



**Notice of a public meeting of
Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors Reid (Chair), Fitzpatrick (Vice-Chair), Scott, Potter, Gunnell, Brooks and Taylor
Mr Thomas (Co-opted Statutory Member) and
Mr Pennington (Co-opted Statutory Member)

Date: Wednesday, 17 September 2014

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The Thornton Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G039)

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point, Members are asked to declare:

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

which they may have in respect of business on this agenda

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 10)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22 July 2014.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. The deadline for registering is **5.00pm on Tuesday 16 September 2014**. Members of the public can speak on agenda items or matters within the remit of the committee.

To register to speak please contact the Democracy Officers for the meeting, on the details at the foot of the agenda.

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The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/download/3130/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_of_council_meetings

4. York Theatre Royal: 2013/14 Part Year Performance Update (Pages 11 - 22)

This report is to inform the Scrutiny Committee of the progress and performance of the York Theatre Royal under the current Service Level Agreement (SLA).

5. Single Equality Scheme update and Refresh (Pages 23 - 32)

The purpose of this report is to inform Members on the refresh of York's Equality Scheme. They are requested to note progress made in the refresh of York's Equality Scheme and:

- i. comment on:
 - a) The draft priorities as detailed in Annex 1 and;
 - b) The draft measures relevant to this committee, as tabled in paragraph 9.
- ii. Advise whether these priorities and measures should be the area of focus in the revised equality scheme or are there any others that should be considered.

- 6. 2014/15 First Quarter Financial Monitoring Report** (Pages 33 - 38)
This report analyses the latest performance for 2014/15 and forecasts the financial outturn position by reference to the service plan and budgets for all of the relevant services falling under the responsibility of the Director of Communities & Neighbourhoods and the Director of Children's Services, Education & Skills.
- 7. Update on Parks Development** (Pages 39 - 52)
Members will receive a presentation on recent developments and future plans for parks and open spaces across the City.
- 8. Annual Report of the City of York Safeguarding Board 2013/14** (Pages 53 - 76)
This report will give the Committee an indication of key areas of progress in implementing actions from the previous annual report and business plan between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014. It identifies areas for further improvement and key priorities for safeguarding across the city for 2014/15. The Committee are asked to consider these priority areas in its scrutiny activities where appropriate.
- 9. School Improvement Update** (Pages 77 - 84)
This report provides an update on primary and secondary school performance in 2014, together with information about the position of York schools according to Ofsted judgements during 2013-14.
- 10. Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee Workplan 2014/15** (Pages 85 - 86)
Members are asked to consider the Committee's workplan for the 2014-15 municipal year and receive a verbal update on ongoing reviews.
- 11. Urgent Business**
Any other business which the Chair considers urgent.

Democracy Officers

Catherine Clarke and Louise Cook (job share)

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551031
- Email catherine.clarke@york.gov.uk and louise.cook@york.gov.uk

(If contacting by email, please send to both Democracy officers named above).

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officers responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

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

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

 **(01904) 551550**

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	22 July 2014
Present	Councillors Reid (Chair), Fitzpatrick (Vice-Chair), Scott, Potter, Gunnell, Brooks and Taylor
Apologies	Mr Thomas and Mr Pennington

8. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the register of interests, any prejudicial interests or disclosable interests which they might have in respect of the business on the agenda or any other general interests they might have within the remit of the committee. None were declared.

9. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the last meeting of the Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Wednesday 18 June 2014 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10. Public Participation

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

11. York Theatre Royal: 2013/14 End of Year Performance Update

As the Chief Executive of York Theatre Royal was unable to attend the meeting Members agreed to defer this item and receive an end of year progress and performance update at the next meeting.

Resolved: That this item be deferred until the next Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting due to take place on Wednesday 17 September 2014.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's role under the Service Agreement.

12. 2013/14 Finance and Performance Year End Report

Members received a report that analysed the latest performance for 2013-14 and forecasted the outturn position by reference to the service plan and budgets for all of the relevant services falling under the responsibility of the Director of Children's Services, Education and Skills and the Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods.

The Finance Manager gave an update and informed Members that although reducing expenditure in non essential services had resulted in Children Services, Education & Skills Directorate decreasing their amount of overspend there was still significant financial pressures in Looked After Children (LAC). The Director of Children's Services & Education added that the performance in LAC had provided an impressive reduction in the numbers of children placed inside and outside the City.

Members discussed the financial pressures related to LAC and raised concerns regarding the overspend reported, the financial pressures on the service and why the reduction in LAC had not achieved any savings.

In answer to Members questions officers confirmed that:

- the number of cases outside the City was around the late teens/low twenties.
- the Virtual Head monitored the academic side of all LAC placed outside the City.
- the reason for the projected 5% overspend in Children's Specialist Services was mainly due to LAC, including the out of City placements.
- they would contact Members to confirm why the Libraries and Archives projected overspend was over 10%.

The Director confirmed he was working to reduce the budget pressures in LAC to ensure they were not repeated in future years. He stated that although significant progress in reducing the number of LAC had happened, the associated reduction in expenditure had not been as significant as predicted. To allow the Directorate to achieve a balanced budget at the end of 2014-15 officers would be looking at other budget areas within Children Services. He confirmed that a proportion of children were now in joint care between the Local Authority and parents which reduced figures but not costs.

Members thanked officers and suggested that future reports contain the performance strength and weaknesses to enable them to scrutinise the service.

- Resolved: (i) That the report be noted.
(ii) That Members be informed on the Libraries and Archives projected overspend.¹

Reason: To update the committee on the latest financial position for 2013-14.

Action Required

Confirm to Members why the Libraries and Archives projected overspend was over 10%

RH

13. Bi-Annual Safeguarding Update

Members considered a report which provided them with a six monthly update on key children's safeguarding issues, in particular key local and national safeguarding developments since January 2014.

The Director of Children's Services & Education stated that the Ofsted thematic inspection, which took place on 21 and 22 January 2014, had been published in July 2014. The inspection was carried out by two inspectors who reviewed the quality and effectiveness of the early help offer, in particular, the arrangements that were in place across City of York Council (CYC) and its partnerships to prevent any issues escalating to the point where statutory intervention was needed.

The Director confirmed it was a relatively short inspection and he highlighted the strengths, weaknesses and conclusions listed in the report. He confirmed that officers were actively working to improve services, including:

- strengthening the referral and assessment arrangements.
- improving how children specialist social care services can be accessed.
- changing the structure of how the front door service works.
- strengthening the performance management of case loads.
- improving quality of social care practice and
- developing a new referral form.

He also stated that officers were preparing for an Ofsted inspection which was due to take place before May 2015. The first inspection would cover safeguarding arrangements and Looked After Children (LAC). It was anticipated that eight inspectors would visit over a 4 week period and would analyse around 100 case files with a large proportion being LAC records.

Some Members queried how the challenges of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) were managed. It was confirmed that CAF was an intensive process that required continuous contact with the yor-ok Board and partner organisations. Officers would continue to encourage users to be more consistent when completing a CAF.

Discussions took place regarding areas for development and some Members were disappointed that inspectors had stated that some plans and assessments did not reflect the child's voice, experience or journey. Officers confirmed that this was an area of development and they were working to improve this section.

Some Members felt Annex 1, External Scrutiny of Services for the Review Period table, was left open ended and should contain a more detailed conclusion. It was agreed that future reports would include an update on actions taken to provide a clear reassurance that officers were responding to each area.

In answer to some questions officers confirmed that:

- an update on the Sheffield Peer Challenge could be distributed to Committee Members.
- that staff structure arrangements had changed over the last 18 months but the Peer Challenge Team had confirmed that the directorate now needed a period of stability.

Resolved:

- (i) That the outcome and recommendations of the Ofsted thematic inspection of Early Help be noted.
- (ii) That a further update on the plans for a Peer Challenge of the referral and assessment arrangements including feedback from this process be received in December.
- (iii) That the work underway to prepare for the forthcoming Ofsted inspection be noted.
- (iv) That the outcome of the most recent DBS audit be noted and future updates on this position as part of the six monthly reporting cycle be received.
- (v) That the continued progress of the Keeping Families Together strategy be noted and further updates on the progress towards developing a refreshed strategy for 2015/18 be received.
- (vi) That an update on the Sheffield Peer Challenge be circulated around Committee Members.¹

Reason: To allow Members to be fully informed on the key issues affecting children's safeguarding in York.

Action Required

(i) That an update on the Sheffield Peer Challenge be circulated around Committee Members.

JS

14. Narrowing the Gap in York - Scoping Report for Possible Scrutiny Review

Members considered a scoping report asking them to agree whether or not to proceed with a review based on the actions taken to narrow gaps in attainment and progress in York.

The Assistant Director of Education & Skills gave an update and informed Members that by the age of 19 the gap in attainment between disadvantaged young people (as defined by them being in receipt of Free School Meals at age 15) and their peers in York were amongst the widest anywhere in the country. She felt a review would help to own this as a collective issue to help improve national performance indicators and narrow the gaps in attainment.

She also confirmed that officers had been working to establish an accurate profile of the York 300 cohort and had chosen to do a pilot scheme using 350 pupils in 2013/14 Year 5 group. These Children would move into Year 6 in September 2014 and sit their Key Stage 2 (KS2) tests in summer 2015. This would enable officers to retrieve a faster return on the work undertaken with these pupils and help identify any barriers by analysing their attainment at KS2.

Members noted that York schools were also divided into geographical and attainment cluster groups which had been analysed by officers to provide schools with information on how to improve their intervention work. Officers found that the results varied from each school, and schools who had a small number of disadvantaged pupils were struggling to close the gaps, possibly due to funding issues.

To improve partnership working officers were launching a narrowing the gap conference in October for schools and partners to attend to allow them to work together, share information and examples of best practice.

Members thanked the Assistant Director for the honesty and clarity in her report and after a lengthy discussion agreed this topic should be reviewed. Members approved the focus of the review and decided that the following should be identified:

- i) Good practice from other Local Authorities with narrow gaps including early years.
- ii) Why do some clusters and schools in York have narrower gaps and what can be learnt from their practice?
- iii) How schools with small numbers of pupils eligible for the pupil premium can use the premium more effectively to narrow the gap.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Committee in principle agreed to a review.
- (ii) That further information be presented.
- (iii) That the Task Group Members be agreed at the next meeting.
- (iv) That this review starts in November 2014 and the final report be presented in January 2015.
- (v) That the Committee Members be invited to the Narrowing the Gap Conference on 3 October 2014.¹

Reason: To progress the work of the Committee in line with Scrutiny procedures and protocols

Action Required

That the Committee Members be invited to the Narrowing the Gap Conference on 3 October 2014

MS

15. Update on Implementation of Recommendations from Previously Completed Scrutiny Review on Careers, Education, Information, Advice & Guidance

Members considered a report that provided them with an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed scrutiny review of Careers, Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG).

Officers gave an update and confirmed that a new statutory guidance had been issued in April 2014 and would be implemented in September 2014. This would allow the Charter Mark framework to be more accessible to schools allowing them to monitor their own progress against the statutory guidance.

Members were informed that the Connexions Service Team were going through a transformation due to budget challenges and ways to improve the efficiency of the service were being identified.

Officers confirmed they had provided different options to schools, pupils, parents and employers on CEIAG and had arranged various activities and events for them to feed into including apprenticeship events.

