



**Notice of meeting of
Education Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors Aspden (Chair), Brooks (Vice-Chair), Hyman, Morley, Merrett, Blanchard and Funnell

Co-opted Statutory Members:

Dr David Sellick (Church of England Representative),
Mrs Leeanne Branton (Parent Governor Representative)
and Mr Bill Schofield (Parent Governor Representative)

Date: Wednesday, 30 July 2008

Time: 6.00 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. Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 17 June 2008.

3. 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 29 July 2008 at 5:00pm.**

4. Update on recommendations rising from a previous scrutiny review of the Young Peoples Service (Pages 13 - 20)

This report provides an update on the implementation status of the recommendations arising from a previously completed scrutiny review of the 'Provision of Facilities for Young People in the City'.

5. School Governors Review (Pages 21 - 28)

This report presents the draft final report for the School Governors Review incorporating the changes requested by Members at the last meeting. These are shown as tracked changes for ease of viewing.

6. Education Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2008-09 (Pages 29 - 30)

To consider and agree the updated workplan for the work of the Education Scrutiny Committee.

Democracy Officers:

Name: Catherine Clarke and Louise Cook (job share)

Contact Details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552030
- E-mail – catherine.clarke@york.gov.uk and louise.cook@york.gov.uk

(If contacting us by e-mail, please send to both Democracy Officers named above)

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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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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EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**Agenda item I: Declarations of interest.**

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

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Councillor Aspden | Governor of the Danesgate Centre
Member of the National Union of Teachers
Employee of North Yorkshire County Council |
| Councillor Brooks | Member of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers
Employee of City College, Manchester |
| Councillor Merrett | Governor at St Paul's Primary School
Committee member and Treasurer of the York Chinese Cultural Association
Parent of a child who attends St Paul's Primary School |
| Councillor Blanchard | Chair of the York Board of Young Enterprise |
| Councillor Hyman | Governor at Huntington Primary School |

Co-opted statutory members

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Dr D Sellick | Governor of Derwent Infant and Junior School. |
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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

MEETING	EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	17 JUNE 2008
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS ASPDEN (CHAIR), BROOKS (VICE-CHAIR), HYMAN, MORLEY, MERRETT, BLANCHARD, DR D SELICK AND LOOKER (SUBSTITUTE)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS FUNNELL

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda, in addition to the list of general personal interests circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Hyman declared a personal interest in the business generally, as a governor of Huntington Primary School

Cllr Looker declared a personal interest in the business generally, as a governor of Park Grove Primary School and of Canon Lee School.

Cllr Blanchard declared a personal interest in the business generally, as the Chair of the York Board of Young Enterprise.

Cllr Merrett declared a personal interest in the business generally as he is a parent of a child who attends St Paul's Primary School.

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2008 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

11. DRAFT FINAL REPORT FOR SCHOOL GOVERNORS REVIEW

Members considered the draft final report and annexes for the review of School Governors (Part A). The report summarised the results from:

- the individual surveys issued to all 1090 governors,

- the exit questionnaire issued to governors who resigned since the start of the academic year 2006-07
- the informal consultation held in February for all governors
- the questionnaire issued to each schools governing body requesting further information to support the review.

Members discussed the current composition of governing bodies and recognised that in order for the upgraded Governor Support and Development Services (GSDS) database to continue to be an effective tool, governing bodies would need to be encouraged to keep the information contained up-to-date. The database would help identify gaps in skills, ways in improving the diversity of governing bodies to reflect the local community and help identify future training requirements. Members expressed concerns that currently community governors were getting filled by LEA governors and recommended that the GSDS help encourage governing bodies to consider the communities they represent and the ethnic balance when recruiting potential Community governors.

Members noted that Primary Schools preferred whole governing body training sessions and Secondary Schools preferred online training sessions. The GSDS were currently working on developing these training sessions. Members commended the GSDS on the current training and development sessions available and recommended that the GSDS should continue to identify the best and most appropriate forms of training.

After a detailed discussion Members recommended the following amendments to the draft final report:

- Each objective should result in the following recommendations:

Objective (i), recommendation A & D,
A, Continue to develop improved methods for advertising governor vacancies, eg by targeting specific organizations, in order to attract a more diverse mix of individuals to the role of governor.

D, Regularly maintain, update and develop their database to ensure it captures the information necessary to reflect changing circumstances.

Objective (ii), recommendation A & B
A, Continue to develop improved methods for advertising governor vacancies, eg by targeting specific organizations, in order to attract a more diverse mix of individuals to the role of governor

B, Create an information guide to encourage governing bodies to consider the communities they represent and the ethnic balance when recruiting potential Community governors.

Objective (iii), new recommendation E, Information on best practice to be shared with all York schools.

Objective (iv), new recommendation F, Governor Support and Development Service should be encouraged to consider the most applicable form of training, whether it be whole governing body or online training.

- Section 5 amend first sentence to read; At a meeting in May 2008, the Committee considered a scoping report for Part B of this review, having received an update from the Head of Early Years & Extended Schools.
- Second sentence of last paragraph in section 6 amend sentence to read; Much thought was given to the content of the questionnaire in an effort to compliment the information already gathered as a result of the individual governor survey.
- Second sentence of section 16 amend sentence to read; The committee recognised that this approach was not ideal and as it relied heavily on the good will of existing members (and their knowledge of the skills of those they approached) it ran the risk of duplicating the existing profile.
- Second sentence of section 19 amend sentence to read; The responses are shown at Annex E.

The Scrutiny Officer agreed to make the amendments to the report which would be submitted to the Scrutiny Management Committee in due course for its comments.

Members thanked all officers who had been involved in this review.

RESOLVED: That the draft final report be approved as amended and referred to SMC for consideration.

