

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



QUARTERLY MEETING

24 February, 2016

**Summons, Agenda, Minutes
and Reports**

QUESTIONS

Council Procedure Rules 2.4 and 10 set out the procedures for asking questions at the County Council Meeting.

2.4 REPORTS, STATEMENTS AND QUESTIONS

- (a) Any reports of the Executive or committees shall, whenever possible, be printed and circulated to Members of the Council before the meetings at which they are to be considered.
- (b) The Leader of the Council may make a statement to the Council on any matters relevant to the Council and any portfolio holder (including the Leader if he/she holds a portfolio) or Chairman of any overview and scrutiny committee may make a statement to the Council on any matters relevant to that portfolio or the work of that overview and scrutiny committee. Members of the Council may, without notice, ask the Member who made the statement questions arising from matters raised in that statement or may ask any questions on matters in that portfolio not mentioned in the statement, but unless notice has been given by 10 am the previous day the person to whom the question has been put may respond in writing, with a copy being placed in Members' Group Rooms. The provisions of Council Procedure Rule 10 (b), (c), (d) and (e) shall apply to questions under this Council Procedure Rule.
- (c) No Member shall speak more than once or for more than two minutes on any statement made by the Leader or a portfolio holder or Chairman of the Scrutiny Board or of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee, except that one representative of each Group may speak for 5 minutes when responding to the statement made by the Leader. The Leader or portfolio holder or Chairman of the Scrutiny Board or of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee making the statement is not limited in the time allowed to make the statement or limited in time or frequency of speaking when responding to questions.

10. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

- (a) In addition to his/her right under Council Procedure Rule 2.4 to ask questions of the Leader or a portfolio holder or Chairman of an overview and scrutiny committee or in any report, a Member may ask the Chairman of any committee, other than an overview and scrutiny committee, any questions relating to the business of the Council or may ask the Chairman or nominated member of the North Yorkshire Police Authority, the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, the North York Moors National Park Authority or the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, a question on the discharge of the functions of such Authority.
- (b) Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer.
- (c) With the consent of the Chairman of the Council, the Member who has asked a question may ask a supplementary question arising out of the reply.
- (d) Where the information asked for in a question is contained in any of the Council's publications, it shall be deemed a sufficient reply if the publication containing the information is indicated.
- (e) Where the reply to any question cannot conveniently be given orally, it shall be deemed a sufficient reply if the answer is supplied to the Member asking the question as soon as reasonably possible and copies shall at the same time be placed in the Members' Group Rooms.
- (f) The Chairman shall call on Members to ask questions under this Council Procedure Rule in the order of respondent set out below and, within that order, in the order in which notice of questions was given to the Head of Legal and Committee Services by noon the previous day. In the absence of prior notice having been given, Members must inform the Chairman of their wish to ask a question and these will be called in the order received, but after questions of which prior notice was given.
- (g) The time limit for questions under this Council Procedure Rule for each respondent will be 5 minutes. Once the time allocated for any respondent has expired at any meeting, the Chairman shall not permit any further questions to be asked of that respondent under this Council Procedure Rule but, if a question or response has been started it may be completed, irrespective of the time limit, as may any response to any question being asked when the time limit is reached.

Order of questions

- (i) to the Chairman of the Standards Committee;
- (ii) to the Chairman of an Area Committee;
- (iii) to the Chairman of any other of the Council's committees;
- (iv) to the Chairman or other representative of:-
 - North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority
 - North Yorkshire Police Authority
 - North York Moors National Park Authority
 - Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority



NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of the County Council to be held at County Hall, Northallerton, on **Wednesday, 24 February 2016 at 10.30 am**, at which time the business listed below will be transacted.

Recording is allowed at County Council, committee and sub-committee meetings which are open to the public, please give due regard to the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at public meetings, a copy of which is available to download below. Anyone wishing to record is asked to contact, prior to the start of the meeting, the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) whose details are shown at item 4 of this Agenda. We ask that any recording is clearly visible to anyone at the meeting and that it is non-disruptive. <http://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk>

BUSINESS

1. To move that the **Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 11 November 2015** having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
(Pages 1 to 7)
2. **Chairman's Announcements** - Any correspondence, communication or other business brought forward by the direction of the Chairman of the Council.
3. **A Statement by the Leader of the Council**
(Pages 8 to 9)
4. **Public Questions or Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice to Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) – contact: barry.khan@northyorks.gov.uk) by **midday on Friday 19 February 2016**, three working days before the day of the meeting. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item.

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Chairman who will instruct anyone who may be taking a recording to cease while you speak

5. To consider the **report and recommendations of the Executive** and make decisions on them.

Executive Report only (Pages 10 to 20)

- Council Plan (2020 North Yorkshire Plan)
Booklet 1 – Report and appendices (Pages 1 to 27)
- Executive Summary (**Booklet 1 – Report and appendices (Pages 28 to 32)**)
- Revenue Budget 2016/2017 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)
Booklet 1 – Report and appendices (Pages 33 to 121)
- Capital Plan **Booklet 1 – Report and appendices (Pages 122 to 141)**
- Treasury Management
Booklet 1 – Report and appendices (Pages 122 to 141)
- Revision of Prudential Indicators
Booklet 1 - Report and appendices (Pages 122 to 141)
- Adoption of new statutory Local Transport Plan
Booklet 2 – Report and appendices (Pages 122 to 141)
- Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
Booklet 2 – Report and appendices (Pages 122 to 141)
- School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2017/18
Booklet 2 - Report and appendices (Pages 122 to 141)
- Constitution Review
Booklet 2 – Report and appendices (Pages 122 to 141)
- Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

6. **Members' Allowances** **(Pages 21 to 26)**

7. **Statements of Executive Members**, in the order set out below, **followed by Statements by the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees**
(Pages 27 to 68)

Executive Members:

- (a) Adult social care and health integration (Portfolio holder: Clare Wood)
- (b) Stronger communities, public health, Legal and Democratic Services and the role of area committees. (Portfolio holder: County Councillor David Chance).
- (c) Children and Young People's Services with responsibility for foster and adoption, children's social care and prevention (Portfolio holder: Janet Sanderson)
- (d) Highways, road safety, access to the countryside (including Broadband, mobile phone coverage) public transport (Portfolio holder: County Councillor Don Mackenzie)
- (e) Waste Services, Library and Information Services, economic development, rail strategy, trading standards (Portfolio holder: County Councillor Chris Metcalfe).

- (f) Central services specifically Finance and HR issues (Portfolio holder: County Councillor Gareth Dadd).
- (g) Children and Young People's Services responsibilities for schools and early years. (Portfolio holder: County Councillor Arthur Barker).

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen:

- (h) Scrutiny Board (Chairman: County Councillor Elizabeth Casling).
- (i) Scrutiny of Health Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Jim Clark).
- (j) Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Janet Jefferson).
- (k) Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Patrick Mulligan).
- (l) Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Derek Bastiman).
- (m) Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Andrew Backhouse).

Members of the Council may, without notice, ask the Member who made the statement questions arising from matters raised in that statement or may ask any questions on matters in that portfolio not mentioned in the statement, but **unless notice has been given by 10 am on 23 February 2016**, the person to whom the question has been put may respond in writing, and this is then circulated to all Members.

8. Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

9. Motion – Corporate tax evasion and avoidance

County Councillor David Billing to move and County Councillor John Ritchie to second

"North Yorkshire County Council notes that:

Corporate tax evasion and avoidance are having a damaging impact on the world's poorest countries, to such a level that it is costing them far more than they receive in aid this is costing the UK as much as £30bn a year this practice also has a negative effect on small and medium-sized companies who pay more tax proportionately. North Yorkshire County Council further notes that the UK Government has taken steps to tackle the issue of tax avoidance and evasion by issuing Procurement Policy Note 03/14 (PPN 03/14). This applies to all central government contracts worth more than £5m.

North Yorkshire County Council also notes the existence of voluntary schemes promoting tax compliance such as the Fair Tax Mark, which can serve as an independent means of verification.

In early 2015 new regulations required public bodies, including councils, to ask procurement qualification questions of all companies for tenders of over £173000 for service contracts and £4m for works contracts. However these questions are not as detailed as the PPN 03/14.

This Council believes that bidders for council contracts should be asked to account for their past tax record using the standards in PPN 03/14, rather than the lower standards in the recent regulations.

This Council therefore calls for procurement procedures to be amended to all companies bidding for service and works contracts at levels to be decided by the executive to self-certify that they are fully tax compliant in line with central government practice using the standards in PPN 03/14 applying to contracts of the size to be determined by the executive.

The Council asks the Executive to publicise the policy and to report on its implementation annually.

RICHARD FLINTON
Chief Executive Officer

County Hall,
NORTHALLERTON
16 February 2016

BARRY KHAN,
Assistant Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

Meetings of the County Council - Evacuation in Emergency

Although it is very unlikely that there will be a fire, or any other emergency, on the day of a meeting of the County Council, it remains a possibility that such an emergency will arise. The following guidance notes are intended to assist Members of the Council and the public to evacuate the building safely, in such circumstances.

The Council Chamber, and the associated Public Gallery, pose a number of difficulties for rapid evacuation in an emergency, not least being the considerable number of people who can be in the Chamber and the Gallery at any time, but also because of evacuation routes from the building. If, in the case of a fire or other emergency, the main staircase were to be impassable, it would be necessary to evacuate the Council Chamber through the Public Gallery and, from there, down the staircase that leads from the Public Gallery to the central courtyard. It is not possible, however, to know which route is most appropriate, if an alarm is sounded, without a quick preliminary examination being made.

(a) Therefore, if the fire alarm is sounded during a meeting of the County Council:-

- the Democratic Services Manager (or another Democratic Services Officer) will act as Fire Evacuation Warden and will issue instructions on the appropriate exit to use, as soon as it is established by a Democratic Services officer whether the main staircase is clear of fire or obstruction;
- please leave your seat without delay, so that you are ready to leave the Chamber when the evacuation route is clear;
- if evacuation is via the main staircase, please leave the building by the main doors, but assemble on the south side car park (with Members' parking bays marked in red);
- if evacuation is via the Public Gallery, please leave the Chamber via the doors in the Labour/Liberal Democrat corner of the room, through the Public Gallery and down the staircase to the centre courtyard, from there via the courtyard gate to assemble in the north side car park (by the Superintendent's house on Racecourse Lane);
- Democratic Services staff will ensure that the Chamber and Public Gallery are cleared, that windows and doors are closed wherever possible, and will report to the Fire Evacuation Controller.

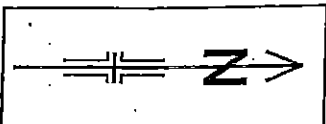
(b) If the fire alarm is sounded during Group meetings:-

- please close all windows and proceed to the nearest exit (subject to that being free of fire or other obstruction) closing any doors behind you;
- check that no-one has been left in the room in which you are meeting;
- assemble on the south side car park (with Members' parking bays marked in red); and
- ask one of the Group to report to the Fire Evacuation Controller who will be at the main entrance doors, (without re-entering the building) that the room you evacuated was clear of people.

(c) If you are in another room when the fire alarm is sounded, for example your Group Room, the Members' Lounge or Dining Room:-

- please ensure that no-one else remains in the room;
- check (as far as reasonably practicable) that windows and adjoining doors are closed;
- close the door after leaving the room and leave the building by the nearest exit
- then, without re-entering the building, report to the Fire Evacuation Controller at the main entrance doors that the room which you evacuated was clear of other persons.

(NOTE: These notes and the plan overleaf seek to do no more than give outline guidance to Members on action they should take if the fire alarm is sounded while they are in the building. It is not possible to provide detailed guidance which will cover every eventuality. The core purposes of the guidance note are to assist with the safe evacuation of all persons in the building and to ensure that the officer acting as Fire Evacuation Controller is able to give the Fire and Rescue Service, when they attend any fire, the best achievable information about whether any persons may remain in the building and, if so, their likely location. Every report of a room being clear of persons assists substantially in this task. The Democratic Services Manager will be pleased to receive any comments about these guidance notes, particularly as to how they might be improved).



Members
Car Parking

Visitors
Car Parking

Pond

Pond

**SOUTH SIDE
CAR PARK**

Fire Assembly
Point

MAIN
EVACUATION ROUTE

Council
Chamber

Fire Assembly
Point

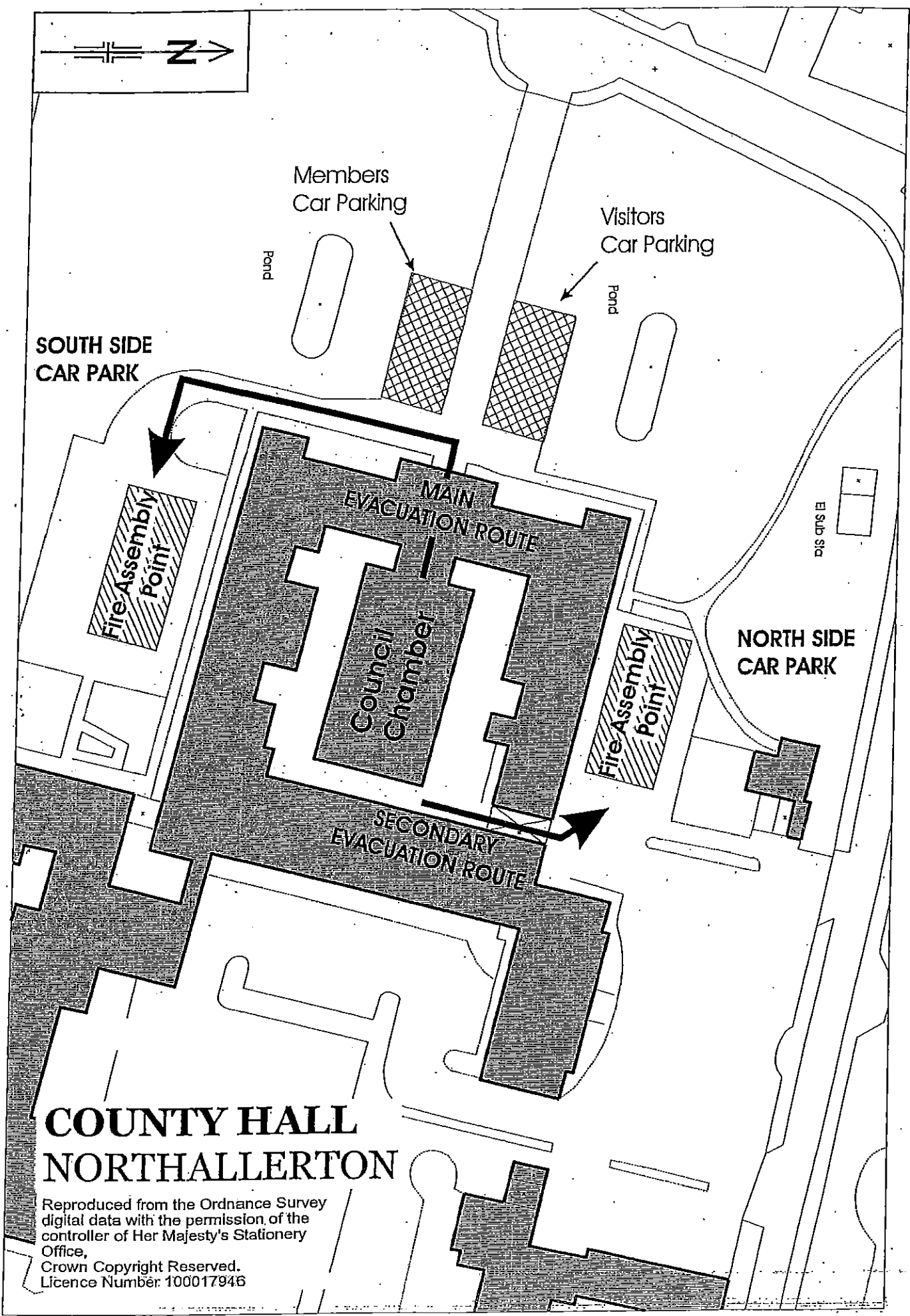
**NORTH SIDE
CAR PARK**

SECONDARY
EVACUATION ROUTE

El Sub Sid

COUNTY HALL NORTHALLERTON

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Northallerton on 11 November 2015 at 10.00 am.

Present:-

County Councillor David Jeffels in the Chair.

County Councillors Val Arnold, Margaret Atkinson, Andrew Backhouse, Robert Baker, Arthur Barker, Philip Barrett, Derek Bastiman, Bernard Bateman MBE, David Billing, John Blackburn, John Blackie, David Blades, Eric Broadbent, Liz Casling, David Chance, Jim Clark, John Clark, Richard Cooper, Sam Cross, Gareth Dadd, Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley, Andrew Goss, Helen Grant, Bryn Griffiths, Michael Harrison, Roger Harrison-Topham, Michael Heseltine, Robert Heseltine, Peter Horton, Bill Houlton, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Anne Jones, Mike Jordan, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Don Mackenzie, Brian Marshall, Shelagh Marshall OBE, Chris Metcalfe, Heather Moorhouse, Patrick Mulligan, Bob Packham, Stuart Parsons, Caroline Patmore, Chris Pearson, Joe Plant, Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, John Savage, Elizabeth Shields, David Simister, Andy Solloway, Peter Sowray, Tim Swales, Helen Swiers, Cliff Trotter, John Weighell, Richard Welch, Robert Windass and Clare Wood.

Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 22 July 2015, the having been printed and circulated, are taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved -

96. That the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 22 July 2015, having been printed and circulated, are taken as read and are confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman noted the apologies for absence received from County Councillors Jean Butterfield, John Ennis, John Fort BEM, Tony Hall, Lindsay Burr, Penny Marsden, John McCartney, Steve Shaw-Wright and Tony Randerson. He welcomed Honorary Alderman Michael Knaggs to the meeting.

The formally announced the death of Honorary Alderman John Dennis MBE who served as a County Councillor from 1981 to 2005 and Members stood in silence to his memory.

Statement by the Leader of the Council

County Councillor Carl Les made a statement, under Council Procedure Rule 2.3, as Leader of the Council, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appear in the Minute Book (pages 7351 - 7354). County Councillor Carl Les then responded to various questions.

