

# **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**20 FEBRUARY 2008**

## **STATEMENT OF THE BUSINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR JOHN FORT**

### **HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Highway Depot Programme**

As part of the Highway Depot Rationalisation Programme a new depot has recently been completed at Kirby Misperton. This depot will replace the existing depots at Kirkbymoorside, Malton and Pickering. A large salt barn at Kirby Misperton will enable all gritting in the Ryedale area to be carried out using dry salt. This will reduce the amount of salt used thus reducing costs and reducing the impact of salt on the environment.

Works have commenced this week on the refurbishment of the highways depot at Snaygill in Skipton. This will provide covered salt storage and sufficient accommodation to enable North Yorkshire County Council, Jacobs UK and Balfour Beatty Infrastructure Services staff to work together. The depot will be fully operational for next winter.

#### **95 Alive**

At the last meeting Members will recall I highlighted the launch of a 95 Alive Drink Drive Campaign over the Christmas period.

The campaign involved all the key partners in the 95 Alive partnership through publicity and enforcement. The campaign was well supported by the media and you may have noticed the beer mats that appeared in every pub in North Yorkshire.

The Police carried out a high profile campaign of roadside breath tests. As a result 4378 drivers were tested, 52% more than last year, of these 110 were arrested, 30% fewer than last year with only 2.7% of drivers tested being over the limit compared to the national average of 5%. This is an excellent outcome.

The next major focus for 95 Alive is the reduction of motorcycle road casualties, with 17 bikers killed each year and a further 120 seriously injured on the roads of North Yorkshire.

95 Alive are seeking to tackle this problem through both training and enforcement. It is essential that motorcyclists riding in North Yorkshire have access to quality training but it is equally important that those who ride unlawfully are brought to task through robust enforcement. Therefore it is essential that the partners within the 95 Alive partnership continue to work closely together in order to tackle this serious problem from both angles.

## **Skewkirk Bridge**

The County Council is progressing the replacement of Skewkirk Bridge utilising an existing footbridge currently in storage at Pateley Bridge depot. The legal team are now in the process of agreeing a lease with the landowner required to enable the bridge to be erected.

Once the lease is agreed the bridge work will commence. A budget of £120k has been allowed for the work. It has been 35 years since there has been a bridge at this location so it will be a significant improvement for the local community.

## **DEVELOPMENT & COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES**

### **Local Development Framework - Minerals & Waste**

The North Yorkshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategies were submitted for Examination in Public on 18 January 2008. The Strategies are a key part of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework and their purpose is to set out the overall approach to be followed in planning for minerals and waste development in the County, whilst ensuring that the environment and communities are protected. The purpose of the Examination is to test the soundness of the draft documents. Upon closure of the Examination, the Inspector will issue a binding report setting out any necessary changes. An exact timetable for the progress of the Examination is still to be established.

Separate planning documents identifying specific sites considered to be suitable in principle for minerals and waste development are also being prepared as part of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework. Draft documents were subject to public consultation in November and December 2007. County Council will be required to approve the final site allocations documents before they too are submitted for Examination in Public. It is currently expected that County Council will be asked to consider this matter later this year once the outcome of the consultation exercise has been assessed and further evaluation carried out.

**County Councillor John Fort  
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