REASON: To ensure this review complies with scrutiny procedures, protocols and workplans.

12. UPDATE ON RECOMMENDATIONS RISING FROM A PREVIOUS SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE EXTENDED SCHOOLS SERVICE

Members received a verbal update from the Head of Early Years and Extended Schools on work undertaken in the recommendations from a previous scrutiny review of the Extended Schools Service.

Members were informed that:

- The Extended Schools Service were currently 4th best in the Region and 10th best in the Country.
- All schools were working towards meeting the core offer to provide a safe place before and after school for all 0-19 year olds.
- Two years worth of government funding was still available to improve the consultation.
- The Service was working in partnership with Headteachers, governors and the voluntary section to ensure that the extended school service provision was integrated into schools with a shared partnership provision

The outcomes arising from the recommendations approved by the Executive on 12th September 2006 are attached to these minutes as annex 1.

Some members expressed continuing concerns about the community use provision, the quality of what was on offer and the costings to hire the school. It was suggested that a central letting point might be made available to allow the service to cover all demands and identify where the issues were.

After a detailed discussion Members agreed to consider a feasibility study at the next meeting of the Committee on a possible topic looking into the effectiveness of the current model for delivering extended schools provision with particular regard to community use.

Members thanked the officer for her update and noted that the recommendations had been met.

- Resolved:
- (i) That the update on the approved recommendations be noted and the team be commended on their achievements to date.
 - (ii) That a feasibility study be submitted to the next meeting on Extended Schools Provision (community use)

Reason: To note the work undertaken on the recommendations from a previous scrutiny review of Extended Schools Service.

13. POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR SCRUTINY REVIEW

Members considered a list of possible scrutiny topics for future review and agreed the following:

- Not to proceed with the review of the Schools Governors Review (part B)
- To receive a feasibility study into Extended Schools Provision (Community Use) at the next meeting of the Committee.

- Request the Cultural Quarter Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Committee consider whether it wishes to look at the Promotion of York Pride through Schools as part of its review.
- Not to review the Compliance with the Implementation of Statutory Provisions topic and members requested that the Scrutiny Officer acknowledges the request from the NASUWT and inform them of their decision.
- Invite the Executive Member of Children’s Services EMAP to the meeting due to be held on 3rd December 2008.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) That the following possible topics for review be put forward for discussion with feasibility studies at the next meeting of the Committee:
 - Extended Schools Provision
 - 14-19 Specialised Diplomas
 - (ii) That the following topic be put forward for an update at the next meeting of the Committee.
 - Young Peoples Service

REASON: To ensure work can proceed in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols

14. EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2008-09

Members considered and agreed a plan of future work for the Committee.

Meeting Date	Work Programme	Responsible Officer
30 th July 08	Receive update on implementation of recommendations arising from the scrutiny review previously carried out by the ‘Young People in York Scrutiny Panel’.	Paul Murphy (Asst Director of Partnerships & Early Intervention)
	Extended Schools Provision (Community Use)	Heather Marsland (Head of Early Years & Extended Schools)
	14-19 Specialised Diplomas	To be confirmed
9 Sept 2008	Consider a scoping report for the new review as agreed at the previous meeting and agree a timeframe for completion.	SO

28 Oct 08	Receive interim report for new scrutiny review	SO
3 Dec 08	Invite Executive Member from Children's Services EMAP to the meeting	SO

Cllr Aspden, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 6.40 pm].

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendations as approved by the Executive on 12 September 2006	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at June 2008
Education Scrutiny Committee: Extended Schools Service in York (Review completed in July 2006)	1	The Director of Children's Services will review the model of extended schools provision to align with and reflect the core offer of May 2006. This should be completed by September 2006	The new core offer has been reviewed and implemented and schools have had 1:1 training from the Extended Schools and Remodelling Advisors (ESRA's) attached to the Early Years and Extended Schools Service
	2	The Director of Children's Services will support schools by creating profiles of local community need. This will assist in the development of services for the community. This should be completed by September 2007	The Family Information Service within Early Years and Extended Schools has undertaken an audit with parents across the city and provided this in written form. The ESRA's have worked with schools and their local Shared Community Partnerships in order to undertake additional consultation excersises with parents and the wider community in order to aid the planning of new Extended Services in schools.
	3	The Governments intention is that every school in the country should be working as an extended school by 2010. Council will support this ambitious target by providing appropriate training and support for school staff and governors.	City of York has met and exceeded this ambitious target. Every school in York is now meeting the core offer. Training and support for school staff and governors has been provided by ESRA's who are attached to each school and Shared Community Partnership. Additional support has been provided by the Schools Business Support Service (within LCCS Finance) including a new part time post and another part time post is being filled by a headteacher of an Integrated Children's Centre. New guidance is on the website and a new forum, chaired by the AD will enhance quality
	4	The Council will support the shared foundation partnerships by encouraging the operation of a flexible and affordable lettings policy for accommodating extended school and community activities.	The new Extended Schools Business Support Coordinator Post, currently held by Paul Shepherd within the Schools Business Support Service, will now be in a position to advance this work.
	5	The Council supports the clustering of schools in order to develop services and business support which extends provision.	The Shared Community Partnerships are advancing this model and several are clustering sucessfully. The model will be further advanced at the new Extended Schools Steering group chaired by AD Paul Murphy

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendations as approved by the Executive on 12 September 2006	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at June 2008
Education Scrutiny Committee: Extended Schools Service in York (Review completed in July 2006)	6	The Council will take up the opportunity to bid to be a Pathfinder authority in order to improve parenting support	The city has been successful in becoming a Pathfinder for Parenting and Early Intervention. This brings 3 years funding (until 2011) of £100k per year. The Parenting Strategy is headed up by Linda Murphy.
	7	The Council will take up the invitation to bid to be a Pathfinder authority in order to look at developing longer free sessions for 3 and 4 year olds in education, care and play.	Early Years and Extended Schools Service gained a Pathfinder for 3 and 4 year olds. This brings £1and a half million pounds each year until 2011 and then continuously as the pilot becomes national. The Early Years and Extended Schools Service was also successful in becoming a Pathfinder for 2 year olds £316,000 each year 2011.
	8	The extended schools provision will be reviewed by Scrutiny in March 2008	



Education Scrutiny Committee

30 July 2007

Report of the Scrutiny Services Manager

Update on Implementation of Recommendations of Previous Scrutiny Reviews

Summary

1. This report provides Members with an update on the implementation of recommendations made as a result of a scrutiny review of 'The provision of Facilities for Young People in the City, completed in September 2004.

