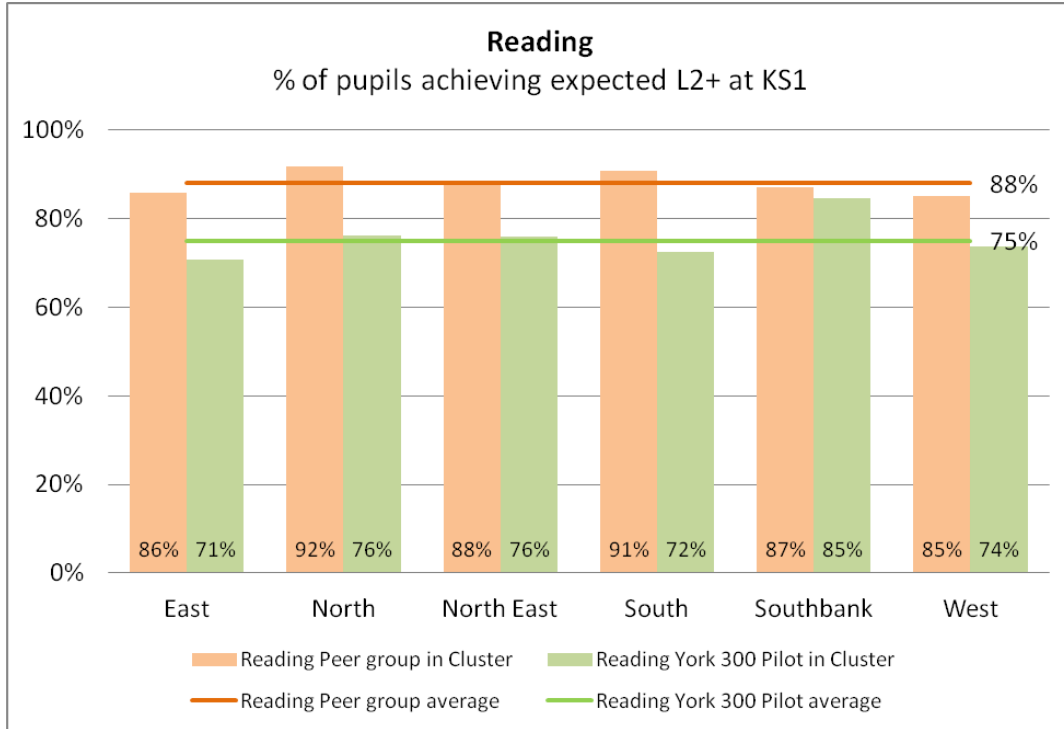
Annex A: York School Clusters

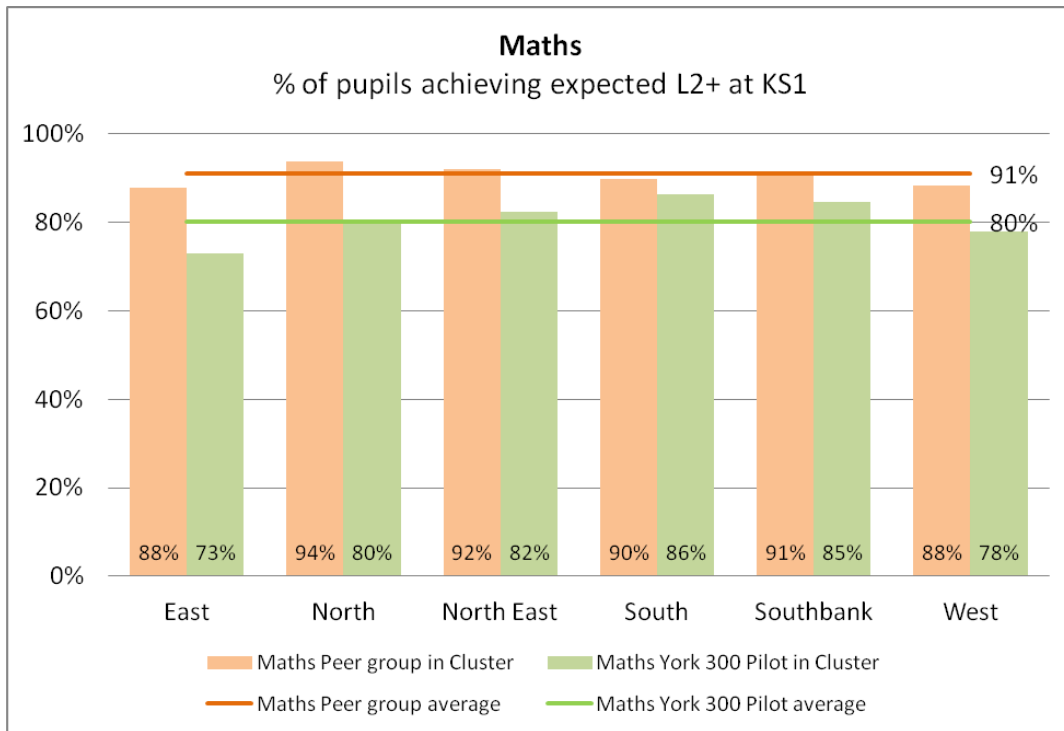
To follow is a list of schools in each cluster. Overall, the clusters align with geographical areas of York.

