



**Notice of meeting of
Young People's Working Group**

To: Councillors Ayre, Fraser, Funnell, Looker (Chair),
Runciman and Vassie

Date: Wednesday, 22 April 2009

Time: 5.00 pm

Venue: Guildhall, York

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

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

2. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2009.

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 Working Group'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 21 April 2009 at 5.00 pm.**

4. Update on Involvement and Participation (Pages 7 - 12)
work in York

This reports sets out the main developments in 2008/9 to promote the participation and involvement of children and young people in shaping services in the city. It also sets out forthcoming developments, including progress on establishing a new Youth Council in York.

5. Update on "Myplace" (Pages 13 - 16)
This report offers Members a further update on the preparations for a "myplace" bid to establish enhanced facilities for young people close to the city centre.

6. Future of the Working Group
Members may wish to have a brief informal debate about the future role and work of the YPWG in the light of the wider changes to EMAPs and Scrutiny Committees; their views can then be reflected in further discussions.

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

Democracy Officer:

Name: Laura Bootland

Contact Details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552062
- E-mail – laura.bootland@york.gov.uk

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

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

About City of York Council Meetings

Would you like to speak at this meeting?

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.

A leaflet on public participation is available on the Council's website or from Democratic Services by telephoning York (01904) 551088

Further information about what's being discussed at this meeting

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

Access Arrangements

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

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

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 অর্ধাতে তথ্য জানানোর জন্য সব ধরনের চেষ্টা করা হবে, এর জন্য দরকার হলে তথ্য অনুবাদ করে দেয়া হবে অথবা একজন দোঅবী সর্ববরাহ করা হবে। টেলিফোন নম্বর (01904) 551 550।

Yeteri kadar önceden haber verilmesi koşuluyla, bilgilerin terümesini hazırlatmak ya da bir tercüman bulmak için mümkün olan herşey yapılacaktır. Tel: (01904) 551 550

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) 551 550。

اگر مناسب وقت سے اطلاع دی جاتی ہے تو ہم معلومات کا ترجمہ مہیا کرنے کی پوری کوشش کریں گے۔ ٹیلی فون (01904) 551 550

Informacja może być dostępna w tłumaczeniu, jeśli dostaniemy zapotrzebowanie z wystarczającym wyprzedzeniem. Tel: (01904) 551 550

Holding the Executive to Account

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

Scrutiny Committees

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

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

Who Gets Agenda and Reports for our Meetings?

- Councillors get copies of all agenda and reports for the committees to which they are appointed by the Council;
- Relevant Council Officers get copies of relevant agenda and reports for the committees which they report to;
- Public libraries get copies of **all** public agenda/reports.

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

MEETING	YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORKING GROUP
DATE	15 JANUARY 2009
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS AYRE, FRASER, LOOKER (CHAIR), RUNCIMAN AND VASSIE
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS FUNNELL

15. 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 interests were declared:

- Councillor Fraser – a personal interest in agenda item 4 (Myplace) as an affiliated member of the Club and Institute Union and as a City of York Council nominated participating observer on York CVS Board of Trustees.

16. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the last meeting of the Working Group, held on 22 October 2008 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was reported that there had been one registration to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

The Chair gave Councillor Alexander as Young Person's Champion, a standing invitation to attend all future meetings of the Working Group so that he could have a voice at the meetings. As he is not on the Committee he will not be able to have a vote.

18. AN UPDATE ON MYPLACE

Members had previously requested an update on preparations for a myplace bid, following the decision in September 2008 to postpone this until the second round of bidding in 2009.

Members heard from Phil Bixby, a local community architect who has been appointed to assist with the process. He advised Members that his brief consists of 2 main areas. The first is to pick up on the work previously undertaken in relation to the Railway Institute site and the second is to look into and identify a Plan B: a substitute facility which would be less ambitious in scope and could be the subject of an alternative myplace bid.

Mr. Bixby advised that he is turning the information already gathered for the Railway Institute bid into a brief for the project which will include the needs for the site and any conflicts. He will be liaising with young people to obtain more feedback about what they want from the site and advised that the first session with young people is due to take place the following week.

Members discussed possible ideas for a plan B site. Ideas included a shop front/café with a drop in centre above or at the rear of the premises offering youngsters somewhere to go and socialise, but incorporating an area for advice and further information on Youth Services.

Officers commented that a high quality place for young people to meet is still a priority for York even if the myplace bid does not prove successful. Members were advised that the Railway Institute bid will remain the priority and that Mr. Bixby's contract can be extended if required.

RESOLVED: That the Young People's Working Group note this update.

REASON: So that additional investment in youth facilities in the City is in line with our corporate priorities, and the views of residents and young people themselves.

19. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009-12 - PROPOSED PRIORITIES

Members considered a report which updates on the progress in producing the next Children and Young People's Plan (2009-12), which is being developed by the YOR-OK board. This follows extensive consultation with Young People and relevant bodies.

Officers outlined the Plan for Members and advised that the right hand column of the table in Annex B of the report, shows the list of proposed priorities. Members were advised that outcome 4 shows options and ideas that relate to "making a positive contribution", which would be of particular interest to this Working Group.

Members commented that they would like to see a Festival of Youth in York as suggested in outcome 4. Certain Members felt that the suggestion was too tentative and should be something that is definitely carried out. Members suggested that the successful Over 50s festival could be used as a template for developing a Youth Festival in the City.

Officers advised that the main points of the plan will be made public through schools and the local link magazine. Members suggested that Ward meetings could be useful in broadcasting details of the plan to a wider audience.

RESOLVED: 1) That the summary of the views of Young People and their Parents at Annex A be noted by Members.

2) That the proposed strategic priorities for the new Children and Young People's Plan set out in Annex B be noted by Members.

RESOLVED: To ensure that Children and Young People's views are reflected in the new Plan.

Councillor Looker, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 6.45 pm].

This page is intentionally left blank



Young People's Working Group

22 April 2009

Report from the Assistant Director, Partnerships and Early Intervention

Update on Involvement and Participation work in York

Summary

1. This reports sets out the main developments in 2008/9 to promote the participation and involvement of children and young people in shaping services in the city. It also sets out forthcoming developments, including progress on establishing a new Youth Council in York. It is based on the YorOk cross partnership Involvement Strategy 2008-11, as approved by the YorOk Board and now updated by the new Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).

Background

Children and Young People's plan

2. In all, over 4000 children and young people took part in the consultation for the Children and Young People's Plan through events such as conferences for student councils within schools, focus groups talking about specific issues, and specially commissioned pieces of research. As part of the commitment to reach out to all communities, there was specific work undertaken with disabled children and young people, with Looked After Children, and with young people from minority communities.
3. It is clear from the final version of the plan that children and young people have had a significant influence on the content and format of the plan. The CYPP has included "Involvement" amongst its key priorities:

Value children and young people's contribution and celebrate their successes by:

- *continuing to develop innovative ways to listen to children and young people's views, enabling them to influence the decisions that affect them and commissioning services where possible;*
- *listening to the harder to reach groups, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and Looked After Children;*

- *establishing an influential Youth Council in York and participating in the Youth Parliament;*
- *increasing young people's involvement in our "City of Festivals" programme and delivering a successful "Festival of Youth" in the city.*

Members of YPWG will see that these commitments also reflect their own discussions.

Commissioning

4. A commissioning framework is being developed for services for children and young people in the city. Children and young people will play an increasing part in this process. Already their views are integral to initial needs assessments – as for example in the consultation that preceded the CYPP. Children were also heavily involved in consultation about decisions made for grants awarded under the Early Intervention Fund/Better Play Grant.
5. **Yorkash** is an example of young people-led commissioning. In 2008/9 there was approximately £145,000 available for projects for young people aged 13 – 19 years in the City of York, coming from the Youth Opportunities Fund and the Youth Capital Fund. Bids could be between £5,000 - £30,000. There were 50 applications for the funding; 14 groups made it to the interview stage and 12 were successful in their funding bids. This funding supported a number of projects, from equipment and building development to staffing costs and facilities hire. Applications are currently being invited for the 2009 round, with an application deadline of 1st May. Groups that are awarded funding will receive their cheques at a presentation evening on the 19th June.
6. In the longer term, there is an expectation that local authorities will enable an increasing proportion of their funding for positive activities to be directed by young people – 'up to 5% of their budget for services for young people in 2010 and 2011, with an aspiration of 25% by 2018' (*Aiming High for Young People: A Ten Year Strategy for Positive Activities*). We will be developing further proposals for achieving this in the months ahead.

Schools Council Conferences – towards a Youth Council for York

7. York has developed over the past five years a model of holding a conference for student councils from York schools. The most recent event was for York secondary schools. Nearly all secondary schools attended including Applefields. The day was very ably organised by students from All Saints school with great support from staff at the school. This followed on from the event for Primary Schools councils which was organised by pupils from Heworth School. This event attracted almost 250 pupils representing 90% of primary schools in the city.
8. The strength of our Schools Councils will give us an excellent basis from which to grow a more formal Youth Council for York. We consulted young people on

this issue at one of the Conferences mentioned above, and they were overwhelmingly in favour of a formal Youth Council with links to Schools Councils, and with real opportunities to make decisions in their community. As a result of those sessions, 30 young people have expressed a wish to be further involved in developing a Youth Council for York.