Background

2. At a meeting of Education Scrutiny Committee in May 2008, Members considered a possible topic for review of 'Facilities for Young People' as suggested by the Assistant Director of Partnerships and Early Intervention. He reported that national evidence suggested that there were not enough places for young people to go or things to do outside school hours which in turn contributed to anti social behaviour. He advised that there was less of a consensus on the best model for youth facilities; however the opinion now was to provide more universal facilities for young people rather than targeting resources on more intense activities for the most vulnerable young people.
3. At that time, the Chair reminded Members of a previously completed review of 'Facilities for Teenagers' and suggested it would be worthwhile to look back at this and in particular the implementation of the approved recommendations. It was noted that the Youth Service had been reorganised during the last four years and therefore an update report would be useful at this time.

Consultation

2. The Head of Youth Service has provided a written update on the implementation carried out to date – see Annex A.

Options

3. Members may decide to sign off those individual recommendations where implementation has been completed, and can:
 - a. request further updates to clarify any outstanding recommendations or;
 - b. agree to receive no further updates on this review

Corporate Objectives

7. This process of monitoring the implementation of approved recommendations will contribute to improving our organisational effectiveness.

Implications

8. There are no known Financial, Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, ITT or Other implications connected to this report”.

Risk Management

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

Recommendations

10. Members are asked to note the contents of this report and agree which of the recommendations can be written off as fully implemented.

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

Contact Details

Author:

Melanie Carr
Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Services
01904 552063

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Dawn Steel
Scrutiny Services Manager
01904 551030

Report Approved



Date 20 July 2008

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes

Annex A – Update on implementation of agreed recommendations from the ‘Provision of Facilities for Young People in the City’ scrutiny review

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendation as approved by the Executive on 23 November 2004	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at July 2008
Young People in York Scrutiny Panel - Review of the provision of facilities for young people in the City (Review completed Sept 2004)	1	<p>a) That the desires of young people to play an active role in life in York - by participating in decision making processes and by having their rights within and importance to the city recognised are fully acknowledged and supported.</p> <p>b) That this support includes encouraging initiatives that aim to empower young people. Empowering them by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Giving them a greater opportunity to have a say. ii. Showing them that their views count. iii. Promoting young people more positively within the city. <p>These aims can be achieved by striving for the Hear By Right Standard (see recommendation 3).</p>	<p>A strategy for the involvement in decision making of children and young people was adopted by the Yor-OK Board in September 2004. As many of the aims of that strategy had been embedded across the partnership the strategy was updated in 2007. A copy of the current strategy is attached. This success was acknowledged in the JAR report - <i>"The CYPP, and consequent service development and delivery, is based on very thorough and wide-ranging consultation with children, young people, parents, carers and partners. This focus on consultation is enshrined in the YorOK Involvement Strategy, which ensures that service users' views are integral rather than tokenistic."</i></p> <p>The strategy emphasises that it is the right of children and young people to 'have their say', it is the responsibility of agencies and their staff to ensure that young people are empowered to do this. An example of the influence is that for the 2007-10 Children and young peoples plan the views of 4000 children and young people obtained through 45 different pieces of work were included in the development of the plan. The summary document is attached.</p> <p>Hear by Right is embedded in the Involvement Strategy as a tool to empower children and young people.</p>
	2	<p>2. That City of York Council introduce a Young People's Champion – one of its councillors taking on a particularly high level of responsibility for representing young people's views, identifying their concerns and raising awareness about their opinions and successes.</p>	<p>The post of Champion for Children and Young People for the City of York was established through the constitution of the Council as a member appointment.</p> <p>The first Champion Cllr David Scott was appointed for a one year term of office during the school year 2006 – 07. One thousand six hundred (1,600) children and young people were involved in a process of selection that started in April 2006 and was completed during the summer term. This term of office was extended to 2 years and was completed in spring 2008. The voting process for the new children and young people's Champion has been completed and Cllr Alexander elected for a two year term. In total 2233 votes cast (an increase of over 600 on last time around), with an increase in the number of schools that participated, particularly primary schools. York College also participated.</p>
	3	<p>a) That a commitment is made to working towards the Hear By Right Standard across City of York Council, and that Officers further develop and report back on how consultation and participation processes may be further developed within the context of the 'Hear by Right' processes</p> <p>b) That the implementation of the Hear By Right process builds on the work that has already been done by the Council's youth service in this area. The Young People's Champion and supporting Panel will work with members of the youth service and where appropriate young people, to raise awareness across each directorate and then monitor the implementation of the process.</p>	<p>The regular meeting of the Young Peoples working group receive an update on the progress of the Involvement strategy. The Yor-OK board receives reports on an annual basis of the progress of the Involvement strategy. There is an Involvement sub-group of the Yor-Ok Board. The membership includes the Executive member for Children's Services as a representative of the Yor-OK Board. Hear by Right is embedded in the Involvement Strategy as a tool to empower children and young people.</p> <p>An example of the implementation of Hear by Right is the Youth Charter mark. This has built on the North Yorkshire Chartermark to take account of other involvement standards (including Hear By Right, Health's Your Welcome and the new Information Advice and Guidance standards). The mark has four possible levels - a fail and then a bronze, silver or gold award. (See attached example of the information pack). We have piloted these in four clubs (the skate park, open access Duke of Edinburgh, a drop-in at York High and Castlegate). In each project a group of young people have been recruited and trained and undertaken the assessment. Currently one project has scored a Gold Charter Mark and one a Silver (the others are still in the process).</p>