Members considered the 10 recommendations listed in Annex A and agreed:

- To sign off recommendations i, ii and iii as these had been fully implemented.
- That recommendation iv should not be signed off because officers were still further developing this framework. Officers agreed to inform the Committee which two schools had not engaged in the CYC Charter Mark and why.¹
- That recommendation v should not be signed off because adjustments in statutory duties needed to be assessed and brought back to the Committee.
- That recommendation vi should not be signed off whilst the Local Authority was continuing to actively work on stronger links between schools and employers.
- That the Committee would continue to receive further updates regarding recommendations vii.
- That recommendation viii was ongoing because officers were continuing to look at ways to improve this provision.
- That recommendation ix was pending whilst officers explored ways to work with schools and colleges.
- That recommendation x was pending until a copy of the letter had been seen by the committee and results had been accessed.

Some Members questioned if contact with the two Universities had been made as they had funding available to provide a range of information to schools, including taster days.

Members noted that this service area was due further savings so the ability to stimulate some activities could be reduced. Members thanked officers for the work they had done and continued to do and were pleased to hear that this review had encouraged two large companies to join the apprenticeship scheme.

Resolved: (i) That the report be noted.
(ii) That recommendations i, ii, iii from Annex A be signed off.
(iii) That an update report be received in 6 months time.

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which were still to be fully implemented.

Action Required

Inform the Committee which two schools had not engaged in the CYC Charter Mark and why

SF

16. Entrepreneurship for Young People - Scoping Report

Members considered a report that proposed a scope for the suggested review of Entrepreneurship for Young People.

The Scrutiny Officer circulated the following draft remit:

Aim: To create a culture in York schools where entrepreneurial learning is pervasive, through improving entrepreneurship education and opportunities for employability and enterprise-related activities for York pupils

Objectives:

- i) To identify best practice in other Local Authority areas which perform strongly on relevant performance indicators
- ii) Review current practices in York to identify:
 - a) The commitment of local schools and colleges to developing the skills and enterprising behaviours identified by the Leeds City Region LEP.
 - b) Local good practice
- iii. To identify appropriate sources of employability and enterprise-related activities for York schools

Members discussed the remit and agreed to change the word 'pervasive' to 'embedded' in the Aim and in point ii a) replace the words 'developing the' with 'develop the relevant' and delete 'identified by the Leeds City Region LEP'.

Resolved:

- (i) That the above remit be agreed with the noted changes.
- (ii) That the review be completed by January 2015.

Reason: To carry out the review in line with agreed scrutiny procedures and protocols.

17. Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee Workplan 2014/15

Members considered the Committee's work plan for the 2014-15 municipal year.

Resolved: That the following be agreed:

- York Theatre Royal – SLA Performance Bi-annual Update Report be moved to 17 September 2014.
- Parks Development Update be reported on 17 September 2014
- Feedback on Peer Challenge, referral and assessment arrangements be reported on 17 September 2014 if available.
- Draft Final reports for Task Groups be reported on Wednesday 21 January 2015.
- Officers seek confirmation that the Chair of York@Large was available to attend the next meeting.

Reason: To keep the Committees workplan updated.

18. Members Comments

Members thanked officers for their reports in particular the honesty and refreshing approach found in the Director of Children's Services, Education and Skills reports.

Cllr Reid, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.00 pm].

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Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee

17 September 2014

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities, Culture and Public Realm)

York Theatre Royal: 2013/14 Part Year Performance Update**Summary**

1. This report is to inform the Scrutiny Committee of the progress and performance of the York Theatre Royal under the current Service Level Agreement (SLA).

Background

2. The SLA is a joint agreement between the Council and the York Theatre Royal. The SLA sets out:
 - The key objectives of the partnership and partnership arrangements
 - Performance targets and indicators to be met by the Theatre
 - Performance information to be provided, review and reporting procedures
3. The key partnership requirements covered in the SLA are:
 - To maintain and develop York Theatre Royal as a local, regional and national theatre provider, creating productions of quality, daring, delight and accomplishment for the citizens of York and the region, and for visitors to the city.
 - To continue to develop local and nationally significant programmes of work with partnerships across the UK and internationally, that contribute to making York a vital and vibrant city and extending our reputation for world class culture.
 - To encourage creative expression and engagement with the community, through a diverse programme of work, both on and off stage, that offers a cultural mix of entertainment, innovation, participation and enjoyment.
 - To develop work and activities that promotes the enjoyment of Theatre with older people and diverse communities.

- To work in active partnership with business, education, community and arts organisations, and local authority service providers to extend both the range and reach of the Theatre's work.
4. Reports are brought to Scrutiny Committee twice a year to report on performance against the outcomes agreed in the SLA. Annex 1 sets out in detail the work undertaken in the last 6 months and the plans in development for the future.

Consultation

5. This report is for information only and there is no consultation to consider.

Options

6. This report is for information only and there are no options to consider.

Council Plan

7. York Theatre Royal contributes to a number of corporate objectives including developing opportunities for residents and visitors to experience York as a vibrant and eventful city, improving opportunities for learning, and in strengthening York's economy through investment in the tourism infrastructure.

Implications

8. **Finance:** The Council's funding for 2013/14 is £273,600 and will reduce to £203,600 in 2014/15.
9. The report has no additional implications relating to:
 - Human Resources
 - Legal
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Information Technology
10. **Equalities.** Annex 1 sets out the contribution the Theatre makes to support our Equalities agenda. In particular their discounted theatre Tickets for Young people have been particularly well used as has the provision of an audio description service for each main house production.

Risk Management

- 11. In compliance with the Council’s risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

- 12. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the report and comment upon the progress that the Theatre has made in the last 6 months

Reason: To fulfil the Council’s role under the Service Agreement.

Contact Details

Author and Chief Officer responsible for the report:

Charlie Croft
Assistant Director (Communities, Culture & Public Realm)

Report Approved



Date 08.09.14

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

Annex 1: York Theatre Royal Performance report

Abbreviations:

SLA - Service Level Agreement

AHRC - Arts and Humanities Research Council

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York Theatre Royal: Service Level Agreement Report September 2014

This report will give an update of delivery against the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the City of York Council and York Citizens' Theatre Trust Ltd. The report covers the period from January to August 2014.

The total audience attendance from January to August 2014 was 87,819.

PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY 2012/2018

SLA conditions are noted in bold with the details of how the theatre has been working to achieve them underneath.

- 1. Provide a year round programme of work which shall include in-house productions, including a pantomime, youth theatre productions, touring drama productions, and hires to local amateur companies**

Over the period from January to August 2014 York Theatre Royal has presented 343 performances across the Main Theatre, Studio Theatre and De Grey Ballroom.

York Citizens Theatre Trust produced 5 home-produced shows over this period including **Aladdin & the Twankeys, Brassed Off, A Number, Monday's Child and The Wind in the Willows.**

This season also included the Little Feet Festival week of the best of Children's Theatre in the UK. The theatre was given a Space theme for the week and we had performances for children from 6 months old. Highlights included the Science Museum **Energy Show, Elves and the Shoemaker** and a production of Michael Morpurgo's **I Believe in Unicorns**. This Festival is held every two years.

York Theatre Royal also took part in the city-wide Festival of Ideas, with 2 free events at the theatre including **An Audience with Michael Morpurgo** attended by 850 people, mostly young children.

This period included a very varied, high quality and very popular programme of theatre in the Main Theatre. Productions ranged from an outstanding Welsh-produced stage version of Dylan Thomas' **Under Milkwood** to the ingenious West-End comedy **The Play That Goes**

Wrong. English Touring Opera presented two operas in the season including the rarely performed Britten opera, **Paul Bunyan**. Northern Broadsides presented a new play, set during the first world war in the West Riding villages of Saddleworth and a highly acclaimed stage version of Sebastian Faulkes' **Birdsong** played to a large and appreciative audience.

During the visit of the Tour De France, the theatre played host to a number of events. These included two community choirs performing on the Main Stage in a programme of French songs and a new play called **Cis & Barbiche** about the relationship between a French Airman and an English woman who met in York. A French Officers Ball was also hosted in the De Grey Rooms Ballroom. The theatre themed itself as a French cafe for the week and in collaboration with the Yorkshire Air Museum featured a Hurricane aeroplane on its roof.

York Theatre Royal enjoyed the productions of some of the best of community theatre during the year with **Hot Mikado** and **Avenue Q** from York Light Opera on the Main Stage and in the Studio Theatre three productions including York Shakespeare Project's sold out **Twelfth Night**.

We supported a number of new theatre companies to produce in the city. Productions included **The Importance of Being Earnest** in the Mansion House and **Sherlock Homes** in The Guildhall.

2. Provide sign language interpreted and audio described performances and touch tours

All of the York Citizens Theatre Trust productions in the main theatre have sign interpreted, audio-described and captioned performances. All theatre productions that tour to the theatre for a week in the main theatre offer audio-described performances. All audio-described performances are preceded by a touch tour of the stage. The theatre has a pool of dog sitters for guide dogs.

3. Provide a regular Youth Theatre for at least 250 young people annually

Across the Spring and Summer terms over 300 young people took part in the Youth Theatre in 14 different youth theatre groups from the ages of 5 to 18. They attended weekly classes, extra rehearsals and Youth Forum sessions.

5-8's performed two new plays in the Studio about bees - **Misbeehiving** and **What's the Buzz?**

8-11's performed four half hour long plays in the Studio - **Jack the Giantkiller** by Oladipo Agboluaje, **A Thousand Reasons Not to Fly** by Daniel Jamieson, **The Genius** by Phil Porter and **The Seal Wife** by Brendan Murray.

11-14's did Mystery Plays for our Age in city centre churches, St Olave's and St Helen's, with two new specially commissioned pieces by Helen Cadbury.

14-16's performed 3 adaptations of Shakespeare plays in the Studio - **Macbeth**, **The Tempest** and **Julius Caesar**.

16+ have been learning puppetry and Shakespeare, and some of them created a piece to perform at **Remembrance and Beyond** – a community arts project that resulted in an event in the Ballroom in July. At the event various community groups and professional artists made a creative contribution (through poetry, theatre, music etc) that represented their response to the theme of remembrance and war. There was also representation from local charities, social and political groups, making a healthy mix of different generations, cultures, and professions.

After an extremely successful pilot last year, Project Q is now a regular session for 8 – 13 year olds with learning difficulties and additional needs. These sessions will be extra creative, playful and supportive to suit the needs of our new members!

Outreach and Community Youth Theatres

In addition to the regular Youth Theatre sessions run in the De Grey Rooms we have also introduced new sessions aimed at specific groups both in community settings and at the theatre. We manage a new Drama Group at Burton Stone Lane Community Centre, we deliver part of the Askham Bryan Princes Trust employability scheme for 16-25 year old NEETS and we have started a new referral-only weekly drama session for vulnerable young people between the ages of 12-16.

4. Provide educational activities related to each main house production, including special matinees, talks, teachers' packs, workshops and visits to schools

Early Years

Early Years work also goes from strength to strength, and we are now offering regular weekly activities with **Storymakers** for 3-5 years olds, **Singamajigs** for 1 – 4 year olds and **Sing and Sign** for babies from 6 months old.

Schools

We are working with schools on many different projects.

Across this period we have had long-term, cross-curricula relationships with York schools including, Knavesmire, Joseph Rowntree and St Olave's.

Additionally as part of the Learning and Performance Network run in conjunction with the Royal Shakespeare Company and York High School as the Hub school we are working with seven cluster schools: Acomb primary, St.Barnabas CE primary, Poppleton Road primary, Woodthorpe primary, Westfield primary, Applefields School (specialist school for cognition and learning) and Joseph Rowntree school. This relationship will culminate in a schools festival at York Theatre Royal in 2015.

