



**Notice of meeting of**

**Executive Member for Children & Young People's Services and  
Advisory Panel**

**To:** Councillor Christina Funnell (Chair)  
Councillor Jenny Brooks (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Andy D'Agorne  
Councillor Julie Gunnell  
Councillor Dave Merrett  
Councillor Carol Runciman (Executive Member)  
Councillor Richard Watson  
Councillor Irene Waudby

Co-opted Statutory Members:

Mrs Leeann Branton  
Mr Bill Schofield  
Dr David Sellick

Co-opted Non-Statutory Members:

Ms Fiona Barclay  
Mrs Ann Burn  
Mrs Jona Ellis  
Dr Alison Birkinshaw  
Ms Barbara Reagan  
Mr Mike Thomas

**Date:** Monday, 19 January 2009

**Time:** 6.00 pm

**Venue:** Guildhall

## **AGENDA**

### **Notice to Members - 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:

**10am on Friday 16 January 2009**, if an item is called in *before* a decision is taken, *or*

**4pm on Wednesday 21 January 2009**, if an item is called in *after* a decision has been taken.

Items called in will be considered by the Scrutiny Management Committee.

### **1. Declarations of Interest (Pages 3 - 4)**

At this point Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.

### **2. Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider excluding the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following:

- (i) Annex C of Agenda Item 10 (Report on the Commissioning of Services through the Children's Early Intervention Fund and Better Play Grants) on the grounds that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). This information is classed as exempt under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order 2006.
- (ii) Annex C of Agenda Item 11 ("Quality and Access for all Young Children" – Allocations of Capital Grant) on the

grounds that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). This information is classed as exempt under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order 2006.

**3. Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2008.

**4. Public Participation**

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Panel's remit can do so. Anyone who wishes to register or requires further information is requested to contact the Democracy Officer on the contact details listed at the foot of this agenda. The deadline for registering is Friday 16 January 2009 at 5pm.

**Executive Member to consider the advice of the Advisory Panel upon the following items of business and to make a decision on those items or to note the information as required:**

**5. Revenue & Capital Budget Estimates - 2009/10** (Pages 11 - 48)

This report presents the 2009/10 budget proposals for Children & Young People's Services.

**6. Annual Performance Assessment 2008** (Pages 49 - 62)

This report briefs the Executive Member and Advisory Panel on the outcome of York's Annual Performance Assessment for 2008.

**7. The Annual Report of the City of York Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)** (Pages 63 - 70)

This report presents details of the work of the City of York Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) from January to December 2008.

**8. An Update on "myplace" (Pages 71 - 74)**

This report provides an update on preparations for a *myplace* bid, following the decision in September 2008 to postpone this until the second round in 2009, and informs Members of the appointment of a local community architect to assist with the process.

**9. The School Crossing Patrol Service in York (Pages 75 - 82)**

This report has been prepared at the request of Members to respond to queries raised regarding the recruitment of School Crossing Patrol Officers (SCPO's).

**10. Report on the Commissioning of Services through the Children's Early Intervention Fund and Better Play Grants (Pages 83 - 98)**

This report sets out the commissioning process for the Children's Early Intervention Fund (EIF), which has on this occasion been linked to the Better Play Grants (BPG), and the funding recommendations of the panel set up to consider applications for the joint EIF/BPG fund.

**11. "Quality and Access for all Young Children" – Allocations of Capital Grant (Pages 99 - 118)**

This report seeks approval of bids from the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector to use the new "Quality and Access for All Young Children Capital Grant Allocation". These bids have been recommended by a panel established for this purpose.

**12. Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972**

Democracy Officer:

Name: Simon Copley

Contact Details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551078
- E-mail – [simon.copley@york.gov.uk](mailto:simon.copley@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.

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If you would, you will need to:

- register by contacting the Democracy Officer (whose name and contact details can be found on the agenda for the meeting) **no later than 5.00 pm** on the last working day before the meeting;
- ensure that what you want to say speak relates to an item of business on the agenda or an issue which the committee has power to consider (speak to the Democracy Officer for advice on this);
- find out about the rules for public speaking from the Democracy Officer.

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### Further information about what's being discussed at this meeting

All the reports which Members will be considering are available for viewing online on the Council's website. Alternatively, copies of individual reports or the full agenda are available from Democratic Services. Contact the Democracy Officer whose name and contact details are given on the agenda for the meeting. **Please note a small charge may be made for full copies of the agenda requested to cover administration costs.**

### Access Arrangements

We will make every effort to make the meeting accessible to you. The meeting will usually be held in a wheelchair accessible venue with an induction hearing loop. We can provide the agenda or reports in large print, electronically (computer disk or by email), in Braille or on audio tape. Some formats will take longer than others so please give as much notice as possible (at least 48 hours for Braille or audio tape).

If you have any further access requirements such as parking close-by or a sign language interpreter then please let us know. Contact the Democracy Officer whose name and contact details are given on the order of business for the meeting.

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### **Holding the Executive to Account**

The majority of councillors are not appointed to the Executive (38 out of 47). Any 3 non-Executive councillors can 'call-in' an item of business from a published Executive (or Executive Member Advisory Panel (EMAP)) agenda. The Executive will still discuss the 'called in' business on the published date and will set out its views for consideration by a specially convened Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC). That SMC meeting will then make its recommendations to the next scheduled Executive meeting in the following week, where a final decision on the 'called-in' business will be made.

### **Scrutiny Committees**

The purpose of all scrutiny and ad-hoc scrutiny committees appointed by the Council is to:

- Monitor the performance and effectiveness of services;
- Review existing policies and assist in the development of new ones, as necessary; and
- Monitor best value continuous service improvement plans

### **Who Gets Agenda and Reports for our Meetings?**

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**MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG  
PEOPLE'S SERVICES AND ADVISORY PANEL**

**Agenda item 1: Declarations of interest.**

The following Members and Co-optees declared a general personal interest in the items on the agenda:

Councillor Runciman – Governor of Joseph Rowntree School, Governor at New Earswick Primary School, Governor of York College and Trustee of the Theatre Royal.

Councillor Funnell – Governor of Burnholme Community College.

Councillor D'Agorne – Governor of Fishergate School, Employee of York College Student Services (Information Advice & Guidance for Young People) and has a daughter at All Saints School.

Councillor Gunnell – Governor at the Pupil Referral Unit, Fulford.

Councillor Merrett – has a child at St Paul's Primary School, is an LEA Governor at St Paul's Primary School, has a child who uses the school's music service, digital arts and holiday schemes, and is the Treasurer of the York Chinese Cultural Association.

Councillor Brooks – is a member of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers and she is employed by The Manchester College.

Councillor R Watson – Member of the Education Appeals Committee.

Councillor Waudby – Governor of Lakeside Primary School.

Councillor Aspden (substitute) – is a member of the Management Committee of the Danesgate Centre, is a member of the National Union of Teachers (NUT) and is employed by North Yorkshire County Council.

Councillor Looker (substitute) – is a Governor of Canon Lee and Park Grove Schools.

Co-opted statutory members

Dr D Sellick – Governor of Derwent Infant & Junior School, and representative of the Church of England.

Mr W Schofield – Governor of Knavesmire School

Co-opted non-statutory members

Ms F Barclay – Teacher at All Saints School, ATL Branch Secretary for City of York and ATL Executive Member for City of York & North Yorkshire.

Mrs J Ellis – Governor of Burton Green Primary School and Governor of Canon Lee School.

Mrs A Burn – Headteacher and Governor of Yearsley Grove Primary School. Secretary of the York branch of the NAHT

Ms B Reagan is a teacher at Joseph Rowntree School. SENCO, Secretary of the York Association of the National Union of Teachers.

Mr M Thomas is the secretary of the York Association of National Association of Schoolmasters and Women Teachers (NASUWT).

Dr A Birkinshaw - Principal of York College

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## City of York Council

## Committee Minutes

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MEETING	EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES AND ADVISORY PANEL
DATE	4 DECEMBER 2008
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS BROOKS (VICE-CHAIR, IN THE CHAIR), GUNNELL, LOOKER (AS SUBSTITUTE FOR FUNNELL), MERRETT, RUNCIMAN (EXECUTIVE MEMBER), R WATSON, I WAUDBY, DR D SELICK (CO-OPTED STATUTORY MEMBER) AND MS F BARCLAY (CO-OPTED NON-STATUTORY MEMBER)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS FUNNELL, D'AGORNE, MRS L BRANTON, MR W SCHOFIELD, MRS A BURN, MRS J ELLIS, DR A BIRKINSHAW, MS B REAGAN AND MR M THOMAS

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**34. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda, in addition to the general personal non-prejudicial interests detailed on the sheet attached to the agenda.

Councillor R Watson declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 6 (Service Plan Performance 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008/9 – Children and Young People's Services), in relation to music tuition fees, and also a general personal non-prejudicial interest, both as a member of the Education Appeals Committee.

Councillor Brooks declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 6 (Service Plan Performance 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2008/9 – Children and Young People's Services), in relation to music tuition fees, as a member of the Education Appeals Committee.

Councillor Merrett declared a general personal non-prejudicial interest as his child used the digital arts and holiday schemes.

Dr D Sellick declared a general personal non-prejudicial interest as a representative of the Church of England.

**35. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services and Advisory Panel, held on 6 November 2008 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**36. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

**37. LOCAL AUTHORITY (LA) SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

Members received a report which provided information about the current position with regard to vacancies for Local Authority (LA) seats on governing bodies, listed current nominations for those vacancies and requested the appointment, or re-appointment, of the listed nominees.

The report presented the following options for consideration:

- To appoint/re-appoint and fill the vacancies;
- Not to appoint/re-appoint and fill the vacancies.

An additional annex had been circulated detailing nominees for LA seats on the governing body for the new Federation of Hob Moor Primary School and Hob Moor Oaks School and officers outlined how these appointments would be dealt with, given that there were five nominees for four places.

The Executive Member recorded her thanks to all those who were school governors for their hard work.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member be advised:

- (i) That LA Governors be appointed, or re-appointed, to fill vacant seats as proposed in Annex 1 of the report, with the addition of Mr Owen Seager as a governor for the Federation of Derwent Infant and Junior Schools;<sup>1</sup>
- (ii) That, in relation to nominations for LA Governors to the governing body for the new Federation of Hob Moor Primary School and Hob Moor Oaks School, details of nominees and a skills audit be circulated to Members and Statutory Co-optees, with ballot papers to be returned by Friday 12 December 2008,<sup>2</sup> and that the views expressed through this process be considered by the Executive Member when making the appointments;<sup>3</sup>
- (iii) That the fifth nominee be recommended to the governing body to be considered as a community representative.<sup>4</sup>

Decision of the Executive Member

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To ensure that Local Authority places on school governing bodies continue to be effectively filled.

[Note: Mr Nick Coakley, Honorary Alderman Charles William Fairclough, Mrs Margaret Clare Hyett and Mr Nick Smart were appointed as LA Governors to the governing body for the new Federation of Hob Moor Primary School and Hob Moor Oaks School. Dr David Hopton was recommended to the governing body to be considered as a community representative.]

Action Required

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1 - To notify nominees and governing bodies of the appointments;                    | CB |
| 2 - To send out the information and ballot papers;                                  | CB |
| 3 - To notify nominees and the governing body when the appointments have been made; | CB |
| 4 - To make the recommendation to the governing body.                               | CB |

**38. FEDERATION BETWEEN HOB MOOR OAKS SPECIAL SCHOOL AND HOB MOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Members received a report which informed them of the decision made by Hob Moor Oaks Special School and Hob Moor Primary School to federate and asked the Executive Member to support the decision of the governing bodies.

It was noted that the power to take a decision about whether or not to federate rested with the two governing bodies and not the Local Authority, and that the governing bodies had consulted and considered thoroughly the options of choosing to federate or not to federate.

Some Members expressed concern that none of the results of the consultation were included in the report and highlighted the importance of understanding any negative implications of federating, as well as positive ones. The Director of Learning, Culture & Children's Services and the Assistant Director (School Improvement & Staff Development) outlined some of the key issues raised in the consultation. A request for more comprehensive and balanced reports in the future was made by some Members. All Members recognised the considerable benefits of the federation and the opportunities it created to enable progress at both schools.

The Executive Member reassured the schools that she would not support any change to the policy of having one special primary school and one special secondary school in the city.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member be advised to support the decision of both governing bodies to federate.

Decision of the Executive Member

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To brief Members on a key decision by the governing bodies of two local schools.

**39. SERVICE PLAN PERFORMANCE 2ND QUARTER 2008/9 – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S SERVICES**

Members received a report which analysed performance by reference to the service plan, the budget and the performance indicators for all of the services funded through the Children’s Services budget.

There had been good progress in the first six months of the year against the actions from the service plans and key achievements to date and areas where further work was needed were set out in paragraph 9 of the report. Particular attention was drawn in the report to the excellent feedback in the Audit Commission survey on the views of schools on the local authority, on the feedback on the Primary Capital Strategy submission, and on the actions arising from the York High School fire.

The projected net outturn for 2008/09 was £30,108k, which left a projected net overspend of £828k against the latest approved net budget of £29,280k. This was split between the General Fund, with a projected net overspend on £528k, and the Dedicated Schools Grant, with a projected net overspend of £300k. In relation to the General Fund, the report detailed work being undertaken by officers to identify further savings and set out a recommendation to the Executive for use of funds from the Corporate Contingency Budget.

Officers provided an update on the Directorate’s progress with a review of child protection arrangements, following the Baby P case at Haringey, and Members discussed how Executive Members with statutory responsibility for this area could ensure that this responsibility was fulfilled.

Officers also confirmed that a high quality Myplace bid would be submitted in the second round of bidding, although there was still some doubt as to whether it would be around the young people’s preferred site in the city centre, as this option was complex and could require additional capital injection by other parties. A Bid Manager had been appointed to take forward this work.

Other comments made during the discussion of the report included:

- A request to investigate if a local indicator could be developed for the number of three year olds receiving free early years provision who lived within the City of York, as the current indicator included children living in other authorities, thereby returning results of over 100%, and making it hard to detect if any York children were not taking up this opportunity.<sup>1</sup>
- The need to examine vocational qualifications, as well as academic qualifications, for looked after children and an officer update on work currently in progress to develop additional indicators to do this.

- The welcome progress with the Books for Babies project.
- The issue of access to dentistry, which had been raised by the Show Me That I Matter Panel, and an update on improvement work being undertaken.
- A correction to the quarter two performance figure for indicator CF4 (% of health needs assessments undertaken for children in care for more than 1 year) which was 70%, not 59.7% as written in Annex 1 of the report, and an update on the work being undertaken to improve performance.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member be advised:

- (i) That the performance of services within the directorate funded through the Children's Services budget be noted and thanks to Officers be recorded for their hard work and particularly to all those individuals and organisations who helped after the recent fire at York High School;
- (ii) That the Executive be requested to agree to release the following amounts currently contained within the Corporate Contingency Budget:<sup>2</sup>
  - £80k for Children's Social Care Fostering;
  - £142k for Children's Social Care Legal Fees;
  - £40k for Music Service Income Shortfall.

Decision of the Executive Member

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: In order to ensure appropriate performance management arrangements are in place for the work of the department.

Action Required

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 1 - To investigate the possibility of developing a local indicator;   | CB |
| 2 - To refer the request to the Executive as part of the corporate performance and finance monitoring report. | CB |

**40. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2008/09 - MONITOR 2**

Members received a report which informed them of the likely outturn position of the 2008/09 Capital Programme, advised of changes to existing schemes and reprofiling of expenditure to allow the more effective management and monitoring of the Capital Programme, provided details of any slippage in budgets between financial years, and set out any new schemes and sought approval for their addition to the 2008/11 Capital Programme.

The predicted outturn for 2008/09 was £33.145m, against a current approved budget of £33.217m, which represented a projected underspend of £0.072m. Table 2, at paragraph 33 of the report, summarised changes to the capital programme for 2008/09 to 2010/11 and Annex A of the report provided a scheme-by-scheme update, detailing predicted variances and the resulting amendments to the capital programme.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member be advised:

- (i) That the capital programme forecast outturn for 2008/09, as shown in Annex A of the report, be noted;
- (ii) That the additions and amendments to the capital programme, as set out in the report and summarised in Annex A, be approved;<sup>1</sup>
- (iii) That the scheme reprofiling and slippage, as set out in the report and summarised in Annex A, be approved;<sup>2</sup>
- (iv) That the revised capital programme, as shown at Annex A of the report, be agreed, subject to the approval of the Executive.<sup>3</sup>

Decision of the Executive Member

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the capital programme.

Action Required

- 1 - To update the programme spreadsheets; CB
- 2 - To update the programme spreadsheets; CB
- 3 - To refer to the Executive for approval as part of the corporate capital monitoring report. CB

Councillor C Runciman  
Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services

Councillor J Brooks, Vice-Chair in the Chair  
[The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 7.45 pm].





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**Executive Member for Children & Young People's Services and  
Advisory Panel**      **19 January 2009**

Joint report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services and the Director of Resources

**REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET ESTIMATES - 2009/10**

**Purpose of Report**

- 1 This report presents the 2009/10 budget proposals for Children & Young People's Services. It includes:
  - The revenue budget for 2008/09 (Annex 1) to show the original budgets.
  - The base budget for 2009/10 including the 2008/09 budget rolled forward and adjusted.
  - The provisional allocation of pay and price increases for the portfolio.
  - Budget service pressure costs and savings proposals for the portfolio area (Annexes 2 and 3).
  - Fees and Charges proposals (Annex 4).
  - Other revenue budget options for consultation (Annex 5).
  - The existing approved capital programme (Annex 6).
  - Proposals for new capital schemes (Annex 7).
  - Residential Homes, Foster Carers, Sharing Care, Adoption and Residence Order Weekly Allowances (Annex 8).
- 2 Budget Council will be held on 26 February 2009 and will make decisions on the overall budget for the council. If approved, the proposals for savings/growth currently being considered by the individual EMAP meetings should result in a balanced budget, but the Executive Members may also wish to consider other options. Further options relating to this portfolio are shown in Annex 5. In order to facilitate the decision making process the Executive are meeting on 16 February 2009 to consider the preferences identified by the individual portfolio Executive Members and the results of the consultation exercise.
- 3 The Executive Member is therefore asked to consider the budget proposals included in this report and identify their preferences, including the proposals in Annexes 2, 3 and 7 which will be considered by the Executive as part of the intended budget. In particular Member advice is sought on the items listed for consultation in Annex 5, which at present do not form part of the intended budget. Members of EMAP are invited to provide comments on the budget proposals in this report.

## **Background**

- 4 The Council's Financial Strategy was adopted by the Executive on 23 September 2008. This paper is the result of ongoing work against this agreed framework.

### Local Government Finance Settlement

- 5 The provisional Local Government Finance settlement for 2008/09 was issued on 6 December 2007 and also included indicative figures for 2009/10 and 2010/11 that enabled the Council to consider future budget issues. The provisional settlement for 2009/10 gives an increase in formula grant of £1.159m (+2.74%).

