

**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2007

Present: Councillors Mrs Y R T Clarkson (Chair); Mrs M Docherty; G Garrity; A Jacob; J Kane; A Mossop; C Whiteside; D Wilson.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Cole, Mrs A Faichney, M McVeigh and J Park.

Officers: N White, Scrutiny Support Officer; P Robson, Accountant.

CYPHC 08/07 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 2007 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CYPHC 09/07 Community Policing

The Committee received a presentation from Sergeant Gary Armstrong, Supervisor of Cumbria Constabulary Whitehaven Community Policing Team on the work of the Community Support Officers.

The Committee was informed that the Whitehaven team consisted of 6 Police and 8 Community Policing Support Officers that covered Whitehaven and some of the outlying areas.

The Committee noted that in the last three months significant reductions had been made in the overall crime figures and in specific areas through the work of the community policing officers. The Committee requested that those figures be made available to the committee along with the previous year's figures to show a comparison.

The Committee was further informed that the telephone number to contact the community policing team for non urgent matters was 0845 3300247 and felt that this number was not widely known and it should be promoted more to the general public.

RESOLVED – that (A) Cumbria Constabulary be requested to provide figures on the reductions in crime achieved by the community policing team in Whitehaven over the last three months as compared to last year's figures, and

(B) Cumbria Constabulary be requested to promote the telephone number for the community policing team for non urgent matters so that it is more widely known.

CYPHC 10/07 Concessionary Fares

The Committee considered a report on the council's concessionary travel scheme.

The Committee noted that the final budgetary outturn for the concessionary travel schemes for 2006/07 showed a saving against budget of £25,700 of which £25,000 was approved to be carried forward to assist in supporting the introduction of the county wide statutory scheme.

The Committee further noted that based on current usage, the projected out-turn for 2007/08 showed a potential overspend of £142,000 against the approved budget, including the £25,700 that was brought forward. The reason for this potential overspend was due to an increase in the usage of the statutory NoWcard scheme.

The Committee considered three scenarios for usage on the concessionary travel schemes in 2008/09. These scenarios measured against the 2007/08 approved base budget showed that the budget could be overspent between £180,000 and £400,000 with the most likely overspend being in the region of £240k.

The Committee agreed that a task and finish group should be established to consider:

1. how the budgetary overspend for concessionary travel can be reduced in this financial year; and
2. what lessons can be learned from this review for future years.

The Committee further agreed that the membership of the group should consist of Councillors Mrs Yvonne Clarkson, Peter Connolly, Michael McVeigh, Chris Whiteside with Councillor Alan Jacob as a substitute. Councillor Elaine Woodburn should be invited to the meetings of the group as a co-opted non voting member.

RESOLVED – that (A) a task and finish group be established to consider:

1. how the budgetary overspend for concessionary travel can be reduced in this financial year; and
2. what lessons can be learned from this review for future years.

(B) the membership of the task and finish group should be Councillors Mrs Yvonne Clarkson, Peter Connolly, Michael McVeigh, Chris Whiteside with Councillor Alan Jacob as a substitute. Councillor Elaine Woodburn should be invited to the meetings of the group as a co-opted non voting member.

CYPHC 11/07 Work Plan

The Committee considered its current work plan.

RESOLVED – that the work plan be noted.

The Meeting Closed at 15:10.

Signed:.....

Date:.....