



**Notice of a public meeting of
Learning & Culture Policy and Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors Taylor (Chair), Fenton (Vice-Chair), Dew,
Looker, Jackson, K Myers and Wells

Dr Dickinson (Co-opted Statutory Member),
Mr Thomas (Co-opted Statutory Member)

Date: Wednesday, 29 July 2015

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The Craven Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G048)

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 Learning & Culture Policy and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on Monday 22 June 2015.

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 28 July 2015**. 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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4. Attendance of Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism

The Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism will be in attendance to provide an update on his priorities and challenges for the 2015-16 municipal year.

5. York Museums Trust Funding (Pages 9 - 18)

The Committee is asked to comment on York Museums Trust's proposed charging plans designed to ensure their long-term sustainability.

6. Scrutiny Arrangements Around Make it York (Pages 19 - 22)

This report provides members of the Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee with information on its role in scrutinising Make it York (MiY).

7. Local & National Safeguarding Developments - Bi-annual Update (Pages 23 - 28)

This report updates the Committee on key local and national safeguarding developments since December 2014.

8. Update on Implementation of Children & Families Bill

(Pages 29 - 48)

This report updates Members on the implementation of the Children and Families Bill in York.

9. Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Workplan 2015/16 (Pages 49 - 50)

Members are asked to consider the Committee's workplan for the 2015-16 municipal year.

10. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent.

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 (Polish)
własnym języku.**

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 Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Date	22 June 2015
Present	Councillors Taylor (Chair), Dew, Fenton (Vice-Chair), Looker, K Myers, Wells and Reid
Apologies	Mr Thomas
In Attendance	Councillor Cuthbertson

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or disclosable pecuniary interests which they might have in respect of the business on the agenda. None were declared.

2. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the last meeting of the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 18 March 2015 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3. Public Participation

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

4. Arrangements for Overview & Scrutiny in York

Members considered a report that highlighted the Council's structure for the provision of the overview and scrutiny function and the resources available to support it.

Officers confirmed that the scrutiny process could change when a report regarding consultation on Decision Making arrangements was considered at Executive on 30 July 2015. The report proposed arrangements for giving scrutiny committees a greater role in reviewing decisions to be taken by

the Executive or individual Executive Members before a decision was considered.

Resolved: That the contents of the report and the specific remits of the individual Policy & Scrutiny Committees be noted.

Reason: To inform Members of scrutiny arrangements

**5. York Museums Trust Partnership Delivery Plan:
Performance Update 2014-15 - End of Year Report**

Members considered a report that updated them on the current progress of the York Museums Trust (YMT) towards meeting the targets agreed in the Partnership Delivery Plan.

The Chief Executive of the Trust was in attendance to give a six monthly update and confirmed that:

- the Castle Museums 1914 exhibition was well received.
- the Yorkshire Museum had changed their programmes to coincide with the national curriculum changes which included pre historic archaeology.
- the Art Gallery would reopen on 1 August 2015.
- the £8million refurbishment had transformed the Gallery and had increased exhibition space by 60%.
- the new gardens at the back of the Art Gallery would open in phases due to costing issues and contaminated soil.
- the direct walking route from the area behind the Art Gallery into the Museum Gardens would open on 1 August 2015.

Questions were raised regarding the arrangements for the new YMT card including if York residents would continue to use their York Cards to gain free entry into the Museums. It was confirmed that the cut in Council funding had made the Trust review their business model and income streams, and discussions with the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism would need to take place.

Some Members showed concerns over charging York residents and hoped the new administration would not welcome this change.

In answer to Members questions it was confirmed that:

- there was nothing in the Kirk Deed Charitable Scheme that stated York residents should gain free entrance.
- 12-18% of York residents visited the Yorkshire and Castle Museums each year.
- The Art Gallery received a higher proportion of York visitors, around 30-35%.
- YMT was no longer a member of the York Pass.
- 'creative commons' was a licensing system that the YMT used when releasing a copy write image.
- there was no evidence to show that a museum made a significant amount of money from image rights.

Members were pleased to see many York schools had engaged with the exhibitions and hoped this would continue. They were also pleased to note YMT's outreach work.

Members thanked the Chief Executive for her update, and for the work she had done over the last 13 years and the prominence she had given the YMT.

Resolved: That the performance of the York Museums Trust be noted.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's role under the partnership delivery plan.

6. Explore Libraries and Archives Mutual: Performance Update 2014/15 - end of year report

Members considered a report that updated them on the performance of Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd (Explore) during the second 6 months of 2014/15.

The Chief Executive offered an open invite to Members to visit Explore York and confirmed it had been a busy first year for them running as an independent organisation.

The Chief Executive gave an update and confirmed:

- York was seen as a national Leader in the public service mutual world and had won a bid to support Devon through their journey.
- The Archive's team were working with schools to open their service to children and young people.

- The Summer reading challenge, Record Breakers, was due to be launched.
 - The Archive and local history centre had recently won a bid to assess the condition of the Workhouse records.
 - Books on the prescription scheme was growing and work continued with York Mind, the CCG, the NHS and GP's.
 - The new Toy Library lending system had been launched and was still popular.
 - They were working on new Community Hubs which would incorporate Health and Wellbeing hubs.
 - A new library would open on the Community Stadium site.
 - They continued to use City of York Council's ICT services but were now working with a not for profit accountants.
- The Chief Executive thanked City of York Council's financial team for their support through the transition.

The Chair of the Board was also in attendance and informed Members that the first year had launched successfully and was meeting its financial objectives. He felt they were in a position to really move the service forward and further develop Explore as a proposition.

Members thanked officers for their updates and were very impressed by the detailed report and their achievements in the first year.

In answer to Members questions it was confirmed that:

- No libraries would be closing within the City and Huntington library would remain open when the Community Stadium site launched.
- They had several ideas to put a structure in place to drive financial growth, including opportunities around room hire, merchandise and monetising the Archives.
- The antisocial behaviour had significantly improved and additional cameras had been installed.
- The Toy Library now operated through a catalogue system where all toys could be viewed online and then requested to be delivered to a library of choice.
- There was no room on the mobile library for the toys but officers agreed that the new model could make it more difficult for parents who had no internet access. The Chief Executive agreed to discuss other options with her staff.
- The bike racks would move to the undercroft whilst building work continued in the area.

- Every month three community collections were catalogued and the archives team were receiving many contributions from local people.
- Some Archive storage was based in Cheshire. Items could be retrieved on a daily basis and delivered the next day.

It was noted that the tour of the Archive's was well received and the attendee's were very impressed by the wonderful resources.

The Chair thanked the Archive staff for the work they had done throughout the transformation.

The Assistant Director informed Members that the financial implications in the report should have stated that the £50,000 savings was returned to the budget for the 2015-16 municipal year.

Resolved: That the performance of Explore be noted.

Reason: To help monitor the service received under the Service Level Agreement.

7. Tour de France Scrutiny Review - Feasibility Report

Members considered the feasibility of conducting a review of the scrutiny topic submitted by Cllr Cuthbertson in November 2014, which proposed a review of the planning, promotion and delivery of the Council's programme of activities which accompanied the Tour de France.

Cllr Cuthbertson was in attendance to raise his concerns which included the significant financial loss incurred at the Grand De Party and the Monk Stray camping arrangements. He felt the Grand De Party concert at Huntington Stadium was inadequately organised and he was concerned by the health and safety issues raised by the Council's Safety Advisory Group. He also felt the late problems regarding potential saturated land, access and the licensing issues at Monks Stray needed to be investigated.

He stated that the purpose of his proposed review was to ensure that lessons were learnt and to reassure the public.

Members also raised other issues which included no big TV screen in Rowntrees Park and the financial loss that was incurred on the merchandising.

Members proposed and agreed the following remit:

“To consider the appropriate planning, promotion and delivery of future major events to ensure all associated risks are managed effectively, including Health & Safety and reputational risk. The review will examine the Grand Deputy, merchandising and the provision of the entertainment Hubs and camping sites”.

It was approved that Councillors Taylor, Wells and Myers, with Councillor Cuthbertson as a Co-opted Member, would form the Task Group.

The Scrutiny officer agreed to collate various supporting documentation for the Task Group which would include the tender documents, the analysis done by officers on the variances at individual events, minutes from the Safety Advisory Group, and the Officer Project Board and management commentary.

Resolved:

- a) That the information contained in the report and its annexes be noted.
- b) That a review be undertaken based on the remit detailed above.
- c) That a Task Group carry out the review on behalf of the full Committee.

Reason: To ensure compliance with scrutiny procedures and protocols

8. Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee Draft Workplan 2015/16

Members considered the draft work plan for the Committee for the forthcoming 2015-16 municipal year.

Members were invited to put forward topic ideas for review and the following was agreed:

- The Managing Director of Make It York to be invited to the July meeting.

- The final report from the Market Scrutiny review be shared with Make It York.
- That bi-annual updates from Make It York be added to the workplan.
- An update on the transformation programme for the Children Centre's be provided to a future meeting.

Resolved: That the workplan be agreed subject to the agreed amendments above.

Reason: To keep the Committee's workplan updated.

Cllr Taylor, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 7.02 pm].

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Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee

29 July 2015

Report of the Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

York Museums Trust Funding**Summary**

1. The attached report will be considered by the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Tourism on 29 July. It proposes changes to charging for York residents at the city's museums and gallery.
2. The scrutiny committee is asked to give its views on the proposals set out in Annex A attached. The views of this committee will be forwarded to the Executive Member so that he is able to take full account of them in his deliberations on the paper.