Southbank	West	South	East	North East	North
Archbishop of York Junior	Acomb	Dunnington	Badger Hill	Haxby Road	Burton Green
Bishopthorpe Infant	Carr Junior	Elvington	Hemland	Headlands	Clifton Green
Carr Infant	Hob Moor Federation (Junior and Oaks)	Fishergate	Heworth	Huntington Primary	Clifton with Rawcliffe
Copmanthorpe	Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs	Lord Deramore's	Osbalwick	New Earswick	Lakeside
Dringhouses	Poppleton Road	Naburn	St Aelred's	Park Grove	Poppleton Ousebank
Knavesmire	Rufforth	St George's	St Lawrence's	Ralph Butterfield	Skelton
Scarcroft	St Barnabas	St Oswald's	Tang Hall	Robert Wilkinson	
St Mary's	Westfield	Wheldrake		Stockton-on-the-Forest	
St Paul's Nursery	Woodthorpe			Wigginton	
St Paul's Primary				Yearsley Grove	
St Wilfrid's					
All Saints	York High School	Danesgate	Applefields	Huntington	Canon Lee
Millthorpe		Fulford	Archbishop Holgate's	Joseph Rowntree	Manor
			Burnholme		

Annex B: Key Stage 1 Attainment by Cluster

The following are graphical representations of Key Stage 1 attainment. The Pilot Cohort and Peer Groups were split by cluster and compared against whole group averages.





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**Learning and Culture Overview & Scrutiny
Committee****19 November 2014**

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

**Update Report on Membership of the Entrepreneurship in York
Schools Task Group****Summary**

1. This report seeks a slight addition to the membership of the Entrepreneurship in York Schools Task Group in light of changes to the composition of the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee made at the recent Extraordinary Council meeting on 23 October 2014.

Background

2. At its meeting in June 2014 the Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered a scrutiny topic proposed by Cllr Semlyen on “School based teaching of skills related to self employment / entrepreneurship at Secondary ages and at York College” and agreed to establish a Task Group to carry out an appropriate review. In fact, the Committee re-established the membership of the former CEIAG (Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance) Task Group in view of the synergies between these two topics. Those Members being Councillors Brooks, Fitzpatrick, Reid and Scott.
3. As a result of the changes to proportionalities and composition of Committees agreed at the Extraordinary Council Meeting, Councillor Scott is no longer a member of this Committee. In view of the synergies between this and the former ‘Careers’ topic, Councillor Scott would still like to assist in this review and maintaining the momentum created by the complete Task Group would certainly be helpful to this review. Indeed, Councillors Scott was appointed by the ‘Entrepreneurship’ Task Group as their Chair because he has chaired the former ‘Careers’ Task Group and was instrumental in producing their final report.

4. It is suggested that this Committee consider formally co-opting Councillor Scott on to the 'Entrepreneurship' Task Group for the reasons outlined above and to facilitate his continuing involvement in the work of the Task Group. It would be for the Task Group to decide whether they would wish for Councillor Scott to continue in his role as Chair, albeit as a 'co-opted Member'. There are no procedural rules prohibiting a 'co-opted Member chairing a Scrutiny Task Group, which is largely a more informal setting in which Members can gather research and evidence for their agreed review.

