

**ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**Chairman's Statement**

The Committee has met once since my last Statement, on 27 June 2007, when the agenda included:

1. **NYCC Corporate Waste Audit** – A report was presented on the results of a consultant's audit of the implications of the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Directive in relation to the County Council's organisational waste.
2. **Management of Litter** – Mike Kneebone, representing the York and NY Waste Management Partnership, reported that a Management of Litter Sub-group had been formed as a result of the E&H O&S Committee's scrutiny examination of the subject in late 2005/early 2006. He presented the terms of reference for the Sub-group, which were supported by the Committee. We look forward with interest to hearing at future meetings about the Sub-group's action plan and the outcomes resulting from it.
3. **SDAG action** – As Chairman of the Sustainable Development Action Group, I presented the Annual Report covering matters dealt with and projects delivered during the past year.
4. **'Fairtrade'** – The Committee discussed the report of the Research Group and the recommendations regarding i) support for Fairtrade within the Council's organisation and through its services and ii) support for the development of North Yorkshire as a Fairtrade area. The Committee agreed the recommendations and resolved that they be submitted to the Management Board and then to the Executive.
5. **Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty** – A report was presented that briefed Members on the issues regarding energy efficiency and reducing fuel poverty. This provided the context for the Committee to discuss the motion to the County Council on 11 October 2006, that had subsequently been referred to the E&H O&S Committee. The Committee's report and recommendations will be submitted to the Council on 18 July 2007.

The provisional agenda for the next meeting of the Committee, on 5 September 2007, includes the following:

1. **'People, Paths and Places': The draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan for North Yorkshire** – To consult the Committee on the draft Plan.
2. **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.
3. **Carbon Reduction Programme** – The second and final progress report for 2007.
4. **Green Lane Management Policy and Criteria** – Progress report.

**County Councillor John Blackburn**