Background & Context

3. A key priority of the new council leadership is to ensure there is greater cross-party involvement in the decision making process and that decisions are taken in a more open and transparent way. To support this, the new leadership want policy and scrutiny committees to have the opportunity to debate and make recommendations on matters requiring an executive decision, before a final decision is taken.
4. On 30 July 2015 the Executive will be considering a report proposing options to be consulted on for implementing this new system. The proposals will allow Policy and Scrutiny Committees to see reports prior to executive decisions being made. In the case of an Executive Member decision, it is suggested that the policy and scrutiny committee within whose remit the issue lies, will have responsibility for scrutiny oversight.
5. Whilst it has always been possible for a Scrutiny Committee to identify issues which in due course will require an Executive decision, and for the Committee to review those issues, what these new proposals seek to achieve is to give Scrutiny and Policy Committees the opportunity to see a report in its final (or close to final) form and to debate recommendations on the report prior to the final decision being made.

6. In light of the proposals outlined above, the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism has requested that this Scrutiny Committee give its views on the proposals outlined in the attached report, prior to his consideration of the report at his Executive Member decision session on 29 July 2015.

Recommendations

7. The scrutiny committee is particularly asked to comment on:
- York Museums Trust's charging plans designed to ensure their long-term sustainability (see paragraphs 7-11 in Annex A)
 - The options set out in the paper:
 - a) To agree to YMT's request with respect to charging York residents at the city's museums and gallery (see paragraph 13 in Annex A)
 - b) To agree to the request but with conditions (see paragraphs 14-16 in Annex A)
 - c) To continue to insist on free access for YorkCard holders (see paragraphs 17-20 in Annex A)

Reason: To ensure a vibrant and sustainable museums service over the long-term.

Contact Details

Author:	Chief Officer responsible for the report:	
Charlie Croft Assistant Director (Communities, Culture & Public Realm)	Sally Burns Director of Communities & Neighbourhoods	
Report Approved ✓	Date: 21 July 2015	
Specialist Implications Officer:		
Wards Affected:	All	✓

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

Annex A - York Museums Trust Funding: Report to the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Tourism 29 July 2015



Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism

29 July, 2015

Report of the Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

York Museums Trust Funding

Summary

1. This report proposes changes to charging for York residents at the city's museums and gallery.

Recommendations

2. The report asks the Executive Member to:
 - Note York Museums Trust's charging plans designed to ensure their long-term sustainability
 - Agree to give permission to the trust, under the terms of the leases for the Art Gallery and Castle Museum, to introduce new arrangements for charging York residents

Reason: To ensure a vibrant and sustainable museums service over the long-term.

Background

3. In 2002 City of York Council entered into a partnership agreement with the newly constituted York Museums Trust (YMT) in order to ensure the long-term stability and prosperity of the City's museums and collections. The background to the decision was a sharp decline in museum visits and a pressing need for investment in the museums. YMT has been highly successful. Its key achievements have been in the following areas:
 - a. **Visitor numbers:** Visitor numbers have risen from 387,000 in the first full year of operation to 656,000 in 2011/12.
 - b. **Delivering new income streams:** YMT has increased the diversity of their income streams and their overall income. In 2002 the Council's grant accounted for over 50% of YMT's income; in 2015 it has reduced to less than 10% of income

with admission charges, Arts Council *Major Partners Museum* funding, and other trading income making up the remainder.

- c. **Developing new exhibitions and interpretive service:** There is now an excellent programme of activities at all the sites managed by the Trust. Partnerships with the Arts Council: England, The Tate and the British Museum have not only brought the best of national collections to York but have also shown York's collections regionally and nationally. The Trust's Learning support team have won awards for their interpretation and informal learning programme. The Trust contributes to many wider city initiatives such as the York Mystery Plays.
- d. **Upgrade the building assets:** YMT has so far raised approximately £16m which it has invested in the Council's buildings, gardens, public programmes and collections.
- e. **Increase use and involvement by residents:** There were 5,000 visits from York school children from over 50 state and independent sector schools last year. The volunteer programme has over 400 active volunteers at any one time, and working with the H.E. sector the trust hosts over 20 student placements annually. They have an active inclusivity programme supported by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Arts Council: England and Renaissance in the Regions.
- f. **Achieve high visitor satisfaction:** The Trust has successfully retained the Visitor Quality Assurance standard and their own visitor survey show that visitor satisfaction is consistently above 96% with an average 98% of visitors willing to recommend the visit to others.
- g. **Ensure the cataloguing of the collections:** The agreed programme of retrospective documentation is on target. The Trust team has also developed an acquisitions programme to reflect the history, science and culture of the city and region.

4. Funds raised have been used to:

- Complete a major refurbishment of the York Art Gallery, to reopen on 1 August, increasing exhibition space by 60%, with a mezzanine gallery and new upper south gallery which will house the new Centre of Ceramic Art

- New gardens are being created that will connect the historic Museum Gardens with the area behind York Art Gallery. Two of the garden areas open to the public in time for the opening of the gallery.
 - Undertake a major development at the Castle Museum, using film and voice to tell the stories of the Debtors prison, and bringing the social history remit of the museum up to date through the 1960s exhibition. Kirkgate has also been refreshed with new interpretation including sound and light. Better learning spaces have been provided and, for the first time, a visitor lift. The first exhibition held in these new spaces was the successful *1914: When the World Changed Forever*
 - Create a vibrant museums education provision with 3 new learning posts
 - Tackle the problems in collections management through a new Directorate of Collections
 - Strengthen the curatorial team with new posts in archaeology and natural history
 - Refurbish the Yorkshire Museum through a £2.2m project to redisplay the museums collections. A specially commissioned History of York Video is now available to all visitors in the Tempest Anderson Hall
 - Invest in the Yorkshire Museum Gardens improving the planting and labelling in order to restore the botanical garden and open it up more sustainable and flexible use
 - Develop a new contemporary art venue in the city at York St Mary's showcasing the best of international contemporary artists and developing a programme of events to support major festivals in the city.
 - Achieve accreditation for all of YMT museums, an important mark of quality within the sector
5. YMT continues to develop robust and exciting plans for the continued development of the city's museums and gallery; however, it faces significant financial challenges. The Council's annual grant has reduced from £1.5m in 2012/13 to £600k in 2015/16, a 60% cut. In response to these reductions YMT has made significant efficiency savings including reducing the number of senior managers and curatorial staff.

6. It is expected that the Council will need to make further significant staged reductions in the grant in the years up to 2019/20. YMT also faces the possibility that national income streams for the arts could be reduced or reallocated elsewhere. Recognising these pressures YMT is willing to accept the challenge of operating as a self-sustaining commercial organisation, adapting their business model and seeking new ways to create funds so that the museums can continue to be a key part of York's cultural offer. In part this will be through continued capital investment in the museums and the Council has assisted in this by making £1m of capital available across 2014-16 to invest in schemes that will generate new revenue streams. Freedom to set pricing will also be a central component of the required approach to ensure that it remains economically viable and, over time, more self-sufficient.
7. YMT has now approached the Council seeking permission to introduce a new scheme of entry charges to the museums and Art Gallery for YorkCard holders. They need the Council's permission to do this, in respect of the Art Gallery and Castle Museum, because the leases for those buildings require them to give free entry to York residents for everything other than special exhibitions, except where the Council gives them written permission to do otherwise. In practice the Council has not required YMT to give free access to York residents, but rather asked them to give free access to residents who have bought a YorkCard. The new proposal would be to give discounted rather than free access.
8. YMT believes that the re-opening of York Art Gallery, which coincides with the launch of a new YMT Card, is the best time to make the change and that the ability to charge residents for entry to the newly re-opened Art Gallery is critical to their business plan.
9. Key aspects of YMT's proposed approach include introducing:
 - An admission charge for York residents at all YMT sites
 - A £7.50 admission charge at York Art Gallery when it re-opens on 1 August (previously free for visitors as well as YorkCard holders)
 - A new membership scheme (the YMT Card) offering 12 months entry to all YMT sites, as well as other benefits / discounts at the cafés and shops, costing £17 for a YorkCard holder and £22 for a non-YorkCard holder
 - Up to 50% off day tickets and 50% off the YMT Card for 17-24 year olds and those on Universal Credit, Pensions Credit, Jobseekers

Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance and Income Support. This means that for those who qualify for this discount and who also have a YorkCard, the YMT card will cost just £6 (or £5 if paid by direct debit)

10. The 12 month YMT Card will offer great value for money meaning that a York resident with a YorkCard can purchase a YMT Card for £17 (compared to a standard price of £22) and visit all exhibitions and events across the Council's museums for 12 months.
11. All York Cards bought before 1 August would remain valid, continuing to give the advertised benefits for their 12 month period (these don't include the Art Gallery). Explore York, who manage the YorkCard scheme on behalf of the Council will continue to refresh the YorkCard offer so that it remains attractive to residents with a range of benefits on offer.

