



**Notice of a public meeting of
Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors D Taylor (Chair), Webb (Vice-Chair),
Daubeney, Fenton, Fitzpatrick, Heaton and Hollyer

Date: Tuesday, 24 March 2020

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The George Hudson Board Room - 1st Floor West
Offices (F045)

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point, Members are asked to declare:

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

which they may have in respect of business on this agenda

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2020.

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 Monday 23 March 2020**. 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 Officer for the meeting, on the details at the foot of the agenda.

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- 4. SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education) Annual Report** (Pages 9 - 14)
This report provides Members with details of the work of SACRE from January to December 2019.
- 5. Home to School Transport Report** (Pages 15 - 22)
This report provides a summary of home to school transport arrangements across York, in terms of policy; both statutory and discretionary elements, financial position and current pressures and challenges and future options to explore further.
- 6. York Safeguarding Partnership Bi Annual Update Report** (Pages 23 - 30)
Members will receive a report that highlights some significant pieces of work, as well as providing an update on Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) and the rise in reporting of child sex offences.
- 7. Child Poverty in York Scoping Report** (Pages 31 - 34)
This report presents the Children, Education and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Committee with initial information and the draft remit proposed by the Task Group set up to examine Child Poverty in York.

- 8. Work Plan** (Pages 35 - 38)
To consider the Committee's draft work plan for the municipal year 2019-20.

- 9. Urgent Business**
Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer

Louise Cook

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551031
- Email - louise.cook@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 and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

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

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

 (01904) 551550

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Meeting | Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee |
| Date | 26 February 2020 |
| Present | Councillors Webb (Vice-Chair in Chair), Daubeney, Fenton, Fitzpatrick, Heaton and Hollyer |
| Apologies | Councillor D Taylor (Chair) |

51. Declarations of Interest

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

52. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 28 January 2020 be approved as a correct record and then signed by the Chair.

53. Public Participation

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

54. Overview of Children's Services

Members considered a report that provided an overview of children's services using the new children's inspection framework.

The Assistant Director of Children's Services was in attendance to provide an update and she highlighted how the Local Authority were using self-assessments to respond to the thorough and challenging framework that would bring a different emphasis and feel to the way children's services was inspected.

She also discussed the quality and impact of social work practice in York and Members noted:

- The improvement priorities over the next 12 months and those improvements that were already demonstrating impact.
- Officers were working to strengthen the approach to attract, recruit and retain Social Workers and were investing in staff and culture change to encourage employees to learn and develop their practice.
- Structures in some key areas had been revised to support a better focus on the needs of the most vulnerable children.
- The tight focus on the six core priority areas in the improvement plan.
- The right plans were in place to strengthen the approach to permanence.

In answer to Members questions, it was confirmed that:

- Staff would continue to be supported through the improvement journey and their working conditions were regularly monitored.
- Drift and delay was improving in most areas although some challenges remained within child in need and child in protection and support would be targeted to bring some stability into those areas.
- An Adolescent Strategy was being developed with key partners to support the vulnerable cohort of children and it would focus on county lines, child criminal exploitation, neglect and transitional safeguarding.
- All staff were communicated with regularly and work continued to ensure self-assessments were accurate and that all staff knew the system well.
- Support, training programmes and supervision packages were in place for all levels of staff and a confidential health check survey would be issued shortly.
- The demand throughout the whole service was monitored and single assessments, through audits and deep dives, were taking place to ensure the thresholds were right.
- The U Matter Survey results had improved and officers could share the outcomes with Members.

Following further discussions around recruitment, retention and the support and supervision packages for newly appointed and

experienced staff, Members noted that a full 2 week inspection of Children's Services was imminent.

Members thanked the Assistant Director for answering their questions and confirmed they would support officers in the ongoing improvement journey. The Assistant Director requested Members contact her for any further clarity they may require on any points raised.

Resolved: That the report be noted and officers be supported in the ongoing improvement journey for Children's Social Care.

Reason: To ensure the Committee were kept up to date with progress in Children's Social Care.

55. Regional Peer Review of our Children and Young People in Care (CYPIC)

Members considered a report that provided a summary of feedback of the recent children in care regional peer review which was undertaken in November 2019.

The Assistant Director of Children's Services provided an update and informed Members that the Peer Team were asked to consider 5 key lines of enquiry and to complete an audit of a selection of case files. She highlighted the methodology, the key findings and top tips as recommended by the Peer Team.

Members noted the actions following the review which included the development of an effective joined up response to meet the needs of teenagers, which would include key partner agencies (housing, health and police) and that managers were now "Live Auditing" two cases with staff on a monthly basis.

Following further discussions, the Assistant Director answered Members questions and confirmed that:

- Children in Care figures had risen from 207 to 257 and the children were of various ages although a significant amount were adolescent. Members noted that addressing neglect in adolescent was a significant challenge and that where possible older children were kept within their family setting.

- The voice of a child was strong and listened to, ensuring every child felt valued, understood and equal in the process.
- New practice models take time to embed and training would be rolled out to staff and partners.
- Recruitment open days, apprenticeships, step up and front line programmes, as well as the normal recruitment process had attracted a much better level of application, enabling some successful filling of posts at all levels. The next front line recruitment programme would take place in September 2020.
- A Workforce Development Strategy would be produced to address a number of issues related to recruitment and retention to ensure City of York Council was an employer of choice.
- The social work academy was offered to all staff and ran three times a year and the front line programme was aimed at graduates with a 2.1 degree or above or people working in other sectors who wanted to come into social work.
- All key partners were involved in the development of the Adolescent Strategy and Members would be able to view the document after April 2020.
- There was a better understanding in the organisation of what good looked like and an enhanced commitment to improve outcomes for children.

