



**Notice of meeting of
Education Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors Kirk (Chair), Brooks (Vice-Chair), Alexander, Gunnell, Hyman, Merrett and Morley

Co-opted Statutory Members:

Mr John Bailey (Parent Governor Representative) and Dr David Sellick (Church of England Representative)

Date: Wednesday, 18 July 2007

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: The Guildhall, York

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest (Pages 3 - 4)

At this point Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda. A list of general personal interests previously declared are attached.

2. Exclusion of Press and Public

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

Annex 2 of Annex E to Agenda Item 6 (Possible Future Scrutiny Reviews) on the grounds that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). This information is classed as exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as revised by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

3. Minutes (Pages 5 - 8)

To approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 19 June 2007.

4. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Committee's remit can do so. Anyone who wishes to register or requires further information is requested to contact the Democracy Officer on the contact details listed at the foot of this agenda. The deadline for registering is Tuesday 17 July 2007 at 5pm.

5. Security in Schools - Additional Information (Pages 9 - 18)

This report asks Members to consider some additional statistical information provided by the Safer York Partnership in relation to the crime rates in York schools since 1 April 2004.

6. Possible Future Scrutiny Reviews (Pages 19 - 64)

This report presents Members with information on two possible scrutiny topics, "Children's Health, Fitness and Diets" and "Role of School Governors", which have previously been considered and deferred.

7. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer:

Name: Louise Cook

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551027
- E-mail – louise.cook@york.gov.uk

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

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

Contact details are set out above.

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If you would, you will need to:

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

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Further information about what's being discussed at this meeting

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

Access Arrangements

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

Every effort will also be made to make information available in another language, either by providing translated information or an interpreter providing sufficient advance notice is given. Telephone York (01904) 551550 for this service.

যদি যথেষ্ট আগে থেকে জানানো হয় তাহলে অন্য কোন ভাষাতে তথ্য জানানোর জন্য সব ধরনের চেষ্টা করা হবে, এর জন্য দরকার হলে তথ্য অনুবাদ করে দেয়া হবে অথবা একজন দোভাষী সরবরাহ করা হবে। টেলিফোন নম্বর (01904) 613161.

Yeteri kadar önceden haber verilmesi koşuluyla, bilgilerin tercümesini hazırlamak ya da bir tercüman bulmak için mümkün olan herşey yapılacaktır. Tel. (01904) 613161.

我們竭力使提供的資訊備有不同語言版本，在有充足時間提前通知的情況下會安排筆譯或口譯服務。電話(01904) 613161。

کسی بھی دوسری زبان میں معلومات کی دستیابی ترجمہ شدہ معلومات، ترجمان کی شکل میں یقینی بنانے کے لئے ہر ممکن کوشش کی جائے گی، بشرطیکہ اس کے لئے پہلے سے سنا سب اطلاع کی جائے۔ ٹیلی فون (01904) 613161

Holding the Executive to Account

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

Scrutiny Committees

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

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

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- Relevant Council Officers get copies of relevant agenda and reports for the committees which they report to;
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EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda item I: Declarations of interest.

Please state any amendments you have to your declarations of interest:

Councillor Hyman - Chair of Governors at Huntington Primary School;

Councillor Merrett - as his daughter attended St Paul's Primary School;

Co-opted statutory members

Dr D Sellick – Governor of Derwent Infant and Junior School

Mr J Bailey – Governor of Huntington School and Huntington Primary School

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City of York Council

Minutes

MEETING	EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	19 JUNE 2007
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS KIRK (CHAIR), ALEXANDER, BROOKS (VICE-CHAIR), GUNNELL, HYMAN, MERRETT, MORLEY, MR J BAILEY AND DR D SELICK

1. **Declarations of Interest**

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda.

The following general personal non-prejudicial interests were declared:

Councillor Hyman as chair of governors at Huntington Primary School;

Councillor Merrett as his daughter attended St Paul's Primary School;

Dr D Sellick as a governor of Derwent Infant and Junior School;

Mr J Bailey as a governor of Huntington School and Huntington Primary School.

2. **Minutes**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2007 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3. **Public Participation**

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

4. **Overview of Work Completed by Education Scrutiny Committee Since 2004**

Members received a report which introduced them to the work previously completed by the Education Scrutiny Committee since 2004.

Excerpts from the annual review reports from 2004-05 and 2005-06 were attached as Annexes A & B respectively and update reports provided by the Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee to Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) during 2006-07 as Annexes C & D.

It was noted that the annual review report for 2006-07 would need to be considered at the next meeting and suggested that the previous vice-chair

be approached to assist in drafting it, given that most of the membership had now changed.

It was reported that topics relating to the role of school governors and health and fitness had previously been registered and Members requested that any information available on these topics be considered at the next meeting. It was proposed that the Executive Member for Children's Services be invited to the next meeting to speak and highlight any areas where a scrutiny review may be helpful. It was also suggested that a brainstorming session be held on possible topics for the future.

RESOLVED: (i) That the contents of the report and annexes be noted;

(ii) That the following items be scheduled for the next meeting:

- a) the draft annual review report for 2006-07;
- b) the information available on the role of school governors and health and fitness topics;
- c) the discussion with the Executive Member regarding possible scrutiny topics;
- d) the brainstorming session on possible scrutiny topics.

REASON: In order to be fully informed on scrutiny reviews completed by Education Scrutiny Committee during the last three years.

5. Security in Schools - Feasibility Report

Members received a report which asked them to consider whether to carry out a scrutiny review of security in schools.

Comments from the Executive Member for Children's Services and key officers on the feasibility of the scrutiny review were set out in the report, along with a briefing on security in schools both nationally and in the City of York.

Members suggested that there was scope for a one meeting "light touch" scrutiny exercise on this topic. They noted that there was not a Local Education Authority policy on school security and asked the Scrutiny Officer to investigate if all schools had their own policies. They also requested that crime figures be provided for the past three years, rather than just the past year, and that any Local Education Authority response to the national questionnaire be made available.

A number of issues were identified for discussion with the Executive Member for Children's Services, including police desks in schools, security in the design of school and unisex toilets. Members were asked to notify the Scrutiny Officer of specific questions for the Executive Member ahead of the meeting.

RESOLVED: That it be agreed to proceed with a short review of security in schools including:

- a) confirmation that all schools had their own security policies;
- b) provision of crime figures for the past three years;
- c) provision of any response to the national questionnaire;
- d) discussions with the Executive Member.

REASON: To ensure that all relevant information has been considered and that Members' questions have been satisfactorily addressed.

CLLR M KIRK
Chair of Scrutiny Committee
The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 5.40 pm.

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Education Scrutiny Committee**18 July 2007****Security In Schools – Additional Information****Summary**

1. Members are asked to consider some additional statistical information provided by the Safer York Partnership in relation to the crime rates in York schools since 1 April 2004.

Background

2. In June 2007, Members considered a feasibility report on a possible review of Security in Schools. This included some statistical information on crime rates in York schools between April 2006 and March 2007. Although Members were pleased at the overall low figures they queried whether the figures represented a particularly good year or if they were typical crime rates for every year. In order to clarify this Members requested two further years worth of statistics 2004-05 and 2005-06 – see Annexes A & B respectively.

Consultation

3. The Executive Member for Children's Services and key senior officers were consulted about this possible scrutiny review and their comments were included in the feasibility report.

Options

4. Having regard to the additional statistical information provided and the previously presented feasibility report, Members may decide to:
 - a. Not progress the topic further, giving reasons
 - b. Retain the topics for progression at a later date
 - c. Agree to proceed with topic

Analysis

5. Having considered the additional information provided, the recommendation made within the feasibility report is still valid, but if Members decide to proceed with the review, a clear remit should be set to ensure it remains on focus and is completed during the current municipal year.

Corporate Objectives

6. Members might consider that a review would contribute to Corporate Priority No.4 – To reduce the actual and perceived impact of violent, aggressive and nuisance behaviour on people in York.

Implications

7. There are no known Financial, HR, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT or other implications associated with this report. Should Members decide to proceed with review of this topic, there will be associated resourcing costs dependant on the agreed remit.

Risk Management

8. There are no known risks associated with the recommendation made below.

Recommendations

9. The recommendation made within the feasibility report presented on 18 June 2007 remains valid in that security in schools has been devolved down to individual school level, and as there are many sources of guidance and assistance already available to schools, it is difficult to see any value in carrying out this review. Therefore it is recommended that this topic does not proceed to review.

Contact Details

Author:

Melanie Carr
Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Services
Tel No. 01904 552063

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Suzan Hemingway
Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services

Feasibility Study Approved **Date** 9 July 2007

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Feasibility Report on 'Security in Schools' dated 18 June 2007