Options

12. Options open to the Executive Member include:
 - a) To agree to YMT's request
 - b) To agree to the request but with conditions
 - c) To continue to insist on free access for YorkCard holders

Analysis

13. Option a): This option would bring York Museums Trust in line with other venues included on YorkCard, such as the swimming pools, which offer discounted entry rather than free entry. For YorkCard holders this means that all YorkCards bought after 1 August 2015 would offer a £5 discount on the purchase of the 12 month YMT Card.
14. Option b): If this option were pursued YMT has indicated in discussion with the Executive Member that potential concessions they could make to YorkCard holders would include:
 - Kids Go Free, allowing free access for children under 16
 - Continued free access for York residents during the Residents Festival and on one further day to be specified
15. The issue of discounted single entry for YorkCard holders has also been raised with YMT by the Executive Member. YMT have indicated that they do not view this as practicable.

16. If this option were pursued, since some free access would be maintained, it could be achieved through a simple letter of clarification from the Council; no formal decision to vary the leases would be required.
17. Option c): If the Council were to insist on continued free access for YorkCard holders this would have significant financial implications for the Council. YMT have constructed their overall business plan, in response to the previous reduction in their grant, based on their understanding, at the time the cut was made, that the Council would end free entry for York residents before the Art Gallery re-opens. If the Council is not willing to do this, YMT report that they will lose anticipated annual revenue upward of £400k once gift-aid is factored in. The Council would therefore face the prospect of having to find additional funding to keep the museums open.
18. On the basis of YMT's estimate it would mean that the cost to the Council of maintaining free entry for YorkCard holders in future years would potentially be as much as £700k p.a. when compared to the potential reduced grant that could be envisaged. This cannot be recommended in light of the Council's future budget position. It should be noted that, should YMT not be able to continue to operate the museums and gallery its staff and obligations would revert to the Council, creating a potential multi-million pound liability.
19. If YMT is not able to charge at the Art Gallery and Castle Museum it could place greater pressure on them to generate revenue from the Yorkshire Museum and Gardens. There are no restrictions that would prevent them for introducing entry charges to either of these venues.
20. Option c) cannot therefore be recommended.

Implications

21. **Finance:** The Council makes an annual grant to YMT. In 2015/16 the grant is £605k, a reduction of £900k compared to 2012/13.
22. **Equalities:** The proposed Access card will offer discounted access for 17-24 year olds and those on Universal Credit, Pensions Credit, Jobseekers Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance and Income Support.
23. The report has no additional implications relating to: Human Resources, Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology, Property.

For further information please contact the author of the report.

Contact Details

Author:	Chief Officer Responsible for the report:			
Charlie Croft Assistant Director, Communities, Culture & Public Realm	Sally Burns Director of Communities & Neighbourhoods			
	Report Approved	✓	Date	21 July 2015
Specialist Implications Officer: Patrick Looker, Finance Manager				
Wards Affected:			All	✓
<i>For further information please contact the author of the report</i>				

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Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee
Report of Assistant Director Governance and ICT

29 July 2015

Scrutiny Arrangements Around Make it York

Summary

1. This report provides members of the Learning & Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee with information on its role in scrutinising Make it York (MiY).

Background

2. In early November 2013, the former Cabinet agreed to pursue the development of a new agency to deliver the marketing, tourism, cultural and business development agendas for the city of York with the aims:
 - To deliver greater inward investment, and thus market share, for York in its key growth sectors, including those sub-sectors in which the city has a strength of assets, particularly life science-related industries, high-tech industries and business services;
 - To increase the value of the visitor economy through promoting innovation and higher quality in the existing offer and encouraging high value visitor economy investment;
 - To achieve a stronger coordination and promotion of the city's profile and cultural offering underpinning that profile.
3. The input of all political parties in York was a valued part of the process of developing a commissioning agreement for the new agency, particularly through the cross-party Make it York Shareholder Committee. The Shareholder Body met in January 2015 and their views were taken into account during the subsequent drafting of the document.
4. In February 2015 the cross-party Make it York Shareholder Committee considered the most up-to-date (at the time) draft Commissioning Agreement, including a draft of all outcomes, outputs, responsibilities and requirements, giving the political groups an opportunity to comment

on the Service Level Agreement. They made suggestions of how the document could be refined/ improved, and the draft was updated to take their views into account.

5. The new organisation – Make it York – and Commissioning Agreement went live in April 2015.
6. The Commissioning Agreement clearly states that Make it York is expected to operate in keeping with a citywide ‘Team York’ approach to delivering economic growth and place-shaping. It will participate in citywide partnerships relevant to business growth, visitor economy and culture, and the development of York’s Economy & Place Strategy, including elements around tourism and culture. Through this, the commissioned organisation’s delivery approach should both inform and be informed by these citywide plans, including the priority sectors outlined in York’s Economy & Place Strategy.
7. Whilst the Shareholder Committee was happy to take on the role of scrutinising Make it York, it was recognised there could be a significant overlap with the work of both this Committee and the Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee.
8. Having queried whether its remit might change due to the Shareholder Body’s role in scrutinising Make it York, the Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee has already received a similar report to this at their meeting in June 2015.

Make it York – Respective Roles

9. The Executive

Takes important decisions concerning the company including:

- The appointment and dismissal of Directors
- Undertaking borrowing and loans
- Allocating funding to the company
- Agreeing the service level agreement with the company
- Making any changes to the nature of the company

10. Shareholder Committee

- Influences the Make it York board of directors on the direction of travel of Make it York

- Scrutinises the performance and operation of Make it York
- Influences the appointment of directors including pay packages
- Makes recommendations to the Make it York board on operation of the company where appropriate
- Communicates the practical application of the Council's priorities to the Board and how the Company is able to contribute to them being attained
- Reports to the Executive on the above issues where appropriate

11. Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee.

Like all scrutiny boards EDTPSC may:

- Review any issue that it considers appropriate: Topics may be in the areas in which Make it York operates relevant to the scope of the scrutiny committee and focus on the strategic outcomes that Make it York is pursuing in those areas. Where EDTPSC selects a subject area to scrutinise that is in the remit of MiY then MiY will provide representation.
- Identify aspects of the Council's operation and delivery of services, and/or those of the Council's statutory partners, suitable for efficiency reviews. EDTPSC may wish to do this by:
 - Scrutinising the Company's annual business plan including capital and revenue plans which are approved by the shareholders.
 - Scrutinise how control of the Company is exercised on a strategic basis to complement the Council's objectives.
 - Seeking reassurance that the 20% Teckal threshold is maintained.

12. Learning and Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee.

Like all scrutiny boards L&CPSC may:

- Review any issue that it considers appropriate: Topics may be in the areas in which Make it York operates relevant to the scope of the scrutiny committee and focus on the strategic outcomes that Make it York is pursuing in those areas. Typically these might concern tourism, festival and events, or the markets. Where L&CPSC selects a subject area to scrutinise that is in the remit of MiY then MiY will provide representation.

- Identify aspects of the Council's operation and delivery of services, and/or those of the Council's statutory partners, suitable for efficiency reviews.

Options & Analysis

13. This report is provided for information only.

Council Plan

14. The delivery of Make it York relates to the Creating Jobs and Growing the Economy priority in the Council Plan 2011-2015.

Implications and Risks

15. There are no implications or risks associated with this report.

Recommendation

16. That the Committee note the contents of this report.

Reason: To inform the Committee of the respective roles of the Executive, the Shareholder Committee and this Committee in relation to Make it York.

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Report Approved**Date**

3 July 2015

Wards Affected:**All**

For further information please contact the author of the report

Abbreviations:

EDTPSC – Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee

MiY - Make it York

L&CPSC - Learning and Culture Policy & Scrutiny Committee



Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee

29 July 2015

Report of the Assistant Director for Children's Specialist Services

Local & National Safeguarding Developments – Bi-annual Update

Introduction

1. At a meeting of the Committee in June 2012 Members agreed to receive a six monthly update on key children's safeguarding issues. This report updates the Committee on key local and national safeguarding developments since December 2014.
2. The operating environment for Local Authorities continues to change rapidly. Every area of Council business is touched by a national context characterised by huge financial pressures on public spending and significant national policy change. Childrens services are no exception however, in York; we are committed to carefully prioritising and organising our services at a local level to enable us to navigate the changes ahead and in order to maintain safe and effective services.

City of York – Children's Safeguarding Developments

3. Safeguarding Children – A Council Wide Responsibility
Here in York childrens safeguarding is seen as everyone's responsibility with colleagues from across the Council actively participating in and contributing to this agenda. Children's safeguarding is promoted and prioritised in every aspect of Council business.
4. This review period has seen elected members and the Council Management Team receive and debate presentations on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, a review of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and strategies to identify and address the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people in the City.
5. These debates set the scene for significant subsequent safeguarding initiatives and activity during this period. This includes:

- Further development of cross border collaboration with North Yorkshire County Council and North Yorkshire Police to develop shared approaches to tackling child sexual exploitation.
- launch of a year long campaign in partnership with NSPCC to tackle child sexual abuse¹
- in partnership with housing and public health colleagues, the development of a local approach Family Drug and Alcohol assessment and court arrangements
- with key partners, a fundamental reshaping of the LSCB operating model, governance arrangements and support structure
- the development of an emotional and mental health strategy for children and young people with an emphasis on prevention and early intervention
- significantly strengthened performance reporting to senior managers and elected members

Protecting the Most Vulnerable

6. In successive annual Council budget plans childrens social work and social care continues to be prioritised. These services are at the heart of the Council's strategy to safeguard some of the most vulnerable children and young people. As in any local authority area childrens social care must stay focussed on a journey of continuous improvement. During this review period and to support our operational staff we have worked together on three key areas over the year to:
 - ensure that supervision is regular and of high quality
 - embed a culture of audit activity at team and service level
 - develop assessment skills and practice
7. A summary of other significant service developments and improvement during the review period includes:
8. Referral and Assessment Service (R&A)
There has been significant investment into the 'front door' to Children's Social Care. Three (previously two) dedicated Referral and Assessment Teams now respond to all contacts to Children's Social Care on a rota basis. The service is staffed by qualified social workers who, in addition to receiving referrals, are available to professionals from all agencies to talk through concerns to advise whether they meet thresholds for statutory intervention and / or to signpost to other relevant services.