Members agreed it was important that all partners were involved in the ongoing improvement journey and the Assistant Director agreed to confirm if those Members who were Corporate Parents should be DBS checked.

Members thanked the Assistant Director for her update and for answering their questions.

Resolved: That the report be noted and officers be supported in the ongoing improvement journey for Children's Social Care.

Reason: To ensure the Committee were kept up to date with progress in the ongoing improvement journey for Children's Social Care.

56. Young People's Mental Wellbeing in York

Members considered a report that presented the initial information and draft remit proposed by the Task Group set up to examine young people's mental wellbeing in York.

The Chair highlighted the proposed aim and objectives and confirmed that Members had the following 3 options to consider:

- i. Endorse the draft remit proposed by the Task Group;
- ii. Amend the draft aim and/or objectives;
- iii. Add any further objectives the Committee agreed were relevant.

It was brought to the Committee's attention that a similar review had taken place by the Health and Wellbeing Board in 2016 and the Scrutiny Officer agreed to investigate this further and report her findings back to Committee Members via email.

Following discussion it was agreed that a reference to schools and other bodies was required in objective ii.

Resolved:

- i) That the suggested remit be endorsed with the following amendment to objective ii):

To review the policies and practices City of York Council, *schools and other bodies* has in place to help, support and intervene early where young people self-harm and whether these processes are timely, effective and cost efficient.

- ii) That the Health and Wellbeing Board be consulted regarding the recommendations arising from the self-harm needs assessment reported on 7 September 2016.

Reason: To enable the Task Group to proceed with work on the agreed scrutiny review.

57. Work Plan

Members considered the Committee's draft work plan for the 2019/20 municipal year.

Following discussions regarding the current work plan, Members agreed the following:

- That the Foster Carer remuneration update, due to be considered at the 24 March meeting, be moved to 20 May to enable the Placement Review to be included but that Members receive correspondence that briefly explained the current Foster Carer payment arrangements, including the independent review, which resulted in an agreed pay lift of 2% to level 1 and 2 carers.
- **Tuesday 24 March 2020**
Home to School Transport Report
To provide Members with an overview report of the current offer and the financial and legal impacts and to give Members an opportunity to ask questions and gain a better understanding.
- **Wednesday 22 April 2020**
Cultural Entitlement Update
Report to be provided by the Chair of REACH, the Local Cultural Education Partnership.

Nursery Provision Update

To provide Members with an update on the current early years provision across the city, including information from the annual Sufficiency Review, the impact the 30 hours of free places had on providers and Section 106. Members also suggested that sector representatives, from a large nursery and a childminder, be invited to the meeting or contacted for feedback.

Skills Report

To be moved to the September 2020 meeting due to the consultation period concluding at the end of July.

- **Wednesday 20 May 2020**
To receive the Adolescent Strategy and an update on the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), including the audit work, impact and review of the Front Door.

Placement Review/Foster Carer Remuneration

To provide Members with the Placement Review, including the allowances and pay to Foster Carers.

Following further discussions regarding the 2020/2021 work plan, it was suggested that at an appropriate time:

- Make It York be invited to attend a Committee meeting to give an update on the cultural offer.
- Members receive the Permanence Strategy, including the resources for placements outside of the city.
- Consideration be given to invite appropriate service users, partners and clients to attend specific meetings where items for business were relevant to them.

Members noted that the provisional 2020/2021 meeting dates for this Committee were detailed on the Council's Corporate Calendar.

Resolved: That the work plan be approved subject to the above amendments/additions.

Reason: To keep the Committee's work plan updated.

Cllr R Webb, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30pm and finished at 7.35pm].

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December 2019

**The Annual Report of the City of York
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)**

Note: From 2020 the Annual Report will reflect the academic year; this will be the last calendar year report.

Summary

This report provides members and NASACRE with details of the work of the City of York Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) from January to December 2019.

1. Background

Under the provision of the 1988 Education Reform Act every local education authority has a responsibility to establish a permanent body, called a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE), together with an occasional body, called an Agreed Syllabus Conference.

In September 2018 SACRE published revised versions of its constitution, roles and responsibilities of SACRE members and a guide to York SACRE. These are all available on www.york.gov.uk/sacre

2. Membership

The people who serve on SACREs are invited to do so by the Director of Children's Services, Education and Skills on the recommendation of various bodies in the local community with a concern for the religious education of school children. The law prescribes that there have to be four "committees" each comprising representatives of specified groups. Those four committees can together co-opt further non-voting members, provided a majority are in agreement. The actual members change over time and the current SACRE is constituted as follows:-

Representing Other Denominations / Faith Communities:-

- Keith Duffy (Catholic)
- Ben Rich (Jewish)
- Keith Albans (Methodist)
- Vacant (Muslim)
- Tracey Copestake (Religious Society of Friends)
- Vacant (Salvation Army)

Vacant (Sikh)
Daryoush Mazloum (York Baha'i Community)
Penny Coppin-Siddall (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)
Ian Hodgson (Humanist)

Representing the Church of England:-

Olivia Seymour (Diocese of York)
Vacant (Diocese of York)
Katherine Harper (Archbishop Holgate's CE Academy)

Representing Teachers:-

Claire Hennigan (Yearsley Grove)
Jenny Mooney (Westfield)
Vacant (co-opted)

Representing the City of York Council are Councillors:-

Martin Rowley (Con)
Chris Cullwick (Lib Dem)
Fiona Fitzpatrick (Lab)

In attendance:-

Mike Jory (Education Adviser)
Naomi Watson (Clerk)

Long standing and valued member Janet Dunn (Diocese of York) stepped down this year and we would like to thank her for her valuable input.