9. The next stage in this initiative will be to consult with children and young people about the precise nature of the Youth Council, its membership and how those members would be elected; and also on the relationship between Schools Councils, the Youth Council and Ward Committees. Members of YPWG will recall from our previous discussions that a possible stumbling block was the officer resources to develop and support these new mechanisms; we are therefore pleased to report that we believe we have found a way forward, in conjunction with Neighbourhood Services, through the government's "Taking Part" initiative. This two-year project is designed to promote greater participation in local decision making, and Government Office for Yorkshire and Humberside has *provisionally* indicated that it is in principle prepared to fund City of York to develop enhanced means of Civic Engagement for children and young people. This welcome news, subject to final confirmation, means that we can now see a way forward for covering a large proportion of costs involved in developing a Youth Council for York.
10. In the next few months we will work up more detailed options, a project timetable, and associated costings, again in conjunction with Neighbourhood Services. We will then put a paper for decision to the Executive Member. Meantime, we hope that YPWG will welcome these developments.

Volunteering

11. We have an ongoing commitment to increase opportunities for young people to become involved in volunteering and active participation (again reinforced through the new CYPP). 'Involved' has been running a volunteering brokerage service in York since March 2007. Although this is a universal project, it has had a strong focus on attracting non-traditional volunteers. The project offers a range of opportunities aimed at capturing young people's interests and allowing them to try out volunteering before committing. The project has been very successful in significantly increasing the number of volunteers registered (369 – 519 [07-08]), numbers placed into opportunities (274 – 361 [07-08]) and opportunities created (up to 1300+ in 2008).

Communications with young people

12. The Yor-Ok website plays a key role in communicating with children and young people. Since the website was launched it has received over 22,000 visits and 80,000 page views. In terms of people accessing information about Involvement, it has proved very successful with for example nearly 3000 downloads of the individual toolkits for carrying out consultations. The website hosts a range of information about Involvement work in the city, including a full summary of the responses from the consultation for the CYPP, and a *You Said - We Did* publication which details the views of disabled children and young people.

13. From the outset of the website project, the intention was to continually develop the website to match more closely the needs of children, young people, parents, carers and practitioners. To that end, over the summer of 2008 a consultation was carried out with all of the target audiences that make use of the website. The consultation yielded a diverse range of views on all aspects of the site. The key messages were:

- Making the different zones more defined so users are more likely to only read information targeted towards them;
- To continue the work of reviewing the categorisation of services within the service directory;
- To develop the look and feel of the site, in particular the young people's zone;
- To improve the searching functionality within the service directory;
- To introduce more interactive elements and to make information aimed at young people less text heavy.

We are now working to put these ideas into practice.

14. As well as our own website, it goes without saying that social networking sites such as Bebo and Facebook are becoming an increasingly important method for communication between young people: they also represent an opportunity for communicating with them. It is estimated that up to half of young people are registered on social networking sites and use them for up to two hours per day. A recent seminar was hosted by the Involvement Strategy to discuss the issues around using this media. Further work will be undertaken to develop safe practice protocols both for children/young people and practitioners. There will then need to be further work to pilot effective use of social networking to inform, consult and engage with young people.

Consultation

15. As the whole of this report is about involving and consulting young people, there is nothing additional to convey under this heading.

Options/Analysis

16. This report is for information so options and analysis are not appropriate. In due course further papers will be put to the Executive Member which do contain options for certain issues, particularly the development of a Youth Council.

Corporate Priorities

17. The issues covered in this paper are relevant to the Council's direction statement:

"We will listen to communities and ensure that people have a greater say in deciding local priorities"

Implications

This report is for information to update members. Certain of the issues raised may develop into decision-making papers later in the year, at which point the appropriate implications will be identified.

- **Financial** No Implications at this stage
- **Human Resources (HR)** No Implications
- **Equalities** No Implications
- **Legal** No Implications
- **Crime and Disorder** No Implications
- **Information Technology (IT)** No Implications
- **Property** No Implications
- **Other** No Implications

Risk Management

As this report is for information, there are no known risks involved.

Recommendations

The Young People's Working Group is asked to note the developments outlined in this report.

Reason: To ensure Members are aware of young people's views.

Contact Details

Author:

*Bernie Flanagan
Children's Fund Programme
Manager
Childrens Trust Unit
Tel No.554463*

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

*Paul Murphy
Assistant Director, Partnerships and Early
Intervention
LCCS
Tel 554203*

**Report
Approved**

Yes

Date 9 April 2009

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

All Yes

For further information please contact the author of the report

This page is intentionally left blank



Young People's Working Group

22 April 2009

Report from the Assistant Director, Partnerships and Early Intervention

AN UPDATE ON "MYPLACE"

Summary

1. This report offers Members a further update on the preparations for a "myplace" bid to establish enhanced facilities for young people close to the city centre.