¹ www.yor-ok.org.uk/young-people

9. York has a statistically lower rate of referrals 220 per 10,000 children than its Statistical Neighbour and England averages (436 & 573 respectively). This is longstanding. We believe this is due to a combination of factors:
 - Each contact is screened by a dedicated qualified Social Worker,
 - The well-established Early Help offer in York, including the well regarded Advice Service which signposts to a range of services.
 - Agencies do not repeat refer into CSC: 13.7% of referrals in 2014-15 were re-referrals, in comparison with annual England and statistical neighbour averages of above 20%. The re-referral rate is similar to that returned in 2013-14 at 13.4% and lower than in the three preceding years (18.9%, 19.6% and 20.9% respectively).
10. In recognition of the need to improve the quality of referrals to Children's Social Care (in response to an Ofsted Thematic Inspection of Early Help) a revised referral form was introduced in the summer of 2014.
11. Work has also been undertaken with colleagues from health and education to ensure that single assessments fully reflect assessments undertaken by agencies involved with the family (in line with WT 2015). The new agreed way of working will be rolled out across key agencies in 15/16.
12. Child in Need Service
The dedicated Child in Need service (CIN) has been operational since January 2014, providing a targeted support service for vulnerable children, young people and their families. Providing services under Section 17 of the Children Act it has developed robust processes to ensure that all children and young people known to the service have clear plans which are regularly reviewed.
13. This was further developed in January 2015 with the introduction of a weekly Resource Allocation Panel (RAP) chaired by the Service Manager and attended by CIN Practice Managers. All children referred for a CIN service are presented to RAP. This provides greater consistency and scrutiny of thresholds and further embeds a culture of shared responsibility within the service.
14. RAP also discusses all children and young people who have been subject to a CIN plan (or a CIN service under a CP plan) for one year to prevent drift and delay. This is of particular relevance to children and

young people who have suffered, or likely to suffer significant harm as a result of neglect.

15. The graded care profile (GCP) has been introduced as a tool to be used alongside all assessments where neglect is suspected, and revisited at key points within service delivery to ensure progress is being monitored (LSCB priority area)
16. Child Protection and Court Proceedings
As of 31st March 2015 there were 125 children subject to Child Protection Plans, almost the same as the previous year (124). This equates to 34 per 10,000, a return below that of statistical neighbours (39) & England (42). From a peak in 2011-12 (162) the number of children on a child protection plan in York is now stable.
17. The majority (46.8%) are listed under the category of neglect, with emotional abuse (34.7%) a close second. Physical Abuse (9.7%) and Sexual Abuse (3.2%) fall well behind these two. These figures are broadly in line with statistical neighbours and England averages, with neglect marginally higher than 42%.
18. Twenty care application proceedings were initiated between April 2014 and March 2015. During the same period 52 cases went to Legal Gateway Meeting or were open as PLO (Public Law Outline).
19. The average court time for York cases is 18 weeks, one of the lowest in the country.
20. A summary of Outcomes for the review period is set out below:

The outcomes for public law cases concluded in the period April 2014 to Mar 2015

Care Orders – 11 children
Placement Orders - 3 children
SGO's – 6 children
Supervision Orders – 12 children
Child Arrangements Orders – 2 children
Residence Orders – 1 child
No order – 1 child

Fig.1

21. Looked After Children
The number of looked after children in the city has seen a continued steady reduction in 2014-15 from 226 to 195. The aspiration to maintain

a reduction in the number of admissions of children into care has been maintained with the number of entrants remaining constant for the past three years (62-65). The reduction in the total numbers has been a reflection of the maintained increase in care leavers (83-94) in the corresponding period. The numbers of care leavers is a reflection of three areas of progress:

- greater numbers of children being adopted
- greater number of children being made subject to special guardianship orders
- the discharge of several care orders after children have successfully returned to the care of their parents under placement with parent regulations.

22. The Multi Agency Looked After Children's partnership and the Corporate Parenting Board continue to oversee the qualitative progress of the Looked After Children's Strategy 2012-15.

23. There is ongoing consultation about the review of the strategy with looked after children, their carers and key agencies working with these children. The strategy, with a theme of '**good enough is not good enough**' will be refreshed during 2015 to reflect the learning from the past three years and the priorities for the future.

24. Missing Children

For children who go missing from home and care, a revised joint protocol between North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council came into effect January 2015. At an operational level there is daily collaboration between Children's Social Care and North Yorkshire Police.

25. In addition a monthly meeting to share information about vulnerable young people (particularly in relation to CSE and missing) is being established. The joint protocol for this meeting is currently being finalised.

26. The coordination of the strategic implications of the incidence and messages about patterns of missing episodes will be via the Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation sub group of the CYSCB.

Conclusion

27. Perhaps of most significance during this review period has been the significant further elevation of childrens safety in the minds of all Council staff. Regardless of 'role or rank' Council colleagues can speak and act with confidence in relation to their safeguarding responsibilities. This culture is led at the highest level within the Council and there remains a relentless determination to further improve and sustain this picture.

Recommendations

28. Having considered the information within this report, Members are recommended to:
- i. Note, consider and challenge the detail of this report
 - ii. Visit the Its Not Ok website and review the content
 - iii. Consider convening a *Responding and Managing Risk Challenge* event with officers from Childrens Social Care.
 - iv. Receive an update on the refreshed Looked After Children's strategy in the next update report.

Reason: To allow Members to be fully informed on key childrens safeguarding issues in York and to support Member challenge in this area.

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Jon Stonehouse - Director, Children's
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Report Approved



Date 20/07/15

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report



**Learning & Culture Policy and Scrutiny
Committee**

29 July 2015

Report of the Director of Children's Services, Education and Skills

Update on Implementation of Children & Families Bill

Summary

1. Families with disabled children and children with special educational needs have welcomed the changes implemented in York following the inception of the Children and Families Act 2014. The introduction of new Education, Health and Care plans replace the old statement of special educational needs. These new plans set out more holistically the needs of each children and young person in a way that better supports subsequent multi agency planning for their improved outcomes.

Notwithstanding some excellent early progress in York it has become clear that a review of existing service structures is now needed to sustain the effective delivery of these new requirements.

The community of children's services providers in York fully recognises that children and young people must be at the heart of any future service development. Very helpfully, feedback from work to date confirms that parents, carers and young people are enthusiastic to be further involved in the development of local services.

The goal of the proposed future service structure change is to ensure a well coordinated and seamless support offer to families. This includes those families who access universal services right through to those who require intensive support interventions.

Recommendations

2. Members are requested to:

- take note of the progress in the implementation of the special educational needs and disability reforms and the plans to establish an integrated service (including social care, SEN specialist teaching service, specialist early years services and the SEN coordination team)

Reason: parents are seeking easier access to services, with support for need, not limited by artificial barriers of service boundaries

- note the intention to make future assessment approaches proportionate to need with key working approaches to be expanded through the development of a family support role.

Reason: these workers would coordinate services for those families where there is multiple agency involvement, proactively signposting them to activities/support to meet needs

Background

3. The Children and Families Act 2014 was passed in March 2014 and implemented in September 2014. The Act introduced significant changes to the delivery of services for disabled children and children with special educational needs. The focus of these reforms is around four key areas:

- improving outcomes for children and young people and their families
- the views, wishes and feelings of the child or young person, and the child's parents, must be central to the planning of provision
- children, young people and parents should participate as fully as possible in decisions and be supported to enable participation in those decisions
- young people should be supported from the earliest time to plan for adulthood, extending the special educational needs (SEN) offer up to 25 years, if a young person needs additional time for their learning

4. *The vision is of children and young people with special educational needs and disability achieving well in their early years, at school and in college; finding employment; leading happy and fulfilled lives; and having choice and control over their support.*¹
5. In York this is echoed by the vision set out in 'Dream Again' York's Children and Young People's Plan.

Our Vision

6. *York is a city making history and its children are our future. Every child and young person in York deserves to live their dreams. We will stretch, support, nurture and release them to do so. Working with them and their families, we will make York the best place in Britain in which to grow up.*²
7. The Care Act 2015 reinforces many of the requirements set out in the Children and Family Act 2014. It requires that Local Authorities (LAs) provide care for adults with needs and that the wellbeing of people must be considered and information provided to enable people to access services and support they need. All planning must be person centred and clients should be supported to participate in decisions as appropriate. Carers are eligible for an assessment in their own right, and services to support them or short breaks for their children, even if their children are not eligible for support.