3. Religious Education

During the period January 2019 to December 2019 Ofsted inspection reports indicate that all schools appear to be compliant in the statutory provision of RE.

There has been 1 SIAMS inspection in York since last December:
Wheldrake with Thorganby VA Primary School. Graded Good

All the reports are public documents and are available on
<http://www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/your-schools/our-schools/>

There was a welcome rise in the number of pupils taking accreditation at the end of KS4.

As part of SACRE's work in 2020 it is proposed that monitoring visits are introduced to quality assure the provision of RE. Details of the Primary and Secondary monitoring proformas will be sent to all schools in January 2020.

4. Collective Worship

Besides Religious Education each local authority must work with its SACRE to monitor the provision of daily collective worship. As a result of changes to the

Ofsted framework and in the absence of further guidance, the City of York SACRE published new guidance in 2017 to support Collective Worship in schools in the City, which it continues to promote within schools. The guidance has been published on the City of York SACRE website (www.york.gov.uk/sacre) and has also been made available to all schools through the Heads' newsletter.

5. Update on the work of SACRE

- The following priorities for the development of SACRE have been discussed and agreed as part of the annual SACRE plan for 2018-20:
 - (1) Continue to raise the profile of SACRE and develop RE
 - (2) Contribute to the development of a professional CPD programme to develop the quality of RE teaching
- York SACRE is a member of the Learn Teach Lead RE regional hub
- In the past twelve months three SACRE meetings have been held and attendance has been maintained. SACRE is working to recruit new members especially current teachers and to fill the faith group vacancies. There are ongoing issues with members who have never or rarely attended meetings.
- SACRE continues to identify best practice models that promote flexible and creative approaches to teaching and learning in RE. This will be a growing focus for SACRE's work following the publication of the RE Review.
- SACRE has not undertaken formal monitoring in 2019 of RE provision but there are plans in place for 2020 (see below)

6. Support for Schools

Members of SACRE are keen to support staff in schools to raise standards in RE and have been kept up to date with the strategies to achieve this through who is supporting RE and Collective Worship, on behalf of the LA and also by:-

- The continued promotion of the new Agreed Syllabus (2016-2021)
- Membership of the LTLRE Hub
- Support for RE subject leaders through Network Learning Groups as they work together to implement the Agreed Syllabus.
- Funding York SACRE Agreed Syllabus conference for Primary schools in Autumn 2019.
- Funding a York SACRE Secondary Conference on Islam in Autumn 2019
- School visits to monitor the RE provision (to start in Spring 2020)
- Members of SACRE's continued active involvement in planning the City of York Council's commemorations for Holocaust Memorial Day in January 2020.

7. Analysis of Examination Results for Religious Studies/Education Summer 2019

A2 Level

4 out of the 5 11-18 secondary schools in the City plus York College entered students for the A2 level examinations in Religious Studies and the although number of entries has dropped, success rates remain high. All Saints had 20 entries; Fulford had 10, Huntington 10, and Archbishop Holgate's 8. York College entered 24.

| Entries | A* | A | B | C | D | E | U | Total |
|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 72 | 8 | 16 | 27 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 72 |

Full Course GCSE

| | Entries | Grade 4+% | Grade 1-9% |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2019 | 910 | 77.3 | 98.6 |
| 2018 | 744 | 75.7 | 98.3 |

| | Entries | A*-C % | A*-G% |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2017 | 880 | 79.7 | 98.9 |
| 2016 | 1019 | 81.9 | 98.2 |
| 2015 | 1047 | 79.9 | 98.9 |
| 2014 | 982 | 78.8 | 98.7 |
| 2013 | 794 | 73.0 | 98.7 |
| 2012 | 736 | 71.6 | 98.5 |
| 2011 | 685 | 70.1 | 96.5 |

Commentary

Entries for the Full Course GCSE have increased to then highest level since 2016. The Grade 4+ measure is still above the national average and has risen since 2018.

8. Methods of Teaching

The Agreed Syllabus provides a comprehensive framework for teaching and learning and assessment of pupils' knowledge and understanding of religions. The Agreed Syllabus will be reviewed in 2021.

9. Complaints regarding the teaching of RE

None were made to SACRE during this reporting year.

10. Determinations

From time to time a school may request from the SACRE a "determination"; i.e. permission to waive the legal requirements for religious education and collective worship to be 'wholly or mainly Christian'. The SACRE has received no requests for determinations during this reporting year.

11. Complaints regarding Collective Worship

There have been no complaints about Collective Worship.

Report produced by Mike Jory, Effectiveness and Achievement Adviser and Olivia Seymour, Interim Chair

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Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee**24 March 2020**

Report of the Corporate Director Children, Education & Communities

Home to School Transport**Summary**

1. This report provides a summary of home to school transport arrangements across York, in terms of policy; both statutory and discretionary elements, financial position and current pressures and challenges and future options to explore further.

Background

2. Home to school transport is the responsibility of Local Authorities. In the City of York the current transport budget for the 19/20 financial year is £2.78 million. Currently an overspend of £525,000 is projected.
3. Current pressures on home to school transport budgets are not unique to York. A significant number of other LA's across the country are reporting similar pressures and are therefore looking at reviewing policies and contract arrangements.

