



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 5 July 2007

Subject: Young People's Scrutiny Forum – Catching the Bus

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To determine how to take forward the issues contained within the Young People's Scrutiny Forum report 'Catching the Bus'.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 In June 2006 Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) asked the Youth Council to suggest a topic of importance to young people which could be the subject of a scrutiny inquiry undertaken by young people on behalf of the board.
- 2.2 The Youth Council chose transport and a Young People's Scrutiny Forum was then created to carry out this inquiry.
- 2.3 In order to involve as wide a range of young people as possible, it was decided to invite young people from ROAR (Reach out and Reconnect) to join the forum. As a result the Young People's Scrutiny Forum consisted of young people who had volunteered from both the Youth Council and from ROAR.
- 2.4 In September 2006 the Young People's Scrutiny Forum met for the first time and decided to concentrate its inquiry on bus services in Leeds.
- 2.5 The Young People's Scrutiny Forum concluded its deliberations on 8th March 2007 and its report was approved by Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) on 19th April 2007. A copy of its final report has been circulated to members separately.

- 2.6 The initial responses to the recommendations contained within the report from First Bus, Metro, the Director of Children's Services and the Youth Council/ROAR are attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.7 The board must now determine how to take forward the monitoring of the recommendations bearing in mind the need to involve young people who were involved in the Forum's work and the Youth Council/ROAR.
- 2.8 It is suggested that an appropriate way forward might be to set up a working group to include Members, young people and officers to monitor progress and help develop a response to the concerns outlined in the report.
- 2.9 If this proposal is agreed, the working group would need to meet outside of school hours to ensure that young people can attend.

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 That the board set up a working group to include Members, young people and officers to monitor progress and help develop a response to the concerns outlined in the report.