

YHN/CVS Branch Committee Update – November 2013.

YHN - Welfare Reform Review Update

The recruitment process is continuing smoothly with Senior Management appointments now made, Y9 and Y8 vacancies also recruited to. Deadline for next round of recruitment at Y7 level was Monday 25th November. Around 20 VR requests have been agreed. So far still on target to be completed for April 2014.

Options Appraisal

Lots of publicity recently over leaked reports stating that NCC have already decided to bring back the management of the Housing Revenue account under Council control with the potential transfer of YHN Finance staff. NCC state no decision has yet been made and that full consultation will take place. Causing great uncertainty for YHN staff – potential for other teams to be brought back in-house, what would happen to Byker Trust, would YHN Board still have a meaningful purpose, would result of further consultation lead to YHN being brought back in-house etc.?

Currently in discussions with management over potential changes to roles in Community Care Alarm Service and Sheltered Warden Service. Proposal is to add personal care to duties and responsibilities to confirm care quality Commission accreditation. Following consultation proposal has been dropped from Warden role but discussions are on-going with CCAS members.

TWAM

Some minor changes to weekend opening hours at the Great North Museum and Discovery have been consulted and agreed on.

Tyne Tunnel

As reported at last month's Branch Committee members have been balloted on change from archaic 7 on 2 off shift pattern to 12 hour four on four off – result of ballot was 75% in favour of the new shifts from a 100% (!!!) turnout. The new shift patterns will be implemented at the end of March 2014.

Derek Muse