

# AGENDA

## Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Thursday, 13 October 2016 AT 10:00  
In the Flensburg Room, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG**

**Please note: Members should allocate at least 2 hours for Scrutiny Meetings**

**\*\*Briefing meeting for Members will be at 9.30 am in the Flensburg Room\*\***

### **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutions

### **Declarations of Interest**

Members are invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and any interests, relating to any item on the agenda at this stage.

### **Public and Press**

To agree that the items of business within Part A of the agenda should be dealt with in public and that the items of business within Part B of the agenda should be dealt with in private.

### **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**5 - 14**

To sign and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2016.

To note the minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2016.

## **PART A**

**To be considered when the Public and Press are present**

### **A.1 CALL-IN OF DECISIONS**

To consider any matter which has been the subject of call-in.

### **A.2 COMMUNITY CENTRE FEDERATION UPDATE**

**15 - 18**

(Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio)

The Deputy Chief Executive to submit a report detailing the current financial position, and support provide to Community Centres. The Chairman of Carlisle and District Federation of Community Organisations will provide an update on the Federation.

(Copy report SD.12/16 herewith)

### **A.3 YOUTH PROVISION IN CARLISLE AND DISTRICT**

**19 - 56**

(Cross Cutting)

Councillor McNulty to deliver a presentation and lead a Panel discussion on provision for youth in Carlisle.

(Copy presentation herewith).

### **A.4 OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME**

**57 - 64**

To consider a report providing an overview of matters related to the work of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel, together with the latest version of the Work Programme and details of the Key Decisions items relevant to this Panel as set out in the Notice of Executive Key Decisions.

(Copy Report OS.20 /16 herewith)

## **PART B**

**To be considered when the Public and Press are excluded from the meeting**

**-NIL-**

### **Members of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**Conservative** – Ellis, Layden, Mrs McKerrell (Vice Chairman),  
Bainbridge (sub), Bloxham (sub), Mrs Mallinson (sub)

**Labour** – Burns (Chairman), Ms Franklin, McNulty, Ms Williams,  
McDonald (sub), Mrs Riddle (sub)

**Independent** - Paton, Betton (sub)

**Enquiries, requests for reports, background papers,  
etc to Committee Clerk: Jacqui Issatt - 817557 or  
[jacqui.issatt@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:jacqui.issatt@carlisle.gov.uk)**



## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

**THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 10.00AM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Burns (Chairman), Councillors Ellis, Ms Franklin, Layden, Mrs McKerrell, McNulty, Paton and Ms Williams.

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Glover (The Leader)  
Councillor Mrs Bradley (Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder)  
Councillor Miss Sherriff (Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder)

**OFFICERS:** Deputy Chief Executive  
Director of Economic Development  
Contracts and Community Services Manager  
Policy and Performance Officer  
Overview and Scrutiny Officer

#### **COSP.50/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Cllr Southward (Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder) and Councillor Ms Quilter (Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder).

#### **COSP.51/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest affecting the business to be transacted at the meeting.

#### **COSP.52/16 PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED** – That the Agenda be agreed as circulated.

#### **COSP.53/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2016 be noted.

#### **COSP.54/16 AGENDA**

**RESOLVED** (1) That the Overview Report and Work Programme item be considered at the end of the agenda.

**RESOLVED** (2) That for future meetings of the Panel the Overview Report and Work Programme item be considered at the end of the agenda.

#### **COSP.55/16 CALL-IN OF DECISIONS**

There were no items which had been the subject of call-in.

#### **COSP.56/16 CARLISLE AND EDEN COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL PLAN 2016/17**

The Contracts and Community Services Manager submitted the Carlisle and Eden Community Safety Partnership Annual Plan 2016/17(SD.13/16).

The Contracts and Community Services Manager reminded the Panel of the Council's statutory obligation to work with other agencies to develop and implement a partnership plan for tackling crime and disorder in their area.

The Carlisle and Eden Community Safety Partnership's Leadership Group took responsibility for developing the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Annual Plan based on evidence drawn from the annual Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Strategic Assessment produced by the Cumbria Intelligence Observatory and the Police. The next Strategic Assessment document was due to be published at the end of 2016 therefore, the Plan before Members was based on the Strategic Assessment 2015/16.

The Contracts and Community Services Manager noted that the CSP were regularly updated on issues being addressed by the Police, Members were assured that the Plan before them was robust and designed to meet the relevant challenges. The Annual Plan document was a high level and brief summary of priorities for 2016-17 but was supported by a more detailed action plan that was delivered by the CSP task group.

The CSP's Work Programme had been attached to the report and the Panel were asked to consider the Plan and offer feedback to the Executive before it recommended adoption by full Council.

In considering the Partnership Annual Plan Members raised the following comments and questions:

- *Was the work of the CSP still relevant as the Police and Crime Commissioner was now responsible for setting the Police's priorities?*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager acknowledged that the arrangement of local level public organisations aimed at addressing crime and anti-social behaviour had not altered in the light of changes brought in at a national level. In developing its Annual Plan, the CSP referenced the Police and Crime Commissioner's priorities to ensure that the Plan was linked up to the Commissioner's work and therefore had access to appropriate funding streams.

The Deputy Chief Executive added that the Partnership's Problem Solving Group played a substantial role in discussing and addressing issues relating to crime and anti-social behaviour. As a result it produced a tangible impact on how crime and anti-social behaviour in the district were dealt with.

- *What resource did the Council allocate to the CSP?*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager informed the Panel that the Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder attended the Partnership's Leadership Group meeting which was held bi-annually. The Partnership's Problem Solving Group was attended by a variety of Officers from the authority covering a range of services including Green Space and Environmental Health, attendance was co-ordinated by the Community Development Officer to ensure only the staff from the required teams were present.

- *Why had the reports from the Police referred to in the Plan not been included in the report to the Panel?*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager explained that as the report to the Panel was a public document the information would have needed to be heavily redacted. The Strategic Assessment had been previously circulated to Members with the Partnership's 2015/16, the Contracts and Community Services Manager undertook to circulate a copy of the current Strategic Assessment document to Members.

The Chairman asked when the next Strategic Assessment document was published could an Officer from the Partnership or the Police be invited to the Panel to discuss the Assessment and answer questions.

The Contracts and Community Services Manager agreed that inviting a representative from the Police and the Partnership to attend the Panel would benefit Members as they would be able to provide greater detail on their reports which covered trends and performance data based on their operations.

- *How effective was the partnership in reducing crime?*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager understood that in relation to the Partnership's priority areas, current performance data from the Police indicated that the measures being taken had created a positive impact. Whilst long term trends showed a decline in the areas of crime and anti-social behaviour being addressed by the Partnership spikes occasionally occurred in particular areas, the reasons for the increased crime/anti-social behaviour were well understood by the Police, who took the relevant action to reduce the activity.

- *Had the Council considered making representations to the Local Government Association or national government to remove the statutory duty on the Council to be involved in the partnership?*

The Deputy Chief Executive replied that Officers had not considered making such representations as it was felt that the Partnership was a very successful example of joint working and that it still had a valid role to play in responding to crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly through the Problem Solving Group.

- *A Member commented that the Annual Plan did not contain details of the specific actions that were taken to address the areas identified as priorities in the Plan.*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager explained that the information regarding specific actions taken to address areas of crime and anti-social behaviour prioritised in the Plan were contained in other documents produced by the Partnership and included data on how each priority was being addressed and progress reports.

Another Member felt that as the Plan did not address the actions the Partnership intended to take to address its priority areas, it was difficult for the Panel to recommend actions to the Executive.

The Contracts and Community Services Manager acknowledged that the timetabling of reports had made it difficult for the Panel to contribute to the development of the Annual Plan. He explained that in the following year the timetable would enable the Strategic Assessment to be considered by the Panel and for comments to be forwarded to the Partnership. The amended Plan would then be returned to the Panel for consideration.

Summing up the discussion, the Chairman felt it would be useful for the Panel to consider the new Strategic Assessment following its publication and that an Officer from the Partnership and/or the Police to attend the meeting to answer questions.

RESOLVED – (1) That the Contracts and Community Services Manager circulate the Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Strategic Assessment 2015/16 to the Panel.

(2) That a report be presented to a future meeting of the Panel on the Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Strategic Assessment 2016/16 and that representatives from the Police and the Community Safety Partnership be invited to attend the meeting.

(3) That the Carlisle and Eden Community Safety Partnership Annual Plan 2016/17 be noted.

### **COSP.57/16 NEW LEISURE CONTRACT PROCUREMENT UPDATE**

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted report SD.16/16 which provided an update on the Leisure Contract Retender Exercise.