Local Responsibilities

8. LAs and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) are required to implement and monitor statutory responsibilities including:
 - early identification of needs of children and young people with special educational needs
 - informing parents and CCG when special educational needs have been identified
 - working with partners to meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs

¹ Special educational needs and disability supporting local and national accountability March 15

² 'Dream Again' Children and Young People's Plan 2013-16

- ensuring the provision outlined in an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is provided
 - providing carers' assessments for carers of disabled children and meeting the carers needs, including provision for children, even if they don't require support in their own right
9. The Health and Wellbeing Board, lead member and YorOK Board are responsible for the monitoring of the implementation of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) reforms. Education settings, through their respective governance and leadership arrangements I are responsible and have duties to use their best endeavours to make the provision required to meet the special educational needs of children and young people.
10. For schools, regulation is through Ofsted and the annual report that schools have to provide to parents on their children's progress. Academies continue to have a duty to cooperate with the Local Authority.

Ofsted for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

11. The Department for Education (DfE) announced in March that 'the combination of local accountability measures, data and analysis and independent inspection will show how the SEND system is performing.' The inspection will be a **local area inspection** which will be based on a set of agreed measures to support local and national accountability and to support it with a national survey of users' satisfaction in summer 2016.³
13. The DfE has identified **three key areas** the LA and their partners need to focus on:
- positive experience of the **Special Educational Needs and Disability** system for children, young people and their families
 - positive outcomes for children, young people and their families
 - effective preparation for adulthood
14. In order to effectively meet the needs of children, young people and their families, it is necessary to re configure local service structure arrangements to ensure they work in a new way, not restricted by service boundaries.

³ See Annex 1

15. What families ask for:

- high quality provision, that supports children and young people to fulfil their potential, moving into adulthood with meaningful engagement in their community through work, volunteering or positive activities
- a genuine partnership in decision making for their child
- clear information in our local offer that empowers them to make choices
- assessment without jargon, de-stigmatising access to support
- key working approaches, where someone holds the coordination of support and signposts families appropriately
- proportionate responses to requests for support with appropriate sharing of information, so that parents do not need to keep retelling their story
- staff to work with their child who really understand their needs and are proactive in breaking down barriers to full participation in all their non disabled peers take part in
- greater collaboration between specialist and universal services to enable York to be a fully inclusive city
- intensive support in the home, when things are really tough

16. To meet these needs it is proposed:

- services are provided at three levels: targeted, identified and specialist.⁴ Staff with the right skills work together across agencies and provide differentiated appropriate support
- to further integrate local service arrangements. It is proposed that key working approaches are to be provided by the development of a family support role at the targeted level of support. These workers would coordinate services for those families where there is multiple agency involvement, proactively signposting them to activities and support to meet needs
- service delivery will be delineated across 3 key phases: early years, school aged to 14, transition age 14+
- staff will support the holistic needs of the child/young person and family regardless of their professional background.

⁴ See Annex 2

Specialist teachers, social workers and support staff and others have a shared understanding of support that is needed and who is best able to provide this in a coordinated, effective and efficient way

- assessment processes are reviewed to provide more accessible, coordinated and proportionate assessment, referrals come to a joint panel and decisions re support consider who will provide a more holistic support that previously given by one agency
- parent peer support is provided from trained parents to de-mystify access to short breaks
- parent mentoring will support families with trained, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked volunteers who offer independent, non judgemental support to families with high levels of need. This weekly support to families has kept children in York and helped families stay together in stressful situations
- specialist intensive support for families in greatest need, including Family Intervention Rapid Support Team, (FIRST) will work with those with the highest level of need and provide support to skill staff to work with parents before they reach crisis point. Skilled staff from our specialist residential short break service will continue to work with FIRST to provide interventions in the home, supporting families where they need the help most
- early planning for a bedded unit to provide intensive support for families in crisis, to prevent children and young people going to expensive out of city provision, which can cost £1k per week
- quality assurance and support to early years settings, schools and colleges/post maintained education settings
- continued support to care, leisure providers and education settings promotes high quality inclusive settings and support

17. This will provide:

- a seamless service with the right level of coordinated support, the right person working with a family, irrespective of their professional background
- proportionate assessment, including reduced assessment for 100 hours per year short breaks

- peer support from parents, encouraging easier access to services
- increased trust in 'the system' as parents are advocating the approach and benefits
- earlier support for families who have previously had multi agency involvement and often had to wait for all the agencies to 'talk to each other' and understand what each one is doing
- more families confident that York local offer will meet their child's needs and support progression alongside meaningful engagement in activities/support. This will support a reduction in numbers leading to tribunals
- increased support/training for colleges and post maintained education providers supporting high quality provision that leads to progression and ensures young people are supported effectively to complete education courses and move on to employment, volunteering or positive activities in the community
- continued support for early years settings and schools to ensure all teachers own special education as their responsibility and that Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) are equipped to lead schools/early years settings to maintain high quality provision children and young people out of school, due to ill health and mental health needs, will be supported back into school through personalised programmes of support families only needing to tell their story once

Consultation

18. Consultation with parent carers of disabled children has been undertaken involving CANDI parent forum and members of other parent groups. Informal consultation with the SEN coordination team, the specialist teaching team, the health and disability team and the specialist early years support team have been held in a number of meetings.

There is an ongoing dialogue with the wider school community and educational settings.

Options

19. Option 1: maintain the current service arrangements

Option 2: Continue to develop the plans for an integrated service as outlined in this paper

Analysis

20. The second option is recommended as it provides a service that meets the holistic needs of disabled children, young people and their families. Developing an integrated service will enable the teams to work together more effectively, with the right staff supporting the family irrespective of professional background. Families have consistently reported that key working approaches with one person supporting a family with information, signposting and coordination of support can make the most significant difference in outcomes and wellbeing. Ensuring assessment is proportionate to need with key working approaches provided by a family support role at the targeted level of support will increase parent satisfaction and reduce escalation of need.

Council Plan

21. The implementation of the Children and Families Act and the special educational needs reforms aligns with the Council Plan to protect vulnerable people.

Implications

Financial

22. Discussions have begun about how services will be re-shaped to be responsive to the needs and vision outlined in this paper. Although the detailed analysis of the financial implications of the proposals set out at paragraph 16 has yet to be undertaken, it is likely that additional expenditure will be required. The implications of this will need to be addressed as each proposal is formally considered for approval prior to implementation, with any additional costs having to be contained within the overall CSES directorate budget.

Human Resources (HR)

23. A HR business partner will be included on the project Board that will oversee the developments described above.

Equalities

24. The implementation of the Children and Families Act 2014 support our duty to meet the Single Equalities bill, promoting equality of opportunity, making proactive adjustments of services to improve access of services for disabled children and their families.

Other

25. There are no Legal, Crime and Disorder, Information Technology or property implications arising from this report.

Risk Management

26. Risks if not achieved:
- increased numbers of families continue to ask for out of city provision, as they do not trust the local offer
 - resources are not used effectively and efficiently. Expensive staff will continue to provide lower level support and sign posting that family support workers would be better placed to do
 - families continue to say that the jargon surrounding access to services, such as short breaks, forms a barrier to them
 - under resourced service will prevent the timely completion of Education, Health and Care Plans ineffective support for early years settings, schools and colleges will continue or increase the gap between attainment and progression between children with special educational needs and disability and children who are looked after with their peers
 - Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Ofsted outcomes will be poor with evidence that families do not have a positive experience of the SEND system for children, young people and their families, positive outcomes for children, young people and their families or effective preparation for adulthood
 - low levels of parent satisfaction in DfE parent survey planned for summer 2016 leading to potentially significant reputational damage for the Local Authority and its partners

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report:**

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Report **Date** 16 July 2015
Approved

Wards Affected:

All

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Background Papers:

- Special educational needs and disability supporting local and national accountability March 15
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years: Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities: January 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years: Statutory guidance for organisations which work with and support children and young people who have special educational needs or disabilities: January 2015
- Key responsibilities/legislative guidance

Annexes

Annex 1 – Draft accountability framework for Special Educational Needs and Disability

Annex 2 - Measuring the success of the Special Educational Needs and Disability system

