

**Notice of a public
Decision Session - Executive Member for Children, Young People
and Education**

To: Councillor Orrell (Executive Member)

Date: Tuesday, 17 November 2020

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Remote Meeting

AGENDA

Notice to Members – Post Decision Calling In:

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democratic Services by **4:00pm on Thursday 19 November 2020**.

*With the exception of matters that have been the subject of a previous call in, require Full Council approval or are urgent which are not subject to the call-in provisions. Any called in items will be considered by the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee.

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services by at **5.00pm on Friday 13 November 2020**.

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member is asked to declare:

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

which they may have in respect of business on this agenda.

- 2. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)
To approve and sign the minutes of the Decision Session held on 29 September 2020.

3. Public Participation

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

Please note that our registration deadlines have changed to 2 working days before the meeting, in order to facilitate the management of public participation at remote meetings. The deadline for registering at this meeting is at 5.00pm on Friday 13 November 2020.

To register to speak please visit www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings to fill out an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting please contact the Democracy Officer for the meeting whose details can be found at the foot of the agenda.

Webcasting of Remote Public Meetings

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

During coronavirus, we've made some changes to how we're running council meetings. See our coronavirus updates (www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy) for more information on meetings and decisions.

- 4. Term dates for the school year 2022-2023** (Pages 5 - 12)
This report seeks approval of the attached school term dates for schools for whom the City of York Council (CYC) is the employer, for the school year beginning in September 2022.

5. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer:

Name: Angela Bielby

Contact Details:

Telephone – (01904) 552599

Email – a.bielby@york.gov.uk

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

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

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

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

 (01904) 551550

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education
Date	29 September 2020
Present	Councillor Cuthbertson

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Executive Member confirmed that he had no personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, nor any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests, to declare in the business on the agenda.

24. MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 11 February 2020 be approved, to be signed by the Executive Member at a later date.

25. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

26. SUFFICIENCY DUTY REPORT

The Executive Member considered a report that set out the Sufficiency Duty. The City of York Sufficiency Strategy sets out how the Local Authority and its partners will work together to provide the best environments for children in care and care leavers over the next three years.

The Interim Group Manager Achieved Permanence gave an overview of the report and explained the council Sufficiency Strategy 2020-2023, which was set out at Annex 1 of the report. The Interim Group Manager explained the background, principles and context of the Strategy. He explained the six key

objectives of the strategy and how they would be achieved. The six objectives were:

1. Children and young people will be supported to stay with their families where it is safe to do so
2. We will focus on achieving permanency in a timely manner through adoption and special guardianship
3. More children will live in a local placement
4. All children will be matched with good quality placements which meet their needs
5. All children in care will be prepared for independence and a healthy adulthood
6. We will review all commissioned placements

The Executive Member acknowledged the impact of COVID-19 on the strategy, in particular in relation to the availability of foster carers and placements. He noted the reasons for the rise in the number of children in care.

In response to questions raised by the Executive Member, the Interim group Manager confirmed that:

- The length of the strategy (three years) was down to individual local authorities to decide
- Listening to and acting on the strong voice of children was important in the strategy and Corporate Parenting and Children in Care Strategy 2020-2023
- Internet based foster recruitment campaign had been recommenced in June and much interest had been shown in this and four people had been taken through to the recruitment process and there was a focus on making sure children were safely discharged from care
- High proportion of children being placed out of York was linked to children living with a connected carer (which could be a family member), and children being placed out of the York area for different reasons.
- There were strong links with the health services, the Virtual Headteacher and other services. The Executive Member noted that the Virtual Headteacher had reported that children and young people had been engaged with virtual learning.
- The profile of children in care had been fed into the projected requirements
- With regard to the work needed to prepare a child and family for the discharge care orders, the authority would consult with the child and carers and undertake a special guardianship assessment. This would identify whether it was

the appropriate plan and whether any support would be needed, there would also be an annual support plan developed by the local authority as well as a financial offer to support the special guardians.

- There were six semi-independent living placements and plan is to develop those locally along with Wenlock Terrace for those young people outgrown residential placement or ready to move on from a foster placement into supported living.
- An outline of the process for matching placements was given.

The Executive Member welcomed the work undertaken to achieve the six key objectives of the strategy. He acknowledged the improved success of the regional adoption agency. He then:

Resolved: That the Sufficiency Strategy as set out in Annex 1 to the report be agreed.

Reason: In order to meet the requirement for the delivery of the Sufficiency Duty Strategy.

Cllr Cuthbertson, Executive Member
[The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.47 am].

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**Decision Session – Executive Member for
Education, Children and Young People****17 November 2020**

Report of the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Communities

School term dates for the 2022/23 school year**Summary**

1. This report seeks approval of the attached school term dates for schools for whom the City of York Council (CYC) is the employer, for the school year beginning in September 2022.

Recommendations

2. The Executive Member for Education, Children and Young People is recommended to approve:
 - the draft term dates as in Annex A

Reason: to meet the statutory requirements of legislation including the Education Act 2002, (Section 32), and other related legislation.

Background

3. City of York Council (CYC) aims to ensure that term dates set for future school years are appropriate for both schools and residents. In setting term dates the council has also considered the term dates set by neighbouring LA's to ensure that there is an alignment to prevent potential disruption for parents/carers who have children in or work in schools in neighbouring LAs.
4. Term dates are set annually by CYC on behalf of all schools for whom CYC is the employer – that is all community, voluntary-controlled, community special or maintained nursery schools. The responsibility for setting term dates for other types of schools rests with the employers (governing body/academy trusts). Historically these schools have followed the dates set by CYC, with very little deviation from the agreed dates by academy trusts.
5. A coordinated method to developing school term dates continues to be in place across 25 LAs in the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber regions. The aim of coordinating the approach was to mitigate the impact of varying term dates for those families who live, go to school, or are employed by schools in more than one LA

area. These principles, followed independently by each LA each year create harmonised dates and reduce any unwelcome variation, whilst maintaining the length of terms and key holiday periods and avoiding split weeks.