The Panel were reminded of the process that had taken place in 2015 and the approval of the early retender of the contract in order to release early savings on the contract fee and expedite delivery of the Council's Sports Facilities Strategy.

The retender work had been paused in January 2016 to allow for a full assessment of the extent of damage to the leisure estate, the repair and reinstatement of the facilities, and to ensure that any longer term implications of the flooding were reflected in the retender exercise.

The Contracts and Community Services Manager detailed the current facilities position as set out in section 2 of the report and advised the Panel that the proposals for the retender process had not changed in terms of its structure or approach. The time table in section 3.2 of the report showed the timescale for the award of the contract and completion by June – August 2017. The process would require various levels of approval at different stages and at a minimum, further Executive consideration would be sought in advance of Phase 8.

In considering the update Members raised the following comments and questions:

- *A Member commented that providers submitting tenders for the contract would be focussed on income generation, she was concerned that would have an impact on currently free to use parts of the leisure estate. She asked when Bitts Park Play Area be reinstated, and if the facility would remain free to use?*

The Deputy Chief Executive explained that the play equipment, the water feature and the children's play area were owned and managed by the Council and would remain so. The full recovery of the play area was imminent and the facilities provided at the reinstated site would include equipment that was accessible for abilities. He assured Members that the play area would remain free to use for the public.

- *Had the delay in the retendering process had any impact on the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)?*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager responded that required organisational savings were already included in the MTFP, retendering the contract early as per the original



pre-flood timetable would have helped the authority to realise additional savings. Therefore, the delay in the contract re-tendering process would not directly impact the MTFP.

- *Was it planned to retender golfing services separately to the main contract?*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager advised that there were a number of specialist golf service providers on the market who had expressed interest in running the Council's golf services, and had remained interested following the flood. The golf service provision would be available for retender as part of the Council's wider Leisure Contract, and also as a separate bespoke contract. Following the receipt of all the tenders, the Council would determine which provider(s) it would enter into a contract with.

The Leader reminded the Panel that forty of the Council's sites had been affected by the flood, consequently the Executive had been considering how best to provide the services at the affected sites in future. In respect of the Sheepmount facilities, it was noted that the site had flooded on numerous occasions previously, discussions had been held with the Environment Agency regarding the inclusion of measures to increase the site's resilience to flooding in the future.

Relocating the Sheepmount to another site in the city was another option open to the Council. The Leader advised the Panel that relocating the facilities would be an expensive undertaking likely to significantly exceed the insurance settlement and the level of grant support available to the Council from organisations such as Sport England. Additionally, relocation would potentially cause problems with residents being able to access the site, particularly if it was moved to the edge of the city.

In conclusion, the Leader stated that the Executive were minded to proceed with the reinstatement of Sheepmount at its current site, with additional flood resilience measures incorporated into the site. He sought the Panel's view on the reinstatement of Sheepmount.

A Member supported the Leader's summary of the options for the Sheepmount facility, she felt that the best option for the city was for the facilities to be reinstated at the current site with additional resilience measure incorporated, and she hoped that the Panel would endorse the Leader's statement.

The Chairman agreed with the Member, adding that decisions regarding the facility comprised a number of matters, he felt that relocating the facilities would generate a number of issues and concluded that reinstatement at the current site was preferable to relocation. He commended the Officers for their work on this matter.

The Chairman asked what future involvement the Panel would have in the Council's New Leisure Contract Procurement.

The Contracts and Community Services Manager advised that updates on the progress of individual flood affected leisure site would be included in future flood reports to the Panel, and that the New Leisure Contract Procurement was included on the Panel's Work Programme.

- *Had the Council considered applying for Lottery funding to assist with the relocation the facilities.*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager explained that the funding shortfall of moving the facilities to another site made relocation a costly option. Reinstating the Sheepmount at the current site with added resilience measures would mean that facilities

would be available to residents far more quickly than the Council could deliver a relocated site.

The Contracts and Community Services Manager informed Members that Officers had been looking at increasing resilience by considering the equipment used at the site, for example a sandwich layer athletics track. The increased specification track would, in the event of a future flood, be able to be washed down and be returned to use within a much shorter period of time than the one which had been affected in the last flood.

- *If Sheepmount was relocated would the Council be able to host larger events?*

The Contracts and Community Services Manager informed the Panel that the specification of facilities at the current Sheepmount was classed as a grade 1 facility, therefore it was able to host national level events.

RESOLVED – (1) That the Panel supported the reinstatement of facilities at Sheepmount site.

(2) That report SD.16/16 be noted.

(3) That the Panel continue to receive reports on the progress of the Leisure Contract and that progress on the reinstatement of leisure facilities be contained incorporated into future the Flood Update Reports.

## **COSP.58/16 FLOOD UPDATE REPORT**

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted report SD.15/16 which formed part of a series of update reports prepared for Overview and Scrutiny Panels on flood recovery activities and future programmed work.

The Deputy Chief Executive reported that details of the Cumbria Flood Action Plan had been released which set out what the Environment Agency and partners were doing to reduce flood risks across Cumbria, based around river catchments. A copy of the combined Cumbria Flood Action Plan and Carlisle Community Action Plan Table had been attached to the report as appendix A.

The Deputy Chief Executive summarised the progress being made, key points of note included:

- *City Council Asset Recover Programme* – Phase 2 of the Asset Reinstatement Programme was underway. The Council had employed WYG to design, specify and deliver the reinstatement works to all scheduled properties, including the procurement process and management of the construction works. Target start and end dates for individual assets had been included in section 2.1 of the report.
- *Civic Centre and Customer Contact Centre* – Work had commenced on investigating options for the future use of the Civic centre and Customer Contact Centre details of which were set out in 2.2 of the report.
- *Green Spaces Asset Recovery* – Broad Street play area and Eden Park Crescent play areas had been fully reinstated. Bitts Park dry play equipment was being installed including an new wheelchair swing,
- *The Carlisle Flood Response Plan/ Winter Readiness Plan*– The Plan was being developed in partnership with the Environment Agency and Cumbria County Council and would outline activities to be undertaken over the next 12 months to reduce flooding.

- *Flood grants and household payments* – Up to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016 1,601 households were eligible for the £500 community support grant. Payments had been made to 1,560 households which equated to 97.4% totalling £780,000.
- *£5,000 flood resilience grant* –The Council had received 490 grant applications and granted funded measures to 403 properties (7 were not eligible and 80 were incomplete), totalling £1,637,757. Of those the Council had paid out 180 totalling £605,010.
- *Council Tax & NNDR discount schemes* - County wide schemes had been approved with the DCLG paying £400,000 to the County Council to fund the local discretions contained within the County wide schemes. Council tax discount awarded to 2,130 householders amounted to £2,611,269 for the affected properties. Business rates discount awarded to 104 properties amounted to £489,831 in total.

Responsibilities of the organisations involved in the flood recovery were set out in section 5 of the report.

In considering the report Members raised the following observations and questions:

- *A Member sought further information on the work being undertaken at Petteril Bridge.*

The Director of Economic Development advised that the Environment Agency and the County Council were currently undertaking works to the bridge and waterway, she understood that the works were progressing well.

The Leader added that work to Botcherby Bridge would also be undertaken and would comprise three stages: necessary structural repairs to ensure the bridge would be ready for winter; dredging the river; a longer assessment of the bridge.

- *Did the Council intend to reinstate all its flood affected assets?*

The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that all of the Council's assets and site affected by the flood were included its flood recovery plan and would be reinstated.

- *A Member expressed concerns regarding the time taken to return flood affected householders in Riverside properties to their homes.*

The Director of Economic Development explained that there were a number of factors affecting the time needed to return people to their homes, which included the drying time of the property and a shortage of contractors available to carry out works.

RESOLVED – (1) That the Deputy Chief Executive circulate to the Panel information regarding the repairs being undertaken to Botcherby Bridge.

(2) That the completed Winter Plan be presented to a future meeting of the Panel for consideration.

(3) That the Panel continue to receive Flood Update Reports on areas relevant to its remit.

(4) That report SD.15/16 be noted.

## **COSP.59/16    1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT 2016/17**

The Policy and Performance Officer presented report PC16/16 which updated the Panel on the Council's service standards relevant to the Panel and included updates on key actions contained within the new Carlisle Plan.

A Member welcomed the increase in the number of Corporate Complaints being addressed within the prescribed timescale.

The Deputy Chief Executive responded that the Senior Management Team had been concerned that the process of responding to Corporate Complaints needed reconsidering as previously performance reports had shown not all complaints had been addressed within the allotted time. The process had been assessed and amended which had led to improvements in the processing of complaints which had been reflected in the performance report.

RESOLVED –That report PC.16/16 be noted.

