

## **Possible Future Scrutiny Reviews**

### **Summary**

1. This report presents Members with information on two possible scrutiny topics which have previously been considered and deferred.

### **Background**

2. Children's Health, Fitness & Diets  
In June 2004 Cllr Kind & Cllr Jones registered a topic on diet-related children's health – see registration form attached at Annex A. In June 2005 Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) considered a background briefing on the proposed topic from the Director Designate of Children's Services together with a feasibility report detailing the results from some officer consultation (see Annex B & C respectively).
3. SMC resolved that a working group be set up to further scope the topic particularly in relation to healthy eating in schools. The working group presented their scoping report to SMC in April 2006 (see Annex D), and having considered the wide-ranging nature of the topic, Members agreed to refer it to Education Scrutiny Committee for their consideration. To date this topic has not been presented to Education Scrutiny Committee and no remit has been produced.
4. To ensure the committee are fully informed as to the current position in regard to healthy eating in York schools, the Director of Learning, Culture & Children's Services has been asked to provide an up date on any associated work carried out since the working group presented its scoping report. As a result, a copy of a report relating to School Meals which is due to go to Children's Services EMAP on 19<sup>th</sup> July, has been provided for this committee's information (see Annex E), and this committee has been asked to provide a comment on the report for feeding back to the EMAP.
5. Role of School Governors  
In May 2005 Cllr Kind registered a topic on the Role of School Governors - see registration form attached at Annex E. A feasibility report on this topic (see Annex F) was considered at a meeting of Education Scrutiny Committee in October 2006. Cllr Bradley offered to arrange for information on the changes to the role of governor to be presented to a future meeting of Children's Services EMAP this was discussed with the Governance Service Manager.

6. At the time, the Governance Service Manager understood that this review would look at the ever changing level of responsibility associated with the role of Governor, rather than changes to the actual role. To date no such report has been presented and the Governance Service Manager has been led to believe that this report is no longer required.
7. Irrespective of receiving this information, a decision was taken to proceed with the review once another review which was ongoing at the time, was completed. At the time that decision was made, no remit for the review was agreed.

### **Consultation**

8. In both cases, Chief Officers were consulted on the feasibility of the suggested topics and their comments were included in the reports under consideration.

### **Options**

9. Having regard to the topic registration forms and associated reports, Members may decide to:
  - a. Not progress the topics further, giving reasons
  - b. Retain either or both topics for progression at a later date.
  - c. Agree to proceed with either or both topics.

### **Analysis**

10. If members decide to proceed with the reviews, brief clear remits and short to medium timescales should be set to ensure they are completed during the current municipal year.

### **Corporate Objectives**

11. In regard to the topic on children's health, fitness and diets, Members might consider that a review would contribute to Corporate Priority No.8 – To improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city.
12. In regard to the topic on the role of school governors, Members might consider that a review would not directly fit with any of the corporate priorities but could have a positive effective in relation to No.5 & No.9.

### **Implications**

13. There are no known Financial, HR, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT or other implications associated with this report. Should Members decide to proceed with review of these topics, there will be associated resourcing costs dependant on the agreed remits.

## Risk Management

14. In compliance with the Councils risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

## Recommendations

15. In regard to the topic on Children's health, fitness and diet, Members are asked to:

- reconsider the previous Education Scrutiny Committee's decision to proceed with this review based on the current corporate priorities and the new council policies and plans put in place since the topic was first registered.

Reason: To ensure any decision to review this topic is based on City of York Council's current position on healthy eating in York schools

- Provide comments on the report relating to School Meals

Reason: To ensure they are taken into consideration when Children's Services EMAP receive the report on 19<sup>th</sup> July

16. In regard to the topic on the Role of School Governors, it is recommended that before reaching a view on whether to proceed with this topic, Members receive and consider the previously requested report from the Governance Service Manager.

Reason: To ensure any decision on whether to proceed with a review is fully informed.

## Contact Details

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### Wards Affected:

All

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

**Background Papers:** None

- Annex A** - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Registration Form  
**Annex B** - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Background Briefing Paper  
**Annex C** - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Feasibility Report  
**Annex D** - Children's Health, Fitness & Diets Working Group Scoping Report  
**Annex E** - Report on School Meals  
**Annex F** - Role of School Governors Registration Form

**Annex G** - Role of School Governors Feasibility Report