
Young People's Working Group

9th October 2007

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

Draft Involvement Strategy- Update

Summary

1. This report brings the updated involvement strategy to the attention of the young people's working group.

Background

2. Yor-OK children's Trust adopted an involvement strategy in 2004, since then work has been driven forwards to develop children and young people's involvement. The updated strategy reviews this progress and establishes the approach and priorities for involvement work with children, young people and families over the next 3 years. The strategy is attached as Annex 1.

3. **Summary of achievements**

Since the adoption of the previous Involvement strategy:

- There is an involvement sub group which co-ordinates and prioritises involvement work
 - Standards for involvement work have been developed
 - Collaborative working and information sharing has increased
 - Children, young people and families are more aware of the work of Yor-OK Children's Trust
 - A Children and Young People's Champion has been elected
 - Children and young people have been involved in recruiting key positions in the City
 - Capacity building and training has been delivered
 - A wide range of involvement work has happened involving diverse groups at appropriate levels
 - Creative approaches to involvement work have been adopted including using animation, DVD production, big brother diary room and peer research as well as mystery shopping, postcard campaigns, questionnaires and interviews.
 - Additional resources for involvement work have been secured
4. The strategy advocates using a multi-layered approach to involvement work which aims to engage with children, young people and families in relevant and accessible ways.

5. The strategy sets out clear priorities for the work over the next 3 years focusing on areas of: direct work with children, young people and families; marketing and promotion; capacity building; co-ordination; standard setting and evaluation and resourcing.

6. **Key questions**

- Is the content and structure of the strategy useful?
- How do we ensure that children's involvement (O-5 especially) gets a strong enough emphasis?
- How can/ should the involvement group model children young people and families participation?
- How do we ensure the strategy reaches part of the City that aren't solely children, young people and family focussed?

Consultation

7. This draft of involvement Strategy has been developed through a consultation process involving partners (including young people) and a range of City of York departments over the past two months.

Options

8. This report is for information only.

Corporate Priorities

9. The involvement strategy supports Councils objectives by:

- Encouraging all Children and Young People to become Active Citizens
- Consulting with children and young people about the future of the City and about provision by the council.

Implications

10. **Financial** There are no implications.

Human Resources (HR) There are no implications.

Equalities There are no implications.

Legal There are no implications

Crime and Disorder There are no implications

Information Technology (IT) There are no implications

Risk Management

11. There are no risk management implications.

Recommendations

12. Members are asked to:

1) Comment on the strategy.

Reason: In order to take forward involvement work with children, young people and families.

Contact Details

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Report Approved

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

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex 1

Draft Involvement Strategy 2007