During this period we launched the International Centre for Arts & Narrative with York St. John University. This offers free arts workshops to schools and community groups using a range of artistic disciplines including theatre, music, dance, storytelling, poetry, visual art and film. These are held regularly in the De Grey Rooms and support teachers in using the arts to encourage the creative imaginations of young people. New techniques and approaches to learning are explored in these workshops. This has been made possible through new funding through the Arts & Humanities Research Council. Schools who have regularly taken advantage of these stimulating sessions include Badger Hill, Hambleton, St George's, Cawood, Applefields, Knavesmire, Pocklington and Kirkbymoorside. This service for schools will continue for the next academic year and beyond.

Our Playhouse Festival of new theatre especially written for 8 -10 year olds to perform took place at the end of the Summer term with teachers and pupils from Park Grove, Archbishop of York Junior School, Sand

Hutton, Clifton Green and Knavesmire Primary directing and performing in the Studio Theatre.

We secured an AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award fund for a PhD studentship on Storytelling and Adolescence with York St John University and together we appointed a storyteller who will be working in the city with students for the next 3 years.

This practice-based studentship will explore storytelling with and for adolescent participants. It sets out to develop and evaluate practice that utilises storytelling as an empowering medium through which young people can take control of actively constructing their sense of self and their place in the world and their community.

5. Provide a range of activities to engage older people in activities connected with the Theatre

The new initiatives for older people that we introduced in the last year continue and include Spotlight talks and a Playreading Group. The Friends of York Theatre Royal continue to offer opportunities for older people to volunteer to support the work of the theatre. During this period the Friends fundraised to support the re-furbishment of the Cafe Patio and helped the theatre to buy new chairs and tables. A new Friends gardening team was also set up. Friends and volunteers continue to support the theatre in welcoming audiences.

We continue to offer two Adult Acting classes on a termly basis that are consistently over-subscribed. At the end of the summer term these groups performed a new play, **Thirty Little Plays About Life**, in the Studio Theatre.

6. Develop The Studio programme promoting new and culturally diverse work: using the space to provide opportunities for local voluntary arts organisations and to develop the creative infrastructure of the city.

The Studio Theatre programme between January and August included 43 different productions.

This included York Citizens Theatre Trust productions of **A Number** and **Monday's Child**. **A Number** by Caryl Churchill was a fascinating contemporary play about identity and the ethics of cloning and **Monday's Child** was a play for 3-7 year olds about memory loss and Alzheimer's.

York Theatre Royal was part of York Literature Festival in March with a number of talks and productions.

Theatre experiences for the very young were available across this period including 5 different productions during the Little Feet Festival.

Storytelling shows included **The Iliad**.

York Shakespeare Project, Settlement Players and York Writers Script Factor all featured in this period in the Studio Theatre. Settlement Players produced Githa Sowerby's **The Step Mother**, a fascinating insight into the position of working woman in Edwardian Britain.

7. Provide student placements and careers advice to support the development of a strong local creative sector

We have had a range of placements across this period.

We recruited a new intake of young people between the ages of 13 and 25 for the TakeOver Board. These young people will drive forward the next stage of the TakeOver initiative that creates opportunities for young people to manage the theatre. The tasks for this group include artistic programming for a Festival at York Theatre Royal, devising a participatory programme for young people to take part in, marketing the Festival and managing further recruitment of young people to take part in the week-long November Festival.

A further 9 student placements were offered and taken up during this period. They include Assistant Director on **A Number**, Design Assistant and Assistant Director on **Helver's Night** and Assistant Director of the young people cast for **The Wind in the Willows**.

We continue to offer short placements for school-age children throughout the year. These are always over-subscribed. These are offered through the normal carousel placements. We had 8 placements during this period.

We offer an advice surgery for young people wishing to explore pathways into a career in theatre.

8. Develop the De Grey Complex, along with the Theatre, as a creative production hub for the city

The De Grey Complex continues to be a busy hub for different creative companies and activities.

Resident in De Grey House are 3 creative companies in addition to York Citizens Theatre Trust, they include Aesthetica who publish an international culture magazine and manage the York Short Film Festival, Pilot Theatre Company and The Society of Ticket Agents and Retailers, a national agency.

The De Grey Rooms and House continue to offer creative production facilities for both the professional and voluntary arts. Companies using the spaces included tutti frutti, Flying Cloud Theatre, The Flanagan Collective, Telling Tales Theatre Company, Pilot Theatre, TongueTied, Mud Pie Arts, Ensemble Theatre Company and Bad Apple Theatre Company.

York College continue to hold most of its performing arts teaching sessions in the De Grey Rooms.

The De Grey Complex continues to host events and functions all year round including in this period national and international conferences on theatre and performance.

9. Work with key stakeholders on the Cultural Quarter developments as well as other developments as appropriate

During this period York Citizens Theatre Trust made a successful bid to the Arts Council Capital Fund for £2.9 million towards the £4.1 million Design & Construction project to upgrade the theatre facilities. Further bids to both national and regional trusts were also successful. £450,000 is the remaining target to be raised in the next 12 months. Work is planned to start at the end of March 2015. York Theatre Royal will be closed for 8 months and will re-open in December 2015.

Applications for Planning permission and Listed Building Consent were also successful.

Further Design development has continued throughout this period and tenders will go out to contractors in November 2014.

York Citizens Theatre Trust has negotiated a residency at The National Railway Museum during the closure period at York Theatre Royal. New

funding has successfully been sourced from the Arts Council's Grants for the Arts to support this project. Theatre activity during this residency will include a new Community Play, involving up to 500 York Citizens. It will take the story of the Railways in York as its inspiration.

York Citizens Theatre Trust has also been part of the ReInvigorate York group working to improve the public realm in Exhibition Square and St.Leonard's Place.

Liz Wilson Chief Executive

York Theatre Royal 5 September 2014.



Learning and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee 17 Sept 2014

Report of the Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Single Equality Scheme update and Refresh

Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Members on the refresh of York's Equality Scheme. They are requested to note progress made in the refresh of York's Equality Scheme and:
 - i. comment on:
 - a) The draft priorities as detailed in Annex 1 and;
 - b) The draft measures relevant to this committee, as tabled in paragraph 9.
 - ii. Advise whether these priorities and measures should be the area of focus in the revised equality scheme or are there any others that should be considered.

Background

2. York's Single Equality Scheme 'A Fairer York' was approved in December 2012 and is in the process of being refreshed. The purpose of an Equality Scheme is to tackle inequalities, discrimination and disadvantage for those who have characteristics protected (York's Community of Identity) under the Equality Act 2010) :

- Age
- Disability – physical and mental impairment
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation
- Carers

- People living in York's most deprived areas
3. The current scheme whilst including partnership actions is very much a council document. It is the intention that the revised scheme will move from being a council document to a partnership document recognising that no one agency can tackle York's inequalities alone. The new equality scheme is expected to gain the support of partners by December 2014 and will be a key piece of evidence in the Local Government Association Equality Assessment programmed for January 2015 when the council hopes to move from Achieving to Excellent in the Equality Framework for Local Government.
 4. Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC) have overall responsibility for scrutinising the council's approach to equalities. At their meeting in July 2014, CSMC received a year end report on progress of the council's existing Equality Scheme and considered a long list of issues for possible inclusion in the refreshed equality scheme.
 5. CSMC agreed that the issues should be grouped in line with the terms of reference of the individual overview and scrutiny committees and presented at their next round of meetings. Each committee to be asked for their views on which of those issues should be prioritised areas of focus and included in the refreshed equality scheme.
 6. To follow on from this to ensure equality issues become embedded into the work of individual scrutiny committees CSMC requested that each committee receive an update on the issues relevant to their terms of reference as part of their ongoing quarterly finance and performance monitoring reports. For this committee this approach is already embedded, the performance measures at paragraph 9 will be familiar as they are included in finance and performance monitoring updates or within other reports the committee discuss as part of task and finish reviews i.e. Educational Attainment of young people eligible for free school meals.

Emerging Priorities

7. However, things have moved on from the report that went to CSMC. Year end analysis of key equality measures, Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities, Fairness and Equalities Board priorities, council Business Plan priorities, issues arising from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and discussions with Building Strong Communities, Jobs and Economy and Protect Vulnerable People (Council Plan Themed

Boards), Corporate Management Team (CMT) and Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee have led to the following 4 draft priorities being identified (full details of which are attached at Annex 1):

- a. Economic Wellbeing
 - b. Learning and Educational Wellbeing
 - c. Health and Wellbeing
 - d. Community Wellbeing
8. The main area of focus for this committee centres around Learning and Educational Wellbeing focusing on reducing the numbers of people with no formal qualifications and improving educational attainment for children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM), Looked After Children , Gypsy and Traveller Children and those with Special Educational Needs.
9. Elements of the Economic Wellbeing , Health and Community Wellbeing priorities also fall within the remit of this committee i.e. tackling training inequalities for young people, increasing the number of physical active adults and safety of young people. Draft performance measures to be achieved are outlined in the table below.

Learning and Educational Wellbeing Measures	
<p>Increase</p> <p>% of working age population with no qualifications</p> <p>% Take up of early education places by eligible two year olds</p> <p>GCSE achieved (5A*-C inc. Eng and maths)</p> <p>% of young people who achieve a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19</p> <p>% of young people who achieve a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19</p>	<p>Decrease</p> <p>Difference in % points between pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) and those who are not, achieving Level 4 in English & Maths (E&M) at KS2</p> <p>Difference in % points between pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) and those who are not, achieving Level 4 in Reading, Writing and Maths at KS2</p> <p>Difference in % points between pupils eligible for FSM and those who are not, achieving 5+A*-C (Inc E&M) at KS4</p>

<p>% of pupils eligible for FSM achieving 5+ A* - C at GCSE (or equivalent) inc. E&M at KS4</p> <p>% of young people who were in receipt of a FSM at 15 who attain a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19</p> <p>% of young people who were in receipt of a FSM at 15 who attain a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19</p> <p>% of Looked After Children achieving Level 4+ in Reading, Writing and Maths at Key Stage 2</p> <p>% of children in care reaching Level 4 in Maths at KS2</p> <p>% of children in care achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS4 (incl English & Maths)</p> <p>Attainment of SEN (non-statemented) pupils at KS2 L4+ for both E&M</p> <p>Attainment of SEN (non-statemented) pupils at KS2 L4+ for Reading, Writing and Maths</p> <p>Attainment of SEN (non-statemented) pupils at KS4, 5+ A*-C inc E&M</p> <p>Educational attainment of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BaME) children</p>	<p>% of schools rated 'Inadequate' by Ofsted</p> <p>% of schools rated 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted</p>
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Economic Wellbeing Measures	
<p>Increase % of 17 year-olds in education or work based training (as at the end of each year)</p>	<p>Decrease 16-18 year olds not in employment education or training</p> <p>% of Year 12 young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)</p> <p>% of young people ending their YOT supervised order who are NEET</p> <p>% of Year 12 young people who are NEET who are Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LDD) (self-defined LDD, school action, school action + or statement)</p> <p>Percentage of Care Leavers at 19 not in Education, Employment or Training</p>
Health and Wellbeing Measures	
<p>Increase % of physical active adults</p>	<p>Decrease</p>
Community Wellbeing Outcomes	
<p>Increase</p>	<p>Decrease Numbers of Children with a Child Protection Plan</p> <p>% of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time</p> <p>% of pupils who reported frequent verbal bullying incidents in primary and secondary schools</p> <p>% of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual (LGB) pupils in secondary schools who reported frequent verbal bullying</p>

Consultation

10. Results of the Big York Survey, research in the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and feedback from the Fairness Equalities Board and Council Plan themed boards have informed the emerging priorities.