Home to School Transport Policy***Mainstream Schools – statutory responsibility***

4. This policy applies to pupils who are attending their catchment school, and who live more than 2 miles (primary pupils) or 3 miles (secondary pupils) from that, using the shortest safest walking route. It also applies to pupils attending their catchment school where there is not a safe walking route.
5. The majority of the above pupils in this category in York are transported by dedicated home to school bus services.

Low income - statutory responsibility

6. This policy applies to pupils who are in receipt of free school meals because their parents are on a low income or are in receipt of maximum level of working tax credit. The pupil must be attending one of their 3 nearest secondary schools where places are available and are over 2 miles from the home address, using the shortest safest walking route. This element of policy is to widen school choice for low income families. Note that this policy only applies to secondary aged pupils.
7. The majority of the above pupils who qualify for assistance under this policy in York are provided with bus pass to allow them to travel on public bus services to and from school.

Children & Young People in Care (CYPIC) - discretionary

8. Whilst the mainstream transport policy is applied in the first instance, there are an increasing number of situations where transport support is required for our CYPIC outside of this policy. For example where a CYPIC is placed with foster carers away from their local area and where it is not felt appropriate for the young person to move schools, therefore requiring transport being provided to their existing school. The majority of this transport tends to be provided by taxis.
9. All secondary and post 16 aged CYPIC are also entitled to a bus pass which allows them to travel 24/7 across any public service bus route in and around York.

SEN transport (including provision up to the age of 25) – discretionary

10. This policy covers pupils who have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), and/or a disability, and/or significant medical problem. Our mainstream transport policy is applied in the first instance, however if a pupil is not eligible under this criteria, and the assessment of the pupils needs indicates a requirement for support getting to and from school, then a menu of transport options is considered to match the pupil to the appropriate form of support. The options of support range from the support of a walking escort, independent travel training or a bus pass to an individual taxi with 1:1 support from a Passenger Transport Assistant.
11. Increasing number of pupils with EHCP's, and the increasing levels of need have resulted in more individualised and specialised packages of

support having to be put in place, which consequently places additional pressures on resources.

12. In addition, the extension of EHCP's to young people aged up to the age of 25 has seen an increasing number of young people requiring transport for longer. As more education provision is now being provided more locally for those young people, that provision tends to be more personalised, often provided at a number of different venues across the city, which firstly makes sharing transport difficult, and therefore results in increased use of vehicles equating to increased costs.

Mainstream Post-16 – discretionary

13. Those students eligible for assistance under the current policy, is to those students whose parents are on a low income. The majority of support for eligible students is by way of a public service bus pass.

Contracts for Home to School Transport

14. Home to school transport work across York is split into two areas. The contracts for Home to School Bus services serve Fulford, Huntington and Tadcaster Grammar, and four primary schools - Poppleton Ousebank, St Mary's CE, Bishopthorpe Infants and Archbishop of York CE Juniors. These contracts are currently held by York Pullman and expire at the end of July 2021. The contracts require all vehicles to be fitted with seatbelts and there are targets to be met around vehicle emissions.
15. The other two contracts are for minibus (8 seaters and less) and taxis. One contract covers transport to the two special schools, Applefields and Hob Moor Oaks, whilst the other contract is for any other home to school transport work to any school. Both these contracts are currently held by Streamline Taxis and both expire at the end of August 2021.
16. All the above contracts have a significant focus on quality and safeguarding. The previous procurement process assessed applications on 60% cost 40% quality. All contracts require all staff working on the contract to have enhanced DBS checks done through the City of York Council and all staff are required to attend safeguarding training on a 3 yearly cycle.
17. The contracts also require the transport provider to deliver a considerable part of the administration involved in delivering home to

school transport services. This includes for example route planning, issuing of bus passes, customer enquiries and stage 1 complaints.

18. There is one further model of transport provision currently being provided at Danesgate School where elements of the transport at that school is delivered by an in-house transport team. This model has been trialled over a number of years in an attempt to deliver the specialist transport requirements for the pupils who attend the main school site or one of its satellite provisions. The increase in the number of pupils attending the various Danesgate provision has meant that transport is being provided by a mix of the in-house fleet as well as taxi provision delivered through the contract held by Streamline Taxis.
19. The in-house fleet uses hired vehicles and the staff are either employed by the City of York Council or are temporary staff recruited from an employment agency. The purpose of trialling an in-house model was an attempt to link the transport to the needs of the pupil. Transport requirements at Danesgate differ from other schools in that not all pupils are attending on a full time basis and therefore transport is needed at different times of the school day.
20. Costs associated with Danesgate are funded from a different budget to all other home to school transport costs, their costs are funded from the high needs block of the dedicated schools grant whereas other home to school transport costs are funded from the council's revenue budget.
21. The procurement process for all new contracts will need to start in September 2020 in readiness for commencement in September 2021. Discussion will commence shortly to review if any changes are required to current contract arrangements.

Home to School Transport Expenditure and Pupil/Student Numbers

22. As stated previously home to school transport costs are increasing year on year.
23. In the last few years a number of different initiatives have been introduced in an attempt to reduce costs but which would have other benefits. These include personal transport budgets (PTB's) and the York Independent Living Training Scheme (YILTS).
24. PTB's were introduced to encourage parents to take responsibility for getting their children to and from school. The pupils are assessed as

being eligible for transport assistance but rather than the local authority arranging their transport the parent would transport their child. The parent would receive an annual budget based on the number of miles travelled each school year. The cost of PTB's is financially competitive when compared against the LA having to arrange transport, however parents transporting their own children to school does increase the number of vehicles on the road and adds to congestion around schools.

