



SCRUTINY TOPIC REGISTRATION FORM

PROPOSED TOPIC:

Review of Delivery of the Extended School Agenda (Quality take-up of provision [Offers 3 & 4] and community use [Offer 4])

COUNCILLOR(S) REGISTERING THE TOPIC: Cllr Merrett

SECTION 1: ABOUT THE TOPIC

Please complete this section as thoroughly as you can. The information provided will help Scrutiny Officers and Scrutiny Members to assess the following key elements to the success of any scrutiny review:

How a review should best be undertaken given the subject

Who needs to be involved

What should be looked at

By when it should be achieved; and

Why we are doing it ?

Please describe how the proposed topic fits with 3 of the eligibility criteria attached.

As a general rule, topics will only proceed to review if they meet 3 of the criteria below. However, where it is adequately demonstrated that a topic is of significant public interest and fits with the first criteria but does not meet 3, Scrutiny Management Committee may still decide to allocate the topic for review. Please indicate which 3 criteria the review would meet and the relevant scrutiny roles:

	✓	Policy Development & Review	Service Improvement & Delivery	Accountability of Executive Decisions
Public Interest (ie. in terms of both proposals being in the public interest and resident perceptions)		✓	✓	✓
Under Performance / Service Dissatisfaction			✓	
In keeping with corporate priorities		✓	✓	✓
Level of Risk			✓	✓
Service Efficiency			✓	✓
National/local/regional significance e.g. A central government priority area, concerns joint working arrangements at a local 'York' or wider regional context		✓	✓	✓

Further Information on how topic fits with Eligibility Criteria

Public Interest – public perception of inequality in life chances because of background and differential service provision. Perception that teenage kids are not properly provided for and from kids that there aren't enough accessible and/or affordable things for them to do.

Under Performance / Service Dissatisfaction – whilst all York schools are nominally extended schools, there appears to be little evidence both locally and nationally of the comprehensiveness, quality, effectiveness or value for money in terms of what is being provided. There was also an acknowledgement that the 4th aspect of the core offer 'Community Use of Schools' is largely undeveloped (reference Head of Service comments at Education Scrutiny meeting in June). This was reinforced by the findings in the recent Open Spaces, Sport & Recreation Study with residents highlighting that the quantity of provision for Children and Young People (CYP) is poor, with several issues over quality too, particularly for provision to be more challenging and innovative. The study analysis highlights that as regards access to facilities for Young People (YP), there are few residents within the recommended catchment of the only four facilities in the City and a 100% increase is required. As regards local and strategic sports facilities, whilst distribution is good, access to facilities presents the greatest issues to residents with many schools permitting no community use at the current time.

In keeping with Corporate Priorities – Extended school provision is a key component of the Government and Council's agenda for giving every child the optimum start in life and for tackling deprivation and improving community engagement and cohesion

Level of Risk – a) will the full extended school agenda (especially community use) be met by the required date of 2010; b) are the key target groups who the agenda was aimed at and who would most benefit, being effectively engaged?

Set out briefly the purpose of any scrutiny review of your proposed topic. What do you think it should achieve?

If you have not already done so above, please indicate in response to this, how any review would be in the public or Council's interest e.g. reviewing recycling options in the city would reduce the cost to the Council for landfill

To assess whether the Government's requirement for all schools to provide a four core offer by 2010 is on track.

In particular the extent,, quality, effectiveness, efficiency and accessibility of that offer to traditionally excluded sections of the York population, and in terms of the fourth offer, of optimising the use of schools as wider community facilities

Please explain briefly what you think any scrutiny review of your proposed topic should cover.

This information will be used to help prepare a remit for the review should Scrutiny Management Committee decide the topic meets the criteria e.g. How much recycling is presently being done and ways of increasing it

- The level and nature of the extended school provision for children and young people, and for the community across the City's schools
- The quality of what is provided, how this is monitored and evaluated, and fed back into improvement.
- Accessibility, timing, location and charging levels and whether it adds up to a genuine 8am to 6pm service (6 days a week, 48 weeks a year) as regards the third core offer and allows parents to get back into work.
- Take-up – how many and who is taking up the services and the extent at which it is being taken up by key target groups
- How well it meets customer expectations and requirements
- How effectively services are integrated and whether it is leading to improved outcomes for children and young people, communities and for key target groups
- How well this works in different York schools covering the spectrum of widespread or fairly isolated individuals in deprived circumstances.

Please indicate which other Councils, partners or external services could, in your opinion, participate in the review, saying why.

Involving the right people throughout the process is crucial to any successful review e.g. CYC Commercial Services / other local councils who have reviewed best practice for recycling / other organisations who use recycled goods

- Schools (prime responsibility for delivering)
- Children's Centre (linked to above)
- Employment Services (working with parents and adults – tackling deprivation through getting into work)
- Health Services (child health aspects)
- Ofsted (inspection and knowledge of what good and bad practice is through inspection)
- Academic experts / specialist charities (understanding of wider agenda, research on issues and expertise to help our local investigations process)
- Independent Service Providers (e.g. York City in the Community)
- User Representatives (children, young people and the community's experiences of services)

Explain briefly how, in your opinion, such a review might be most efficiently undertaken?

This is not about who might be involved (addressed above) but how the review might be conducted e.g. sending a questionnaire to each household to gather information on current recycling practices and gathering information on how recycling is carried out in Cities similar to York

- 1) Initial seminar on what the Government extended schools agenda overall is about, how York has implemented it so far and its plans from here, practices elsewhere, local service monitoring and evaluation arrangements, national review findings and other info on what works and what doesn't – examples of good practice e.g. Clifton Green (possible visit)
- 2) Survey of schools and other extended school providers on the issues listed earlier in 'What the review should cover'
- 3) Survey of existing service users
- 4) Survey of wider community (perhaps limited to two different sample geographical areas)
- 5) Presentation of findings and interim conclusions
- 6) Discussion focus groups with representative groups, users and potential users to explore issues in more depth
- 7) Discussion focus group with providers and Authority in terms of improvements

Estimate the timescale for completion.

Please circle below the nearest timescale group, in your estimation, based on the information you have given in this form.

- (a) 1-3 months;
- (b) 3-6 months; or
- (c) 6-9 months ✓

PLEASE ENCLOSE ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS OR OTHER INFORMATION YOU FEEL MIGHT BE USEFUL BACKGROUND TO THE SUBMISSION OF THIS TOPIC FOR CONSIDERATION.

Full Service aspects of extended school services from
 2003 Green Paper – Every Child Matters
 2004 Children’s Act
 2004 Next Steps
 DfES booklet Next Steps Extended Schools: Providing Opportunities & Services For All
 Ofsted Report – How well are they doing?
 Education Scrutiny Report on the Extended Schools Services 2006
 CYC – Open Space, Sport & Recreation Study – June 2008

What will happen next?

- a Scrutiny Officer will prepare a feasibility study based on the information you have provided above and on further information gathered. This process should take no more than six weeks;
- on completion, the feasibility study will be presented to Scrutiny Management Committee together with a recommendation whether or not to proceed with the review. If the recommendation is to proceed, the feasibility study will include a remit on how the review should be carried out

In support of this topic, you may be required to:

- meet with the Scrutiny Officer to clarify information given in this submission and/or assist with developing a clear and focussed remit for a potential review;
- attend the meeting of Scrutiny Management Committee at which the topic is being considered for scrutiny review in support of your registration