## **COSP.60/16    OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer submitted report OS.17/16 which provided an overview of matters relating to the work of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel and included the latest version of the work programme and Key Decisions of the Executive which related to the Panel.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer reported that the Notice of Executive Key Decisions were published on 29 July 2016 and KD.17/16 Carlisle and Eden Community Safety Partnership Annual Plan had been included on the agenda for this meeting.

Members did not raise any questions or comments on the items contained within the Notice of Executive Key Decisions.

The Work Programme for the Panel had been circulated for comment / amendment, the Chairman noted that there were no agenda items for the meeting scheduled to take place on 13 October 2016. The Chairman proposed three items for the Panel to consider at the meeting;

Community Centres: The current situation with the Centres and how the Council could work with and influence the Centres in partnership with the Federation.

The Contracts and Community Services Manager undertook to provide a report for the Panel's 13 October meeting, which would include representation from the Carlisle & District Federation of Community Organisations incorporating an update from the Federation and the mandate of the group going forward.

Young People: A Member Led process to investigate possible actions the Council may take to enable and encourage better provision for children and young people and to help create more opportunities for them to become positively involved in developing youth and child friendly policies. The Chairman proposed Councillor McNulty take a lead in this process and work with other Members to produce a report for the October meeting for the Panel to consider, with the possibility of a Task and Finish Group being established to progress work in this area.

The Leader welcomed this suggestion and was keen that the Panel explored ways in which the Council could enable young people to be further involved in the Council's decision making processes.

Riverside: The Panel discussed recent proposals from Riverside regarding changes to its local governance arrangements. The Chairman noted that Riverside were appointing a new local Divisional Director, he proposed that the new Divisional Director and the Chief Executive of Riverside be invited to the meeting to attend a meeting as soon as practical after the appointment had been confirmed to enable the Panel to discuss how the Council would work with Riverside in the future.

RESOLVED – (1) The following reports be submitted to the Panel at its meeting on 13 October 2016: Community Centres and; Young People.

(2) That the Overview Report incorporating the Work programme and Key decision items relevant to this Panel (OS.17/16) be noted.

(Meeting ended at 11:50am)



# Report to Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:  
**A.2**

Meeting Date: 13th October 2016  
Portfolio: Communities and Housing  
Key Decision: Not Applicable:  
Within Policy and  
Budget Framework NO  
Public / Private Public

Title: COMMUNITY CENTRE & FEDERATION UPDATE  
Report of: The Deputy Chief Executive  
Report Number: SD21/16

## Purpose / Summary:

Carlisle City Council currently supports 11 Community Associations to run and manage Community Centres across the district. This report provides an overview of the current financial position, how associations have been supported over recent years and the intentions of the Carlisle and District Federation of Community Organisations moving into the future.

## Recommendations:

Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel are asked to note the information in this report and in the verbal updates provided by Council Officers and the Chair of the Carlisle and District Federation of Community Organisation and consider and comment on current relationships.

## Tracking

Executive:	
Overview and Scrutiny:	
Council:	

## **1. BACKGROUND**

**1.1** Carlisle City Council currently supports 11 Community Associations to run and manage Community Centres across the district. A Service Level Agreement is used to monitor the relationship between the City Council and Community Associations and the Community Associations performance.

Revenue funding is provided directly to Community Associations following the submission of a business plan by the Community Association on an annual basis. In total Carlisle City Council's budgeted revenue funding for Community Associations in 2015/16 stands at £235,600. In addition to this revenue funding a collective Information Technology budget of £3,300 is available to support Community Associations and a Training Budget is allocated for Community Associations to fund joint training sessions, this amounts to £9,000.

Alongside this direct / devolved funding support, Carlisle City Council own 9 of the Community Centres. As the owner of these buildings Carlisle City Council undertake the reactive and planned maintenance on these buildings and insure them, with the exception of Down a Gate Community Centre which is on full repairing lease. Longtown is currently being held in trust and as part of this agreement Carlisle City Council also undertake any planned or reactive maintenance. In total Carlisle City Council has budgeted £128,100 for planned and reactive maintenance and a further £28,000 for buildings insurance in 2015/16. Some Community Associations also benefit from horticultural maintenance valued at a cumulative £8,900 by the City Council. Carlisle City Council's total budgeted spend on Community Associations / Centres therefore stands at £412,900 (discounting accommodation and support re-charges).

Carlisle City Council also offer a range of in-kind and other support, including discretionary rate relief to the Community Associations as registered charities; IT consultancy and support; and business development advice and general liaison.

Prior to the 2016/17 financial year, Carlisle City Council's budgeted expenditure on the grant funding stream stood at £291,500. The Council's own budgetary challenges (over recent and future years) were well known to Community Associations and the Carlisle and District Federation of Community Organisations and in February 2015 Carlisle City Council started to consult with associations on how to deliver a cumulative saving of £94,000 from the Community Centre grant funding stream over a 3 year period.

A number of consultation events were held throughout 2015, and in April 2016 the Council implemented a new 3 year funding proposal in agreement with all centres. Some centres opted for a phased reduction over a 3 year period and others opted for a one off reduction.



To further support community associations through this difficult process, Carlisle City Council secured £10,000 from the Community Ownership and Management of Assets Programme. The aim of this project was to improve the financial sustainability of centres, increase and improve asset management, develop better co-ordination of services between centres including joint procurement opportunities and improve services delivered by centres for the benefit of the local community.

Working in conjunction with the Carlisle and District Federation of Community Organisation, the City Council used the funding to deliver a series of capacity building training workshops focussing on business planning, charitable income generation and trade, partnerships and consortia, trustees training and marketing and promotion. Each of the 11 community associations also received the support of a dedicated relationship manager throughout the project alongside 6 additional days of specialist consultancy.

Around the same time, the Carlisle and District Federation of Community Associations was also awarded 5.5 days of consultancy support from the Community Ownership Management of Assets programme to help the Federation to produce a development plan, to support them to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and to aid them with funding a management/ development role for the Federation.

As a result of this work the Federation reconstituted itself as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in April 2016 in the context of its National Federation winding up earlier this year, the continued worsening financial climate for its members, and the increasing importance of the services it provides to the communities in the area. The Federation's object is to assist its members by providing management, governance and other support. It intends in the first instance to develop information, capacity building and training resources, and joint tendering, funding applications and commissioning arrangements for the benefit of its members. It also wishes to establish a formal partnership with Carlisle City and Cumbria County Councils to help develop the contribution which its members can make to the plans for the area. The Federation is currently seeking funding to enable it to employ a Business and Development Manager to help take this work forward.

The City Council's lead officers and the Chair of the Carlisle and District Federation of Community Organisations will be attending the COSP meeting to take questions on recent changes to funding relationships, the support provided to Community Centres and the further development of the relationship with the Federation.

## **2. PROPOSALS**

**2.1** N/App

### **3. CONSULTATION**

**3.1** N/App

### **4. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

**4.1** The Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel requested an update on the current status of relationships with Community Centres and the Federation in light of changes in recent months.

**Contact Officer: Gavin Capstick**

**Ext: 7123**

**Appendices  
attached to report:**

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:**

- **None**

#### **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS/RISKS:**

**Chief Executive's -**

**Deputy Chief Executive –**

**Economic Development –**

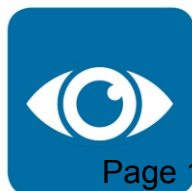
**Governance –**

**Local Environment –**

**Resources -**

# Youth Provision Carlisle and District

Cllr Niall McNulty  
COSP 13 Oct 2016



# Presentation on...

- What activities are available now for children and young people?
- How is this spread across Carlisle and District?
- How are young people involved in the City Council?
- What next?