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendation as approved by the Executive on 23 November 2004	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at July 2008
<p>Young People in York Scrutiny Panel - Review of the provision of facilities for young people in the City (Review completed Sept 2004)</p>	4	<p>That activities and initiatives aiming to engage young people in discussions with decision makers and influential figures and increase the voice of young people within the community, receive encouragement and active support from City of York Council. This support should include:-</p> <p>a) Putting processes in place to ensure Members are given the opportunity to attend school lessons on a regular basis (every six to twelve months for example) to meet young people, talk to them about the work of the council and gather their views. This process should be a cross party exercise and receive officer support, and be overseen by the Young People's Champion and Panel.</p> <p>b) Increasing efforts to develop, promote and support the York Youth Forum and/or York Youth Parliament and encouraging initiatives that help to ensure that these bodies are sustained and strengthened over time.</p> <p>c) Promoting a range of 'informal' events and opportunities for young people to share their views and ideas, including using information technology, such as websites.</p> <p>d) Ensuring that all of these efforts aim to increase participation for all young people, including those who are often excluded or marginalized from such activities.</p>	<p>City of York Council actively supports the 'voice' of children and young people. The Youth Service has appointed a 'Voice and Influence' worker though all services provided through Young Peoples Services are based on the views of young people. Additionally the concept of listening to the views of children and young people is embedded within council structures through : (and this is not a comprehensive list) Children's Centres development; Development of services for disabled children and young people; For Looked After Children - epitomised by the Show Me That I Matter panel; Schools Councils; YorKash; Play development; the Castlegate development.</p> <p>There has been some excellent work bringing children and young people closer to this democratic process. To build on this pilots(through cooperation between NMU and LCCS) are underway this summer to more systematically involve children and young people within the ward committee system. The intention is then to evaluate the pilot work and roll out across all wards in the city. Clearly capacity will be one of the aspects which will be closely monitored in the evaluation.</p> <p>The Involvement Strategy adopted by the Yor-Ok Board in 2004 was based on the analysis that within the city the main need was to embedd Involvement across the board and that the aspiration should that Involvement should a right and opportunity for all children and young people. Given this emphasis and the relative lack of resources in the city the decision was made not to support the Youth Forum or Youth Parliament.</p> <p>As the list of consultation work involved in developing the children and young peoples plan shows there has been a range of events and opportunities. For examples schools councils are now embedded in all schools and the regular conferences draw over 350 children and young people. The use of information technology has not progressed as much as was hoped for in 2004. There is the Yor-Ok Website which gives advice on Involvement and shows examples of good practice. There have been a number of DVD's produced which highlight concerns of children and young people. One of the barriers to increased use of IT has been concerns about Internet safety. A group is coming together under the auspices of the Local Safeguarding Board to look at this issue, to get the balance right between communicating with children and young people and safety.</p> <p>One key aim of the Involvement Strategy was to ensure those children and young people who were marginalised were empowered. For 2007 there was an emphasis on developing the work to ensure disabled young people's views were heard. As a result there has been specific work undertaken around: Transitions; Children's Centres; Out of School Provision; Inclusive education; Transport, as noted through the JAR - <i>Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD) in the City of York have a very high profile in the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) and a clear voice in the services and activities which support them.</i>"</p> <p>For Looked After Children there has been considerable work undertaken. The Show Me that I matter panel is a group of young people who have experience of being looked after. This group is a forerunner for the Children in Care Councils called for by the Government in Aiming High amongst its achievements the group put on a celebration event ofr children in care at the start of this year. Given the changing demographics of the city and the increase in people from different cultures a current priority is ensuring that the views of that group are listened to. Its succes was noted in the JAR "The voice of children and young people is heard effectively in performance monitoring, for example at the Show Me That I Matter panel for those who are looked after."</p>

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendation as approved by the Executive on 23 November 2004	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at July 2008
		e) The Assistant Director of Education (Standards & Quality) asked to further develop the ideas included within the final report	As described the Involvement Strategy has moved this agenda forward dramatically. The responsibility for that strategy now lies under the umbrella of the Assistant Director for partnerships and Early Intervention.
	5	<p>a) That opportunities are sought on future development sites in or near to the city centre (in particular York Central) for a leading centre for young people. Any such development should draw upon expert knowledge and best practice in relation to youth provision. The centre should be purpose built, 'state of the art' and directed specifically at the needs and interests of young people, with access possible for all young people.</p> <p>b) That such a centre is used as a way to bring together many of the services for young people that are currently scattered across the city, effectively creating a 'one stop shop' for young people to find out about issues and services that affect them.</p> <p>c) That the centre is approached as a partnership venture looking to draw upon developer contributions as a funding method.</p> <p>d) That the Executive Member responsible supports a full feasibility study into such a development at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>e) Offices to further develop the options available to develop a central York youth facility, with a further report to be produced as and when funding opportunities for such a centre seem likely to arise</p>	<p>Castlegate Centre for Young People opened in January 2007, combining the former Youth Enquiry Shop and the Connexions Centre to form a one-stop shop to provide information, advice, counselling and support. High quality IT facilities are available for free use.</p> <p>Some 30 different organisations have delivered services from this provision.</p> <p>The Strategic Health Authority and Connexions York and North Yorkshire provided capital funding for the project. The building is part of the council's portfolio and is maintained by Young People's services.</p> <p>A feasibility study is no longer required.</p> <p>It is intended that a bid be made to access between £1m and £5m from the recently launched 'myspace' initiative. This bid will involve third sector organisations, business partners and the local authority. The assistant director for partnerships and early interventions is leading the council's involvement.</p>
	6	That the needs of young people (aged 11+) are considered when Section 106 contributions are made for improving local leisure facilities. Where smaller developments are proposed off site improvements are acceptable, however where larger housing developments are proposed, provision for Young People should be made on site. The Director of Resources, the Director of Environment & Development Services and the Children's Trust Board to report on how facilities for teenagers can be enhanced as part of the planning process.	This is considered as and when appropriate, although no funds have been allocated to building provision such as youth centres/clubs.

