

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

11th October, 2010

PRESENT – Councillor Long (in the Chair); Councillors Curry, Davies, Francis, Galletley, J. Lyonette and Richmond. (7)

APOLOGIES – Councillors Burton, Cossins and Lister; Mr. R. Egan, Mr. D. Moyes and Ms. Lund.

ALSO – The Mayor; Councillor Hughes (Cabinet Member); Ada Burns, Chief Executive and representative pupils from various Primary Schools within the Borough.

NON-STATUTORY CO-OPTES –Mr. N. Rees and Mr. C. Taylor. (2)

ABSENT – Councillor Armstrong, The Ven. Bain, Mr. M. Frank, Mrs. V. Mitchell and Mr. T. Fisher.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Murray Rose, Director, George McQueen, Assistant Director (Planning and Resources), Wendy Ripley, Assistant Director (Schools Improvement and Development) within the Department of Children’s Services; and Paula Jamieson, Sustainable Development Officer, Chief Executive’s Department.

CYP26. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR – RESOLVED – That Councillor Long be appointed Chair for the purposes of this meeting only.

CYP27. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

CYP28. CARBON MANAGEMENT – The Director of Children’s Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to provide a discussion point with the pupils the problems associated with increasing level’s of carbon in the earth’s atmosphere and what we can try to do to alleviate the problems.

Paula Jamieson gave a presentation on the submitted report which outlined what carbon is and where it is found; what produces carbon and the balance between levels of carbon stored in the geological carbon cycle and the biological carbon cycle by increasing CO2 levels; what the greenhouse effect is; what will happen if we do nothing about the increased levels of carbon; what is happening in Darlington; and what is a Carbon Footprint.

Following the presentation the children split into groups to discuss their thoughts on ways to save energy within their schools and these were later shared and discussed with the Members.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

CYP29. PROGRESS ON THE DARLINGTON KEYSTAGE 2 TO 3 SCHOOLS TRANSITION PROGRAMME – The Director of Children’s Services submitted a report

(previously circulated) to outline existing provision and planning developments for school pupil transition from Key Stage 2 to 3.

In Summer 2008, 11 Transition Action Groups (TAG) were initiated in order to improve the transition experiences for pupils in Darlington moving from their primary to secondary schools and the submitted report gave details of the progress made to date by the Action Groups and outlining the next steps for transition development.

Murray Rose undertook an exercise with the pupils to gauge their worries in relation to the transition from Key Stage 2 to 3 and the things that they were looking forward to. It was established that the young peoples main worries were getting lost in their new schools and bullying however most were looking forward to meeting new people and new challenges. The views of the pupils will be taken on board to be fed into the transition strategy.

RESOLVED – That the report and views of the young people be noted.