# Youth Provision

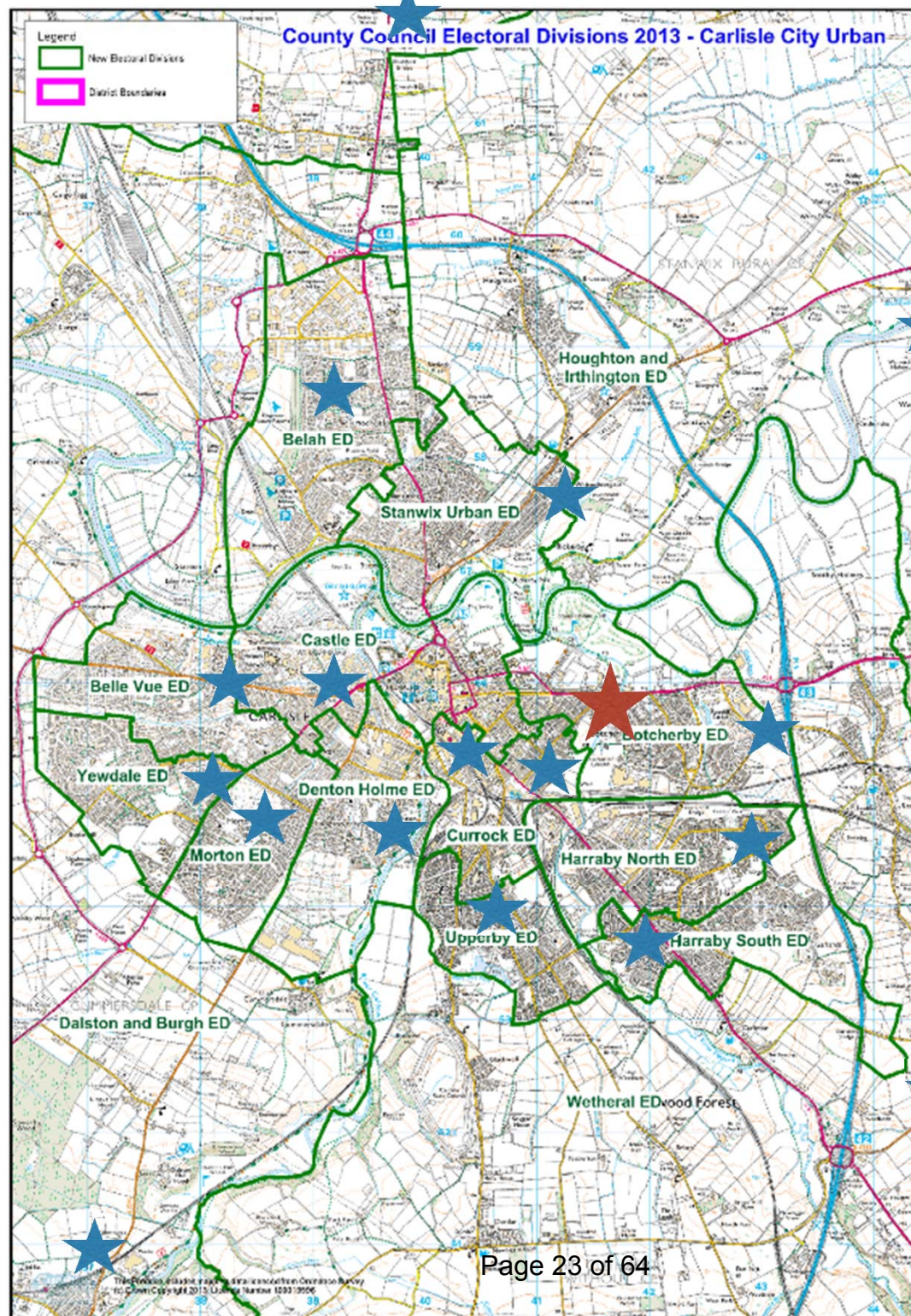
For this presentation Youth Provision comprises a range of activities that children and young people can access

- Youth Clubs
- Sports Clubs
- Activities for and with children and young people
- Projects for and with children and young people

# What activities are available now for children and young people?



**Not  
forgetting  
...Scouts,  
Cubs,  
Guides,  
Brownies,  
Sea Cadets,  
Leaders  
Cadets,  
Church  
groups,  
sports clubs**



## Youth Clubs

CYZ

Harraby Com Ctr

Petteril Bank YP

Stanwix Youth Club  
Community Reach  
St Barnabus Church  
Brampton Youth Club  
Longtown YC

Yewdale Com Ctr  
YMCA

Denton Holme Com Ctr  
Greystone Com Ctr  
Morton Com Ctr

The Rock YP  
Botcherby Com Ctr  
Dalston St Bees YC  
Wetheral YC



Area/Club	Age range	Opening Times					
		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
<b>Harraby</b>							
Harraby Community centre youth project	U12	Outreach work to take place by Petteril Bank youth project with					
Harraby Community centre youth project	11+	a view to running a weekly provision part funded by CLC					
1st Carlisle St Elizabeths (Baden Powell Scouts)							
Harraby Guides							
<b>Upperby/Currock</b>							
The Rock Youth Project	11+	5-7pm		6-8pm		7-9pm	
The Rock Youth Project	U12	3-5pm				5-7pm	
Greystone Community centre Youth Project	11+				6-8pm		
Greystone Community centre Youth Project	U12	6-8pm					
Upperby Beavers/Cubs/Scouts (Upperby Parish Hall)							
Brownies/Rainbows/Guides (Greystone Com Ctr)	U12		6-7.30pm				
Cubs/Scouts (Greystone Com Ctr)					6.30-8pm	7.30-9pm	
Petteril bank Youth Project	U12				5-7pm		
Petteril bank Youth Project	11+		7-9pm		7.30-9.30pm		
<b>Botcherby</b>							
Botcherby Com Ctr Youth Club	11+	Outreach work to take place by Petteril Bank youth project with					
Botcherby Com Ctr Youth Club	U12	a view to running a weekly provision part funded by CLC					
Carlisle Youth Zone	11+		6.30-9pm	4-9pm		6.30-10pm	6.30-10pm (15+)
Carlisle Youth Zone	U12	6.30-8.30pm			6.30-8.30pm		1.30-3.30pm
Junior Leaders Cadets							



# How are young people involved in the City Council?

# Carlisle City Council and Young People

- Consultations with young people when developing play parks
- Consultations with young people when developing Carlisle Plan priorities
- Green Spaces engaging with Carlisle Skatepark group
- Carlisle Partnership working with Carlisle Youth Council
- Town twinning Youth Exchange

*This is not an exhaustive list but some examples we are aware of*

- This has involved some young people in decision making that effects them, particularly around parks and green spaces
- It has offered the opportunity for some young people to voice their concerns about the Skatepark
- And has given some young people the chance to develop new international friendships and experience different cultures through the youth exchange

What more **do** we do?

What more **could** we do?

# Why involve young people?

- The importance of hearing views of children and young people is to involve them in their future
- Young people inherit the decisions made today
- Overview & Scrutiny Panels can play a vital role in ensuring these views influence difficult decisions about future funding of services

# What next?

With reducing resources and increasing pressures on Councils the challenge still remains on how best to serve the whole community

What next for Children and Young People and Carlisle City Council?

Should young people be involved in the development of policy or scrutiny?

Is there a role for Councillors to play?

# **YOUTH PROVISION PRESENTATION**

## **1. SUMMARY**

This report provides a brief mapping of youth provision available across Carlisle and District and highlights some of the recent work Carlisle City Council staff have done with young people. It goes on to look at why involving young people is of benefit and what might happen next.

## **2. WHAT YOUTH PROVISION IS AVAILABLE NOW**

The table and map in Appendix A is not an exhaustive list of youth provision but shows an overview of what is available across Carlisle and District. For the purposes of this presentation “Youth Provision” is seen as positive activities that are accessible to children and young people, which includes; youth clubs; sports clubs; activities or projects working with and for children and young people such as Youth Councils or Children in Care Councils.

The youth provisions listed in the table are a mixture of voluntary or self-funded groups. Some receive small amounts of funding from Cumbria County Council but are still largely reliant on additional grant funding support or volunteers.

There is no statutory requirement for youth provision but there is a great deal of willingness to provide youth clubs and activities, particularly from church based groups and uniformed organisations like the Cadets, Scouts and Guides.

Although Appendix A indicates a range of provision across the city it is liable to change as clubs face increasing challenges for funding and volunteers. The cost of promoting and raising awareness of provision is also high and most organisations get new members through word of mouth and good reputation.

## **3. CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

There is no statutory responsibility on local authorities to provide youth provision but there is a willingness from Carlisle City Council Officers to involve young people, where possible, when developing provision that benefits children and young people in the area.

This good practice can be seen in consultation work with children and young people by Green Spaces when developing play parks. Local people are consulted about what they would like to see at the park forming a development plan that gives the community some ownership and responsibility.

The involvement of Carlisle Youth Council as part of the Carlisle Partnership development provides a voice for young people and the annual youth exchange brings together 10 young people to experience new cultures and make new international friendships.

These are a few examples that we are aware of and there may be more work that the City Council does with young people to be identified.

## **4. INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE**

Carlisle City Council has a good history of involving and working with children and young people across the city. There is a willingness from current officers to continue

this good practice and an understanding how this can benefit the work and development of Carlisle City Council.

The benefits of involving young people in local government are highlighted in documents such as Tomorrows People (Appendix C) which looks at best practice for involving young people in Overview and Scrutiny. This includes being able to include and represent the views of children and young people when developing policy which has implications to them and their future. It also introduces them to the process and workings of local government.