Public Questions or Statements

Mr Steve Howley, Brigade Secretary of the North Yorkshire Fire Brigades Union made the following statement:

“North Yorkshire fire and rescue Service (NYFRS) has undertaken a review of the Fire cover within North Yorkshire. Fire cover is the term used by the Service to refer to; the number of fire appliances and equipment, available within the Service to respond to fires and other emergencies.

The 6 stations Harrogate, Scarborough, Ripon, Tadcaster, Northallerton and Malton.

It is clear that the proposals put forward are based around delivering savings through the reduction of fully skilled professional Whole-time Firefighters and not what is a better match of resource to risk, as the current resource best matches the risk providing the most effective service to the public of North Yorkshire. This is a view which is strongly agreed across all the groups we have engaged with.

There is no analysis of how the service to the public will improve or costings of savings delivered;

- Tadcaster’s station area defined for call numbers has been wrong throughout the consultation
- Malton’s was also wrong and partially amended part way through the consultation period.

Mixed Crewing – proposed at Northallerton, Malton, Ripon and Tadcaster;

- Reduction in Whole-time staff by 50%
- Issues around RDS availability in these areas
- The inability to recruit 100% RDS Staff to make this proposal work – not managed it over the last 10 years
- Current figures - Malton 2, Tadcaster 1, Ripon 0, Northallerton 1 and 1 recruit.
- Increased response times backed up by FOI requests submitted to NYFRS
- 4 minute response time means a limited area that productive work can be carried out – i.e.; CFS – School Talks, HRA’s, and Hydrant Inspections etc.
- Training concerns due to only 2 or 3 F/f’s on duty – Core skills training requires at least 4 but ideally 5 for safety reasons.
- Specialist role greatly affected due to reduced numbers like Water Rescue and specialist line rescue.

Tactical Response Vehicles - NYFRS proposal is to introduce Tactical Response Vehicles (TRV’s) as a replacement to a standard pumping appliance, to be crewed by 2 Firefighters at the 6 stations already mentioned.

- Will only be crewed with 2 F/f's
- NYFRS claim that not all incidents require 4 or 5 F/f's yet no detail as to what these incidents are.
- No list of specific Incident types produced that TRV's would attend – very misleading for members of the public.
- Information in NYFRS Standard Operating Procedure regarding Fire-fighting actions is conflicting compared to the information contained within the Phase 2 document.
- A delay in response times of fully equipped Fire Engines of an average of 8mins in the TRV areas and not the 3min 15secs quoted by NYFRS this will lead to an increased moral pressure on F/f's.
- Previous concepts have failed and the money spent never been questioned, 2009 – Malton and the CSV's in 2010 which cost the service £900k
- This is not about a culture change, it is a genuine concern about public and fire-fighter safety for England's' largest county.

District Watch Managers

- The FBU supports the need to provide vital support to the RDS Stations and agrees with this in principal However further work and negotiation is required.
- Some stations with RDS units already have experienced Watch Manager's with Station Manager support, yet they still experience the same problems as standalone RDS stations."

Report of the Executive

Proposals for Revision to County Council guidance on Transport Issues including Standards for Parking for Developer Funded works within North Yorkshire

The recommendations in paragraph 1 of the report (page 7362) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried, with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved –

97.

That County Council approves:-

- (a) The withdrawal of 'Transport Issues and Development - A Guide' save for Appendices B, C, D and F (as amended);
- (b) The adoption as an interim measure a revised Appendix A which will detail the revised minimum parking standards as set out in the report;
- (c) That the Corporate Director - Business and Environmental Services take all necessary steps for a full review of parking standards; a full review of the requirements for Transport Assessments and a full review of the requirements for Travel Plans in conjunction with the local planning authorities within North Yorkshire.
- (d) That a further report is to be brought to Members following the conclusion of the review, is noted.

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The recommendations in paragraph 3 of the report (page 7369) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried, with none against and one abstention.

Resolved –

98. That County Council approves the following appointments:

Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Tim Swales to replace County Councillor Liz Casling

Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Liz Casling to replace County Councillor Tim Swales

Health & Wellbeing Board

Shaun Jones to replace Julie Warren as the NHS England representative.

Julie Warren to replace Gillian Laurence as the named substitute.

Janet Probert to replace Vicky Pleydell as the representative for Hambleton

Richmondshire and Whitby CCG from 1 December 2015, with Debbie Newton as the named substitute.

Scrutiny of Health Committee

Scarborough Borough Council representative Councillor Mrs J Mortimer replaces Substitute Member – Councillor A Jenkinson

At 10.45 am the Chairman temporarily adjourned the meeting to enable Members to participate in the Act of Remembrance – the meeting resumed at approximately 11.15 am.

Household Waste Recycling Centre policy amendments

The recommendations in paragraph 2 of the report (page 7367) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried, with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved –

99. That County Council approves the following changes to the HWRC policy framework:

Existing policies 2,4,14,and 16 are replaced by:

Policy 2 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council will locate Household Waste Recycling Centres across the county on the basis that no single HWRC, or an average of two where they serve the same community, serves a population greater than 69,000 people.

Policy 4 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council aims to provide an accessible HWRC service at all sites during reasonable daylight hours throughout the week, as resources and operating restrictions allow. Where it is not possible to provide a full service at all sites during reasonable daylight hours availability may be adjusted at all or some HWRCs in such a way as to minimise the impact on the largest number of residents. Changes to HWRC opening hours will not be made without appropriate consultation.

Policy 14 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council will seek to provide facilities at all sites to enable the collection and disposal of other waste streams including commercial waste, and will make an appropriate charge for the receipt of these wastes.

Policy 16 (New) - North Yorkshire County Council will provide HWRCs for the use of North Yorkshire residents for disposal of their household waste free of charge at the point of use. Where appropriate HWRCs will also accept wastes from non-residents as well as other non-household waste subject to the costs of dealing with these wastes being recovered through charging, unless in the case of waste delivered by non-residents reciprocal arrangements are in place with neighbouring Councils

The following policies are removed:

Policy 18 North Yorkshire County Council will, provide a commercial waste service at strategic sites to serve the needs of each district and the business community

- where no other suitable commercial waste services serve the area and
 - where it does not detract from the service provided to householders
 - no hazardous commercial waste will be accepted, other than bonded asbestos by prior arrangement
- and charge accordingly.

Policy 19 North Yorkshire County Council may provide a service for soil, rubble and plasterboard disposal provided that HWRC operating contractors agree to receive these wastes at no costs to the County Council.

Policy 20 North Yorkshire County Council will allow its HWRC contractors to recover costs for the disposal of soil, rubble and plasterboard by making a charge.

The Annual Report of the Audit Committee

The recommendations in paragraph 4 of the report (page 7493) were moved and seconded.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried with none against and no abstentions.

Resolved –

100. That County Council notes the Annual Report of the Audit Committee, as set out in Appendix 1.

Statements of Executive Members and Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

County Councillor Arthur Barker, the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services responsibilities for schools and early years made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7413 - 7415) and responded to questions.

County Councillor David Chance, the Executive Member for Stronger Communities, public health, Legal and Democratic Services and the role of area committees made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7417 – 7420) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Don Mackenzie, the Executive Member for Highways, road safety, access to the countryside (including Broadband, mobile phone coverage) public transport made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7421 - 7422) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Chris Metcalfe, the Executive Member for Waste Services, Library and Information Services, economic development, rail strategy, trading standards, made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7423 - 7426) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson, the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services with responsibility for fostering and adoption, children's social care and prevention made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7427 - 7430) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Clare Wood, the Executive Member for adult social care and health integration made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7431 - 7434) and responded to a question.

County Councillor Gareth Dadd, the Executive Member for Central Services specifically Finance and HR issues made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 7435 - 7436) and responded to questions.

The written statements of the Chairmen of the Scrutiny Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (pages 7437 - 7452) having previously been circulated, were noted.

Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

County Councillor John Clark had submitted a question for the Chairman of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority as follows:

“To Councillor John Fort BEM, Chairman North Yorks Fire and Rescue Authority
3rd Nov.2015

John,

Sorry this is late. My basic concern is with Malton:

- I. The number of fire appliances
- II. The full-time skill levels.

If I understand it correctly, the main fire appliance at Malton is going to be replaced by a smaller vehicle. The skilled full-time employees are going to be dispersed. We were told the number of uses in the Malton area. These figures showed a decline in use. One of the brilliant ways that the Fire Service works is that when there is a fire in one area that needs several appliances (or several simultaneous fires), then the appliances from further afield are moved to where the shortfall occurs. However to measure the need level, it appears necessary to know not just the call-outs in one area but also the number of times each unit is used.

I asked how many times the Malton appliances had been used and where. What was happening to these figures on the same timescale as the consultation figures? I have been told (twice) that these figures were unavailable. It follows that Malton could cope with a reduction if they were not being used in York, Scarborough or Pickering. So that you can make a safe decision, I would like these figures but you need them.

If Wednesday is too tight a timescale then I would be happy for you to answer my questions at the Fire Authority meeting — even if I am not there.

Once again, sorry for being so late

Kind regards

John”

In the absence of County Councillor John Fort BEM the Chairman advised that a written response would be forwarded to County Councillor John Clark.

Meeting closed at 12.30.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**24 February 2016****LEADER'S STATEMENT**

Settlement

The announcement of the final settlement was later than ever before this year, but I'm grateful to the Secretary of State and the Chancellor for listening to our concerns about the difficulties rural councils faced, especially in North Yorkshire. I would also like to thank our North Yorkshire MP's for the part they played in this. The Secretary of State has made some welcome concessions in the form of £15m of transitional relief. Clearly that still leaves the County Council with a significant financial challenge which we will consider later in today's agenda.

For the first time in my memory we had to activate our Reserve Date to allow for time to properly consider the detail of the settlement, and I thank Members for their understanding. I wrote to all District Leaders apologising if they had to postpone their budget setting meetings.

Flooding

Speaking with the Leader of Cumbria County Council just prior to Christmas to establish in my mind what mutual aid we might be able to offer post their floods, I was not aware that on Boxing Day we would be facing the same crisis. We were in fact fortunate that although at one point half our 5000 mile road network was adversely affected, North Yorkshire did not suffer to the same extent as other areas, nor that the rest of the County did not get hit as badly as the southern part. Of course that is no consolation if your house is flooded, or your business closed. We are helping to manage the process of paying compensation to householders and to businesses, but only for those who have been flooded. We are also managing to address the immediate infrastructure impacts of flooding, notably Tadcaster and the A59 at Kex Gill.

Other colleagues can report in more detail on the impact of flooding, but I want to place on record the thanks that must go to the many staff who gave up their Christmas leave to work tirelessly then, and afterwards, to look after our community in our hour of need. We can be rightly proud of their commitment and their diligence.

Longer term we must prepare to cope with more flooding by slowing the flow upstream to protect areas downstream, to build in more resilience to our teams, and to bypass Kex Gill if at all possible.

Peer review

I am confident that we have a robust performance management regime here at NYCC, with close working and challenge existing between Executive, Management Board and Overview & Scrutiny. Local performance can also be checked by Area Committees. Additionally we are subject to outside inspections by bodies such as Ofsted, CQC etc. The LGA offer a peer review process that exposes us to some further outside scrutiny, and I have invited them to visit us for a week in March. This

is “free” in as much as it is part of our paid membership of the LGA. The small team is made up of a County Council Leader and Chief Executive, and other senior officers who know how County Councils work. They will visit some of our partners as part of this process, and will also interview Members with varying roles and from all political groupings. They will visit one Area Committee in that week. Once we have received their findings we will share them, and any necessary actions, with Members.

Devolution

There is little progress to report as part of the region still refuses to join with the rest. Work still continues in preparing our role as either part of Greater Yorkshire, or as a smaller part in partnership with York and East Yorkshire, with Councils working together on various workstreams. Discussions have been held with civil servants.

However there are some key principles we need to hold to, namely:-

that economic growth and increased prosperity should be an opportunity for all the North Yorkshire residents we serve, and

that this opportunity should not be stifled by political opportunism.

I believe central government holds to these principles too.

Devolution will be the subject of the March seminar where the options and issues can be explored in full detail.

Carl Les
Leader

February, 2016

The Report of the Executive

The Executive met on Tuesday, 17 November 2015 commencing at 11.00 am. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors Arthur Barker, David Chance, Don Mackenzie, Chris Metcalfe, Janet Sanderson and Clare Wood.

Also in attendance: County Councillors Jim Clark, Patrick Mulligan, Shelagh Marshall OBE, Janet Jefferson.

The Executive met on Tuesday, 8 December 2015 commencing at 11.00 am. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors Arthur Barker, David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Don Mackenzie, Chris Metcalfe, Janet Sanderson and Clare Wood.

Also in attendance: County Councillors Val Arnold, Janet Jefferson and John Ritchie.

The Executive met on Tuesday, 19 January 2016 commencing at 11.00 am. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors Arthur Barker, David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Don Mackenzie, Chris Metcalfe, Janet Sanderson and Clare Wood.

The Executive met on Tuesday, 2 February 2016 commencing at 11.00am. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors Arthur Barker, David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Don Mackenzie, Chris Metcalfe, Janet Sanderson and Clare Wood.

The Executive also met on Tuesday, 16 February 2016 – a special meeting to consider the budget only - commencing at 11.00am. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors Arthur Barker, David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Don Mackenzie, Chris Metcalfe, Janet Sanderson and Clare Wood.

1: Council Plan (2020 North Yorkshire Plan) The Council Plan is a key component of the County Council's policy framework, setting out the Council's objectives and how its resources are to be used to deliver those objectives. Ensuring the Plan is developed in a timely and robust manner is essential in order to drive forward the business of the Council and improve performance, including the County Council's contribution to the delivery of the North Yorkshire Community Plan. The process is closely allied to the budget setting process as this clearly demonstrates the golden thread running through the Council's objectives, priorities and allocation of resources. For this reason the Council Plan is submitted to the County Council in tandem with the budget report. The Council Plan is intended to be the public expression of the County Council's vision and a longer-term strategic document designed to plot the Council's course to the end of the decade. The annual delivery plan section highlights the most important issues and pressures upon the County Council for the year ahead, explains what its income will be and gives details of spending and savings plans, as well as specific actions to be carried out in the coming year. The funding section will be finalised once the County Council's budget is agreed. The delivery plan is refreshed annually, together with a summary of progress against the previous year's delivery plan. At the meeting held 2 February 2016 the Executive endorsed the Council Plan report which is shown in full in Booklet 1, pages 1 to 27.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve the Council Plan 2016-2020.

That County Council authorise the Chief Executive to make any necessary changes to the text, including reflecting decisions made by the County Council on the budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy and updated performance data.

2. Revenue Budget 2016-2017 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS):

This report makes recommendations regarding

- Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2016/17 to 2019/20
- The Revenue Budget 2016/17 and
- Council Tax for 2016/17.

Medium Term Financial Strategy - by the end of 2015/16 the County Council will have delivered £116m of savings. It is estimated, however, that a further £50.3m will be required from 2016/17 to 2019/20. The aggregate savings requirement of £166.3m broadly equates to a 33% reduction in the Councils spending power since 2011. It is therefore essential that the County Council has a sound medium to longer term strategy to address this financial challenge. Whilst savings proposals of £36.3m have been identified from 2016/17 to the end of the MTFS, there remains a projected residual shortfall of £14m by 2019/20 which will, subject to further refinement, need to be addressed in future years (Booklet 1, commencing at page 48; paragraphs 3.8.4 to 3.8.7).

£0.6m of Reserves is projected to be used in 2016/17 and £7.9m by 2017/18 in order to meet the residual shortfall after savings proposals and investments. This increases to £33.1m over the period up to the end of 2019/20 unless savings proposals are brought forward and delivered in the interim (Booklet 1, commencing at page 45; paragraphs 3.7.1 to 3.7.4). The key features of the “2020 North Yorkshire Programme” as set out in the February 2015 MTFS/Budget report remain appropriate. There is no recommendation to consider any new (ie areas that were not part of the February 2014 Budget report) savings proposals at this stage. Given the residual shortfall and impact on Reserves described above, however, there is a need to produce additional savings proposals and to consider them later this year – this may include a further MTFS/Budget report being put to County Council (Booklet 1, commencing on page 49; paragraph 3.8.6). The MTFS for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 as set out in Section 3 and Appendix E is recommended for approval (Booklet 1, commencing at page 65; paragraph 12.1 j).

Reserves & Balances - Given the level of risks facing the County Council, it is proposed that the existing policy of maintaining a minimum level equivalent to 2% of the annual net revenue budget supplemented by a cash sum of £20m is maintained (combined total of £27.3m in 2016/17) for all years of the MTFS to provide for risks across the Council – the General Working Balance (Booklet 1, commencing at page 65; paragraph 12.1p). A review of Reserves has been carried out and a new approach to classification has been recommended. This makes it clearer about what available Reserves to provide for corporate risk (General Working Balance); what Reserves are available for investment (Strategic Capacity – Unallocated Reserve); what Reserves are set-aside for operational delivery; and includes a new Reserve

(Local Taxation Reserve) to manage volatility and risk on council tax and business rates income (Booklet 1, commencing at page 42; Section 3.6 and commencing at page 65; paragraph 12.1 q).

Savings - totalling £36.3m between 2016/17 and 2019/20 are proposed. These savings are broadly in line with the existing 2020 North Yorkshire Programme that was approved in last year's Budget / MTFs but provide for some re-profiling and a reduction in quantum of £0.1m (Booklet 1, commencing at page 46; paragraphs 3.8.1 to 3.8.2 and commencing at page 79; Appendix F). It is proposed that some high level lines of enquiry are progressed to identify further savings proposals to bridge the residual savings gap and to reduce the need for Reserves over the MTFs period. A subsequent report would be brought to the Executive later in 2016 and taken to full County Council if it constituted a change in the budget policy framework (Booklet 1, commencing at page 48; paragraphs 3.8.4 to 3.8.7).