Council Plan

11. These proposals relate to the Council's corporate priorities of building strong communities and protecting vulnerable people, as set out in the Council's Plan 2011-15.

Implications

12. As a progress report there are no implications as this stage.

Recommendations

13. The Scrutiny Committee are requested to note progress made in the refresh of York's Equality Scheme and:
 - ii. comment on:
 - a) The draft priorities as detailed in Annex 1 and;
 - b) The draft outcomes relevant to this committee, as tabled in paragraph 9.
 - iii. Advise whether these priorities and outcomes should be the area of focus in the revised equality scheme or are there any others that should be considered.

Reason: To help ensure that relevant equality issues are reflected in the revised Equality Scheme.

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Report Approved **Date**

Wards Affected:

All



Specialist Implications Officer(s): None

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes

Annex 1: Draft Equality Scheme Priorities

Abbreviations

(CSMC) - Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee

(CMT) - Corporate Management Team

(KS) – Key Stage

(FSM) - Free School Meals

(E&M) – English & Maths

(Ofsted) - Office for Standards in Education

(GCSE) – General Certificate of Secondary Education

(SEN) – Special Educational Needs

(NEET) - Not in Education, Employment or Training

BAME) – Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic

(LDD) – Learning Difficulties and Disabilities

(LGB) – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual

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Single Equalities Scheme Priorities

The refresh of York's Single Equality Scheme is underway. As part of strengthening our partnership arrangements the document will move from being a council document to a partnership document recognising that no one agency can tackle York's inequalities alone. The new equality scheme is expected to gain the support of partners by December 2014 and will be a key piece of evidence in the LGA Equality Assessment programmed for January 2015. There is a number of inequality issues that need to be tackled summarised in the following priorities:

Economic Wellbeing: focuses on ensuring York enjoys good economic growth which tackles employment and training inequalities, particularly for women, lone parents, BaME communities, young people, and disabled people, those with a mental health condition. Our economic strategies also focus on reducing the gender pay gap, increasing adoption of the 'Living Wage' and continuing the work on poverty particularly reducing the number of children living in poverty.

Learning and Educational Wellbeing : focus on reducing the numbers of people with no formal qualifications and improving educational attainment for children entitled to Free School Meals, Looked After Children , Gypsy and Traveller Children and those with Special Educational Needs.

Health and Wellbeing: focuses on tackling homelessness, health inequalities particularly those within deprived neighbourhoods, tackling alcohol, smoking and substance misuse issues amongst young people and pregnant women, reducing childhood obesity, working to reduce the increasing incidence of food poverty and fuel poverty, increasing the number of physical active adults, improving the support for those with a mental health condition and the increasing number of people with dementia and/or people suffering social isolation whilst enabling them to live independently within the community for as long as possible recognising the valuable contribution carers, young carers and communities make.

Community Wellbeing focuses on: York as a welcoming city, respecting and celebrating diversity. Ensuring equality information is collected, monitored and used to improve access to services and service provision and tackles negative and discriminatory attitudes from the public and service providers towards BaME, LGBT, disabled people, those with a mental health condition and deaf people. Continuing to empower communities to develop

their own solutions to local issues enabling them to access, influence, and co-design and commission services to meet agreed outcomes. To build strong communities where people from different backgrounds respect each other and get on well together, where people feel safe and Hate Crime, bullying in schools (particularly against LGB pupils), Anti Social Behaviour, Honour Crime and Domestic Violence is tackled effectively and prevented. Improving housing conditions and increasing access to affordable housing for the elderly, disabled people, those with a mental health condition, Gypsy and Traveller Families and young people particularly those leaving care.



Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee

17 September 2014

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

2014/15 First Quarter Financial Monitoring Report – Learning & Culture

Summary

- 1 This report analyses the latest performance for 2014/15 and forecasts the financial outturn position by reference to the service plan and budgets for all of the relevant services falling under the responsibility of the Director of Communities & Neighbourhoods and the Director of Children's Services, Education & Skills.

Financial Analysis

- 2 The services that relate to the Learning & Culture Overview and Scrutiny committee cross two Directorates (Communities and Neighbourhoods and Children's Services, Education & Skills). A summary of the service plan variations is shown at table 1 below.

**Table 1 – Learning & Culture Financial Projections Summary
2014/15 – Quarter 1 - July**

	2014/15 Budget £000	Projected Outturn Variation	
		£000	%
CANS Directorate (Extract)			
Arts & Heritage	1,714	0	0%
Learning Services	43	+110	+255.8%
Libraries & Archives	2,026	+20	+1.0%
Sport & Active Leisure (Facilities)	867	0	0%
CANS Directorate (Extract)	4,650	+130	+1.5%
CSES Directorate			
Children's Specialist Services	22,312	+685	+3.1%
Education & Skills	11,417	-537	-4.7%
School Funding & Assets	108,252	0	0%

Directorate of CSES General	573	+358	+62.5%
Children's Services Core Funding	(116,588)	+201	+0.2%
CSES Directorate	25,966	+707	+2.7%
Total Learning & Culture	30,616	+837	+2.7%

- 3 The Communities & Neighbourhoods Directorate is reporting £130k overspend. The main overspend is due to restructuring within Learning Services following changes to their contracts which run for academic years (rather than on a financial year basis). There are also accommodation issues in Learning Services as they vacate Back Swinegate offices at the end of September.
- 4 The Children's Services, Education & Skills Directorate is reporting early financial pressures of £707k, mainly due to unachieved savings from previous years within children's social care budgets.
- 5 Despite a reduction in the number of Looked After Children and a reduction in expenditure of almost £1m since 2012/13, the underlying budget pressure from previous years results in a net projected overspend within children's social care resources budgets. This includes forecast pressures on Out of City and Independent Foster Agency placements (£372k and £368k respectively). It also includes additional staffing costs within Children's Safeguarding, Children's Trust teams and the Integrated Family Service totalling £220k.
- 6 Offsetting these overspends a significant saving of £105k is currently projected on children's services legal fees. This is in excess of the budget saving already delivered for 2014/15 but allows no provision for any new complex cases requiring significant expert legal support.
- 7 Within Education & Skills a number of posts are being kept vacant within the school improvement service, connexions service and children centres in advance of delivering savings approved for the 2015/16 financial year resulting in a forecast underspend of £418k.

Performance Analysis

- 8 The following section provides extracts from the York Monitor Quarter 1 Update for 2014/15 that are relevant to the remit of this committee, and assesses performance against key themes, including Council Plan Priorities and are also reflected in the council's Equality Scheme.

Create Jobs and Grow the Economy

Deliver a successful Tour de France Event.

- 9 On 6th July, York hosted the start of the 2nd day of the Grand Depart of the Tour de France 2014. 29,000 people watched at York racecourse and over 100,000 lined the streets to cheer the 200 riders as they passed the city's historic landmarks. The Tour de France is televised in 190 countries reaching 3.5 billion people and the event is estimated to be worth £100m for the region. The race was preceded by a 100 day festival of art and culture across Yorkshire as well as a festival of business in the week before. Detailed local reports from the TdF Hub 2014 will be written during the summer and a full report on the event will go to Cabinet in the autumn.

Build Strong Communities

Deliver a community stadium including a county standard athletics facility.

- 10 In May 2014 two final bids were submitted for the Design Build Operate and Maintain (DBOM) contract for the community stadium and city leisure facilities. These are being evaluated and a preferred bidder confirmed. A report will then go to Cabinet in September on progress with procurement and scheme details.

Deliver the Community Learning Strategy and expand opportunities available to residents to promote health and wellbeing, including the development of a pilot programme focusing on living with dementia.

- 11 The Council has worked with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Sports Coach UK to deliver its first dementia friendly training package and has delivered this to voluntary clubs in the city.
- 12 The Council is also running a sporting memories programme as part of the dementia friendly campaign and running 14 community and residential care sessions.
- 13 Fortnightly sessions of chair based exercises are being run in 5 sheltered housing schemes.

Protect Vulnerable People

Continue to reduce the number of looked after children.

- 14 The Multi Agency Looked After Children Executive Group met on 8th July to agree an approach to the review and refresh of the Looked After Children's strategy for 2015-18. An action plan has been agreed which includes:

- A survey of agencies views about their responsibilities and priorities for Looked After Children.
- A facilitated workshop between the Multi Agency Looked After Partnership Executive and the Corporate Parenting Board.
- Completion by the Children in Care Council of a refreshed "pledge" to inform the new strategy.

Launch the Learning & Development framework for social care practitioners to strengthen services for children requiring support and protection.

- 15 A Peer Challenge of the Referral and Assessment arrangements for Children's Social Care has been commissioned. This review will address:

- Practice Improvement Issues
- Service Manager development
- Vision implementation

Focus the School Improvement and Skills Service on improving the outcomes of the most vulnerable.

- 16 Action to date and planned includes:

- Analysis of gaps data will be available in quarter 2 and quarter 3.
- A narrowing the gap conference to share best practice is being planned for 9th December led by Sir John Dunford, National Pupil Premium Champion.
- Detailed profiling of the gaps data has taken place to inform and target the work of the school improvement team from September 2014.

Focus on Special Educational Needs and Disability

- 17 York has been nominated as a Champion for its Special Educational Needs and Disability reforms in recognition of the progress made in implementing far reaching reforms.
- 18 In York all our developments were based on co-production. We asked parents how they wanted to share information about their child with professionals, how we could improve assessment, how to increase their understanding of what is on offer and parents inspired us with their thoughts.
- 19 We were the first LA to publish a Local Offer in 2012, (show-cased on the Council for Disabled Children's website) and piloted Education Health and Care Plans, improving the plans in the process.
- 20 Feedback from parents involved in the new process has been outstanding. *"This was the most relaxed review we have been to. Everything I wanted to say was included. It made it easier. It was really about Jo and not about the paperwork."*

Equalities Update

- 21 The performance update provided above demonstrates progress on tackling inequalities for vulnerable groups in terms of support and improving outcomes.

Council Plan

- 22 This report is directly linked to the Protect Vulnerable People, Build Strong Communities and Create Jobs and Grow the Economy elements of the Council Plan 2011-15.

Implications

- 23 The financial and equalities implications are covered within the main body of the report. There are no significant human resources, legal, information technology, property or crime & disorder implications arising from this report.

Risk Management

- 24 Children's Social Services budgets are under significant pressure. On going work within the directorate may identify some efficiency savings in services that could be used to offset these cost pressures before the end

of the financial year. It will also be important to understand the level of investment needed to hit performance targets and meet rising demand for key statutory services. Managing within the approved budget for 2014/15 therefore represents a significant challenge, and the management team will continue to review expenditure across the directorate.

Recommendations

- 25 As this report is for information only there are no specific recommendations.

Reason: To update the committee on the latest financial and performance position for 2014/15.

