
Young People's Working Group

22 October 2008

Report from the Assistant Director, Partnerships and Early Intervention

Children and Young People's Plan 2009-12 – progress on consultation

Summary

- 1 This report gives an update on the progress of the consultation on the Children and Young People's Plan 2009-12, which is being developed by the Yor-OK Board.

Members are invited during the Young People's Working Group meeting to take part in an exercise with children and young people to discuss in more depth some of the priorities which are being raised during the consultation process.

Background

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

Key to the plan is in-depth consultation with a wide cross-section of the community, particularly children and young people.

- 3 The meeting of the Young People's Working Group in July agreed: *'In the interests of engaging children and young people in the local democratic process and other Council activities...that the involvement of young people in the next meeting of the Working Group, on 22 October, be agreed'*. This is also linked to the activities for 'Takeover Day' on 7 November 2008, as explained below.
- 4 A common consultation document has been drawn up setting out:
 - Purpose of the children and young people's plan;
 - Current position for children and young people in York;
 - What we want to achieve for children and young people in York.

A toolkit has been produced using this document as a base, differentiated for different ages (under 5's, primary age, secondary age) and settings. This toolkit has been distributed to over 80 different groups which work with children and young people. The consultation approach is also based on mobilising existing

resources as far as possible and has built on the consultation database held via the Children's Trust Unit.

5 Shadow reference groups have been drawn together to support the plan's development. There are 2 groups, Children from Tang Hall Primary School Council and the YorVision Group who are a group of older young people. These groups are involved in:

- Supporting communications and the public profile of the plan;
- Supporting the actual development of plan content through analysis of consultation information;
- Creating recommendations;
- Supporting production of the main plan and specific children and young people's versions.

The Yorvision group has produced a DVD as part of their consultation activities which will be shown at the Young People's Working Group meeting.

6 Key findings to date from the consultation with children and young people are:

Key issue raised	Sample comments
Children to be more involved in local decision making	'Involved in how council funds are spent' 'Events that interest and involve them'
Better support for parents	'A good start in life, parents that are supported from the early years to do their best with no pressure' 'Help and guidance from services' 'Well informed parents'
Improved home-school relationship	'Parents having more interest in school, knowing more about lessons and able to help with re-assuring and homework' 'What do children learn about sex and relationships?' 'Parenting courses in all schools'
Building communities across the generations	'Getting involved with local community' 'A strong community, working together, looking out for each other' 'More community spirit and organised events that will bring us all together' 'Promote and enable feelings of respect for all age groups'
Things to do, places to go – spaces for young people	'More locally based activities' 'Non alcoholic bars' 'Safer play areas, checked by wardens' 'Too many estates are bland and soulless with insufficient youth space' 'Meeting spaces for young people. An ice rink' 'More opportunities to enjoy the countryside'
Healthy lifestyles	'Open children's eyes to nice foods that are

	healthy – smoothie stalls' 'Fun exercise' 'Free healthy cooking on a budget courses' 'Growing and cooking for kids and parents' 'Encourage more cycling and walking'
Safer roads	'20 mph speed limit in residential areas' 'More speed calming measures' 'More off road cycle lanes'
Celebrate achievements	'Time and effort from parents to praise and reward their children' 'Create a celebrate children's day – demos of their achievements/activities'

Additionally as part of the activities associated with 'Takeover Day' in November, pupils from Heworth Primary School will be joining the Young Peoples Working Group for this session. These pupils have been 'shadowing' the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services. They are also organising the Primary Schools Council Conference on Takeover Day itself, 7th November 2008.

Options

7. This paper is for information and consultation only. As part of the Young People's Working Group meeting there will be an exercise to explore some of the issues raised during the consultation with children from the reference group.

Analysis

8. This process will support the engagement of children and young people in decision making.

Corporate Priorities

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

Implications

10. The implications are as follows:
 - **Financial** There are no immediate financial implications arising from this paper. It will add to the consultative process for the children and young people's plan, which itself has incurred a small amount of expenditure which is being met from existing budgets.
 - **Human Resources (HR)** There are no implications.
 - **Equalities** An Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken on the Children and Young People's Plan developed for 2007. The key messages on consultation and community engagement from that assessment are included in our current 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 There are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendations

12. The Young People's Working Group is requested to:

1) note and discuss the developments outlined in this report and receive a future report on the consultation activity conducted.

Reason: to ensure children and young people's views are conveyed directly to members

Contact Details

Author:

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

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Paul Murphy
Assistant Director, Partnerships and Early
Intervention

Report Approved **Date** 14/10/2008

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Finance: Mike Barugh, Tel 554573

Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Further information on national "Takeover Day" can be accessed at

http://www.11million.org.uk/youth/11_million_takeover_day/

Annexes: None