Annex 3- Integrated Service Offer

Annex 4- Key Responsibilities/Legislative Guidance

Abbreviations in the report and annexes

CAMHS- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

CANDI- Children and Inclusion

CCG- Clinical Commissioning Group

CIN- Children In Need

CoP- Code of Practice

CYP- Children and Young People

DBS- Disclosure and Barring Service

DfE- Department for Education

EHCP- Education, Health and Care Plan

FIRST- Family and Rapid Intervention Service

LA- Local Authority

LAC- Looked After Children

LDD- Learning Difficulties and Disabilities

OT- Occupational Therapist

MSP- My Support Plans

POET- Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool

PMHW- Primary Mental Health Worker

SB- Short Breaks

SEN- Special Educational Needs

SENCO- Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator

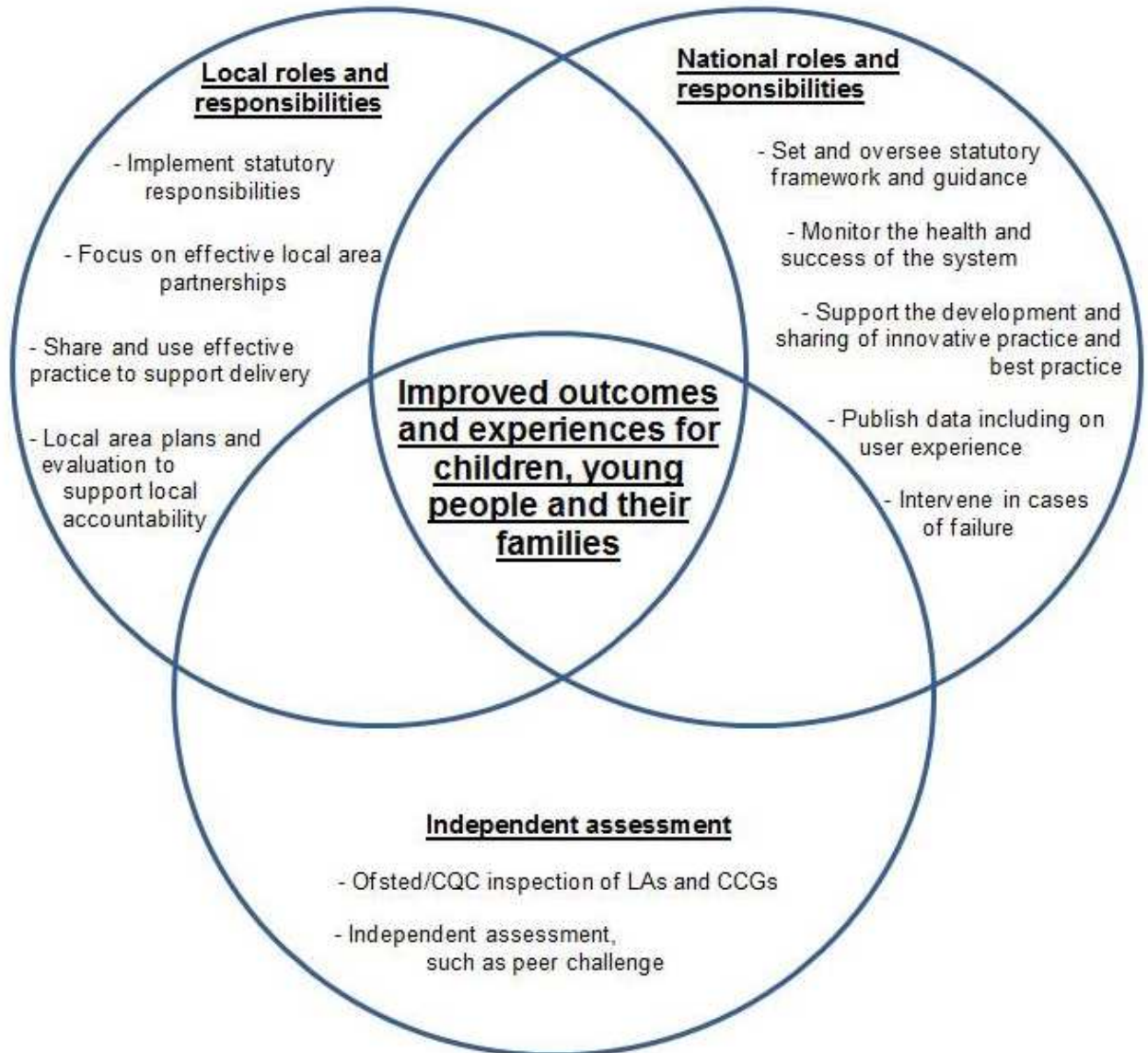
SEND- Special Educational Needs and Disability

SEYST- Special Early Years Support Team

STT- Specialist Teaching Team

YILTS- York Independent Living and Travel Skills

Draft accountability framework for Special Educational Needs and Disability



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Annex 2

Measuring the success of the Special Educational Needs and Disability system

	Positive experience of the SEND system for children, young people and their families	Positive outcomes for children, young people and their families	Effective preparation for adulthood
What does success look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents, children and young people get right support at right time; feel that they are listened to and in control - Planned and well-managed transition at key points - A joined-up, transparent and accountable system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved progression and attainment at all ages - Clear and appropriate expectations and aspirations leading to fulfilled lives - More resilient families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased employment - Choice and control over living arrangements / Independent living - Participation in the community - Health outcomes based on need and aspiration
Examples of data and intelligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SEN appeals and outcomes - Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) completed on time - Local authority and parent survey data - Children and young people's Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool (POET) pilot - Feedback from Independent Supporters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attainment data - Outcomes for looked after children - Destinations after Key Stage 4 & Key Stage 5 - School absence and exclusion rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment status for adults with learning difficulties and disabilities (LDD) - Accommodation status for adults with LDD
When do we expect to see an impact?	Short/medium term: From Sept 2014 to Sept 2017	Medium/long term: 3 to 5 years' time	Fully emerge: 5 to 10 years' time

Special educational needs and disability supporting local and national accountability
March 15

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Integrated Service Offer

UNIVERSAL	TARGETED	IDENTIFIED NEED	SPECIALIST
Local offer	Local offer + Multi-agency approach	Local offer + Multi-agency approach	Local offer + Multi-agency approach
Special Early Years Support Team (SEYST) training Early Years (EY) settings	SEYST: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for children with low birth weight • Looked After Children (LAC) • Pre-term 	SEYST: Portage & teaching	Family Intervention Rapid Service Team (FIRST) Children in need Intensive support workers
Specialist Teaching Team (STT) training on a generic condition /disability for children at SEN Support levels	STT Advice re individual to school and home	STT regular input school and home	Central Resource Provision. Special schools
Family Information Service	Short breaks: 100 hours	Short Breaks (SB) Overnight/100 + hr CIN (Children in Need) Worker support	Contract Carers First and C & N specialist workers Overnight 70+S20
My Support Plans or Individual Education Plans	My Support Plans (MSP) and for some: SEN coordination team oversee request for statutory assessment	Education Health and Care plans, coordination from SEN Designated Officers	Education Health and Care plans, coordination from SEN Designated Officers
	Parent Mentoring Support	Parent Mentoring Intervention	
	Home Start	Transition Team	Transition Team
		Nurse Training	Occupational Therapist (OT), Nurse, Bedded Unit

UNIVERSAL	TARGETED	IDENTIFIED NEED	SPECIALIST
		OT Salt, Allied Health professional)	Nurses in Special School
	York Independent Living and Travel Skills (YILTS) travel training	YILTS travel training	
	Primary Mental Health Worker (PMHW) – advice to school, paediatrician	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) PMHW + referral clinic sessions and parent groups. Paediatrician	Clinics at Glen Paediatrician
Signposting in universal services	Key working from Family Support workers– EY & School aged	Key working – Early Years (EY) & School aged	Key working – EY & School aged
Assessment: Individual learning plan at school	MSP / Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)	EHCP Social Work (SW) assessment	EHCP & SW assessment
	CSPDA: Chronically Sick and Disabled Person's Act S2	SW S17 Assessment	S17 Assessment
Parent Support Groups	Parent Support Groups	Parent Support Groups	Parent Support Groups

Key responsibilities/legislative guidance

- Families Act 2014. The Act strengthens local authorities' key duties in respect of children and young people with SEND across the 0-25 age range, regardless of where they are educated. It places duties on health and education settings to use their best endeavours to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND; and requires local authorities and other listed bodies to have regard to the statutory guidance set out in the SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years.
 - SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years
 - statutory duties for schools
 - qualified SENCO
 - informing parents
 - best endeavours to support need (Identification – Provision – Review)
 - SEN policy – 3 years
 - SEN report – Annual
 - co-operate with LA
 - pupils with SEN engage with others/activities
 - Equality Act 2010
 - Protected Characteristic: Disability
 - Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)
 - making reasonable adjustments
 - 1–3 year Accessibility Plan
 - DfE Guidance to school leaders re SEND CoP (July 2014)
 - schools will be expected to have clear systems for identification/assessment/monitoring and securing appropriate support for children with SEND

- accountability system statement for education and children's services
- Value for money
- LA required to confirm that all eligible schools within their remit have completed the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) - Section B – Setting the budget
- the section 151 officer of each LA is statutorily responsible for ensuring that schools act in accordance with their financial framework, and that the authority has adequate oversight of distributed funds
- SEND – Local and National Accountability
 - DfE intend to develop a set of 'agreed success measures' which will enable the progress and impact of the SEND reforms to be monitored at both local and national levels
 - Ofsted and CQC will inspect LAs re their SEND offer from early 2016
- Schools Causing Concern statutory guidance
 - LAs are responsible for CYP (under age 25) in its area who have, or may have, SEND and must exercise its functions to identify children and young people with SEND. These SEN duties apply regardless of where the child is educated
 - includes 'unacceptably low standards of performance' - performance of pupils (including disadvantaged pupils) unacceptably low in relation to expected achievement or prior attainment