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Report Approved **Date** *5 September 2014*

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

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

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

First finance and performance monitor for 2014/15, Cabinet 9 September 2014

Parks and Open Spaces Scrutiny Update September 2014

- What was the agenda in 2013
- What is the agenda today
- What will the agenda be by 2016 and what role can you play between now, then and in the future

2013 agenda

- Maintain existing sites to Green Flag standard
- Develop more sites to the standard & enter 2014/15
 - Hull Road Park
 - Scarcroft Green
- Develop greater community assistance / involvement across the city
- Support greater community ownership
- Apply the standard to local sites e.g.
 - Chapman's Pond, Acomb Green,
 - North Street Gardens, Tower Gardens

2014 agenda and beyond

- Period of transition. Repositioning is just starting
- £348k worth of savings delivered – Smarter York and mobile teams
- City looked great for the Tour de France
- We still are still successfully flying Green Flags
- More communities (and individuals) are involved in looking after green space supported by the Smarter York team
- More innovate ideas are coming forward for the long term care and funding of green space

- However – very significant savings are bound to be required in future years

..... what's happening on the ground

**West Bank House Heritage Centre
PUBLIC MEETING**

Thursday 18th July

Holgate Working Men's Club

New Lane Holgate

7pm



Public meeting to discuss ideas and opportunities for a community-based Heritage / Education Centre and Cafe for West Bank Park, Holgate

EVERYONE WELCOME

**What is
happening
on the
ground :
WBP**

What's happening on the ground : West Bank Park

- Summer Fair
- “On behalf of all Holgate residents, I’d like to say a massive thanks to all those who helped organise and run West Bank Park Summer Fair last weekend. This fantastic event was even better than last year and brought people of all ages together. In an age of austerity, when so many neighbourhoods are losing the things they hold dear so books can be balanced, it’s warming to know community spirit is alive and well”
S Beattie, Holgate (Letter in the York Press, Thurs 3rd July 2014)

What's happening on the ground: Rowntree Park

- Summer Fair



What's happening on the ground: Rawcliffe Country Park

- Phase 2 of the Bike Track being built through – SingletrAction a group of unpaid volunteers dedicated to trail design, construction and advocacy on behalf of riders, the main thing that unites us all is the belief that putting some effort into digging and diplomacy can make the future of mountain biking even better.



What's happening on the ground : Glen Gardens

Transfer of tennis courts to Heworth Tennis club and restoration by CYC



has contributed to

What's happening on the ground : Glen Gardens

- [Heworth](#) Tennis Club were given a £41,000 the grant by Sport England Inspired Facilities to build the new facility at East Parade, which will include an enclosed play space and hitting wall, to allow children and younger players to visit the club and try out their skills.
- Helen Walker, club chair, said: "We are thrilled and very excited. "Our current clubhouse is very old and dilapidated, so this will be a fantastic addition for both the club and Heworth. We would not have been able to win this grant without the strong support of The [City of York Council](#) who have made a matching contribution from Section 106 funds, so thank you to both Sport England and The City of York Council, and all the people who supported our bid."

 **Volunteer Taster Event** 
 Organised by The Conservation Volunteers

Hull Road Park

Big Environmental Beck Clean Up

on
Thursday 31 July 2014
Start times 9.30 am & 12.30 pm

Join in with other volunteers in cleaning up the beck in Hull Road Park.

Come for all or part of the day. Help do your bit and join your local community in making Hull Road Park a nicer place to be.

All equipment and refreshments provided by TCV.

Find out about other environmental volunteering activities in and around York.

 **Join in, feel good**
 For more information or to join us
 Contact TCV on 01904 644300
S.Badrick@tcv.org.uk

TCV
 The Conservation Volunteers

Reclaiming green places since 1959 www.tcv.org.uk

What's happening on the ground : Hull Road Park



What's happening on the ground: Hull Road Park

- Tang Hall Residents Association looking at future use the pavilion as a community cafe
- Pinnacle People – park now hosting employment training initiative for the long term unemployed – up to 15 people working 4 days a week on horticultural and maintenance task as part of return to work programme

What's happening on the ground: across the city

Smarter York officers, with support from Community & Equalities, and Housing Services are working on projects across York including

- Foxwood Park
- Back Park / Leeman Road
- St Georges Burial Ground
- Bootham Rest Garden
- Chapmans Pond
- Acomb Green



Parks and Open Spaces Scrutiny update - next steps

- What will the agenda be by 2016
- What role can you play between now and then
- Who to contact
 - Iain Dunn (East) – 07881 830074
 - Jenny Cairns (West) - 07941 871225

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Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee

17 Sept 2014

Report of the Independent Chair of City Of York Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Report of the City of York Safeguarding Board 2013/14

Summary

1. This report will give the Committee an indication of key areas of progress in implementing actions from the previous annual report and business plan between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014. It identifies areas for further improvement and key priorities for safeguarding across the City for 2014/15. The Committee are asked to consider these priority areas in its scrutiny activities where appropriate.

Background

2. The Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Children Board is required by statutory guidance to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. The report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Main/Key Issues to be considered

3. The report at Appendix A describes the activity during 2013/14 that informs judgement about the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements within the City of York during that period and indicates areas for further attention in the coming year. The report was considered and approved by the Safeguarding Board on the 23 July 2014 and is due for publication in September, this will be supported by a comprehensive reference document.

Consultation

4. Members of the Safeguarding Board have provided information for inclusion in the report. The Performance Sub group and Executive for the Board have provided input into the report which was co-ordinated by Children's Services Safeguarding Business Unit. The Health and Wellbeing Board were consulted on 16 July.

Analysis

5. This year has been a period of significant change; the introduction of the revised national guidance Working Together 2013, the start of a new Ofsted Inspection regime that, for the first time, includes a judgement about the effectiveness of the LSCB.
6. In the first quarter of 2014 The Board appointed a new Independent Chair, the City appointed a new Director of Children's Services and the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) appointed a new Chief Nurse. These are positive opportunities for further creative thinking and challenge to ensure the Board continues a culture of continuous improvement in 2014 /15.
7. As at 1 April 2013, the CCG took on its full powers but had some conditions to be met. One of which was to ensure a clear line of accountability for safeguarding is reflected in CCG governance arrangements and that there were arrangements in place to co-operate with the local authority in the operation of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board. Having provided assurances about this the CCG was fully authorised in January 2014.
8. During the summer of 2013 a peer review of the Board was commissioned which made a number of suggestions for improvement. An action plan has been implemented to respond to this. I have taken the opportunity as a new Chair to review the budget, support arrangements, structures and governance of the Board. The Safeguarding Board will consider these at a planned development day in October.
9. As Chair I have also prioritised developing the relationships with the YorOk Children's Trust and the Health and Wellbeing Board with the aim of making accountability more transparent, identifying synergies, reducing duplication of effort and ensuring safeguarding remains a key priority in the current financial context when all partners have reducing resources. This will continue for the rest of this year and into 2015/16.

10. In particular the Chair of the Adult Safeguarding Board and I are jointly committed to working together as that Board moves towards statutory status in April 2015.
11. Local Safeguarding Children Board's are now responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of early help. An Early Help strategy and action plan has been approved by the Board and the YorOk Board. In York the CYSCB has formally agreed through the Health and Wellbeing Board that the YorOK Children's Trust Board will lead on this area and will provide assurances to the CYSCB.
12. In the past year the York Health and Wellbeing Board has established a domestic violence strategy group with membership from all the relevant agencies and representatives from the CYSCB. This must ensure that responding children affected is central to the work and will provide crucial leadership for a key priority area for development. The Safeguarding Board has initiated joint work with the Police and Crime Commissioner and North Yorkshire Safeguarding Board to help shape commissioning intentions for 2015/16 in this area.
13. The Director of Public Health ensures that the needs of vulnerable children are a key part of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) that is developed by the Health and Wellbeing board. The CYSCB will work with the Health and Wellbeing Board, informing and drawing on any updated Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which should in future include an understanding of the prevalence of neglect in the City.

Strategic/Operational Plans

14. The Health and Wellbeing strategy and The YorOk Board plan "Dream Again" 2013-16 includes the key objective of "Ensuring children and young people always feel safe" and states that Safeguarding lies at the heart of all our work, as does ensuring that there are "arenas of safety" at home, at school and in the community.
15. YorOK Board has detailed how it will deliver the principles and actions for this priority in 'Dream Again', York's Strategic Plan for Children, Young People and their Families, 2013-2016.
 - Helping children and young people to always feel safe;
 - Supporting those who need extra help at the earliest

16. The Health and Wellbeing Board is currently refreshing its strategy and the Safeguarding Board have been invited to contribute to this. This positive engagement provides the Safeguarding Board an opportunity to influence the work of the Board to ensure key priorities for safeguarding children are aligned.

Implications

17. **Financial** - Statutory Guidance; Working Together 2013 states, "All Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB member organisations have an obligation to provide LSCBs with reliable resources (including finance) that enable the LSCB to be strong and effective. Members should share the financial responsibility for the LSCB in such a way that a disproportionate burden does not fall on a small number of partner agencies.
18. There is a forecast shortfall of funding for the Safeguarding Board over next three years which will need to be addressed if the current support systems and Board activity is to be maintained at the current level. This is already the subject of consideration by the key funders.
19. **Human Resources (HR)** - All partner agencies are required to provide assurances to the Safeguarding Board that they adhere to Safe Recruitment standards.
20. **Equalities** - There are no specific implications
21. **Legal** - In order to provide effective scrutiny, the CYSCB should be independent. It should not be subordinate to, nor subsumed within, other local structures.
22. **Crime and Disorder** – Without Walls Strategy 2011-2015 states "An essential factor affecting people's quality of life is that they feel safe and secure in their home and local area." Although this was written in the context of crime reduction it should also apply to safeguarding children. The Safer York Partnership is currently developing a new Community Safety Plan. The LSCB would want to see this include children and young people as a priority, particularly in relation to protecting them from crime.

Recommendation

23. The Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the content of the report at Appendix A and include the Safeguarding Board priorities set out on page 14; Early Help, Neglect, Child Sexual Abuse, Domestic Abuse and Missing Children in future scrutiny activity where it deems appropriate.

Reason: To allow Members to be fully informed on areas for further improvement and key priorities for safeguarding across the City.

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Wards Affected:

All



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Annexes

Annex A – Annual Safeguarding Children Board Report 2013/14

Abbreviations

(CCG) - Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group
(LSCB) - Local Safeguarding Children Board
(CYSCB) - City of York Safeguarding Children Board
(JSNA) - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

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Working with children, parents and professionals to make our childrens' lives safer.

**City of York Safeguarding
Children Board
Annual Report 2013/14
Summary**

Annual Report of the City of York Safeguarding Children Board 2013/14

The City of York Safeguarding Children Board (CYSCB) is a statutory local body responsible for agreeing how child safeguarding agencies cooperate and work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and for ensuring this work is effective.

The work of the CYSCB is outlined in the statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013) which sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Our vision

The City of York Safeguarding Children's Board (CYSCB) has a vision for all the children of York to grow up in safety and to always feel safe.