### Schools Funding Settlement

- 6 For schools funding through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), 2009/10 is the second year of a DCSF three-year budget period. For 2009/10 therefore the DSG allocation for York will be based on the December 2007 announcement, updated for changes in pupil numbers.
- 7 The DSG is ring-fenced for funding the provision of education for pupils in schools (maintained, PRUs, PVI nurseries or externally purchased places). As such it covers funding delegated to individual council maintained schools through the LMS Funding Formula and funding for other pupil provision which is retained centrally by the council (e.g. SEN, Early Years, PRUs etc.). It is distributed according to a formula that guarantees a minimum per pupil increase for each authority (2.9% in 2009/10). Additional funding is then allocated based on Ministers' priorities. For 2009/10 personalised learning has been identified as a priority.
- 8 The council itself cannot use the DSG for any purpose other than schools block funding, although with the permission of the Schools Forum limited contributions can be made to the following areas:
- Combined budgets supporting Every Child Matters objectives where there is a clear educational benefit.
  - Prudential borrowing, where overall net savings to the Schools Budget can be demonstrated.
  - Some SEN transport costs, again only when there is a net Schools Budget saving.
- 9 There are also strict limits (Central Expenditure Limits [CEL]) on the amount of the DSG that the council can retain to fund pupil costs outside mainstream schools e.g. SEN, Out of City Placements, Early Years, PRUs, Behavioural Support etc.
- 10 The headline figures from the DSG settlement show that for 2009/10 York's increase in DSG is estimated at £3.108m (+3.61%) giving a sum of £3,939 per pupil (+3.63%). For 2009/10 this includes additional funding (above the minimum 2.9% per pupil) of £879k that has been allocated to York for Personalised Learning at KS3 and in primary schools.
- 11 Despite these increases though, York's actual funding level is still at the lower end nationally, 23<sup>rd</sup> lowest (out of 149 LAs) by the end of the 3-year period. This means that if York received the national average funding in 2009/10 there would be an extra

£279 for every pupil or £6.306m in total. This would be enough to give an extra £278k to every secondary school and £59k extra to every primary school. This is also the equivalent of an additional 168 teachers or 306 additional classroom assistants.

### Budget Proposals for Children & Young People's Services

- 12 A summary of the budget proposals is shown in table 1 below. Further details on individual elements are presented in the subsequent paragraphs. The annexes also contain other potential savings items, which at this stage are not being recommended to Members.

<b>Table 1: Proposed Children &amp; Young People's Services Budget 2009/10</b>	Para Ref	Schools Budget (DSG) £000	General Fund £000	Children's Services Total £000
<b>2008/09 Original Budget (see Annex 1)</b>		<b>86,389</b>	<b>29,179</b>	<b>115,568</b>
2008/09 In Year Recurring Amendments:				
IT Support Transfer From HASS			+ 20	+20
Corporate Inflation (Electricity & Gas)			+ 8	+ 8
NNDR Adjustments			+ 1	+ 1
Stress Counselling Corporate Allocation			+ 1	+ 1
One-Off Growth in 2008/09 Budget:				
Fostering Costs			- 100	- 100
Home to School Transport			- 100	- 100
ICT Support Staff Increase			- 57	- 57
SACRE - 5 Year Curriculum Review			- 5	- 5
Full Year Effect of 2008/09 Growth:				
Personalised Learning in Schools		+ 879		+ 879
Behaviour Support Service		+ 50		+ 50
<b>2009/10 Base Budget</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>87,318</b>	<b>28,947</b>	<b>116,265</b>
Schools Minimum Funding Requirement	14-16	+ 1,662		+ 1,662
Provision for Pay Increases (not schools)	17	+ 108	+ 489	+ 597
Provision for Price Increases (not schools)	18	+ 175	- 14	+ 161
Fees & Charges Increases	19-20		- 80	- 80
Service Pressure Proposals (Annex 2)	21-23	+ 160	+ 210	+ 370
Savings Proposals (Annex 3)	24-25	- 451	- 929	- 1,380
<b>2009/10 Total Proposed Budget</b>		<b>88,972</b>	<b>28,623</b>	<b>117,595</b>
<b>Funding Available within the DSG</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>88,943</b>		
<b>DSG Budget Gap</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>		

2009/10 Base Budget (£116,265k)

- 13 This represents the latest 2008/09 budget approved by and reported to Members, updated for the full year effect of decisions taken in the 2008/09 budget and amendments during 2008/09, e.g. supplementary estimates.

Schools Minimum Funding Requirement (+£1,662k)

- 14 The DCSF have confirmed that the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) will continue to deliver a minimum per pupil increase for all schools. They have estimated average school level pay and price inflation over the 2008-11 period at 3.1% per year. The DCSF have then assumed that each school can make an efficiency gain of 1% each year, reflecting the substantial improvement in efficiency they expect to be achieved across the schools sector and the public sector as a whole. The result is an MFG for all schools set at 2.1% for each year. This is significantly lower than the 3.7% guarantee in 2007/08. The estimated amount required to deliver the MFG for all York schools is £1,662k in 2009/10.
- 15 The minimum guarantee applies to the funding provided by the council to schools via the LMS Funding Formula. The actual way the guarantee is calculated for an individual school varies depending on the type of school (primary, secondary or special) and the size of the school (separate arrangements apply to schools with fewer than 75 pupils).
- 16 Central Expenditure Limit regulations determine the minimum total size of the Individual Schools Budget<sup>1</sup> (ISB). For 2009/10 an additional £879k will need to be allocated to schools over and above the £1,662k required to deliver the MFG in order to meet the CEL limit. In setting the 3-year Schools Budget strategy in 2008/09 it has already been agreed to target this additional sum at Personalised Learning in schools and the LMS Funding Formula for 2009/10 reflects this.

Provisional Pay Increases (excluding schools) (+£597k)

- 17 These calculations are based on a pay increase for APT&C staff of 2.25% (from 1 April 2009) and Teaching staff of 2.3% (from 1 September 2009) at a cost of £547k. The teaching staff increase has already been agreed but negotiations for the 2009/10 APT&C settlement have not yet started, although there is pressure from the Treasury that increases are kept under 2%. In addition, within the centrally retained Schools Budget (DSG), growth of £50k is included for the net costs of staff increments after allowing for new starters at the lower point of the grade.

Provisional Price Inflation (excluding schools) (+£161k)

- 18 The budget proposes a 2.5% increase on both controllable expenditure and income budgets and it will be left to directorates to manage within this net figure. The proposed budget specifically includes an allowance for a 2.3% increase in Nursery Education Funding that was agreed last year as part of the 3-year strategy and is funded from the DSG. Increases in Foster & Adoption allowances of between 2.5% and 3.1% are also proposed (see paragraphs 31-42 for more details).

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<sup>1</sup> The ISB is the total amount of funding available to distribute to schools through the LMS Funding Formula

Fees & Charges and Traded Services (-£80k)

- 19 In line with the net inflation provision referred to above, Fees & Charges are increasing by at least 2.5% except where there are nationally set charges. These are then rounded up or down as appropriate to create sensible figures. The majority of internal services that trade with schools are increasing their charges by 5%. Where increases in charges (external or school traded services) are proposed in excess of 2.5% the additional income is either reflected in the savings totals offered or being used to address existing budget shortfalls.
- 20 A schedule of proposed Youth Service fees and charges is shown at Annex 4. For Adult Education and the Music & Performing Arts Service, charges are set for each academic year. The budgets for 2009/10 have been set based on a 2.5% increase plus any specific savings targets set out in Annex 3. Further details will be presented to EMAP prior to September 2009.

Service Pressure Proposals (+£370k)

- 21 A range of options for service pressure proposals has been considered and in view of the overall available resources it is proposed that only those proposals shown in Annexes 2a and 2b are included as the preferred options for Children & Young People's Services. The proposals put forward are the result of a rigorous assessment process, which included looking at the risk to customers, schools and staff, legislative requirements, proven customer demand and the Council's corporate objectives.
- 22 Members should note that even if all of the items identified at Annex 2a are funded the directorate will still need to manage some significant expenditure pressures in 2009/10, in particular:
- The size of the Looked After Children (LAC) population in the city continues to rise and put pressure on existing resources. This creates financial pressures on fostering (particularly through the greater use of independent fostering agency placements), out of city placements and other associated budgets such as legal fees, section 34 contact costs and guardianship orders.
  - Music service income, where pupil numbers have fallen significantly and the impact of the current financial climate appears to be being felt.
  - Resourcing the significant additional workload involved in handling the transfer of post 16 pupil funding from the LSC to the council.
  - Resourcing the potentially significant project management and associated revenue costs of a successful bid for Building Schools for the Future (BSF) capital funding.
  - Sourcing replacement funding for a number of grant streams that are ceasing and that currently support activities and staffing within the Young People's Service.
  - Funding the increased costs associated with the new requirements to register all staff working with children with the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA).
- 23 A number of these are occurring in 2008/09 and have been reported to EMAP during this year, with requests for contingency funding in 2008/09 currently pending

consideration by the Executive. Members will be kept up to date on these issues during 2009/10 through the regular budget monitoring reporting processes.

Savings Proposals (-£1,380k)

- 24 Members will be aware that the 2008/09 budget savings were significant and that all directorates are operating within a tight financial environment. In seeking to achieve savings for the 2009/10 budget, directorates have examined budgets with a view to identifying savings that have a minimum impact on the services provided to the public, schools, customers and the wider Council. They have therefore concentrated on initiatives that:
- reflect directorate priorities and plans;
  - improve quality and efficiency;
  - take advantage of ongoing service and/or Best Value reviews;
  - generate income;
  - address budgetary underspends;
  - improve cash flow and interest earnings;
  - generate savings from the technical and financial administration functions of the Council.
- 25 Annex 3a and 3b show the full list of savings proposals for Children & Young People's Services.

Funding Available within the DSG (£88,943k)

- 26 The funding available includes an initial estimate of the 2009/10 DSG allocation of £89,243k less an estimated deficit carry forward from 2008/09 of £300k (based on the 2<sup>nd</sup> budget monitor for 2008/09 reported to EMAP in December). This estimate will be updated once the provisional results of the annual schools and early years census are known later this month.

**Balancing the Schools Budget & DSG**

- 27 Table 1 at paragraph 12 shows that there is still a budget gap within the Schools Budget of £29k at the time of writing this report. Further work will be undertaken in conjunction with the Schools Forum at its meeting on 30 January to identify options for bridging this gap. At its budget meeting on 26 February the Executive will be updated on the outcome of the discussions with and decisions/comments of the Schools Forum.

**Capital Programme**

- 28 The Council's existing capital programme at portfolio level as approved at the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008/09 monitor is shown at Annex 6.
- 29 The existing programme for Children & Young People's Services is shown at Annex 7, with schemes currently approved up to 2013/14. The Council's own resources to fund new capital schemes are limited. Against this background Officers have prepared a list of possible capital schemes to be considered for each portfolio. No

new schemes funded from council resources are proposed for Children & Young People's Services.

- 30 The Children & Young People's Services Capital Programme is largely funded via resources made available by the DCSF for strategic programmes of investment in school buildings. As these schemes are funded by grant or supported borrowing there is no direct impact on the Council's capital resources from their inclusion in the capital programme. The programme already includes schemes funded through these allocations up to 2010/11, the last year of currently available information. There are therefore no additions to the programme to be considered in this budget.

### **Standard charges for the use of Residential Homes and Foster Carers, Sharing Care, Adoption and Residence Order Weekly Allowances**

- 31 Annex 8 sets out the proposed level of charges to other local authorities for the use of services within the Children and Families portfolio for residential care homes. The annex also lists proposed foster care, sharing care, adoption, residence order and special guardianship weekly allowances for 2009/10.

#### Standard Weekly Charges For Residential Care Homes (Annex 8a)

- 32 A source of income for Children & Families is derived from charges to other local authorities for purchasing services e.g. North Yorkshire Social Services Department who purchase residential and day care places for individuals who continue to be their responsibility. Many of this group of people are either resident in, or regular users of, residential and non-residential services.
- 33 There is a requirement for the directorate to set these standard charges both to charge other authorities and to set the maximum charge payable by residents.

#### Minimum Payment For Foster Carers (Annex 8b)

- 34 A basic allowance is paid for each child/young person in a placement. Payments are calculated on a weekly basis according to the age of the child. The Government sets statutory minimum weekly allowances for foster carers. The weekly allowances set out at Annex 8b have all been increased by 2.5% or higher if necessary to match the national minimum levels. In practice this has led to rises of between 2.5% and 3.1%.
- 35 Foster carers are also paid a weekly carer's skill premium. These premiums are calculated with reference to an appraisal of the carer's skill level. It is proposed to increase these premiums by 2.5%.
- 36 The Placement Strategy for Looked After Children established a specialist scheme that enhances the recruitment and retention of foster carers, who look after young people with exceptional needs in relation to their emotional and behavioural difficulties or severe disability. Foster carers are specifically selected for the new scheme to be matched with specific young people. It is also proposed that the weekly carer fee for the care of the young people on this scheme be increased by 2.5%. This is incorporated into the shaded area at the foot of the lower table in Annex 8b.

Additional Foster Carers Weekly Allowances (Annex 8c)

- 37 In addition to the allowances detailed above further allowances are paid to foster carers. A further weeks allowance is payable for birthdays and Christmas, and a further three weeks allowance will be payable for holidays taken during the year. Additional allowances are shown in Annex 8c. Again it is proposed that the allowances are uplifted by 2.5%.

Weekly Adoption Allowances and Residence Order Allowances (Annex 8d)

- 38 A weekly allowance is not paid in all cases of adoption, only in certain financial circumstances, or when a disabled child is adopted or possibly to encourage the adopter to take a sibling of a child already adopted. To determine whether an allowance should be paid to an adopter a financial assessment is carried out, using the DCSF suggested assessment model.
- 39 A small number of children in our care are subject to residence orders that replaced custodianship in 1991. A residency order means that the birth parents retain parental responsibility but the carer gains parental rights. As with adoption, a financial assessment of the carer is undertaken to determine whether an allowance should be given.

Sharing Care & Sitting Service Allowances (Annex 8e)

- 40 Sharing care is provided for disabled children who attend a temporary carer on either a day care or overnight basis, in order to give the parent or regular carer a break. The sitting service provides for temporary carers to look after children in their own homes. It is proposed to increase sharing care and sitting service allowances by 2.5%. Annex 8e shows the revised allowances for 2009/10.

Special Guardianship Allowances (Annex 8f)

- 39 41 A Special Guardianship Order allows carers to gain parental responsibility and enables them to override the parental responsibility of others (such as the child's birth parent) in day-to-day matters. Under legislation, Special Guardians must be offered support services, including financial support, if requested, subject to the same financial assessment as adopters. The allowances for Special Guardians are set at the same rate as the Foster Care weekly allowances, however, an amount equivalent to the Child Benefit entitlement will be deducted from the allowance before it is paid. Annex 8f shows the revised allowances for 2009/10.

Rounding

- 42 The figures shown for all weekly allowances contained in Annex 8 have been rounded to the nearest figure in whole pence that can be divided exactly by 7. This is done so that the weekly allowances can easily be converted into daily amounts when processing payments.

**Consultation**

- 43 This paper forms part of the Council's budget consultation. The other streams being undertaken include a recently held public meeting where participants sat at tables



and tried to produce a balanced budget after considering growth and saving priorities, a leaflet circulated city wide with a fold-out return part and a web-based process.

- 44 In relation to the specific proposals within this report that affect schools, there have been regular reports to the Schools Forum and updates for headteachers as budget issues have developed. In addition the Schools Forum will meet on 30 January for a detailed consideration of the Schools Budget.

### **Options**

- 45 As part of the consultation process Members of EMAP are asked for their comments or alternative suggestions on the proposals shown in Annexes 2, 3, 5 and 7.

### **Analysis**

- 46 All the analysis is provided in the body of the report and the annexes.

### **Corporate Priorities**

- 47 The budget represents the opportunity to reprioritise resources towards corporate priority areas. In formulating savings and growth proposals the directorate has paid particular attention to the impact that each proposal will have on the delivery of corporate priorities.

### **Implications**

- 48 The implications are:
- Financial - The financial implications are dealt with in the body of the report.
  - Human Resources - Implications are identified against each of the individual savings and service pressure proposals listed in annexes 2 and 3 where appropriate. In summary though, the savings proposed in Annex 3 equate to the loss of 5.8 fte posts, although some of these are part time posts and a number are currently vacant. In addition some proposals may lead to reduced hours or changes to patterns of work. The service pressure proposals at Annex 2 include 0.5 fte of additional posts. Where requested HR has been involved in the development of the budget proposals and has worked with local managers to identify the HR implications of the proposals. HR implications will be managed in accordance with established council change management procedures.
  - Equalities - there are no equality implications to this report.
  - Legal - The standard weekly charges for residential care homes as shown in Annex 8a must be amended in line with the National Assistance Act 1948. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Financial Information Service book shows that “residents in accommodation managed by the local authority are expected to pay at the maximum, the ‘standard’ charge fixed by the local authority (section 22(2) of the 1948 Act), or where the resident satisfies the authority that he/she is unable to pay the standard fixed rate, a lower rate based upon the resident’s ability to pay.” The relevant items of legislation regarding the allowances paid to carers as shown in Annexes 8b to 8e are The

Foster Placement (Children) Regulations 1991 and The Adoption Support Services Regulations 2005.”

- Crime and Disorder - there are no specific crime and disorder implications to this report.
- Information Technology - there are no information technology implications to this report.
- Property - there are no property implications to this report.

### **Risk Management**

- 49 Key reporting mechanisms to Members on budget matters will continue to be through mid-year monitoring reports and the final Revenue Outturn report for the year. The format/timing of these reports has recently been considered by the Council's Management Team but as a minimum they will report on forecast out-turn compared to budgets and will also address the progress made on investments and savings included within the budgets.
- 50 The budget setting process always entails a degree of risk as managers attempt to assess known and uncertain future events. This year has demonstrated the difficulty of achieving this. As with any budget the key to mitigating risk is prompt monitoring and appropriate management control. As such updated figures and revised corrective actions will be monitored via Directorate Management Teams, Corporate Management Team and the monitor reports during the year.

### **Recommendations**

- 51 The Executive Member Advisory Panel is invited to consider whether the budget proposals are in line with the Council's priorities.
- 52 The Executive Member Advisory Panel is invited to provide comments on the budget proposals for savings and growth which have been prepared by Officers and contained in this report, which are intended to form part of the Council's budget to be considered by the Budget Executive on 26 February 2009.
- 53 The Executive Member Advisory Panel is invited to provide comments on the areas for consultation for the revenue budget contained in this report, which may form part of the Council's budget to be considered by the Budget Executive on 26 February 2009.
- 54 The Executive Member Advisory Panel is invited to provide comments on the capital proposals which have been prepared by Officers and contained in this report, which are intended to form part of the Council's budget to be considered by the Budget Executive on 26 February 2009.
- 55 The Executive Member is invited to consider whether the budget proposals are in line with the Council's priorities.

