

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
19 May 2007

**ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

Chairman's Statement

The Committee has met once since my last Statement, on 25 April 2007, when the agenda included:

1. **Annual report of the Council's Historic Environment (Heritage) Champion.** - A presentation by County Councillor Heather Garnett on key heritage issues, with particular reference to matters that had developed during the past 12 months. The Committee resolved to include certain related matters in its Future Work Programme.
2. **Update on the Carbon Reduction Programme** - The Council's Carbon Reduction Manager presented the first of two progress reports due in 2007. The report focussed on: (1) The new Thurston Road Offices and (2) The business case for installing Automatic Meter Reading in the Council's operational properties and schools.
3. **WEEE and Waste Disposal** - The Council's Waste Services Manager delivered a presentation on the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive and its implications on the County Council as a Waste Disposal Authority.
4. **Climate Talk 50 +** - A presentation by Dr Gary Haq of the Stockholm Environment Institute (at the University of York) on the progress of the Climate Talk 50+ project in York and North Yorkshire, an initiative supported by the County Council. He covered action taken to date; the outcomes; and action planned for the coming months.
5. **Climate Change Planning Policy Statement** - The Council's Senior Policy Officer from the Development and Countryside Service Unit outlined the Statement and its implications.
6. **Management of Litter** - When the Committee meets on 27 June 2007 it will receive a progress report on the outcomes from the recommendations stemming from its scrutiny examination of Litter Management, undertaken in late 2005/early 2006. The York and North Yorkshire Waste Management Partnership accepted responsibility for further considering the recommendations and progressing them as appropriate. Mike Kneebone, Hambleton DC Operational Services Manager, will present the report on behalf of the Partnership and attended this meeting in order to consult the Committee on the scope and format of the report.

The provisional agenda for the next meeting of the Committee, on 27 June 2007, includes the following:

1. **Adaptation to the effects of Climate Change** - To review action by the County Council and partner organisations.
2. **NYCC Corporate Waste Audit** - Report on the results of a consultant's audit of the WEEE implications on the CC as an organisation and update/consultation on the action plan for researching/implementing systems to better deal with all categories of the Councils organisational waste.
3. **Management of Litter** - Progress report from the York and NY Waste Management Partnership, following the Executive's consideration of the Committee's scrutiny examination report on 28 March 2006.
4. **SDAG action** - The annual report of the Sustainable Development Action Group, covering matters dealt with/projects delivered during the past year.
5. **'Fairtrade'** - Subject to completion of its work, to receive the Research Group's report and make recommendations as appropriate to the Executive in relation to the Council's involvement with and support for the initiative.
6. **Energy Efficiency and Fuel poverty** - Report on research undertaken stemming from the motion to the County Council on 11 October 2006. The Committee's report and recommendations to be submitted to the Council on 18 July 2007.
7. **Archives Service and Harrogate** - Update on the report to the Committee at its 6 December 2006 meeting on development options for the Archives Service at the County Record Office and plans for the extension of the Harrogate Library.

County Councillor John Blackburn
3 May 2007