Annexes

Annex A – Statistical Information on Crime in York Schools 2004-05

Annex B – Statistical Information on Crime in York Schools 2005-06

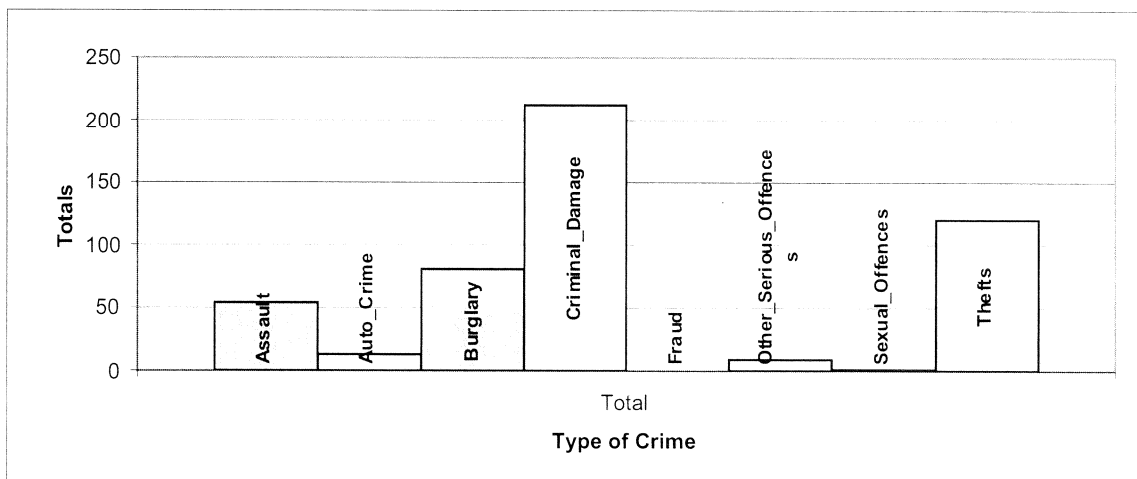
ORGRNAME	ASSAULT	AUTO CRIME	BURGLARY	CRIMINAL DAMAGE	OTHER SERIOUS OFFENCES	THEFTS	SEXUAL OFFENCES	Grand Total
ACOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	4	16	1	1	0	23
ALL SAINTS RC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	0	2	1	1	0	10	0	14
APPLEFIELDS SCHOOL	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	6
ARCHBISHOP HOLGATES SCHOOL	1	1	11	8	0	7	0	28
ARCHBISHOP OF YORK C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
BOOTHAM SCHOOL	0	1	2	1	0	5	0	9
BURTON GREEN PRIMARY	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
CANON LEE SCHOOL	7	0	0	1	0	6	0	14
CARR INFANT SCHOOL	1	0	2	7	0	0	0	9
CARR JUNIOR SCHOOL	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	6
CLIFTON GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	1	11	0	3	0	16
CLIFTON WITHOUT JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
COPMANTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
DRINGHOUSES PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
EBOR SCHOOL	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
ENGLISH MARTYRS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
FISHERGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
FULFORD CROSS SPECIAL SCHOOL	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
FULFORD SCHOOL	4	0	1	0	0	4	0	7
GALTRES SCHOOL	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	4
HAXBY ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
HEADLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
HEMPLAND LANE SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
HEWORTH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
HOB MOOR SCHOOL	1	0	4	15	0	2	0	22
HUNTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
HUNTINGTON SCHOOL	0	0	2	5	0	10	0	19
JOSEPH ROWNTREE SCHOOL	3	0	4	2	1	7	0	17
KINGSWAY JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
LAKESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
LIDGETT GROVE SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LORD DERAMGRES PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
LOWFIELD SCHOOL	6	2	2	2	1	3	0	2
MANOR C OF E SCHOOL	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	4
MILLTHORPE SCHOOL	5	1	7	28	1	13	0	55
NEW EARSWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	5
NORTHFIELD SCHOOL	1	0	3	5	0	0	0	9
OAKLANDS SCHOOL	8	0	8	27	1	9	1	54
OSBALDWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
OUR LADYS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
OUSEBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PARK GROVE SCHOOL	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
POPLETON ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RAVCLIFFE SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROBERT WILKINSON PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
SCARBROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
SKELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
ST ALFRED'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
ST ALFRED'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
ST GEORGES RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
ST LAWRENCE'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	5
ST PETERS SCHOOL	0	0	2	0	0	6	0	8
ST WILFRIDS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	8
STEINER SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STOCKTON ON THE FOREST PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TANG HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
THE MOUNT SCHOOL	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	6
THE MOUNT SCHOOL	0	1	1	5	0	1	0	8
WESTFIELD COUNTY INFANT SCHOOL	0	0	2	3	0	3	0	8
WESTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	6
WELDRAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
WOODTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
YEARSLEY GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
YORK STEINER SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	54	13	81	212	9	120	1	490

Architectural Liaison Officer Report

Crime Analysis Study Area:	=	Crimes at York Schools
Details of Search	=	Using initial keywords of "School" or "Pupil" Then Locations checked to make sure on School Premises
Study Period Start:	=	01/04/2004
Study Period End:	=	31/03/2005
Date Study Completed	=	26/06/2007
Number of Months in Study Period	=	12
Geocoding Accuracy Rate	=	95%

Crime Group	Total
Assault	54
Auto_Crime	13
Burglary	81
Criminal_Damage	212
Fraud	0
Other_Serious_Offences	9
Sexual_Offences	1
Thefts	120
Grand Total	490

A Table of Crime in the Study Area (Above) and corresponding Graph (Below)



A Table of Crime by Crime Group and then Crime Type

EVENT_GROUP	HO_DESCRIPTION	Total
ASSAULT	COMMON ASSAULT ETC.	13
	OFFENCE OF HARRASSMENT	1
	OTHER WOUNDING ETC.	34
	POSSESSION OF WEAPONS WITH INTENT	4
	PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	1
	WOUNDING OR OTHER ACT ENDANGERING LIFE	1
AUTO_CRIME	THEFT FROM VEHICLE	10
	THEFT OR UNAUTHORISED TAKING MOTOR VEHICLE	1
	VEHICLE INTERFERENCE	2
BURGLARY	BURGLARY IN A BUILDING OTHER THAN A DWELLING	81
CRIMINAL_DAMAGE	ARSON	4
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE OTHER	33
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO OTHER BUILDINGS	153
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO VEHICLES	22
OTHER_SERIOUS_OFFENCES	GOING EQUIPPED FOR STEALING ETC.	1
	OTHER OFFENCE AGAINST STATE OR PUBLIC ORDER	1
	TRAFFICKING IN CONTROLLED DRUGS	7
SEXUAL_OFFENCES	TRAFFICKING FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION	1
THEFTS	OTHER THEFT OR UNAUTHORISED TAKING	70
	ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY	3
	TAKE/RIDE PEDAL CYCLE WITHOUT CONSENT	1
	THEFT OF PEDAL CYCLE	46
Grand Total		490

A Table of Crime by Month of the Year and Hour of the Day in the Study Area

Month	Total
Jan	27
Feb	45
Mar	39
Apr	48
May	67
Jun	37

Month	Total
Jul	52
Aug	32
Sep	47
Oct	39
Nov	25
Dec	32

Crime Day	Total
Mon	74
Tue	59
Wed	70
Thu	87
Fri	119
Sat	44
Sun	37
Grand Total	490

Grand Total

490

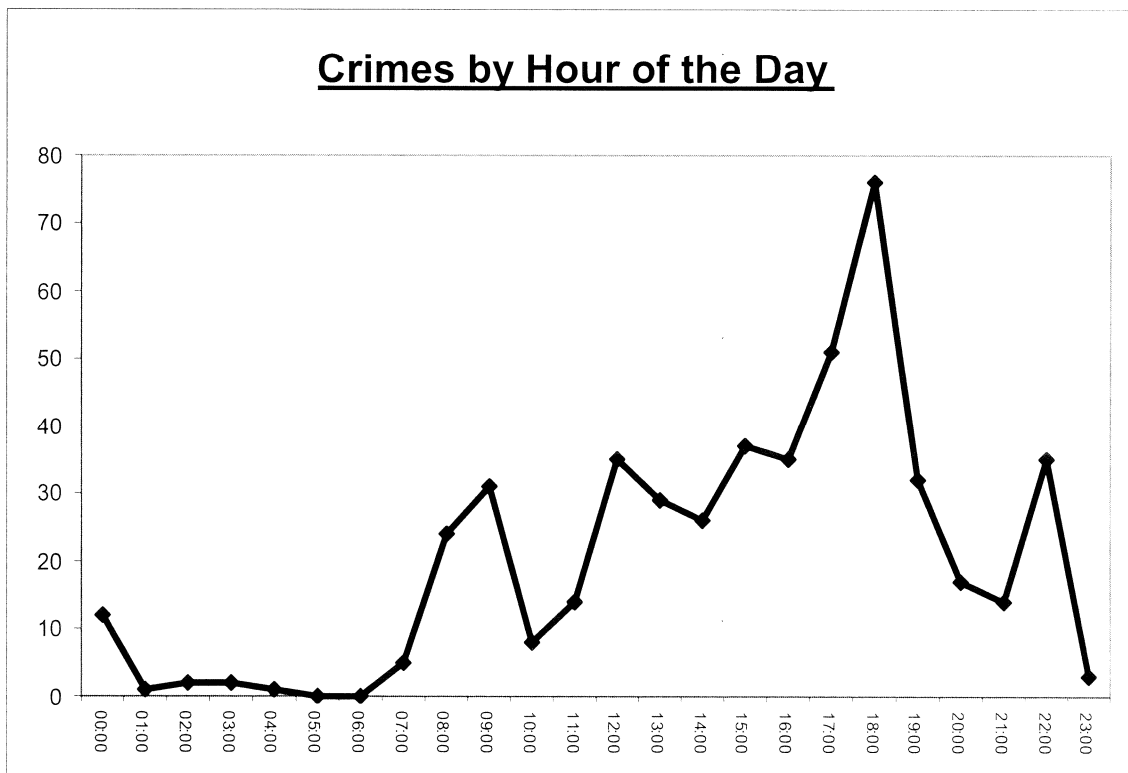
Expected Average Crime per Month = **40.8**

Expected Average Crime per Day = **70**

A Table of Crime by Hour of the Day in the Study Area

	00:00	01:00	02:00	03:00	04:00	05:00	06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	Total
Total	12	1	2	2	1	0	0	5	24	31	8	14	35	29	26	37	35	51	76	32	17	14	35	3	490

Crimes by Hour of the Day



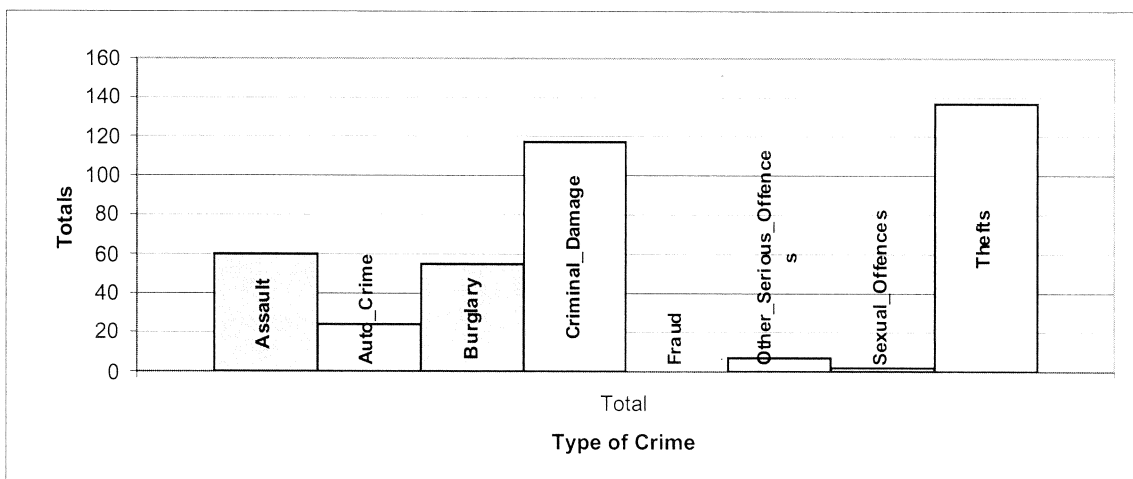
ORGNMNE	ASSAULT	AUTO_CRIME	BURGLARY	CRIMINAL_DAMAGE	OTHER_SERIOUS_OFFENCES	THEFTS	SEXUAL_OFFENCES	Grand Total
ACOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	1	2	13	2	0	0	18
ALL SAINTS RC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL	2	1	1	1	1	11	0	17
ARCHBISHOP HOLGATES SCHOOL	5	1	8	8	0	7	0	29
ARCHBISHOP OF YORK C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
BADGER HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
BOOTHAM SCHOOL	1	0	3	2	0	1	0	7
BURNHOLME COMMUNITY COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
BURTON GREEN PRIMARY	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
CANON LEE SCHOOL	8	0	0	0	0	5	0	13
CARR INFANT SCHOOL	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	4
CARR JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
CLIFTON GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	3	1	14	0	0	1	21
CLIFTON WITHOUT JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
COPMANTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
DERWENT JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
DRINGHOUSES PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	3
ELVINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
ENGLISH MARTYRS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
FISHERGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
FULFORD SCHOOL	1	0	1	1	2	5	0	10
HAXBY ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
HEADLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
HEWORTH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
HOB MOOR SCHOOL	5	1	2	5	0	3	0	16
HUNTINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	2	3	2	5	1	18	0	27
JOSEPH ROWNTREE SCHOOL	10	0	1	2	0	9	1	23
KNAESMIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
LORD DERAMORES PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	5
LOWFIELD SCHOOL	3	1	0	2	0	10	0	16
MANOR C OF E SCHOOL	3	0	5	1	0	8	0	17
MILLTHORPE SCHOOL	4	0	3	14	0	16	0	37
NEW EARSWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	4
NORTHFIELD SCHOOL	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
OAKLANDS SCHOOL	6	0	3	13	0	5	0	27
OSBALDWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
OUR LADYS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
PARK GROVE SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	4
POPLETON ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
ROBERT WILKINSON PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	3
SCARCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
SKELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5
ST AELREDS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
ST GEORGES RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
ST LAWRENCES C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	3
ST MARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
ST OLAVES SCHOOL	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
ST OSWALDS SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
ST PETERS SCHOOL	2	2	3	2	0	9	0	18
ST WILFRIDS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
STRENSALL JUNIOR SCHOOL	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
THE MINSTER SCHOOL	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
THE MOUNT SCHOOL	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
WHELDRAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
WOODTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
YEARSLEY GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	5
YORK STEINER SCHOOL	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	4
Grand Total	60	24	55	117	7	137	2	402