With reducing resources and increasing pressures on Councils the challenge still remains on how best we serve the whole community. The involvement of adults or over 18s in local Government can be seen through community action groups, protest groups or through voting on election day. The involvement of children and young people may often be through youth councils, youth clubs or families and advocates. However the role of locally elected members is also a way that all groups can be represented and heard by Council.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

There are some positive developments across Carlisle and District for children and young people to access, which includes some best practice work being delivered by City Council officers. There is some work to be done to look at how to understand the current work going on and to develop this further to involve the views of Children and Young People in scrutiny and possible policy development.

**Questions for discussion** at the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel could include:

How else does Carlisle City Council involve Children and Young People?

What next for Children and Young People and Carlisle City Council?

Is there a role for Councillors to play?

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## **APPENDICES**

- Appendix A** - ***Map of Youth Provision***
- Appendix B** - ***Table of Youth Provision***
- Appendix C** - ***Tomorrows People Documents***



# County Council Electoral Divisions 2013 - Carlisle City Urban

- Legend**
- New Electoral Divisions
  - District Boundaries

- Existing clubs
- Developing clubs
- Identified gaps
- Voluntary clubs

Carlisle North  
Gaps in provision identified in  
Belah, work to be done on  
additional needs.

Carlisle South  
(west) Partnership  
2 existing providers currently working  
together and willing to look at how to  
develop a partnership approach as  
additional developing clubs come  
on board

Carlisle South (east) Partnership  
Operational plan in action (funded through Locality Our Place project)  
and those groups involved in the partnership are now working with Cumbria  
Youth Alliance on joint funding to large organisation to provide long term  
sustainable youth provision across the area every week day.



Area/Club	Age range	Opening Times					
		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
<b>Harraby South</b>							
Petteril bank Youth Project	U12				5-7pm		
Petteril bank Youth Project	11+		7-9pm		7.30-9.30pm		
Summer play scheme (Petteril Bank)		Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
<b>Harraby North</b>							
Harraby Community centre youth project	U12	Outreach work to take place by Petteril Bank youth project with					
Harraby Community centre youth project	11+	a view to running a weekly provision part funded by CLC					
1st Carlisle St Elizabeths (Baden Powell Scouts)							
Harraby Guides							
<b>Upperby/Currock</b>							
The Rock Youth Project	11+	5-7pm		6-8pm		7-9pm	
The Rock Youth Project	U12	3-5pm				5-7pm	
Greystone Community centre Youth Project	11+				6-8pm		
Greystone Community centre Youth Project	U12	6-8pm					
Upperby Beavers/Cubs/Scouts (Upperby Parish Hall)							
Brownies/Rainbows/Guides (Greystone Com Ctr)	U12		6-7.30pm				
Cubs/Scouts (Greystone Com Ctr)					6.30-8pm	7.30-9pm	
Summer play scheme (Greystone Com Ctr)		Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
Holiday Play Scheme (Currock Com Ctr)							
<b>Botcherby</b>							
Botcherby Com Ctr Youth Club	11+	Outreach work to take place by Petteril Bank youth project with					
Botcherby Com Ctr Youth Club	U12	a view to running a weekly provision part funded by CLC					
Carlisle Youth Zone	11+		6.30-9pm	4-9pm		6.30-10pm	6.30-10pm (15+)
Carlisle Youth Zone	U12	6.30-8.30pm			6.30-8.30pm		1.30-3.30pm
Summer Holiday Club (Botcherby Com Ctr)		Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
HITZ (CYZ holiday club)		Running all week and all day through most school holidays					
Junior Leaders Cadets							
<b>Denton Holme</b>							
St James Church Youth project							
Summer Play Scheme (Denton Holme Com Ctr)	U12	Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
Denton Holme Community Center		Outreach work to take place by YMCA youth project with a view to running a weekly provision part funded by					
<b>Brampton</b>							
Brampton Youth Project	11+		3-6pm		6-8pm		
Brampton Youth Project after school club					3.30-5.30pm		
Brampton Youth Project	U12		7-9pm				
Brampton Youth Project (Gilsland)		6.30-8.30 pm					
1st Brampton Scouts and Cubs							
<b>Castle</b>							
YMCA youth club (Trinity Church)					6-9pm		

Trinity Church Scouts and Cubs				7-9pm			
Trinity Church Girls Gorup					6-7pm		
Skaters Of Carlisle (SoC)				after school		1-3pm and ad hoc	
Belle Vue							
Community Reach/St Barnabas church	11+		5-6.30pm				
Community Reach/St Barnabas church	U12		6.30-9pm				
Community Reach (RRMA delivery)				after school			
James Rennie Youth Club						after school	
Morton							
Morton Community Centre		Outreach work to take place by YMCA youth project with a view to running a weekly provision part funded by					
Longtown							
Longtown Youth Club							
Summer Playscheme (Longtown)							
Summer Playscheme (Bewcastle PC & Rockcliffe PC)	U12	Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
Houghton & Irthington							
Summer PLayer scheme (Walton, Scaleby & Stanwix Rural PC)	U12	Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
2nd Carlisle Houghton & Kingmoor Scouts							
Corby & Hayton							
Cumwhitton Parish Community Partnership - Childrens activities							
1st Holme Eden Guides							
Downagate Youth Club		not running					
Dalston & Burgh							
Bees Youth Club							
Summer Playscheme (Beaumont & Burgh PC)		Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
Dalston Youth Club	mixed				6-8pm?		
Stanwix Urban							
St Michaels Youth Club/Stanwix Youth Club	mixed ages					5-8pm	
Wetheral							
Wetheral Youth Club	Mixed ages					5-8pm	
Summer play scheme (Wetheral Parish Council)		Running over 2 weeks in the summer (tbc for 2016)					
Yewdale							
Yewdale Community Centre		Outreach work to take place by YMCA youth project with a view to running a weekly provision part funded by					
Colour code explanation							
	Funded through Carlisle Local Committee Universal Youth Provision budget						

	Funded though Carlisle Local Committee Community grants budgets	
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# Tomorrow's People?

**A guide for overview and scrutiny  
committees about involving young  
people in scrutiny**



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## **Centre for Public Scrutiny**

The Centre for Public Scrutiny is an independent charity that promotes transparent, inclusive and accountable public services and supports and celebrates excellent and effective scrutiny across the public sector. We support scrutineers by producing guidance, creating networks and forums and sharing our expertise through seminars, consultancy, training and events. Our website [www.cfps.org.uk](http://www.cfps.org.uk) contains the largest on-line collection of scrutiny reviews and reports as well as other publications to tell you more about what scrutiny can do for you.

## **Local Government Group**

The LG Group is made up of six organisations:

- Local Government Association (LGA)
- Local Government Improvement and Development (LGID)
- Local Government Employers (LGE)
- Local Government Regulation (LGR)
- Local Partnerships
- Leadership Centre for Local Government

Our shared ambition is to make an outstanding contribution to the success of local government. Together we work with and on behalf of councils to:

- lobby for changes in policy and legislation
- build a strong and positive reputation for local government
- support them and their partnerships to continuously improve and be innovative.

We provide services at the national level which support and are complementary to the regional and local support provided to councils, as well as the work councils themselves undertake.

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2. Why involving young people is important	2
3. What can scrutiny contribute?	4
4. Tips for involving young people in scrutiny	5
5. Examples of involving young people in scrutiny	8
6. Further resources	15

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## 1. What this guide is about

This guide aims to help overview and scrutiny committees (OCS) understand the context and 'business case' for involving young people in decision-making and to help them be more effective in including young people in their work.

Overview and scrutiny is an essential part of ensuring that local services are effective and accountable. Scrutiny ensures that executives are held accountable for their decisions, that their decision-making process is clear and accessible to the public and that there are opportunities for the public and their representatives to influence and improve public policy.

Scrutiny is now moving into another era with community-led scrutiny of local decisions, where the public's involvement in challenging local authorities and public service providers on public service improvement and delivery is actively sought by elected representatives. In the context of this guide, constructive and ongoing involvement of young people in scrutiny helps to achieve genuine accountability for the use of public resources.

*"We've been consistently impressed by the quality of input when young people have participated or provided evidence to scrutiny sessions".  
Councillor from Westminster*

Involving young people in scrutiny provides a unique perspective on how well public services are being delivered and how they could be improved, from the point of view of their needs and aspirations for their future and that of their communities.

*"Young people often have a different view and vision to adults, and therefore need to be involved in creating a future vision". Councillor from Chesterfield*

There are several examples of overview and scrutiny committees seeking the views of young people about their experience of services planned and delivered for their age group. Examples of overview and scrutiny reviews that seek the views of young people about issues not directly related to their age group are harder to find.