Investments are proposed as part of the 2016/17 Revenue Budget in line with an invest-to-save basis or in line with policy priorities:-

- a. One-off funding of £3.2m is earmarked in 2016/17 for property related work as part of the 2020 North Yorkshire Programme (Booklet 1, commencing at page 50; paragraphs 3.9.7 and page 65; 12.1 f)
- b. One-off funding of £3.0m is earmarked for further roll-out of superfast broadband (Booklet 1, commencing at page 50; paragraphs 3.9.4 and page 65 12.1 g)
- c. Recurring funding of £150k is provided to fund the Customer Services Centre to support the 2020 North Yorkshire customer workstream (Booklet 1, commencing at page 50; paragraphs 3.9.9 and page 65; 12.1 h))
- d. One-off funding of £1.0m is earmarked in 2016/17 to assist in delivery of the 2020 North Yorkshire Programme to fund potential investments on an invest-to-save basis in line with the proposed delegated authority as set out in Booklet 1, commencing at page 51; paragraphs 3.9.13 and page 65; 12.1 i).

Revenue Budget 2016/17 - a net revenue budget of £360.570m, after use of Reserves, is proposed for 2016/17 (Booklet 1, commencing at page 52; paragraphs 4.1 and page 65; 12.1 d) and page 78; Appendix E). The allocation of the net revenue budget be allocated to directorates, net of planned savings (set out in pages 79 to 94; Appendix F), in line with Appendix G (Booklet 1, page 95; and page 65; paragraph 12.1 d).

Council Tax - it is recommended that a general council tax increase of 1.99% is agreed in line with the existing MTFs and that this is supplemented with a 2% social care precept (total increase of 3.99%), resulting in a Band D council tax level of £1,143.86 for the Council in 2016/17 (Booklet 1, commencing at page 32; paragraphs 3.3.3 to 3.3.7, and page 65; paragraph 12.1 and pages 71 to 73; Appendix B). The MTFs also assumes a 1.99% increase in general council tax and a 2% social care precept (total increase of 3.99%) for each year thereafter up to and including 2019/20 (Booklet 1, commencing at page 32; paragraphs 3.3.4 and page 65; 12.1 j).

Section 25 Statement - the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources is obliged to offer a view of the robustness of estimates used in the Revenue Budget 2015/16 and the associated level of balances/reserves. The Corporate Director, Strategic Resources is satisfied that the report meets such a requirement but notes the need to formulate a savings plan within 2016 to avoid

excessive depletion of Reserves in 2017/18 (Booklet 1, commencing at page 62; paragraphs 8.17 and page 65; 12.1 a)).

Other - the draft pay policy statement 2016/17 is set out for consideration and recommendation to County Council ((Booklet 1, commencing at page 56; Section 7 and page 95; Appendix H). An assessment of the key financial risks to the County Council has been carried out in (Booklet 1, commencing at page 63) Section 9. An overview of equality issues associated with the Council's budget proposals has been carried out and summarises the potential equality impacts in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty ((Booklet 1, commencing at page 57; Section 8.2 to 8.6 and pages 104 to 113; Appendix I).

At the meeting held 16 February 2016, the Executive considered and endorsed the report which is shown in Booklet 1, pages 28 to 220 it is therefore commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

- a) That the Section 25 assurance statement provided by the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources regarding the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves (Booklet 1, page 62 **paragraph 8.17**) and the risk assessment of the MTFs detailed in **Section 9** are noted.
- b) That, in accordance with Section 42A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended by Section 75 of The Localism Act 2011), a Council Tax requirement for 2016/17 of £256,500k is approved and that a Council Tax precept of this sum be issued to billing authorities in North Yorkshire ((Booklet 1, commencing at page 38; **paragraphs 3.3.3 to 3.3.7** and pages 71 to 73 **Appendix B**).
- c) That, in accordance with Section 42B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended by Section 75 of The Localism Act 2011) a basic amount (Band D equivalent) of Council Tax of £1,143.86 is approved (Booklet 1, page 38; **paragraph 3.3.6** and pages 71 to 73 **Appendix B**).
- d) That a Net Revenue Budget for 2016/17, after use of reserves of £360.570m (Booklet 1, page 52 **paragraph 4.1** and page 78 **Appendix E**) is approved and that the financial allocations to each Directorate, net of planned savings, be as detailed in **Appendix G**.
- e) That the Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Member for Schools, to take the final decision on the allocation of the Schools Block (Booklet 1, page 40 (**paragraph 3.4.6**)).
- f) That £3.2m is earmarked for property related work as part of the 2020 North Yorkshire Programme and that drawdown of the funding is subject to further Executive consideration and subsequent approval (Booklet 1, page 50

paragraph 3.9.7).

- g) That £3.0m is earmarked for the further roll-out of broadband in line with the Superfast North Yorkshire project and that drawdown of the funding is subject to further Executive consideration and subsequent approval (Booklet 1, page 50 **paragraph 3.9.4**).
- h) That a recurring sum of £150k is provided to fund the Customer Services Centre to support the 2020 Customer workstream (Booklet 1, page 50 **paragraph 3.9.9**).
- i) That £1.0m is earmarked for the 2020 North Yorkshire Programme to support delivery of the Programme on an invest-to-save basis and that the Chief Executive is authorised to approve investments in consultation with the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources and the Executive Member for Finance ((Booklet 1, page 51 **paragraph 3.9.13**).
- j) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2017/18 to 2019/20, and its caveats, as laid out in **Section 3** (Booklet 1, commencing at page 34 and page 78; **Appendix E** is approved.
- k) That the Corporate Director – Business & Environmental Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for BES, to implement the range of savings as set out in pages 79 to 94; **Appendix F (BES 1 to 14)**.
- l) That the Corporate Director – Health and Adult Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for HAS, to:-
 - i) Implement measures in order to deliver the Targeted Prevention activity following evaluation as set out in HAS 1 of **Appendix F commencing at page 79**.
 - ii) Carry out a consultation with staff and then to implement the necessary changes in order to deliver the Assessment Reablement pathway as set out in HAS 3/4/5 of **Appendix F commencing at page 79**.
 - iii) Implement changes to the procedures and allocation of resources following a review of Personal Budgets as set out in HAS 3/4/5 of **Appendix F commencing at page 79**.
 - iv) Carry out a consultation and then implement subsequent changes to deliver savings within the Learning Disability Service as set out in HAS 7 of **Appendix F commencing at page 79**.
- m) That the Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for CYPS, to:-
 - i) In the context of the new model for preventative services, to continue to locally review the nature of existing universal children’s services provision (**CYPS 1 – Appendix F commencing at page 79**).
 - ii) Review and further integrate assessment and support functions for children and families including youth offending (**CYPS 2 – Appendix F commencing at page 79**).

- iii) In the light of changes in the care population, to continue to review the nature of placement provision to meet local needs (**CYPS 7 – Appendix F commencing at page 79**).
- iv) In the context of the new strategy for meeting the needs of disabled children to continue to locally review the nature of short term provision (**CYPS 8 – Appendix F commencing at page 79**).
- n) That any outcomes requiring changes following **Recommendations k), l) and m)** above be brought back to the Executive to consider and, where changes are recommended to the existing major policy framework, then such matters to be considered by full County Council.
- o) That the arrangements under which additional funds are allocated each year in respect of Adult Social Care are approved and continue to be reviewed at least annually (**paragraphs 3.5.6 to 3.5.8 commencing at page 42**).
- p) That the existing policy target for the minimum level of the General Working Balance is retained at a minimum of 2% of net revenue budget supplemented with a cash sum of £20m for 2016/17 in line with **paragraphs 3.6.4 to 3.6.6 commencing at page 43** and pages 75 to 77 **Appendix D**.
- q) That the revised approach to classification of Reserves and Balances, presentational transfers and new reserves as set out in **Section 3.6 commencing at page 42** be approved.
- r) That the attached pay policy statement (**Appendix H pages 96 to 103**) covering the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 (**Section 7 commencing at page 45**) be approved.

3. Capital Plan: The Council's Capital Plan to 2018/19 is put forward for approval (Booklet 1, page 129 **paragraph 7.1 (a)** and pages 138 to 140 **Appendix E**) – it totals £114.4m in 2015/16, £97.5m in 2016/17, £84.7m in 2017/18, £76.3m in 2018/19 and £87.5m in later years. Since the last update at Q2 there has been an overall re-phasing of expenditure from 2015/16 to later years as a result of slippage within the programme. There is an update on progress of some of the key capital schemes in the current Plan (commencing at page 126; **Section 4**). Financing of the Plan is set out in (commencing at page 127 **Section 5 and page 141; Appendix F**) with the majority from grants and contributions. Forecasts suggest potentially unallocated capital resources of £13m over the life of the Plan. However there is a recommendation to earmark £7.5m for primary school places on the basis that matched funding is secured from the Department for Education which, if approved, reduces the unallocated capital resources to £5.5m (Booklet 1, commencing at page 127; **paragraphs 5.8 and 6.2 and 7.1 (b)**). At the meeting held 16 February 2016 the Executive considered and endorsed the Capital Plan it is therefore commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council adopts the Q3 2015/16 Capital Plan, as summarised in Booklet 1, commencing at page 122 to 141 - **Appendices A to E**.

4. Treasury Management: The Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS) is put forward for approval in line with Code of Practice requirements (Booklet 1, commencing at page 153 **paragraph 8.1 (a)** and pages 155 to 159; **Appendix A**). It sets out the Council's approach to managing risk associated with investments, cashflows, banking, money market and capital market transactions. The Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2016/17 is put forward for approval in line with Code of Practice requirements as detailed in (Booklet 1, commencing at page 153; **paragraph 8.1 (b)** and pages 160 to 205; **Appendix B**). The key elements of the strategy are set out in **paragraph 4.3** and amongst a number of limits relating to borrowing and investments include:

- (a) an authorised limit (maximum amount that can be borrowed) for external debt of **£373.5m**;
- (b) an operational boundary (the most likely level) for external debt of **£353.5m**.

Based on the Council's current capital spending plans, external debt is forecast to reduce from £326m in 2016 to £302m in 2019 (**Booklet 1**, commencing at page 144; **paragraph 4.5**). The climate for investments remains challenging with the number of suitably rated counter parties reducing due to stringent credit ratings criteria. A number of options (**Booklet 1**, commencing at page 151 **paragraph 5.16**) could be considered should the need arise. At the meeting held 16 February 2016 the Executive considered and endorsed the report shown in **Booklet 1**, pages 142 to 205 and it is commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

- (a) the Treasury Management Policy Statement as attached as Appendix A (**Booklet 1**, pages 155 to 159);
- (b) the Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy for 2016/17 as detailed in Appendix B (**Booklet 1**, pages 160 to 205) and in particular;
 - (i) an authorised limit for external debt of £373.3m in 2016/17;
 - (ii) an operational boundary for external debt of £353.3m in 2016/17;
 - (iii) a borrowing limit on fixed interest rate exposure of 60% to 100% of outstanding principal sums and a limit on variable interest rate exposure of 0% to 40% of outstanding principal sums;
 - (iv) borrowing from the money market for capital purposes is to be limited to 30% of external debt outstanding at any one point in time;
 - (v) an investment limit on fixed interest rate exposure of 0% to 30% of outstanding principal sums and a limit on variable interest rate exposure of 70% to 100% of outstanding principal sums;

- (vi) a limit of £20m of the total cash sums available for investment (both in house and externally managed) to be invested in Non Specified Investments over 364 days;
 - (vii) a 10% cap on capital financing costs as a proportion of the annual Net Revenue Budget;
 - (viii) a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy for debt repayment to be charged to Revenue in 2016/17 as set out in Section 11 of Appendix B (Booklet 1, commencing at page 183);
 - (ix) the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources to report to the Council if and when necessary during the year on any changes to this Strategy arising from the use of operational leasing, PFI or other innovative methods of funding not previously approved by the Council;
- (c) that the Audit Committee be invited to review Appendices A and B referred to in (a) and (b) above and submit any proposals to the Executive for consideration at the earliest opportunity.

5. Revision of Prudential Indicators: To ensure compliance with the Prudential Code and to synchronise with the Council's Capital Plan it is necessary to revise and approve a set of prudential indicators which cover the period 2016/17 to 2018/19 (Booklet 1, page 208 **paragraph 4.1**). These recommended indicators are set out in Appendix A of the report. At the meeting 16 February 2016 the Executive considered and endorsed the proposed changes and they are commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

- (i) That County Council approve the updated Prudential Indicators for 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in **Appendix A** Booklet 1, pages 209 to 220;
- (ii) That County Council approve an Authorised Limit for External Debt of £373.5m in 2016/17 under Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (**paragraph 3.4** Booklet 1, page 207).

6. Adoption of new strategy Local Transport Plan: The County Council as Local Transport Authority for North Yorkshire has a statutory duty to have and maintain a Local Transport Plan. The current Local Transport Plan (LTP3) runs until 31 March 2016. It is therefore necessary for the County Council to renew the LTP prior to this date. At the meeting held 2 February 2016, the Executive considered and endorsed the proposed draft Local Transport Plan 2016 – 2045 (LTP4) - the full report and Plan are attached at Booklet 2, pages 1 to 184 - and it is therefore commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve that the draft Local Transport Plan 2016-2045 (Booklet 2, pages 1 to 184)

7. Approval of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy as part of the policy framework: The North Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Board is made up of partner organisations from across the county. The Board brings together adult social care and children's services, the NHS, public health and a wide range of other stakeholders, including elected representatives, to plan how best to meet the health and wellbeing needs of the North Yorkshire population. The Board produced its first Health and Wellbeing Strategy in 2013. This has been updated for 2015-2020 in order to take into account of changing priorities at both national and local level, as well as recognising the need to manage reduced budgets across partner organisations. At the meeting held 2 February 2016, the Executive considered and endorsed the updated Strategy – the full report is in Booklet 2, pages 185 to 232 - and it is commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-2020

8. School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2017/2018: As the admission authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools in North Yorkshire, the local authority consults annually on admission arrangements. The local authority is currently required to determine its admission arrangements, which includes admission policy and admission limits, annually by 15 April each year. When changes are proposed to admission arrangements, all admission authorities must consult by 1 March on their admission arrangements. Where the admission arrangements have not changed from the previous year there is no requirement to consult, subject to the requirement that admission authorities must consult on their admission arrangements at least once every 7 years, even if there have been no changes during that period. Consultation must last for a minimum of 6 weeks and take place between 1 October and 31 January in the determination year. This means that schools are consulted in autumn term each year for admissions nearly two years later. The process is, therefore, based to some degree on schools' best estimates of the numbers of requests for places informed by the local authority's forecasting model, which takes into account the patterns of parental preference over the years. Since the Council is the only body that may determine the matter, it falls to the Council in February each year. At the meeting held 19 January 2016, the Executive considered and endorsed the proposed arrangements for 2017/18 (the full report is available in Booklet 2, pages 233 to 287), and these are commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve the proposed Admission Arrangements which include:

- i) the proposed admission policy for community and voluntary controlled schools;
And
- ii) the proposed admissions policy for nursery schools, schools with nursery and pre-reception classes, appendices 1 & 2 Booklet 2, pages 239 to 244].
- the proposed published admission numbers [PAN's] for community and voluntary controlled schools as show in appendices 4 [primary] and 5 [secondary] Booklet 2, pages 279 to 287].
- the proposed co-ordinated admission arrangements which include in year co-ordination, the In Year Access Protocol, Managed Moves Protocol and the Protocol for Looked After Children Applications [appendices 3a, 3b and 3c Booklet 2, pages 270 to 278]

9. Constitution Review: The Monitoring Officer conducts a routine 'light touch' review of the Constitution periodically and an 'in depth' review at least every 4 years. It is also reviewed on an ongoing ad hoc basis. This review was considered by the Members' Constitution Working Group on 20 January 2016, and the Executive on 2 February 2016. The issues set out in this report reflect Members' majority views. The Executive considered the report which is shown in Booklet 2, pages 288 to 374 and endorsed the changes proposed, these are commended to County Council for approval.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve:

- (a) The amendments to the Constitution, as set out in Booklet 2 pages 296 to 299 **Appendix A**
- (b) The amendments to the Contract Procedure Rules as set out in Booklet 2 pages 300 to 363, **Appendix B** be approved.
- (c) The amendments to the Access to Information Procedure Rules as set out in Bookley 2 pages 364 to 371, **Appendix C**.
- (d) That the following be approved for inclusion in the list of Proper Officer Functions set out in Article 12 of Part 2 of the Constitution:-

Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

- Regulation 8 – To form an opinion as to whether the documents relating to an officer delegated decision under Regulation 7(2) are background papers for the purpose of this Regulation – Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services).
- Regulation 9 – To determine whether a document contains or is likely to contain either exempt or confidential information - Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services).

- (e) The proposed amendments to the Constitution regarding Area Committees as set out in Booklet 2 pages 372 to 374, **Appendices D and E**.
- (f) The proposed amendments to Council Procedure Rule 2.1 as set out in paragraph 3.1.15.
- (g) The proposed amendments to Council Procedure Rule 9.8 as set out in paragraph 3.1.18.
- (h) A standing item be included on all formal meeting agenda and those formal Member meetings where the Council acts as the host authority, reminding Members of the need to declare interests where required by the Members' Code of Conduct.

10. Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies: At the meeting held 2 February 2016 the Executive agreed that any proposals for the re-allocation of seats, if necessary to achieve political proportionality, or for changes to memberships or substitute memberships of committees, or other bodies to which the Council makes appointments put forward by the relevant political group, prior to or at the meeting of the Council, should be approved, including those set out in the recommendations below.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve any proposals for the re-allocation of seats, if necessary to achieve political proportionality, or for changes to memberships or substitute memberships of committees, or other bodies to which the Council makes appointments put forward by the relevant political group, prior to or at the meeting of the Council, be agreed including:

Health & Wellbeing Board

That Richard Mellor be appointed substitute for NHS Scarborough and Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group.

Pension Fund Committee

That Councillor Suzie Mercer be appointed substitute for the City of York Council.

