

## **Proposed Scrutiny Review on Public Parks – Supporting Information**

### **Summary**

1. This report presents feedback information on the work of the Young Inspectors who recently carried out a review of several of City of York Council's public Parks. This information is being provided to inform Members consideration of whether a review of the inequalities within the city's public parks is required.

### **Background**

2. At a meeting in April 2012 Members discussed the possible inequalities within the city's public parks, in particular the disparity between Hull Road Park and Rowntree Park. At that time, Members agreed they would like to carry out a visit to both those parks once the new Explore Centre at Rowntree Park had opened.
3. At a meeting in June 2012, Members were informed that the Explore Centre was due to open at the end of July 2012. Also that a group of Young Inspectors had undertaken some work on York's parks and as a result produced a number of feedback reports on their findings.
4. Members agreed they would like to invite the Young Inspectors to attend this meeting to discuss their findings, and carry out their visit to both parks in early September 2012 to meet with the park attendants and look at the programme of activities available at each park. At the same time, Members agreed to hold their formal meeting in September 2012 at the new Explore Centre in Rowntree Park.
5. Unfortunately, as a consequence of CYC's Young People's Service going through a restructure, the Young Inspector's project has been temporarily halted until the end of August 2012, and the particular set of Young Inspectors who carried out the reviews have all moved on.

However the reports they produced on the parks have been provided at Annex A – D for Members consideration.

6. The plan is to train up a new set of Young Inspectors once the Young People's Service is back up and running.

### **Consultation**

7. The attached reports detail the consultation that took place in support of the Young Inspectors review of each park.

### **Analysis**

8. Each of the reports attached contains an analysis of the Young Inspectors findings.

### **Council Plan**

9. City of York Council recognises that strong communities are the foundation of a thriving city and is aiming to ensure the city is made up of active and self-reliant communities where everyone has an effective voice in local issues and where there is a strong sense of belonging. In planning for our communities the Council aims to work in a more joined up way in order to better meet the infrastructure needs of each neighbourhood. This includes ensuring the provision of appropriate local infrastructure including housing, leisure and schools and consulting with young people to build communities that reflect their needs.

### **Implications**

10. There are no known legal, financial, HR or other implications associated with this information only report. If the Committee choose to proceed with a review on the inequalities in CYC's public parks, full consideration will be given to the implications associated with any recommendations arising from the review.

### **Risk Management**

11. There are no known risks associated with the information provided in this information only report.

## Recommendations

12. Members are asked to note the information provided in this report and its annexes.

Reason: To support their future consideration of whether a scrutiny review is required of 'The inequalities in public park provision across the city'

## Contact Details

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**Report Approved**  **Date** 11 July 2012

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** N/A

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

**All**



**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers:** N/A

### Annexes:

**Annex A** – Westbank Park Report

**Annex B** – Acomb Green Report

**Annex C** – Glen Rd Park Report

**Annex D** – Hull Rd Park Report