6. The council has strictly followed these guiding principles, with the aim of minimising any differences with other LAs in previous years. Some LAs have varied these dates locally or for other objectives such as to equalize the length of some half terms or to reflect local priorities. Notably Leeds and Sheffield have in recent years set a fixed Easter break in the first two weeks in April that results in some differences from other LAs who, in line with these regional principles – arrange a fortnight’s school holiday around the Easter weekend.
7. Building on coordinated term dates, officers have continued to work with an increasing number of other LAs to further the regional use of these agreed set of principles for future school years, and to produce sets of dates with as few differences as possible to minimise potential problems for parents/carers.

Dates for the 2022-2023 school year

8. As there has not yet been a substantial move by any local academy to start to exercise their freedom to vary their term dates, and whilst there remains a ‘mixed economy’ of community and academy schools it would seem appropriate for the council to continue to set term dates that apply to all schools where CYC is the employer, and for other schools and academies to follow these dates in the interests of residents.
9. For the 2022/2023 school year, officers have therefore again developed a set of draft dates that follow regional principles as discussed in the Yorkshire and Humber Admissions Group. These are detailed in Annex A.
10. It was recognised that it is collectively in the interest of all LAs to align dates save for those LAs with a fixed Easter break (Leeds and Sheffield); it is likely that all remaining LAs who have thus far participated with the regional group will likely set dates identical to York’s for the 2022/23 school year. This includes our immediate neighbours North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC), subject to their own consultations and decision making procedures.

Consultation

11. Between 21 September 2020 and 31 October 2020, all York schools, regardless of school type (community, academy etc.) were provided with these draft dates and the regional principles for comment, with the dates being made available on yorkeducation.co.uk, CYC's school-facing website.
12. No school has formally responded to the consultation.

Future Strategy

13. Several other LAs in the region have, adopted these regional principles formally. In meeting in September 2019, other LAs indicated they also wish to formalise the principles through their respective decision making processes. Many expressed their wishes to act in concert with CYC and recommend to their respective decision-makers to:
 - i. follow the agreed regional principles in future years and only deviate from these where there was good reason to do so on a local level – for example for a fixed Easter break;
 - ii. continue to work collaboratively across the region by setting out a clear policy and communicating draft dates for forthcoming years, and coordinating the timing and release of these dates for the next year collectively in future;

Options

14. The Executive Member for Education, Children and Young People is recommended to approve:
 - i. the draft term dates as in Annex A for the 2022-2023 school year

Council Plan

Safe Communities and Culture for All.

15. The setting of coordinated term dates in assists resident families' planning and reduces the amount of time families with children at more than one school have to arrange alternative childcare or time away from their employment.

A Greener and Cleaner City of York Council

16. The setting of coordinated term dates allows for resident families with more than one child to transport to school to coordinate their school attendance and reduce the need to transport children to

different LAs for different school holidays so minimising transport for school purposes.

A Better Start for Children and Young People

17. A region wide agreement to implement term date principles allows transparent, consistent and effective use of school holidays to facilitate parents/carers across the region making plans for the school holidays in advance.

An Open and Effective Council

18. An open and transparent term date consultation involving all community, voluntary aided, voluntary controlled and academy schools allows for fair, effective and efficient coordination of school term dates for all.

Implications

Financial

19. Where schools/academies set different term dates to other schools can increase the costs of home to school transport into some schools where training days and term dates are not aligned. For this reason early setting of term dates where all schools have had the opportunity to influence these dates reduce the likelihood of this happening.

Human Resources

20. There are no HR implications.

Equalities

21. There are no implications relating to equalities.

Legal

22. There are no legal implications; so long the LA sets term dates for schools for whom the LA is the employer.

Crime and Disorder

23. There are no Crime and Disorder implications.

Information Technology (IT)

24. There are no IT implications.

Property

25. There are no property implications.

Other Implications

26. There are no other implications.

Risk Management

27. Due to the current school closures caused by the Covid-19 restrictions, we currently do not know when schools will reopen and what measures will be required in order for schools to reopen in part or fully. This could have a longer-term impact on future academic term dates, which are unknown at this point.

Contact Details

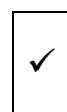
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Children, Education and
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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Maxine Squire
Assistant Director Education and Skills
01904 553007

Report approved



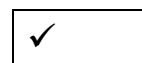
Date 09/1120

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

None

Annexes

Annex A - 2022-2023 proposed York term dates for adoption

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Children, Education and Communities

School Term and Holiday Dates

2022/2023 **DRAFT**

	AUGUST 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022	OCTOBER 2022	NOVEMBER 2022	DECEMBER 2022	JANUARY 2023
Monday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Thursday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Friday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Saturday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Sunday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29

	FEBRUARY 2023	MARCH 2023	APRIL 2023	MAY 2023	JUNE 2023	JULY 2023
Monday	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Wednesday	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Thursday	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Friday	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Saturday	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Sunday	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30

Bank Holiday
 School Holiday

These are the recommended term dates provided by City of York Council for schools in the City of York area, although some schools may choose to adopt different dates. This pattern of dates leaves 195 days. However, schools will also be closed to pupils for 5 School Training/Professional Development Days. Each school determines when these training days will take place and individual schools should be contacted to ascertain when pupils will not attend.

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