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendation as approved by the Executive on 23 November 2004	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at July 2008
Young People in York Scrutiny Panel - Review of the provision of facilities for young people in the City (Review completed Sept 2004)	7	That until a development such as that outlined in recommendation five becomes available, existing sites are sought in or near to the city centre that would meet the needs of young people in York by providing a centre at which activities can be arranged and facilities provided specifically aimed at young people. This centre should be open for young people for as long as possible each day and with access possible for all. Officers to consider what enhancements to provision might be made, within budget and resource limitations, together with an assessment of any partnership funding which may become available.	Few sites exist in or near the city centre, however the plan to utilise myplace funding include scoping the city centre and beyond for a suitable multi-use venue.
	8	a) That the need to achieve a balance between the city wide needs and interests of young people and specific local needs and conditions, is a key consideration of strategies that aim to improve facilities for young people in the city. b) That efforts are supported which aim to serve the diversity of needs of young people living in York and that these be further developed as part of the introduction of the Youth Service	The youth centres across the city which are designated as hub centres for the 3 localities are currently undergoing refurbishment. This has been made possible through an amalgamation of Connexions funding, youth service revenue budget and a small amount of capital budget. All provision for young people and children in the city seeks to meet the diversity of needs in the city. This includes services provided by voluntary sector partners. Where possible, provision is accessible to all and programmes are devised to meet the wishes of young people who use the particular project.
	9	a) That the vital importance of youth facilities at a local level is acknowledged. b) That particular support and encouragement is given to facilities that are flexible in terms of their adaptability and/or the ability to move them around the city and serve different users. The council must build on its initial successes in this area. c) That the council looks to build more partnerships with other youth and community organisations to increase the effectiveness of its efforts to put in place appropriate local facilities, and that this work be further developed as part of the	This is acknowledged and acted upon within the constraints of budget. Youth facilities are varied and are not necessarily building based. The URBIE vehicles and Street Sport initiative provide the flexible and mobile support that is required, visiting local communities, villages and other locations including schools and specialist provision. Strong partnerships have been developed with local voluntary organisations and York CVS. SLAs and partnership agreements have been set up between the groups and the council. Further developments are taking place and will be enhanced through the creation of the Partnerships and Early Intervention arm of LCCS.
	10	a) That a balance between allowing young people freedom and independence and making sure they are safe and considerate to others is achieved when considering youth facilities. b) That strategies are devised and supported that encourage the long-term success of youth facilities by enabling 'ownership' to be handed over effectively from one group of users to another, and that these strategies be further developed as part of the introduction of the Youth Service.	Acknowledged and will be considered as appropriate. A number of youth buildings have been given over to the local community to manage and develop, including financial support. These include Poppleton, Burnholme, Haxby & Wigginton, Chapelfields and Melbourne Street. All are operating effectively and have the ongoing support of the Young People's Services and York CVS
	11	a) That initiatives are developed, supported and encouraged aimed at proactively engaging young people in activities which meet their own desires, interests and needs, act as a deterrent to anti-social behaviour and assist young people in taking pride b) That work is done to identify how such initiatives could be further developed in York and the funding implications of such initiatives. This work should include examinations of best	This aim is a principal value of youth work and is practiced at every level. The development of the YorkKash fund and It's Up to You values the contributions made by young people in their communities. The involvement of young people in a variety of initiatives concerning citizenship, democracy and voice and influence work has increased since the scrutiny panels recommendations