56 The Executive Member is asked to consider the budget proposals for consultation for Children & Young People's Services for 2009/10 contained in this report and listed below and provide comments to be submitted to the Budget Executive on 26 February 2009.

- 2009/10 Base Budget as set out in paragraphs 12 to 18
- Service Pressure Proposals as set out in Annex 2
- Savings Proposals as set out in Annex 3
- Fees and Charges as set out in Annex 4
- Other Revenue Budget Options for Consultation as set out in Annex 5
- Proposals for New Capital Schemes in Annex 7
- Residential Homes and Foster Carers, Sharing Care, Adoption and Residence Order Weekly Allowances as set out at Annex 8

Reason: As part of the consultation on the Children & Young People's Services budget for 2009/10.

<b>Contact Details</b>			
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		<b>Report Approved</b>	√
		<b>Date</b>	8 January 2009
<b>Specialist Implications Officer:</b> Jo Sheen, LCCS HR Manager, Tel: 01904 554518			
<b>Wards Affected:</b>		<b>All</b>	√
<b>For further information please contact the author of the report</b>			

**Annex 1 - 2008/09 Original Budgets**

**Annex 2 - Service Pressure Proposals**

**Annex 3 - Savings Proposals**

**Annex 4 - Fees & Charges Schedules**

**Annex 5 - Other Revenue Budget Options For Consultation**

**Annex 6 - The Existing Approved Capital Programme**

**Annex 7 - Options For New Capital Schemes**

**Annex 8 - Residential Homes, Foster Carers, Sharing Care, Adoption and Residence Order Weekly Allowances**

**Background Papers**

2009/10 Budget Files

Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement - December 2007

Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement 2008-11 – December 2007

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LEARNING, CULTURE AND CHILDREN'S SERVICESSERVICE PLANCHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - SUMMARY

<u>DETAILED EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>COST CENTRE EXPENDITURE</u>	
	2008/09 BUDGET £'000		2008/09 BUDGET £'000
EMPLOYEES	22,720	CHILDREN & FAMILIES	14,783
PREMISES	4,550	LIFELONG LEARNING & CULTURE	395
TRANSPORT	3,237	PARTNERSHIPS & EARLY INTERVENTION	4,835
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	15,064	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	7,659
MISCELLANEOUS		SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & STAFF DEVELOPMENT	4,521
- RECHARGES	7,279	SCHOOL FUNDING & CONTRACTS	83,375
- DELEGATED & DEVOLVED	92,926	DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT	(86,389)
- OTHER	3,990		
CAPITAL FINANCING	7,531		
<b>GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>157,297</b>		
INCOME	(128,117)		
<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>29,179</b>	<b>NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>29,179</b>

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**Children & Young People's Services - General Fund Service Pressure Proposals - 2009/10**

Brief Description	Net Cost		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b><u>CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES</u></b>			
<b><u>Children's Social Care</u></b>			
<b><u>CG01 - Legal Fees</u></b> An on-going overspend on legal fees due to an increase in the number of complex (i.e. expensive) court cases involving York children, together with a general increase in the cost of cases resulting from a national trend for courts to call in more expert witnesses.	50	50	50
<b><u>CG02 - Fostering Costs</u></b> The Looked After Children population continues to increase, from 166 at the end of 2007/08 to 194 at the end of the first quarter of 2008/09. Of these there are currently 130+ children placed with foster carers. This has led to more children being placed through expensive Independent Fostering Agencies as there are not enough places available with York foster carers.	70	70	70
<b><u>CG03 - External Placements</u></b> Based on all current and projected placements there is significant pressure on the on the external children's homes and residential special school placements budget for children with complex needs.	71	71	71
<b><u>CG04 - Transition Team Co-ordinator</u></b> To establish a permanent Co-ordinator of the newly formed multi agency transition team to manage the performance of the transition team and to ensure closer coordination of transitions for young disabled people. The £19k growth amount will fund half of this post with the other half being funded by HASS.	19	19	19

<b>Recurring Bids Total</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>210</b>
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**Children & Young People's Services - DSG Service Pressure Proposals - 2009/10**

Brief Description	Net Cost		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT &amp; STAFF DEVELOPMENT</b>			
<b><u>Behaviour Support Service</u></b> <u>CG05 - Behaviour Support Service - Demand Pressures</u> In setting the 3 year schools budget strategy, the Schools Forum have already agreed to provide an additional £50k for the service in 2009/10. This additional £140k reflects the current level of demand and expenditure in 2008/09 and projected forward. Further work being undertaken on a review of the Behaviour Support Service management structure may reduce this requirement in the future but is included as a separate savings proposal at Annex 3b.	140	140	140
<b><u>Traveller &amp; Ethnic Minority Support Service</u></b> <u>CG06 - Loss Of Grant Funding</u> Within the service a 0.5fte post is currently being funded by an external grant of £20k that ceases at 31 March 2009. Given the increasing pressures on this service it is considered vital that this post is retained after the grant funding has ceased.	20	20	20
<b>Recurring Bids Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>160</b>

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**Children & Young People's Services - General Fund Savings Proposals - 2009/10**

	Net Saving		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b><u>DIRECTORATE WIDE SAVINGS</u></b>			
<b><u>CS01 - Staff Vacancy Factor</u></b> Increase the vacancy factor on non-frontline staffing budgets by 2.0% (from the current 2.0% up to 4.0%)	150	150	150
<b><u>CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES</u></b>			
<b><u>Children's Social Care</u></b>			
<b><u>CS02 - Group Manager 0-10 Year Olds General Office Efficiencies</u></b> A review of budget headings shows that efficiency savings can be made to reflect small changes in activity levels and procedures which have not previously been reflected in budget setting.	22	22	22
<b><u>CS03 - Placement &amp; Disabilities Pay Protection</u></b> The requirement to make pay protection payments following the closure of a children's home some years ago has now ceased.	24	24	24
<b><u>CS04 - Placement &amp; Disabilities General Office Efficiencies</u></b> A review of budget headings shows that efficiency savings can be made to reflect small changes in activity levels and procedures which have not previously been reflected in budget setting.	7	7	7
<b><u>CS05 - Adoption Agency - Cancel Subscription</u></b> Based on the anticipated level of adoption activity, a saving can be made by cancelling the current agency subscription.	15	15	15
<b><u>CS06 - Sharing Care Co-ordinator - Delete 0.5 fte Post</u></b> Delete a 0.5 fte post that is currently vacant.	25	25	25
<b><u>CS07 - Adoption Allowances</u></b> Cease the payment of a small number of high cost discretionary allowances.	3	3	3
<b><u>CS08 - Children's Rights Service General Office Efficiencies</u></b> A review of budget headings shows that efficiency savings can be made to reflect small changes in activity levels and procedures which have not previously been reflected in budget setting.	6	6	6
<b><u>CS09 - Looked After Children IT Budget Reduction</u></b> This budget is used to fund access to computers for Looked After Children (LAC). The saving would reduce home access to PCs by LAC.	16	16	16
<b><u>CS10 - Sustainable Reduction in Number and costs of LAC</u></b> The aim is to deliver this by; a systematic approach to the reduction of Placement with Parent Regulations (PPRs); targeted prevention informed by recently commissioned research into the patterns and trends of high risk groups; the introduction of a permanency monitoring group to ensure that the care plans of those children in the system are expedited. All in the context of the national requirements set out in <i>Care Matters</i> to improve the quality of care and outcomes for those children and young people already in the system.	90	90	90
<b><u>CS11 - Sustainable Reduction in Number of Out Of City Placements</u></b> Reducing the reliance on this placement type in favour of enhanced and improved local services by; working with partners (PCT) to reach a shared responsibility for commissioning placements; greater support for children living at home with complex needs (Short Breaks); enhanced provision for EBD and supporting the sustainable return of young people back to York from external placements.	42	42	42
<b><u>CS12 - Integrated Children's Centres Efficiency Savings</u></b> Savings can be made on accommodation and administrative overheads as existing services are transferred in to the new children's centres.	50	50	50

	Net Saving		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b>Education Welfare Service</b>			
<u>CS13 - Education Welfare Service General Office Efficiencies</u> A review of budget headings shows that efficiency savings can be made to reflect small changes in activity levels and procedures which have not previously been reflected in budget setting.	3	3	3
<b>Special Educational Needs Service</b>			
<u>CS14 - Special Educational Needs Service General Office Efficiencies</u> A review of budget headings shows that efficiency savings can be made to reflect small changes in activity levels and procedures which have not previously been reflected in budget setting.	16	16	16
<b>LIFELONG LEARNING &amp; CULTURE</b>			
<b>Adult &amp; Community Education</b>			
<u>CS15 - Adult Education Centre Relocation</u> Savings from the rationalisation of administrative support following the relocation of some adult education provision to the Central Library from September 2009.	6	10	10
<u>CS16 - Residential Provision Full Cost Recovery</u> Cease to provide free provision to residential homes. This will mean either the participants paying the full cost, HASS paying the cost or the provision ceasing.	5	5	5
<u>CS17 - Registration Charges Increase</u> Increase the registration fee for non-accredited provision from £7 to £15	5	5	5
<b>Arts &amp; Culture</b>			
<u>CS18 - Musical Instruments Purchase Budget Reduction</u> The availability of funding for buying musical instruments within the Wider Opportunities grant means that it is possible to reduce the main instrument purchase budget without detriment to the service being provided.	4	4	4
<u>CS19 - Music Teachers' Salary Cost Reductions</u> A review of duties and responsibilities will allow some new appointments (due to regular staff turnover) to be made on non-qualified teacher salary rates.	14	14	14
<u>CS20 - Charges to Schools Increase</u> A 30% increase is proposed in charges levied to schools for project work.	12	12	12
<b>PARTNERSHIPS &amp; EARLY INTERVENTION</b>			
<b>Children's Trust Unit</b>			
<u>CS21 - CTU Office Efficiency Savings</u> A review of budget headings shows that efficiency savings can be made to reflect small changes in activity levels and procedures which have not previously been reflected in budget setting.	2	2	2
<b>Early Years &amp; Extended Schools</b>			
<u>CS22 - Pre-School Learning Alliance Service Level Agreement</u> To reduce the value of the Service Level Agreement with Pre-school Learning Alliance from £24,500 to £20,000	5	5	5
<b>Young People's Service</b>			
<u>CS23 - Administrative Support - Delete 1.0 fte Post</u> Delete a 1.0 fte post that is currently vacant.	15	15	15
<u>CS24 - Training Budget Reduction</u> Reduce the Youth Service training budget by 35%.	20	20	20
<u>CS25 - YorKash Fund Reduction</u> The YorKash Fund is currently made up of a £25k CYC base budget plus £90k and £55k from the Youth Opportunities Fund and the Youth Capital Fund respectively. As the external funding is confirmed until at least 31/3/2011, the £25k base budget could be removed without significant detriment.	25	25	25

	Net Saving		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b>RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>			
<b>Access Services</b>			
<u>CS26 - Access Officer Staffing Savings</u> Delete a 0.5 fte Access Officer post that is currently vacant.	10	10	10
<b>Finance</b>			
<u>CS27 - Finance Team Efficiencies</u> It is expected that the introduction of the new Financial Management System from April 2009 will streamline financial processes and remove the need for a number of manual workarounds that are currently in place. Although at this stage it is difficult to be precise on the level of savings achievable, this proposal assumes that the equivalent of a 0.5fte finance post could be saved from October 2009.	7	14	14
<u>CS28 - School Business Service Charges to Schools</u> A 5% increase in charges for the traded school business service plus £7k of additional business being generated. In addition an extra £10k should be deliverable from the school cashflow interest charges.	26	26	26
<u>CS29 - Central Support Service Charges to Schools</u> Increase the level of recharge for central support services to schools (HR, Payroll, Legal etc.) by 5%.	22	22	22
<b>ICT Client Services</b>			
<u>CS30 - ICT Client Recharge to Broadband</u> Increase the level of recharge of staff time to the Broadband Service. Currently £30k of the cost of the ICT Client Team is charged to broadband. This would increase the charge to £43k.	13	13	13
<u>CS31 - Schools Broadband Contract</u> A new corporate broadband contract is due to start early in 2009. The current cost model assumes a 2.5% increase in the charges made to schools. An additional 2.5% increase from April 2009 would generate a further £8k.	8	8	8
<b>Management Information Service</b>			
<u>CS32 - MIS Staffing Reduction</u> Reduce one post from term time only to 30 hours per week.	1	1	1
<u>CS33 - MIS Income Generation</u> Introduce new charges to schools for the provision of discretionary services.	5	5	5
<b>Planning &amp; Resources</b>			
<u>CS34 - Planning Officers Salary Recharge To Capital</u> An increased recharge of Planning Officers' time to the Children's Services Capital Programme. This is achievable due to the increased size of the programme over the following three years.	12	12	12
<b>Strategic Management</b>			
<u>CS35 - LCCS Development Fund</u> Reduce the fund by 50% to £25k. This would still leave sufficient budget to fund the graduate trainee post.	25	25	25
<b>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT &amp; STAFF DEVELOPMENT</b>			
<b>Educational Development Service</b>			
<u>CS36 - EDS Schools Buyback Service</u> A 5% increase in the charges made to schools for the EDS service.	4	4	4
<u>CS37 - External Consultants Budget Reduction</u> Reduce the budget for buying-in external consultancy by £50k. The School Improvement Service uses consultants to help vulnerable schools with self-evaluation, Ofsted preparation, and other specialist support from consultants who have a particular area of expertise.	50	50	50

	Net Saving		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b><u>CS38 - Beacon Status Costs</u></b> In 2009/10 and 2010/11 some Advisers time can be charged to the Beacon grant for work done on spreading best practice. A saving can be made by not back-filling this work and absorbing within the teams workload. It is then intended to carry out a review of the EDS structure during this period with the saving being delivered in future years by restructuring the team.	20	20	20
<b><u>CS39 - 14-19 Strategy Manager - Fund From DCSF Grant</u></b> There is currently a budget of £15k to fund the 14-19 strategy. This was kept to help fund the costs of the 14-19 Strategy Manager's post. However DCSF funding is now confirmed until the end of 2010/11 and can be used to fund this post. The position will then need to be reviewed if the funding is not continued.	15	15	15
<b><u>CS40 - School Development Grant Reprioritisation</u></b> Reduce spending in areas of service currently funded by the retained part of School Development Grant to enable this grant to support core EDS activity. This is possible as the scope of the retained grant has been widened. The main impact of this will be felt in schools as discretionary allocations of funding will be reduced.	85	85	85
<b><u>School Governance Service</u></b> <b><u>CS41 - Governance Buyback &amp; Clerking Service Charges Increase</u></b> A saving of £2k can be achieved by increasing the charges for the Governance buyback by 5%. In addition the charging scheme for the clerking service is currently under review and the new scheme will be designed to increase income by a further £1k above cost increases.	3	3	3
<b><u>Training &amp; Development Unit</u></b> <b><u>CS42 - Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) Training Budget</u></b> The majority of the NQT budget was transferred into the ISB in 2008/09 with a small amount retained centrally to support training. This saving would remove the training budget completely meaning that schools would have to pay directly for all of the training costs for their newly qualified teachers from their delegated budgets.	21	21	21
<b><u>CS43 - TDU Management Responsibilities</u></b> A saving could be made from mid 2009/10 by realigning responsibilities within the Training & Development Unit and Advisory Service. The equivalent of a 0.5fte post would be removed.	15	30	30
<b><u>SCHOOL FUNDING &amp; CONTRACTS</u></b>			
<b><u>School Contracts</u></b>			
<b><u>CS44 - PFI Residual Budget</u></b> Remove the small residual budget for additional costs outside of the contract.	4	4	4
<b><u>CS45 - Repair &amp; Maintenance Buyback</u></b> Remove the small deficit on the budget and make the buy back cost neutral.	1	1	1
<b>Recurring Savings Total</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>955</b>

**Children & Young People's Services - DSG Savings Proposals - 2009/10**

	Net Saving		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b><u>DIRECTORATE WIDE SAVINGS</u></b>			
<b><u>CS01 - Staff Vacancy Factor</u></b> Increase the vacancy factor on non-frontline staffing budgets by 2.0% (from the current 2.0% up to 4.0%)	30	30	30
<b><u>CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES</u></b>			
<b><u>Special Educational Needs Service</u></b>			
<b><u>CS11 - Sustainable Reduction in Number of Out Of City Placements</u></b> Reducing the reliance on this placement type in favour of enhanced and improved local services by; working with partners (PCT) to reach a shared responsibility for commissioning placements; greater support for children living at home with complex needs (Short Breaks); enhanced provision for EBD and supporting the sustainable return of young people back to York from external placements.	267	267	267
<b><u>CS46 - Limetrees CAMHS Teaching Income</u></b> Increased income from other LAs for CAMHS teaching at Limetrees from the current £8k pa to £20k pa. This proposal would move the service towards being more self-sufficient in that the income would pay for a greater proportion of the service provided.	12	12	12
<b><u>CS47 - Specialist Teaching Team General Efficiencies</u></b> A review of budget headings shows that efficiency savings can be made to reflect small changes in activity levels and procedures which have not previously been reflected in budget setting.	3	3	3
<b><u>CS48 - Speech &amp; Language Training Budget Reduction</u></b> A reduction in expenditure on training courses for TAs working with children with Speech & Language difficulties. This would mean the withdrawal of payments to schools for locum cover for TAs attending training.	4	4	4
<b><u>PARTNERSHIPS &amp; EARLY INTERVENTION</u></b>			
<b><u>Early Years &amp; Extended Schools</u></b>			
<b><u>CS49 - Childminding Service Grants</u></b> A reduction in the total amount allocated to support new starters in childminding from £12,000 to £11,000	1	1	1
<b><u>CS50 - Early Years Sustainability &amp; New Places Grant</u></b> A reduction in the total amount allocated to supporting early years and play settings that may be facing sustainability issues from £45,000 to £40,000	5	5	5
<b><u>CS51 - Family Information Service Marketing Budget Reduction</u></b> A reduction in the amount of money spent by the Family Information Service on advertising.	2	2	2
<b><u>CS52 - National Childminders Association Service Level Agreement</u></b> To reduce the amount for the Service Level Agreement from £39,000 to £29,000 per year.	7	10	10
<b><u>CS53 - York Community Accountancy Scheme Service Level Agreement</u></b> To reduce value of the Service Level Agreement with York Community Accountancy Scheme (YCAS) from £21,500 to £11,000 per year.	8	11	11
<b><u>CS54 - Library Service Contribution</u></b> Cease paying a grant to the Library Service which is used to support the Books for Babies initiative.	14	14	14
<b><u>CS55 - Registration Pathways Officer Post Reduction</u></b> To reduce the Registration Pathways Officer post from 4 days a week to 3 days a week.	5	5	5

