

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

17 December 2008

TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Transport and Telecommunication Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee has met once since the last full Council meeting. The Committee held its scheduled meeting on the 3rd December 2008.

Committee Meeting – 3 December 2008

At our last meeting members of the Committee together with Executive Members received an extremely interesting presentation and overview on the 95 Alive Road Safety Partnership.

The purpose of this presentation was to provide Members with detailed information on what is being done to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our York and North Yorkshire roads.

Members were pleased to learn that the actions and efforts of the partnership are showing good reductions and predictions are that we are ahead of the LAA target (NI 47). Interestingly this is against a back drop of an increase in the number of road users' year on year.

The cost of fatal collision, a serious or slight collision is huge and in York and North Yorkshire equates to approximately £314 million per annum. Of more concern is the number of motorcyclists from out of County, and therefore not North Yorkshire residents, who are killed.

Education, awareness raising and training are high on the list of priorities and although performance and targets are being reached and surpassed there is no complacency. Members were reassured by the commitment of all the partners involved and were delighted to hear that the 95 Alive Partnership is used as a case study and best practice in Partnership and Multi Agency working by the Audit Commission.

Members were very interested in all aspects of speed management and were surprised to learn that a 1% reduction in average speeds brings about a 5% reduction in road casualties. The Committee agreed that it would be useful and add value to the work of the 95 Alive Partnership to look at Speed Management as their next in-dept scrutiny review.

Joint Scrutiny Review – Transport for Young People (TrYP)

There are a number of challenges facing North Yorkshire in relation to the 11-19 Strategy but in particular the issue of School to School Transport has been raised as a significant challenge.

The Joint Scrutiny Review Group (Membership is drawn from the Transport & Telecommunications and Young Peoples Overview & Scrutiny Committees) has met on three occasions. During their visit to Malton School the Group were provided with the opportunity to meet and talk to a group of students from Norton College. These students are participating in the Ryedale pilot and therefore benefiting from a greater choice of courses provided by the partnership.

During the discussion the students raised a number of issues which focussed on travelling time, timetabling and travel arrangements. However, despite some teething problems the students acknowledged the benefits of the partnership.

The Joint Scrutiny Review Group continues to development a wider understanding of the transport issues for young people in North Yorkshire and to liaise with its paired authority in Derbyshire.

May I also take this opportunity to thank everyone that has been involved with the work of the Committee during 2008 and wish you all the very best for 2009.

County Councillor Eric Broadbent
Chairman
Transport and Telecommunication Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee
December 2008