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendation as approved by the Executive on 23 November 2004	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at July 2008
Young People in York Scrutiny Panel - Review of the provision of facilities for young people in the City (Review completed Sept 2004)	12	<p>a) That we ensure that consultation takes place with relevant community and user groups when developing any new facilities for young people.</p> <p>b) That consultation of this nature is encouraged as a means of both maximising the success of the facility and achieving support for it from the community it effects. This consultation should pay particular attention to bringing together different groups (different ages and backgrounds) and encouraging an honest dialogue where each side is specific about what they</p> <p>c) That awareness is raised of mechanisms such as Ward Committees and Parish Councils to encourage this type of consultation.</p> <p>d) That the impact of new, unsupervised facilities on local residents is monitored, and measures are taken to ensure that facilities themselves are not being misused.</p>	<p>Full consultation does take place and the latest investment to develop the myspace bid will rely heavily on wide involvement of stakeholders and young people.</p> <p>Acknowledged</p> <p>There has been some excellent work bringing children and young people closer to this democratic process. To build on this pilots (through cooperation between NMU and LCCS) are underway this summer to more systematically involve children and young people within the ward committee system. The intention is then to evaluate the pilot work and roll out across all wards in the city. Clearly capacity</p> <p>Monitoring of the impact of unsupervised facilities has not been systematically followed. Few incidents are reported and we should celebrtae the fact that has a general rule young people do not abuse facilities.</p>
	13	<p>a) That innovative ways of funding and developing youth facilities are sought.</p> <p>b) That efforts continue to build effective partnerships with organisations that may be able to assist in the funding and development of youth facilities and that these efforts create sustainable outcomes that can be of benefit to young people over a long period of time.</p>	<p>This is an ongoing process. Some £550K of external funding was accessed for additional youth procvision in 2007/8 by the youth service.</p> <p>This is also an ongoing process. Sustainable outcomes are high on the agenda in developing facilities and developing programmes. The skate park has a number of green initiatives included in its facilities and it is intended that the myplace building will have sustainable elements built into the design.</p>
	14	<p>a) That action is taken to raise awareness about facilities and provision available for young people as a key factor in helping young people to make the most of living in the city and encouraging them to participate in positive activities.</p> <p>b) That innovative methods are sought and supported that help to raise awareness amongst young people of the provision, facilities and transport options available for them. This could include using local radio stations (a commercial aimed at young people), a supplement in either council newsletters or ward supplements or in the local newspaper.</p> <p>c) That City of York Council continues its efforts to inform young people of the specific discounts/concessions available to young people using certain council services or attending events run or supported by the council.</p> <p>d) That these efforts recognise that young people of different ages will need to be targeted in different ways.</p> <p>e) That the efforts outlined above are taken on as a priority by the Young People's Champion and supporting Panel.</p>	<p>The new YorOk website has been developed to provide information to children, young people and parents. It will be updated regularly and have links to many other information sites. Locally, leaflets and the Schools Out information give up to the minute deatails of what is available.</p> <p>All provision for young people and children in the city seeks to meet the diversity of needs in the city. This includes services provided by voluntary sector partners. Where possible, provision is accessible to all and programmes are devised to meet specific requirements.</p> <p>This is ongoing and initiatives linked to York Card and YoZone bus travel have been successful.</p> <p>Acknowledged</p> <p>The champion has been involved in such intitives.</p>

Board and Topic	Rec No.	Recommendation as approved by the Executive on 23 November 2004	Update on Implementation of Recommendations as at July 2008
Young People in York Scrutiny Panel - Review of the provision of facilities for young people in the City (Review completed Sept 2004)	15	That following the establishment of the Young People's Champion and Panel, one of the first issues that they consider is setting up an 'Entitlement Scheme' as detailed above, to raise young people's awareness of services and facilities that are particularly young people friendly. This should be done with the support of members of the youth service and input from young people.	An entitlement for young people was established by the former youth service with support from young people. This needs to be reviewed and an updated version established, led by young people.
	16	a) That support is given to reducing the cost of travel in the city for young people in full time education or training.	Established in part by the YoZone card.
		b) That the extension of the full benefits of the YoZone card to all young people aged 11 – 19 be considered for implementation at the earliest possible opportunity.	??
		c) That a report on the current transport provision available for pupils attending All Saints, Archbishop Holgate and Fulford Schools, focussing particularly on those living in rural areas, is submitted to the Executive Member for Planning and Transport, as detailed above.	??
	17	That the Executive lobbies central government for funding that matches the increasing targets and expectations being placed on the youth service.	Ongoing lobby.
18	That the Young People's Champion and the Panel established to support him or her review the implementation of these recommendations on a regular basis and that this forms part of their work in helping the council to implement the Hear By Right Standard.	The Young Peoples Working group has been established one of the key elements of that group has been to liaise with the Children and Young Peoples Champion	
<u>Comment from Education Scrutiny Committee as of 30 July 2008:</u>			



Education Scrutiny Committee

17 June 2008

Draft Final Report For School Governors Review (As Amended)**Background**

At the last meeting of Education Scrutiny Committee, Members considered the following draft final report for the school governors review and agreed some revisions to the content and layout of the final report (as set out in the minutes attached to the agenda for this meeting). The report which follows has now been revised accordingly (the changes have been incorporated as tracked changes at this stage for ease of viewing) and is reproduced for Members' information and further consideration before it is referred to Scrutiny Management Committee, in accordance with current constitutional practice:

1. In coming to a decision to review this topic, certain key objectives were recognised. Due to the work involved in examining these objectives, the Committee chose to split the review into two parts, and the following revised remit was agreed:

Remit

2. In regard to Governing Bodies, to encourage an improved level of community involvement and maximise their diversity and skills.

Part A - Key Objectives

- i. Investigate the current composition of governing bodies with an effort to find ways of improving the diversity of governing bodies to better reflect the community
- ii. Identify ways of increasing the number of community Governors
- iii. Identify ways of increasing community involvement with Governing Bodies
- iv. Investigate ways of maximizing the skills that individual members of governing bodies bring to their role

Part B – Key Objective

- v. Investigate the role of Governors and current clerking arrangements in extended schools

3. At a meeting on 30 October 2007, Members considered a scoping report for Part A of the review which identified the current composition of governing bodies and gave a snap shot of the number of vacant seats at the time of providing the information.
4. In December 2007, Members were provided with information which identified York as having one of the fastest growing 'Black, Minority & Ethnic (BME) communities in the country, and the following statistics from the most recent Pupil Levels Annual School Census (PLASC) :
 - There are at least 49 languages spoken by children in York schools
 - There are 1340 minority ethnic pupils in York schools
 - All York schools have minority ethnic pupils
 - Until recently the largest ethnic group were Travellers, but this is an overarching term that includes several distinct groups
 - There are significant Bangladeshi, Chinese and Turkish/Kurdish communities in York
 - Only 27 out of 1578 teachers in York schools are from minority ethnic backgrounds (1.7%)
5. At a meeting in May 2008, the Committee considered a scoping report for Part B of this review, ~~and~~ having received an update from the Head of Early Years & Extended Schools ~~Adviser~~. Members acknowledged that that was no issue around the role of Governors and current clerking arrangements in extended schools and therefore agreed not to proceed with part B of the review. Instead they agreed that the broader issue of governance of extended school provision should be considered as a possible separate topic in the future. Members agreed to consider this along with other topic suggestions at their next meeting in June 2008.

