

**NORTH YORKSHIRE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

18 MAY 2009

**RAISING EXPECTATIONS: ENABLING THE SYSTEM TO DELIVER /
MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT – UPDATE**

1.0 Key Points

This report provides a summary of progress made since the last report to the CYPSPB in relation to this issue (on 19 January 2009). It then describes some of the work in hand and still to do.

2.0 Recommendations

That CYPSPB notes progress to date and work still to do.

3.0 Background and Update

3.1 Previous reports to the CYPSPB have described some of the major changes underway nationally and locally to improve learning, training and skills for 14-19 year olds. In summary:

- The Statutory Framework is being changed so that by 2013 all young people will continue learning or training when they are 17, and the options available to them will have to include all the 17 diplomas proposed. The objective is to have good quality provision which meets learners' and economic needs. The recognised challenge is to achieve that in an affordable, sustainable way.
- The Government is making changes to the arrangements for planning, funding and monitoring provision for learning and training for 16-19 year olds. The changes are referred to as the Machinery of Government (MOG).
- Under the changes, Local Authorities will become responsible for commissioning learning and training provision for all 16-19 year olds and young adults with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LDD). Authorities will work collaboratively with providers locally and with one another sub-regionally, to achieve the balance of provision required.

Full implementation is expected by September 2010.

3.2 The programme of change is well underway but will accelerate over the next few months. The phase 2 submission for a sub-regional grouping, SRG, including North Yorkshire, York, East Riding and Hull was submitted by the end of February to Government Office / DCFS. A final and formal response is awaited but an initial assessment by GO was positive. The issues identified by the GO assessment were either about the provision of additional information or evidence to support the bid or about some additional work to do (which had largely already been scheduled). The Chief Officers' group and the Operational Group are continuing to meet to ensure that this work is completed in accordance with the likely timescales required and indeed to go beyond that in scheduling a programme of work for the forthcoming year. Links to other Local Authorities and SRGs to the west and north of the county

are being developed to ensure unrestricted movement of youngsters across county boundaries.

Within the Children and Young People's Directorate of North Yorkshire, this new area of responsibility will lie within the Learning, Youth and Skills Service Group and be lead by the Assistant Director, Chris McGee. Clearly, there is additional capacity required within that Service Group and the Directorate more generally to cope with this new set of responsibilities. Much of this will come from the transfer of LSC staff by Statutory Transfer Order. Discussions are on-going at national, regional and local level about this but we have recently been advised that eleven staff (or resources equivalent to eleven staff) will transfer in due course. We should be clearer about which staff will transfer by mid June and, at that stage, it will be necessary to re-visit the provisional staffing structure that has been identified. Discussions are also taking place at a regional and sub-regional level about any specialist roles that may transfer and whether they may take on a sub-regional role under the new arrangements. We have expressed concerns about that in terms of the potential to reduce the capacity available to North Yorkshire and / or a potential for a lack of clarity around accountabilities to individual Local Authorities.

- 3.4 As previously reported, the 14-19 Partnership has been reconfigured as the Strategic Commissioning Group - constitutionally a sub-group of the CYPSP Board. However, there is concern that, not least because its membership is dominated by providers, this group cannot function as a commissioning group. Its relationship with other groups, particularly at a local level needs some further clarity and therefore a review of the arrangements is underway.
- 3.5 A conference was held on 6 February 2009 to give stakeholders across the county (and beyond) the opportunity to be involved shaping the arrangements to be put in place in North Yorkshire and the wider sub-region. It was well-attended by:
- Heads of all Secondary Schools across North Yorkshire
 - Representatives of FE and 6th Form Colleges in North Yorkshire and York and Darlington
 - NYBEP
 - DCSs in Neighbouring LAs
 - Some employers
- 3.6 Further progress reports will be made to the CYPSPB over the next year.

Report prepared by Chris McGee, Assistant Director (Learning Youth and Skills).

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