Background

2. "myplace" is the branding chosen by Government through which to distribute capital investment in order: "to deliver world-class youth facilities driven by the active participation of young people and their views and needs." The first bidding round closed on 30 September 2008 and the results were recently published and are available on the Big Lottery Fund website (http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_myplace.htm). The website says that so far £240 million has been allocated: considerably in excess of the £190 that was originally advertised. It is not clear how the difference is being made up.
3. It has always been understood that there would be a second funding round in 2009. However, the deadline for this has slipped back on several occasions, and the latest advice on the website (and in conversations with the Big Lottery Fund) is that "a further small funding round is planned for later this year". We have been unable to decode this any further, and are continuing to work on the assumption that the bidding criteria, and sums available per authority, will be similar to the first round.
4. As Members are aware, our main attentions have been focussed on an ambitious scheme based around the Railway Institute buildings. We have appointed a local community architect, Phil Bixby, to assist us, and to ensure that young people's views continue to be fed in at all stages. Since the last update to Members, Mr Bixby has drawn up an exciting and credible set of drawings that demonstrate that it is possible to squeeze onto the site in question all of the elements needed to satisfy the requirements of *myplace*, whilst also meeting the aspirations of the Railway Institute. He has also commissioned an initial set of costings, which confirm our provisional view that the scheme would cost – at between £8 and £9 million – considerably in

excess of the maximum sum allowable under *myplace*, even assuming that the rules for round 2 are the same as for round 1. There is, therefore, a shortfall in the capital that would be needed, and although we continue to pursue a number of options for meeting it, this remains the biggest stumbling block to our successfully bringing this ambitious scheme to fruition.

5. We have had several meetings with Network Rail, the landowners, who remain interested in the scheme without being formally committed to it. It is clear that the appointment of a developer for the whole of York Northwest/York Central will be key to unlocking some of these discussions. We are also talking separately to Yorkshire Forward.
6. We have explained our proposals in outline to York Civic Trust. Their initial and informal reaction was very positive, although this should not be regarded as committing them at this stage. We have also drawn up the legal documents necessary to establish the sort of not-for-profit company or charity that would run the facility (incorporating young people).
7. Our view remains that this scheme deserves to be brought to the most advanced state possible, pending further advice about the second round of *myplace* funding, and resolution of the funding gap. Even if the scheme does not, in the end, work for *myplace*, it might be fundable through some other route or in some other way. However York Central is developed, the need to re-house the Railway Institute in suitable modern facilities will remain.
8. Nevertheless, in view of the aspects of this proposal that are outside of our control (because they depend on the attitudes of third parties), and in line with steers previously expressed by YPWG itself, we have also been pursuing options for a slightly less ambitious “Plan B”. The aim here would be to create or refurbish a city centre property that would at least include the social aspects that young people have told us they want to see – a youth café or similar. We can update Members at the meeting on our latest shortlist for such a scheme. In parallel with this, Mr Bixby has been working with a group of young people to see if it would be possible to set up an interim youth café on a much shorter timescale, maybe in an empty commercial property, to test out the model and get young people used to the idea. He calls this element of the work “*myplace now*”, and if it gets off the ground, it would of course greatly strengthen our *myplace* bid.
9. Finally, in view of the continued focus on this area, and reflecting previous discussions at YPWG, we have formally committed York’s Children’s Trust (YorOK) to “providing new facilities as resources permit and, specifically, a city centre facility that includes a youth café” (York’s *Children and Young People’s Plan 2009-2012*).

Consultation

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

Options

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

Analysis

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

Corporate Priorities

13. A successful *myplace* bid will contribute to meeting the following corporate priorities:
1. Improving the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city.
 2. Improving the health and lifestyles of the people that live in York, in particular among groups whose levels of health are the poorest.
 3. Increasing people's skills and knowledge to improve future employment prospects.
 4. Increasing the use of public and other environmentally-friendly modes of transport.
 5. Reducing the environmental impact of council activities and encouraging, others to do the same.
 6. Reducing the actual and perceived impact of violent, aggressive and nuisance behaviour on people in York.

Implications

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

Risk Management

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

Recommendations

16. That the Young People's Working Group note this update report and comment as they wish.

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

Contact Details

Author:

Paul Murphy
Assistant Director, Partnerships & Early
Intervention
Learning, Culture & Children's Services
Tel No. 554203

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Pete Dwyer
Director
Learning, Culture & Children's Services

Report Approved

Yes

Date 9 April 2009

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

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: None