Consultation

6. As part of this review the Committee carried out a number of consultation exercises:
 - The Committee issued an individual survey to all 1090 governors at the beginning of January 2008, to identify the age, gender, ethnicity, skills, and economic background of all current school governors. The survey was aimed at understanding the correlation between the governing bodies of the schools within each ward and each ward's local community. 354 responses were received and fed into the Governor Support & Development Service database to generate a number of reports for the Committee's consideration.
 - Members created an exit questionnaire for use by the Governor Support & Development Service, in order to identify the reasons why governors stood down and why some schools have a bigger turnover than others. This was issued to all governors who had resigned since the start of the academic

year 2006-07, to information on any unresolved issues within their governing bodies, or with the training / level of support they had received.

- In February 2008, an informal consultation session was held for all Governors. Attendance was good and the Committee explained the reasons for carrying out this review and gathered insight into some of the different methods used for recruiting new members and how governing bodies were coping with their ever increasing workloads.
- In April 2008, the Committee sent a copy of their latest interim report together with a questionnaire to each school's governing body requesting further information to support the review. Much thought was given to the content of the questionnaire in an effort to support and confirm complement the information already gathered as a result of the individual governor survey.

Information Gathered

7. In cases where individuals had been governors for many years, the information originally gathered when they first became a governor had never been recorded electronically. For more recently appointed governors, only some of the personal information they originally provided had been entered into the Governor Support & Development Service database, due to the restrictions of the electronic system. At the beginning of this review, the Committee were informed of the planned work of the Governor Support & Development Service to upgrade their database and check the validity of the information currently held on each Governor. The Committee recognised the opportunity to support this work and at the same time gather information pertinent to the objectives of this review and therefore agreed to finance a number of additional improvements to the database.
8. Throughout the review the Committee gave much consideration to how the information gathered would be presented to them, as any personal information provided by individual governors was covered by the Data Protection Act. The Committee was careful not to receive information in such a way that it would identify individuals. Instead, the Committee sought information on a ward by ward basis and by school type i.e. primary or secondary.

Objective (i) - To investigate the current composition of governing bodies with an effort to find ways of improving the diversity of governing bodies to better reflect the community

Recommendations:

That the Governor Support & Development Service (GSDS):

- (a) continue to develop improved methods for advertising governor vacancies, eg by targeting specific organizations, in order to attract a more diverse mix of individuals to the role of governor;
and

(b) regularly maintain, update and develop its database to ensure it captures the information necessary to reflect changing circumstances and achieve diversity.

9. A recent report from the ODPM identified York as having one of the fastest growing Black, Minority & Ethnic communities in the country. All York schools have minority ethnic pupils, and although it was thought that the Governing Bodies of York schools reflected their local community, there was no evidence to support this. Historically in York, the role of governor has attracted white middle class, middle aged applicants. To encourage a more diverse mix that better represented the school's local community, the Committee wanted to identify the barriers e.g. language, work commitments, childcare issues and look at ways of addressing those issues.
10. In an effort to identify ways of improving the diversity of governing bodies, to better reflect the population of their school and their community, Members recognised it would first be necessary to clarify their current level of diversity and therefore a number of questions were included in both the survey and the Governing Body questionnaire.
11. The ethnicity information provided by governors was grouped on a ward basis and by school type, and then compared to the ethnic balance of school pupils within each ward – see Annex A.

Analysis

12. As a high number of governors did not identify their ethnicity in their completed surveys etc, it was not clear from results whether the ethnic diversity within the schools in each ward was equally reflected in their governing bodies. The committee concluded that irrespective of the completeness of information provided by governors, if governing bodies were truly to reflect their local community and attract a more diverse mix of individuals to the role, improved methods for advertising all types of governor vacancies would need to be identified to ensure they were accessible by everyone within the local community particularly hard to reach groups.

Objective (ii) - To identify ways of increasing the number of Community Governors

13. Through the various consultation exercises it became clear that some governing bodies were more successful than others at finding community (and parent) governors and providing support to new governing body members, and that this was directly affecting whether individuals were attracted to the role and retained in post.
14. The Committee were informed that at any given time there would generally be a higher percentage of vacancies within the community governor category than any other category. The responses to the exit questionnaire showed that governors left their post for a number of reasons and that the number of

community governors leaving their post was no higher than the number from other categories of governor. In fact a high number of governors took up the role of Community governor having previously been a governor from a different category - see Annex B.

15. Recommendations:

That the Governor Support & Development Service (GSDS):

(a) continue to develop improved methods for advertising governor vacancies, eg by targeting specific organizations, in order to attract a more diverse mix of individuals to the role of governor; and

(b) create an information guide to identify the most effective methods for finding and recruiting potential community governors and distribute it to all York schools.

Analysis

~~15.16.~~ The information gathered suggested therefore that there was not a problem with retaining community governors but that the difficulty lay initially in recruiting into the post. The Committee therefore recognised the need to identify the most effective methods for finding and recruiting potential community governors and a number of questions were included in the governing body questionnaire to identify the methods currently in use – see Annex C.

~~16.17.~~ The information provided showed that the method yielding the most results was through existing governing body members approaching their personal contacts. The committee recognised that this approach was not ideal as it relied heavily on the good will of existing members (and their knowledge of the skills of ~~the individual's~~those they approached) it ran the risk of duplicating the existing profile-

Objective (iii) - To identify ways of increasing community involvement with Governing Bodies

17. In order to identify ways of increasing community involvement with Governing Bodies, Members agreed it would be necessary to understand the methods used and the level of involvement attained currently. Questions were therefore included in the Governing Body questionnaire to gather the relevant information. The responses are shown at Annex D.