The guide will help overview and scrutiny committees to play an active role in ensuring that 'what matters to young people' influences difficult decisions about the future funding of public services.



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This is not a technical guide about involvement methods and techniques that overview and scrutiny committees can use to hear from young people – guidance about involvement methods and techniques is readily available from a number of organisations (some suggestions are at the end of this guide).

## **2. Why involving young people is important**

The importance of hearing the views of children and young people is recognised internationally. For example, the United Nations Convention on Rights of the Child recognises that children who are capable of forming views should have the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting them and that their views should be given due weight depending on their age and maturity.

The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has said "youth should be given a chance to take an active part in the decision-making of local, national and global levels". In an effort to harness the energy, imagination and initiative of the world's youth in overcoming current global challenges, the United Nations proclaimed an 'International Year of Youth' starting on 12 August 2010.

In August 2010 an International Labour Organisation report (Global Employment Trends for Youth) about the effects of the global recession on young people, highlighting the heavy price paid by young people around the world. It is clear that young people around the world are on the frontline of current challenges. Although it is easy to assume that this is more prevalent abroad, it is happening in the UK too.

International initiatives to encourage greater involvement of young people in decision-making may seem altruistic and remote, but they set the context for things closer to home. For example, The Princes Trust has reported that the recession will hit hardest in deprived areas, where resources tend to be already scarce for services for young people. Further withdrawal of resources and services for young people will have a high social cost and overview and scrutiny committees can play a vital role in ensuring their views influence difficult decisions about future funding of services.

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The Children's Commissioner's report on 'children's participation in decision-making' (2010) noted three key findings:

- most children are generally dissatisfied with their level of input into decision making processes;
- most children did not accept the low status adults often accorded to children's opinions and the lack of explanation on how children's opinions had been taken into account during a decision-making process;
- even very young children can take a very rational and reasoned approach to decision-making – a finding which reiterates the importance of engaging children in participatory processes from a young age - the effect of which is to make children feel respected, valued and active citizens in a shared community.



The British Youth Council 'stronger together' (2010) report shows that enthusiastic young people can still to be found ready to make a difference where they live. It goes on to demonstrate some of the ways that they can take part as citizens both through local youth councils, and as volunteers in wider civil society.

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The period up to March 2011 and beyond is likely to see some difficult decisions being made about the way public services are planned and delivered. The UK is facing some significant challenges, for example:

- an ageing society – people living longer with more health and social care needs. At the same time the proportion of people contributing tax revenue to fund services is reducing.
- health inequalities – there are significant differences in life expectancy across the country, between areas and within cities and towns. Access to and outcomes from services are different in different places.
- economic downturn – affecting people's life chances, impacting their health, well-being and economic activity. Leading to loss of self-esteem and aspiration, relationship breakdown and personal debt.
- public sector deficit – previous levels of investment in public service reform cannot be maintained. Although health and defence spending are protected, other services will have to find significant savings over the next few years.

The outcomes from the Comprehensive Spending Review, announced on 20 October 2010, will mean that councils and their partners need to take some tough decisions about the future funding of services. For example, councils are having to find an average of 28% savings in their budgets over the next 4 years.

Young people will feel the effects of all these issues now and in the future, but they may not feel able to influence them or have confidence in how adults are planning to deal with them. Getting the views of young people is important in order to plan services for the future. This is backed up by international and national legislation, for example the Equalities Act 2010 and the Children Acts 1989 and 2004 that seek to strengthen joint working to better support children and to act in their best interests.

### **3. What can scrutiny contribute?**

In this rapidly moving political and financial environment, there is a vital role for non-executive councillors to influence decisions about planning and delivering services through councils' overview and scrutiny function.

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By hearing from people directly affected by policies and services, overview and scrutiny committees can get an understanding about the services people and communities value. Outcomes from this kind of work could add value to decision-making processes by introducing considerations of 'value', not just 'cost'.



By hearing from young people about what they value in their community and about their aspirations for the future, OSCs will be able to strengthen the evidence-base about what matters to young people, helping those who plan and deliver public services to make judgements about the best ways to achieve short term savings and longer term improvements.

Through their overview and scrutiny function, councils can use a range of creative and innovative ways to gather an evidence base about what matters to young people and how young people would like to see future services planned and delivered around their needs and aspirations.

Overview and scrutiny committees can be a powerful force for improvement and innovation at a local level. They can help councils to strengthen democracy for the future by involving young people in scrutiny as a mechanism for strengthening accountability.

Overview and scrutiny committees have a track record of involving young people in scrutiny reviews about services for young people. However, tackling the challenges ahead will require them to go beyond traditional approaches and engage young people about a much broader range of issues. At a time when difficult decisions need to be made about future funding for public services and when trust in democracy is low, involving young people in scrutiny can strengthen

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democratic legitimacy by seeking young people's views on services and issues that are not just young people focused. This can help address some of the issues facing society.

Five examples of involving young people in scrutiny of long term issues rather than 'youth specific' services are set out in this guide. Most of the case studies are taken from active Scrutiny Development Areas being supported by the Centre for Public Scrutiny to tackle deep seated issues in communities.

As well as involving young people directly in scrutiny reviews, overview and scrutiny committees can ask for young people's views about the topics committees should be covering in their work programmes and include them in monitoring implementation of their recommendations.

## 4. Tips for involving young people in scrutiny

Think about what you ask young people to do (definitions from Save the Children):

**Participation** refers to taking an active role in a project or a process. By participating, young people have the power to help shape the outcome.

**Consultation** means listening to young people's views and giving them feedback.

**Involvement** describes the variety of ways in which young people participate and are consulted.

Think about how young people will do this:

**Who to involve** - young people of all ages can be involved. It may help to work with people with skills and experience (e.g. youth workers, teachers) as intermediaries, depending on the age or special need of the young people.

**Recruit representatives** - young people meeting regularly with a specific role can help build relationships but maintaining the same group for a long period of time could be difficult and might not capture 'quiet voices'.

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**Talk to existing groups** - planning around communities' needs by talking to existing groups can break down barriers, but it can be difficult to feedback to everyone.

**Hold a one off event** - a quick way to hear views but be creative about how you can best attract young people. If you are only meeting once, how will you feedback what has happened to the ideas?

**Young mentors or young researchers** - young people respond to other young people. Using young mentors can help make connections and break down barriers. To get a young person's perspective of services, think about using young researchers.

**Use social media** - young people regularly use the internet and mobile technology to communicate. Think about how you can use these tools to inform and gather views.

**A range of methods and styles** – success usually means using a range of ways depending on who you want to reach and the time available. For example, the case study about work in Sefton shows how very young people can be engaged.

Be clear and honest about the role of young people in the review

Make the process fun and positive as this will get the best out of young people

Be creative so that you hear as many voices as possible

Respect the ideas you hear and always feedback

Think about venues, appropriate times of the day/academic year and transport

Don't rely only on traditional methods

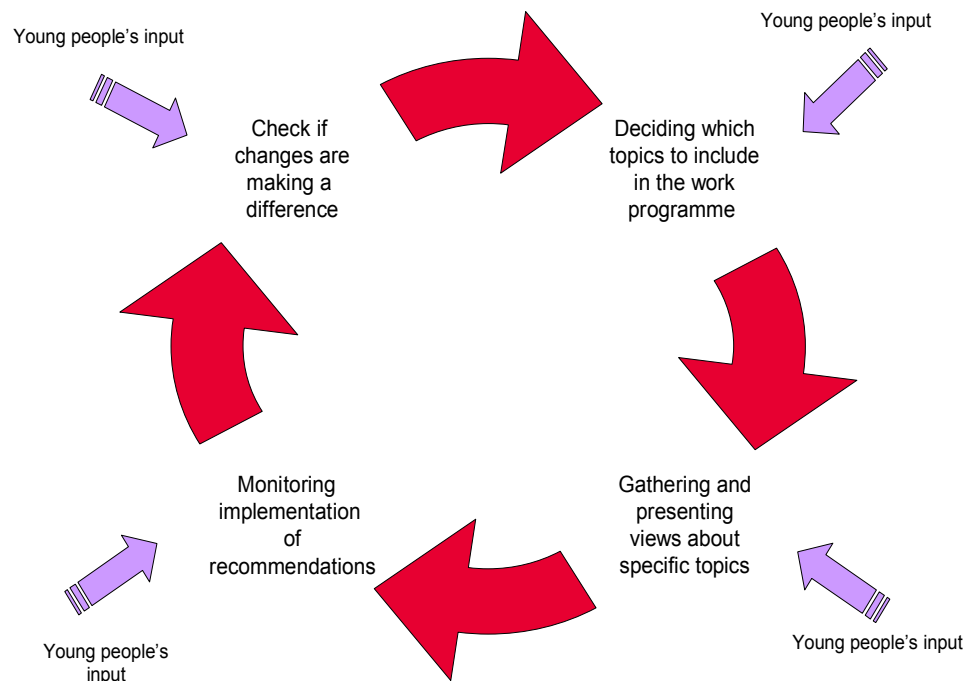
Demonstrate the difference to the decision or service that has happened due to their involvement

Always consider child protection



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There are opportunities to involve young people throughout the whole 'scrutiny cycle', as illustrated in the diagram;



## 5. Examples of involving young people in scrutiny

### *Chesterfield*

Chesterfield's Health Profile for 2009 indicated a life expectancy for men and women living in Chesterfield significantly lower than the England average. This is particularly stark in the Rother community. Chesterfield wanted to take a different approach to understanding and supporting these communities. As part of a wider project supported by the Centre for Public Scrutiny, Chesterfield are helping to develop techniques that can be used across the country to understand and tackle deep seated health inequalities.