25. The YILTS programme trains young people to be independent travellers. The programme is currently a voluntary scheme where young people are normally referred via their school or parental requests. The young people who normally have some special needs receive one to one training from specialist staff within the YILTS team to enable them to travel independently on public transport. The length of training required is very much linked to the needs of the young person. The scheme, over the last 6 years, has resulted in approximately 230 young people being trained to become independent travellers. This has significant long term benefits for both the young person in terms of them and their independence, and development of life skills, but also for the LA in terms of savings in the cost of transport.

Consultation

26. Any proposed changes to Home to School transport policy would need to follow the appropriate consultation and approval processes.

Analysis

27. Where transport provision is statutory, there is no option to change policy. The requirement in this case is to ensure that that the most appropriate and cost effective quality service is provided.
28. The policy areas where transport is currently provided on a discretionary basis are subject to change, following the appropriate consultation with all necessary stakeholders including parents, pupils and schools, prior to any changes.
29. As contracts are due to be re-procured this year, it would be appropriate to consider any policy changes so that any impact can be considered in the procuring those home to school transport services.

Options

30. In considering future options for home to school transport, members' views are welcomed in looking at alternatives to current arrangements and the possibility of trialling new ways of working to both reduce costs and maintain quality of service.

Council Plan

A better start for children and young people.

31. Getting children and young people to and from school each day via the council's home to school transport arrangements is a key part of the their education responsibilities. It is important therefore that the service is reliable, safe and cost effective

Getting around sustainably

32. The options available for getting children and young people to school each day needs to consider the environmental impact of those options. It is essential therefore that the council encourages use of public transport, sets targets around the types of vehicles it wants to be transporting children and young people around the city where it does have some level of control. It also enables the council to work with transport providers in partnership to cut congestion, pollution and carbon emissions

Well-paid jobs and an inclusive economy

33. As estimated out turn figures indicate for the current financial year the council is to spend approximately £3.3m on its home to school transport services. As these services are delivered by local transport contractors this provides a significant number of jobs within the local area and therefore benefits the local economy.

Implications

34. *Please see below*

- **Financial**

See paragraph 2

- **Human Resources (HR)** (*Contact – Head of HR*)

There are no human resource implications

- **Equalities**

See Legal

- **Legal**

To meet the requirements of the 1996 Education Act in relation to the LA's duty to make travel arrangements to facilitate attendance at school. To meet the statutory requirements of the 2013 Children & Families Bill as well as the Equalities Act 2010. Legal Services will support the School Services team when drawing up contracts for the finalised arrangements when they have been agreed.

- **Crime and Disorder**

There are no crime and disorder implications

- **Information Technology (IT)**

There are no IT implications

- **Property**

There are no property implications

- **Other**

Risk Management

35. There are no risks at this stage of the scrutiny process.

Recommendations

36. Members are asked to consider how they would like to progress with a scrutiny review of home to school transport.

Reason: To enable officers to prepare further work and options for members consideration

Contact Details

Author:

Mark Ellis
Head of School Services
Tel: 01904 554246

Chief Officer responsible for the report:

Amanda Hatton
Corporate Director Children, Education &
Communities
Tel: 01904 554434

Report Approved **Date** 13/3/2020

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|---|
| LA | Local Authority |
| YILTS | York Independent Living & Travel Skills |
| EHCP | Education, Health & Care Plan |
| PTB | Personal Transport Budget |
| DBS | Disclosure Barring Service |
| CE | Church of England |
| CYPIC | Children & Young People in Care |



Title: CYSCP Update to Scrutiny

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Date: 24 March 2019

Confidential Yes/No: No

Introduction

1. Over the past 6 months, the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) has continued to operate under the new model of governance implemented following the publication of new Statutory Guidance, *Working Together 2018*.
2. This brief update highlights some significant pieces of work, as well as providing an update on Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) and the rise in reporting of child sex offences.

A review of the partnership

3. It is now over a year since we adopted our new ways of working to become a Safeguarding Partnership as outlined in *Working Together 2018*. Whilst there has been lots of continuity to what we do, there have also been some changes to our processes over this time.
4. In the autumn, two members of the support unit, which administers the partnership, retired. Temporary staffing arrangements have been in place since.
5. The three statutory safeguarding partners, City of York Council, Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group and North Yorkshire Police, decided that it would be a sensible time to consider, as we regularly should, whether our arrangements are delivering

everything which was anticipated and if, as a partnership, we are successfully making our safeguarding systems better.

6. In December, the three statutory safeguarding partners met to discuss views on where we've got to and where we want to head next as a partnership. The primary focus for all partners was around how we can be sure that the learning from the work we do has an impact on improving front line practice.
7. It was agreed that, in order to assess the impact the board is having, we should seek some independent review of our arrangements. Maggie Atkinson, former Children's Commissioner for England and current Independent Chair and advisor to North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership, has been commissioned to review arrangements and advise on potential next steps to further enhance the impact of the board.
8. Maggie is currently having conversations and gathering feedback from a full range of stakeholders. She will report back to the next partnership meeting on 8 April.
9. Alongside this, Simon Westwood's tenure as board chair will also come to an end in March, following 6 years overseeing the board/partnership. The partnership is extremely grateful to Simon for his commitment and impact over the past 5 years. It is worth reflecting that during this time, we have completely revised our governance arrangements twice, had nationally acclaimed programmes of work and been judged Outstanding by Ofsted.
10. Decisions on the chairing and independent advice to the board will be made following the review, to lead us through the next stage in the Partnership's development. During this time, the senior representatives of the three statutory partners will chair any partnership meetings and act as chair for the purposes of our processes.
11. The future support arrangements will also be determined following the review to ensure they align with future ways of working.
12. The latest CYSCP newsletter is attached as Annex A to give a wider perspective of activities underway.