Analysis

18. Many schools take advantage of their local parish council's newsletters and ward committee meetings to circulate information about what is happening in their school. Others are more adventurous, using local press and radio to advertise events etc. The Committee recognised that other schools could benefit from trying alternative methods and that sharing information and raising awareness, could be facilitated by the Governor Support and Development

Service. Information on best practice could then be shared with all York schools.

19. **Recommendations:**
That the Governor Support & Development Service (GSDS) ensure information on best practice be shared with all York schools.

Objective (iv) - Investigate ways of maximizing the skills that individual members of governing bodies bring to their role

19.20. In order to identify each governor's current skills and highlight any additional training they might require to support them in their role, a number of questions were included in the individual school governor survey. The findings-responses are shown at Annex E. The information gathered was then used to populate the upgraded Governor Support and Development Service database.

Analysis

20.21. The committee recognised that a fully populated database would be a really useful tool for identifying training needs. The Governor Support & Development Service Manager subsequently provided an update on the training requirements identified as a result of the improvements to the database – see Annex F.

21.22. The Committee recognised that in order for the database to continue to be a useful tool, the information contained therein would need to be regularly revised to include up-to-date information. This could then be used to:

- look specifically at individual governors to identify gaps in their skills and identify any future training requirements.
- highlight the skills that were available within each governing body that were not currently being utilised and those that they were collectively lacking

22. It is recognised that the improvements made to the Governor Support & Development Service database and the information gathered as a result of this review will also allow the Governor Support & Development Service team to:

- provide information from the database to Governing Bodies to assist them with their skills audit and to inform their discussions about their training needs,
- Support the governing body self-review exercise that many carry out on a regular basis.
- Inform the Governor Support & Development Service Manager decision-making process, when placing new governors into Local Authority governor vacancies or when suggesting possible candidates for community governor vacancies to ensure the new appointee brings the relevant skills required to the governing body .

- Identify all of the relevant training required for new governors to enable them to fulfil their role.

Recommendations:

That the Governor Support & Development Service (GSDS) be encouraged to consider the most applicable form of training for maximizing skills, whether that be whole governing body or online training.

Options

23. Having considered the information contained within this report and associated annexes, Members may decide to amend and/or agree the recommendations within the report

Implications

24. ~~Legal—~~
25. There are no known legal, Financial, Equalities, HR, or other implications associated with the recommendations within this report.

Corporate Priorities

26. Although the remit for this review does not fit directly with any of the Corporate Priorities, it could indirectly have a positive effect in relation to Corporate Priority No.7 – ‘Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city’.

Risk Management

27. Without the thorough engagement of current governors the findings from this review could be limited which in turn, could have a negative effect on the number of new applicants. It is recognised that some schools have difficulties in attracting community governors and therefore it is important that governing bodies are supported in attracting applicants for vacant seats, and retaining governing body members.

Recommendation

28. In light of the above options, Members are asked to note the contents of the draft final report, agree any amendments and recommend to the Executive that they:
 - i) ~~Advise the Executive to acknowledge~~ the significant voluntary contribution of school governors to the successful running of York schools, be acknowledged;

- ii) Note the work of the Governor Support & Development Service Team, in particular in supporting this scrutiny review and the resulting benefits gained to their service area as referenced in Annex F.
- iii) Instruct the Governor Support & Development Service Team to:
 - (a) Continue to develop improved methods for advertising governor vacancies i.e. by targeting specific organisations, in order to attract a more diverse mix of individuals to the role of governor and ensure it captures the information necessary to reflect changing circumstances and achieve diversity. (objective (ii))
 - b)a) Create an information guide which identifies the most effective methods for finding and recruiting potential community governors and distribute it to all York schools (objective (ii))
 - e)b) Continue use of the 'Exit Questionnaire' in order to investigate governors motivation for leaving their post (all objectives)
 - d)c) regularly maintain, update and develop their database to ensure it remains an effective tool (objective (i));
 - d) share information on best practice with all York schools ((objective (iii))
 - f) be encouraged to consider the most applicable form of training for maximizing skills, whether that be whole governing body or online training. (objective (iv)

Reason: To ensure this review complies with scrutiny procedures, protocols and workplans.

Contact Details

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Interim Report Approved **Date**

6 June 2008

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: Interim Reports dated 26 February 2008, 3 April 2008 & 27 May 2008

Annex A – Ethnicity Information

Annex B – Information From Completed Exit Questionnaires

Annex C – Information Relating To Community Governors

Annex D – Information On Community Involvement With Governing Bodies

Annex E – Information On Training Requirements

Annex F – Update From governor Support & Development Service

Education Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2008-09

Meeting Date	Work Programme	Responsible Officer
30 July 2008	Receive update on implementation of recommendations arising from the scrutiny review previously carried out by the 'Young People in York' Scrutiny Panel Sign off final report for 'School Governors' review	SO / Paul Herring SO
9 September 2008	Receive 2No. Feasibility Reports for the following suggested topics for scrutiny review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended Schools Provision (Community Use) • 14-19 Specialised Diplomas And, agree whether any or both of the above topics should proceed to review	SO
28 October 2008	Consider scoping report(s) for the new review(s) as agreed at the last meeting and agree remit(s) and timeframe(s) for completion	SO
3 December 2008	Invite the Executive Member from Children's Services EMAP to the meeting Receive interim report for ongoing scrutiny review(s)	SO
7 January 2009	Receive interim report for ongoing scrutiny review(s)	SO
24 February 2008		

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