Key Principles - We believe that this can be achieved through:

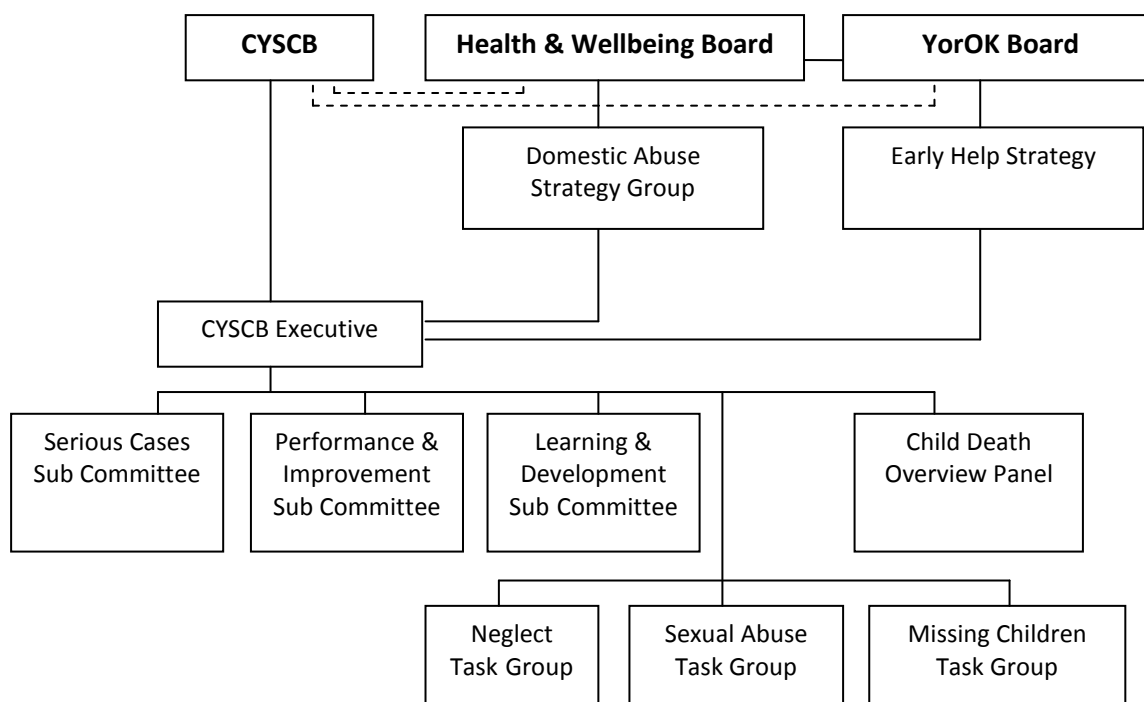
- listening to what children say and acting on it
- the delivery of services which work together to prevent harm
- identifying and responding to concerns early
- intervening robustly where there are suspicions that a child has or is likely to suffer harm

The role of the CYSCB

The CYSCB will

- facilitate and promote interagency cooperation and partnership working.
- provide robust independent challenge whenever there is evidence of practice which fails to promote the best interests of children.
- support agencies in developing and improving their safeguarding practices.
- be a responsive, learning organisation which strives to continually improve. continue to develop mechanisms which monitor its own and partner agencies performance
- use any emerging lessons to improve practices and outcomes for children.
- seek the views of children and their families to inform how services can better meet their needs.

Governance Structure



Independent Chair - Summary Statement

This is my first annual report as Independent Chair of the Board. I started in this role in January 2014 and was immediately struck by the willingness of people to meet with me, share ideas, work together and their commitment to continuous improvement was positive.

The culture I encountered was child centred, open and transparent and this creates an environment where challenge is seen as positive. I want to record thanks to my predecessor Roger Thompson for his work with the Board over a number of years which has set this direction.

I would also like to thank the frontline staff and managers in all agencies across York for their work in safeguarding children. The Board recognises that the effectiveness of safeguarding across the City is dependent on the quality of the work of those in direct contact with children and young people and the support they receive through working in partnership.

I would like to thank members of the City of York Safeguarding Children Board and the Safeguarding Business Unit for the welcome they have given me as the new Chair, for their commitment to safeguarding and for their openness to further improve our effectiveness as a Board.

Context

This year has been a period of significant change; the introduction of the revised national guidance *Working Together 2013*, the start of a new Ofsted Inspection regime that, for the first time, includes a judgement about the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

The Board has a new Independent Chair, the City has appointed a new Director of Children's Services and the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) appointed a new Chief Nurse. I see these as positive opportunities for further creative thinking and challenge to ensure the Board continues a culture of continuous improvement in 2014 /15.

As at 1 April 2013, the CCG took on its full powers but had some conditions to be met. One of which was to ensure a clear line of accountability for safeguarding is reflected in CCG governance arrangements and that there were arrangements in place to co-operate with the local authority in the operation of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board. Having provided assurances about this the CCG was fully authorised in January 2014.

During the summer of 2013 a peer review of the Board was commissioned which made a number of suggestions for improvement. An action plan has been implemented to respond to this. I have taken the opportunity as a new Chair to review the budget, support arrangements, structures and governance of the Board.

I have also prioritised developing the relationships with the YorOk Children's Trust and the Health and Wellbeing Board with the aim of making accountability more transparent, identifying synergies, reducing duplication of effort and ensuring safeguarding remains a key priority in the current financial context when all partners have reducing resources. This will continue into 2014/15. In particular the Chair of the Adult Safeguarding Board and I are jointly committed to working together as that Board moves towards statutory status in April 2015.

Other key developments this year have been:

- This year Board approved and published the revised *Integrated Working Threshold Guidance* and these are supported by a prevention route map and safeguarding route map.
- Reshaping arrangements for responding to referrals to social care and the co-location of the Police Central Referral Unit (CRU) with

the referral and assessment teams has improved information sharing and responses to referrals.

- Over the past year, the CYSCB has been actively involved in the Child Sexual Exploitation strategic group, chaired by North Yorkshire Police, which is developing a cross border strategy across North Yorkshire and York.
- Early in 2014 the Board set up the Safeguarding Children Involvement Group (SCIG) In order to improve engagement with young people. This has met twice and will continue to be an area for development.

I believe that the best way to protect children and young people is to ensure that they are loved and cared for; are not living in poverty or neglected and are given opportunities to learn and grow their aspirations. For those who are not so fortunate the City of York Safeguarding Board will do all it can to ensure their safety is a priority for all agencies working in the City Of York and we are committed to continuous improvement.

Progress during 2013/14

Assurance Audit

Section 11 (s11) of the Children and Adoption Act 2004 places a responsibilities on named CYSCB agencies to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The 2013 audit highlights strengths across the partnership of the commitment to safeguarding children. However, there are some areas and themes across the partnership which requires further work. The 2013 audit identified the need for development in the areas of:

- Safer working practices
- Involving children and families in service planning
- Practice supervision and accountability.

For the first time, the CYSCB joined with the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board (NYSCB) in a 'challenge event' bringing together agencies in the spirit of learning from each other. The s11 audit will be repeated in the autumn of 2014 with a challenge event hosted by the CYSCB and including the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children

Board in December 2015. The 2014 audit will be scrutinised against the 2013 audit with particular attention paid to those areas requiring improvement.

The Government published the new Working Together guidance in March 2013 and during the year the CYSCB has reviewed its functions, processes and work plan to ensure it is compliant with this.

The CYSCB has:

- Commissioned a peer review to assess the effectiveness of the Board and its compliance with statutory guidance
- Reviewed and is in the process of restructuring the Board including its accountability and governance
- Developed a comprehensive Learning and Performance Framework to provide an objective oversight of the effectiveness of the early help and safeguarding arrangements in York
- Reviewed and amended the interagency procedures

Develop and implement systems to ensure that the CYSCB maintains an organisational culture of continuous learning and improvement, and a focus on improving outcomes for children

The CYSCB has:

- Developed a Learning and Performance Framework to identify and inform organisational and practitioner learning
- Undertaken a review of all case reviews undertaken by the CYSCB over the past seven years. The findings of the review have contributed to a restructuring of the Serious Cases Sub Committee and the way lessons will be learnt in the future
- Developed creative learning opportunity for people who work with children including master classes, targeted training and practice learning groups

Develop and embed performance management processes to enable the CYSCB to monitor the effectiveness of systems to safeguard children and young people, and to respond to indications of emerging trends and/or risks.

The CYSCB has:

- Developed a comprehensive Learning and Performance Framework to provide an objective oversight of the effectiveness of the early help and safeguarding arrangements in York. The focus of the framework is to gauge the impact of the work undertaken to provide early help and to safeguard children in York.
- Commissioned the Children's Trust Unit to develop a Safeguarding Children Involvement Group. This multi-agency group brings together a range of partners to develop the range, quality and effectiveness of involving children and young people
- Developed an audit process which focuses on the quality of practice and whether practice has delivered sustainable improvements for children

Ensure that children are safeguarded from the impact of neglect

The CYSCB has:

- Undertaken a case audit of practice in relation to children experiencing neglect. The audit focussed on each tier of need from early help to child protection services. The findings of the audit identifies further areas for development leading to the priority being renewed for 2014/15
- Embedded the learning from the thematic review and national reviews in core CYSCB training
- Ensured that neglect has been included in the Safeguarding Board and YorOK's Board's Early Help Strategy
- Ensured that improving the quality of assessments in neglect cases has been included as a priority area in the Children's Social Care business plan

- Supported Children's Social Care to develop a single assessment which reflects the findings of the thematic review's findings on the shortfalls of the previous assessment framework

Ensure that vulnerable young people are better protected from child sexual exploitation (CSE)

The CYSCB has:

- Joined with colleagues in North Yorkshire to form a countywide strategy group chaired by a senior police officer from North Yorkshire Police to develop a countywide strategy and coordinate joint activity and resources.
- Developed a local stakeholder group which produced a local action plan, procedures and training. This group has now been superseded by the Child Sexual Abuse Task Group.
- Established a Child Sexual Abuse Task Group; recognising the need, based on case reviews, to develop a strategy for responding more widely to child sexual abuse which includes CSE and children who sexually harm other children
- Involvement in the national working group for sexually exploited children and young people offering access to a range of research, resources and specialist expertise.
- Delivered a range of learning events including a half day briefing on responding to CSE, targeted training for those working with young people and families and learning lessons from reviews
- Co-hosted a Countywide conference on child sexual exploitation

Other Areas of Improvement

Early help

- In 2013/14, 228 Common Assessments (CAFs) were started which provides a way of working with families to understand what support they need. Good CAFs included information and involvement from a range of professionals with the 'child's voice' clearly recorded. An audit of CAFs found their quality to be variable.

- 315 Troubled Families have been identified. The intensive work with these families has resulted in significant improvements in 117 of these families.
- Local Safeguarding Children Board's are now responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of early help. In York the CYSCB has formally agreed through the Health and Wellbeing Board that the YorOK Children's Trust Board will lead on this area and will provide assurances to the CYSCB.
- An early help strategy has been developed on behalf of the whole children's partnership by colleagues in the YorOK Children's Trust Board and the CYSCB.

The strategy aims to:

- Move towards a locality model for early help arrangements, strengthen integrated working, information sharing and proactively identify vulnerable children
- Improve quality of practice
- Improve and integrate performance monitoring
- Strengthen commissioning
- Develop the Workforce Strategy
- Improve communication

Children in need

- The newly formed Child in Need Teams are working closely with other agencies to help children who have been assessed as children in need of services.
- At end of March 2014 the CIN service was working with 271 children. 178 of these children were Child in Need (S17) (66%) and 93 children (34%) were subject to a Child Protection Plan or 'edge of care'.

Child protection

- In March 2014, 131 children were subject to Child Protection Plans. 43% were registered as being at risk of neglect, 33% at risk of emotional abuse, 4.6% at risk of physical abuse and 5.3% at risk of sexual abuse. During the period the level of children registered as being at risk of neglect reached 58% although the reason for this requires further analysis.
- The number of referrals accepted by Children's Social Care has increased from 862 in 2012/13 to 1,404 a rise of 63%. Positively the number of re-referrals has only risen by 15% from 163 to 187 over the same period.

Looked after children

- The number of looked after children (LAC) has reduced to 220 which is the lowest level since 2008/09.
- 17 children were placed outside of York which is a significant drop compared to previous years.
- 100% of care leavers were assessed to be in suitable accommodation with 79% being in education, employment or training.

Key Themes 2013/14

Neglect

Defining neglect is difficult and understanding its causes challenges professionals. As a result people working with children often focus on the symptoms rather than the causes which mean that children suffer neglectful parenting for many years. A thematic review was carried out by the CYSCB in 2011/12 which found that neglect can result in significant and long lasting harm to a child. The review said that neglect can and should be identified early and once identified should result in an assertive and tenacious response. Professionals should treat it with the same urgency as any other form of abuse and should not give up until the child is no longer being neglected.