CARL LES
Chairman

County Hall,
NORTHALLERTON

16 February 2016

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 FEBRUARY 2016

MEMBERS ALLOWANCE SCHEME

1.0 PURPOSE OF PAPER

- 1.1 To seek approval to keep the existing Members' Allowance Scheme at existing levels and remove a Special Responsibility Allowance on a pilot basis as identified in Appendix 2.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The report of the Independent Panel on Members Remuneration is attached as **Appendix A** for consideration by the County Council.
- 2.2 The County Council needs to consider the report and its recommendations and decide whether it wishes to amend its allowance scheme.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The County Council must approve any amendments to the Members Scheme of Allowances.
- 3.2 It is proposed to keep the existing scheme except for the removal of the Special Responsibility allowance for the Chair of the Employment Appeals Committee on a temporary basis. The proposed amendment is shown in Appendix 2 and provides an annual saving of £1,544. In addition it is proposed not to increase the Members Scheme of Allowances by inflation and to freeze the payment rates for another year.
- 3.3 If the County Council adopts the proposed amendment then it must ensure that copies of the Scheme are available for inspection by the public. In addition the Council must publish in one or more newspapers circulating in their area a notice which states that the Council has amended the Allowances Scheme and specify the period of time for which the Scheme has effect. In line with previous practice, this notice will be placed in the Yorkshire Post, and on the County Council's website.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the County Council approves to keep the existing Members' Allowance Scheme for 2016/17 with one amendment as identified in Appendix 2.

Report prepared by:
Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive – Legal & Democratic Services

Background papers: None

County Hall
Northallerton

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ON THE REMUNERATION OF
MEMBERS OF NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Executive Summary

As the Independent Remuneration Panel, we consist of three independent individuals who review the Council's Members Allowance Scheme to ensure that payments to Councillors are set at the appropriate level. We make independent recommendations to the County Council on the levels of remuneration we consider are justified.

The Independent Remuneration Panel has to consider the scheme every four years and make recommendations to the County Council for any changes. The Panel carried out an extensive review of the Scheme last year and therefore there is not the need to carry out a further in depth review for this year.

The premise on which undertake our role is to ensure that allowances are allocated on an equitable basis and that there is no additional cost to the Tax payer for the new Scheme.

Under the last review we recommended that there would be a nil increase to the basic and special responsibility allowance after the County Council, in considering the austerity measures, refused to accept a raise in 2014/15 as recommended by the Panel. It is on this basis we make the same recommendation to freeze the rate of basic responsibility allowance and the special responsibility allowance.

The only role that is considered appropriate to review is the Special Responsibility Allowance of the Employment Appeals Committee where it is recommended to suspend that payment for the period of the pilot period, or until a further review is undertaken, thereby making an overall saving of £1,544.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The membership of the Independent Remuneration Panel is as follows:-

Mrs Denise Wilson (appointed 2010) – Chairman
Mr John Robinson (appointed 2013)
Mr John Thompson (appointed 2013)

1.2 The Terms of Reference of the Panel are as follows:-

- (i) To consider issues relating to Members' remuneration and expenses;
- (ii) To consider representations; and
- (iii) To make recommendations and provide advice to the County Council.

1.3 Following the previous in depth review taken in 2015, it is considered appropriate keep the payments at existing levels, apart from the change noted below.

2.0 CONTEXTUAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The following contextual issues have been taken into consideration.

2.2 **Attendance at meetings 2014/15** – Overall attendance of Councillors was at 84% in 2014/15. The attendance level for full meetings of the County Council was 86%.

2.3 **Financial position of the Council** – There is a total savings requirement of £166.3m in the 9 year period 2011/12 to 2019/20; which equates to an approximate 33% reduction in the Council's spending power since 2011. Whilst savings proposals of £36.3m have been identified from 2016-2020, there is still a residual shortfall of £14m that is needed to be delivered by 2020.

2.4 **Inflation rates** - The figures below show the position as at October 2015

| | Inflation Rates for the 12 months up to | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|
| | October 2013 | October 2014 | October 2015 |
| Retail Price Index (RPI) | 2.6% | 2.3% | 0.7% |
| Consumer Price Index (CPI) | 2.2% | 1.3% | -0.1% |

3.0 COUNCILLORS' BASIC ALLOWANCE

3.1 Regulations provide that all local authorities must make a scheme of allowances for their members. The Regulations further set out that it must establish an independent remuneration panel to make recommendations to Council about the scheme and the amounts to be paid.

3.2 Every local authority must make provision in its scheme of allowances for a basic flat rate allowance payable to members (Basic Allowance). This allowance must be the same for every Councillor and is paid in instalments through the year. One of the purposes of the Basic Allowance is to recognise the time commitment of Councillors and to compensate Councillors for the expense of being a Councillor.

3.3 The Basic Allowance for 2015/16 is £8,994 or 5.825 units (the value of 1 unit is £1,544).

3.4 We received comparator information for the last four years which is shown in **Appendix 1** for a group of the nearest 15 comparable County Councils. This shows that North Yorkshire County Council are ranked 13th and its basic allowance is 7.9% below average Basic Allowance.

3.5 We appreciate that that there is a need to attract a good calibre of candidates for election to Council, and that some authorities in the comparator group increased the allowance. The dedicated work of Councillors is also recognised and noted. However, we continue to be aware of the impact on the residents and communities of the Council's planned savings and are mindful of the decision taken by the Council with regard to the recommended 1% increase for 2014/15. Affordability also remains a key consideration. Thus we consider a nil increase in the Basic Allowance for 2016/17 is appropriate.

4.0 **SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES (SRAs)**

4.1 In addition to the Basic Allowance, each local authority may make provision for the Payment of an SRA for those Councillors who have significant responsibilities over and above the normal work of a Councillor. Previously an in depth look at SRA has been undertaken and therefore there was not a need to review this work for this year.

4.2 The only role that we have been informed off which has changed significantly is the role of the Chair of the Employment Appeals Committee.

4.3 At the County Council meeting on the 22nd July 2015, the Council agreed to pilot for two years a new arrangement to the Council's disciplinary and capability procedures, whereby appeals for conduct/capability dismissals would be heard by a 2 person panel, consisting of an officer and a member of the Employment Appeals Committee. This Panel would be chaired by an officer and not the Chair of the Employment Appeals Committee.

4.4 Therefore some of the work of the Employment Appeals Committee is considered by the Panel, leaving the Committee to be responsible for determining appeals regarding group grievances, collective disputes and appeals by the Chief Executive Officer in limited circumstances.

4.5 Since the decision made in July, there has not been the need to convene the Employment Appeals Committee. Bearing in mind the reduced work load of the Employment Appeals Committee, and therefore the reduction in work for the Chairman of that Committee, it is considered appropriate to suspend the payment for the Chairman of the Employment Appeals Committee for next year during the pilot period. However the work of the Employment Appeals Committee will be kept under review and if the work load increases for the Committee, then this recommendation can be revisited. Further, once the pilot period has ceased, the Panel will reconsider the appropriate remuneration for the Chairman of this committee.

4.6 Therefore it is proposed to keep the same scheme, with a slight amendment as shown in Appendix 2.

Denise Wilson
Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel
February 2016

BASIC ALLOWANCE - COMPARATOR INFORMATION

| Authority | 2012/13 | | 2013/14 | | 2014/15 | | 2015/16 | |
|-------------------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| | £ | Rank | £ | Rank | £ | Rank | £ | Rank |
| Nottinghamshire | 12,906 | 1 | 12,906 | 1 | 12,906 | 1 | 13,190 | 1 |
| Devon | 10,970 | 2 | 10,970 | 2 | 10,970 | 2 | 10,970 | 2 |
| Dorset | 10,185 | 3 | 10,185 | 3 | 10,536 | 3 | 10,536 | 4 |
| Leicestershire | 10,152 | 4 | 10,152 | 4 | 10,152 | 5 | 10,152 | 6 |
| Derbyshire | 9,948 | 5 | 9,948 | 5 | 10,047 | 7 | 10,047 | 7 |
| Somerset | 9,880 | 6 | 9,880 | 6 | 10,354 | 4 | 10,580 | 3 |
| Staffordshire | 9,244 | 7 | 9,244 | 7 | 9,022 | 8 | 9,072 | 10 |
| Worcestershire | 9,020 | 8 | 9,020 | 8 | 9,020 | 9 | 9,020 | 12 |
| NYCC | 8,994 | 9 | 8,994 | 9 | 8,994 | 12 | 8,994 | 13 |
| Warwickshire | 8,975 | 10 | 8,975 | 10 | 8,975 | 13 | 8,975 | 14 |
| Norfolk | 8,929 | 11 | 8,929 | 11 | 9,018 | 10 | 9,216 | 9 |
| Gloucestershire | 8,800 | 12 | 8,800 | 12 | 9,000 | 11 | 9,100 | 11 |
| Oxfordshire | 8,295 | 13 | 8,295 | 13 | 8,377 | 14 | 10,000 | 8 |
| Lincolnshire | 8,184 | 14 | 8,184 | 14 | 10,100 | 6 | 10,322 | 5 |
| Cumbria | 8,030 | 15 | 8,030 | 15 | 8,030 | 15 | 8,322 | 15 |
| Cambridgeshire | 7,610 | 16 | 7,610 | 16 | 7,700 | 16 | 7,700 | 16 |
| Year Average | 9,383 | | 9,383 | | 9,575 | | 9,762 | |
| NYCC % of Average | 95.9 | | 95.9 | | 93.9 | | 92.1 | |

Special Responsibility Allowances, Other Allowances, and Allowances for the Police and Crime Panel 2016/17

| | Number of Units | Current Allowance £ | Number of Allowances | Total Cost of allowance £ | Recommended change £ | Updated allowance if implemented £ | Updated total cost if implemented £ | Review Comments |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
| Value of a Unit | | 1,544 | | | | | | |
| SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES | | | | | | | | |
| Chairman of the County Council | 6 | 9,264 | 1 | 9,264 | | 9,264 | 9,264 | |
| Vice Chairman of the County Council | 2 | 3,088 | 1 | 3,088 | | 3,088 | 3,088 | |
| Leader of the County Council | 16 | 24,704 | 1 | 24,704 | | 24,704 | 24,704 | |
| Deputy Leader | 10 | 15,440 | 1 | 15,440 | | 15,440 | 15,440 | |
| Other Executive Members | 9 | 13,896 | 6 | 83,376 | | 13,896 | 83,376 | |
| Chairman Of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee | 6 | 9,264 | 1 | 9,264 | | 9,264 | 9,264 | |
| Chairman of Other Overview and Scrutiny Committees | 3 | 4,632 | 4 | 18,528 | | 4,632 | 18,528 | |
| Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committees | 1 | 1,544 | 5 | 7,720 | | 1,544 | 7,720 | |
| Chairman of Area Committee | 2 | 2,316 | 7 | 16,212 | | 2,316 | 16,212 | |
| Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee | 2 | 3,860 | 1 | 3,860 | 0 | 3,860 | 3,860 | |
| Regulatory Functions Sub-Committee (new from 04/06/13) | 1 | 1,544 | 1 | 1,544 | | 1,544 | 1,544 | |
| Chairman of Appeals Committee | 2 | 4,632 | 1 | 4,632 | 0 | 4,632 | 4,632 | |
| Vice Chairman of Appeals Committee | 0 | 772 | 1 | 772 | 0 | 772 | 772 | |
| Chairman of Employment Appeals Committee | 1 | 1,544 | 1 | 1,544 | -1,544 | 0 | 0 | Considered appropriate to suspend payment until after the pilot scheme and will be kept |
| Chairman of Pensions Committee | 3 | 4,632 | 1 | 4,632 | | 4,632 | 4,632 | |
| Chairman of Scrutiny Board | 1 | 1,544 | 1 | 1,544 | | 1,544 | 1,544 | |
| Chairman of Audit Committee | 2 | 3,088 | 1 | 3,088 | | 3,088 | 3,088 | |
| Chairman of Standards Committee | 1 | 1,544 | 1 | 1,544 | | 1,544 | 1,544 | |
| Champion for Young People | 3 | 4,632 | 1 | 4,632 | | 4,632 | 4,632 | |
| Champion for Older People | 3 | 4,632 | 1 | 4,632 | | 4,632 | 4,632 | |
| <u>Leaders of Political Groups</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Second largest group membership | 3 | 4,632 | 1 | 4,632 | | 4,632 | 4,632 | |
| Third largest group membership nb the allowance for the Third largest group leader is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group | 1.5 | 2,316 | 1 | 2,316 | | 2,316 | 2,316 | |
| <u>Secretaries of Political Groups</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Largest Group Membership | 1.5 | 2,316 | 1 | 2,316 | | 2,316 | 2,316 | |
| Second largest group membership | 1 | 1,544 | 1 | 1,544 | | 1,544 | 1,544 | |
| Third largest group membership nb the allowance for the Third largest group secretary is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group | 0.5 | 772 | 1 | 772 | | 772 | 772 | |
| POLICE & CRIME PANEL (PCP) | | | | | | | | |
| Chair of the Police and Crime Panel | 3 | 4,632 | 1 | 2,316 | | 4,632 | 2,316 | |
| Vice Chair of the Police and Crime Panel | 1 | 1,544 | 2 | 772 | | 1,544 | 772 | |
| OTHER ALLOWANCES | | | | | | | | |
| Independent Persons | 0.5 | 772 | 2 | 1,544 | | 772 | 1,544 | |

Total Special Responsibility Allowances

43

231,600

Total Police & Crime Panel Allowances

3

3,088

Total Other Allowances

2

1,544

Total

48

236,232

230,056

3,088

1,544

234,688

Overall Change

-1,544

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**24 February 2016****STATEMENT OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH INTEGRATION
PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLARE WOOD****Flooding**

Adult Social Care services played a significant role in contributing to the County Council's efforts to support communities affected by the floods over the Christmas period. From Boxing Day onwards, many staff were called off their holidays to work through the day and late into the night ensuring that people received care, support and assistance. Alongside colleagues, in the independent and voluntary sectors, we delivered our services by a range of traditional and less traditional ways, including making visits on a tractor. I would like to thank HAS staff for their contribution to the fantastic response made by all County Council employees.

Extra Care

I was very pleased to attend the opening of Meadowfields, the new Extra Care scheme in Thirsk on 4 December. The scheme is ideally placed in the centre of town, offers excellent accommodation with support, with 52 self-contained, one and two-bedroom apartments for rent, shared ownership and outright sale. The scheme provides new community facilities including the co- location of the library, as well as the space for a hair salon and bistro. One of the residents spoke at the opening about how well he and his wife had settled in and about the positive impact of the move on their wellbeing.

The next stage in the programme to select providers for the first phase of the new schemes will be a series of 'mini competitions', starting with Boroughbridge this month and Gargrave in the late Spring.

Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The North Yorkshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out our ambitions for improving the health of people across North Yorkshire and how we will work with the NHS and other partners to achieve these ambitions. The Health and Wellbeing Board considered a final version of the Strategy at its meeting on 27 November 2015. The updated document reflects the feedback received from partners and the public during the consultation and focuses on five themes: Connected Communities, Start Well, Live Well, Age Well and Dying Well. The Board recognises the importance of measuring the outcomes set out in the Strategy and held a development session on 14 December 2015 to start to consider how we can do so -work is now underway to develop a performance framework which will support the implementation of the Strategy. The Strategy was approved by the County Council's Executive on 2 February and is being presented to the full County Council for approval today.

Working with the NHS

The North Yorkshire Better Care Fund was established in 2015 and has been used to support a range of new and existing health and social care services across North Yorkshire. All schemes are now fully operational and regular reporting is in place through the Health and Wellbeing Board and to NHS England. Evaluation is taking place in localities.

Final Better Care Fund guidance and allocations for 2016/17 are due to be published imminently.

The County Council has raised concerns nationally and with NHS England regionally about the levels of Better Care Fund allocations and about national NHS proposals for 5 year plans which take little account of the geography and specific needs of the County. We will continue to take a tough line in advocating for our communities and for protecting social care funding. We will be particularly mindful of these issues as we assess the Government's intention, set out in the Comprehensive Spending Review, for full integration of health and social care by 2020.

On a positive note, this month sees the launch of the first pilot site for integrated working as part of the Harrogate New Care Models 'Vanguard': starting with services in Knaresborough, Green Hammerton and Boroughbridge.

New Services: Living Well and Customer Centre Care and Support

I am pleased to say that the Living Well service, which has been in place since October, is achieving positive outcomes. More than 200 people have been supported by the service to keep themselves as independent and well as possible and to prevent or delay their need for more intensive social care support. As the service develops, the team will work with GP practices, the voluntary sector and local communities to support more people. The team has supported people in different ways, for example to arrange improvements to their home, join local social groups, or become a volunteer.

As from December, we have started piloting a small, specialist social care team within the County Council's Customer Centre. This team is already resolving more problems for people at their first point of contact with NYCC.

These new services are a prelude to more fundamental changes which will take place between now and Summer 2017 to re-structure adult social care services so that there is even more focus on prevention and reablement.

Autism Strategy Launch

On the 1st of December 2015 we launched the all age Autism Strategy which has been developed across Children and Young People Services, Health and Adult Services. A more detailed implementation plan will be published in the Spring.

Equipment Service

The County Council and its partners in the Clinical Commissioning Groups, have recently launched a process to select the provider of Equipment Services for people who have a disability. A county-wide consultation exercise has sought the views of service users, professionals and potential providers of the service.

The specification for the new service will be agreed by all the partners and will take account of consultation responses. The timetable for the new service to commence is December 2016.

Cllr Clare Wood

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**24 February 2016****STATEMENT FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH,
STRONGER COMMUNITIES, LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
AND THE ROLE OF AREA COMMITTEES****COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAVID CHANCE****Public Health Grant**

The recent Spending Review has resulted in further reductions in the Public Health Grant to local authorities. In addition to the in-year £200 million cut announced last summer, there will be a further cash reduction of 9.6% which will be phased in through to 2020.