	Net Saving		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<u>CS56 - Early Years Staffing Efficiencies</u> An anticipated saving to be generated from the review of Early Years and Integrated Children's Centres staffing structures.	30	30	30
<u>CS57 - Toy Library Grant Reduction</u> This grant funding is available to new and existing toy libraries to enhance provision and is specifically targeted at new toys or equipment.	2	2	2
<b><u>SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT &amp; STAFF DEVELOPMENT</u></b>			
<b><u>Behaviour Support Service</u></b>			
<u>CS58 - Behaviour Support Service Restructure</u> As part of the planned restructuring of the Danesgate Site and the Behaviour Support Service a saving of £38k on existing budgets is expected to be made.	38	38	38
<b><u>SCHOOL FUNDING &amp; CONTRACTS</u></b>			
<b><u>School Asset Rents &amp; Rates</u></b>			
<u>CS59 - Venture Fund Repayments</u> A number of venture fund loans taken out in previous years to fund building works to facilitate primary school mergers come to an end over the next two years.	23	144	144
<b>Recurring Savings Total</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>578</b>



**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - FEES & CHARGES 2009/10**

		<b>CURRENT CHARGE 2008/09</b>	<b>PLUS 2.5% INCREASE</b>	<b>PROPOSED CHARGE 2009/10</b>	<b>PROPOSED PERCENTAGE INCREASE</b>
<b><u>YOUTH SERVICE</u></b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>HIRE OF YOUTH CENTRE</b>					
	<b>Hourly Charge</b>				
	Youth Groups with similar aims to Youth Service	2.40	2.46	2.50	4.17%
	Other Voluntary and Community Groups	4.70	4.82	4.95	5.32%
	Private Bookings	9.50	9.74	10.00	5.26%
<b>ZOO SKATE PARK</b>					
	Per Session	1.65	1.69	1.75	6.06%

**Youth Service Fees & Charges**

			Budget 2007/08	Increase	Proposed Budget 2008/09
Area 1 Moor Lane Premises	H642/6301	Room Hire	3,640	180	3,820
Area 2 Kingswater Premises	H643/6301	Room Hire	1,030	50	1,080
Area 4 68 Centre Premises	H645/6301	Room Hire	1,030	50	1,080
Temporary Premises	H647/6301	Room Hire	4,120	210	4,330
Duke of Edinburgh	H672/6300	Fees & Charges	4,210	210	4,420
Zoo Skate Park	H685/6300	Fees & Charges	6,640	330	6,970
Zoo Skate Park	H685/6204	Sales	300	20	320
			<u>20,970</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>22,020</u>

**Children & Young People's Services - General Fund Savings for Consultation - 2009/10**

	Net Saving		
	2009/10 £000	2010/11 £000	2011/12 £000
<b><u>CHILDREN &amp; FAMILIES</u></b>			
<b><u>Children's Social Care</u></b>			
<u>CS60 - Contribution to Youth Offending Team</u>			
Reduce the contribution from the Children and Families Service by £17k.	17	17	17
<b><u>PARTNERSHIPS &amp; EARLY INTERVENTION</u></b>			
<b><u>Young People's Service</u></b>			
<u>CS61 - Voluntary Sector Service Agreements</u>			
Reduce Young People's Service Voluntary Sector Service Agreements budget. The service commissions youth work provision from 7 voluntary sector providers, mainly in rural parts of the city.	30	30	30
<b>Recurring Savings Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>

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**Capital Budget - 2008/09 to 2010, . .**

	2008/09 Revised Budget £000	2009/10 Revised Budget £000	2010/11 Revised Budget £000	Gross Capital Programme To be Funded £000
<b><u>Gross Expenditure by Department</u></b>				
Children's Services	33,145	30,848	20,181	84,174
City Strategy (P&T)	8,658	7,701	7,203	23,562
City Strategy (Admin Accom)	2,985	5,926	10,187	19,098
City Strategy (Econ Devt)	158	0	0	158
Housing	8,967	8,451	8,619	26,037
Leisure & Heritage	3,857	5,244	1,100	10,201
Neighbourhood Services	634	686	133	1,453
Chief Execs	866	550	200	1,616
Resources	885	0	0	885
Social Services	282	397	331	1,010
Miscellaneous	100	0	0	100
<b>Total by Department</b>	<b>60,537</b>	<b>59,803</b>	<b>47,954</b>	<b>168,294</b>
<b><u>Total External Funds by Department</u></b>				
Children's Services	26,910	30,666	20,181	77,757
City Strategy (P&T)	6,903	6,534	6,286	19,723
City Strategy (Admin Accom)	0	0	7,796	7,796
City Strategy (Econ Devt)	0	0	0	0
Housing	8,693	8,451	8,619	25,763
Leisure & Heritage	1,807	493	0	2,300
Neighbourhood Services	429	361	133	923
Chief Execs	18	250	0	268
Resources	885	0	0	885
Social Services	51	92	51	194
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0
<b>Total External Funds by Department</b>	<b>45,696</b>	<b>46,847</b>	<b>43,066</b>	<b>135,609</b>
<b><u>Total CYC Funding required by Department</u></b>				
Children's Services	6,235	182	0	6,417
City Strategy (P&T)	1,755	1,167	917	3,839
City Strategy (Admin Accom)	2,985	5,926	2,391	11,302
City Strategy (Econ Devt)	158	0	0	158
Housing	274	0	0	274
Leisure & Heritage	2,050	4,751	1,100	7,901
Neighbourhood Services	205	325	0	530
Chief Execs	848	300	200	1,348
Resources	0	0	0	0
Social Services	231	305	280	816
Miscellaneous	100	0	0	100
<b>Total Capital Receipt Funding required</b>	<b>14,841</b>	<b>12,956</b>	<b>4,888</b>	<b>32,685</b>

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**Capital Budget - 2009/10 to 2013/14**

	2009/10 Revised Budget £000	Growth	2010/11 Revised Budget £000	Growth	2011/12 Revised Budget £000	Growth	2012/13 Revised Budget £000	Growth	2013/14 Revised Budget £000	Growth	Gross Capital Programme To be Funded £000	Receipts Growth
<b>Children's Services</b>												
<b>NDS Devolved Capital</b>	2,275	0	2,275	0							4,550	0
- External Funding	2,275	0	2,275	0							4,550	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Harnessing Technology</b>	523	0	528	0							1,051	0
- External Funding	523	0	528	0							1,051	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Targeted Capital Fund 14-19 Diploma</b>	1,750	0	5,500	0							7,250	0
- External Funding	1,750	0	5,500	0							7,250	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>NDS Modernisation</b>	1,692	0	2,693	0							4,385	0
- External Funding	1,692	0	2,693	0							4,385	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Schools Access Initiative</b>	288	0	288	0							576	0
- External Funding	288	0	288	0							576	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Sure Start</b>	1,459	0	1,059	0							2,518	0
- External Funding	1,459	0	1,059	0							2,518	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Westside Review - Oaklands / York High</b>	1,066	0	0	0							1,066	0
- External Funding	884	0	0	0							884	0
- Cost to City	182	0	0	0							182	0
<b>Joseph Rowntree One School Pathfinder</b>	17,430	0	1,574	0							19,004	0
- External Funding	17,430	0	1,574	0							19,004	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Extended Schools</b>	265	0	137	0							402	0
- External Funding	265	0	137	0							402	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Fulford School Science Labs and Classrooms</b>	266	0	0	0							266	0
- External Funding	266	0	0	0							266	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Youth Capital Fund</b>	70	0	70	0							140	0
- External Funding	70	0	70	0							140	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Primary School Strategic Programme</b>	3,000	0	5,378	0							8,378	0
- External Funding	3,000	0	5,378	0							8,378	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Integrated Children's Centres</b>	85	0	0	0							85	0
- External Funding	85	0	0	0							85	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>Children's Centres Phase 3</b>	679	0	679	0							1,358	0
- External Funding	679	0	679	0							1,358	0
- Cost to City	0	0	0	0							0	0
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE</b>	30,848	0	20,181	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	51,029	0
Less :External Funding	30,666	0	20,181	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50,847	0
<b>COST TO CITY OF YORK</b>	182	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	182	0

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**STANDARD CHARGES FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES**

<b>Type of Service</b>		<b>Current Weekly Charge 2008/09 £</b>	<b>Proposed Weekly Charge 2009/10 £</b>
<b>I.</b>	<b>Residential Homes</b>		
	Residential Homes for Children with Learning Disabilities (The Glen)	2,661.89	2,728.44
	Residential Home for Children (19 Wenlock Terrace)	2,652.53	2,718.84

**FOSTER CARE ALLOWANCES**  
**PAYABLE FROM 5 APRIL 2009**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Weekly Allowance 2008/09 £</b>	<b>Proposed Weekly Allowance 2009/10 £</b>
0-4	£105.00	£108.01
5-10	£116.06	£119.00
11-15	£133.00	£137.06
16-17	£162.75	£166.74

**Skills Premium**

<b>Skill Level</b>	<b>Current Weekly Allowance 2008/09 £</b>	<b>Proposed Weekly Allowance 2009/10 £</b>
2	28.82	29.54
3	57.63	59.07
4	115.26	118.14
Teenagers with emotional or behavioural difficulties/severely disabled children (Specific scheme)	332.36	340.62

**ADDITIONAL FOSTER CARERS ALLOWANCES**  
**PAYABLE FROM 5 APRIL 2009**

	Current Allowance 2008/09 £	Proposed Allowance 2009/10 £
Children attending Boarding School	50% of scale allowance during term time	
Children in hospital or otherwise unexpectedly absent	First four weeks - full scale allowance	
Children unemployed on DSS allowance	Approved weekly allowance less prevailing	
Children who are working	The foster parents of working children will have their allowance reduced by the amount the child contributes towards his/her keep. The amount being subject to negotiation between the foster parents, the child and the social worker	
School Clothing Grants:		
Primary School	Up to 89.42	Up to 91.66
Secondary School	Up to 187.74	Up to 192.43
On Starting Employment Grant	Up to 377.65	Up to 387.09
Christmas and Birthday Allowance	1 x weekly rate	
Holiday Allowance	Up to 3 x weekly rate	
Initial Clothing/Placement Allowance	Up to 5 x weekly rate	
Miscellaneous Allowance	Increase as other allowances by 2.5%	
Foster Carer Mileage Rate	36.5p per mile	37.4p per mile

**ADOPTION ALLOWANCES**  
**RESIDENCE ORDER ALLOWANCES**  
**PAYABLE FROM 5 APRIL 2009**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Weekly Allowance 2008/09 £</b>	<b>Proposed Weekly Allowance 2009/10 £</b>
0-4	58.31	59.78
5-10	71.19	72.94
11-12	81.06	83.09
13-15	87.22	89.39
16+	116.48	119.42

**SHARING CARE ALLOWANCES**  
**SITTING SERVICE ALLOWANCES**  
**PAYABLE FROM 5 APRIL 2009**

Time Band	Standard Sharing Care Proposed Weekly Allowance 2008/09 £	Standard Sharing Care Proposed Weekly Allowance 2009/10 £	Allowance paid to carer of child with additional health needs (i.e.std allow. + 70% enhancement) Proposed Weekly Allowance 2009/10 £	Allowance paid to carer of child with more complex care needs (i.e.std allow. + 60% enhancement) Proposed Weekly Allowance 2009/10 £
0-4 hours	16.04	16.44	27.95 (i.e. 16.44 + 11.51)	26.30 (i.e. 16.44 + 9.86)
4-8 hours	23.99	24.59	41.80 (i.e. 24.59 + 17.21)	39.34 (i.e. 24.59 + 14.75)
8-12 hours	32.01	32.81	55.78 (i.e. 32.81 + 22.97)	52.50 (i.e. 32.81 + 19.69)
12-24 hours	47.98	49.18	83.61 (i.e. 49.18 + 34.43)	78.69 (i.e. 49.18 + 29.51)

**SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ALLOWANCES**  
**PAYABLE FROM 5 APRIL 2008**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Weekly Allowance 2008-09 £</b>	<b>Proposed Weekly Allowance 2009-10 £</b>
0-4	£105.00	£108.01
5-10	£116.06	£119.00
11-15	£133.00	£137.06
16-17	£162.75	£166.74

Note: An amount equivalent to the Child Benefit entitlement will be deducted from this allowance.



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Meeting of the Executive Member for Children's Services and Advisory Panel

19 January 2008

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

## **ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT 2008**

### **Summary**

1. This report is presented to Executive Member and Advisory Panel to brief them on the outcome of York's Annual Performance Assessment for 2008.

### **Background**

2. To clarify, the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) is the nationally determined Ofsted process by which a judgement is made on the quality of local children and young people's services. The judgement formed contributes to the overall council rating each year. Through the APA process authorities receive a judgement on each of the 5 Outcomes, the contribution of the council's children's services in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people and finally the council's capacity to improve its services for children and young people
3. In April 2007 Ofsted announced changes to the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) process with a removal of the separate self-evaluation documentation and an opportunity of a refresh of the statutory Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) being used to inform the APA discussion. As a result York produced such a refresh document in June 2007. For 2008 the expectation on the authority was somewhat different given that we had been through the major Joint Area Review process in the same year. However, we still took the opportunity to produce an additional insert for our refreshed plan which was submitted to Ofsted in June 2008.

### **Consultation**

4. As part of the APA process there was considerable consultation activity. Ofsted were armed with feedback from key organisations eg Government Office, National Strategies, Youth Justice Board etc. In addition they had undertaken Tellus surveys. Tellus is an on-line survey that gathers the views of children and young people. Until recently, the Tellus survey has been part of the joint area review process. However, in 2007, Ofsted extended to an enhanced Tellus survey as part of the annual performance assessment. The

survey asks children and young people questions about their satisfaction with services (including aspects of their school life) and questions relating to the five Every Child Matters outcomes, including issues like healthy eating, participation in positive activities and safety. Ofsted believe the survey can offer statistically representative data, national benchmarks and statistical neighbour comparisons that other isolated local and/or qualitative approaches may not provide.

## **Options**

5. This is not a paper which is able to provide members with specific options.

## **Analysis**

6. The December 2008 APA formal letter of feedback is attached at Annex 1. This represents a further improvement from last year and is the best possible result an authority can achieve. The performance was only matched by 2 other authorities in the country. Nationally, the 2008 APA has seen some reductions in overall performance and attached at Annex 2 is a copy of a press release from Ofsted describing overall changes. The performance feedback received will ensure the best possible contribution from this area of activity to the overall performance rating of the council. Staff within the service, across partners and young people themselves should be congratulated for their success in improving outcomes for the children and young people of York. The few areas for improvement identified have either been already resolved or will be included in service plan priorities for 2009.

## **Corporate Priorities**

10. The feedback from the APA provides strong evidence of progress against corporate priorities as detailed in the corporate strategy. Specifically the feedback demonstrates progress to
  - Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city
  - Improve our focus on the needs of customers and residents in designing and providing services
  - Improve leadership at all levels to provide clear, consistent direction to the organisation
  - Improve the way the council and its partners work together to deliver better services for the people who live in York
  - Increase people's skills and knowledge to improve future employment prospects

## **Implications**

11. Given the briefing nature of this report it does not carry specific financial, HR, equalities, legal, crime and disorder, IT or property implications.



## Risk Management

12. Poor or deteriorating assessed performance as part of an inspection process carries with it considerable risks. It undermines the confidence of local people in accessing services or seeking advice, it demoralises the workforce and makes recruitment an even greater challenge and it weakens the overall reputation of the council.

## Recommendations

13. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to note and comment on the outcome of the 2008 Annual Performance Assessment of children and young peoples services in York.

Reason: To inform Members of the outcome of the Annual Performance Assessment.

## Contact Details

### Author:

**Author's name** Peter Dwyer

**Title** Director

**Dept Name** Learning, Culture and Children's Services

*Tel No.01904 554200*

### Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Peter Dwyer Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

**Report Approved**

**Date** 16 December 2008

**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:** None

## Annexes

**Annex 1: APA letter 2008**

**Annex 2: Ofsted Press Release 16 December 2008**

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17 December 2008

Mr Pete Dwyer  
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services  
City of York Council  
Mill House  
North Street  
York  
YO1 6JD

Dear Mr Dwyer

## **Annual performance assessment of services for children and young people in the City of York Council 2008**

This letter summarises the findings of the 2008 annual performance assessment (APA) for your council. The evaluations and judgements in the letter draw on a range of data and information which covers the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008. As you know, the APA is not based on an inspection of your services and, therefore, can only provide a snapshot based on the evidence considered. As such, I am grateful to you for assuring the quality of the data provided.

Performance is judged on a four point scale as detailed in the handbook. I should emphasise that the grades awarded are based on an overall 'best fit' model. For instance, an outstanding judgement of Grade 4 reflects that overall most aspects, but not necessarily all, of the services in the area are working very well. We know that one of the features of outstanding provision is the drive for greater improvement and no council would suggest, and nor would Ofsted, that a judgement of outstanding indicates that everything is perfect. Similarly within a judgement of inadequate overall, Grade 1, there could be some aspects of the overall service that are adequate or even good. Judgements are made in a rounded way, balancing all of the evidence and giving due consideration to outcomes, local and national contexts, priorities and decision-making.



The following table sets out the grades awarded for performance in 2008.

<b>Assessment judgement area</b>	<b>APA grade</b>
Overall effectiveness of children's services	4
Being healthy	4
Staying safe	4
Enjoying and achieving	4
Making a positive contribution	4
Achieving economic well-being	4
Capacity to improve, including the management of services for children and young people	4

*Inspectors make judgements based on the following scale  
4: outstanding/excellent; 3: good; 2: adequate; 1: inadequate*

## **Overall effectiveness of children's services**

## **Grade 4**

The City of York Council consistently delivers outstanding services. The council has made good progress in responding to the recommendations made in the 2007 APA and JAR report published in June 2008.

The council has built on significant achievements to further its outstanding provision. It has maintained its level of outcomes for enjoying and achieving, staying safe, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well-being. Of particular note are: the continued upward trend in learners' educational attainment across all key stages, when figures are already above national average; the overall quality of childcare and the improvement in young children's development; the quality of the schools; and the preparation for young people for adult life, with nearly all young people leaving school entering further employment, education or training.

The council accords a high priority to looked after children and young people, with notable success in securing and supporting stable, longer-term placements. The recent JAR inspection judged that inclusion services in schools were excellent.

Since the 2007 APA the council and its partners have further improved the outcomes for children and young people with respect to being healthy. For example, the council has worked hard to achieve some reduction in the rates of teenage pregnancy, though for 16- to 18-year-olds this remains an aspect to target. The council is ranked highly nationally for its commitment and success in the Healthy School standard.

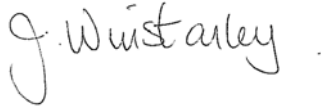
The council's capacity to improve is outstanding. The leadership team, new at the time of the 2007 APA, have shown that they can deliver on their vision. They have clear priorities for continued improvement, established through extensive consultation, and enjoy strong partnerships and support to realise these. The council represents very good value for money.

The council's analysis of its strengths and areas for development is consistent with the evidence. There are no additional recommendations to make as a result of the APA.

The children's services grade is the performance rating for the purpose of section 138 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. It will also provide the score for the children and young people service block in the comprehensive performance assessment to be published by the Audit Commission.