Other key updates

13. This committee has requested an update on Harmful Sexual Behaviour and the rise in reporting of child sex offences.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour

14. Following a lessons learned review in 2018, the partnership has been focusing on different aspects of harmful sexual behaviour, including the challenges of recognising it for young people with SEND. To assess and build upon the knowledge of professionals around this area, the partnership has been working with NSPCC to carry out a Harmful Sexual Behaviour audit. This takes a multi-agency approach to determine the strengths and weaknesses in response to Harmful Sexual Behaviour.
15. The HSB audit feedback session is scheduled for 6 April, following which the partnership will need to develop a strategy in order to respond to the findings.
16. York Youth Justice Service have created a Harmful Sexual Behaviour service their team. They have seen an increase in reports, but this is thought to be as a result of them now working with young people that are not yet convicted. They attend Children's Social Care strategy meetings for young people with reported concerning behaviour and can conduct an AIM 3 assessment. Previously they could not conduct an assessment unless the young person had a conviction.

Child Sex Offences

17. During the last 12 months there were about 370 sexual offences recorded in the City of York, which includes adult and children victims.
18. From discussions with the Police, this is largely thought to relate to improved recording of offences. This has been driven by improved crime recording by the Police as they have developed Crime Data Integrity, the development of which was recognised in a recent inspection when the force was graded as "Good" by the HMICFRS.
19. The manner in which all professionals attend and support victims results in public confidence and consequently more disclosures and reporting. Development of multi-agency meetings such as

MACEM (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Meeting) further shines a light on this issue, which should drive further awareness and confidence.

20. A rise of reporting does not always mean an increase of offending (which would be the case in offences such as burglary etc.) Due to the nature of sexual offending and Domestic Abuse, a rise in child sex offences reported is not necessarily a negative indicator, as it means that more children are being supported and perpetrators identified. It can be we are identifying levels which have previously been unidentified due to under reporting.

Annex A: The latest CYSCP newsletter

Abbreviations:

AIM – Assessment, Intervention, Moving on

CYSCP - City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership

HMICFRS - Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services

HSB - Harmful Sexual Behaviour

MACEM - Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Meeting

SEND – Special Educational needs and disability

Safeguarding Children



News from City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership | March 2020

Welcome

After 6 years as Independent Chair this is my last foreword as the safeguarding partners have chosen to develop a new model of independent scrutiny next year.



I want to thank all the people who have contributed to safeguarding children in York during my time here.

Organisational culture guides decisions and actions in practice and has an impact on effectiveness. The role of independent scrutiny is to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of the multi-agency arrangements. I wish the partnership well for the future.

As an early adopter of the new safeguarding arrangements we have continued to work with the University of York St John, NSPCC and young people from York schools developing a guide on safety and social media, you will hear more of progress next year.

Always be open to learning, encourage professional curiosity and try to put the child at the centre of your work.

Simon Westwood

Independent Chair of City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership

Managing Injuries to children who are not mobile

Annex A

An updated version of Practice Guidance - [Managing Injuries to non-independently mobile children](#) is now available. This guidance provides all professionals working with children and families with a knowledge base and strategy for the assessment and management of children who are not independently mobile and present with injuries or bruising.

A standalone information leaflet is also available – [Information guide for professionals to give to parents re Managing Injuries to Non-Independently Mobile Children](#) which supports practitioners in explaining to parents why the referral to CSC and the paediatric assessment is necessary.



Missing from Care

A [new leaflet](#) has been designed by children to explain the importance of an independent return interview when returning home after being missing from care. The leaflet explains the independent support available to these young people.

Keep up to date with our work at www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk and via twitter on @YorkSCP

Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Last April York's Youth Justice Service (YJS) launched a Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) Service to work with young people who had been identified as presenting with HSB issues, but that had not resulted in a police investigation or prosecution.

Government findings indicate that those young people offered early intervention benefit from the child-centred approach of youth justice practitioners and their chances of rehabilitation improve. Nationally recognised identification, assessment and intervention tools e.g. Brook Traffic light tool and AIM 3 are used.

This intervention can enable young people to adopt a healthy development pathway and proceed to make healthy future relationships.

For further information, please contact: ross.holden@york.gov.uk

Learning Lessons Review

The CYSCP has arranged some multi-agency workshops sessions sharing the learning from a recent Learning Lessons Review in York on harmful sexual behaviour and learning disabilities.

The sessions are open to any practitioners and volunteers, in York, who regularly work with children and young people directly or indirectly and have particular responsibilities for safeguarding children.

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|----------|----------|-------------|
| Thursday | 19 March | 14.00-16.00 |
| Monday | 23 March | 14.00-16.00 |
| Friday | 3 April | 09.30-11.30 |
| Tuesday | 7 April | 09.30-11.30 |
| Thursday | 16 April | 09.30-11.30 |

Bookings can be made via the MyLO system at york.learningpool.com

All sessions will be held at West Offices, York.

New email address

The contact details for the City of York Safeguarding Children's Partnership (CYSCP) has now changed.

The email address for the CYSCP is now:

cyscp@york.gov.uk

Please update your records accordingly.

Seven Point Briefing - Learning from Practice

Multi Agency learning from the case of Baby L has now been formatted into a [Seven Point Briefing](#).

Agencies are encouraged to promote this learning within their own organisations.