Architectural Liaison Officer Report

Crime Analysis Study Area:	=	Crimes at York Schools
Details of Search	=	Using initial keywords of "School" or "Pupil"
	=	Then Locations checked to make sure on School Premises
Study Period Start:	=	01/04/2005
Study Period End:	=	31/03/2006
Date Study Completed	=	26/06/2007
Number of Months in Study Period	=	12
Geocoding Accuracy Rate	=	95%

Crime Group	Total
Assault	60
Auto_Crime	24
Burglary	55
Criminal_Damage	117
Fraud	0
Other_Serious_Offences	7
Sexual_Offences	2
Thefts	137
Grand Total	402

A Table of Crime in the Study Area (Above) and corresponding Graph (Below)



A Table of Crime by Crime Group and then Crime Type

EVENT_GROUP	HO_DESCRIPTION	Total
ASSAULT	ASSAULT ON CONSTABLE	3
	COMMON ASSAULT ETC.	12
	HARRASSMENT	1
	OFFENCE OF HARRASSMENT	1
	OTHER WOUNDING ETC.	38
	POSSESSION OF WEAPONS WITH INTENT	1
	PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	4
AUTO_CRIME	AGGRAVATED TAKING OF VEH BY INJURY DAMAGE	1
	THEFT FROM VEHICLE	15
	THEFT OR UNAUTHORISED TAKING MOTOR VEHICLE	2
	VEHICLE INTERFERENCE	6
BURGLARY	BURGLARY IN A BUILDING OTHER THAN A DWELLING	53
	BURGLARY IN A DWELLING	2
CRIMINAL_DAMAGE	ARSON	5
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE OTHER	24
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO OTHER BUILDINGS	77
	CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO VEHICLES	11
OTHER_SERIOUS_OFFENCES	TRAFFICKING IN CONTROLLED DRUGS	7
SEXUAL_OFFENCES	INDECENT ASSAULT ON A FEMALE	2
THEFTS	OTHER THEFT OR UNAUTHORISED TAKING	63
	ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY	3
	THEFT FROM THE PERSON OF ANOTHER	6
	THEFT OF PEDAL CYCLE	65
Grand Total		402

A Table of Crime by Month of the Year and Hour of the Day in the Study Area

Month	Total
Jan	31
Feb	29
Mar	13
Apr	36
May	43
Jun	25

Month	Total
Jul	30
Aug	26
Sep	39
Oct	30
Nov	61
Dec	39

Crime Day	Total
Mon	61
Tue	47
Wed	67
Thu	73
Fri	92
Sat	35
Sun	27
Grand Total	402

Grand Total

402

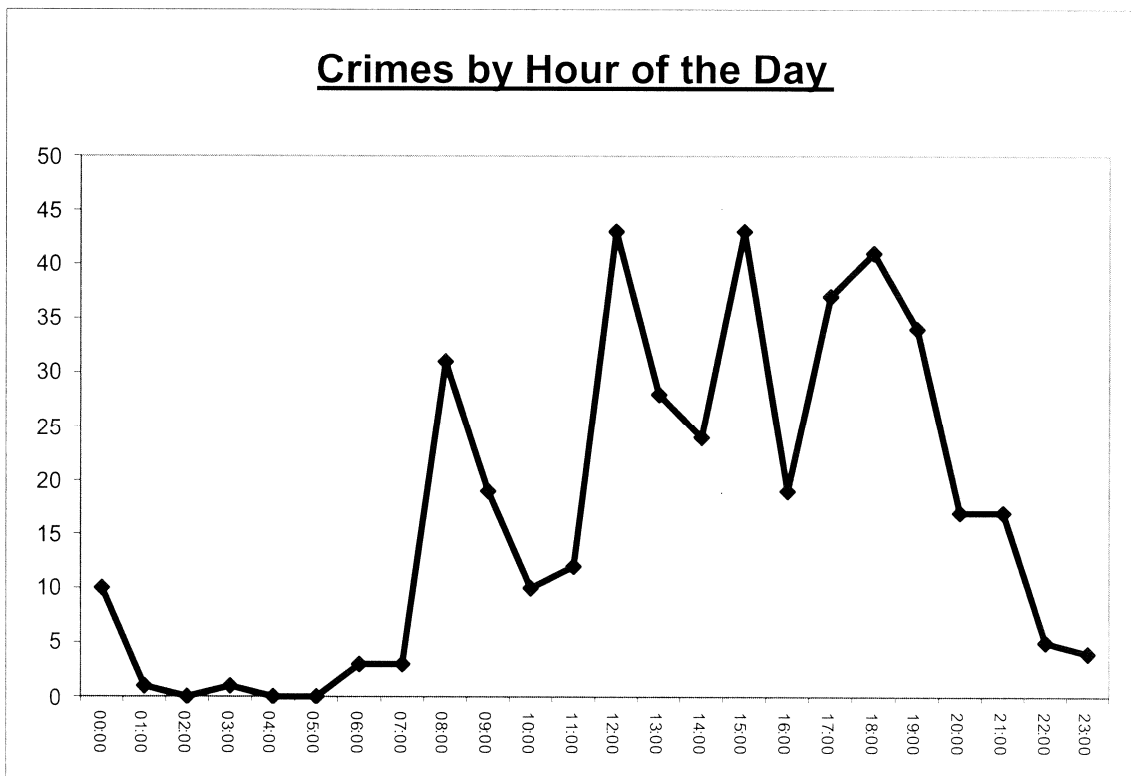
Expected Average Crime per Month = **33.5**

Expected Average Crime per Day = **57.4**

A Table of Crime by Hour of the Day in the Study Area

	00:00	01:00	02:00	03:00	04:00	05:00	06:00	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	Total
Total	10	1	0	1	0	0	3	3	31	19	10	12	43	28	24	43	19	37	41	34	17	17	5	4	402

Crimes by Hour of the Day





Education Scrutiny Committee

18 July 2007

Possible Future Scrutiny Reviews

Summary

1. This report presents Members with information on two possible scrutiny topics which have previously been considered and deferred.

Background

2. Children's Health, Fitness & Diets
In June 2004 Cllr Kind & Cllr Jones registered a topic on diet-related children's health – see registration form attached at Annex A. In June 2005 Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) considered a background briefing on the proposed topic from the Director Designate of Children's Services together with a feasibility report detailing the results from some officer consultation (see Annex B & C respectively).
3. SMC resolved that a working group be set up to further scope the topic particularly in relation to healthy eating in schools. The working group presented their scoping report to SMC in April 2006 (see Annex D), and having considered the wide-ranging nature of the topic, Members agreed to refer it to Education Scrutiny Committee for their consideration. To date this topic has not been presented to Education Scrutiny Committee and no remit has been produced.
4. To ensure the committee are fully informed as to the current position in regard to healthy eating in York schools, the Director of Learning, Culture & Children's Services has been asked to provide an up date on any associated work carried out since the working group presented its scoping report. As a result, a copy of a report relating to School Meals which is due to go to Children's Services EMAP on 19th July, has been provided for this committee's information (see Annex E), and this committee has been asked to provide a comment on the report for feeding back to the EMAP.
5. Role of School Governors
In May 2005 Cllr Kind registered a topic on the Role of School Governors - see registration form attached at Annex E. A feasibility report on this topic (see Annex F) was considered at a meeting of Education Scrutiny Committee in October 2006. Cllr Bradley offered to arrange for information on the changes to the role of governor to be presented to a future meeting of Children's Services EMAP this was discussed with the Governance Service Manager.

6. At the time, the Governance Service Manager understood that this review would look at the ever changing level of responsibility associated with the role of Governor, rather than changes to the actual role. To date no such report has been presented and the Governance Service Manager has been led to believe that this report is no longer required.
7. Irrespective of receiving this information, a decision was taken to proceed with the review once another review which was ongoing at the time, was completed. At the time that decision was made, no remit for the review was agreed.

Consultation

8. In both cases, Chief Officers were consulted on the feasibility of the suggested topics and their comments were included in the reports under consideration.

Options

9. Having regard to the topic registration forms and associated reports, Members may decide to:
 - a. Not progress the topics further, giving reasons
 - b. Retain either or both topics for progression at a later date.
 - c. Agree to proceed with either or both topics.

Analysis

10. If members decide to proceed with the reviews, brief clear remits and short to medium timescales should be set to ensure they are completed during the current municipal year.

Corporate Objectives

11. In regard to the topic on children's health, fitness and diets, Members might consider that a review would contribute to Corporate Priority No.8 – To improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city.
12. In regard to the topic on the role of school governors, Members might consider that a review would not directly fit with any of the corporate priorities but could have a positive effective in relation to No.5 & No.9.