We are grateful for the information you provided as part of this process and for the time given by you and your colleagues in preparing for the assessment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Juliet Winstanley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Juliet Winstanley  
Divisional Manager, Local Services Inspection

## Major strengths and important weaknesses

Major strengths	Important weaknesses and areas for development
<p><b>Being healthy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The 6th best performing council in the country in relation to the Healthy Schools initiative, reflecting the high priority given by the council.</li> <li>▪ An excellent child and adolescent mental health service, targeting the most vulnerable young people, whilst also delivering preventive initiatives.</li> <li>▪ The strategic planning and coordination of services for children and young people with learning disabilities and/or difficulties.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Being healthy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Despite good improvements this year the rate of conceptions for 16–18 year-olds is high. The actual numbers involved are, however, low.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Staying safe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The planning and consistent delivery of permanent longer term placements for looked after children and young people.</li> <li>▪ The very high rates of stable family care placements for looked after children and the good support provided for them.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Staying safe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The timeliness of reviews of looked after children and young people, at 83%, is below those of statistical neighbours and the national average. The actual reviews were recognised in the JAR as being of high quality and well-attended.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Enjoying and achieving</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The overall quality of childcare and the improvement in young children's development, as measured by the Foundation Stage profile.</li> <li>▪ Above average attainment in schools at all key stages and a continuing trend of improvement.</li> <li>▪ Excellent school improvement and inclusion services, as noted in the JAR, with only one school in a category of concern.</li> <li>▪ The overall effectiveness of schools, with most judged good or better on inspection.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Enjoying and achieving</b></p>

<p><b>Making a positive contribution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consultation with and active encouragement of children and young people, including those with learning difficulties or disabilities, to become involved in the planning of services.</li> <li>▪ Strong systems to help prevent first time offending of children and young people, through engagement with hard to reach and vulnerable groups.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Making a positive contribution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Low attendance at school and instances of re-offending of a very small group of young people in care.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Achieving economic well-being</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strong record of ensuring that all young people leaving school enter further education, employment or training, with less than 4% failing to do so – well below the national average.</li> <li>▪ As identified in the JAR there is good support to help young people’s transition to adult life.</li> <li>▪ Clear strategy for the 14–19 curriculum, including a good range of accredited Diplomas.</li> <li>▪ High success rates in Level 3 qualifications, and nearly 5% better than statistical neighbours and the national average.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Achieving economic well-being</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Low work-based learning success rates for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Capacity to improve including the management of children’s services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shared vision and ambition, with clear priorities for continued improvement, strong partnership working and a high priority to children in care and young people.</li> <li>▪ Substantial and demonstrable improvement on the outcomes for children and young people.</li> <li>▪ Improved health outcomes.</li> <li>▪ Services that represent very good value for money.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Capacity to improve including the management of children’s services</b></p>



**ANNEX 2**

## **Ofsted publishes 2008 Annual Performance Assessments**

Ofsted today publishes the outcomes of the 2008 Annual Performance Assessments (APAs) conducted across 147 local authorities in England.

The APAs provide a broad overview of every council's performance in relation to children's services, including education, social care and health. Ofsted's evaluations and judgements are drawn from a council's self assessment, performance data, the views of the local Government Office, assessments by the Youth Justice Board and Healthcare Commission briefings, key data from local inspections and Joint Area Reviews, and the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

As well as overall grades for children's services and a council's capacity to improve, the APA also uses the above information to award grades against the five 'Every Child Matters' outcome areas – being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution, and achieving economic well-being.

This year, of the 147 councils receiving an APA that are published today, 73% have been judged good or outstanding in the contribution they make to improving services overall for children and young people. This is a decrease on last year (78%) but confirms the good work of the vast majority of English councils in improving outcomes for children.

However, Ofsted has also judged four councils inadequate overall this year. None was inadequate overall in 2007, so this is a cause for concern. Eight have been assessed as inadequate for the 'staying safe' outcome area, compared to four last year.

Commenting on the APAs, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector Christine Gilbert said: "Many local authorities continue to work hard to improve the services that they provide for children and young people. We see significant achievements across children's services and those involved in doing difficult work in complex circumstances can be pleased about their achievements. I know they are not complacent and will strive to do better still for children and young people.

"However, I am concerned that some services provided for the most vulnerable children and young people remain inadequate. Where this has been found in the APA, we have clearly identified where improvements are needed.

"We would expect those working in children's services to address these issues as an urgent priority with support from their local Government Office. We will be inspecting next year to ensure they make good progress."

**ANNEX 2**

The following table provides a breakdown of the number of councils achieving each grade in the 2008 APA:

	Grade 1: Inadequate	Grade 2: Adequate	Grade 3: Good	Grade 4: Outstanding
Children's Services	4	35	99	9
Capacity to improve	4	32	78	33
<b>Every Child Matters outcome areas</b>				
Being healthy	2	31	96	18
Staying safe	8	39	83	17
Enjoying & achieving	5	37	92	13
Positive contribution	0	12	98	37
Economic wellbeing	3	27	100	17

There have been some real strengths emerging across children's services. For example:

- The proportion of young people nationally achieving five or more GCSE grades A\* to C or the equivalent continues to rise
- The number of first-time entrants to the youth justice system is lower than in 2007
- There has been a dramatic rise in the number of children with complex needs benefiting from a core assessment (leading to plans designed to ensure that they receive all the services they need to live safely and successfully)
- More looked after children are now fostered or adopted in families rather than placed in a children's home
- A 10% increase in the number of young people completing apprenticeships since last year.

Across all the APAs this year, some of the areas for improvement identified include:

- Increasing the number of looked after children allocated a named social worker
- Improving the stability of long term placements
- Reducing the number of repeat referrals to children's services
- Working to reduce the incidence of teenage pregnancy
- Improving the proportion of young offenders in education, employment and training.

Christine Gilbert concluded: "These APAs provide a snap-shot of how well local authority children's services - including education, social care and health – performed in 2007/08 and they are useful to identify trends and highlight issues that local authorities need to address. However, we recognise that data alone cannot provide a full enough picture of performance and local authorities should use the APA reports to improve practice on the ground.

## ANNEX 2

“For those judged to be good or even outstanding, whilst this reflects that overall services are working well, it does not mean that things are perfect. One of the features of outstanding provision is the drive for greater improvement. I would call on all local authorities, whatever their grade, to use their APA reports to drive up standards.”

From next year, APAs will be replaced by a new inspection system – the Comprehensive Area Assessment – that will ensure a stronger focus on front-line practice, including annual unannounced inspection visits in every local authority to complement a three year more intensive programme of inspection. These will be used to bring forward full inspections where there are concerns about the welfare and safeguarding of children.

### ***Notes for Editors***

1. Ofsted has undertaken 150 Annual Performance Assessments of local authorities. The results of 147 of those assessments are being published today. Three local authorities are currently contesting their grades.
2. The 2008 assessment in each council was undertaken by two Ofsted inspectors with a background in education and social care.
3. Judgements relate to:
  - the council’s children’s services overall and the specific contributions they make to improving outcomes for children and young people
  - the contribution that these services make towards improving each of the five Every Child Matters outcome areas (being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution, and achieving economic well-being)
  - the council’s capacity to further improve these services.
4. The evaluations and judgements in the APAs draw on a range of data and information which covers the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 and data from local inspections carried out between 1 April 2007-31 July 2008.
5. The grade awarded for the council’s contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people provides the grade for the children’s and young people’s service block of the comprehensive performance assessment (CPA) in 2008.
6. Annual performance assessments are an integral element of the improvement cycle for performance-managing councils and their strategic partners. Not only are they, of themselves, a vehicle to drive change, they also give a position statement for use by the DCSF and Government Office children’s services advisers in annual priorities meetings with councils and in support and challenge processes.

**ANNEX 2**

7. All judgements are made on the following four-point scale:

Grade	Descriptor
Grade 4: A service that delivers well above minimum requirements for users	A service that delivers well above minimum requirements for children and young people, is innovative and cost-effective, and fully contributes to raising expectations and the achievement of wider outcomes for the community.
Grade 3: A service that consistently delivers above minimum requirements for users	A service that consistently delivers above minimum requirements for children and young people, has some innovative practice, and is increasingly cost-effective whilst making contributions to wider outcomes for the community.
Grade 2: A service that delivers only minimum requirements for users	A service that delivers only minimum requirements for children and young people, but is not demonstrably cost-effective nor contributes significantly to wider outcomes for the community.
Grade 1: A service that does not deliver minimum requirements for users	A service that does not deliver minimum requirements for children and young people, is not cost-effective and makes little or no contribution to wider outcomes for the community.

8. The following range of supporting evidence, based on information already in the public domain or previously shared with councils, was considered:

- data and performance indicators
- the council's self assessment or review of their children and young people plan
- evidence from recent inspections of schools and other settings or providers and, where available, from inspections of services, such as the youth offending team
- inspection evidence from the Audit Commission and Ofsted
- briefings and background information from the Department for Children, Schools and Families, the Healthcare Commission, the Youth Justice Board and the Audit Commission.

9. This year there are three local authorities graded overall as outstanding for children's services: Gateshead; Kensington and Chelsea; and York. There are four local authorities graded as inadequate overall for children's services: Doncaster; Haringey; Milton Keynes and Surrey. Eight local authorities have been assessed as inadequate for the 'staying safe' outcome area: Birmingham; Doncaster; Essex; Haringey; Reading; Surrey; West Sussex; and Wokingham.

10. Ofsted is required under Section 138 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to undertake an annual inspection.



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## **Meeting of Executive Member Advisory Panel for Children & Young People's Services**

21 January 2008

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

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

### **Summary**

1. The report attached as Annex A provides members and the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority with details of the work of the City of York Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) from January to December 2008.

### **Background**

2. 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. The SACRE produces an annual report which describes its membership and activities during the year.

### **Consultation**

3. Not applicable to the annual report of the SACRE

### **Options**

4. Not applicable to the annual report of the SACRE

### **Analysis**

5. Not applicable to the annual report of the SACRE

### **Corporate Priorities**

6. The work of the SACRE contributes to the following priorities of the Council:

Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city.

Increase people's skills and knowledge to improve future employment prospects.

### Implications

7. There are no known financial, legal, human resources or equalities implications arising from the annual report of SACRE.

### Risk Management

8. In compliance with the Councils risk management strategy. There are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

### Recommendations

9. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to note the Annual Report of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education.

Reason; Members of SACRE have requested that the annual report be presented to EMAP.

### Contact Details

**Author:**

Sue Foster  
Senior Education Adviser

**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

Pete Dwyer  
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Tel No. 55(3034)

**Report Approved**

**Date** 07 January 2008

Specialist Implications - None

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

**All**

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

**Background Papers:** None

### Annex A

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



December 2008

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

**Summary**

This report provides members and QCA with details of the work of the City of York Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) from January to December 2008.

**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.

**2. Membership**

The people who serve on SACREs are invited to do so by the Director of Learning Culture and Children's Services 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 the City of York Council are Councillors:-**

Carol Runciman  
Christina Funnell  
Paul Firth (from April 2008)  
Keith Aspden (until March 2008)  
Roger Pierce

**Representing the Church of England:-**

David Sellick  
Julia Fletcher  
Olive Wordsworth (until March 2008)

**Representing Other Denominations / Faith Communities:-**

Sr Mary Walmsley (Roman Catholic)  
Ann M Vaughan (Methodist)  
Sarah Allen (Religious Society of Friends) (Vice Chair)

Robert Huey (Salvation Army) (until May 2008) Sharen Furlong from  
December 2008  
Daryoush Mazloum (York Baha'i Community)

**Representing Teachers:-**

Jane Atkinson (until April 2007)  
Jane Stinson

**Co-opted:-**

Mick Phythian (Humanist; Chair)  
Roderic Vassie (Muslim) (until March 2008)  
Suraya Lloyd (Muslim) (from May 2008)  
Marlene Sender (Jewish)  
Shabana Jabbar (Head of RE, York High)

**In attendance:-**

Sue Foster (Senior Education Development Adviser)  
Angela Instone (Clerk) (until August 2008)  
Anna Lewis (York CollegeTertiary)

### **3. Religious Education**

The City of York SACRE was established during the autumn term 1996 and held its first meeting on 15 January 1997. At this meeting, members of SACRE agreed unanimously to adopt the North Yorkshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. In November 2002, following the statutory quinquennial review the LA accepted SACRE's recommendation to adopt the recent East Riding Agreed Syllabus, with suitable modifications appropriate for the City of York. The Agreed Syllabus is now established across all schools in the LA. The SACRE is required every 5 years to has set up an Agreed Syllabus Conference to review the current syllabus. This has been done and the Agreed Syllabus Conference is currently working on the revisions.

### **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 from 2005 and the absence of further guidance, the City of York SACRE has compiled and published guidance to support Collective Worship in schools in the City.

### **5. 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 reports from the Senior Education Development Adviser, with responsibility for RE and Collective Worship, covering such topics as:-

- Support for RE subject leaders through the primary and secondary Curriculum Support Groups as they work together to implement the Syllabus.



- RE Adviser working with schools to develop RE and Collective Worship.
- Some members of SACRE are on an Ofsted sub-committee of the City of York's Executive Member for Children's Services Advisory Panel and note what comments Ofsted Inspection Teams make on Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Development following an inspection. Currently the members involved include Cllr Carol Runciman, Cllr Tina Funnell, Cllr Paul Firth, Cllr Roger Pierce and Dr David Sellick. When attending this sub-committee Heads and Chairs of Governors are generally asked to comment about the contribution of RE, Collective Worship and SMSC to the fostering of the ethos of their school.
- In service training (INSET) specifically to enable teachers to move to implementation of the new Agreed Syllabus
- Briefings in the form of newsletters have also been distributed during this reporting year.
- SACRE is supporting the work of the Yorkshire and Humberside Global Schools' Association in relation to Citizenship and understanding of religions in society.
- SACRE is supporting the work of the Yorkshire & Humber Faiths Forum.
- Support is also available for working with Black and Minority Ethnic pupils and Travellers from the LA officers with lead responsibility for these areas. Courses are provided as well as resources and bespoke training on related issues.
- Sue Foster has been involved in developing the City of York Council's commemorations for Holocaust Memorial Day in January 2009. Support for schools has been offered.

## **6. Religious Sensitivities**

The SACRE has worked with the CYC Learning, Culture and Children's Services department to produce a guidelines document to support the Council's duty to promote community cohesion. The document was very well received by the SACRE and by schools. It can currently be viewed on the Council website

[http://www.york.gov.uk/education/Schools\\_and\\_colleges/School\\_-\\_general\\_information/SACRE/224020/](http://www.york.gov.uk/education/Schools_and_colleges/School_-_general_information/SACRE/224020/)

## **7. NASACRE**

The SACRE continues to be actively involved with national events in RE by sending representatives to the National Association of SACRE Conference and by supporting new initiatives such as the training programme for new SACRE members.

## 8. Analysis of Examination Results for Religious Studies/Education Summer 2008

Two of the four 11-18 schools together with York College (Tertiary) entered students for AS and A level examinations

<b>A2 Level</b>	Entries	A	B	C	D	E	N	Total
All Saints	16	7	6	3				100%
Fulford	11	1	5	2	3			100%
York College	15	7	3	3	1	1		100%
<b>AS Level</b>	Entries	A	B	C	D	E	N	Total
All Saints	4	1	3					100%
York College	26	6	8	5	6	1		100%

These results were well above the national benchmarks at both AS and A2 level in all three institutions.

### Full GCSE

6 of the 10 secondary schools entered 333 students with 281 achieving A\*-C grades and 332 achieving A\*-G. This is continuing the trend since 2000 when only the Voluntary Aided (VA) schools entered students for the full GCSE courses. It should be noted that in some schools the time to study for the full course is not provided on the timetable and teachers and students are expected to give up their own time on top of the 1 hour a week.

### Short Course GCSE

9 of the 10 secondary schools entered 1197 students with 825 achieving A\*-C grades and 1175 achieving the A\*-G grades. Seven of the schools entered virtually the whole cohort so that in York for most students they do have the opportunity to gain an accreditation either full or short course GCSE in Religious Studies or Religious Education. Two schools also entered 38 pupils for Entry Level Qualification (ELQ) Band C qualification and all of them passed. Only one school now has not entered the majority of pupils for any accredited qualification in RE and the Adviser is currently in discussions about possible options with the Senior Leadership Team.

Overall the 2008 results are very pleasing both in GCSE and Advanced GCE. Many more young people are able to study the subject to GCSE, the challenge in York now is to increase the numbers going on to study at Advanced level. York College is doing very well and has increased its numbers significantly over the last three years with large cohorts achieving the highest grades. Many of the students transfer from York's 11-16 schools. The 11-18 schools are to be encouraged and supported to offer RS as a subject post-16 and to target the take-up. One 11-18 school that has not offered post-

16 RE before is now doing so with over 40 young people starting the course. The SACRE is watching this development with great interest.

### **9. Methods of Teaching**

In the last year SACRE has not felt it necessary to make any specific recommendations concerning teaching methods, choice of teaching materials or teacher training, though the Education Development Service has provided support for pedagogy via the KS3 Strategy. The Agreed Syllabus provides a comprehensive framework for teaching and learning and assessment of pupils' knowledge and understanding of religions. Resources are available for all teachers in York for the teaching of RE from the York St John University's David Hope RE Centre and for cultural diversity and global education from the Centre for Global Education (also at the university). The internet also provides excellent resources for every religion. Teachers TV also has some very useful programmes that focus on teaching RE.

### **10. Complaints regarding the teaching of RE**

None were made to SACRE during this reporting year.

### **11. 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.

### **12. Complaints regarding Collective Worship**

None were made to the SACRE during this reporting year.

### **13. SACRE Initiatives**

The SACRE has published guidance for Collective Worship along with participating in the development of cultural and religious diversity guidelines which were prepared by the Council to address the community cohesion agenda. The SACRE also distributed guidance for schools on how to deal sensitively with issues relating to Islam, including working with Muslim families, produced by the York Mosque. These are all available electronically on the SACRE page of the Council web site:

[http://www.york.gov.uk/education/Schools and colleges/School -  
\\_general information/SACRE/224020/](http://www.york.gov.uk/education/Schools_and_colleges/School_-_general_information/SACRE/224020/)

**Report produced by Mick Phythian; Chair. Sue Foster; Senior Education Adviser. Sarah Allen; Vice Chair.**

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**Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services and Advisory Panel**19<sup>th</sup> January 2009**Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services****AN UPDATE ON "MYPLACE"****Summary**

1. Members have previously requested an update on preparations for a *myplace* bid, following the decision in September 2008 to postpone this until the second round in 2009. This paper reports on the appointment of Phil Bixby, a local community architect, to assist with the process. We hope that Mr Bixby will be present at the meeting to answer Members' questions.