Provisional Meeting Dates	Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Draft Work Plan 2015-16
Mon 22 June 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductory Report inc. Ideas on Potential Topics for Review in this Municipal Year 2. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi-annual Update Report (Janet Barnes) 3. Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd SLA & Bi-Annual Update (Fiona Williams) 4. Feasibility Report on proposed TdF Scrutiny Review 5. Update on Parks Development (Dave Meigh) 6. Draft Workplan 2015/16 & discussion re future topics
Tues 29 July 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Tourism – Priorities & Challenges for 2015/16 (Cllr Ayre confirmed) 2. York Museums Trust Funding Report (Charlie Croft) 3. Report on ‘Make it York’ & Attendance of Managing Director (Steve Brown) 4. Bi-annual progress report on Safeguarding & Looked After Children (Eoin Rush) 5. Update on Implementation of Children & Families Bill (Eoin Rush) 6. Workplan 2015/16
Thurs 24 Sept 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Theatre Royal – SLA Performance Bi-annual Update Report 2. Year End Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 3. First Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Richard Hartle) 4. Attendance of Chair of York Safeguarding Board for Bi-annual Update (Simon Westwood) 5. School Improvement and Ofsted Update on Schools Performance (Maxine Squire) 6. Briefing Paper on Priorities & Challenges for 2015/16 - Executive Member for Education, Children & Young People's Services 7. Workplan 2015/16
Wed 25 Nov 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi-annual Update Report (Janet Barnes) 2. Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd SLA & Bi-Annual Update (Fiona Williams) 3. Schools Outturn Data 2015 (Maxine Squire) 4. Workplan 2014/15 inc. verbal update on ongoing reviews

<p>Thurs 27 January 2016 @ 5:30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of Chair of Learning City (Alison Birkenshaw) 2. York Theatre Royal – Service Level Agreement Performance Bi-annual Update Report (Liz Wilson) 3. SACRE (Standing Advisory Committee on RE) Annual Report & Review of York Schools’ Agreed Syllabus 4. Second Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Richard Hartle) 5. CYC Bi-annual progress report on Safeguarding & Looked After Children (Eoin Rush) 6. School Improvement Update - Key Stage 4 Performance 2015 (Maxine Squire) 7. Workplan 2015/16
<p>Mon 21 March 2016 @ 5.30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of Chair of York Safeguarding Board for Bi-annual Update (Simon Westwood) 2. Attendance of Chair of York@Large (Chris Bailey) Moved from Jan 2016 3. Workplan 2015/16
<p>Tues 24 May 2016 @ 5:30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi-annual Update Report (Janet Barnes) 2. Attendance of Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Young People's Services – Update on Priorities & Challenges for 2015/16 3. Attendance of Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture & Tourism – Update on Priorities & Challenges for 2015/16 4. Third Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Richard Hartle)

Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee 28 July, 2015**Report of the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism****The Community Stadium Project:**

Now that planning permission has been achieved work is underway to conclude the legal agreements across all aspects of the stadium development. Good progress is being made. This is a complex project involving a significant number of commercial agreements which must be put in place before construction can start. I have asked for a robust programme plan to be drawn up and brought to the Executive in August. This will ensure that the Executive is able to drive the project forward, providing confidence to the stakeholders as well as clarity about delivery dates.

The Executive has committed to the future of Yearsley Swimming Pool and the report to Executive in August will set out how this will be achieved within the current procurement and contracting process.

I am pleased that I have been able to reach agreement with York Knights for their occupation of the new stadium. I have asked officers to ensure that the Knights are now able to enter into use of the training facilities, provided in partnership with York St John, and to work with York City to obtain the necessary safety certificate to enable the Knights to use Bootham Crescent.

Volunteering and Equalities:

A key priority in this area is working with the city's Fairness and Equalities Board to develop and launch a new equalities plan for the city. I am anxious that we have a plan that is relevant to everyone in the city and which is strongly shaped by the voices of our various communities. I will be looking for clear outcomes which challenge all organisations to get involved and to pledge improvements.

I intend to get some momentum behind the Council's involvement in volunteering, both in terms of staff as volunteers and as a source of volunteer placements. I have asked officers to bring forward a strategy that will give this agenda a much higher profile and boost the number of people getting involved.

Sport and Active Leisure:

A wide range of programmes are underway, most of which are externally funded:

The **Disability Sport** programme is delivering / supporting over 40 inclusive sports clubs / sessions each week. These cover a wide range of sports that include cycling, wheelchair basketball, tennis, football and multisports sessions. We have around 250 participants each month. Highlights since May include:

- The cycle track at York University become the third British Cycling regional Para-cycling centre, running monthly elite sessions linked to British cycling and Clifton cycling club and three weekly participation sessions. We are also offering a new Tandem cycling club in connection with a Harrogate organisation called 'Open Country'. This runs on a Tuesday evening, from Askham bog car park. All the front riders and bikes are provided by Open Country.
- York Wheelchair Basketball Club have expanded to 2 session a week. One being a specific player development session and the second being an open session.
- We have started up a new inclusive bowls club with York and District indoor clubs club on Monday from 1-3pm.
- We have expanded the inclusive walk programme from 1 a month to all the level 1 and level 2 (shorter) walk within the York health walks programme giving around 20 inclusive walks each month. This is a trial for the July - September programme.
- Funded two deaf runners to attend the UK Athletics run leaders course, they are now regularly participating in our weekly lunchtime run group and are looking to start up a Deaf run group.
- Worked with Choose 2 Youth to set up a new weekly rebound therapy (trampolining) after school and community session at Applefields schools.

Older people's physical activity programme offers community classes and sessions in sheltered and residential settings. These activities cater for an average of 300 participants per month. New gym equipment has recently been provided in 2 residential care settings to support independent participation. The programme now includes a weekly walking football session run in partnership with York City Football Club Foundation. This year's 50+ festival will include a wide range of

sport and physical activity opportunities including walking football and gliding.

The GP referral programme (HEAL) which caters for participants referred to the service in order to support the treatment of a medical condition. The conditions the service work with are:

- Average around 50 referrals a month from GPs and Allied Health Professionals
- 13 condition specific classes - attendance of approximately 120 participants a week, most who would struggle to access general exercise classes due to medical conditions. Classes linked into secondary care pathways including Cancer Care Centre, Pulmonary Rehabilitation and Cardiac rehabilitation. Speaking to CCG about wider pathways and opportunities for funding / development of cardiac and respiratory pathways
- Pathways into other activities such as Pilates, Tai Chi, Health Walks and Circuits classes and community sports - includes 2 specific HEAL Pilates classes and a HEAL led Health walk that links in with the Eco therapy project at St Nicks. Aimed at overcoming barriers around confidence, anxiety and motivation.
- Worked with Priory Medical Group to set up 'Get Priory Pedalling' initiative. Also presented at numerous patient group meetings about healthy living and physical activity.
- Taster sessions within mental health services at Clifton House and Bootham Park and linked in to community based activities.
- Gym based exercise referral scheme at Energise

We also provide a range of **Community sports** opportunities and events for the general population. These include the very popular walk to job courses, tag and touch rugby sessions, back to netball, tennis and golf coaching and the race for life. This year's race included an obstacle race as well as the ever popular 5 and 10km races.

Support to community groups and sports clubs to develop and continue to offer sports opportunities. This includes advice on coaching and club development, support for funding applications, advice and support for

facility projects and guidance on how to attract new generations of participants.

Events to look out for:

- This Sunday, 2nd August the York 10km will take place, from the knavesmire, through the city centre and back to the finish on Knavesmire road. Four of the runners registered to run are participants who started on the first walk to jog course which started in January this year.
- We will be hosting the third city centre Skyride event on 13th September. The city centre route will be closed to traffic between 9am and 5pm with cyclists free to enjoy the route past many of the city's iconic landmarks, and the cycling festival at Rowntree Park.

Make it York:

Make it York is now fully operational and from 1 July Council staff transferred to the new company under TUPE.

I will be working with Make it York to ensure that the city's markets offer is developed and promoted successfully including plans for a revamped Christmas offer this year and the city's festivals programme is further enhanced, notably the Illuminate festival.

Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual:

I will be working closely with Explore on a number of plans being developed for improved library facilities across the city. These include a potential Health and Wellbeing Hub at Huntington Library in partnership with the local GP surgery. The purpose of this would be:

- To provide access to services in local communities which are accessible, and flexible to people's needs.
- To offer universal Wellbeing conversations for people in the community
- To reduce loneliness and isolation through the development of a wider range of activities both in the buildings and in the local community.

- To ensure that individuals can remain active and retain their independence sometimes with community or volunteer support and live independently for as long as it is safe for them to do so.
- To ensure that vulnerable people and their families have access to the information and advice they need, when they need it.
- To enable services users to access specialist services more locally

Explore will shortly be conducting a joint public consultation in the area to identify local need.

I am pleased to note that Explore now has over 150 volunteers who are making a real difference to the quality of service offered.

Parks and Open Spaces:

Clarence Gardens has successfully retained its Green Flag Award. Managed in partnership with Clarence Gardens Bowling Association, it joins Rowntree Park, West Bank Park, Rawcliffe Country Park and Glen Gardens which have Green Flag status. The Award recognises the best parks and open spaces across the country and celebrates spaces which boasts the highest possible standards, are beautifully maintained and have excellent facilities.

The team continues to be involved with and support a wide range of community projects. Some highlights include:

- **Glen Gardens:** The new friends group ran a summer fair in June to celebrate the 100th year of the Gardens.
- **York Cares Challenge events:** 7 events have taken place this financial year including at Chapman's Pond, St George's Churchyard, and at Scarcroft Green. Activities include laying a footpath, painting railings, cutting back vegetation, etc. 2 more are programmed in.
- **Employment Training opportunities:** 2 placements have been provided in this period: Pulse at Hull Road Park, Blueberry Academy at Glen Gardens.
- **West Bank Park:** The bowlers have taken now taken on the daily locking / unlocking of the toilets.