Implications

13. There are no known Financial, HR, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT or other implications associated with this report. Should Members decide to proceed with review of these topics, there will be associated resourcing costs dependant on the agreed remits.

Risk Management

14. In compliance with the Councils risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

15. In regard to the topic on Children's health, fitness and diet, Members are asked to:

- reconsider the previous Education Scrutiny Committee's decision to proceed with this review based on the current corporate priorities and the new council policies and plans put in place since the topic was first registered.

Reason: To ensure any decision to review this topic is based on City of York Council's current position on healthy eating in York schools

- Provide comments on the report relating to School Meals

Reason: To ensure they are taken into consideration when Children's Services EMAP receive the report on 19th July

16. In regard to the topic on the Role of School Governors, it is recommended that before reaching a view on whether to proceed with this topic, Members receive and consider the previously requested report from the Governance Service Manager.

Reason: To ensure any decision on whether to proceed with a review is fully informed.

Contact Details

Author:

Melanie Carr
Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Services
Tel No. 01904 552063

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Suzan Hemingway
Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services

Feasibility Study Approved Date 9 July 2007

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

- Annex A** - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Registration Form
Annex B - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Background Briefing Paper
Annex C - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Feasibility Report
Annex D - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Working Group Scoping Report
Annex E - Report on School Meals
Annex F - Role of School Governors Registration Form

Annex G - Role of School Governors Feasibility Report

Scrutiny Topic Registration

Name of person proposing topic:	Date:
Cllr Viv Kind and Cllr Alan Jones	28/06/04
Contact:	
Viv 426909 Alan 635963 or Nesta ext.1939	
Suggested title of topic:	
Children's Health – Role of Leisure, Education and Partnerships with others	
What is the issue that scrutiny needs to address?	
How can we promote the good health fitness of children in York, both through council services, such as leisure and schools, and through partnership working, in order to counter any health inequalities York's children might experience and to maximise opportunities for positive health outcomes?	
What do you feel could be achieved by a scrutiny review?	
<p>1. Establish key markers of the health and fitness of the child population. These might include indicators of health and fitness status, knowledge of its importance amongst children and parents, and its teaching, health-promoting activities including cycling/ walking to school and other activities, gym and sports (and swimming), diet (including school meals), substance misuse, alcohol and tobacco consumption.</p> <p>2. Compare, where possible, with regional and national figures.</p> <p>3. Identify significant differences and determine further information to account for these.</p> <p>4. Recommend remedial action where required, to promote active and healthy lifestyles and reduce health problems in the future.</p>	

Urgency

Is the topic urgent?	N
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If so, please consider which of the following might apply:

Is there a strict time constraint?	
Is there currently high media coverage?	
Is there high public pressure to respond?	
Does it involve a high risk to the council?	

Any other reasons:

Issues

Please consider whether the following might apply:

Is the topic important to the people of York?	Y
Does the topic involve a poorly performing service or high public dissatisfaction with a service?	
Is it related to the City of York Council's corporate objectives?	Y
Has there been media interest in the topic?	Y
Can scrutiny help in the development of council policy?	Y
Any other issues or details:	
<p>This is topic of great interest in the media currently, and the Government is seeking to emphasise the importance of public health and lifestyle changes as the key way to improve the nations health and fitness and pre-empt the need for health care intervention.</p> <p>There are particular current concerns about obesity and a potential obesity time bomb – which the topic could look into. It is important to address these problems in children and young people, as we could be dealing with the repercussions for decades.</p> <p>In addition, evidence from the United States suggest that obesity and being overweight is linked to inequality – with the poorer tending to suffer more from such problems – so we need to look at broad and inclusive ways to tackle the problem.</p>	

Please return completed forms to: Rachel Rushforth, Scrutiny Manager, City of York Council, The Guildhall, York, YO1 9QN,
E-mail: rachel.rushforth@york.gov.uk Telephone: (01904) 551034

If you need any help completing this form please contact Scrutiny Services on the above number.

Scrutiny Management Committee

27 June 2005

Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

Proposed new topic: 'Children's Health: the role of Leisure, Education and Partnerships': Background briefing by Director Designate of Children's Services

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is for Members to gather background information on the proposed new topic on 'Children's Health' which has been added to the list of possible topics to be progressed by an ad-hoc scrutiny panel. Members will have the opportunity to question the Director Designate of Children's Services about the topic in the light of his future plans for the new service.

Background

2. At its last meeting, SMC received a report that asked Members to consider the registration form and feasibility report on the above topic and decide whether or not to progress it. The topic registration form is attached at Annex 1.
3. Members were impressed with the depth and breadth of the proposed topic, its cross-cutting nature and the involvement of partnership organisations and felt that it was a very worthwhile area to research.
4. However, Members raised concerns about the size of the topic, suggesting that it might be broken down in to smaller, more manageable topics. Members were also concerned about officer capacity, considering the new department of Children's Services had recently been set up. Members requested a view on this from the Director (Designate), Patrick Scott, as the availability of Officers may affect the decision as to which areas of the topic to consider.
5. It was agreed that the topic should be accepted in principle but that Patrick Scott should answer questions about officer availability. It was agreed that the topic should be prioritised with other suggested ad-hoc topics before being progressed.

Comments from Director Designate

6. The Director Designate, Patrick Scott, will attend the meeting to give a short briefing on plans for the new Children's Services and to answer Members concerns in relation to the proposed new topic.
7. Members are reminded that the Director Designate has made the following comments in relation to this topic:-
 1. *Does this overlap with work in your area or another area of the Council you are aware of and if so what?*

This is work that we are currently engaged in with the Healthy City Board and as part of the work on the Children and Young People's Plan and the Education Plan.

2. *Can you see the positive potential in progressing this topic? Please give reasons.*

It is clearly an important issue and, as the proposers suggest, one of immediate concern.

3. *Can you see any immediate pitfalls to progressing this topic?*

We know that much of the data referred to in the proposal is not available (we have been trying to gather it for the Education Plan). There is, for example, no data on obesity and it has proved impossible to establish the kind of benchmarks that are referred to in the proposal. We are working with the Healthy City Board to establish whether we have missed anything but it was commented at a recent meeting that the PCT has much less data than people imagine. Central Government is struggling even more seriously than us. All the data that we currently have is in the full Education Plan. The other problem is that our Healthy Schools Co-ordinator is about to go on maternity leave, and we would struggle to find the capacity to service a scrutiny as we do not have the funding to backfill her position.

4. *If the topic were progressed would you encourage officer support from your area?*

Please see above. It is very new territory for us and would, perhaps, be more easily dealt with once we are a department of children's services. Clearly decisions have yet to be taken about the composition of the department, but I think that, as a general point, councils are going to have to increase the capacity for gathering management information and increase the scope of the current teams (which have no brief or capacity to gather data on health).

5. *Are you aware of existing papers or research documents that might help Members? If so what and could you provide them?*

The Education Plan and the Children and Young People's Plan.

Recommendations

8. In the light of the briefing and response to Members' questions by the Director Designate of Children's Services, Members are asked to decide whether or not the topic should be kept on the list of possible topics for progression by an ad hoc scrutiny panel, either in its current form or in an amended form.

Contact details:

Author of the report:

Rachel Rushforth
Scrutiny Manager

Tel: 01904 552063

Email: rachel.rushforth@york.gov.uk

Chief Officer responsible for the report:

Suzan Hemingway
Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

For more information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Topic registration form: Children's Health: The role of Education, Leisure and Partnerships (no. 99)

Background Papers

None

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Report on results of feasibility consultation

Registered topic: Children's Health: The role of Leisure, Education and Partnerships (No. 99)

The following officers have been consulted about this topic and have provided a response based on their professional knowledge.

Policy Unit Response

It seems a timely piece of work, building on the media interest in children's health (as the proposal outlines) and the work underway to meet the Being Healthy element of Every Child Matters. Children's Services and the Children's Trust Unit may well be developing delivery mechanisms, internally and with partners to promote children's health which this scrutiny work could complement.

Performance Improvements Team Response

Performance Indicators

- The cultural city theme in the community strategy contains success measure – To have the highest levels of participation (per 1000 population) in sport and active lifestyles of any city in the country.
- Healthy City contains measure – Proportion of schools participating in the healthy schools scheme and other health promoting initiatives.
- Sustainable City – reduction of eco-footprint.
- Inclusive City – Reduction in the index of multiple deprivation scores for the areas of York that are in most need.

Community Strategy

This topic would contribute to several of the Community Strategy aims, including:

- Learning – 'To give our children the best start in life...' and 'to encourage and value all forms of creativity and talent';
- Cultural – 'To increase participation in sport, play and active lifestyles'
- Safer – 'To work with others to provide suitable sporting and social alternatives for young adults'.
- Sustainable – 'To significantly reduce the adverse impact on the environment of current lifestyles' (action to deliver healthy and sustainable school travel plans).
- Healthy – 'To ensure that health inequalities are identified and addressed', 'To provide good advice to and strong education programmes to enable people to live a healthy life'.
- Inclusive – 'To implement a multi agency inclusion strategy focusing on reduction of poverty, access to advice, finance and other services.

If the topic involves targeted consultation, which groups, organisations or bodies of consultees do think we should establish contact with and why?

The PCT are accountable for achieving targets that improve the health of our population – Rachel Johns is Director of Public Health at the PCT.

The Active York Partnership are responsible for the Sport and Active Leisure Strategy.

Equalities

Can you see any equalities benefits to pursuing this topic if so would they help us achieve a higher Equalities Standard for York and why?

Access to leisure facilities (including active leisure and sport activities) was a key issue raised by young people in the consultation for the development of an Equality Strategy for the Council – mainly due to the cost of transport involved. Similarly disabled people reported that they were much less likely to take part in a sport or physical activity. The provision of family changing rooms (which for example can assist parents to take their children, and disabled people to have assistance from opposite-sex carers) was cited by 9% of all respondents in a Talkabout survey to encourage them to use sport facilities.

The Acheson Inquiry which reported in 1999 was the most comprehensive investigation into the causes and possible policy responses to health inequalities. The report is lengthy but is available to download from:
<http://www.archive.official-documents.co.uk/document/doh/ih/contents.htm>

I have copied a few comments mentioned in the report to give an indication of the kinds of issues that the report covers in depth to when considering the links between health and inequality generally:

“Overall people from minority ethnic groups are more likely to describe their health as "fair" or "poor" than the ethnic majority”.

“Irish people have higher rates of morbidity as well as mortality.”

“Chinese people consult less with their general practitioner (GP) than whites”

“In a survey of reported physical activity fewer men and women aged 16 to 74 years from minority ethnic groups than from the general population reported levels of activity which would benefit their health. . . . For instance, amongst South Asian men aged 16 to 74 years, 67 per cent of Indians, 72 per cent of Pakistanis, and 75 per cent of Bangladeshis reported that they did not take part in enough physical activity to benefit their health, compared with 59 per cent of men in the general population. For South Asian women, the corresponding figures were 83, 86 and 82 per cent compared with 68 per cent of women in the general population.”