As a Council we set out an ambitious programme of investment in services and initiatives that are focused on prevention and aimed at addressing the distinctive public health issues in our county. Given that North Yorkshire's public health team has mainly been recruited from new and all services inherited from the PCT have had to be re-commissioned, we have accumulated a reserve in the first two years. This reserve will be used to buffer the impact of the reduction to the grant. However, we will need to review the scale and ambition of our plans to ensure that we continue to achieve excellent public health outcomes within the now reduced budget available to us.

Public health campaigns

A key part of our approach is to actively engage our residents in taking care of their health. The Public Health and Communications Teams have worked closely in a number of local and national public health campaigns.

We promoted HIV testing last November as part of the National HIV testing week to raise awareness of late diagnosis of HIV which is an issue across the UK. Reducing the rate of late HIV diagnosis in North Yorkshire is one of the key outcomes that NYCC has identified. Our approach to commissioning sexual health services places emphasis on HIV prevention and promotes testing. The YorSexualHealth service works to raise awareness about HIV testing and runs high profile campaigns during national HIV testing week each year. In addition, as part of the commissioned service we have invested in outreach to high risk groups and in community point of care testing to make access to HIV testing easier. A planned development within the YorSexualHealth service to be introduced in the near future is 'virtual clinics'. These will provide telephone, online and postal services so that people don't have to attend a clinic. Virtual services will include routine STI/HIV testing (for people without symptoms), some STI treatments, certain types of contraception and free condoms.

In December we emphasised winter health with the “Keep well, keep warm, keep safe” campaign and as the year began we invited our residents to sign up to Dry January.

We are now supporting a new campaign designed to get the county’s families thinking about the amount of sugar they consume. Public Health England has launched a new easy to use Sugar Smart app to help parents to see how much sugar there is in everyday food and drink. The free app works by scanning the barcode of products and revealing the total amount of sugar it contains in cubes and grams. We’re encouraging parents across the county to download the new Sugar Smart app and take control of the amount of sugar their family consumes, to protect them from the health risks of having too much sugar.

Throughout February and into March we will support campaigns aimed at cancer prevention and early detection. The Quit16 (16 cancers) campaign is the region’s first mass media anti-tobacco campaign and runs over the month of February. It has been funded jointly by local authority public health teams and is supported by Cancer Research UK. The campaign highlights the risks of developing one of 16 cancers caused by smoking and that quitting is the one clear way to reduce risk.

The Be Clear on Cancer brand has been used to promote awareness and early diagnosis of bladder and kidney cancer. Public Health England announced that they will be running the next ‘blood in pee’ campaign from 15 February to 31 March 2016. The campaign’s key message will be ‘If you notice blood in your pee, even if it’s ‘just the once’, tell your doctor.’ Finding cancer early makes it more treatable.

Focus on Scarborough

The Council is mandated to work to improve the health of our population and to reduce variation in health outcomes. We know that a greater proportion of mothers in Scarborough smoke during pregnancy compared to the rest of the county. Latest figures show that around 1 in 5 women who give birth at Scarborough Hospital smoke, which can cause serious complications to the health of their baby. The Scarborough and Ryedale CCG is working with the midwifery team at Scarborough Hospital and the new NYCC commissioned stop smoking service (Smokefreelife North Yorkshire) to encourage more pregnant women to kick the habit. This will be supported through a new initiative known as Baby Clear, which offers training to midwives to support them in offering frank, factual and non-judgemental advice to women about the risks of smoking in pregnancy.

In January we launched an outreach service offering free drop-in NHS Health Checks for the over 40s at mobile clinics in and around Scarborough as well as farming communities across the county. Health checks can save lives by picking up on warning signs of heart disease, stroke and diabetes. We want to make sure everyone can take up the offer of a free NHS health check easily and conveniently. Our new team of healthy lifestyle advisors will be coming out to rural areas as well as offering checks in and around Scarborough. They will also be visiting workplaces and local clinics, as well as agricultural shows and farmers’ markets throughout the year.

Working with the local NHS

The Chief Executive of the NHS has called for a radical upgrade in prevention and public health in the Five Year Forward View for NHS. The Public Health Team are working with our local clinical commissioning teams in developing prevention plans to address the health and wellbeing gap in their area. We have worked with our NHS partners on a number of key strategies including Mental Health, Winter Health, and Alcohol and Tobacco Control which form a strong foundation for prevention and public health action in the NHS.

Great Heck fire

Several officers from across the Council, including our Public Health Team alongside colleagues in Public Health England, were part of a multi-agency response to a fire that developed at a waste site in Great Heck, Selby. The public health role in these incidents is to assess, monitor and manage risks to public health. Incidents like this fire illustrate the importance of our health protection role as a Council to be assured that plans are in place to protect residents from threats to their health.

Winter Health Strategy

The North Yorkshire's Winter Health Strategy launch event will take place on Thursday 17 March 2016 at the Pavilions of Harrogate, 9am – 2pm. It will form the second annual North Yorkshire Seasonal Winter Health Wider Partnership Conference, building on the progress and actions developed in the first event held in June 2015. There will be opportunities for delegates to visit the open 'marketplace' stalls where partners are invited to showcase their work. The event will give partners the opportunity to contribute to the implementation of the strategy, share best practice and build partnerships and learn about excellent work that partners are carrying out in other parts of the county.

Stronger Communities

A key focus for the Stronger Communities programme over the winter has been supporting the formation of management groups for the proposed community libraries and supporting them with governance, options appraisals, trustee recruitment and the preparation of their formal Expressions of Interest, to date 10 have been submitted. The next significant milestones will be supporting groups to secure charitable status and the preparation and submission of business plans.

Work is nearing completion on the development of a policy and procedure for the authority to consider the transfer of property to the community. Funded and supported by Locality under the national Community Ownership and Management of Assets (COMA) programme, a policy and procedure has been adopted and three communities supported with pre-feasibility grants (Norton on Derwent, Sherburn in Elmet and Tadcaster). The procedure will be tested and refined over the coming weeks with groups interested in Sharow View, Ripon.

Further links are being forged between Stronger Communities and wider Children & Young People's Services including support for community led Early Years provision and support for inclusion projects including peer support for families of children with disabilities. Building on the success of work in Knaresborough and Easingwold, the Stronger Communities team are establishing partnership groups in the main market towns to coordinate youth provision initially and early years in the longer term.

The programme continues to support grass roots community projects across the county. To date 82 applications have been received from groups delivering projects across all four of the programme's priorities. A total of 75 projects have been approved; the total value of grants awarded is £540k. An analysis of projects supported under the programme to date shows between 1000 and 1500 new volunteering opportunities have been created across the county delivering a range of new activities and services such as Good Neighbours, digital buddies, befriending services, youth clubs, parent and toddler sessions, community cafés and hubs, and dementia and mental health training. Following the success of the world café event in Eastfield in the autumn, a similar event is being held in Catterick this month centred on the work of The Beacon. Work to build capacity with community transport providers in Craven and Ryedale is completed and discussions are on-going with boards of trustees around options for their future development.

In addition to the on-going support grass roots community projects, strategic projects being delivered include commissioning North Yorkshire and York Forum to carry out some gap analysis and profiling research across the county in order to better understand the specific challenges of the different areas; developing a shared outcome framework and impact evaluation tools across Public Health, Stronger Communities and Targeted Prevention; developing a strategic marketing and branding improvement brief for community transport providers - this will include a targeted campaign to recruit volunteer drivers; an innovative "Digital Neighbours" scheme in Scarborough – in partnership with Adult Learning Service and Scarborough Borough Council's Digital Inclusion Partnership; volunteer recruitment events and activities and preparing case study evidence and an evaluation of some early outcomes of stronger communities investment.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 FEBRUARY 2016

STATEMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER

COUNTY COUNCILLOR JANET SANDERSON

Financial Strategy & 2020 North Yorkshire

The Children and Young People's Service has continued to meet its savings targets. The scale of budget cuts required – and achieved to date, whilst maintaining service levels, has been a significant challenge. The objective has been to protect front-line services as much as possible, thus enabling a restructured Directorate to operate effectively across its universal, preventative, targeted and acute service responsibilities, in line with legislation. Although the Directorate is facing emerging pressures in some of the higher need budgets, such as Special Home to School Transport and Disabled Children's Services, we are on track to achieve the savings and transformation projects agreed by Council.

This past year has seen the implementation of some major transformation programmes, including the review of Preventative Services and a new way of delivering school improvement.

This information appears in the Statements to Council for both Executive Members for the Children and Young People's Service as this reflects our joint responsibility for all relevant resources.

LGC Awards 2016

The Children and Young People's Service has been shortlisted for two Local Government Chronicle Awards this year. The Service has been nominated in the prestigious category of Children's Services Team of the Year whilst the "No Wrong Door" project has also been shortlisted in the Innovation Category. The LGC Awards is the leading event of the year in the local government awards calendar and is designed to identify, celebrate and help spread the best examples of innovation and quality delivered by councils on a daily basis. The awards ceremony takes place on 16 March in London and I am sure you will wish to join me in wishing them good luck.

Department for Education "Partners in Practice"

DfE has announced that North Yorkshire Children and Young People's Service has been appointed as one of nine 'Partners in Practice' authorities for the Department which means we will support and work alongside other authorities to share best practice and as a result, develop more sustainable high performance across the country.

This is great recognition of the quality of our work at a national following the successful Ofsted inspection in 2014 when children's services was judged as "good" across the board. Since 2010, the county council has transformed children's services, including social work practice, for children and young people so that it has become one of the top performing authorities in the country.

Officers will be meeting with Department of Education officials in the very near future to discuss the detail of this development.

Visit of the Chief Social Worker

Isabelle Trowler, Chief Social Worker for England is visiting the Children and Families Management Day on 22 April. She will meet with Richard Flinton, Pete Dwyer, Judith Hay and senior managers to take forward our role as Partners in Practice. She will then spend the afternoon with the managers across Social Care and Prevention.

Children and Families Performance

The number of new cases being managed within the new 0-19 Prevention Service has seen the highest number in a single quarter being recorded in quarter three (1,384) and a significant increase in the total number of cases open at the end of the quarter (2,717).

The multi-agency customer contact screening team has introduced new procedures to ensure that agencies now have one referral process into the Children and Families Service. The team consists of staff from Children's Social Care, Prevention, Police and Health. They will shortly be joined by a mental health worker. Requests for help are quickly referred to the right team in the right agency.

Since its launch in April 2015 the new Prevention Service has seen a rise in cases to its service and a significant decrease in cases going to Social Care. This is very good news as families receive the right support as early as possible. The new improved procedures have also resulted in continuous increases in the percentage of referrals that now result in an assessment (99%). This is a significant improvement and is a much more effective use of resources.

The total number of Child Protection Plans in North Yorkshire this quarter was equivalent to the lowest number for five years (298) and the overall rate of Child Protection Plans (25.2) is now well below the national and statistical neighbour benchmarking averages. The percentage of Child Protection Plans that were reviewed on time this quarter was 100% which is outstanding performance.

Children in Care

The number of looked after children fell this quarter to its lowest number for six years 432 (in sharp contrast to the national trend of continued increases in the care population).

The vast majority of looked after children in North Yorkshire continue to live in a stable family home environment. Based on a range of health measures the rate of looked after children with health and dental checks that are up to date remains high and highlights the continued good performance in this area of service which is partly attributable to improved collaborative working with colleagues in Health. The quantity and quality of Personal Education Plans (PEPs) for looked after children have improved significantly in the past year. Likewise, the rate of children who have completed their Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire is also high and children's scores which are derived from the survey show higher levels of emotional resilience and mental wellbeing. At the end of Q3 the rate of short term placement stability in North Yorkshire stood at 7.4%, the same as at Q2, which is significantly lower (better) than both the national rate (11%) and the percentage for North Yorkshire's nearest statistical neighbours (11.1%). In spite of a slight improvement this quarter the current rate of long term placement stability in North Yorkshire is at 61.2% which is still below the England average of 67% and the average rate for our statistical neighbours at 63.4%.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy Update

In the summer of 2015 the local authority commissioned ISOS to carry out a fast-paced diagnostic review to inform the future SEND strategic approach in North Yorkshire to meeting the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and disability, involving a wide range of schools, partner organisations and families.

The review identified several key strengths of the current approach to SEND in North Yorkshire, recognising that the local authority was highly inclusive with a good proportion of children with SEND being educated in mainstream provision. In addition the report identified a strong ethos for partnership approaches and collaborative working to ensure high quality services and personalised approaches to meeting the needs of children and young people.

The review also identified some particular themes for continued development including:

- Integrated assessment and decision making
- Greater control to young people, parents and carers
- Enhancing local provision to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND
- Preparing for adulthood
- Integration of services

The SEND Strategy Group are working closely to develop the new SEND strategy taking into account the findings from the review and will be carrying out further consultation with key partners on the draft strategy before it is finalised in April.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson, Executive Member for Children's Services

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 FEBRUARY 2016

STATEMENT OF THE HIGHWAYS, ROAD SAFETY, ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE (INCL BROADBAND, MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE) AND PASSENGER TRANSPORT PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR DON MACKENZIE

Tadcaster Bridge

The bridge suffered partial collapse on 29 December following a prolonged period of heavy rainfall. By our officers' good foresight, the bridge had been closed to all traffic beforehand and no one was injured, but the town was effectively cut in two.

Immediately afterwards, our Integrated Passenger Transport Team set up a shuttle bus to carry residents at regular intervals throughout the day by means of a detour of several miles from one side of the River Wharfe to the other.

The events in Tadcaster, which received world-wide media coverage, and whilst dramatic and shocking, have nonetheless shown what excellent community spirit exists in that town. It is said that adversity brings the best out of people, and that has certainly been the case here.

The immediate task has been to provide a temporary footbridge so that residents are able to walk to their doctor's surgery, pharmacy, supermarket and other necessary destinations. Our officers and contractors worked seven days a week for 12 hours to erect a temporary but totally safe and DDA compliant footbridge with lighting, and this bridge was duly opened and in use by the afternoon of Friday 12 February.

At the same time, our contractor was able to start work on the damaged bridge once water levels had dropped at the end of last month. Excavators have recovered the fallen stone and divers have examined the pier supports and the extent of scouring of the river bed.

We have engaged the services of a specialist to survey the river so that we can map the flows and direction of the waters to inform the design for the rebuilding of the bridge.

Members will be pleased to know that the cost of the bridge repairs and of the temporary bridge, totalling £3.3m, will be met by central government.

The County Council has made every effort to keep local residents fully informed during this time of disruption and anxiety. A lively public meeting, attended by our Chief Executive, BES Director, Assistant Chief Executive, by my colleague, Chris Metcalfe, and by me, attracted over 600 residents. A second public meeting was held on 8 February to provide an update on the very latest situation.

A59 Kex Gill

Another casualty of the heavy rains has been the A59, a key trans-Pennine route which runs from York through Harrogate and Skipton and on to Lancashire. In early January monitors placed on the steep hillside above the A59 at Kex Gill measured movement in excess of 800mm. A decision was taken at once to close the route for critical safety reasons and a long diversion via Otley and Ilkley in West Yorkshire has been in place since 5 January.

The A59 at Kex Gill is constructed on a ledge on a very steep slope on high ground leading up to Blubberhouses Moor. There is a history of land slippage in this location in wet weather. Works are currently underway to install an improved drainage system to allow us to reopen the road as soon as possible. Although good progress is being made on site, heavy rainfall during

the works has hampered progress and has resulted in it being necessary to carry out some extra drainage works which had added approximately an extra 10 days to the original programme. At the time of writing this statement, we are half way into week 4 of the 7.5 week programme of remedial work.

We held a public meeting with local residents and businesses on Wednesday 20 January at the Millstones Restaurant on the A59 east of Kex Gill. Highways officers from County Hall and Area 6 at Boroughbridge and I explained why we had closed the road and what we were doing to get the road open again. The meeting was very well attended and many useful suggestions were made and have been acted upon.

I am very conscious of the fact that local residents are being inconvenienced and that businesses, which rely on passing trade, are badly affected. And yet, many of the attendees made a point of coming up after the meeting to thank the officers for taking the time and making the effort to keep people informed face to face.

My thanks go to my colleague, John Fort, for organising the public meeting and for his support and sound advice to me throughout this challenging period.

Work has started on preparing a plan for a re-routing of the A59 away from Kex Gill to the north in readiness for a bid for funding. This scheme has featured as a top priority in our recently published Strategic Transport Prospectus for North Yorkshire, and in the draft LTP4 document awaiting approval by members at today's meeting.

Flooding

In addition to the high profile impacts described above, flood recovery activities are continuing in many other parts of the county. Several hundred homes and businesses suffered flood damage, several of our bridges and roads were closed for short periods and many communities faced serious consequences of the heavy rainfall.

We are working closely with borough and district council colleagues to administer the government's grant schemes for householders and businesses, to enable communities get back to normal as quickly as possible.

We continue to assess the data received from many sources. The effects of the winter storms represent a significant challenge, but the county council's Local Flood Risk Strategy provides a strong and effective means to prioritise and deliver the work that needs to be done.

A684 Bedale Aiskew Leeming Bar Bypass

The roundabouts at the Bedale and Northallerton ends of the bypass are now open to traffic. The link road between Leases Rd and J51 of the A1(M) opened earlier this month and the carriageway to the west of the A1(M) is 60% built. We are on schedule for completion by the end of August.

A174 Sandsend Road Coastal Protection

The project involves the construction of 800m of concrete sea defences and supporting infrastructure including public access stairs, stabilisation of the coastal slopes above Sandsend Road and the infilling of Raithwaite Gill.

Work started on site in June 2015. The eastern slope stabilisation is almost complete. The western slope stabilisation progressed well until the heavy rains arrived after Christmas. Nevertheless, completion of the main works is expected on schedule at the end of April.

DON MACKENZIE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 FEBRUARY 2016

STATEMENT OF WASTE SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, RAIL STRATEGY AND TRADING STANDARDS PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR CHRIS METCALFE

Waste Services

Waste Management

I am pleased to confirm that construction work at Allerton Waste Recovery Park continues according to programme with over 300,000 hours' work completed. AmeyCespa's construction contractors are now assembling structural steelwork for both the Mechanical Treatment and Energy from Waste buildings, and work has already started on installing some of the process equipment. Works will begin soon on installing cabling necessary to connect to the National Grid in Coneythorpe which will involve directional drilling under the A1. Amey has begun consultations with communities affected by temporary road closures and will keep any inconvenience to a minimum. We have also started working with Amey Cespa and Yorwaste to plan for the commissioning and testing of the plant which will start in early summer of 2017.