Simply we should always ask the question 'what is life like for this child?'

- More children continue to be subject to child protection plans for neglect than any other form of maltreatment. However there is clear evidence from audits that children experiencing neglect are not receiving the right help at the right time.
- Dental health is an indicator of neglect. Only 41% of children subject to child protection plans attended a dentist.

Child sexual abuse

- The number of children subject to child protection plans for sexual abuse has declined significantly since 2008 when approximately 18% of all registrations were for sexual abuse.
- Messages from reviews undertaken by the CYSCB suggest that professionals do not have a good enough understanding of sexual abuse. As a result sexual abuse can go unrecognised or the professional response is ineffective.
- North Yorkshire Police have identified that although the number of children at risk of being sexually exploited is small, children who go missing from home or care, or misuse alcohol or drugs are most at risk.
- The CYSCB has worked closely with the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board to deal with children at risk of being sexually exploited including hosting a joint conference for 200 delegates from both areas in March 2014.
- Research shows that many adults who sexually abuse children exhibit concerning sexual behaviours as children. Although the CYSCB has a process for dealing with children with sexually harmful behaviours it is not possible to quantify how many children exhibit these behaviours.

Local Authority Designated Officer- Allegations against professionals

- 49 allegations were received against childcare professionals during 2013/14

- 39% of all allegations were substantiated, 11% unfounded (this means that something happened but was misunderstood or misinterpreted). Only one case was assessed as malicious.
- 33% of the allegations were made against education personnel, 27% against early years personnel and 11% against foster carers
- 42% of the allegations related to sexual abuse and misconduct with 36% for physical mistreatment.

Children who go missing

- Children who go missing from home or care are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. These children are known to have poor educational outcomes and more likely to suffer mental ill-health.
- In 2013/14 - 484 children went missing from home or care.
- Looked after children and children cared for by someone other than their parents are more likely to go missing.
- Most children who go missing are aged between 14 and 16 years
- A small number of children who went missing were found to be associating with adults who pose a risk to children.
- 53 children were reported as missing from education which is 0.26% of the school population. Most of these children are located with the remainder believed to have moved away from York. However, the tracking of these children is not sufficiently robust.

Domestic abuse

In the past year the York Health and Wellbeing Board has established a domestic violence strategy group with membership from all the relevant agencies and representatives from the CYSCB. The group role is to develop a York Domestic Abuse strategy and action plan. The Council has joined the White Ribbon Campaign which urges men to speak out against violent and abusive behaviour towards women.

The Police and the Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDAS) work in partnership with the aim to intervene at the first incident. Cases assessed by Police as low risk of harm are passed to the early intervention worker with or without consent who will provide advice and

support to the family. This approach undermines the ability of the perpetrator to discourage victims. Between February and May 2014, 93 referrals have been made for early intervention work. This project was funded by Safer York Partnership as a pilot.

Research shows that many young people are living with violence and abuse in their own relationships with a quarter of teenage girls reporting that they had been assaulted by their boyfriend¹. To combat this IDAS run services for young people experiencing abuse in their relationships. Further funding was obtained from Public Health to train 17 practitioners across York to deliver and use the Respect Toolkit with 14-18 year olds who have been abusive. The Youth Offending Team (YOT) and the Pupil Referral Unit have been involved in diversionary work using the toolkit.

The City also benefits from having an NSPCC service, *Domestic Abuse Recovering Together (DART)*. Over the past year the service has worked with 15 mothers and 15 children in the DART group work programme. DART offers mothers and their children a safe environment in which they can talk about past domestic abuse and strengthen their relationship.

- Research shows that 40% of cases referred to Children's Social Care have experienced domestic abuse.
- North Yorkshire Police record that there is a child present in 18% of all domestic abuse incidents where the police attend. There are children present in 14% of incidents assessed by the police as 'high risk' and 19% of cases assessed as 'medium risk'.
- The number of repeated incidents of domestic abuse has risen. However, this is likely to be due to the success of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which encourages victims to report all incidents of abuse.
- All cases are contacted by an early intervention worker with families provided with access to support services. Medium and high risk cases involving children are assessed by the MARAC and provided with a safety plan.

¹ NSPCC, 2009

Child deaths

- The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) reviewed the cases of 14 children who died in York. The number of deaths of York Children reported to CDOP was 3. The reason for the difference is due to delays in receiving notifications.
- An analysis of the CDOP findings will be presented in the CDOP annual report which will be published in summer 2014

Listening to children

- The CYSCB wants its work to be informed by children and the CYSCB has established a Safeguarding Children Involvement Group. The role of the group is to develop a range of approaches to seek and listen to the views of children.
- Children's Trust Unit will provide feedback on what children are saying in a range of surveys
- Looked after children are telling us that they are positive about their placements and feel listened to. 76% say that their placement is either 'good' or 'very good'. They feel well supported in terms of their health and education.
- Most looked after children were happy with the contact they have with their families although they report finding it difficult making contact with their social worker.
- Many Looked After children said that they did not know who their Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) was because they had not been visited by the IRO between meetings.

Assuring good practice

- Although the CYSCB has been recognised by previous inspections to be effective it commissioned a peer review to provide an object scrutiny of its work.

- The review found examples of positive work especially in relation to neglect and the Board's willingness to learn and improve. However, it found that the CYSCB needed to improve its profile and do better with analysing and monitoring the effectiveness of safeguarding practice. It also found that there was insufficient attention paid to seeking the views of children.
- The CYSCB has responded to all the areas identified in the peer review and has an improvement plan to ensure that it remains effective.
- The CYSCB has improved the way it monitors and assures safeguarding practice by developing a comprehensive Performance and Improvement Framework. The CYSCB also undertakes routine audits of cases.

The children's workforce

- The CYSCB provides a wide range of safeguarding training opportunities to those who work with children. The opportunities include training, master classes, practice learning groups, briefings and a conference.
- The range of learning has received very positive evaluations with 99% rating the presentation and content of courses as being either good or excellent.
- Some work has been undertaken to evaluate the effectiveness of the learning using post course surveys. However, more work needs to be done in order to be assured of the effectiveness on the learning provided.

Learning from experience

- No serious case reviews were undertaken during 2013/14. However, one Learning Lessons Review and one Single Agency Review have been completed.
- The CYSCB has produced an overview report of all the case reviews undertaken over the past 7 years. The review highlighted common themes through most if not all the case reviews including

the adequacy of assessments, the quality of supervision and the professional understanding of various forms of child maltreatment including neglect, sexual abuse and domestic abuse.

- The review of case reviews also found that the quality of reviews was variable as was the process for learning the lessons. As a result the CYSCB has changed the review process to include fewer recommendations which focus more clearly on achieving better outcomes for children.
- The practice lessons identified by the review have made a significant contribution to shaping the CYSCBs priorities.
- The CYSCB has undertaken regular audits of cases. The audits have identified similar lessons to the case reviews; the quality of assessment, absence of the child's voice and inadequate planning.
- A themed audit of neglect identified that the learning with the thematic review of child neglect published in 2012 have not sufficiently permeated practice or service planning.
- In response to the review along with the findings of case file audits Children's Social Care have prioritised improving the quality of assessments and improving social workers understanding of sexual abuse and neglect.

CYSCB's Priorities for 2014/15

The CYSCB is continuing to develop a comprehensive Performance and Improvement framework as way of knowing and understanding what is happening to safeguard children. Based on this learning the Board has identified five key areas for further attention across the City:

CYSCB priorities for 2014/15:**Early help:**

Making sure problems are identified early and that families are provided with the right help at the right time. The CYSCB believes that where families receive the right help early later more serious problems can be prevented.

Neglect:

The CYSCB identified child neglect as a priority in the thematic review in 2012. However, despite some progress the findings of audits and reviews means that considerably more needs to be done if children are going to be protected from the long term damaging effect of neglect.

Child sexual abuse:

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) has received a lot of attention nationally and locally. Whilst CSE remains a priority, the CYSCB believes that child sexual abuse is underreported with reviews telling us that professionals need a better understanding of sexual abuse.

Domestic abuse:

The CYSCB recognises that there are still too many children living in families where there is domestic abuse. We also know that domestic abuse can be an indicator for neglect and has a long lasting impact on children and will often coexist with other forms of abuse

Children who go missing:

Children who go missing from home, care and education are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. We also know that children go missing for a reason; often due to difficulties at home or in care. From the data, too many children go missing in York and that there is a need to improve the way all agencies respond. This may also be an indicator of neglect.

Abbreviations:

(CYSCB) - The City of York Safeguarding Children Board

(LSCB) - Local Safeguarding Children Board

(CCG) - Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group

(CRU) - Police Central Referral Unit

(SCIG) - Safeguarding Children Involvement Group

(s11) - Section 11

(NYSCB) - North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board
(CSE) - Child Sexual Exploitation
(CAFs) - Common Assessments Framework
(LAC) - Looked After Children
(IDAS) - Independent Domestic Abuse Service
(YOT) - Youth Offending Team
(DART) - Domestic Abuse Recovering Together
(MARAC) - Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
(CDOP) - Child Death Overview Panel
(IRO) - Independent Reviewing Officer



Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee

17 September 2014

Report of the Director of Children Services, Education and Skills

School Improvement Update

Summary

1. This report provides an update on primary and secondary school performance in 2014, together with information about the position of York schools according to Ofsted judgements during 2013-14.

Primary and secondary school performance 2014

2. **Early Years Foundation Stage.** Outcomes for the Early Years Foundation Stage show 64% of pupils achieving a good level of development in 2014. This is 4 percentage points above the national average and an improvement of 8 percentage points between 2013 and 2014. The gap in outcomes between FSM pupils and non-FSM pupils has narrowed by 8 percentage points in 2014.
3. **Key Stage 1.** The percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in phonics in Year 1 improved by 10 percentage points in 2014. 77% of pupils achieved the expected standard, this is 3 percentage points above the national average.
4. The percentage of pupils achieving L2+ and L3+ remained broadly the same between 2013 and 2014, with the standards achieved being in line with national averages. Continuing to improve outcomes in KS1 remains a priority, so that they are above national averages. The gap between FSM pupils and non-FSM pupils achieving L2+ narrowed in 2014 by 4 percentage points in reading and 5 percentage points in mathematics and remained the same in writing at 20 percentage points.

	York 2013 L2+	National 2013 L2+	York 2014 L2+	National 2014 L2+
Reading	90%	89%	90%	90%
Writing	85%	86%	85%	86%
Mathematics	91%	93%	91%	92%

	York 2013 L3+	National 2013 L3+	York 2014 L3+	National 2014 L3+
Reading	26%	29%	31%	31%
Writing	14%	15%	14%	16%
Mathematics	19%	23%	25%	24%

5. **Key Stage 2.** 79% of pupils achieved L4+ in reading, writing and mathematics combined in 2014. This was an improvement of 1 percentage point from 2013 and was in line with the national average which was 79%.
6. The percentage of pupils making expected and better than expected progress between KS1 and KS2 improved in reading, writing and mathematics and is likely to be above the national average.
7. The gap in outcomes for L4+ in reading, writing and mathematics combined between FSM pupils and non-FSM pupils narrowed by 2 percentage points in 2014. The percentage of FSM pupils making expected progress improved in 2014, with the gap between FSM and non-FSM, closing by 13 percentage points in reading, 1 percentage point in mathematics and staying the same at 6 percentage points in writing. Improving attainment and progress in writing is a priority in 2015.
8. **Key Stage 4.** Provisional outcomes for KS4 indicate that 63% of pupils achieved 5A*-C including English and mathematics on first entry. This places York in equal first position in the Yorkshire and Humber region with North Yorkshire. National benchmarking data will become available in October.

