



# The Children and Young People's Plan 2009 - 2012 for the City of York



YORK

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# Introduction

## Welcome to the third Children and Young People's Plan for the City of York.

Every Local Authority has to produce a Children & Young People's Plan by law but we hope that this is not a dry and boring document: we want it to be readable and accessible. We have tried hard to make sure that it reflects the realities of growing up in York. It is a great place – we all know that – but perhaps we sometimes need to remind ourselves that not every young person has a positive experience. This Plan will help us to make further progress by focusing all of our efforts on the things that are really important and which we know will make a difference.

Its production has been the responsibility of the YorOK Board, and its content reflects the voices of hundreds of professionals, residents and, in particular, children and young people in York. It takes account of Government policies, as well as many other local strategic plans from the partners and agencies with whom we work. As part of the preparation for writing it, we also went through all of the facts and figures that show how we are performing in York, and we listened carefully to what external inspectors, such as Ofsted, have told us.

Plans like this have to strike a balance between what can realistically be achieved and what we would all want to do if we had unlimited resources. Most of the ideas in this document have been carefully considered and costed, but we have also allowed ourselves to dream a little, not least because that is what the people of York did when we asked them what they wanted.

The YorOK Board will be relentless in ensuring that the actions to which we have committed ourselves really do deliver better outcomes for local children and young people. We challenge all of you who work with them – individuals and organisations – to support us in this journey by engaging with the priorities identified in this Plan. In a beautiful, historic city such as York we may sometimes need reminding that its people, and in particular its children and young people, really are its greatest potential assets. Let us continue to make a difference to their lives and to their futures.

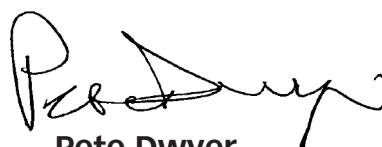
"I think York is an excellent place to be parents and children: parenting skills courses, great schools, York Arts Academy, great governance service, consultation forums and funding bids - YorkKash, multi-agency working, excellent LA. Carry on consulting, not being complacent, and monitoring progress!"

## And for the children and young people of York – please carry on dreaming!



**Cllr. Carol Runciman**

Acting Chair of the YorOK Board &  
Executive Member for Children's Services



**Pete Dwyer**

Director, Learning, Culture &  
Children's Services