I also need to share with you today our plans to change the operation of household waste recycling centres from 1 April 2016.

The first change is that sites will close earlier than they do now. New opening times will be 8:30 am to 5:00 pm between April and September, then 8:30 am to 4:00 pm between October and March. All sites will continue to close every Wednesday. Evidence has shown that the sites have been used by relatively few people between 5 and 7pm so by closing earlier in the summer we will save around £100,000 per year with minimum effect on users.

The second proposed change is that we will also start charging for the acceptance of vehicle tyres in addition to the other types of non-household wastes that we currently charge for. We estimate this will save £15k per year. The Council is not obliged to accept tyres and they are readily recycled by garages and tyre companies. By charging for their disposal we will recover our costs for what is a discretionary service.

Finally, we plan to change the operation of our Stokesley site to only allow North Yorkshire residents to enjoy free access. We estimate that one third of customers at that site are not residents of North Yorkshire. In the past we have been critical when neighbouring authorities have prevented our residents from using sites in their areas, so we have decided we will not be doing the same. We will first seek contributions from the neighbouring councils but if a contribution is not available, non-residents will continue to be welcome to use North Yorkshire HWRCs, but we will charge to do so. This means that residents of neighbouring areas will still have the opportunity to use the site that is closest or most convenient for them, but that they, or their local council will now have to contribute to the cost of providing the service. We estimate this will save over £40,000 per year.

The decision to introduce these changes will be considered by the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Rail Strategy

Over the next few months we will also see changes in our rail network as new franchises are put in place for both the Northern and Trans-Pennine networks. These offer some significant

improvements across the network including increased frequency between Scarborough and York and Harrogate and Leeds – both these are areas which the council has promoted positively to the rail industry

Trading Standards

Multi Agency Safeguarding Team

The safeguarding of vulnerable adults continues to be a key theme with 4 officers now assigned to the safeguarding role, namely visiting victims of scam mail and fitting of call blocking devices. These visits have resulted in a number of referrals not only to Health and Adult Services for a safeguarding assessment but to partner agencies (Fire/Age UK) for visits by these agencies to these residents. This approach is aimed at empowering these residents to remain independent but safe in their own homes.

In addition partnership initiatives have and are taking place with Barclays bank, advising their customers against fraud, Multi-Agency days with Ryedale Community Safety Local Delivery Group, joint visits with the Fire Service. A new initiative is being set up in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch to protect residents of certain Park Home sites that, if successful, can be rolled out to all North Yorkshire sites where there is a need. This has come about from intelligence gathered about specific scams aimed at Park Home owners.

The work of the team will be show cased at a parliamentary reception held in the House of Commons on 9 March. The event entitled “Safeguarding Adults from Financial Scamming” and hosted by Conor Burns MP. Speakers will include North Yorkshire Police ACC Tim Madgwick and Ruth Andrews, North Yorkshire County Council’s Team Leader, Multi Agency Safeguarding Team. The event will look at the impact, research and work being carried out on financial scamming in the UK. Chairman of the County Council Councillor David Jeffels will be attending.

Planning

NY/2015/0233/ENV – Planning application on land at Kirby Misperton on behalf of Third Energy UK Gas Limited

With regard to Third Energy’s planning application, further information requested by the County Planning Authority in October of last year has recently been received and is now subject to formal public consultation.

This is a statutory requirement and means that the County Planning Authority is not in a position to determine the application whilst continuing to seek the views of the community and consultees alike.

The number of representations, including those in objection and those in support, remains around 4,000; although this may change in light of the further round of consultation.

In line with Members’ decision made on Tuesday 20 October of last year, the Planning & Regulatory Functions Committee received formal training on Monday 2 November; the details of which are available to view on the County Council’s Online Planning Register.

Members will recall that no decision will be made on the application until a formal Site Visit has been undertaken by the Committee; a date for which is yet to be arranged.

CHRIS METCALFE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 February 2016

STATEMENT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER - LIBRARY, CUSTOMER AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

COUNTY COUNCILLOR CHRIS METCALFE

Libraries

Library reconfiguration

Work on the reconfiguration of the library service continues to progress well and Officers from the Library and Stronger Communities teams have met with local Members and have been working with them together with local communities and prospective partners to encourage expressions of interest from volunteers interested in forming and being part of local management groups.

A report on progress was considered by both the Executive (8 December) and Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee (16th November) for which RAG (red, amber, green) ratings for each library were produced. The ratings are based on whether a group has come forward; whether that group has submitted an expression of interest; whether there is the required volunteer capacity and whether there is support from the local parish/town council. Six localities with prospective community libraries are currently rated red and six are rated at amber at this point in time. Eight are rated green, with one additional library at Pateley Bridge, already transferred to community management and now operated by Nidderdale Plus.

Those groups that have submitted an expression of Interest will be supported by Stronger Communities team to produce a business plan which will be assessed by a panel comprising officers from legal, contracting, finance, property, libraries and stronger communities. In addition to the above, officers have begun work on simplifying the Service Level Agreements (SLAs) as well as production of guidance and draft heads of terms for leasing buildings.

A highly popular Community Libraries Conference took place on the 20th November in Harrogate . This was attended by 120 people and was aimed at local members and existing/potential partners/management groups. Feedback from the conference has been very positive, with people finding the workshops and opportunity for networking particularly beneficial. The sharing of experience by the existing community libraries was much appreciated. Delegates went away with a clearer idea of the task ahead but reassured that the support will be there for them. Specific comments included:

- It was a most interesting day, and I found the workshops extremely helpful
- Hearing experiences from established volunteers was useful, within the workshops and during networking
- Really enjoyed this conference and found it a very useful networking opportunity and opportunity to share best practice
- It gave space to think and listen to others' ideas / experiences
- Definitely worth spending a day and learnt a lot of valued info
- I have found the day very helpful and informative

One of the suggestions from the conference was that there should be more detailed seminars on some of the topics covered by the day, and we will be discussing options with colleagues as to how to take these forward.

An up to date Community Library Toolkit is also being produced. This will include useful information about the establishment, governance and running of an organisation, business planning, accessing grants and income generation, managing buildings, employing staff/recruiting and managing volunteers, marketing and publicity etc.

Work is also underway on the development of a comprehensive training programme for volunteers and a revision of the operations handbook which both staff and volunteers will use.

In addition to the above, a series of staff briefings took place over 2 weeks commencing the 18th January at the start of the formal re-structure of the entire paid library staff team. As Members will be aware, this remains an extremely challenging programme of change for the library service, and both the Library and Stronger Communities teams will continue to support local Members and communities in enabling them to maintain local library services into the future.

Wi-Fi Funding

Previously we informed members that we have been awarded funding from DCMS to install Wi-Fi in those libraries not currently providing this service, including many of our community managed libraries plus upgrading the system for the others. The installation programme is currently in progress and all installations are scheduled to be completed by the end of February.

New Thirsk Library

Thirsk Library was 'officially' opened in its new location within Meadowfields Extra Care housing scheme in December. In addition to Thirsk's long running Film Club and Book Groups the new venue now boasts four children's Code Club computer programming sessions as well as a popular craft club on a Friday evenings. Working in partnership with Adult Education Services there are several ESOL, Maths and literacy classes taking place in the library which also continues to provide a busy and volunteer led Home Library service to the people of Thirsk and the surrounding area. Working with businesses and organizations local to Thirsk the library is part of the Magna Carta anniversary celebrations and is currently displaying the facsimile copy presented to the town by the Lord Lieutenant. Since opening to the public in August visitor numbers and book issues have increased with a massive 75% increase in new members compared with this time last year. Looking to future developments the library will be collaborating with Bistro 21 to provide a magical feast for Harry Potter Night and a new Gallery space is also being developed for use by local artists.

Celebrating Diwali at Malton library

As part of the celebration of Diwali at Malton library a Skype connection was set by a member of staff so that a family that had been regular users of the library but moved back to India earlier last year could "attend" the storytime held at 2.30 pm local time; 7.30 pm in India.

The Library story corner was beautifully decorated for Diwali with lots of candles and story explaining the festival of light

The feedback from the family was "It is hard to express in few words the joy in being involved in such an international story session. A heartfelt thanks goes to everyone at Malton library to have made it a possibility. Stories, as they say, have no boundaries and in this case it has been proven that they can cross continents"

National Libraries Day.

Libraries across North Yorkshire celebrated National Libraries Day on Saturday 6th February, 2016, with a range of events and activities for library users and supporters to enjoy. We know libraries are loved and valued and in North Yorkshire; they were visited an astonishing 2.5 million times last year. This year, Libraries celebrated the work they do to promote literacy and enjoyment of reading; supporting people access information on-line, encouraging life-long learning and promoting community health and well-being. Residents were encouraged to visit their library to find out about the range of services on offer- from basic IT classes to free book loans, coding clubs to homework support and across the County there were quizzes, stories, classes, treasure hunts and a coding competition for children to design their own Scratch game.

Harrogate Library had a day of activities for all the family from exploring your ancestry to dragon stories and in Ryedale and Scarborough everyone who visited the library in the week leading up to 6th February was entered into a free prize draw to win a library hamper. Other activities included book sculpting in Catterick, young volunteers telling stories in Skipton and cake tasting in Selby. People were also encouraged to join the service on Social media by posting their #Shelfie on Twitter to @nycclibraries by taking a fun photo of themselves in front of a library shelf and spreading the word..

Registration

For the registration service, I can report that the figures for for the first three quarters of 2015-16 are good. The wedding market has bounced back from the downturn during the credit crunch and the provisional figures for ceremonies, both weddings and civil partnerships, for the year ending March 2016 indicate another record high. One example is the Selby office where two years ago the total for ceremonies at the office for the year was 56 and falling. This total has already been exceeded with a e figure of 76.

In addition, same sex couples are now opting for marriage rather than a civil partnership with the number of civil partnerships having fallen from a high of 60 five years ago to a position where a total of less than 12 is anticipated this year. A further 72 couples also opted for a conversion of their civil partnership to a marriage during this year.

The registration staff worked hard during the recent floods to ensure that no bride's big day would be ruined. This was due not only to the efforts of paid staff but also partners and family who also gave their own time to ensure that the registrars arrived on time.

Archives

Grounds for Appeal

The Record Office has secured funding of £8,500 from Heritage Lottery Fund for the 'Grounds for Appeal' project which will explore and open up access to the North Riding military tribunals' appeals records 1916-1918. The tribunals were set up following the passing of the Military Service Act (1916), which introduced conscription and worked throughout the country to consider applications for exemption from military service. With few exceptions, the records created by the tribunals were ordered to be destroyed following the war but those for the North Riding survived and have remained undisturbed and hidden from public view ever since. This project will enable local communities to engage with these records for the first time and to gain a greater understanding of the sensitive issue of conscription, the work of the tribunals and of the social and working conditions which then prevailed.

Ripon Re-Viewed

Over the next two years, the Record Office will be working with Ripon Civic Society and the Library Service to build a visual record of the history of the city of Ripon. The project focuses on the city's photographic heritage, bringing together over 6,000 images in total, documenting and illustrating the changing townscape and the people living and working in the city over the past 120 years. By conserving, digitising and cataloguing the images, the project will create a new and lasting resource that is open and accessible to everyone in Ripon – residents and visitors alike. The Record Office will carry out the digitisation work and provide environmentally controlled storage for the collection; cataloguing work will be undertaken by volunteers.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 February 2016

COUNTY COUNCILLOR GARETH DADD

Budget Update

County Council will consider the budget in some detail and the Leader has already made comment on aspects of this year's budget. It is, however, worth noting that the Council has continued to deliver its saving programme and by the end of March this year it looks likely that we have delivered a total of £116m of savings since 2011. This is great testament to the work carried out by Members and Officers of the Council. The ability to have a plan and then successfully implement that plan are all characteristics of this Council's approach and that is why we are as well placed as any other County Council to face the financial challenges over the remainder of this decade.

The Budget / MTFs Report which the Executive has recommended sets out further thinking on how we continue to ensure that the Council lives within its means by the end of the decade. Clearly more work needs to be done and we need to continue to review our options whilst prioritising to protect the most vulnerable in society.

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge

The Peer Challenge is a free LGA sector-led improvement offer for Local Authorities to tap into their peer group to assess where they stand in comparison. The review is not mandatory and it is not an inspection, therefore does not come with key lines of enquiry. The LGA allow the Local Authority to specify a scope and in our case we have chosen to look at our ability to meet the challenges of the year 2020.

We have now confirmed the date of the review to be 8 – 11 March 2016 where a team of 5 or 6 peers will be on site holding face-to-face and telephone interviews with people across the Council (both officer and Member) and with various partners, for example Selby Better Together. The output from the review will be a report to the Leader and Chief Executive at the end of the last day. This will then be followed up with a written letter formally from the LGA. I will, of course, ensure that Members are informed on the key findings of the review.

Pay award update

NYCC like the vast majority of local authorities, is part of the national pay structure and arrangements which determine the annual inflationary pay award for staff on the national terms and conditions. National negotiations for next year's pay award for council staff (not teachers) from April 2016 are on-going. The employers' side made an offer for the national trade union side to consider but most of the national unions did not feel able to recommend the offer to their members and want to continue negotiations. The Employers side is not prepared to return to negotiations as they consider the offer to be the best possible in view of on-going budget constraints for local government. The national unions are now balloting their members on the offer

and the outcome of these ballots will be known hopefully by the end of the month and there will then need to be further consideration by the unions of their position.

This means that there will not be a pay award for council staff in time to be implemented for 1 April 2016 when the National Living Wage of £7.20 comes into force. A national pay award along the lines of the Employers side offer would have meant that local government pay scales were National Living Wage compliant. So the County Council, like most local authorities, will need to increase pay rates at the bottom of the pay spine by 1-2% to ensure it pays the new National Living Wage of £7.20 from 1 April 2016. This is a temporary measure pending a national pay award agreement affecting Bands one, two and bottom of three and is within the budget which assumes a national annual pay award of 1-2%.

Property

The ceiling replacement and associated refurbishment works to the Members' Corridor and meeting rooms has now been completed and these rooms are now back in use, although essential maintenance works continue to be undertaken. Feedback has generally been positive but if there are comments on how we can improve the effectiveness of the rooms then please let me know.

Planning work is being undertaken on other parts of the County Hall campus with the aim of increasing the efficiency of the Council's property. Our aim is to deliver an environment that promotes modern working practices for staff who will work more flexibly. Further works are expected to be undertaken later this year.

The County Hall site will host over 1000 members of staff on a daily basis. It is right that staff on the campus should have access to a good restaurant facility but a good restaurant can do more than feed staff. If we get it right then it can also be at the heart of the County Hall site where people come together to work on plans (using wifi and hot-desking principles etc). In other words it can help to increase productivity as part of a modern working environment.

I have therefore requested that different options for the future operation and management of the staff restaurant be investigated, including discussions with private providers. We will be meeting with possible providers later this month to investigate how this can be made to work and we will then consider next steps.

It should also be noted that the County Council's contract with Jacobs ends on 31 March. Staff within the Property Service are working to ensure that the new arrangements, including with Mouchel acting as the Projects and Estates Consultancy, will be effective from 1 April.

Technology

Finally it is worth noting that as from 1 February, as part of our Better Together work with Selby, the County Council's Technology & Change Team have started to deliver Selby DC's IT function. Currently this is working well.

GARETH DADD

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 FEBRUARY 2016

STATEMENT OF SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS PORTFOLIO HOLDER

COUNTY COUNCILLOR ARTHUR BARKER

Financial Strategy & 2020 North Yorkshire

The Children and Young People's Service has continued to meet its savings targets. The scale of budget cuts required – and achieved to date, whilst maintaining service levels, has been a significant challenge. The objective has been to protect front-line services as much as possible, thus enabling a restructured Directorate to operate effectively across its universal, preventative, targeted and acute service responsibilities, in line with legislation. Although the Directorate is facing emerging pressures in some of the higher need budgets, such as Special Home to School Transport and Disabled Children's Services, we are on track to achieve the savings and transformation projects agreed by Council.

This past year has seen the implementation of some major transformation programmes, including the review of Preventative Services and a new way of delivering school improvement.

This information appears in the Statements to Council for both Executive Members for the Children and Young People's Service as this reflects our joint responsibility for all relevant resources.

Sutton-in-Craven Primary School

During the course of the recent flood event at Sutton in Craven, the Community Primary School was affected and was closed for the first week of the Spring Term. The School has since re-opened although further works are required to be undertaken to replace the boiler which was damaged as a consequence of the flood.

School Ofsted inspection outcomes

The percentage of schools graded as good or outstanding by Ofsted continues to be an improving picture with all indicators now above national averages for the first time. As at 1 January 2016, 85.5% of North Yorkshire's primary schools are graded as good or outstanding which is just above the national figure of 85.3%, and 75% of secondary schools are good or outstanding, which is now better than the national figure of 74.3%.

The percentage of pupils attending a good or outstanding school has also increased and at a faster rate than the national rate. As of 1 January, 86.6% of North Yorkshire's primary school pupils attended a good or outstanding school (better than the national figure of 84.8%). 83.8% of North Yorkshire's secondary pupils attend a good or outstanding school, which again is higher than the national figure of 78.5%.

The number of inadequate schools has reduced by one. There is now only two in primary and none in secondary. Hawes Community Primary School was placed in Special Measures in January. The school is working with School Improvement colleagues to address the issues. The LA is making an application to the Secretary of State for an Interim Executive Board. A parents' meeting was held on the 27 January and the school and LA committed to a parents forum to keep parents updated with regard to progress of improvements and also to seek their views.

School performance

Two areas of foci for improvement are around maths at Key Stage 2 and Closing the Gap between pupils eligible for FSM and their peers. The School improvement Service has commissioned an external research on best practice and the most effective strategies. The reports are being finalised and will be shared with schools this term.