- **Green Works:** Work with our Youth justice team at West Bank Park coppicing trees weekly / fortnightly.
- **Hull Road:** The Pinnacle project is thriving and is about to take over community food growing plots.
- **Training volunteers:** 21 gardeners and 29 litter pickers have been trained in this period.
- **Community Management of Sites:** 4 more sites are currently being tested for community management including: Rowntree Park tennis courts – seasonal trial with Rowntree Park Tennis Club, and Rowntree Park tennis pavilion where there is a proposal to extend the lease to Canoe Club.
- **Improvement Projects** include:
 - o Clarence Gardens play area - £35k refresh scheme funded by Section 106 will be on site in September in partnership Haxby Rd Primary School.
 - o Rawcliffe County Park Bike Track - phase 2 improvements finished last week and a phase 3 is being planned.

I will be ensuring that residents are supported to have greater decision-making on parks and open spaces. The Pride in York Fund that we have established will help wards to create community projects. The transfer of our 3 Environment Officers to the Communities and Equalities Team will enable them to support wards more closely with community projects.

Submission to Learning and Culture Scrutiny, from Coun. Julie Gunnell

Dear Members,

Can I firstly say I'm sorry I cannot be there tonight to address you in person, but unfortunately the Audit and Governance committee clashes with your meeting.

I want to begin by saying that I'm concerned that a decision of this magnitude is being taken with very limited input by Members. As Committee Members you have the opportunity to discuss something with the potential to have a huge impact on residents in this city for a great many years to come, yet Members not on the committee have no such opportunity, particularly given the meeting clash I have already referred to. And after your discussion a decision will be immediately taken by the Executive Member. Done and dusted. I would've liked such an important decision to have been subject to wider debate among Members and the public given the current administration's pronouncements around open decision making.

The Labour Group knows full well how tight budgets are and the ongoing impact of Government cuts to the council. So we do understand the challenges YMT is facing, but we cannot agree with the proposal being put forward for agreement today. The main focus of our objection is the decision to treat York residents in the same way as anyone else wanting to access the museums and art gallery.

In seeking to charge an annual £17 YMT membership, combined with the £5 Yorkcard charge, residents are looking at the same £22 charge someone from outside the city will pay. The report in this respect is somewhat disingenuous yet Members I'm sure will have seen this for themselves. We believe this is wrong and as well as deterring York residents from making visits in the numbers they have previously, sends a bad message that residents are seen simply in monetary terms in a way that doesn't place value on knowledge and understanding of the city they live in. This is more than unfortunate. We believe a more productive approach would involve devising ways to reach out and encourage more visits by York residents, not fewer.

In the report we have visitor figures rising from the inception of YMT to 656,000 in 2011-12. But I think to judge the proposal before Members they also need to see visitor numbers for the subsequent two or three years. Clearly the Trust has done a good job in getting higher numbers through its doors but more recent numbers are needed to establish the current direction of travel.

On the projected annual deficit, Members should also be able to gain a clearer picture on how this deficit equates in visitor numbers terms. For example, what number of York residents would need to go through the door paying a combination of day rates/annual memberships to eliminate the deficit and how do these numbers compare to current resident visitor numbers? What will the day rates be if this proposal is agreed, the report doesn't say.

More information is needed to understand the revenue raising options and cost cutting measures considered by the Trust. If free admission is to be removed, what else has been considered as an alternative?

Although increased visitor numbers are expected in the short term, how is the business model sustainable when numbers drop off as they inevitably do after two or three years? What assumptions on paying visitors have been made that arrives at a deficit figure of £400-£700k?

And worryingly in terms of the reputation of the city and its ability to attract visitors here, York looks set to isolate itself as one of very few cities to charge for entry to its art gallery. The great civic art collections of Newcastle (Lain Art gallery), Liverpool (Walker Art Gallery), Manchester (Manchester Art Gallery and the Whitworth), Leeds (Leeds Art Gallery), Bradford (Cartwright Hall), Sheffield (Graves Art Gallery) are all open to the public for free. Should these cities not be our peers?

The report seeks to encourage Members and ultimately the Executive Member to think that this decision, to charge York residents, was inevitable and indeed has been on the cards for some time. This is very definitely not the case, and I can assure Members that if this is the impression YMT has gained, then it has gained it wrongly and without any encouragement or involvement from the previous Labour Cabinet.

Members across all parties I'm sure respect and value the work YMT has done in managing and developing the civic collections of this city for residents and visitors to enjoy and it should be congratulated for that. It should also be praised for its willingness to develop alternative funding streams to remain sustainable in the longer term, but Labour feels very strongly that a decision to undertake work on increasing exhibition space, gallery operating costs and possibly other associated running costs is not a decision that should have been taken without any suggestion it would involve residents of this city paying for it. At a time when it was perfectly obvious that further cuts to funding from both the council and from Arts Council England were to be expected in subsequent years, what consideration was given to this before YMT embarked on the major refurbishment of the Art Gallery?

While we welcome any improvements that will enhance our museums and collections, this does rely on a sustainable business plan which cannot involve agreeing to significant costs and then passing the bill to local people without the public's say so.

This proposal is of considerable concern to those of us who believe arts and culture should be easily accessible. I urge Members to let the Executive Member know in the strongest terms that the proposal to charge York residents should be halted in its tracks here and now.

27 July 2015

Dear Members,

I am a York Resident with two young children at school in the city. I am a regular museum and gallery visitor, both within and without of York. I worked in museum and gallery education & audience development for many years before starting a family.

I feel very strongly that York Museums Trust should not be permitted to impose an admission charge on York Residents.

I wanted very much to speak at the Scrutiny meeting but was unable to attend, so I wish to make my main points in writing.

We pay our council tax....and it's not free any more...so why isn't it less than a tourist would pay?

I appreciate that CYC funding for YMT has decreased. But it has not stopped completely. Why are York Residents being asked to pay the same as tourists to the city when we already contribute through our council tax payments? Surely there was a way of introducing a lesser charge for residents? Indeed I noted this point from the report submitted to YC by YMT:

15. The issue of discounted single entry for York Card holders has also been raised with YMT by the Executive Member. YMT have indicated that they do not view this as practicable

Can I please ask why this is not seen as practicable?

Who do the collections belong to?

The collections at YMT are enormous and far-reaching and have been amassed, in no small part, by the willingness of local people to donate personal items to the collections. The wedding dresses, toys and household items that visitors love to see in the Castle Museum have mostly been donated by local people. The buildings themselves are seen as somehow 'belonging' to the city, they are landmarks that are pointed out to visitors and they share in the collective memory of the people of York. Local people are willing to contribute to the healthy volunteer programme at YMT because they feel it is 'their' heritage. I would argue that imposing such a hefty admission charge may serve the purpose of 'alienating' some residents who will see the museums and gallery as 'not for them'. And what a shame that the only way the people of York will be able to access York Art Gallery after its lengthy closure is by buying a £22 ticket to allow them to nip in every now and again. It's social exclusion rather than social inclusion, and I was very surprised that YMT felt this was the 'right' time to impose such a charge. We run the very real risk of raising a generation of local children who have never set foot in their local gallery and museum. That is shameful.

Access for York families

It is disingenuous to say that the YMT card costs £17 for residents. It costs £22 as you need to purchase a £5 York Card to benefit from the discount. This means that a couple with children will have to pay £44 to access local museums and galleries as a family. **Is there really no Member here tonight who doesn't appreciate that for a very large majority of families in York that is quite simply too much money?**

Tell us more about the research

I e-mailed Charlie Croft to ask if any research had been carried out by YMT prior to introducing the charge for York Residents. You may have seen this research. You will have noted that the question posed by YMT gave no indication of the cost of the card – I think that information would have had some pertinence to the answers people gave! I have requested more information from Dr. Janet Barnes at YMT about the sample size of this survey, but at the time of writing have had no response. Without these pieces of information the research is meaningless. As I stated in my e-mail to Mr. Croft, 100% of families I have spoken to have said it is too expensive - but it was a sample size of seven people! Surely Members want some assurance from YMT that they can raise the £400k they are hoping to raise from York residents? Will YMT consider repeating the survey, using the actual cost of the card, and asking all York residents?

What about those that don't visit?

There will be individuals and families in York who are regular visitors and spend money in the shop and café who will not purchase the YMT card. I asked Mr. Croft if YMT has estimated how much revenue they may lose. He replied that they had not.

Access during the Residents Festival

Any Member that has made a visit to any of the sites during York Residents Festival will know that admission may be free but the sites themselves are often crowded, noisy, and, I would argue, give a less than satisfactory visitor experience. It is unfair to suggest that a York Resident visiting during this three day event will get the same experience as a visitor at quieter times of year – **they will not**. And who knows, it might even put them off coming back again! I cannot reconcile this limited offer of three days of free entry with fulfilling CYC's obligation to offer free entry to the citizens of York, as agreed in YMT's lease.

“We may be left with a multi-million pound liability”

Finally, can I just pass this comment – I appreciate Mr. Croft's underlying message in his report and I completely understand the need for pragmatism and realism when dealing with council budgets. However, it is a sign of the times that local museums and galleries can be described in such terms. These are subtle uses of language that diminish the value of museums and galleries. I firmly believe that York Residents should be able to do what their counterparts in Hull, Leeds and Sheffield can do already - visit their local museums and galleries free of charge. They are important. They are part of a bigger picture in the York community. They matter.

No child in York should be left unable to visit the fantastic resources that YMT operates because the adults looking after them *cannot or will not* pay to get in.

Yours,
Janine Taylor