Was not brought

Safeguarding partners in Nottingham have commissioned an animation to encourage practitioners to identify children as 'Was Not Brought' as opposed to 'Did Not Attend' when referring to them not being presented at medical appointments.

It is important for medical professionals to have policies and procedures in place that clarify what they should do if a child is not brought to a medical appointment.

Non-attendance should not only be coded correctly but also trigger an appropriate response, such as a follow-up phone call.

The [animation](#) is a powerful reminder that children do not take themselves to appointments; they have to be taken by parents or carers. The animation encourages practitioners to reflect on the impact that missed appointments have on a child's wellbeing.



WAS NOT BROUGHT

Make your mark

Make Your Mark is a national ballot in which young people aged 11-18 vote on the issues that matters most to them. This year, 4586 young people from across York took part.



The top 3 topics voted for in York were:

1. Protect the environment (2719 votes)
2. Votes at 16 (580 votes)
3. Tackling hate crime (529 votes)

The top 3 voted topics for the devolved issues in York were:

1. Putting an end to knife crime (1525 votes)
2. Mental health (1214 votes)
3. Curriculum to prepare us for life (856 votes)

York Youth Council will create a campaign to help protect the environment.

Copies of the survey are available from yorkyouthcouncil@york.gov.uk



Learning from national reviews

Simon Westwood, our Independent Chair encourages you to take time to read the recently published national reports which highlight learning from case reviews the links are below:

[Briefing for Local Safeguarding Partnerships](#)

[Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel: 2018 to 2019](#)

It is important that locally the partnership reflects on how to implement the learning from these.

Keep up to date with our work at www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk and via twitter on [@YorkSCP](https://twitter.com/YorkSCP)

Prevent update

Safer York Partnership has updated the Prevent guidance for Working with Individuals Vulnerable to Extremism.

In January the [City of York Guidance](#), [Channel Referral Process](#) and [Referral form](#) were updated on the [CYSCP website](#).

If you think that a child or young person is vulnerable to extremism/ radicalisation or exhibiting behaviour or making comments that suggest he/she may be involved in activity which could be linked to terrorism, you need to follow the safeguarding guidance in regard to being concerned about a child.

Talk to your designated safeguarding lead and making an enquiry to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), formerly known as the Children's Front Door. Please note that the same contact details apply.

Refugee Action York

Refugee Action York (RAY) is a registered charity which aims to advance education and relieve financial hardship amongst migrants, those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status. It also aims to advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum.

Services include:

- **The Hub:** A drop-in for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants offering language classes, children's activities, an information service & shared meal
- **4Corners:** A youth group for children from these communities, offering access to sport, games and youth leadership training
- **One to one Mentoring** project for older teens
- A weekly midweek **Coffee & Conversation Morning**
- A weekly **Men's Group**, with games and social activities
- A **Welcome to Work pre-employment project**, to develop confidence and skills towards voluntary work, training and employment
- A **hardship fund**, used to support destitute service users

Further information can be found at www.refugeeactionyork.org



Mind your Language

In 2018 Show Me That I Matter (York's Children in Care Council) took part in a national campaign by TACT Fostering and Adoption to challenge the way professionals talk about children in care.

The young people explained that professionals often use language which they are unhappy with and wanted to do something to challenge this in York. They created a series of cards with the words that they would like to encourage professionals to use. The cards identify the four words they have chosen and why, these are:

- 'Child or young person in care' instead of LAC
- 'Stayover' instead of respite
- 'Seeing my family' instead of contact
- 'Home' instead of placement

The electronic cards are available for any services who work with children and young people by contacting showmethatimatter@york.gov.uk

York Young Person's Drug & Alcohol Team

The team provides support to young people to reduce the harm that drugs and alcohol can cause, at a mutually convenient place and time. The approach used is flexible and referrals can be made by the young people themselves, by family, friends and other professionals. The only requirement is that the young person is aware the referral is being made and they are willing to meet. All aspects of the service is free to access.

Support may include:

- 1:1 support for under 18s using substances or for under 18s affected by someone else's substance use
- 1:1 support for people aged 18-21 using substances to support the transition to adult services
- Drug & alcohol education to schools, colleges & universities
- Free drug & alcohol awareness training for professionals.

A referral form and poster are available [online](#).

Keep up to date with our work at www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk and via twitter on [@YorkSCP](https://twitter.com/YorkSCP)

If you are concerned about a child:

If you think that a child or young person is being abused or neglected you must inform Children's Social Care or the police.

To report concerns to Children's Social Care you can do so:

- By phone – one phone number for all concerns and enquiries: 01904 551900
- By email – one email address: childrensfrontdoor@york.gov.uk
- Using a referral form available here: www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/concerned-about-a-child-or-young-person.htm
- By letter – Children's Social Care, City of York Council, West Office, York YO1 6GA
- Outside office hours, at weekends and on public holidays contact the Emergency Duty Team telephone: 01609 780780.





**Children, Education and Communities Policy
and Scrutiny Committee****24 March 2020**

Report of the Director of Governance

Child Poverty in York Scoping Report**Summary**

1. This report presents the Children, Education and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Committee with initial information and the draft remit proposed by the Task Group set up to examine Child Poverty in York.