An Appreciative Inquiry<sup>1</sup> (AI) approach is helping to develop a model of scrutiny which identifies 'what works' and how to improve services by building on what works. The review brings providers and residents together so that they know what they can build on to create a future both agencies and local people have jointly agreed they want.

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<sup>1</sup> AI aims to identify 'what works' in communities, rather than trying to fix 'what doesn't.' Instead of focusing on gaps and problems, AI focuses on how to build on what exists that is already

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Young people from Parkside School in Rother told their stories about what is good about Rother at a community event which was a central aspect of the scrutiny project.

“Young people are playing an important part in sharing aspirations and designing a better future for their area”, explained Councillor Jane Collins, Chair of the Health Inequalities Scrutiny Committee. “Young people often have a different view and vision to adults, and therefore need to be involved in creating a future vision and encouraged to be involved in making it happen, whilst also learning from the experiences of adults. Young people are being involved and empowered to help shape their own futures and happiness. Ultimately, as indicated by the Marmot Review, health and wellbeing is influenced by how happy people are - not just how long people live but their quality of life”.

Two young people who took part, Sophie and Megan, report that they felt proud to be involved and pleased that community representatives listened to what they had to say and were very interested. They really enjoyed sharing their stories and the experience of addressing the community at the event which gave them added confidence and they enjoyed and felt valued to be part of this community work.

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## **Westminster**

Involving young people adds value and Councillors decided to create a Young People’s Scrutiny Panel. This is Westminster’s first scrutiny group made up entirely of young people, consisting of 8-15 young people aged between 16-19, supported by staff from Youth Services and the Member Services scrutiny team.

This Panel is running until early summer 2011, reporting back to the full Children and Young People Policy and Scrutiny Committee. This will not replace the existing ways in which young people are involved in the democratic function of the Council – in fact it will help to enhance their involvement and help to raise the profile of young people’s views.

In addition to influencing the Council and partner’s work, there will be personal development gains for young people. Supported by officers, during their reviews they will develop new skills in research and evidence collection, running meetings, learning how services are



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delivered via site visits, interview skills and presentation techniques, report writing and many more key skills. The Panel will meet senior politicians and officers and organise its own press coverage. The young people will produce a report which will be presented to the Children and Young People Policy and Scrutiny Committee for consideration before going to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

Facilitators have run a session on local services, asking how the young people perceive Westminster and what their positive and negative experiences are of living in the borough. From the feedback, they were able to prioritise issues they might want to investigate. Officers are now identifying ways to develop a wider network to keep all young people up to date about the Panel's work.

Cllr Ian Adams, Chairman of the Children and Young People Policy and Scrutiny Committee, says "we've been consistently impressed by the quality of input when young people have participated or provided evidence to scrutiny sessions, so we thought it was high time for them to be given a chance to set their own agenda for scrutiny. Young people are often more informed than they are given credit for and can offer valuable alternative viewpoints on key issues.

The fact that scrutiny could also contribute to the personal development of young people at the same time made it a simple win-win scenario. Having it count toward the service element of the Duke of Edinburgh award is definitely a big bonus in terms of providing an incentive to participate and giving something back to those involved".

Two young people involved in the review commented that;

*"the Panel is a brilliant opportunity to express what we feel is important and to scrutinise what we want changed and improved"*

*"I joined the Panel to contribute to my community and make a difference".*

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## Hillingdon

As various levels of crime continue to increase, the need for public surveillance has become an essential tool for public safety. Hillingdon were keen to carry out a review of public perceptions of CCTV, including the views of different parts of the community. Evidence showed a general consensus in favour of CCTV but the Overview and Scrutiny Committee identified a significant number of changes and potential improvements that were recommended to Cabinet.

Two members of the Youth Council took part in one of the Committee meetings, explaining that they believed many of the crimes caught on CCTV were directly linked to alcohol and drug abuse by young people. Members talked directly to more young people to find out how much young people knew about CCTV use in the borough, whether they felt CCTV surveillance was directed at young people and if they would welcome the increased use of surveillance or whether they would feel victimised.

The Committee learned that contacting young people to gain their views was very useful when undertaking scrutiny reviews as they provide scrutiny reviews with a different perspective on the topic at hand. Members expressed their delight with the way that the young people presented their evidence and would work with them again on future projects. Furthermore, the young people can get their views across and gain experience of sitting in on Committee meetings.

Young people involved in the review commented that:

*"I thought it was going to be a daunting task – but this was not the case, I was happy to contribute"*

*"It was nice that someone had actually taken how young people felt into consideration as some young people felt victimised by surveillance".*

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## Salford

Salford identified smoking as the greatest cause of deaths associated with health inequalities. From previous work using Appreciative Inquiry (AI), they had identified that local health cultures may be detrimental to health equity, and were determined to do something about it, starting from the evidence that the decrease in smoking prevalence is due to the increase in people who have never or occasionally smoked rather than the proportion of people who have given up.

It decided to use the AI approach again, starting with communities rather than services and involve the whole system – e.g. service providers, partners etc. in Walkden, an area with high smoking prevalence. It was discovered that people who have never become regular smokers identified as non-smokers before the age of 20. Young people are playing an essential role in the inquiry - non-smoking youngsters from two local high schools, a training project and STA-MP (Salford Tobacco Action - Mission Possible) a young people's group who campaign on tobacco issues. The inquiry aims to paint a more visible and positive picture of the lives of non smokers in the local community, young people saying they want to shape their lives differently from smoking peers or family members.

The OSC ran the 'Big Conversation', providing space for local people to celebrate their success stories and agree a vision for the future for Walkden. The event included local residents covering a wide age range, people from local businesses and front-line workers as well as managers, councillors and many others. People came from community and voluntary sector groups, the council, health services, the police and fire services. There were several young people at the event – and as the day went on you could see how the young people were increasingly shaping the vision for the future of their community. One young resident said it was 'nice to be asked. It is good someone is asking us for a change'.

Judith Emanuel an expert in AI and support consultant to the committee explains;

*“We used a whole system approach and got everyone together to talk about Winning Ways in Walkden, a title chosen by a local woman. It was extraordinary how different the story was if you start from what works. We got some amazing stories from young people who are successful non-smokers against unbelievable odds - like the young woman who could sing and told everyone she did not smoke to save*

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*her voice. Having the young people there made an enormous difference to how we all behaved. The whole group identified in their vision that they wanted young people's solutions to be respected and acted on. That is not to say that young people are the only people who should be involved, their communities are important too".*

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01617933324

## **Sefton**

Sefton has affluent areas sitting next to deprived communities. The OSC wanted to contextualise what they already know about the area by looking at how families lead their lives – e.g. what they eat, where they go and what they do. They also wanted to understand what works well, what could be better and what their future aspirations are. The aim of the review is to find out whether support and community networks beyond traditional health services impacted upon health outcomes. They described this as the 'glue' of how we live our lives.

The OSC wanted to move beyond 'data' to 'insight through experience' and adopted a community engagement approach through three primary schools. Working with primary age children is new for Sefton, helping to gain insight into the experiences of local families through the lens of pupils aged 5 and 6, working with the voluntary, community and faith sector. Year 1 and Year 2 children are still relatively immune to health marketing messages that perhaps may have influenced the participation and feedback from older children.

To facilitate innovative and active involvement, a local community artist was commissioned, who through a creative arts project 'Me, My Life and My Community' engaged the children in re-creating their daily lives, using a large dolls house with four separate scenes; home, school, community and aspirations. Children were invited to create characters to fill the dolls house re-enacting their family and community life. A range of techniques were used to gain insight into the lives of families such as drawing of self portraits, pass the parcel games, creating figures and characters which all culminated in an exhibition of work and a celebration event in schools for the children, their families and the elected members.