**Background**

2. "*myplace*" is the branding chosen by Government through which to distribute £190m of capital investment in grants of between £1m and £5m. The aim of the *myplace* project is: "to deliver world-class youth facilities driven by the active participation of young people and their views and needs." The first bidding round closed on 30 September 2008 and the results are still awaited (although some very early "fast track" projects have recently been announced). The Government has confirmed that a minimum of £30 million, plus any surplus from round one, will be made available in a second bidding round in 2009. The latest news we have on the timing of this is that it will be "launched in the spring", which is considerably later than we had previously been led to believe. There has been talk of further funds being made available over the next ten years, but nothing confirmed as of yet.
3. For those associated with young people's services in York, the fund offers an ideal opportunity to plug an undoubted gap in our facilities: a high quality city centre place for young teenagers to meet and socialise, to complement the advisory services at Castlegate. We have therefore, embarked on a comprehensive exercise to consult young people about what they wanted, as well as a thorough search for suitable sites and premises – assisted by colleagues in other Directorates. Both these exercises were quite time-consuming, but necessary in order to satisfy the requirements of the Big Lottery Fund who are administering the bid, and who needed to be assured that a thorough options appraisal, led by young people, had been conducted.
4. By the time that we made a presentation to EMAP on 4 September, there were just two site options left in the frame. Some of the young people who

had been working with us on the project made a presentation at that meeting, leaving Members in no doubt about their preference for a city centre option. We therefore concentrated our remaining efforts on the site based around the Railway Institute (RI) facilities on Queen Street, in partnership with the RI and in close consultation with the landowners, Network Rail.

5. Unfortunately the issues involved in bringing forward a scheme based around this site, which borders York Central/York Northwest, proved too complex to resolve before the deadline for submitting the bid, despite everyone's best efforts. Those issues included: the need to ensure the partial relocation of some of the RI's existing facilities as part of the scheme; the position of existing tenants on the site; queries about an electricity sub-station; the need to get permission from the Office of the Rail regulator; and various strategic planning considerations. The main issue, however, was the fact that for this particular scheme to work, other parties would have to contribute substantial capital funds, and it was not possible to turn willingness in principle, into binding commitments in the time available, particularly as we were simultaneously advertising for a development partner for the whole of York North West. Unlike some bidding processes where it might be possible to leave such matters for subsequent resolution, the national requirements of *myplace* are stringent, and we were advised that the bid would fail on technical grounds if we submitted it with question marks over such issues.
6. We decided that the scheme was too important to risk a non-compliant bid, and therefore took the decision to defer it until the second round, giving us more time to resolve the outstanding issues. The Chief Executive wrote to the Big Lottery Fund advising them of this.
7. In late November we appointed Mr Phil Bixby, a respected local community Architect, to work with us on the project to offer technical advice, maintain the consultation with young people, and to give us additional capacity. Mr Bixby's brief is to:
  - *as his principle objective*, to pick up the work previously undertaken, and relationships established, in relation to the Railway Institute site, and to advise if it is capable of being made the subject of a high quality *myplace* bid;
  - maintain a continued dialogue with young people, building on the involvement of our focus group, and with other interested parties including Members;
  - draw up a comprehensive brief for the project that includes the needs and wishes of all parties, and a project plan;
  - liaise with Network Rail at a sufficiently senior level so as to secure their formal approval for the project including the granting of a long lease and the removal of any technical hurdles;
  - liaise with the Railway Institute so as to ensure their continued cooperation, leading to the establishment of a formal memorandum of understanding or similar;
  - advise whether the architect's drawings are a good basis on which to proceed, or if we need to start again;

- seek, in consultation with ourselves, other possible sources of capital to help finance the project;
  - help us to draw up a robust set of costings and a delivery plan;
  - help us to construct a management vehicle for running the facility, including the RI's interests and also that of the voluntary sector and of young people themselves;
  - help us to construct a credible revenue plan;
  - leave us with the means to move quickly towards outline planning permission, maintaining dialogue throughout with COYC's planners, and with the city's Heritage interests.
8. In addition, his *secondary objective*, informed by progress on the first, is to help us identify a Plan B: a substitute facility, perhaps rather less ambitious in scope, that could be the subject of an alternative *myplace* bid.
9. Mr Bixby will be assisted by a cross-Directorate bid team, and by regular dialogue with myself and with Paul Herring (Youth Services) and Colin Stroud (CVS).
10. We hope Mr Bixby will be present at the meeting to convey his initial impression and answer Members' questions.

### **Consultation**

11. As previously mentioned, continued consultation with young people is part of Mr Bixby's brief.

### **Options**

12. If Mr Bixby's work identifies options that need a steer from Members, these will be put before an appropriate meeting at a later stage.

### **Analysis**

13. As this is an update on work in progress, an analysis is not appropriate at this stage.

### **Corporate Priorities**

14. A successful *myplace* bid will contribute to meeting the following corporate priorities:
- Improving the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city.
  - Improving the health and lifestyles of the people that live in York, in particular among groups whose levels of health are the poorest.
  - Increasing people's skills and knowledge to improve future employment prospects.
  - Increasing the use of public and other environmentally-friendly modes of transport.

- Reducing the environmental impact of council activities and encouraging, others to do the same.
- Reducing the actual and perceived impact of violent, aggressive and nuisance behaviour on people in York.

### Implications

15. Any relevant financial, HR, equalities, legal, crime and disorder, IT, property and planning issues will be identified at an appropriate point as the work progresses and brought before Members as necessary.

### Risk Management

16. As we are talking about the submission of a bid, there are no significant risks at this stage, other perhaps than to the reputation of the council if we are unable to put forward a credible application. If the bid is successful, a full project plan, including a detailed risk analysis, will be developed and put before Members. The main risks are likely to be around the robustness of the plans to support the ongoing revenue costs.

### Recommendations

17. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to note this update report and comment as they wish.

*Reason: additional investment in youth facilities in the city is in line with our corporate priorities, and the views of residents and young people themselves.*

### Contact Details

#### Author:

Paul Murphy  
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Learning, Culture & Children's Services  
Tel No. x2358

#### Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Pete Dwyer  
Director  
Learning, Culture & Children's Services

Report Approved

Date

31  
2008

December

All

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

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: None





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Meeting of the Executive Member for Children's  
Services and Advisory Panel

19<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture & Children's Services

## **The School Crossing Patrol Service in York**

### **Summary**

1. This report has been prepared at the request of members to respond to queries raised regarding the recruitment of School Crossing Patrol Officers (SCPO's).
2. This report notes the number of SCPO vacant post within the city; the measures previously taken to recruit to these vacant posts; and options for filling these vacancies in the future. The report also confirms that the responsibility for delivering the School Crossing Patrol Service has transferred from Learning Culture and Children's Services to City Strategy with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 and sets out the reasons for this decision and the benefits this will provide to the service.

### **Background**

3. The primary duty of an SCPO is to facilitate the safe crossing of school children at a pre-designated crossing site. SCPO's are also empowered to cross any other pedestrian choosing to use their services. In order to legally stop traffic the Patrol must be properly attired and properly display the prescribed sign (the lollipop).
4. There are 35 designated school crossing patrol sites in the city (full details are at Appendix 1), 17 of these sites currently have an SCPO in post, 11 sites are vacant with steps being taken to recruit to these posts and 7 of these sites are designated as 'under review'. Under review status means that the site is currently vacant and due to a change in the circumstances at the site, for example the installation of additional road safety measures or pelican crossing, the site needs to undergo a rigorous review a process to assess future need. The review process could conclude that alternative road safety measures should be considered; that the site should be disestablished; or that further attempts should be made to recruit an SCPO to the post. The site review process is led by the SCP Service but requires detailed input of the Traffic Management Team (City Strategy), Road Safety Team (City Strategy) and North Yorkshire Police.

5. Most Local Authorities find SCPO posts difficult to recruit to and anecdotal evidence suggests that the vacancy levels in York are comparable with other local authorities. Lancashire County Council has recently reported that it has 29 vacant SCPO posts; South Tyneside has vacancies for 33 SCPO's; 19 SCPO's are needed in North Tyneside; 23 in Gateshead, 18 in Northumberland and 40 in County Durham. North Yorkshire County Council have approximately 30% of its SCPO posts vacant.
6. The job of SCPO's has not historically been perceived as appealing to many potential applicants and there have been recruitment difficulties for the service for a number of years. The role has some complex technical requirements and SCPO's must be able to follow a strict mode of operation to ensure that they operate in line with the Highway Code. They must be confident in their approach and able to communicate to both pupils and parents. By law they must wear a protective uniform.
7. On a number of occasions the SCP Supervisor has discussed with potential applicants the reasons for not pursuing an application for an SCPO vacancy and the following reasons have been given;
  - The pay is too low
  - Can't work a split shift (an SCPO may be required to work 2 or 3 times each day, often comprising of 30 minutes to an hour before and after the school day).
  - Don't want to wear the uniform
  - Don't want to work in bad weather
  - Don't want to be abused by motorists/pupils/parents.

Attempts have been made to address most of these perceived concerns.

8. Prior to the Council's Pay and Grading review process the rate of pay for SCPO's in York was £6.00 per hour. The Pay and Grading review has significantly improved this rate and the annual salary has been set at £14,250 - £15,500, which equates to hourly rates of £7.38 - £8.03 per hour. This compares to £5.72 in Derby City, £5.94 in Sheffield, £6.08 in Hull, Barnsley, Wakefield, Kirklees, Doncaster, Calderdale, Lancashire and Bradford, £6.37 in Rotherham, £6.41 in North East Lincolnshire and £6.77 in North Yorkshire.
9. As the agreement to implement the Pay and Grading proposals has only recently been finalised the vacant SCPO posts have not yet been advertised with these new rates of pay. It is hoped that the significantly improved rates will help to attract applicants to these posts. All SCPO posts are advertised so it is clear to potential applicants that the post can be taken up on a part time or job share basis. There is no upper age limit for applicants but they must just be fit to undertake the duties of the SCPO role.

### **Tackling the Recruitment Challenge**

10. Considerable efforts have been made to fill the vacant posts but

unfortunately, the traditional approach of placing an advertisement in the local press or on the Council's Internal Vacancy Bulletin (IVB), does not tend to be successful. However, advertisements have recently been placed in the City of York Council website and in the Job Centre.

11. The most successful way of filling vacant SCPO posts has been where the SCP Service has worked closely with local school communities, targeting potential applicants from that community. This approach can include advertising the vacant post in school newsletters, providing the school with flyers to be distributed to parents / carers or advertising in Parish and Ward newsletters.
12. In addition the SCP Service works hard to raise the profile of the service and the important work that the SCPO's undertake. In October 2007 the Lord Mayor hosted a reception and long service presentation for seven SCPOs who each had more than 30 years service in post, this event was covered in the local media. In March 2008, the York Times ran a very positive front-page editorial about the SCP Service, focusing on the good work of SCPO's and need for more people to undertake this work. The article provided very positive coverage for the service and was the most successful publicity to date. At the same time as the editorial piece, the York Times ran a recruitment advert. This approach attract a number of potential candidates but unfortunately only one appointment was possible.
13. More recently press releases have been prepared and the SCP Supervisor has been on a local radio interview to promote both the service and highlighting the need for more SCPO's.
14. The SCP Service is now working with the Council's recruitment advertising agency to develop a targeted recruitment campaign for early 2009. The campaign will target potential applications from within local school communities and it is likely that the campaign will include banners on School railings and postcards/business cards in community buildings. It has also been recommended that we consider advertisements on buses because of the popularity and volume of passengers on public transport in York.
15. There is a need to continue to publicise, and raise the profile of, the School Crossing Patrol Service and we will take every opportunity available to do this. Greater links could be made between the SCP Service and individual Schools in order to explore whether a number of different jobs could be combined to provide the opportunity for one person to work more hours. For example, an SCPO could also work as a School Midday Supervisor, School Caretaker or deliver pedestrian and/or cycle training in schools. This would provide SCPO's with additional working hours and additional income during term time, which may encourage recruitment or help retain existing SCPO's, as well increase the number of staff available to deliver safety related training in schools.
16. The retention of existing SCPO's does not tend to be an issue for the service and once SCPO's have been appointed turnover rates are low. Until

recently there were seven SCPO's who had each given over thirty years service to the Council, although two of these SCPO's have recently retired. Discussions with these long serving SCPO's confirms that they feel valued in the work they carry out and that they enjoy being able to make a contribution to their local community.

17. The SCP Service has previously explored the possibility of using Police Constable Special Officers (PCSO's) at the vacant Crossing Sites. The Police are very supportive of the SCP Service and help where they can however, they are clear that it is the City of York Council's responsibility to deliver the SCP Service. PCSO's are encouraged to regularly attend their local school crossing patrol sites and their presence can help to improve driver behaviour and minimise illegal parking. This works well at most sites and the PCSO is a regular presence although at some sites attendance by the PCSO can be irregular due to their other responsibilities.

### **Transfer of the service from LCCS to City Strategy**

18. The SCP Service is currently managed by the Human Resources Section of LCCS. However, the service has always had strong links with several important work areas currently being carried out within City Strategy. These include road safety training, safe routes to school and the promotion of sustainable travel. Therefore, it is thought that greater synergy could be achieved by transferring the service to City Strategy, where it would logically sit within Transport Planning as part of the Road Safety and Sustainable Travel Team. The service transfer has been agreed by the Directors of LCCS and City Strategy by Officer Decision and after careful planning the transfer will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.
19. The day to day management of the service will remain the responsibility of the SCP Supervisor who strongly supports the transfer, primarily because it will mean that the SCP Service will be managed by Officers who have sole responsibility for road safety.

### **Consultation**

20. This report is for information only at the specific request of EMAP. It has not as a result been subject to a discreet consultation process.

### **Analysis**

21. This is not a report which presents EMAP with specific options to consider. The analysis of the issues the paper raises are contained in the main body of the report.

### **Corporate Priorities**

22. The actions described meet the council's priorities to:
  - Increase the use of public and other environmentally friendly modes of

transport

- Increase people's skills and knowledge to improve future employment prospects
- Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city

### **Implications**

23. The report is for information only. It does not as a result carry specific financial, equalities, crime and disorder, IT or property implications. The HR implications have been contained in the body of the report

#### Legal Implications

- The Statutory basis for the service comes from the Crossing Patrols Act 1953.
- The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 gives the Council powers to provide a school crossing patrol service.
- The Council has a duty under the Road Traffic Act 1988 to promote road safety.
- The Council has a duty under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to promote sustainable travel and transport modes on the journey to and from schools and other establishments.

### **Risk Management**

24. The report has highlighted the challenges facing York and many other authorities in recruiting SCPOs. An inability to recruit does impact on the arrangements in place to provide safe routes to schools for our children and young people. Whilst to date this has not resulted in any preventable incidents occurring we should not be complacent and the report has described the plans in place to address the problem.

### **Recommendations**

25. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to note and comment on the contents of this report.

Reason: To provide opportunity for reflection and informed debate on the issue

**Contact Details**

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**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**  
**Kevin Hall**  
**Assistant Director**  
**Resource Management**  
Report Approved  Date *20 December 2008*

**Specialist Implications Officers:** None

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

**All**

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

**Background Papers:** None

**Annex**

Annex 1 - Schools Crossing Patrols Sites and Schools

As at December 2008

Schools Crossing Patrols Sites and Schools

<b>School / Site Location</b>	<b>Post Filled</b>	<b>Post Vacant</b>	<b>Post Under Review</b>
<b>New Earswick Primary</b> York Road outside school entrance	X		
<b>St. George's Primary</b> Fulford Road, Fishergate	X		
<b>Fishergate Primary</b> Fishergate/Fawcett Street	X		
<b>Osballdwick Primary</b> The Leyes	X		
<b>Derwent Infants/Juniors</b> Osballdwick Lane	X		
<b>Clifton Green Primary</b> Kingsway North	X		
<b>Hempland Primary</b> Jct. Stockton Ln/Hempland Av	X		
<b>Lord Deramore's Primary</b> Field Lane	X		
<b>Tang Hall Primary</b> Tang Hall Lane/4 <sup>th</sup> Av	X		
<b>St. Aeldred's/Tang Hall Primary</b> Tang Hall Lane/5 <sup>th</sup> Av.	X		
Melrosegate/4 <sup>th</sup> Av. Tang Hall		X	
<b>Acomb Primary</b> Acomb Rd/West Bank	X		
<b>Rawcliffe Infants</b> Eastholme Drive		X	
<b>Haxby Road Primary</b> Jcts. Huntington Rd/Haley's Terrace	X		
<b>St. Barnabas CE Primary</b> Salisbury Terrace	X		
<b>Scarcroft Primary</b> Nunnery Lane			X
<b>Huntington Primary</b> North Moor Road	X		
<b>Westfield School</b> Askham Lane	X		
<b>Bishopthorpe Infants/Juniors</b> Appleton Rd/Sim Balk Lane	X		
<b>Ralph Butterfield Primary</b> Station Road	X		

<b>St. Paul's Primary</b> Holgate Rd/Watson St		X	
<b>Wiggington Primary</b> The Village/Mill Lane		X	
<b>Rufforth Primary</b> Wetherby Road		X	
<b>Headlands Primary</b> Oaktree Lane		X	
<b>Poppleton Road Primary</b> Jct. Poppleton Rd/Water End		X	
<b>Dringhouses Primary</b> Tadcaster Rd/St. Helen's Rd. junction		X	
<b>Clifton Without Primary</b> Rawcliffe Lane		X	
<b>Heworth Primary</b> Heworth Rd. junction		X	
<b>Robert Wilkinson Primary</b> West End/Wilkinson Way		X	
<b>Dringhouses Primary</b> St. Helen's Rd outside school entrance			X
<b>Poppleton Road Primary</b> Poppleton Road			X
<b>St. Aeldred's/Tang Hall Primary</b> Melrosegate/5 <sup>th</sup> Av.			X
<b>St. Lawrence's Primary</b> Thief Ln/Green Dykes Ln/ Hull Road			X
<b>St. Oswald's Primary</b> Heslington Road			X
<b>Hob Moor Community Centre</b> Kingsway West			X





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**Executive Member for Children & Young People's  
Services and Advisory Panel**

**19<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

**Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services**

**Report on the commissioning of services through the Children's  
Early Intervention Fund and Better Play Grants**

### **Summary**

1. This paper sets out:
  - the commissioning process for the Children's Early Intervention Fund (EIF) which has as on this occasion been linked to the Better Play Grants (BPG);
  - the funding recommendations of the panel set up to consider applications for the joint EIF/BPG fund.

### **Background:**

2. The Children's Early Intervention Fund builds on the legacy of the Children's Fund in York. It has in the past year continued to provide a range of targeted and robustly monitored early intervention and preventative support programmes aimed at vulnerable children aged 5-13. York has received funding from the government up to March 2011 equating to £355,920 in each year.
3. Better Play Grants are offered through the Play Team to purchase specific activities or programmes from organisations involved in direct play provision. To qualify for funding, applicants are required to be constituted organisations with policies and procedures in place that are appropriate for working with children and young people. The context for awards is *Taking Play Forward*, York's play policy, which provides the framework through which groups can review their play provision in relation to the experiences of the children and young people who use them. Approximately £129k is available for the next two years, so that together, after allowing for central administration costs, the total amount available for allocation across the two funds is **£420,600** in 2009/10 and **£419,600** in 2010/11.
4. The commissioning process for EIF/BPG was agreed following discussions at the Executive Member for Children & Young People's

Services and Advisory Panel meetings in January and July 2008. The argument for combining the two commissioning processes is their strategic fit: both funds have at their heart the principles of early intervention and targeted positive activities to help children and young people to maximise their life chances. The linkage is also being encouraged by the Department for Children, Schools and Families in order to improve outcomes for children and young people by better identification of gaps in provision, and elimination of any overlaps.