Background

2. At the meeting on 27 November 2019 the Committee considered a Scoping Report on a Corporate Review of Poverty in York. The Committee agreed to take part in the review and further agreed that to enable a remit to be considered all Committee Members would be invited to attend an informal meeting that would provide them with a better understanding of the topic area. All members were invited to an informal meeting on 4 February 2020.
3. At the meeting on 4 February Cllr Webb, Cllr Fitzpatrick and Cllr Fenton considered a review remit and decided to focus on better understanding the impact that poverty has on a child's physical, emotional and cognitive development between the ages of 0 and 4.
4. The Task Group therefore proposes the following draft remit to the Committee:

Aim

To better understand the impact that poverty has on a child's physical, emotional and cognitive development between the ages of 0 and 4.

Objectives

- i. To assess the impact that the following factors have on a child's physical, emotional and cognitive development:
 - a. Poverty of food
 - b. Poverty of attention / engagement
 - c. Poverty of access to play and physical activity
- ii. To understand the work currently being done by the council and its partners in the city in relation to the three factors above.
- iii. To understand the efficacy of current policies and practices designed to improve the life chances of young children living in poverty.
- iv. To identify any 'best practice' examples from other local authorities.
- v. To identify any opportunities for the council and its partners to have a greater impact in improving the life chances of young children living in poverty.

Consultation

5. To progress the review the Task Group agreed to consult with the City of York Council Assistant Director Education and Skills, Social Mobility Lead, Local Area Co-ordinators, Local Area Teams, Health Visitors, Healthy Child Service and Pre-school / nursery providers.

Options

6. The Committee is asked to note the information in this report and can:
 - i. Endorse the draft remit proposed by the Task Group;
 - ii. Amend the draft aim and/or objectives;
 - iii. Add any further objectives the Committee agrees are relevant.

Analysis

7. There is no analysis at this stage.

Council Plan

8. This report supports Good health and wellbeing, a better start for children and young people and an open and effective Council elements of the Council's Plan 2019-23.

Risks and Implications

9. There are no known risks or implications associated with the recommendation in this report. Implications arising from the recommendations in the final review report will be addressed accordingly.

Conclusions

10. There are no conclusions at this stage.

Recommendation

11. Members are asked to consider and endorse the above suggested remit.

Reason: To enable the Task Group to proceed with work on the agreed scrutiny review

Contact Details

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Janie Berry
Director of Governance
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Report Approved Date 17.2.20

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

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**Children, Education and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Draft Work Plan 2019-20**

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| <p>Tuesday 25 June 2019 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arrangements for Scrutiny in York 2. York CVS Bi-annual Service Level Agreement Update 3. York Theatre Royal Bi-annual update 4. Children, Education and Communities Service overview-Power point presentation 5. Draft Work Plan |
| <p>Tuesday 23 July 2019 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Communities 2. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi annual update 3. Year End Finance and Performance Monitoring Report 4. Update on Review of Ward Committees 5. CSMC Food Poverty Scrutiny Review 6. York Learning Governance arrangements 7. Work Plan |
| <p>Tuesday 24 September 2019 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education 2. York Safeguarding Partnership Bi Annual Update Report 3. Cultural Passport for Young People Update 4. Children’s Specialist Services Overview Report 5. Local Area Teams Audit Update 6. Work Plan |

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| <p>Tuesday 29 October 2019 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tenant Involvement Update Report 2. SEND Overview 3. Cultural Leaders Update 4. Work Plan |
| <p>Wednesday 27 November 2019 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young People's Cultural Entitlement 2. Narrowing the Gap - Improving the outcomes of disadvantaged pupils in York 3. Youth Mental Health – Feasibility Report 4. Corporate Review – Food Poverty 5. Work Plan |
| <p>**MEETING CANCELLED** Wednesday 18 December 2019 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work Plan |
| <p>Tuesday 28 January 2020 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quality Assurance 2. Finance and Performance Monitoring Bi annual Update report 3. York Theatre Royal Bi-annual Report 4. York CVS Bi annual report 5. Work Plan |

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| <p>Wednesday 26 February 2020 @ 5.30pm To be chaired by Cllr Webb, Chair's Briefing – Weds 19 Feb at 9am in the Alcuin room</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CEC Directorate Peer Review 2. Children's Specialist Services Overview Report 3. Youth Mental Health Scoping Report 4. Work Plan |
| <p>Tuesday 24 March 2020 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education) Annual Report and review of York Schools' Agreed Syllabus 2. Home to School Transport Report (information only) 3. York Safeguarding Partnership Bi Annual Update Report (to include an update on harmful sexual behaviour and address the rise of child sex offences reported in North Yorkshire) 4. Child Poverty Scoping Report Work Plan |
| <p>Wednesday 22 April 2020 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Skills Report 2. Cultural Entitlement Update 3. Nursery Provision Update (to include information from the Annual Efficiency Review) 4. Work Plan |
| <p>Wednesday 20 May 2020 @ 5.30pm</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Placement Review/Foster Carer Remuneration 2. Work Plan |

Future meetings

Skills Report – September

| Council Plan priorities relating to Children, Education and Communities |
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| A Better Start for Children and Young People |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen the work of communities, local organisations and agencies so that families become more resilient. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue the improvement of children’s social care to provide excellent services for vulnerable young people. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritise improved outcomes for our most disadvantaged children and young people in the city. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work across sectors to improve apprenticeships and in-work progression. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with our partners to identify and tackle issues relating to the rise in mental health problems in the city. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus on the importance of the early years and the impact that this stage of life has on a child’s development. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give every child and young person access a full and rounded arts and cultural offer. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase the number of foster carers and adopters |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve play and sports provision for young people |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a York citizenship offer in conjunction with schools in the city |
| Safe Communities and Culture for All |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a cultural and sporting offer |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver an inclusive cultural strategy |
| Good health and Wellbeing |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make open spaces available to all for sports and physical activity |