School Organisation

There has been a good deal of activity on school organisation in the last quarter, reflecting the responsibility of the Council to challenge and support schools, our duty to ensure that we are providing places where they are needed, and the increasing interest amongst schools in working in new ways.

We have been consulting people in the Catterick Garrison area about how we might provide places in response to the ever growing housing developments there. We are also currently consulting parents in the Selby area about a proposal to amalgamate Brayton High School and Selby High School through the technical closure of Brayton High School and the enlargement of Selby High School. At the time of writing this statement, I am aware that I am scheduled to take a decision on whether to start consultation in the Whitby area on a similar proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School with Caedmon College through the technical closure of Eskdale and the enlargement of Caedmon College and I will update Councillors on that our meeting on 17 February.

We are in the process of publishing our strategic approach to schools organisation, which promotes the view that all schools are stronger by working with others, and that we welcome and support new models of deliver that lead to improved outcomes for children. One example of this is being consulted on at present by Ryedale School and a number of its feeder primaries, who are looking to form a cross-phase federation. We welcome such innovative approaches and we are in active discussions across the county with various groups of schools.

LA School Governor appointments

Over the last few years the roles and responsibilities of school governors have increased and developed as new legislation has been introduced. Those of you currently serving on school governing boards will understand how central to school success governance has become and the scrutiny governance comes under when a school is inspected. Can I therefore take this opportunity to thank those of you who serve or have served on governing boards for your contribution to school improvement in North Yorkshire.

New legislation has recently been introduced which moves from the concept of governors as representatives of particular groups to governors being appointed for their skills and expertise. The status of LA governors was altered under these regulations. The local authority can nominate any eligible person to serve on a governing board but it is now for governing boards to decide whether or not the nominee has the right match of skills and expertise to contribute to the effective governance of the school. This has meant that the LA school governor process has had to be amended.

In future the governance team will contact elected members annually inviting them to nominate people they feel would be suitable as a school governor, including themselves. Once those nominees have completed an application form they will be matched with a suitable, local, school with a governor vacancy that could benefit from their skills and experience. Where Members nominated someone to serve on a specific governing body, officers will ensure that the school is made aware of this preference. I must stress however that under the revised legislation, it is the school governing board who will have the final say on whether or not they accept a nominee.

In every school across North Yorkshire governors give up significant amounts of time as volunteers committed to ensuring their schools provide a good standard of education. This is laudable work and we need to sustain this high level of commitment in the coming years. I sincerely hope, therefore, that you will all continue your commitment to this important role and to nominating high quality individuals to be governors.

County Councillor Arthur Barker
Executive Member for Schools and Early Years

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 February 2016

SCRUTINY BOARD

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

Scrutiny Board was represented at Executive (Performance Monitoring) on the morning of 17 November 2015 and we contributed to the review of performance on a range of issues relating to residential and nursing and community based services.

But the actual meeting of Scrutiny Board in the afternoon was cancelled due to a number of overview and scrutiny committee Chairmen being unable to attend.

Our next meeting will be on 23 February 2016.

We will pick up outstanding business from the November meeting. I think it would also be useful to reflect on the joint meeting of the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny of Health Committee on 22 January 2016 as part of their work to inform production of the Minerals and Waste Disposal Plan with regards to Fracking. I attended and it went extremely well. There may be lessons, in terms of process and management of meetings that we can learn for overview and scrutiny in general.

County Councillor Elizabeth Casling
Chairman: Scrutiny Board

February 2016

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 February 2016

SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE – STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The main topics I would like to highlight to this meeting of County Council are:

NHS Place Based Planning and its Implications for North Yorkshire

On 22 December 2015 the NHS published its Planning Guidance - 2016/17 to 2020/21. A key element of the Guidance is for every health and care system to produce a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) and a complementary one year Operational Plan for 2016/17. The NHS is calling the new process "Place Based Planning".

STPs are about the pursuit of three aims set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View published on 23 October 2014 - better health, transformed quality of care delivery and sustainable finances.

The STPs will become the single application and approval process for being accepted onto programmes with transformational funding for 2017/18 onwards.

The STP will involve:

- a) local leaders coming together as a team;
- b) developing a shared vision with the local community, which also involves local government as appropriate;
- c) programming a coherent set of activities to make it happen;
- d) execution against plan; and
- e) learning and adapting."

Each STP will cover the period between October 2016 and March 2021, and will be subject to formal assessment in July 2016 following submission in June 2016.

NHS England (Yorkshire and the Humber) is recommending the main five Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) covering North Yorkshire to join STPs largely outwith North Yorkshire:

- Harrogate and Rural District CCG and the Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven CCG – with West Yorkshire
- Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG - with Durham and Tees
- Scarborough and Ryedale CCG and the Vale of York CCG - with Hull, NE Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and East Riding

This footprint is heavily influenced by the geographical location of the acute hospital trusts and the networks to which they belong for specialist services.

The Operational Plans must cover immediate measures to reconcile finance, activity and capacity and contributions towards efficiency savings. They must also address a range of "must dos" which include developing a high quality and agreed STP and ensuring the health care system is on track against a range of national standards, such as waiting times in A&E ambulance waiting times and waiting for cancer treatment.

“As a truly place-based plan, the STPs must cover all areas of CCG and NHS England commissioned activity including: (i) specialised services, where the planning will be led from the 10 collaborative commissioning hubs; and (ii) primary medical care, and do so from a local CCG perspective, irrespective of delegation arrangements. The STP must also cover better integration with local authority services, including, but not limited to, prevention and social care, reflecting local agreed health and wellbeing strategies.”

My concern is that there will not be one STP covering the whole of North Yorkshire and that the STPs which do cover North Yorkshire may be unduly influenced by the challenges faced in providing healthcare in the urban areas of Teesside, Leeds, Bradford and Hull. The challenges in these areas are entirely different to those of providing services to the rural and remote communities of North Yorkshire where we have a reliance on medium sized district general hospitals, a history of the NHS financial deficits, low local government funding settlements and an under investment in community health services.

Developments at the Lambert Hospital, Thirsk

Since my report to County Council in November 2015 I am disappointed to report that at our mid cycle briefing in December we heard that despite extensive efforts to recruit staff the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust had still not been successful and the situation remained unchanged.

I raised the issue again at the meeting of the Governing Body of the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG on Thursday 28 January 2016. The Trust has still been unable to recruit suitable staff to reopen the Hospital and the CCG is now exploring alternative arrangements including providing beds in local nursing homes for people requiring end of life care.

I fear the future of the Lambert Hospital is now looking increasingly uncertain.

Short Stay Paediatric Assessment Unit (SSPAU), Friarage Hospital, Northallerton

At our mid cycle briefing in December we heard that the SSPAU is working well although the number of patients is very low when considering workload per day for a consultant paediatrician and 2 staff nurses.

The Governing Body of the CCG at its meeting on 28 January 2016 accepted the recommendations from the Trust that the SSPAU should operate a 10 hour day service 9.00am to 7.00pm Monday to Friday but will not be open during weekends.

The Scrutiny of Health Committee has had a long standing involvement in these developments and has been kept fully briefed by both the CCG and the Trust. As mentioned above I attended the meeting of the Governing Body and the CCG will be writing to me to seek the Committee's views on the proposals, including how they will be engaging with patients locally. Our next meeting is not until 22 April so I will consult with the group spokespersons in order to respond on behalf of the Committee.

Fracking

Our joint meeting with the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Friday 22 January 2016 went very well.

The purpose of the meeting was to consider the broad strategic issues around fracking with a view to influencing the development of the Minerals & Waste Plan. A key aspect will be to assess the extent to which the Plan is “future proof” should there be a proliferation of wells across the County.

There was constructive involvement from members of the public. We received a number of informative responses from a range of agencies involved in the regulation of Fracking in response to lines of enquiry set out in our report.

In consultation with group spokesperson from each committee, Councillor Backhouse and I are working toward producing a report which summarises our findings for submission to the Executive and to fit in with the planned production of the Plan which is likely to be early this summer.

County Councillor Jim Clark
Chairman: North Yorkshire County Council Scrutiny of Health Committee

February 2016

North Yorkshire County Council**24 February 2016****Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee****Chairman's Statement**

1. The Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 13 November 2015 and looked at the issue of school leadership and governance in closing the gap in educational achievement within North Yorkshire in detail.
2. The Committee considered evidence, written and oral, from a number of sources including representatives from School Governors, Head Teachers, the Council's Children's and Young People Service, Teaching School Alliances, York University and Joseph Rowntree Trust as well as an up to date presentation on North Yorkshire 2015 educational outcomes.
3. After considering all the evidence, the Committee welcomed the Council's Closing the Gap Strategy and endorsed its general approach. It was heartening to hear from the witnesses of the level of trust between the County Council's School Improvement Service and the schools, as well as, the support for the vision in the strategy and the change to the new school led approach.
4. It was similarly really good to see the 2015 figures showing that the attainment of all disadvantaged pupils has improved at all key stages and that the gap between disadvantaged and other pupils had narrowed in North Yorkshire secondary schools for KS4 and post-16 (2014).
5. The committee felt that the following points from the strategy were particularly important for schools to follow:
 - high quality teaching and learning as the first most important principle
 - the need for a few successful interventions consistently applied and which did not overwhelm a school or confuse
 - the need to appoint pupil premium champions of both staff and governing bodies to interlink with children and parents
 - that the strategy's principle 7 (we will focus on high quality transitions) includes the need for good links between primary and secondary schools so that there is continuity and the right approach is followed in developing the child's education plan.
6. It was also good to see the clear link between areas of deprivation and the educational outcomes in those areas articulated in the strategy and that specific strategies have been developed to address those particular areas i.e. the coast.
7. Added to this, were the key points from the evidence which the committee thought could help in making the significant progress in closing the gap that we all seek.

8. These points were:

- A. Good School Leadership and Governing Body input are vital so the level of training and support provided by the Council needs to be of a high quality. The commitment to continue this is not explicitly mentioned within the principles or priorities of the strategy.
- B. We would concur with priority E (set challenging targets at all levels) and noted the comment of Dr Rudd from York University who felt that the target for KS4 could be more positive, perhaps delivered through a step change, firstly to get to the national target and then to achieve beyond this.
- C. A number of witnesses talked of the need to consider the overall social and emotional development of the child. Whilst we appreciate that this can be difficult to monitor this development, the effect of the Wolf review reforms will see school performance being judged on pupil grades across eight subjects from 2016. The evidence from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation stated that “Well-evaluated programmes in primary and secondary schools which sought to improve the skills of all students, including self-esteem, social skills, problem solving and coping skills, led to benefits for students’ social and emotional competencies and educational outcomes.” We would anticipate that priority 4 of the strategy would cover this but you may wish to add this emphasis to that priority.
- D. Pupil transience is an issue for some of the schools in the County and is not currently highlighted in the priorities. It can be up to a third of the pupils in a year for some schools making it difficult to provide a quality baseline assessment that can lead onto the right educational plan being developed for the child.
- E. As the officer presentation stated, pupils with lower attendance are less likely to attain and with Free Schools Meals and Special Educational Needs attendance lower than national figures, we would ask that the message of keeping school attendance high, particularly for the most vulnerable students and families, remains in place.
- F. The size of the schools in North Yorkshire presented itself in a number of ways. As the Peer Review detailed and as we heard it can be difficult for small schools to recruit high quality teachers, particularly in rural areas; it can provide challenges for them to fully engage with the improvement partnerships and to receive appropriate advice and support; small cohorts can have a disproportionate effect on a schools performance along with the financial viability and the schools ability to attract the right mix and calibre of governors.

The demographic changes of increasing birth rates in some areas and issues such as transience (for instance, children whose parents or guardians are in the Forces) are a concern. A number of schools are reporting that they are reaching their capacity in terms of the numbers of children for whom they can cater. Added to this, we heard comments that the new homes build program is putting pressure on both primary and secondary schools.

We felt that there was not enough focus on the effect of small schools in the strategy or identification of possible solutions. It may well be something that is being worked on alongside the strategy but the performance of small schools particularly in areas of high deprivation can have a sizeable effect of the overall performance across the county.

G. Following on from this, clear communication from the council around how the new improvement partnership structure will develop and what as a result was expected from all the schools and partners which should include denominational boards of education is critical. We did hear of some possible lack of understanding from the witnesses on how they fitted into the new structure and what was required from them.

H. This also included access to appropriate good practice advice for a school. There was some discussion with officers prior to the committee meeting around the pupil premium good practice guides produced by Milton Keynes Council and Sheffield City Council.

It would be good if the council could provide a similar guide that highlighted how pupil premium had been spent to improve pupil educational achievement and close the gap. The guide could provide examples from the different type of schools across the county whether that is by type, location or size with a contact person from that school available to talk to other schools about the approach they had taken. This would help particularly those smaller, more isolated schools who could think here is a similar school to us and this approach has worked for them and we could give them a call to work out how it will help our school.

9. The Committee agreed that it would like to ask the School Improvement Service to come back to the Committee on 24 March 2017 to advise on the data on the 2016 educational outcomes across the county, the progress on closing the gap and an assessment/evaluation of the effect on the new improvement partnerships.
10. The Committee, at the meeting on 13 November 2015, also considered an update on a number of success indicators that had been proposed by the Task and Finish group that had looked at Online Safety.
11. The Committee noted that a campaign plan had been developed by the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children's Board e-safety task group to deliver a campaign in North Yorkshire which assisted parents to have conversations with their children about how to stay safe online and promoted online safety to children aged 8-12 years.
12. The Committee welcomed the successful campaign work and that all the activity had now been mainstreamed. However, a number of success indicators from the Committee's task and finish group had looked for improvements being shown in the Growing up in North Yorkshire survey and would like to see the results from the 2016 survey when it had been analysed.

13. The Committee also considered the report and recommendations from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Young People Task and Finish Group. The Chairman of the Task and Finish Group, Councillor Val Arnold, reported that the work that the Task and Finish Group had undertaken had been eye-opening and shocking at times. There was a significant difference in North Yorkshire between the experiences of an average Year 10 pupil and LGBT young people growing up. This ranged from increased bullying, poor emotional health and wellbeing and greater engagement in risky behaviours.
14. The Task and Finish Group had met local LGBT groups in North Yorkshire and listened to some of the stories and experiences LGBT people had when growing up and progressing through school. The findings and recommendations in the report were intended to guide the County Council and its partners on how to raise awareness of the issues faced by LGBT young people. They were also meant to help guide schools to take a more proactive approach in reducing homophobic, bi-phobic and transphobic bullying.
15. Members thanked Councillor Arnold and noted that this was a very important piece of work that had been undertaken and for those Members on the working group it had been thought provoking and engaging. The Committee agreed that the report and recommendations should be sent to the Council's Executive for its consideration.
16. I can confirm that the next Committee meeting that was originally scheduled for 29 January 2016 has been cancelled and replaced by a workshop on Monday 15 February 2016 at Northallerton College from 10 am to 1pm.
17. The purpose of the workshop is to understand the work that has been done by the Council's Voice, Influence and Participation team to develop opportunities, at an individual and group level to genuinely engage and listen to the voice of young people and to look at (alongside children and young people representatives) what further opportunities for engagement there are.
18. I will report on the outcomes from the workshop at the next Council meeting on 18 May 2016.

County Councillor Janet Jefferson
Chairman

Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
County Hall, Northallerton
28 January 2016

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

24 February 2016

CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

2020 Savings Equipment Services and Telecare

1. Over the last eighteenth months the Committee has examined the Directorate's progress in achieving a number of the 2020 Savings areas. We wanted to understand: A) how the service will be different; B) whether financial targets are being achieved; and C) how the Directorate is managing the impact on service users. At our last meeting our focus was directed towards the Directorate's statutory duty to provide aids to daily living following a person's assessment.

Equipment Services

2. The arrangements for the assessment, provision and delivery of equipment are shared between NYCC and Health via the Clinical Commission Groups (CCGs). There is an equipment budget and also a contract that is currently with the Harrogate and District Foundation Trust (HDFT) for the running costs of the Equipment (Loans) Store. Harrogate and Rural District (HaRD) CCG have lead responsibility for the contract.
3. The growth in demand is mainly evident in the increasing use of health funded items, with the result that the CCGs are facing overspends. The emphasis on prevention and timely discharge from hospital has made reductions in social care equipment difficult to achieve.
4. When identifying this as a potential savings area, it was acknowledged that as these services were often complementary to other community services, they could not be viewed in isolation. Making savings whilst maintaining quality of service was never going to be easy. The required reduction in the HAS budget has to a degree been achieved by an increased use of Public Health funding.
5. A joint procurement between NYCC and the CCGs has just been launched. A key area that is now nearing completion is engagement with users of the services to ensure that the new service meets their needs. Alongside the procurement, health are running a similar exercise for the provision of wheelchairs. This may indirectly lead to some efficiencies of scale.
6. This is a major procurement project which will come to fruition in 2016. Early indications are that there will be some changes as to how equipment is provided. For example, delivery may be directly from the supplier rather than through a store

(known as a “retail model”). The Committee would like to be kept informed of progress.