“Perhaps most striking is the number of people from all minority ethnic groups who are living in poverty, as defined by less than half the average income. Just under a third of white households have incomes below this level, compared to a third of Chinese, two-fifths of African Caribbean and Indian households and four-fifths of Pakistani and Bangladeshi households. Minority ethnic groups are also much more likely to be reliant on Income Support. Although the 1991 Census showed a worse socioeconomic profile amongst Irish people, a recent survey shows that there are differences within the Irish, with men born in the Republic of Ireland being more likely to be in social class V than any other group.”

This report did not specifically investigate the link between child health and inequality but its findings would be of interest and relevance to such a scrutiny topic. Recent research, published by the Joseph Rowntree Fund, has considered the impact of the inquiry:

Tackling health inequalities since the Acheson Inquiry
<http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/363.asp>

Another report published by JRF considers what would be the most effective way of reducing inequalities in health and concludes that:

“Some 1,400 lives would be saved per year amongst those under 15 if child poverty were eradicated (using the Government's relative definition of child poverty). This represents 92% of all 'excess' child deaths in areas of higher than average mortality. . . . Eradication of child poverty has the greatest relative effect (in terms of the proportion of lives saved).”

Reducing health inequalities in Britain
<http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/980.asp>

Marketing and Communications

The only local media interest to date has been in the Evening Press and has of course concerned the issue of school dinners, and how healthy they could / should be. This has generated a lot of column inches.

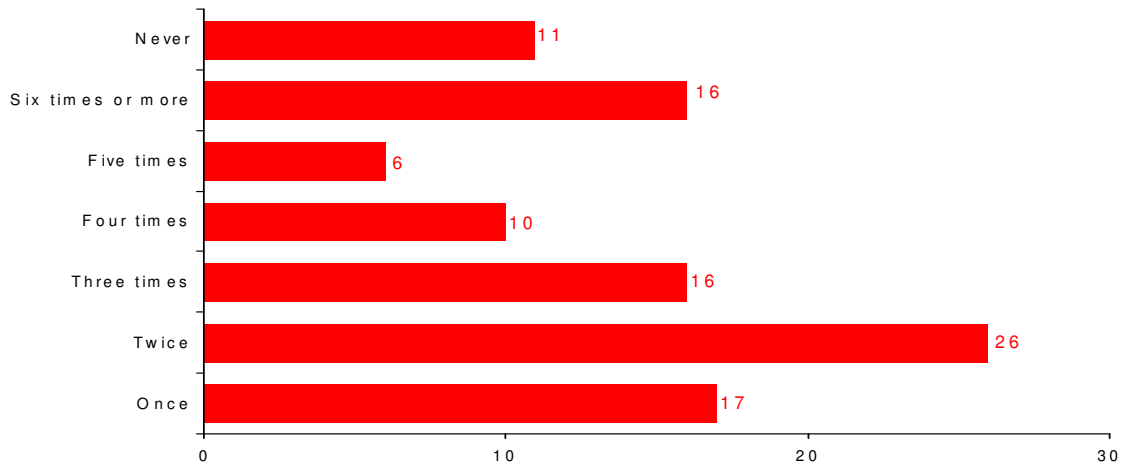
Nationally, there has been a great deal of coverage about the lifestyles of children, and how healthy they could / should be, especially regarding exercise and diet.

The selection of this issue as a scrutiny topic would be, as ever, a story in itself, and should be highlighted by a press release. The issue would be of great interest to local printed and broadcast media, and there are plenty of opportunities for members of the panel to talk to the local media.

Research

In August 2004 panellists were asked how many times in the preceding seven days their children had undertaken sport or a physical activity (including walking) that lasted for at least 60 minutes on each occasion. Overall, 32% of respondents'

children have taken part in an activity four times or more and 59% of respondents have taken part between one and three times. A further 11% have not taken part in any activity.



The Assistant Directors and Key Officers Supporting Scrutiny

The Director of Education has made the following comments:-

- 1. Does this overlap with work in your area or another area of the Council you are aware of and if so what?*

This is work that we are currently engaged in with the Healthy City Board and as part of the work on the Children and Young People's Plan and the Education Plan.

- 2. Can you see the positive potential in progressing this topic? Please give reasons.*

It is clearly an important issue and, as the proposers suggest, one of immediate concern.

- 3. Can you see any immediate pitfalls to progressing this topic?*

We know that much of the data referred to in the proposal is not available (we have been trying to gather it for the Education Plan). There is, for example, no data on obesity and it has proved impossible to establish the kind of benchmarks that are referred to in the proposal. We are working with the Healthy City Board to establish whether we have missed anything but it was commented at a recent meeting that the PCT has much less data than people imagine. Central Government is struggling even more seriously than us. **All the data that we currently have is in the full Education Plan.** The other problem is that our

Healthy Schools Co-ordinator is about to go on maternity leave, and we would struggle to find the capacity to service a scrutiny as we do not have the funding to backfill her position.

4. *If the topic were progressed would you encourage officer support from your area?*

Please see above. It is very new territory for us and would, perhaps, be more easily dealt with once we are a department of children's services. Clearly decisions have yet to be taken about the composition of the department, but I think that, as a general point, councils are going to have to increase the capacity for gathering management information and increase the scope of the current teams (which have no brief or capacity to gather data on health).

5. *Are you aware of existing papers or research documents that might help Members? If so what and could you provide them?*

The Education Plan and the Children and Young People's Plan.

The Assistant Director, Lifelong Learning and Leisure, has made the following comments:-

1. *Does this overlap with work in your area or another area of the Council you are aware of and if so what?*

It fits with the work of Active York who are pursuing active leisure initiatives to increase participation amongst young people.

2. *Can you see the positive potential in progressing this topic? Please give reasons.*

It is clearly an issue of the highest importance and fits with corporate objectives.

3. *Can you see any immediate pitfalls to progressing this topic?*

I would have thought it fitted better with the remit of the Healthy City Board and with the Children's Trust rather than duplicating effort through a Council scrutiny.

I would have thought such a complex set of issues was more suited to a long-term partnership approach rather than to a short-term scrutiny review.

4. *If the topic were progressed would you encourage officer support from your area?*

Yes

5. *Are you aware of existing papers or research documents that might help Members? If so what and could you provide them?*

There will be an absolutely vast array of research and data on this enormous topic.

The Assistant Director, Environment & Neighbourhoods has made the following comments:-

1. *Does this overlap with work in your area or another area of the Council you are aware of and if so what?*

Yes – sampling of school meals as part of a health eating survey

2. *Can you see the positive potential in progressing this topic? Please give reasons.*

Yes

3. *Can you see any immediate pitfalls to progressing this topic?*

Only in the initial media coverage, as the survey last year showed all North Yorkshire school meals had more than the recommended level of fat and salt

4. *If the topic were progressed would you encourage officer support from your area?*

Yes, from our food unit

5. *Are you aware of existing papers or research documents that might help Members? If so what and could you provide them?*

Healthy eating guidelines

Executive Member response

The Executive Member for Education has made the following comments:-

The Council is about to appoint a Director Designate for Children's Services and whoever is appointed will be looking at all the issues around bringing services for children together right across the piece.

In terms of capacity, officers will have an enormous amount to do to establish the new department. Partnership working will need establishing firmly with the new department.

Report prepared by Rachel Rushforth, Scrutiny Manager Tel. 01904 552063	Date report prepared: 9 May 2005
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For further information please contact the author of the report

Scrutiny Management Committee

24 April 2006

Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

Children's Health Scrutiny Working Group: Scoping Exercise

Purpose of report

1. This report recommends that diet-related children's health is approved to be added to the list of future scrutiny topics.

Background

2. In June 2004, a topic was registered by Cllrs Kind and Jones relating to 'Children's Health: The Role of Leisure, Education and Partnerships with others' (topic reg. form no. 99).

On 27 June 2005, the Scrutiny Management Committee considered a background briefing by the Director Designate of Children's Services on the proposed topic and resolved that a working group be set up to further scope the topic particularly in relation to Healthy Eating in Schools. The membership of the group was Cllrs Cuthbertson, Bradley and Kind.

Information

3. Between September and December 2005, the group carried out preliminary information-gathering about factors affecting children's health and fitness, in particular diet-related health. The group tried to identify where current data and indicators were available locally, regionally and nationally and where there were gaps in this data. They also gathered information about local initiatives that promote healthy eating.

Round-table discussion regarding diet-related children's health

4. On 30 September the group met with Margaret Wilkinson (Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory), Clare Barrowman (Schools Drug Education and Healthy Schools Consultant), Janet Flanagan (Head of Health Improvement, Selby & York PCT), Liz Jones (School Fruit and Veg. Scheme Co-ordinator), Barbara Kistasamy (Client Catering Manager, CYC) and Keith Tillbrook (Catering Manager, North Yorkshire County Caterers).

5. The main points from the discussion were as follows.
- A lot of data about children's health is not currently being collected and data that is collected is not necessarily reliable. The Public Health Observatory reported that statutory bodies were waiting for guidance from the Department of Health on indicators.
 - There is no breakdown of statistics in terms of children's health in the York and Selby areas, although they have very different socio-economic profiles.
 - Undernourishment is as much a problem as obesity in deprived areas.
 - There is a correlation between low birth-weight babies and health problems in later life. Pre-conceptual care is therefore important.
 - There was discussion about how young people are taught about food in secondary schools. Support packages for schools include Healthy Schools Scheme and a Food in Schools toolkit.
 - School meals: The lack of uptake of school meals, including free meals, is an issue. There needs to be a range of food on offer in schools. There is a problem with children going to local shops/fast food outlet at lunchtime. In some schools there is a policy where children have to have written permission to go out at lunch-time. School vending machines encourage unhealthy eating
 - A lot more is packed in to the school day, making mealtimes shorter and less of an opportunity for socialising whilst eating. Should packed lunches be made available earlier in the morning?
 - Breakfast clubs are a good opportunity for children to get a nutritional meal that they might miss out on at home. Clubs have been tried at Burnholme school, but the take-up was low.
 - Needs parents to be educated about healthy breakfasts/meals
 - Nursery schools/youth service – what are they doing to support healthy eating?

Meeting with Surestart staff

6. On 14 October the group visited Hob Moor School and met with Alison Walls, Surestart Project Manager and other staff at Surestart.
7. The main points from the discussion were as follows.
- The children and young women Surestart works with are more likely to be anaemic rather than obese.
 - There is a lack of local shops in the area selling fresh produce. Items sold at Tesco Express, Acomb tend to be more expensive than at superstores located outside the local area.
 - Parents do not have basic cooking skills and children are often not the first generation that haven't learnt skills. It is cheaper and easier for parents to buy processed food that will fill up the children with calories but may be of little nutritional value.