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Members have already seen some early benefits in terms of developing understanding and insight into what impacts on health outcomes. Early outcomes from the work have indicated that social networks, local institutions such as school, after school activities, the lollipop lady and the police are key features in their quality of life. Whilst some children lived in lone parent households both parents and extended families featured greatly in their lives and pictures, which the children all celebrated in their work and games. Schools, particularly primary schools, are at the heart of our communities and we need to build on these community assets to deliver improved outcomes for our population.

*“I have been involved in this Review from the outset as a local Vicar who was concerned about the health of the local community. Seeing daily the negative impact that poor health can have on families, and having to support families that have experienced the early death of a key adult from things that might have been avoidable, I know that this has an impact on the whole community. I am committed to learning from what our children tell us so that we can develop plans that seek to tackle health inequalities in a different way”*

Canon Roger Driver

Debbie Campbell, Overview and Scrutiny Officer  
Debbie.campbell@legal.sefton.gov.uk  
01519342254

## **Hackney**

During a recent review of 'Estate Safety and Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour', London Borough of Hackney wanted to address the perception that most anti-social behaviour is caused by kids hanging out and being intimidating. The Scrutiny Commission wanted to understand what young people's views were - notably what their own fears were, what sort of anti-social behaviour most affected them, and how we could improve reporting methods?

Recognising that a bunch of councillors and officers in suits wielding a survey was unlikely to gain the best output from young people on housing estates, the OSC worked closely with the Hackney Youth Parliament, who then took the questionnaires onto the streets and in to youth clubs. The response from young people was far better than could have been achieved without their involvement. Views from the Youth Parliament itself were useful too. A significant amount of

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preparation went in to it from the Scrutiny side, including a full Saturday session with the Youth Parliament to draft the survey and plan the approach to gaining feedback. We also needed to balance other pressures on young people's time with the need to meet the Scrutiny Commission's tight reporting deadlines.

We were fortunate that the Youth Parliament had already received some consultation training, and working closely with the council's Youth Services meant we could rely on the support of enthusiastic staff who, importantly, already had relevant Criminal Records Bureau checks.

*Matt Clack, Overview and Scrutiny Officer*  
*matt.clack@hackney.gov.uk*  
*020883563341*

## 6. Further resources

British Youth Council - [www.byc.org.uk](http://www.byc.org.uk)

Children's Commissioner - [www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

Children's Workforce Development Council - [www.cwdcouncil.org.uk](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk)

Hear by Right - [www.nya.org.uk/quality/hear-by-right/about-hear-by-right](http://www.nya.org.uk/quality/hear-by-right/about-hear-by-right)

Involve - [www.involve.org.uk](http://www.involve.org.uk)

International Labour Organisation – [www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org)

Local Government Improvement and Development – [www.idea.gov.uk/empowerment](http://www.idea.gov.uk/empowerment)

Participation Works Partnership - [www.participationworks.org.uk](http://www.participationworks.org.uk)

People and Participation – [www.peopleandparticipation.net](http://www.peopleandparticipation.net)

Prince's Trust - [www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk)

Save the Children - [www.savethechildren.net](http://www.savethechildren.net)



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# Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Agenda  
Item:  
**A.4**

Meeting Date: 13 October 2016  
Portfolio: Cross Cutting  
Key Decision: No  
Within Policy and  
Budget Framework  
Public / Private Public

Title: OVERVIEW REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME  
Report of: Overview and Scrutiny Officer  
Report Number: OS.20/16

## Summary:

This report provides an overview of matters related to the CommunityO&SPanel's work. It also includes the latest version of the work programme.

## Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

- Note and/or amend the Panel's work programme

Contact Officer: Sarah Mason Ext: 7053

Appendices attached to report: 1. Community O&S Panel Work Programme 2016/17

## **1. Notice of Key Executive Decisions**

The most recent Notice of Key Executive Decisions was published on 23 September 2016. This was circulated to all Members. The following items fall into the remit of this Panel:

### **KD.20/16 Tullie House Business Plan**

The Executive will be asked to consider the Tullie House Business Plan. It will be referred to this Panel for consideration prior to making recommendations to Council.

This will be considered by this Panel on 24 November.

### **KD.21/16 Budget Process 2017/18**

The Executive will be asked to consider strategic financial issues arising from the budget setting process.

This will be considered by this Panel on 24 November.

## **2. References from the Executive**

There are no references from the Executive 26 September.

## **3. Work Programme**

The Panel's current work programme is attached at **Appendix 1**.

Members are asked to note and/or amend the Panel's work programme and in particular consider the framework for the next meeting.

The following items are currently scheduled for the next meeting on 24 November 2016:

- Performance Monitoring Report
- Budget proposals for 2016/17
- Greenwich Leisure Limited annual performance report
- Tullie House Business Plan
- Riverside – future of Divisional Board
- New Housing Strategy

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None**

# COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

## Appendix 1

Issue  Contact Officer	Type of Scrutiny						Comments/status	Meeting Dates							
	Performance Management	Key Decisions Item/Referred from Executive	Policy Review/Development	Scrutiny of Partnership/ External Agency	Monitoring	Budget		9 Jun 16	21 Jul 16	1 Sep 16	13 Oct 16	24 Nov 16	12 Jan 17	16 Feb 17	6 Apr 17
CURRENT MEETING – 13 October 2016															
Community Centre and Federation Update Gavin Capstick							Future of CCs. Item in partnership with the Carlisle & District Federation of Community Organisations				✓				
Youth Provision in Carlisle and District Cllr Niall McNulty							Discussion on current provision for youth in Carlisle and District and where the Council might like to go in terms of Young People Services.				✓				
TASK AND FINISH GROUPS															
Youth							Initial look at current provision for youth in Carlisle.								

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Mental Health							Suggested topic. Panel to decide the purpose of scrutiny of the issues and where focus should lie in order to gain maximum value.								
FUTURE ITEMS															
CSP Strategic Assessment Gavin Capstick				✓			Presentation of the new Strategic Assessment that informs that Partnership Plan.						?		
Community Partnerships							Actions and performance of partnerships								
Domestic Violence							Issues and provision for victims of DV							?	
Citizens Advice Bureau and Law Centre															
New Leisure contract procurement Gavin Capstick							Update of procurement process. New timescale.			✓		<div></div>			

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Flood Update Report Darren Crossley					✓		Update on flood recovery programme	✓		✓					
Performance Monitoring Reports Gary Oliver	✓						Reporting of performance relevant to remit of Panel	✓		✓		✓		✓	
Arts Centre Gavin Capstick	✓						Performance of the Arts Centre								
Budget setting 2017/18-2021/22 Alison Taylor		✓	✓				Consideration of service implications					✓			
Greenwich Leisure Ltd Gavin Capstick				✓			Annual Performance Report					✓			
Tullie House Business Plan Gavin Capstick				✓			Annual scrutiny of Tullie House Business Plan					✓			
Housing Strategy Jeremy Hewitson			✓				To consider the new Housing Strategy					✓			

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Riverside Jane Meek				✓			Engage with Riverside regarding future of Divisional Board. New Divisional Director Sarah Paton to attend this meeting.					✓			
Riverside Annual Report Jeremy Hewitson				✓			Monitoring progress and developments of joint working. To include Impact and Two Castles Housing Associations.						✓		
Response to Welfare Reform Mark Lambert				✓			Overview of partnership working in response to the Welfare Reform agenda. To invite Board members from other organisations at next update (in 2016/17)							✓	

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Customer Services Jill Gillespie	✓						Performance of the new web-site / coping with the flood / future of CRM and customer services (smarter services)								✓
Scrutiny Annual Report O&S Officer			✓		✓		Draft report for comment before Chairs Group								✓
COMPLETED ITEMS															
Homeless Hostel Service Structure (Supporting People) Tammie Rhodes							How the Council is addressing the changes to the Supporting People Contract.	✓							
Annual Equality Report 2015/16 and Equality Action Plan 2016/17 Rebecca Tibbs		✓					Monitoring of Equality activity and consideration of Equality Action Plan for 2016/17		✓						
Housing and Planning Bill Jeremy Hewitson							Presentation on the impact of the Bill on delivery of Carlisle’s housing needs.		✓						

# COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

## Appendix 1

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								9 Jun 16	21 Jul 16	1 Sep 16	13 Oct 16	24 Nov 16	12 Jan 17	16 Feb 17	6 Apr 17	
Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20 Tammie Rhodes				✓			Progress made in year one of the Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20 in relation to the priority actions.		✓							
INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS																
Details								Date Circulated								