Telecare

7. A significant development in North Yorkshire has been the growth in use of telecare. The basic element of this is a “lifeline” alarm system but more sophisticated developments include pressure mats, door and incontinence alarms that allow people to retain independence, whilst maintaining their safety. Telecare services rest solely with NYCC and as a consequence this has been a simpler area for HAS to review. A fundamental review of the process has resulted in better outcomes for customers and evidence of improved quality. This has included better and more consistent quality control of equipment provided.
8. These changes to the service represent both a reduction in the staffing budget and changes to existing processes. Evidence shows that they have resulted in a more efficient service which has made the required saving of £92,000. This has not impacted on the provision for users as it centres on better procurement and a reduction in staff numbers. Further work is ongoing to retain the achieved changes in culture, and to make best use of changes in technology
9. Each time the committee has examined a 2020 savings area in this way, we have been struck by the complex and inter-related nature of services, but this appears to be especially the case with equipment and telecare. Changes elsewhere in service delivery have evidently led to an increase in preventative services, which in turn affects the feasibility of achieving the original projections for the savings.
10. Nevertheless, we supported the Directorate’s assertion that the end result of the project may be radically different services but ones that will reflect the changing needs of service users

Annual Report of the Older People’s Champion

11. For sixteen years Shelagh Marshall has reported to us on her work as Older Peoples Champion, promoting the interests of people aged 50 and above. This year’s report is again an impressive account of the sterling work Shelagh does in the three areas older people mention as the most important factors in their lives: health, financial security and social connections.
12. Shelagh highlighted some of the key activities and initiatives in local communities which successfully contribute to older people’s health and wellbeing, and which will be crucial if we are to meet that demographic challenge, and the NYCC 2020 programme.
13. Shelagh shares the committee's enthusiasm for the contribution the Stronger Communities and the Living Well teams will make to reducing loneliness in older

age in their communities. Loneliness is a massive public health issue which councils across the UK are beginning to take seriously

14. There is a general imperative for public services to do what they can to alleviate personal suffering and distress, but there is also very strong evidence that loneliness can increase the pressure on a wide range of council and health services. Indeed, it can be a tipping point for referral to adult social care and can be the cause of a significant number of attendances at GP surgeries. Shelagh reminded us how small interventions, which bring together all local actors and make the best use of existing capacity within the community, will deliver results and help people to interact thus making communities more conducive to healthy and independent ageing.
15. I cannot praise Shelagh's dynamism and energy highly enough. We are indeed fortunate to have such a respected ambassador for North Yorkshire older peoples' interests.

CQC Inspection of Homes

16. By law, all care homes in the UK must provide services to minimum standards of safety and quality. We all want to see a thriving care provider sector that builds resilience and maintains a strong focus on quality. The Care Quality Commission has promised to be a "strong regulator" and to "take action to force improvement" in care homes. Dianne Chaplin, Regional Inspector at the Care Quality Commission, explained how she and her colleagues make sure health and social care services provide people with safe, effective, compassionate, high-quality care and encourage care services to improve. We heard how the Commission monitors, inspects and regulates services to make sure they meet fundamental standards of quality and safety and how findings are published, including performance ratings to help people choose care.
17. We saw evidence of close and effective liaison between CQC and the quality and monitoring function within HAS. Staff seem committed to sharing information and views about services where there are concerns, particularly where services are in enforcement measures.
18. Dianne acknowledged that it is early days for the new CQC rating system. The increased transparency that comes from posting the results online is self-evidently a good thing, but many of us know from experience that people are struggling to understand what the ratings categories actually mean in practice. It seems constituents regularly contact local Members about issues they are experiencing personally or in relation to family members. How elected members - not just those on this committee - are informed about, and possibly connected to, the regulation and inspection of care establishments is something the committee continues to

look at periodically. We regularly review options as to how Members are involved in and add value to the quality assurance and monitoring of care homes.

Health and Social Care Integration

19. We are moving to a different world of care, characterised by increasing and significant areas of overlap as health and social care provision is no longer distinct. One way the committee has approached understanding this change has been to look at where the Health and Wellbeing Board supports vulnerable people to live independently.
20. Evidence suggests that joint commissioning between health and social care that results in a multi-component yet unified, approach is likely to achieve better results than those that rely on a single or limited set of strategies. Our interest in this area has tended to centre on briefings on specific jointly funded initiatives, especially those aimed at transforming care so that people are provided with better integrated care. We saw examples of these in a progress report of the Better Care Fund which showed variable but, overall, solid performance across the whole plan.
21. We also reviewed the Board's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which is before the Council for adoption. We were pleased that the strategy is about more than health and social care services. Underpinning the strategy is the notion that every aspect of public life – education, childcare, housing, employment, the quality of the local environment and the type of community we live in – can affect our health and wellbeing at any point through our lives.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR PATRICK MULLIGAN

Chairman, Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee
County Hall,
NORTHALLERTON

5 February 2015

Background Documents - Nil.

North Yorkshire County Council

24 February 2016

Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Chairman's Statement

1. My statement for this full council includes details of the Committee meetings held on 16 November 2015 and 18 January 2016.

Reconfiguration of the Library Services

2. At the meeting on 16 November 2015, the Committee reconsidered the reconfiguration of the Library Services. The Committee looked at the progress being made with the community groups towards the proposed reconfiguration of libraries, into seven core, five hybrid and a further twenty one community managed libraries, with the reconfiguration due to come into effect in the Spring of 2017, prior to it being considered by the Executive.
3. The Committee noted that this was an extremely challenging programme of change and the Library service together with a representative from Stronger Communities had met with the majority of the councillors with a prospective Community Library in their area as well as most councillors with a Hybrid library.
4. The officers had also been having meetings with prospective groups, as well as Parish and Town Councils, in order to explore different options and to help the groups to understand what they will need to do. Across the County there have been 38 meetings with local groups/town and parish councils and 31 Volunteer Information sessions.
5. The Committee considered the Red, Amber, or Green (RAG) status for each of the Libraries and noted that the intention was to apply the council's resources proportionately to the RAG status of the Libraries with the most resources being focused to those Libraries that had a red RAG status. The Council did not want any of these Libraries to fail and would explore all viable options with the local community to seek an appropriate solution.
6. The Committee further noted that of those Libraries that were marked as being green it was expected that progress could be made relatively swiftly with the library at Pateley Bridge, having already transferred to community management and was now operated by Nidderdale Plus, in their new premises with the support of volunteers and some dedicated library staffing. There may be some scope for the other libraries to transfer to community management prior to 2017.
7. The seven amber rated libraries had either an established group in place or have made some progress towards establishing a group and identifying volunteers, but require further support to progress further. In addition to the above, four of the hybrids were currently rated amber on this basis.

8. Of those marked red, the unique civilian - military community of the Catterick garrison, means that for a community - managed library to succeed all possible routes to sustainability must be considered, including joint proposals across Richmond – Colburn - Catterick. It was noted that for this work to succeed it would require a significant focus by officers over a number of months. However, the local County Councillors were working well together which could significantly help this process along.
9. In respect of Kirbymoorside Library, this too would require some focused work over a number of months, particularly to resolve the issue of funding the current premises for the community library.
10. The Committee noted that in respect of Stokesley Library, the Parish Council was potentially considering raising the Parish precept to enable additional support to be given to the community library.
11. The Committee further noted that there was still some way to go in respect of the other Libraries that were marked as red – Crosshills, Settle, Thirsk and the hybrid library at Pickering and it was hoped that progress may be a little quicker with these libraries to reach a solution.
12. The Committee welcomed the report and agreed that it would like to be kept informed of the progress being made through an updated Library RAG status list being submitted to the Committee’s meeting on 18 January 2016 and a further update report on the library reconfiguration programme of work be submitted to the Committee’s meeting on 18 April 2016.
13. The Committee expressed its thanks to the Library staff for their level of commitment during such a difficult period of change and would like them to know how much it is appreciated.

Customer Strategy

14. In respect of the Council’s customer strategy, the committee was advised that the vision for the strategy was that in five years’ time the way in which the Council transacted with its customers would be increasingly on-line. The aim was to have 70% of customer contact managed by digital self-service channels with the remainder supported through “assisted digital” channels.
15. The Committee noted that assisted digital was support for people who can't use or access online services on their own. The support can be someone guiding a user through the digital service, entering a user's information into the digital service on their behalf or providing a location where people can access the equipment and connectivity to get on-line.
16. The customer strategy aimed to put the customer at the heart of the design and delivery of the Council’s services and in doing so would enable the council to achieve the savings of £33 million detailed within the 2020 programme. This could be achieved, in part, via an improved customer experience through consistency of services and re-use, supporting customers to be self-reliant so that they could use

cheaper means of contact and through a marketing campaign aimed at changing customer and staff behavior.

17. It was intended for there to be a clear customer engagement in the service design process with a full customer involvement during the testing stage for service changes. Furthermore, priority resources would be given to those projects where benefits delivered from the use of customer components was clear.
18. There was a role for the councillors in helping to communicate the customer vision with customers; supporting the consultation on the customer strategy and being ambassadors for the customer theme. It was also intended to create a Customer Members Support Group to aid officers and Councillors Bateman, Blackburn, Lunn, Parsons and Swales expressed an interest to be part of this group.
19. The Committee commented that currently 70% of all contact to the council was by phone and that a change to get to 70% online would require quite a bit of work particularly for those older people who do not go online or are unable to get online. It agreed that it would like an update as the strategy developed on the changes in channel switching.

Police and Crime Commissioner

20. At the meeting on 18 January 2016, the Committee heard from Julia Mulligan, Police and Crime Commissioner, on the Community Safety Priorities and Activities within the Police and Crime Plan.
21. The Commissioner advised that victim services for North Yorkshire and West Yorkshire had been provided out of a call centre in Wakefield. Dissatisfaction with this service had resulted in it being moved to York when the Commissioner took office just to serve North Yorkshire and York. As a result of this the range of victim support services offered had been expanded.
22. In addition, money has been provided for specific support services for specific types of crime such as child sexual exploitation, for which there had been no prior provision. Domestic abuse services have also been developed to include medium risk offenders for earlier intervention to prevent them becoming high risk.
23. Protecting vulnerable people is the number one priority in the Police and Crime Plan. Unfortunately, in North Yorkshire there have been increases in the number of crimes affecting vulnerable victims, such as domestic abuse, sexual exploitation and cyber-crime. North Yorkshire Police though, launched a cyber-crime unit in April 2015 to tackle the increases in online criminal activity.
24. The Commissioner commented that a big area of work had been getting partners to sign up to the Mental Health Concordat which sets out a consistent approach among partners as to how people with mental health difficulties should be dealt with. Improving the work of the street triage approach was important as well as ensuring that people who need services can access those services easier and quicker, preventing them from being picked up by street triage further down the line. North Yorkshire has 3 section 136 facilities in Scarborough, Harrogate and Northallerton

whereas before 2012 there were none. North Yorkshire is far from where it needs to be in supporting vulnerable people with mental health difficulties but it has come a long way.

25. The Commissioner stated that she had helped to set up the Rural Crime Network in July 2014. This was in response to a lack of hard evidence that citizens were not satisfied with the service they received from the police in rural areas. The network was continuing to challenge the Government on the funding formula for police forces and the Government had agreed to reconsider its review. The Commissioners in the Network had made it clear that the new formula needs to be linked to how the police forces are structured and not in isolation of each other.
26. The Commissioner noted that in respect of rural cross border crime, Land Rover Defenders being stolen was a problem nationally as the parts are valuable. Police forces were looking to move to borderless policing where the police can pursue perpetrators across police boundaries. Closer cooperation between forces, as well as merging certain units such as the dog unit allow for increased activity across a larger 'greater' force area.
27. The Committee was advised that there would be no possibility for Parish Councils to buy their own mobile speed camera or to contribute to the cost of one to be installed in their area. North Yorkshire Police have made a significant £1m investment into automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) technology. In addition, the force was the national lead into developing ANPR software and networks nationally to allow for greater cross force cooperation to tackle offenders.
28. The Commissioner stated that the 101 number was a national system that has been in place for three years. The service is in the process of being re-procured and the Commissioner is involved with this. There were a number of issues that need to be addressed in that procurement. There are question marks around how people with disabilities can effectively access the service. There are resilience issues, the number went down over the New Year as a result of the flooding in York and the police had to put other measures in place. It costs £0.15 per call to the number and this cost needs to be reduced. Finally, what can be offered in terms of better promotion will be considered as considerable work needs to be done on this area.
29. The Commissioner had recently completed a review of the First Contact Customer Experience provided by North Yorkshire Police and she commented that members' frustrations were in line with the findings of the review. A £1.6m investment was being spent upgrading the phone system to ensure that the system will always route a call through to someone so that you will always receive an answer. Mobile technology is also being considered for certain officers, Sussex police force is leading the way on communication with lots of contact information and means of communication online. The closest North Yorkshire officers can come to that, at the moment, is calls being routed through the airwave radios.
30. The Commissioner was asked to provide an update on the development of the 101 number to the committee in 2017.

Transforming Rehabilitation

31. Martin Weblin (Purple Futures Community Rehabilitation Company) and Wendy Capes (National Probation Service) attended the meeting to answer the Committee's questions regarding the changes to the delivery of probation services under the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation agenda.
32. The Committee heard that reoffending rate measures were being reviewed by the Government and only once that has been completed will organisations be able to measure success. The split between organisations for high risk offenders and medium and low risk offenders will make it difficult to make a direct comparison to historical data where one service managed all offenders.
33. The key measure for Purple Futures to judge whether the changes in the delivery of the service had been a success was payment by results. This was split into in 17 service level targets which covered every area of their work. Purple Futures have four Ministry of Justice staff that work with them and were solely focused on monitoring effectiveness against outcomes. It was too early to say how successful the changes had been but as most of the targets were currently green it looked like the targets were achievable.
34. The Probation Service had 23 similar national measures with a few reds for North Yorkshire but overall it was an improving picture.
35. The Committee noted that significant pathways out of reoffending varied depending on each individual as the individual responded differently to the various pathways of support. There are three general areas of support that are key to preventing reoffending; these are: finding the individual stable work, secure housing, and improved emotional and psychological wellbeing particularly, improving self-esteem. Partnership working and good relationships with other agencies such as housing associations can be key to the success of preventing reoffending.
36. It was noted that the criminal demographic in North Yorkshire hasn't changed significantly in the last few years. The number of sex offenders and historical sexual abuse offenders had increased and they tended to be older and present different needs such as health and social care requirements. There continues to be a low number of female high risk offenders in the Probation Service.
37. The Committee questioned how mental health issues were dealt with, the National Probation Service are heavily involved with personality disorder services as that is often a common issue. Practitioners could work more effectively within a holistic framework. Community Mental Health Nurses do offer advice on cases, however, traditionally the link with the mental health services is not as strong and difficulty is often found engaging with those services. The County Council's Health and Wellbeing Board were more of a strategic group and don't necessarily consider the forensic detail of issues.
38. The Committee agreed that the North Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Board be requested to look at the significance that mental health issues have in leading to

criminal justice and to consider whether it should be and how it could be given higher priority within its plans.

39. The Committee noted that in respect of links to Youth Offending two probation service officers were seconded to the youth offending service to allow for a longer lead in time for transition between custody and being out on supervision. A probation service representative sat on the Youth Justice Board and contributed to the ongoing discussion of issues and improving links between the organisations.
40. The Committee noted the advice on when new offending rates would be available and agreed that the National Probation Service and the Community Rehabilitation Company, Purple Futures, be invited to a Committee meeting in 2017 to advise on the changes in the reoffending rates within North Yorkshire.

North Yorkshire Youth Justice Service

41. The Committee was advised that the current service delivery model for the Youth Justice Service has been in place since 2000. Over recent years, the cohort of young people has changed with the service now working with a considerably smaller and more challenging group of young people. In addition, there has been significant change in the wider criminal justice landscape: regionalization of Courts and the Crown Prosecution Service, introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners and Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Transforming Rehabilitation agenda.
42. In addition to these changes, the Youth Justice Service Partnership was facing significant financial pressures with the overall budget being reduced by over £1million since 2011. There was a projected overspend of £309,571 by the end of 2017/18.
43. Consequently, there was to be a 2020 review of the service to consider the most appropriate approach to meet the needs of young people whilst meeting the statutory requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Parallel to this review was a national review of the Youth Justice Service announced by the Ministry of Justice, which would look at the evidence and current practice in preventing youth crime and rehabilitating young offenders which would report back at the end of summer 2016.

Prevent

44. The Committee were informed that from the 1 July 2015, Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 placed a statutory duty on the County Council and other specified authorities in exercising their functions to have “due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism”.
45. The Committee noted the work that been progressed so far by the County Council. Whilst the police had an important role in the development of Prevent it was not a police programme and its success was dependent on partnership working across local authorities, statutory agencies and community

organisations. Prevent centred on early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risk they face before a crime occurs.

46. The Committee considered the action that had been undertaken in relation to the key areas within the statutory guidance and agreed that a session on Prevent should be included, at the earliest opportunity, in a future Members' Seminar.

18 April 2016

47. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for 18 April 2016 and will be looking at the Council's workforce and key workforce data; the Council's requirements and approach on equalities; video conferencing and the updated progress on the Library reconfiguration programme.

County Councillor Derek Bastiman
Chairman - Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee
County Hall, Northallerton
28 January 2016

North Yorkshire County Council

24 February 2016

**Transport, Economy and Environment
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Chairman's Statement

1. My statement for this full council includes details of the Committee meeting held on 22 January 2016.

Committee – 22 January

2. As reported in my previous update, our Committee agreed to set aside its meeting in January to investigate the impacts of fracking, including the safeguards that should be put in place. The meeting was a joint meeting with the Scrutiny of Health Committee.
3. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the broad strategic issues around fracking with a view to influencing the development of the Minerals & Waste Plan. A key aspect will be to assess the extent to which the Plan is “future proof” should there be a proliferation of wells across North Yorkshire.
4. We also wanted to tease out from the discussion any gaps or ambiguities in the regulatory framework and the general risks associated with fracking activity. This is with a view to then influencing how the Plan could address these problems, for instance, through the publication of supplementary guidance.
5. There was constructive involvement from members of the public. We received a number of informative responses from a range of agencies involved in the regulation of fracking in response to lines of enquiry set out in our report. These included senior representatives from Friends of the Earth, UK Onshore Oil and Gas, the Department of Energy & Climate Change, the Oil & Gas Authority, the Environment Agency, Public Health England, the Health & Safety Executive and Yorkshire Water. A sound recording of the meeting is available at:
<https://soundcloud.com/northyorkscc/sets/fracking-overview-and-scrutiny-meeting-22-january>
6. In consultation with group spokespersons from each committee, Councillor Jim Clark and I will be producing a report which summarises our findings for submission to the Executive. This will fit in with the timescales for the planned production of the Plan which is likely to be early this summer.

**County Councillor Andrew Backhouse
Chairman**

Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
County Hall
Northallerton

8 February 2016