Ofsted Judgements - update

9. Our ambition in York is that every child and young person attends a school that is judged as good or better. As of 1st September 2014 89% of our secondary schools are good or outstanding, and 86% of our primaries with 86% overall. The LA school improvement services are

working with head teachers and chairs of governors in those schools that are not yet good to reach this judgement in less than two years.

10. It is important to note that there has been a significant improvement in the percentage of good or better primary schools during 2013-14. In September 2013, 76% of primary schools were judged good or better. This was below the national average. During 2013-14 there has been a 10% improvement in the percentage of good and better primary schools meaning that York is now above the national average for this outcome.
11. The outcomes of Ofsted inspections since September 2013 are:
 - Acomb Primary moved from requiring improvement to good.
 - Clifton Green moved from requiring improvement to good. They have had LA support.
 - Carr Junior moved from requiring improvement to good.
 - Canon Lee continues to require improvement
 - Copmanthorpe moved from outstanding to good. The school was last inspected in 2006, the Ofsted framework has changed three times since the school was last inspected.
 - Hob Moor federation secured good
 - Lakeside moved from good to requiring improvement. LA support has been provided.
 - Millthorpe secured good.
 - Park Grove moved from good to requiring improvement, this agreed with the LA's assessment of the school. It has been judged to be making rapid improvement by HMI at its last monitoring visit.
 - Poppleton Road moved from special measures to good.
 - St Barnabas moved from requiring improvement to good.
 - St George's secured good.
 - St Lawrence's secured requiring improvement. Ofsted reported that the school has made good improvements in early years and KS1 and the quality of governance is now good
 - St Oswald's moved from requiring improvement to good
 - Stockton on the Forest secured good.
 - Wheldrake secured good.

12. Overall this is a positive and improving picture for the city. The national picture appears to also be following the same pattern of improvement.
13. Evidence from Ofsted reports shows that the support co-ordinated by the LA school improvement services is effective. See Annex 1.

Recommendations

14. Members are recommended to note:
- i) The update on primary and secondary school performance in 2014;
 - ii) The position of York schools according to Ofsted judgements during 2013-14.

Reason: To inform Members consideration of possible future areas for scrutiny review.

Author: Maxine Squire Assistant Director, Education and Skills Adults, Children and Education 01904 553007	Chief Officer Responsible for this report: Jon Stonehouse, Director, Children Services, Education and Skills
Report Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date: 5 September 2014	
Wards Affected: All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: N/A

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Summary of comments about LA support in Ofsted reports, September 2013- July 2014

Abbreviations:

LA – Local Authority
HMI – Her Majesty's Inspector
KS – Key Stage
FSM – Free School Meals

Summary of comments about LA support in Ofsted reports, September 2013- July 2014

Annex A

School	Date	Grade	Comments on the local authority's support
<i>Haxby Road MV</i>	11/9/ 13	-	External support for the school's work at all levels is now primarily provided by the sponsor primary school. Previously, the local authority provided focused support, particularly in relation to the moderation of pupils' work, subject development, human resources issues and legal information in relation to the academy transition process. More recently, the local authority has continued to work closely with the school's governing body to clarify transition finance arrangements. Overall support, however, from the local authority and from the school improvement partner is currently proportionate to need. In light of the school's developing capacity, this is well judged.
Canon Lee	17/9/ 13	3	The local authority provides good support for the school leadership, including various subject departments, in making improvements in teaching and learning. It is confident that leadership is capable of continuing to make improvements.
<i>Poppleton Road MV</i>	22/10 /13	-	The local authority continues to offer the school appropriate support. This has quite rightly reduced as leaders and teachers tackle improvements with increasing confidence. The school has particularly valued the work of the Challenge Partner in evaluating the quality of senior leaders' work.
St Oswald's	23/10 /13	2	The school has had good support from York City's Challenge Partner (the local authority), especially in helping the school to identify the strategies for improvement and in working with staff to improve certain aspects of the school.
Huntington	6/11/ 13	2	none

School	Date	Grade	Comments on the local authority's support
<i>Canon Lee MV</i>	11/11 /13	-	The school is drawing well on the external support provided by the local authority, including that provided by partner schools. The authority has brokered effective links with local schools judged to be outstanding and has provided consultants to work alongside teachers and middle leaders.
Park Grove	20/11 /13	3	The local authority has worked with the school to help identify and provide regular, well-focused challenge and support.
<i>Wigginton MV</i>	27/11 /13	-	The local authority continues to work closely with the school, providing challenge and support to leaders. They are providing consultant time for key issues which are identified in liaison with the school leaders. The local authority has appointed an Executive Chair of Governors. They have put a challenge partner in place, who focuses on school improvement with the school leadership. The school has the support of a partner headteacher from a successful school in the authority. She makes frequent visits, working with the headteacher to plan and improve the quality of teaching and learning and to refine policy and procedures in the school. The partner headteacher reports regularly to the school and local authority on her visits. She is part of the school improvement panel that meets half-termly. The panel is organised by the local authority and is attended by the headteacher, partner headteacher, Executive Chair of Governors, challenge partner and assistant director. This meeting complements the governing body's own monitoring and evaluation group. There are improvements reported by these groups, not least the improvement in the quality of teaching.
Hob Moor Primary	3/12/ 13	2	The local authority works in partnership with the school to give help as and when it is needed.
Hob Moor Oaks	3/12/ 13	2	The local authority is also a strong partner and recognises the progress made by the school. They have worked together with the governing body to appoint a new Principal in full accord with their plan for the development of the two schools together.

School	Date	Grade	Comments on the local authority's support
Carr Junior	14/1/14	2	School leaders and governors value the work of the local authority. They feel that the officers in the authority listen to their requests and provide good support. Staff value the range of well-targeted training opportunities offered by the local authority and by the schools in the West Cluster Group.
<i>Haxby Road MV</i>	23/1/14	-	Good relationships exist with the local authority; the School Improvement Partner has continued to provide reports on standards and the local authority will continue to be part of a future 'school improvement panel' arrangement. The school has also commissioned external educational consultants to review the quality of teaching and the school's work in specific subject areas and phases. The sponsor, governing body and local authority are working productively together to facilitate a smooth transition to academy status.
Wheldrake	28/1/14	2	The local authority's involvement with this good and improving school is light touch. It provides the school with valuable staff training, support in evaluating the school's performance and identifying areas for development.
St Barnabas	29/1/14	2	The capable and uncompromising leadership by the headteacher has been key to the school's improvement since the time of the previous inspection. With the support of the local authority and governors she has made brave decisions and implemented many actions to bring this about. The school is supported extremely well by the local authority. It has provided the school with helpful guidance and strong support on its journey of improvement.
Poppleton Road	5/2/14	2	The local authority has supported the school well. Consultants and the Challenge Partner visited the school frequently at the time of the last full inspection and gave intensive support. The work has been well-judged and it has quite rightly reduced as teachers and leaders have become increasingly confident and effective.
Stockton-on-the-Forest	5/2/14	2	Since the previous inspection the local authority has offered school light-touch support.

School	Date	Grade	Comments on the local authority's support
<i>Park Grove MV</i>	4/3/14	-	The local authority's support is well-judged and effective. The local authority has provided funding to support the external review of governance and for extra support days from the school's 'challenge partner'. Lesson observations and detailed scrutiny of pupils' progress in workbooks have been jointly carried out by the 'challenge partner' and school leaders. The impact of this work is evident in the improvements in marking and provision, particularly for younger children in the school. Local authority consultants have also supported the school's improvements in Early Years Foundation Stage and phonics. The local authority regularly monitors the impact of its work at school improvement panel meetings, attended by school leaders and governors.
Millthorpe	5/3/14	2	The local authority responded quickly to the disappointing results in English language in 2012, putting support into the school which helped to secure the remarkable improvements in 2013. Similarly, the science department benefitted from local authority support to assess students' work.
St George's	2/4/14	2	The school drew on external support swiftly from the local authority, the diocese and other schools to ensure that staff had extra help when it was needed.
Copmanthorpe	24/4/14	2	The local authority knows the school well and has confidence in the school's ability to improve. The local authority is committed to providing high-quality intervention and support for the school as necessary.
Clifton Green	14/5/14	2	The local authority gives very good support to the school. Literacy consultants and support for leadership, management and governance are some examples that have helped the school to improve.
Lakeside	21/5/14	3	The headteacher well supported by the local authority, has taken decisive action and the quality of teaching is improving. As a result the rate of progress made by pupils is hastening. ... The local authority works very closely with the headteacher and offers the school good support.

Meeting Dates	Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Work Plan 2014-15
Wed 18 June 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi-annual Update Report 2. Scoping Report on Potential Topics for Review in this Municipal Year 3. Overview Report on CYC Stonewall Challenge (Yvette Bent) 4. Workplan 2014/15
Wed 22 July 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Theatre Royal – SLA Performance Bi-annual Update Report (deferred to September meeting) 2. Year End Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 3. Bi-annual progress report on Safeguarding & Looked After Children 4. Overview Report on Project Plan for Narrowing the Gap 5. Careers Review - Update on Implementation of Recommendations 6. 'School Based Teaching on Entrepreneurship' Review Scoping Report 7. Workplan 2014/15
Wed 17 Sept 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Theatre Royal – SLA Performance Bi-annual Update Report (Liz Wilson attending) 2. Update on Refresh of Equalities Scheme inc. Introduction to relevant focus areas (Charlie Croft) 3. First Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Richard Hartle) 4. Update on Parks Development (Dave Meigh) 5. Attendance of Chair of York Safeguarding Board for Bi-annual Update (Simon Westwood attending) 6. School Improvement and Ofsted Update on Schools Performance (Maxine Squire) 7. Workplan 2014/15 inc. verbal update on ongoing reviews
Wed 19 Nov 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Museums Trust – Partnership Delivery Plan Bi-annual Update Report & Update on implementation of previous scrutiny recommendations. 2. Explore York Libraries and Archives Mutual Ltd SLA & Bi-Annual Update (Fiona Williams) 3. Second Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 4. Update on the work of Corporate Parenting Board (Eoin Rush) 5. Feedback on Peer Challenge of Referral & Assessment Arrangements (Eoin & Jon) 6. School Results Outturn & Feasibility on possible Scrutiny Review on Narrowing the Gap 7. Workplan 2014/15 inc. verbal update on ongoing reviews

<p>Wed 21 January 2015 @ 5:30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. York Theatre Royal – Service Level Agreement Performance Bi-annual Update Report 2. CYC Bi-annual progress report on Safeguarding & Looked After Children (Eoin Rush) 3. Attendance of Chair of Learning City 4. Attendance of Chair of York @ Large (new Chair to be confirmed) 4. Update on Implementation of Children & Families Bill (Eoin Rush) 5. GCSE Results Update 6. Workplan inc. verbal update on ongoing review(s)
<p>Wed18 March 2015 @ 5:30pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of Cabinet Member for Education, Children & Young People's Services – Update on priorities and challenges for 2014/15 2. Attendance of Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture & Tourism – Update on priorities and challenges for 2014/15 3. Attendance of Chair of Safeguarding Board – Bi-annual Update 4. Third Quarter Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 5. Draft Final Report –‘Disabled Access To York’s Heritage & Cultural Offer’ Scrutiny Review 6. Draft Final Report – ‘Entrepreneurship in York Schools’ Scrutiny Review