5. The commissioning process takes place within the context of the wider integrated commissioning process being developed under our children's trust arrangements. We have now established a high level Integrated Commissioning Group (ICG) as a sub group of YorOk Board, and the Group that has overseen EIF/BPG commissioning is itself a sub group of the ICG. In time we expect this will enable a strategic debate to take place about the right balance between funds allocated to universal provision, and those allocated to targeted preventative work.
6. A multi-agency group was brought together to oversee the commissioning process, chaired by the Assistant Director for Partnerships and Early Intervention, with representatives from across the children's trust (Health, Voluntary Sector, City of York Council, Police). This group drew up a set of overall themes which are set out at **Annex A**, informed by:
  - The National Children's Plan;
  - The City of York Corporate Strategy 2007 – 2011;
  - Local planning for children and young people – Children and Young Peoples Plan 2007-10 and the Local Area Agreement;
  - Views of children and young people via the consultation process for the Children and Young Peoples Plan 2009-12;
  - The Legacy of Children's Fund in York;
  - Equalities Legislation;
  - The Better Play Strategy.
7. Applications were invited from across the city for proposals that would meet these themes. Applications needed to show evidence of how they would meet the overall themes, and specific application criteria including evidence of need and effectiveness; positive impact for children and young people; how the work complements other initiatives in the city; how work will be targeted toward those disadvantaged and disaffected; and how children will be involved in shaping the work. The joint process attracted over £900k in bids for each of the two years for which funding is available, ie roughly twice the amount available. This, and the generally high quality of applications, is evidence of the increasing importance of this agenda – and the "oversubscription" will need to be considered as a longer term strategic issue for the city.

8. Applications were initially considered and scored by a sub-group of the multi-agency group (reflecting the wider sector representation). The sub-group developed a short-list for consideration by the wider group. The short-list was discussed by the main group which unanimously drew up the recommended funding proposals contained in **Annex B**. Members should be aware that in the great majority of cases, given the overall pressure on the funds available, the recommended funding is less than the amount the organisation was seeking; in a number of cases the recommended amount simply represents a continuation of the current level of funding, with no allowance for inflation. The group also found it necessary to limit the funds allocated to any one organisation to £40k pa (ie £80k over two years): this was not an explicit policy from the outset, but the natural outcome of having to weigh so many high quality competing bids against each other. The group was also trying to strike a balance between backing proven models, as well as allowing for innovation.
9. As is inevitable in commissioning processes overseen by a partnership, potential conflicts of interest arose for certain individuals at various points in the proceedings. These were rigorously identified and recorded. Key members of the group (Chair, and EIF and BPG managers) did not act as referees for any applications, and sub-group members did not score or consider applications where there was a potential conflict of interest.
10. Clearly we need to recommend that a significant number of applications are not successful on this occasion. The list of unsuccessful applications is at **Annex C**, which should be treated as confidential for reasons of commercial sensitivity.
11. We have sent all applicants a letter informing them of the *provisional* recommendations of the panel, pending the EMAP discussion. We have offered feedback to the unsuccessful applicants, and, where appropriate, have pointed them towards alternative funding sources. For the successful ones, discussions have commenced about the drawing up of detailed Service Level Agreements; this is particularly important where the recommended amount is significantly less than the sum that was applied for.

## Consultation

12. The issues and themes contained in this report have been discussed with:
  - The Integrated Commissioning Group
  - The Children's Early Intervention Fund Commissioning group

Both groups are made up of representatives from across the children's trust with membership from partner agencies and the voluntary sector. In

addition, children and young people have been consulted as part of the consultation for the new children and young people's plan. Specific work has been undertaken with a school council in a primary school to help inform the commissioning priorities for this process. The school council was chosen because of its strong record of inclusion. This school council will also be involved in an on-going piece of work to monitor successful applications.

## Options

13. The Executive Member is asked to consider the following options:

*Option A:*

Approve the funding recommendations of the EIF/BPG group contained at **Annex B**, rejecting those outlined at **Annex C (Confidential)**.

*Option B:*

Do not approve the list at Annex B and consider some other outcome, such as continuing to fund all existing projects at their current level.

## Analysis

14. **Option A** would mean:

- All applications were effectively 'capped' at £40k per annum, as described above. This is due to the sheer quantity of good applications. No application has been recommended to receive 100% of the sum that was applied for; however, the EIF/BPG group is still confident that these suggested reductions will enable viable provision. The details of this will be discussed with the organisations concerned in the coming weeks, and in some cases may mean that we will need to accept a lower volume of provision than that originally envisaged.
- These recommendations would mean *70% of the funding will be directed to work being developed by the voluntary sector.*
- Funding will be offered to the named organisation for the purpose described. The exception is funding being made available to support for play for disabled children. The EIF/BPG group saw a clear need for this type of provision, and has recommended an allocation of funding. However, there needs to be further work with a particular voluntary sector provider to clarify the specific work to be undertaken before we can confidently recommend it as the recipient of the allocation. Initial discussions to clarify this will have taken place before the EMAP meeting.
- Work would be commissioned that meets the overall themes of EIF/BPG within a Prevention and Early Intervention framework. These links are outlined in Annex B and will include:
  - Development of play for key targeted and vulnerable groups and in key geographical localities;

- Specific support for small voluntary groups: the small grants will have a positive impact for many children and will be a pathway to deliver support for small voluntary play organisations with the city;
- Support to children to reduce their engagement in risky behaviours and engage in positive, challenging activities;
- Community engagement and mobilisation via strategic and organisational support for the voluntary sector;
- Targeted work focussed around promoting the inclusion of vulnerable children in universal services.

15. **Option B** would mean:

- Current work could continue.
- However, work would not develop to meet the changing needs of the city and the priorities emerging through the Children and Young People's Plan.
- The commissioning between EIF and BPG would not be integrated and the benefits of joint commissioning would not be realised.
- There would be no scope for innovation or for new providers.

## Corporate Priorities

16. City of York's Corporate Strategy informed the commissioning criteria, specifically 'Improving the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city.'

## Implications

17. **Financial** The Early Intervention Fund was allocated for the years 2008-11. CYC are receiving £355,920 in each year. The amount allocated to the Better Play grants remains at £129,000. Together these two funds amount to £484,920 per annum for both the years 2009/10 and 2010/11. The central costs of managing the programme will be £64,320 in 2009/10 and £65,320 in 2010/11 and this leaves the amounts to be allocated as £420,600 in 2009/10 and £419,600 in 2010/11.

18. **Human Resources (HR)** These proposals do not have any direct HR implications. However consideration may need to be given to the impact on posts that are used to deliver this programme, if commissioning arrangements change significantly from those currently in place.

19. **Equalities** have been integral to the commissioning process. Equalities legislation has been taken into consideration in developing the commissioning criteria. Applicants have specifically been asked how work would impact on vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people. The decision making has taken this into account. The recommendations include specific pieces of work which will support disabled children and young people and children from minority

communities. The recommendations will contribute to partnership priorities on equalities and contribute to improving life chances of disadvantaged children and young people.

20. **Legal:** There are no legal implications.

21. **Crime and Disorder** A number of recommendations as set out in Annex B will support the priorities on crime and disorder as set out in the Local Area Agreements.

22. There are no **Information Technology (IT), Property or Other** implications.

## Risk Management

23. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, the main risks that have been identified in this report are those which could lead to the inability to deliver ongoing, well received, services to children and families, the subsequent damage to the Council's image and reputation and impact on partners. *Option A* would prevent this risk and ensure that the re-commissioning process will build on the legacy of the Children's Fund and progress Better Play in the city, as well as meeting the priorities being developed through the Children and Young Peoples Plan Process. *Option B* would ensure a degree of stability, but the inability to commission new work would have a negative impact on the Council's reputation, and would lead to poorer outcomes for children in the city.

## Recommendations

24. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member that the recommendations for commissioning projects through the Children's Early Intervention Fund and Better Play grants, described as *Option A* and set out at Annex B, be accepted.

**REASON:**

*To deliver a programme of Preventative and Early Intervention work which will more fully meet the emerging needs of children and young in the city from now until 2011.*

**Contact Details**

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**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

**Chief Officer's name Paul Murphy**

Assistant Director Partnerships and Early Intervention, Leisure Culture and Children's Services

**Report Approved**

 Yes

**Date**

31 December 2008

*Co-Author's Name* Mary Bailey  
Title Play Manager  
*Dept Name* Leisure Culture and Children's Services  
*Tel No.* 554699

*Chief Officer's name* **Peter Dwyer**

Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

**Report Approved**

 Yes

**Date**

31 December 2008

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)**

*Financial*

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

 ALL

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

**Background Papers:**

Executive Member for Children & Young People's Services and Advisory Panel:

- Report of Children's Early Intervention Fund – transitional Arrangements – July 2008
- Purchasing from Voluntary Sector of Play Services – January 2008
- Report of Children's Fund – Future funding arrangements and implications on commissioning of services and transitional arrangements within York – December 2007

**Annexes**

**Annex A** – Aims and Themes Early Intervention Fund – Better Play Grants

**Annex B** – Recommended Funding

**Annex C** – Applications not recommended (**Confidential annex**).

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## ANNEX A

Themes for Early Intervention Fund and Better Play Grants are set out below. Applicants will be expected to show clearly which 'theme/s' they are addressing. Applications may and can meet more than one theme but it must be very clear how the themes are being met.

### **Strategic Aim for the Early Intervention Fund (EIF):**

**The Early Intervention Fund will support vulnerable children\* (predominantly aged 5-13) and their families in York through a programme of targeted preventative and early intervention work, which will include strategic development, partnership and exemplary or innovative service provision.**

The programme will contribute to children having a safe, healthy, enjoyable childhood, playing a full part in community life and growing up prepared for adult life and improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children and families in the city

\* Vulnerable means at Level 2/3 in the hierarchy of need - for more information see [www.yor-ok.org.uk/commissioning](http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/commissioning)

This aim was developed by the Early Intervention Fund Group after consideration of criteria for EIF, local and national plans and strategies, including LAA (2) and views of children and young people.

### **Principles:**

Supporting the strategic aim, there are a number of key principles. The bullet points in italics below provide further information about what would be expected from a proposal:

- Partnership between agencies, and between agencies and the community:
  - *Proposals must evidence partnership working. This may be evidenced through joint funding of work, joint delivery of work, or through supporting other practitioners or the wider community to deliver work.*
- Participation of children, young people and families in shaping strategy and services:
  - *Proposals must show that children and young people and/or families have been fully involved in the development of proposals and will be involved in future developments.*
- Prevention and Early Intervention:
  - Proposals must ensure constructive engagement with children and families as a means of helping to prevent the emergence of difficulties, therefore preventing poor outcomes for children or existing poor outcomes becoming worse;
  - Proposals must be targeted at level 2. A fuller description can be found on the YorOK website.

- Linking into key strategic developments in the city:
  - Proposals must link, for example, to the Children and Young People's plan and strategic planning and commissioning structures.
- Meeting evidenced-based need and evaluating all work to ensure it is best practice and continues to meet community need:
  - Proposals must show clearly that they are able to have a positive impact on outcomes for children now and in the future.

**Themes:**

1. **Support children to reduce their engagement in risky behaviours and engage in positive, challenging activities:**
  - 1.1 Identifying children becoming involved in risky behaviours, which may lead to poor outcomes, ensuring that their needs and appropriate support pathways are identified; and/or
  - 1.2 Developing systems which provide on-going support for children either through an identified lead worker/practitioner and/or engaging with wider community provision; and/or
  - 1.3 Promoting opportunities for children to engage in positive, challenging play and activities that meet the 9 Better Play objectives. (Specific funds are available for this sub-theme.)
2. **Improve the health and lifestyles of children:**
  - 2.1 Through making healthier choices to achieve;
    - 2.1.1 A healthier weight; and/or
    - 2.1.2 A reduction in young people drinking alcohol; and/or
  - 2.2 Through supporting the emotional health and well-being of children in order that they are more resilient.
3. **Support to parents and carers:**
  - 3.1 Developing support for parents and carers of all ages; and/or
  - 3.2 Developing support for young carers.
4. **Support the inclusion of vulnerable children in universal services through:**
  - 4.1 Supporting children at key transition points to be included in mainstream services (both as a means of prevention and a means of 'stepping-down' from more intensive support); and/or
  - 4.2 Supporting access to universal services of vulnerable children through community cohesion and development.
5. **Strategic development to ensure that appropriate infrastructure is in place to support the Change for Children agenda through:**
  - 5.1 Developing representation and capacity building within the voluntary and community sector; and/or
  - 5.2 Supporting the involvement and engagement of children and young people in planning and delivery of services; and/or
  - 5.3 Promoting cultural change to support the Every Child Matters agenda.

### **Strategic Aim for the Better Play Grant (BPG)**

The Better Play Grant is funding that is available to the voluntary and community sector, which aims to support organisations involved in the direct provision of places for children and young people to play and also provide advisory or developmental support for groups and their playworkers.

To qualify for funding, applicants are required to be constituted organisations with policies and operating procedures in place, appropriate for working with children and young people. These include the basic requirements of The Children Act, Health and Safety legislation, Yor-OK, the National Daycare Standards (OFSTED monitored) or other standard relevant to their discipline.

Organisations are also asked to meet or be working towards the 9 Better Play Objectives, which are outlined in York's Policy for Play, "Taking Play Forward", which was recently reviewed and approved by the Executive Member Advisory Panel for Children's Services in January 2007. The Better Play Objectives, which adopts the National Best Play Standards, provides a framework through which groups can review their play provision in relation to the experiences of children and young people who use them.

#### **The Better Play Grants will work to the recommendations and principles outlined in the Taking Play Forward, York's policy for play:**

- the need for strategic support for Taking Play Forward;
- support opportunities for risky and adventure play across the City;
- to promote quality, inclusive play at all formal and informal play settings;
- to utilise the results of consultation with children and young people to inform service development;
- the celebration of good play practices;
- using Better Play objectives as a framework for evaluating play opportunities;
- to encourage the play sector to sign up to the values of Taking Play Forward including a visible statement displayed in each setting;
- the identification of consistent funding priorities for play and play development;
- the use of Taking Play Forward to inform and influence all aspects of play, leisure and culture city wide;
- the development of local play resources for training, adventure and equipment;
- a City wide commitment to include play, leisure and culture matters seek out, support and promote relevant training opportunities for the play sector.

**NB:** BPG monies will only be used in conjunction with EIF monies to further the sub-objectives:

- 1.3 Promoting opportunities for children to engage in positive challenging play and activities.
- 4 Support the inclusion of vulnerable children in universal services

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<b>ANNEX B: Early Intervention - Better Play Gants - Recommendations for EMAP Decision January 2009</b>				
Name of projects/organisations	Outcomes for children and young people	Meet LAA targets	EMAP recommend	EMAP recommend
			2009-10	2010-11
			£	£
<b>Promoting opportunities for children to engage in positive, challenging play and activities that meet the 9 Better Play Objectives - Support young people's participation in positive activities</b>				
York Pre-school learning Alliance	Providing play support to pre-school children	NI 57	4,300	4,300
Provider to be identified	Providing play support for disabled children	NI 54	36,600	36,600
			<b>40,900</b>	<b>40,900</b>
<b>Promoting opportunities for children to engage in positive, challenging play and activities that meet the 9 Better Play Objectives - Support young people's participation in positive activities</b>				
Chillout zones Moor lane/Tang Hall - Playspace	Free open access play activities to children aged 8-13 in 2 city venues	NI 57, NI 110	40,000	40,000
Bellfarm Adventure Playground	Free open access play activities to children	NI 57, NI 110	33,000	33,000
Running Wild, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	Hands-on challenging play activities on local nature reserves and green spaces accessible city-wide	NI 57, NI 110	20,000	20,000
			<b>93,000</b>	<b>93,000</b>
<b>Small Grants</b>				
	Promoting play opportunities through provision of small grant funding to voluntary sector - 14 awards made. There will be another funding round in 2009 for the year 2010/11 - £15700 allocated.	NI 57	15,700	15,700
			<b>15,700</b>	<b>15,700</b>
<b>Support children to reduce their engagement in risky behaviours and engage in positive, challenging activities. Will support reducing first time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17</b>				
Youth Inclusion & Support, Youth Offending Team, City of York.	Preventing offending and anti-social behaviour by offering voluntary support services to children and their families	NI 110, NI 111	40,000	40,000
York Boxing Club	Supporting children to develop new skills, enjoy health and mental growth.	NI 110, NI 111	15,000	14,000
Island Project	Supporting vulnerable children up to 13 years old through mentoring.	NI 110, NI 111	23,000	23,000
			<b>78,000</b>	<b>77,000</b>
<b>Supporting Parent - Carers</b>				
Parenting Strategy - City of York Council	Strategic support for Parenting, the foundation for the many innovative parenting initiatives in York.	Will support all priorities	15,000	15,000
CANDI - Parent-led voluntary organisation	Promoting involvement in planning for parents of disabled children; Supporting services for disabled children	NI 54	16,000	16,000
Young Carers Project	Increasing aspiration and attainment of young carers in education and wider support.	NI 135, NI 81	14,000	14,000
			<b>45,000</b>	<b>45,000</b>
<b>Support the inclusion of vulnerable children in universal services - Supporting people from different backgrounds get on well together and supporting young peoples participation in positive activities.</b>				
Nurture Groups - City of York Council and 3 primary schools	Support year 1 pupils displaying emotional and behavioural difficulties to become fully included in schooling. Closing achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers.	NI 102	40,000	40,000
Children's Advocacy Service - Independent Domestic Abuse Services	Provision of individual emotional support and advocacy services to children who have lived with or are living with domestic abuse.	NI 81, 110	20,000	20,000
York Travellers Trust	Supporting the health, fitness, education and leisure opportunities of children in the traveller community. Tackling obesity and closing achievement gap.	NI 1, NI 116, NI 56, NI 110	8,000	8,000
Cultural Diversity Project - City of York Council	Promoting the inclusion of children from minority groups in universal services through supporting emerging community groups.	NI 1, NI 110, NI 116	32,000	32,000
Refugee Action York	Supporting a drop-in for Turkish/Kurdish Community	NI 1, NI 110, NI 116	8,000	8,000
			<b>108,000</b>	<b>108,000</b>
<b>Developing representation and capacity building within the Voluntary and Community Sector - Supporting environment for a thriving third sector</b>				
York CVS	Support for organisational and workforce development including specialist funding advice for voluntary organisations and developing representation of the sector at strategic level.	NI 7,	40,000	40,000
			<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>
			<b>420,600</b>	<b>419,600</b>
<b>LAA Indicators</b>				
NI 1 - people from different backgrounds get on well together				
NI 7 - Environment for a thriving third sector				
NI 17 - Perceptions of anti-social behaviour				
NI 56 - Obesity among primary school age children in year 6				
NI 57 - Children's participation in PE and sport				
NI 81 Inequality gap in the achievement of a level 3 qualification by the age of 19				
NI 102 - Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers				
NI 110 - Young people's participation in positive activities				
NI 111 - First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 -17				
NI 116 - Proportion of children in poverty				
NI 135 Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information				

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Meeting of the Executive Member for Children's Services and Advisory Panel      19 January 2009

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

**“Quality and Access for all Young Children” – Allocations of Capital Grant**

**Summary**

1. This paper seeks approval to bids from the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector to use the new “Quality and Access for All Young Children Capital Grant Allocation”. These bids have been recommended by a panel established for this purpose.