- At their sessions with parents, Surestart have subtly introduced more fresh fruit and vegetables, less processed foods, and fresh juice rather than juice squash with additives.
- Surestart want to shop on-line more for better choice and cost, rather than having to go through approved suppliers that may not offer nutritional food cost effectively.
- Feasts in the community centres are popular. A fathers group meets weekly and cooking has been a part of this. The young parents group encourages whole families to eat together. There is the opportunity for linking with schools on the work Surestart do relating to healthy eating.

Meeting regarding obesity research

8. Also on 14 October, the group met with Professor Ashley Adamson, Visiting Senior Lecturer, Department of Health Sciences, University of York. Prof. Adamson specialises in research into obesity and is leading a project in the North East (sponsored by the Food Standards Agency) to research the link between dietary intake and obesity in children/young people.
9. The main points from the discussion were as follows.
 - There is strong evidence that obesity is increasing in children, that it is linked to morbidity in childhood and that it tracks to adulthood with all the associated problem of adult obesity such as diabetes, cancer, coronary heart disease etc.
 - The determinant of obesity is the Body Mass Index (BMI). The rise in obesity has occurred in the last 20 years and has been dramatic.
 - Regarding asthma there is no evidence that obesity is a pre-disposing factor but it makes the condition worse.
 - All children at school entry are weighed and measured by school nurses. The Department of Health keep this data.
 - Health survey for England is a source of useful info

National and regional context

10. The Selby and York Primary Care Trust has published the following facts about obesity:
 - Obese people are more likely to suffer from a number of serious chronic diseases, many of which are life limiting.
 - Over 30,000 deaths a year are caused by obesity in England alone.
 - Obesity in 2-4 year old children has almost doubled [5%-9%] in 10 years [1989-1998]
 - Obesity in 6-15 year olds has trebled [5%-16%] in 11 years [1990-2001]
 - Obesity in adult women has nearly trebled [8%-23%] in 22 years [1980-2002]

- Obesity in adult men has nearly quadrupled [6%-22%] in 22years [1980-2002]
11. In the Government White Paper 'Choosing Health' it states that the objective for Primary Care Trusts should be to
- move the balance of the national diet in England towards that recommended by the experts
 - halt the year-on-year rise in obesity among children under 11 by 2010, in the context of a broader strategy to tackle obesity in the population as a whole
 - monitor obesity status among people aged 15 to 75 years, as recorded in GP records
- (2004 Government PSA10a target)
12. The Selby and York Primary Care Trust has developed a Healthy Lifestyles and Obesity Strategy 2005 –2008 which incorporates local initiatives and provides support in tackling the risk factors of the major lifestyle related diseases.

Local Actions include:

- Supporting the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme roll out and through Healthy School's Programme support the food in schools initiative
- Promotion of the 5 A Day campaign
- Training for professionals to ensure up-to date information given to all community groups
- Promotion of breastfeeding
- Training for all health professionals
- Developing a toolkit for frontline staff for the treatment and management of obesity
- Recording BMI of patients aged 15-75 on GP registers

Recent Government initiatives

13. Following a review of schools meals, a national audit of schools meals is currently being carried out. A panel set up by the Government to make recommendations about improving school meals has proposed a ban on low-quality foods high in fat, salt and sugar, reformed or reconstituted foods made from "meat slurry" and a further ban on chocolate, crisps, and sugary fizzy drinks from vending machines.
14. The Government has also undertaken to introduce more stringent nutrient-based standards, stipulating the essential nutrients, vitamins and minerals required for school meals in primary schools by no later than 2008 and secondary schools by no later than 2009.

Other issues affecting Children's Health

15. To gain an understanding of the priority to be attached to diet-related children's health issues, the group asked public health experts for their view on whether this was most pressing issue and whether, for instance, alcohol abuse amongst young people or physical fitness should be dealt with more urgently. The Department of Health's Regional Public Health Group for Yorkshire and the Humber confirmed that obesity is top of the regional public health policy agenda, together with teenage pregnancy.

Conclusion

16. In conclusion, the group's scoping work has found that obesity in children is increasing at a rapid rate and the health problems associated with it, such as diabetes, continue into adulthood. The group also found that some of the key data needed to track trends relating to child obesity is not reliable or is only now starting to be gathered. The number of indicators of the health and fitness of children is therefore limited.
17. The group recommends that diet-related children's health is approved as a future scrutiny topic, with the following scope:
 - Nutritional aspects of the food consumed by children in York schools, including how new Government standards will be implemented in schools
 - The wider educational issues regarding healthy eating, e.g. how parents are engaged in what their children eat
 - Best practice and how City of York compares with other local authorities regarding school meals

Recommendation

18. Members are recommended to approve diet-related children's health to be added to the list of future scrutiny topics.

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Annexes

None

Background Papers

None

Meeting of Executive Members and Children's
Services Advisory Panel

19 July 2007

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

School Meals Service - Fees And Charges**Summary**

1. This report describes the financial position regarding the school meal service provided by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC). The report seeks the views of the Executive Members regarding options to address the significant loss that is being incurred on this contract.

Background

2. The current school meals contract was let in 2001. The successful contractor was NYCC. The contract was let on the basis that it would be for 9 years with one break after three years then another after 6 years, giving schools the flexibility to opt in or out without penalty. The contract is in the first year of the final 3-year period which ends on 31 March 2010.
3. Fortynine schools are currently within this contract. The remaining schools in the City either contract with Dolce (a private contractor), have separate service level agreements with North Yorkshire County Council, or employ catering staff directly. Annex 1 provides more detail.
4. The contract allows for the price per meals paid to the contractor (contract price) to be increased or decreased on an annual basis in order to reflect actual costs. The last increase was in September 2006 when meals were increased by 15p (9.4%).
5. Negotiations with NYCC regarding this year's price increase have been delayed due to uncertainty regarding the costs arising from the Job Evaluation (JE) exercise that has now been completed in NYCC. The impact of this is described below. It is clear that another significant rise in the price of school meals will be required if the Local Authority (LA) wishes to retain the services of NYCC as the provider of meals in the majority of schools in York. In order to give sufficient notice to parents, it has been assumed that any increase in price will be with effect from 29 October 2007, following the half-term break.

Analysis

6. School meals have been much debated in recent years. Schools in York have attracted positive press coverage as the catering service has sought to procure more food locally and to improve the quality of ingredients used. A new and improved contract for the supply of fresh meat and poultry means that over 60% is sourced within the County and 90% from within the region. Contracts for

fresh fruit and vegetables are being re-tendered with an emphasis on local produce and a reduction in food miles. The service is meeting the full nutritional standards required by Government, although Transforming School Grant (TSG) is contributing to the cost of this in the short term.

7. The TSG has been used to support the costs of improving the quality of school meal ingredients and has, in effect, subsidised the cost of each meal by 7p 2006/07 and 8p in 2007/08. The grant has also been used to promote healthy eating in schools through various projects and initiatives. It is not yet known whether the grant will be available in 2008/09. The figures set out in this report assume that the grant will cease at the end of 2007/08.
8. North Yorkshire County Council has reported that the contract operated at a loss of £90k in 2006/07 (more details are provided in the confidential Annex 2). These losses, borne by NYCC, are attributed to the fact that the average take-up of school meals in York remains stubbornly low.
9. Despite the efforts of the catering service and staff in many schools, the take-up rate of hot meals in primary schools in York varies from 16% to 61% with an average of around 33% in 2006/07 (see Annex 1). This compares with reported figures of around 44% in NYCC.
10. In 2007/08, the contract is facing a new and significant financial pressure caused by the implementation of Job Evaluation in NYCC. A new pay and reward scheme has been introduced in NYCC from April 2007, and this affects all kitchen staff. Key changes to terms and conditions include:
 - Increased salaries for Cooks and some Assistant Cooks
 - Increased annual leave entitlement
 - Introduction of incremental points for some staff
11. NYCC has recently confirmed that the impact of job evaluation on the York contract will be significant, adding around 20% to the total pay bill. The impact of changes to staffing terms and conditions will increase costs of the York contract by an estimated £169k per annum (before 2007/08 pay award).

Funding Implications

12. The cost of school meals is met from within the Individual Schools Budget (ISB). The cost of providing free school meals (FSM) is reimbursed to schools through the local funding formula. For all pupils not entitled to FSM, the current selling price is set to meet the cost of the service.
13. Given the scale of the increase in contract costs, and the potential impact upon selling price, the Schools' Forum was asked at their meeting on 5 July 2007 to consider and comment upon four options for increasing the selling price of Primary school meals from 29 October 2007.
14. Annex 3 details the financial implications, funding streams (school meal income, Transforming School Grant, Job Evaluation contingency) and selling price, for the four options outlined below, over the period 2007/2010.

15. Secondary schools in the contract operate a cafeteria system with individual items priced separately. NYCC increased prices by 10% in April 2007 for four York secondary schools with whom they have individual Service Level Agreements (SLAs). NYCC advises that a similar increase will be needed for the five remaining secondary schools within the CYC contract. This increase in secondary prices has been assumed for each of the options below.

Option 1 – to increase the selling price (Primary Meals) to £2.10 in October 2007

16. In order to balance income and expenditure for the Primary School contract, the selling price of a school meal would need to increase by 35p (20%) from £1.75 to £2.10 (rounded up from £2.08). This assumes that the existing average take-up rate is maintained and that prices would then rise only by inflation in 2008/09 and 2009/10 (estimated price of £2.20 in September 2009).

Option 2 – to increase selling price (Primary Meals) to £1.95 in October 2007

17. This option recognises that that the price increase set out in option 1 would probably meet with significant consumer resistance, reducing the take up of school meals further, thus leading to reduced income and further price increases.
18. The Forum has already agreed to set aside £250k from the Individual Schools Budget (ISB) in 2007/08 as a contingency to contribute to costs associated with the introduction of Job Evaluation in York schools. The implementation of a new pay and grading scheme for City of York staff has yet to be agreed and implemented. Some of the funding set aside for this purpose could be used to support school meal provision in 2007/08 and limit the increase in the selling price to 20p (11.4%).
19. This option assumes a further 20p increase to £2.15 in September 2008, followed by a 5p increase to £2.20 in September 2009. Increases beyond 2007 will be subject to changes in inflation rates and the demand for meals.

Option 3 – to increase selling price to £1.90 (Primary Meals) in October 2007

20. As for option 2, but providing more subsidy to allow for a selling price of £1.90 (8.5% increase) in 2007, rising to £2.05 in September 2008 and £2.20 in September 2009. Increases beyond 2007 will be subject to changes in inflation rates and the demand for meals.

