

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

12th October, 2009

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

**APOLOGIES** – Councillors Davies, Lister, Nicholson and Richmond; Mr. T. Fisher, Mr. B. Egan, Mr. C. Taylor, Mr. D. Moyes and Mr. Frank.

**ALSO** – The Mayor; Councillor Chapman (Cabinet Member) and Councillor Dunstone; and representative pupils from various Primary Schools within the Borough.

**NON-STATUTORY CO-OPTEES** – Mr. N. Rees. (1)

**ABSENT** – Councillor Armstrong, Canon S. Bamber, Mrs. V. Mitchell, Ms. S. Robinson (3)

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE** – Murray Rose, Director, George McQueen, Assistant Director (Planning and Resources), Andrew Dunn, Assistant Director (School Improvement and Development), Lynne Henderson, Early Years, Childcare and Sure Start Service, all within the Department of Children's Services; Norma Sheppard, Road Safety Officer within the Community Services Department; and Nigel Potter, Groundworks.

**CYP30. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

### **CYP31. 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.

The Director of Children's Services and the Assistant Director (School Improvement and Development) 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 most were looking forward to meeting new people. The views of the pupils will be fed into the next Transition Conference.

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

**CYP32. ROAD SAFETY** – The Director of Community Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to inform Members of the actions that the Council carry out in order to

improve the standard of road safety, with particular reference to pedestrian training activities for Primary aged children.

The submitted report provided an overview of the efforts made by this authority to reduce road traffic casualties, what measures are undertaken, the pedestrian training initiatives and sought the views of the young persons thereon.

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

**CYP33. PLAY STRATEGY** – The Director of Children’s Services submitted a report (previously circulated) to update Members of the work taking place to improve opportunities for Play in Darlington.

Officers were seeking the views of the pupils on how they would like to see the £1,128,558, which has been made available to Darlington over 2 years 2009/10 and 2010/11 to develop 22 play areas, being spent. This money will also include the refurbishment of existing sites.

It was reported that consultation with children, families and local communities has been very extensive and very specific to local areas and as part of the contract with Groundwork, consultation is the starting point for each individual project.

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