

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>

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<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>

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		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.

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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.	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.
		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	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.	This is acknowledged and acted upon within the constraints of budget. Youth facilities are varied and are not necessarily building based.
		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.	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.
		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	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.	Acknowledged and will be considered as appropriate.
		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.	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	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.
		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	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

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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>

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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>			