Option 4 – to increase selling price to £2.00 (Primary Meals) in October 2007

21. This is a hybrid of options 1 and 2. It assumes a selling price of £2.00 (14% increase) in 2007, rising to £2.15 in September 2008 and £2.20 in September 2009. Increases beyond 2007 will be subject to changes in inflation rates and the demand for meals.

Future of the NYCC Contract

22. The options above are intended to address the short term funding issues and to ensure that NYCC continues to provide the school meal service.
23. It is clear that NYCC is finding it increasingly difficult to balance operating costs with income. The cost of labour has increased significantly. The introduction of nutritional standards is currently supported by the Transforming School Grant and it is possible that this subsidy will be withdrawn. In NYCC, the Council has agreed to underwrite the extra cost of job evaluation for 2007/08. Options 2 and 3 above offer a similar approach for York schools.
24. North Yorkshire County Council has begun a detailed review of the school meal service and “various options for the future provision of the service”. These options could include:
 - maintain the service in its present format
 - cease the preparation of food in schools serving low numbers of meals and transporting meals in from larger schools.
 - provide a cold packed lunch service only
 - pass all responsibility for meal provision to schools
 - introduce differential pricing in schools reflecting local costs and demand
 - externalise/outsouce the service to a private sector provider
25. All options carry differing cost benefits and risks and will need detailed investigation. It is thought unlikely that re-tendering the contract would lead to a reduction in costs in the short term given the impact of the transfer of undertakings protection of employment regulations (TUPE). NYCC has commented that *“the analysis of alternative options is at an early stage. It is against a background where the present basis of service does appear to be the best approach to meeting the healthy meals agenda. However, given the impact of job evaluation, we must examine alternatives and be in a position to discuss those alternatives in detail with our customers – the schools in York and North Yorkshire. We are more than happy to follow those initiatives jointly with your staff”*.

Consultation

26. There have been various consultations concerning provision of school meals in York in the last two years. School meal provision was debated at the launch of Governor Viewpoint in September 2005. Some 90 governors attended and expressed the following views:
 - 92% believed that the quality of food made a significant difference to behaviour
 - 90% felt that quality should be the most important criteria in setting policy (5% opted for choice and 2% price)
 - 80% felt that schools should only provide healthy food
 - 92% considered that the contents of meals should be changed even if it led to a reduction in take-up
 - 75% were willing to support a policy of sourcing local food even if it meant an increase in cost

- 72% were not willing to provide subsidised meals at the beginning or end of the day
 - 57% were willing to see better quality meals priced at £2.00, 32% at £1.80 and 5% at more than £2.00
 - 70% thought that schools should monitor and make recommendations about pack-ups. 30% did not.
 - 68% felt that school meals should be served using the “family service” model.
 - No governors were willing to support the “grab a bag” approach.
27. In 2006, the LA published a key issue paper: Transforming School Meals – National Developments and Local Issues. Responses to the paper from schools guided the way in which the Authority used the Transforming School Meals Grant to: improve the nutritional content of meals; provide training for catering staff; and promote the take up of school meals.
28. The Schools’ Forum considered the options set out in this paper at their meeting on 5 July 2007. The views of the Schools’ Forum will be reported back to the meeting of EMAP.

Corporate Priorities

29. The provision of nutritional school meals supports the corporate priority to “improve the health and lifestyles of the people who live in York, in particular among groups whose levels of health are the poorest.”

Implications

Human Resources (HR)

30. There are no implications.

Equalities

31. There are no implications.

Legal

32. There are no legal implications.

Crime and Disorder

33. There are no issues relating to crime and disorder.

Information Technology (IT)

34. There are no issues relating to IT.

Property

35. There are no direct issues relating to property

Risk Management

36. If the contract continues to operate at a loss, the Local Authority faces the likelihood that the contractor will seek to terminate the contract. Schools would be required to make alternative arrangements. In increasing the selling price of school meals, there is likely to be a reduction in the number of children choosing school meals. Options 2 to 4 seek to mitigate this risk by phasing in price increases over time.
37. Increasing the take up rate of school meals, through various promotions and initiatives, also serves to improve the financial viability of the contract in the longer term.

Conclusion

38. The cost of school meals provided through the NYCC contract has risen significantly, largely as a consequence of increased staffing costs following the implementation of job evaluation for staff employed by NYCC.
39. In the short-term, in order to maintain the service provided by NYCC, the Council will need to increase the selling price of school meals, or subsidise the provision of school meals (from DfES grant and the schools' budget) or apply a combination of these responses.
40. It would be possible to phase in the required increase in selling price over the next two years in order to minimise the risk of a significant reduction in the numbers taking school meals creating a spiral of decline. The options set out in paragraphs 17-21 and Annex 3 adopt this approach, drawing upon Transforming School Meal Grant and contingency funds set aside (from the ISB) to address the impact of job evaluation.
41. NYCC recognises the need to review the operation of the school meals service and has invited CYC to contribute to that process.

Recommendation

42. Executive Members are asked to consider the options set out in the report and to determine the price for school meals.
43. NYCC has proposed a joint review of the school meals service and options for future delivery. Executive Members are asked to consider the proposal and whether or not the LA would wish to contribute to such a review.

Reason: to ensure the continuation of the school meals service provided by North Yorkshire County Council.

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Report Approved **Date** 2 July 2007

Patrick Scott
Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Report Approved **Date** 2 July 2007

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Implication Financial
Richard Hartle
Head of Finance
Tel No. 01904 554225

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

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

LA Key issue paper: Transforming School Meals – National Developments and Local Issues, Spring 2006

Annex 1: School meals take up

Annex 2: Confidential annex: letter from North Yorkshire County Council

Annex 3: Financial implications and funding streams of proposed options

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Academic Year		2006 / 2007		
School	2006 NOR	In	% take up	Selling Price £
Acomb Primary	247*		26%	1.75
Applefields	152*		60%	1.75
Archbishop of York's CE Junior	180*		42%	1.75
Badger Hill Primary	152*		32%	1.75
Bishopthorpe Infant	144*		36%	1.75
Burton Green Primary	207*		43%	1.75
Carr Infant	152*		24%	1.75
Carr Junior	206*		27%	1.75
Clifton Green Primary	301*		48%	1.75
Clifton Without Junior	298*		18%	1.75
Copmanthorpe Primary	336*		47%	1.75
Derwent Infant	88*		43%	1.75
Derwent Junior	110*		43%	1.75
Dringhouses Primary	338*		34%	1.75
Dunnington CE Primary	237*		33%	1.75
Elvington CE Primary	141*		55%	1.75
English Martyrs' RC Primary	207*		23%	1.75
Fishergate Primary	175*		32%	1.75
Haxby Road Primary	222		<i>Dolce</i>	1.70
Headlands Primary	228*		26%	1.75
Hempland Primary	356*		32%	1.75
Heworth CE Primary	134		<i>Trial catering service Summer 2007</i>	1.75
Hob Moor Oaks			<i>PFI Dolce</i>	1.70
Hob Moor Primary	253		<i>PFI Dolce</i>	1.70
Huntington Primary	377		<i>Dolce</i>	1.70
Knavesmire Primary	182*		28%	1.75
Lakeside Primary	376*		29%	1.75
Lord Deramore's Primary	214*		40%	1.75
Naburn CE Primary	78*		40%	1.75
New Earswick Primary	215		<i>SLA NYCC</i>	1.70
Osbalwick Primary	176*		35%	1.75
Our Lady's RC Primary	171*		33%	1.75
Park Grove Primary	236*		31%	1.75
Poppleton Ousebank Primary	381*		24%	1.75
Poppleton Road Primary	356*		23%	1.75
Ralph Butterfield Primary	289		<i>School Employ Catering Staff</i>	Cash Café
Rawcliffe Infant	222*		14%	1.75
Robert Wilkinson Primary	532		<i>School Employ Catering Staff</i>	1.70
Rufforth Primary	60*		45%	1.75
Scarcroft Primary	312*		28%	1.75
Skelton Primary	121*		25%	1.75
St Aelred's RC Primary	232*		32%	1.75

St Barnabas' CE Primary	105		<i>PFI Dolce</i>	1.70
St George's RC Primary	178*		48%	1.75
St Lawrence's CE Primary	199*		47%	1.75
St Mary's CE Primary	111*		61%	1.75
St Oswald's CE Primary	274		<i>PFI Dolce</i>	1.70
St Paul's CE Primary	164*		30%	1.75
St Wilfrid's RC Primary	266*		29%	1.75
Stockton on the Forest Primary	85*		35%	1.75
Tang Hall Primary	181		28%	1.75
Westfield Primary	582		<i>SLA NYCC</i>	1.85
Wheldrake CE Primary	207*		29%	1.75
Wigginton Primary	280*		16%	1.75
Woodthorpe Primary	418		<i>SLA NYCC</i>	1.75
Yearsley Grove Primary	366		<i>Dolce</i>	1.70
Canon Lee	916*		22%	Cash Café
Huntington	1,502		<i>SLA NYCC</i>	Cash Café
Fulford	1,273		<i>SLA NYCC</i>	Cash Café
Oaklands	768*		27%	Cash Café
Burnholme Community College	465*		<i>School catering staff</i>	Cash Café
Lowfield	414*		25%	Cash Café
Millthorpe	1,014*		21%	Cash Café
Archbishop Holgate's CE	825		<i>SLA NYCC</i>	Cash Café
Joseph Rowntree	1,265		<i>SLA NYCC</i>	Cash Café
Manor	637*		35%	Cash Café
All Saints' RC	1,151*		29%	Cash Café
York High				

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

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NYCC Contract Schools

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Option 1 Primary Schools				
Increase in pence		35p	5p	5p
Price Per Meal (To nearest 5p)	175p	210p	215p	220p
Cost Per Meal		208p	214p	220p
Surplus Income		-2p	-1p	0p
		£	£	£
Total cost of Primary Schools		-17,457	-8,729	0
Total Cost of Secondary Schools Free Meals		0	0	0
One off Summer Term 2006 Payment		69,000	0	0
Number of Meals until Half Term		103,092	0	0
Cost of delay in increase until Autumn Half Term		34,020	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant to non contract schools		9,357	0	0
Total Cost of Subsidy / Surplus Income		94,920	-8,729	0
		£	£	£
Funded by		69,557	0	0
Job Evaluation Contingency		25,363	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant		94,920	0	0
		£	£	£
Amount available to fund promotion of take up		168,637	8,729	0
Option 2 Primary Schools				
Increase in pence		20p	20p	5p
Price Per Meal	175p	195p	215p	220p
Cost Per Meal		208p	214p	220p
Amount to be subsidised / Surplus Income		13p	-1p	0p
Number of Meals		872,860	872,860	872,860
		£	£	£
Total cost of Primary Schools		113,472	-8,729	0
Number of Secondary Free Meals		77,084	0	0
Total Cost of Secondary Schools Free Meals		10,021	0	0
One off Summer Term 2006 Payment		69,000	0	0
Number of Meals until Half Term		103,092.00	0	0
Cost of delay in increase until Autumn Half Term		34,020	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant to non contract schools		55,265		
Total Cost of Subsidy / Surplus Income		281,778	-8,729	0
		£	£	£
Funded by		117,054	0	0
Job Evaluation Contingency		164,724	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant		281,778	0	0
		£	£	£
Amount available to fund promotion of take up		29,276	8,729	0