Options

5. The Committee can:
 - i) agree to appoint Cllr Scott onto the Task Group as a co-opted Member.
 - ii) alternatively, agree that the Task Group should continue with a membership of only three.

Analysis

6. In light of the changes made at Extraordinary Council, the membership of the Task Group has, consequently, been reduced from four to three members which could impact on the ability of the Task Group to progress the work needed to complete the review within planned timescales.

Council Plan

7. The work on this review will support the create jobs and grow the economy, build strong communities and protect vulnerable people elements of the Council's Plan 2011-15.

Implications

8. There are no financial, Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology, Property of other implications associated with this report.

Risk Management

9. There are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report, other than potentially creating more work for fewer

Members, should the Committee decide not to co-opt Councillor Scott. Unless, of course, the Committee to appoint an alternative Member. Although that Member would not be likely to have experience of the review in hand to date.

Recommendation

- 10. That the Committee considers appointing Cllr Scott onto the Entrepreneurship in York Schools Task Group as a co-opted Member.

Reason: To enable the Task Group to progress the work needed to complete the review.

Contact Details

Author:

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Democratic Services
Tel: 01904 551030

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

**Report
Approved**

 Yes

Date 10/11/14

Andrew Docherty
Assistant Director, Governance and ICT
Tel: 01904 551004

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

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

None

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Meeting Dates	Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Work Plan 2014-15
Wed 18 June 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi-annual Update Report 2. Scoping Report on Potential Topics for Review in this Municipal Year 3. Overview Report on CYC Stonewall Challenge (Yvette Bent) 4. Workplan 2014/15
Wed 22 July 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Theatre Royal – SLA Performance Bi-annual Update Report (deferred to September meeting) 2. Year End Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 3. Bi-annual progress report on Safeguarding & Looked After Children 4. Overview Report on Project Plan for Narrowing the Gap 5. Careers Review - Update on Implementation of Recommendations 6. 'School Based Teaching on Entrepreneurship' Review Scoping Report 7. Workplan 2014/15
Wed 17 Sept 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Theatre Royal – SLA Performance Bi-annual Update Report (Liz Wilson attending) 2. Update on Refresh of Equalities Scheme inc. Introduction to relevant focus areas (Charlie Croft) 3. First Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Richard Hartle) 4. Update on Parks Development (Dave Meigh) 5. Attendance of Chair of York Safeguarding Board for Bi-annual Update (Simon Westwood attending) 6. School Improvement and Ofsted Update on Schools Performance (Maxine Squire) 7. Workplan 2014/15 inc. verbal update on ongoing reviews
Wed 19 Nov 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi-annual Update Report & Update on implementation of previous scrutiny recommendations (Charlie Croft & Janet Barnes) 2. Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd SLA & Bi-Annual Update (Fiona Williams) 3. School Results Outturn (Maxine Squire) 4. Scoping Report on proposed 'Narrowing the Gap' Scrutiny Review (Maxine Squire) 5. Update Report on Membership of Entrepreneurship Scrutiny Review Task Group 6. Workplan 2014/15 inc. verbal update on ongoing reviews

<p>Wed 21 January 2015 @ 5:30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Theatre Royal – Service Level Agreement Performance Bi-annual Update Report (Liz Wilson) 2. Attendance of Chair of Learning City (Alison Birkenshaw - invite sent) 3. Attendance of Chair of York@Large (Chris Bailey - invite sent) 4. Second Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Richard Hartle) 5. CYC Bi-annual progress report on Safeguarding & Looked After Children (Eoin Rush) 6. Update on Implementation of Children & Families Bill (Eoin Rush) 7. Update on CYC’s strengthened Referral and Assessment Arrangements (Eoin Rush) 8. GCSE Results Update (Maxine Squire) 9. Workplan inc. verbal update on ongoing reviews
<p>Wed18 March 2015 @ 5:30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Young People's Services – Update on priorities and challenges for 2014/15 (invite sent) 2. Attendance of Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture & Tourism – Update on priorities and challenges for 2014/15 (invite sent) 3. Attendance of Chair of Safeguarding Board – Bi-annual Update 4. Third Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Richard Hartle) 5. Draft Final Report – ‘Disabled Access To York’s Heritage & Cultural Offer’ Scrutiny Review 6. Draft Final Report – ‘Entrepreneurship in York Schools’ Scrutiny Review