**Background**

2. In November 2007 the government announced this new Early Years **Capital grant : Quality and Access**. This funding is in addition to the capital funding announced specifically for the development of children's centres and the capital funding for extended schools announced as part of the School Capital Settlement.
3. This new grant has three aims:
  1. To improve the quality of the learning environment in early years settings to support delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage, with a particular emphasis on improving play and physical activities; and Information, Communications and Technology resources.
  2. To ensure all children, including disabled children, are able to access provision.
  3. To enable PVI providers to deliver the extension to the free offer for three and four year olds and to do so flexibly.
4. The government's expectation is that the majority of this capital grant is used to improve the quality of the environment in private, voluntary and independent (PVI) early years and childcare settings, both to support higher quality experiences for young children, and to ensure that all children can access services and benefit fully from them.
5. This new capital grant must be used for the three broad purposes set out above but it is for the Local Authority to decide how best to deploy the grant for maximum impact and value for money. For example, the grant can be used to fund 100% of the cost of work/equipment for those providers which have little or no resource of their own; for others with more resources, the grant can be provided on a matched funding basis.

6. In a paper to EMAP on 17 July 2008, we recommended a process for inviting all eligible providers to bid into the fund in three batches. The current paper reports on the outcome of the first tranche of bids, the closing date for which was 30 November 2008. A copy of the letter sent to providers is at **Annex D**.

### **Consultation**

7. The criteria for application into the funding stream emphasises the need for applicants to provide clear evidence of consultation with key partners, particularly through Shared Foundation Partnerships. The bids approved must also be consistent with the local Child Care Sufficiency Assessment for the authority, a document produced in York following major consultation activity with all stakeholders including users of child care services.
8. The assessment panel we convened to consider the bids was drawn from membership of the “places sub-group” which is part of the Early Years and Extended Schools Partnership. Members of the panel included Peggy Sleight (Chair of the Early Years and Extended Schools Partnership), the Pre-School Learning Alliance, the National Childminding Association, the National Day Nurseries association, as well as representatives from Education Planning, Finance, the Training and Development Unit and the Early Years and Extended Schools Service. All bids were assessed against a set of agreed criteria.

### **Options**

9. Members have the option of approving or rejecting the bids from the Private, Voluntary and Independent sector to use the new “Quality and Access Early Years Capital Grant Allocation”, as recommended by the panel.

### **Analysis**

10. Research shows that children will only benefit fully from early education and care if it is of high quality: a high quality setting also needs the right built environment and adequate and appropriate resources. This means providing enough space for larger group sizes which can also be used flexibly and up-to-date facilities and equipment to support children’s learning and development. This new Quality and Access grant will allow Local Authorities to invest strategically to ensure that the PVI sector is able to deliver high quality learning and development for all children. This is particularly important for York given that most of our three and four year olds are in the non-maintained sector, which has not previously been able to access similar types or levels of funding.
11. Expenditure eligible for grants under the fund includes:
  - equipment to ensure that practitioners can effectively observe and capture children’s progress – digital cameras, scanners and video recorders, laptop and desktop PCs;
  - information and communication technology – laptop and desktop PCs, digital cameras, video and sound recorders, hi-fi equipment;
  - provision of stimulating and accessible outdoor play space and equipment – this includes the purchase of land to be developed for this purpose;

- development of adequate indoor space for age-appropriate play activities and suitable rest areas;
  - replenishing and replacing toy stocks and purchasing other learning and development materials and resources to support the EYFS;
  - resources to encourage a rich and stimulating language environment in line with Letters and Sounds – musical instruments, tape recorders, CDs as well as books, rhymes and signs.
12. The Panel received some applications for similar items that would cost under £2,500 and therefore it is proposed to bulk purchase such items and distribute them (rather than cash) to the applicants. It is proposed that other settings will be able to take advantage of similar bulk purchase arrangements. An example of such items could be ICT equipment e.g. printers, digital cameras etc.
13. Every setting must have an inclusion policy setting out how it will meet the needs of *all* children, in line with delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). However, ensuring full access, particularly for disabled children, and providing facilities and equipment for disabled children and children with SEN, can often require adaptations. The allocation of this new Quality and Access grant creates opportunities for us to further progress this agenda, particularly where it can be combined with other funding streams.
14. Settings from the PVI sector were invited to access support from the Extended Schools Remodeling Consultant (ESRC) team prior to completing their bids.
15. **Annex A** refers to bids that the Panel considered met the agreed criteria. **Annex B** refers to bids that the Panel agreed with in principle but that had sections which required additional work. **Annex C** refers to bids that the Panel felt did not meet the criteria and needed substantial additional work; for reasons of possible commercial sensitivity, this annex is confidential.

### Corporate Priorities

16. This paper clearly contributes to the Corporate Priority aimed at “improving the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city”.

### Financial Implications

17. The DCSF has allocated York £2.1m over the three year period 2008/09-2010/11 to be spent on capital projects under this heading.
18. A total of 43 bids to the value of £334,366 were received in the first tranche. Of these, 23 bids totaling £143,863 are recommend for full approval, with a further 18 bids totaling £139,753 recommended for approval in principle subject to certain conditions being met. Bids received covered childminders (12), private day nurseries (22) pre-school playgroups (8) and a maintained nursery (1).

## Other Implications

19. This report does not have specific HR, Legal, crime and disorder or IT implications. It clearly contributes to an equality strategy which seeks to ensure high quality access to services.

## Risk Management

20. Risks are minimised by the application of recommended and clear criteria, by the transparent process of bidding and by the level of consultation undertaken around the use of the capital funding stream. The additional capital work such funding stimulates will carry some risks but they are minimised given the relative scale of the developments, through clear project management and through regular reporting arrangements to EMAP being in place. It is recognised that working through the PVI sector will require particular support arrangements and these are in place within the Early Years and Extended Schools Service.

## Recommendations

21. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member:

- 1) To accept the recommendations of the panel for the first tranche of bids for the Quality and Access Early Years Capital Grant Allocation as set out in the annexes as follows:
  - annex (a) approved
  - annex (b) accepted in principle but requires additional information
  - annex (c) requires substantial reworking and should be declined at this stage

*Reason:* to enable the further development of early years provision in York, in accordance with government guidelines.

- 2) To approve that Early Years and Extended Schools Service should bulk purchase certain items under £2500 and distribute them directly to settings

*Reason:* to obtain economies of scale.

## Contact Details

### Author:

Ann Spetch  
Quality Care and Education Manager  
Early Years and Extended Schools Service  
Learning, Culture and Children's Services  
Ext 4592

### Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Peter Dwyer  
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

**Report Approved 31 December 2008**

### Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Richard Hartle  
Head of Finance, LCCS, Ext 4255

### Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

**Background Papers:** None

**Annexes:**

**Annex A:** bids recommended for approval

**Annex B:** bids recommended in principle, subject to the provision of additional information

**Annex C:** bids that should be declined at this stage ***[Confidential]***

**Annex D:** Letter to Providers

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**Annex A**

**Recommended for Approval**

Bid Number	Name of Setting	Amount		Comments
1	Penny Mook - Childminder	£2,500	IT Hardware and software to support childminder who has dyslexia and children's learning	Recommended for approval
5	Michelle Davis – Childminder	£2,653	Play house, climbing frame, storage shed, IT equipment, storage boxes	Recommended for approval
9	Jenni Fitton – Childminder	£7,513	To provide all weather continuous outdoor play area	Recommended for approval
10	Happy Jays Day Nursery	£10,000	To create natural outdoor play area linked to existing all weather surface	Recommended for approval
13	Polly Anna's Day Nursery	£11,319	To provide permanent outdoor covered play and continuous activity provision	Recommended for approval
14	Polly Anna's Day Nursery	£6,752	To provide access to and create child friendly vegetable and herb garden	Recommended for approval – subject to building regulation approval if required
20	Theresa's Day Nursery	£10,000	To provide disability access into building by creation of a ramp, create new outdoor play area.	Recommended for approval – subject to receiving addition quotes for work
22	Scarcroft Day Nursery	£9,711	To provide shade in outdoor area, low impact surface, sandpit, outdoor play equipment	Recommended for approval
23	Josephs Day Nursery	£3,000	To purchase 3 lap top computers and associated software and accessories. 10 digital cameras and equipment	Recommended for approval – recommended purchase of child appropriate software
25	Heathers Day Nursery	£2,780	To purchase 3 lap top computers and associated software and accessories. 10 digital cameras and equipment	Recommended for approval
28	Crescent Day Nursery	£14,210	Provide challenging outdoor equipment and safety	Recommended for

			surface outdoors, IT equipment, turtle bus for young children	approval – amount reduced some equipment did not meet criteria
29	Heslington & Badger Hill Playgroup	£3,361	IT hardware and appropriate software, digital cameras	Recommended for approval
30	Little St. Mary's Playgroup	£2,049	Storage equipment, Outdoor and Indoor play equipment	Recommended for approval – need support in purchasing longer lasting equipment
31/32	Home to Home – Fulford	£7,488	Alterations to toilet area to allow easier access for SEN children – IT hardware and software	Recommended for approval – subject to Internet access restrictions for children
33/34	Home to Home – Strensall	£14,719	Development of an outdoor play area – IT hardware and software	Recommended for approval – subject to internet access restrictions for children
36	Linda Dalglish – Childminder	£2,948	Provide and erect gates to enable free flow indoor and outdoor play and outdoor resources	Recommended for approval
37	Leanne Frear – Childminder	£4,097	Improvement to outdoor play area and equipment	Recommended for approval-materials only
39	Janis McPherson-Childminder	£2,785	To provide decking area to improve access to play area – indoor and outdoor resources	Recommended for approval – ensure equipment is suitable for outdoor use
40	Wonder Years	£4,820	IT Hardware and appropriate software, digital cameras	Recommended for approval- subject to Internet access restrictions for children
42	Lindsay Clayton - Childminder	£11,000	Development of outdoor space to provide free flow play opportunities – portable resources and	Recommended for approval



			accessible storage for both indoor and outdoor resources	
43	Polly Anna's Day Nursery	£10,158	To provide IT equipment for use by children and staff – digital cameras	Recommended for approval
	Total	£143,863		

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**Annex B**

**Recommended in principle**

Bid Number	Name of Setting	Amount		Comments
2	Lisa Laverick - Childminder	£1,373	IT equipment	Recommended in principle: - Needs to supply quotation. Suggested contacting NCMA for support in purchase appropriate equipment
3	Amanda Lawson – Childminder	£1,800	To supply and erect a playhouse in garden & purchase of radio flyer wagon	Recommended in principle: - Revisit; concerns raised about use of flyer wagon and necessity to provide a base for playhouse. Suggested contacting NCMA for support
3	Dunnington Children	£7,318	Provide and erection of Playscheme Classroom, picnic tables and partition gate and bikes	Recommended in principle:- Playscheme classroom, partition gate and bikes Revisit: seating subject to site plan and where everything fits
6	Clifton Day Nursery	£6,367	To supply and erect timber shelter and IT equipment and resources	Recommended in principle: Wooden shelter subject to more information Revisit: lack of information for IT and other resources
7	Bright Beginnings	£20,000	Supply and fit porch and canopy. Soft play surfaces and supporting material/equipment. IT equipment , digital cameras, listening centre, bigkeys and mouse.	Recommended in principle: Porch, canopy, soft play surface, IT equipment Revisit: IBM centre of Young learners
8	First Steps @ Roko	£24,300	Fence in new area and provide garden and some play equipment	Revisit: The design submitted is a garden and does not provide a challenging/imaginative and inclusive environment for children.
11	Gemma Doig – Childminder	£10,000	To put doors on front and rear of carport	Recommended in principle: but needs

			for storage and play. Replace existing door with patio doors to create wheelchair access. Remodel toilet area.	confirmation of planning permission and building regulation approval.
12	Dawn Bailey – Childminder	£500	Outdoor storage for outdoor play equipment	Recommended in principle: - Bid lacks detail – Suggested they contact NCMA for support
15	Debbie Kilvington	£3,459	Outdoor storage, fencing and printer	Revisit: providers responsibility to ensure garden is safe and secure. Suggested they contact NCMA for support
16	Derwent Ducklings	£10,000	To work with Wheldrake playgroup to create outdoor and learning area	Revisit: Needs 3 matching quotation from separate supplier. Clearer description of what is required. Plan of what it looks like now and what it will look like when completed. No policies included
17	Poppleton Ousebank Nursery	£3,925	To erect shelter or covered way outside nursery so that children have move choice of activities	Revisit: Vague no details how it supports children’s learning and development
19	Straylands Day Nursery	£12,000	Address drainage of outdoor area, re-surface with safety surface & provide climbing equipment	Revisit: not able to fund the drainage issues.
21	Scarcroft Day Nursery	£6,229	Sand tray, accessible storage, low chairs, multiculture baskets, bookcase craft tables, room dividers	Recommend in principle: Equipment Revisit: Room dividers
26	Wheldrake Pre-School	£10,000	To work with Derwent Ducklings playgroup to create outdoor and learning area	Revisit: Needs 3 matching quotation from separate supplier. Clearer description of what is required. Plan of what it looks like now and what it will look like when completed. No policies included
27	Wheldrake Pre-School	£5,000	To provide additional play equipment	Revisit: Needs 3 matching quotation

				from separate supplier. Suggested the bids 16, 26 and 27 are linked together
35	St. Wilfrid's Day Nursery	£2,558	Playhouse, picnic tables, garden bench, greenhouse, herb plants, digital cameras, Music and outdoor play equipment	Recommended in principle Revisit: music and outdoor play equipment need to be more open ended and natural materials
38	Kaleidoscope City	£5,000	To convert existing two rooms into one room. To replace existing cool white florescent lighting with full spectrum lighting	Revisit: Check for building regulation approval. 3 quotations required. No inclusion policy included.
41	Panda Playgroup	£9,924	Provide IT equipment and replace old furniture. Equipment and resources to meet EYFS goals.	Revisit: Bid needs to be based on 'wow' factor and consultation
	Total	£139,753		

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26 August 2008

Dear Provider

### **Quality and Access for All Young Children – Three Year Allocations of Early Years Capital Grant**

I am writing to let you know about funding which the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) has made available. This presents a really significant opportunity for providers to implement changes to the environment to better meet welfare standards.

#### **Aims of the Funding**

There is a total of £2.1 million over the next three years to be spent on capital projects (those with a value of at least £2,500 resulting in a tangible asset). There are three aims to the funding;

- To improve the quality of the learning environment in early years settings to support delivery of the EYFS, with a particular emphasis on improving play and physical activities and ICT resources.
- To ensure all children, including disabled children, are able to access provision.
- To enable providers to deliver the extension to the free offer for 3 and 4 year olds and to do so flexibly.

Capital expenditure is not necessarily limited to single purchases over £2,500; the following categories of expenditure are also included:

- **Grouped assets:** i.e. assets of a similar nature are purchased at the same time, for example as part of a project. The value of the individual assets may be below £2,500, but the total value of all the assets determines whether expenditure falls above or below the capitalisation threshold.
- **Bulked assets:** i.e. a bulk purchase of furniture or computer assets where the value of the individual items is below £2,500. As with grouped assets, the total value determines whether expenditure falls above or below the capitalisation threshold.

An Environment Strategy for the Early Years and Extended Schools Service has also just been developed with our partners on the Places Sub Group, a sub group of the Early Years and Extended Schools Partnership. The Strategy describes our vision for quality childcare environments and can be viewed on our website at <http://www.york.org.uk/earlyyears.html> alongside the letter from the DCSF that sets out the detail of this particular grant.

#### **Value for Money**

Projects that provide the most long-term impact for the investment requested will be viewed favourably. This could include those schemes where the costs are being met from one or more other sources as well as this capital grant.

I should also highlight here that applications submitted after consultation with all partners within your Shared Community Partnership will of course receive high priority.

### Bidding Process

A bid form for you to complete is available at <http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/earlyyears.html>. Alternatively a hard copy can be obtained from your Extended Schools Remodelling Consultant (ESRC) or Childminder Development Worker.

Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services and Advisory Panel (EMAP) will decide on the bids.

The following table shows what you can bid for and how much funding you may be able to access.

<b>What you can bid for</b>	<b>How much</b>	<b>What we need</b>
Equipment Mostly portable, including ICT, musical instruments, outdoor play equipment etc plus appropriate storage, such as cabinets or a shed for outdoor toys	£2,500 - £5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written permission from the owner of the premises</li> <li>• Written quotations from 3 suppliers</li> <li>• Short explanation of the impact of this equipment on the quality of provision</li> <li>• Inclusion policy</li> </ul>
Equipment and some minor building adaptations or external work This could include a good-quality outdoor play area, accessible toilet and changing areas etc.	Up to £10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extended Schools Remodelling Consultant (ESRC)/Childminder Development worker involvement</li> <li>• Inclusion policy</li> <li>• Community access to the facility where appropriate</li> <li>• Written permission from the owner of the premises</li> <li>• Security of tenure for at least 3 years</li> <li>• Business plan/strategy for how the quality of provision will be improved</li> <li>• Written quotations from 3 suppliers</li> <li>• Payment will be against invoices and only up to that amount or the lowest quote, whichever is the least.</li> </ul>
To assist with minor works for a provider moving on to alternative premises	Up to £20,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written agreement of the owner, giving security of tenure for at least 5 years</li> <li>• Statement of partnership working to improve quality and raise standards of staff training and provision</li> <li>• Inclusion policy</li> <li>• Written quotations from 3 suppliers</li> <li>• Payments will be made through CYC</li> <li>• Potential match funding</li> </ul>
To assist with major works for a provider moving on to alternative premises	Over £20,000	As above plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed targets and outcomes to be measured as Performance Indicators</li> </ul>

What you can bid for	How much	What we need
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential match funding</li> </ul>

**Please note: applications will be considered in batches. Closing dates for applications are 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2008, 25<sup>th</sup> February 09 and 27<sup>th</sup> May 09.**

Support in completing applications

Support is available from your ESRC, Childminder Development Worker and the Business Support Team within Early Years and Extended Services. Planning and Resources can also advise on other matters relating directly to capital builds such as planning permission etc. It would be helpful if you could notify your ESRC or Childminder Development Worker of potential ideas you may have. This will give us an indication of the levels of support you may need to complete your bid.

I look forward to receiving bids that meet the agreed criteria and that are also in line with our Strategy. Please contact your ESRC or Childminder Development Worker in the first instance if you wish to discuss any aspect of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Barbara A Mands  
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