

Report from the Assistant Director, Partnerships and Early Intervention

## **Children and Young Peoples Plan 2009-12 – plans for consultation**

### **Summary**

- 1 This reports sets out the plans for consultation on the Children and Young Peoples' Plan 2009-12, which is being developed by the Yor-OK Board. Members' comments are invited.

### **Background**

- 2 The Yor-OK Board has agreed that a new Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP) be developed for publication in April 2009. This will cover the years 2009-12.

There will be in-depth consultation which will build upon the work for the 2007 plan which:

- Drew responses from 4000 children and young people;
  - Involved auditing 45 pieces of involvement and consultative work including targeted work with disabled children and young people and minority communities;
  - Included 'supported' postcards consultations with children and young people; postcard consultations with parents through schools and events in the City Centre;
  - Ensured young people were involved in developing the final format of the plan including a children's version and young peoples version and creating a DVD to support the plan;
- 3 The work to develop the 2007 plan was acknowledged by the Joint Area Review to be 'thorough and wide-ranging' and that 'service users views are integral rather than tokenistic'.
  - 4 In the development of the new CYPP the intention is to build on the previous experience, moving along the continuum from information through consultation to involvement in order that the community continues to be integral to the plan's development.

The community being:

- The partner organisations which make-up the Yor-Ok community
- The workforce within those organisations
- Parents and carers within the City of York
- Children and young people

Emphasis will continue to be placed on ensuring that minority and disadvantaged communities are empowered to be involved in the planning process.

- 5 A process is being developed with the following key steps:
- The Yor-Ok Board has established an 'Editorial' sub-group chaired by the Director of Learning Culture and Children's Services to oversee the development of the plan with the Yor-OK Involvement sub-group specifically co-ordinating consultation;
  - Shadow reference' groups will be drawn together to support the plan's development. There will be 2 groups (young people -over 11's and children - under 11's). These groups will be supported through the Early Years and Extended Schools, Young Peoples Service, V project and SIDS PSHCE Consultant. Training will be provided to the groups to fulfil their role of:
    - Supporting the development of a differentiated consultation framework;
    - Leading specific consultations;
    - Supporting communications and public profile of plan;
    - Supporting actual development of plan content through analysis of consultation information; create recommendations;
    - Supporting production of main plan and specific children and young peoples versions;
  - A common consultation document has been drafted by the 'Reference' group setting out:
    - The purpose of the CYPP;
    - The process for developing the CYPP and means by which the community can get involved
    - The current position for children and young people in the city
    - What we want to achieve for children and young people (the key issues on which to consult);
    - It would also be an opportunity to inform the community of the successes of the current plan.
    - A toolkit will be produced using this document as a base, differentiated for different ages (under 5's, primary age, secondary age) and settings;

The common consultation document is to be considered by the YorOK Board at its meeting on the 16 July, after which it will be released to initiate the consultation process.

The consultation approach is based on mobilising existing resources as far as possible and will:

- build on the consultation database held via CTU (and currently being moved to the Yor-OK website);

- Be systematic and representative of all sectors of society, therefore a database of groups will be drawn up
- Identify existing and planned opportunities for community involvement e.g. Ward meetings, Festivals, Schools and school councils.

The approach is being informed by parallel work on an Equalities Impact Assessment on the development of the Children and Young People's Plan

- 6 In order to draw more of the community into the consultation process there will need to be a communication plan. One of the aims of the 'shadow groups' would be to raise the profile of the plan through staggered press releases, radio interviews etc. Discussions will be held with Marketing and Communications to progress.

### **Options**

- 7 This paper is for information and consultation only. Responsibility for producing the Children and Young People's Plan lies with the Yor-Ok Board.
- 8 The Young People's Working Group may wish to further consider the consultation process for the Children and Young Peoples Plan at its October meeting, in conjunction with the 'shadow reference group'.

### **Analysis**

- 9 This approach will build on the acknowledged strength of previous work and will utilise existing resources.

### **Corporate Priorities**

- 10 This work will 'Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city '.

### **Implications**

- **Financial** There will be a small amount of expenditure which will be met from existing budgets.
- **Human Resources (HR)** There are no implications
- **Equalities** An Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken on Children and Young People's Plan developed for 2007. The key messages on consultation and community engagement from that assessment are included in the plans for consultation.
- **Legal** There are no implications
- **Crime and Disorder** There are no implications
- **Information Technology (IT)** There are no implications
- **Property** There are no implications

## Risk Management

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

## Recommendations

12. The Young Peoples Working Group is requested to:
- 1) note the developments outlined in this report and receive a future report on the consultation activity conducted.
  - 2) agree how the Young People's Working Group will contribute its own views to the Consultation process

## Contact Details

**Author:**

**Bernie Flanagan**

Children's Fund Programme  
Manager

Children's Trust Unit

Tel No.554463

Co-Author's Name

**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

**Paul Murphy**

Assistant Director, Partnerships and Early  
Intervention

**Report Approved**

**Date** 26/06/08

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** List information for all

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

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**