Option 3 Primary Schools				
Increase in pence		15	15	15
Price Per Meal	175p	190p	205p	220p
Cost Per Meal		208p	214p	220p
Amount to be subsidised		18p	9p	0p
		£	£	£
Number of Meals		872,860	872,860	872,860
Total cost of Primary Schools		157,115	78,557	0
Number of Secondary Free Meals		77,084	77,084	77,084
Total Cost of Secondary Schools Free Meals		13,875	6,938	0
One off Summer Term 2006 Payment		69,000	0	0
Number of Meals until Half Term		103,092	0	0
Cost of delay in increase until Autumn Half Term		34,020	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant to non contract schools		55,265	0	0
Total Cost of Subsidy		329,275	85,495	0
		£	£	£
Funded by		164,551	85,495	0
Job Evaluation Contingency		164,724	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant		329,275	85,495	0
Amount available to fund promotion of take up		29,276	0	0
Option 4 Primary Schools				
Increase in pence		25p	15p	-215p
Price Per Meal	175p	200p	215p	0p
Cost Per Meal		208p	214p	0p
Amount to be subsidised / Surplus Income		8p	-1p	0p
Number of Meals		872,860	872,860	872,860
		£	£	£
Total cost of Primary Schools		69,829	-8,729	0
Number of Secondary Free Meals		77,084	0	0
Total Cost of Secondary Schools Free Meals		6,167	0	0
One off Summer Term 2006 Payment		69,000	0	0
Number of Meals until Half Term		103,092.00	0	0
Cost of delay in increase until Autumn Half Term		34,020	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant to non contract schools		55,265		
Total Cost of Subsidy / Surplus Income		234,281	-8,729	0
		£	£	£
Funded by		69,557	0	0
Job Evaluation Contingency		164,724	0	0
Targeted School Meals Grant		234,281	0	0
		£	£	£
Amount available to fund promotion of take up		29,276	8,729	0



SCRUTINY TOPIC REGISTRATION FORM

Dear Reader

Scrutiny Members examine the decisions, policies and performance of the Council and make recommendations where they feel things could be improved for the citizens of York.

This non-Executive Member cross-party role was created by the Local Government Act 2000 which is all about modernising local government and creating better ways for citizens to be more involved in local decision making.

The scrutiny boards will consider possible suggestions about issues to look at from anyone, so long as these are not specific issues of an individual nature which should be taken up with a local Councillor or addressed through the Corporate Complaints system.

Scrutiny at York has already investigated things as diverse as the response to the 2000 'Floods', provision for 'Young People in York', 'Rail Side Safety' and 'Street Cleaning'.

If you have a suggestion for something the scrutiny boards might consider, then please fill in this registration form and return it to us, either by post or by e-mail.

Madeleine Kirk

Cllr Madeleine Kirk
Chair, Scrutiny Management Committee

SCRUTINY TOPIC REGISTRATION FORM

<p>SUGGESTED TITLE OF TOPIC</p> <p>The Role of School Governors</p>

<p>ABOUT YOU Please fill in as many of the details as you are able to.</p>	
<p>Title (delete as applicable):</p> <p>Other please state: Cllr</p>	
<p>First Name: Viv</p>	<p>Surname: Kind</p>
<p>Address: 1 Sefton Avenue York YO31 9LR</p>	<p>Daytime Phone: 01904 426909</p> <p>Evening Phone: same</p> <p>Email: cllr.vkind@york.gov.uk</p>
<p>Are You (delete as applicable)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Resident of York • A Visitor • A City of York Councillor • A City of York Council Employee • A Representative of a Voluntary Organisation or Charitable Trust (if YES please tell us the organisations title and your relationship to the organisation below) • Other (please comment) 	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p> <p>YES</p> <p>NO</p> <p>YES / NO</p>

ABOUT YOUR PROPOSED TOPIC

Please write your responses to as many of the questions below as you are able to.

WHY DO YOU THINK THIS TOPIC IS IMPORTANT?

School Governors' responsibilities have increased greatly during the last few years. Governors have a major contribution to make to the running of and achievement in our schools. They cannot do this in isolation and must work in partnership with schools and with the LEA. It would be useful to explore these relationships to ensure that governors are able to make best use of their roles and responsibilities, and that we are securing the optimum outcome for schools and for our children and young people.

DO YOU KNOW IF THIS TOPIC IS IMPORTANT TO OTHER PEOPLE? IF SO, WHO AND WHY?

It must be important to children and young people in securing best outcomes for them. Some governors have told me it is important for them to ensure they are making the contribution they would want to their schools. Schools may also benefit from the opportunity to ensure they are getting the maximum support from their governing bodies

WHAT DO YOU THINK SCRUTINY OF THIS TOPIC MIGHT CHANGE, DO OR ACHIEVE?

The aim would be to achieve better outcomes for children. The topic should allow us to identify any improvements that can be made in how governors could exercise their responsibilities, and any additional support that can be provided for governors by schools and/or the LEA.

Annex F

DO YOU HAVE IDEAS ABOUT THE APPROACH SCRUTINY MEMBERS MIGHT TAKE TO YOUR SUGGESTED TOPIC?

Seek information to understand what the roles and responsibilities of governors are. Talk to governors, governance service, schools, LEA officers, and children and young people and their parents and carers.

WOULD YOU BE HAPPY TO TALK TO SCRUTINY MEMBERS ABOUT YOUR PROPOSED TOPIC AT FORMAL MEETINGS?

Yes

PLEASE ENCLOSE ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS OR OTHER INFORMATION YOU FEEL MIGHT BE USEFUL BACKGROUND TO THE SUBMISSION OF THIS TOPIC FOR CONSIDERATION.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Thank you for proposing a new scrutiny topic. As Members of the Scrutiny Management Committee and Scrutiny Boards we promise the following things;

- To advise you of any meetings where a decision will be taken as to whether to progress your topic and invite you to attend
- If Members would like you to speak in support of your topic at such meetings you will be notified and supported through the process by a Scrutiny Officer
- If you do not wish to speak you do not have to; your choice will not influence fair consideration of your topic.

Please return this form to the address below or send it by email. If you want any more information about Scrutiny or submitting a new topic for consideration then please contact the Scrutiny Team.

By Writing to:

The Scrutiny Services Team
C/o The Guildhall
York
YO1 9QN

Or Email: Scrutiny.services@york.gov.uk

Or Phone: 01904 552038

For Scrutiny Administration Only

Topic Identity Number	127
Date Received	Tuesday, 17 May 2005
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Report on results of feasibility consultation on the Role of School Governors - Ref no 127.

Policy Unit Response:

Officers in the Policy Unit were not aware of any duplicating work connected with this issue. They think it could be a quite timely topic in that lots of changes are underway or planned in connection with the implementation of the Children Act in schools. Governors' roles and responsibilities might evolve as a result of these changes - scrutiny might like to consider this too

Equalities:

School Governors' responsibilities have increased greatly during the last few years. Governors have a major contribution to make to the running of and achievement in our schools. They cannot do this in isolation and must work in partnership with schools and with the LEA. It would be useful to explore these relationships to ensure that governors are able to make best use of their roles and responsibilities, and that we are securing the optimum outcome for schools and for our children and young people.

Governors have an important role to play in supporting the inclusion agenda. The Inclusion Strategy, developed as a result of Scrutiny Board recommendations in April 2003 states:

Historically, some groups of children have tended to do less well in our schools than other children. The groups more likely to underachieve include those with special educational needs, children with disabilities, children from black and minority ethnic communities, children in public care, children with additional needs and those facing other challenging personal and social circumstances.

Effective schools are inclusive schools . . . they respect difference and have a commitment to offering all children access to learning opportunities. Such schools will also have good links with parents and with their communities.

In order to develop 'inclusive' schools we must pay attention to the development of 'inclusive' cultures and, particularly, to the building of some degree of consensus around inclusive values in each school's community. Headteachers and other school leaders are particularly important in the development of 'inclusive' schools. Their own commitment to inclusive values and their capacity to get participation and consensus within their schools is significant. This has implications

for the criteria on which school leaders are selected and for the sort of training they receive.

Governors have an important role to play in supporting the inclusion agenda. This scrutiny topic could usefully consider:

- How well governing bodies in their composition reflect the diversity amongst pupils and the local community – and how more parents and local people from under-represented groups could be involved?
- How can governors better support the inclusion agenda? What support or training would help with this? Do the existing roles and responsibilities of governors facilitate this?

Community Strategy:

The community strategy doesn't refer to the role of School Governors specifically but it does set out strategic aims in relation to learning that would be relevant to this topic:

- To give our children the best start in life, even before they reach school;
- To redefine learning to enable people to develop the attitudes, skills and sense of purpose, which can help to build confident and creative communities.
- To increase the achievement of all school pupils at every stage in their education;
- To improve levels of literacy and numeracy;
- To encourage and value all forms of creativity and talent;

We also aim to 'encourage and nurture the potential and energy of children and young people' (Inclusive City aim 6)

Performance Monitoring:

School Governance have no complaints recorded against their service, but they have recently dropped below the Customer First Standard Target for answering phone calls within 20 secs, the last quarter it was recorded as 81% a drop from 96% in the 1st quarter of 2004/05, this is not consistent with the history of performance for this statistic over the last couple of years where they have been above the 95% target.

Marketing and Communications:

There hasn't been much interest in the role of school governors nationally, but I think we could generate some interest in the local media through press releases - there must be several hundred governors across the city.

Director of Education and Leisure:

The Governance Service and support for school governors is a unique service within the Council. However, there is potential for other agencies to become involved. For example, the teaching unions may undertake training for staff governors.

It is true that the remit of governors is broadening. With the extended schools initiative they are being asked to take responsibility for an increasing range of educational and out-of-hours provision. It may be advantageous for Members to become more aware of the role of governors and to examine the provision offered by the LEA to support them.

The governance service is a small, tight unit with little capacity for undertaking additional work. The time required to undertake this scrutiny exercise would stretch current resources and it may be that some additional administrative support would be required.

Report prepared by Barbara Boyce Date report prepared 25 May 2005

For further information please contact the author of the report

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