



# **ANNUAL MEETING**

**18 May, 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 Annual General Meeting of the County Council to be held at County Hall, Northallerton, on **Wednesday, 18 May 2016 at 10.30 am.**

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 elect a Chairman of County Council** to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.
2. To move that the **Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 24 February 2016** having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.  
(Pages 6 to 13)
3. **To appoint a Vice-Chairman of the County Council** to serve until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2017.
4. **Chairman's Announcements** - Any correspondence, communication or other business brought forward by the direction of the Chairman of the Council.
5. **A Statement by the Leader of the Council**  
(Pages 14 to 15)
6. **Public Questions or Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice and supplied the text of the submission to Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) – email: [barry.khan@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:barry.khan@northyorks.gov.uk), in writing to: County Hall, Northallerton DL7 8AD – by **midday on Friday 13 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

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

(Pages 16 to 17)

- Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

8. **Members' Allowances**

(REPORT NOT YET AVAILABLE – TO FOLLOW)

9. **Statements of Executive Members**, in the order set out below, **followed by Statements by the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees**  
**Executive Members:**

(Pages 18 to 52)

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

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen:

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

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 17 May 2016**, the person to whom the question has been put may respond in writing, and this is then circulated to all Members.

**10. Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions**

**11. Motion**

County Councillor John Ritchie to move and County Councillor Tony Randerson to second.

"North Yorkshire County Council calls upon the Secretary of State for Education to reconsider proposals outlined in the White Paper "Educational Excellence Everywhere" requiring all Schools to adopt academy status by 2022.

In reconsidering these proposals this council urges the Secretary of State to enter into dialogue; in an effort to address concerns raised by the Local Government Association, members of the teaching profession, Trade Unions, School Governing Bodies and others.

This council strongly believes that Local Authorities have a key role to play in improving standards, providing support services, promoting "Educational Excellence Everywhere" and "Closing the Gap" in Educational achievement, particularly in our more social and economically deprived communities.

This council is fully committed to the aspiration of "Educational Excellence Everywhere" but it believes the enforced acadamisation of all schools will lead to a fragmented and costly education system; and we will seek to work in partnership with others who share our view."

RICHARD FLINTON  
Chief Executive Officer

County Hall,  
NORTHALLERTON  
10 May 2016

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



## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Northallerton on 24 February 2016, commencing at 10.30am

### Present:-

County Councillor David Jeffels in the Chair.

County Councillors Val Arnold, Margaret Atkinson, Arthur Barker, 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, John Ennis, Andrew Goss, Helen Grant, Bryn Griffiths, Tony Hall, Michael Harrison, Roger Harrison-Topham, Michael Heseltine, Robert Heseltine, Peter Horton, Bill Houlst, Janet Jefferson, Mike Jordan, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, Don Mackenzie, Penny Marsden, Brian Marshall, Shelagh Marshall OBE, John McCartney, Chris Metcalfe, Heather Moorhouse, Patrick Mulligan, Stuart Parsons, Chris Pearson, Joe Plant, Tony Randerson, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, John Savage, Steve Shaw-Wright, Elizabeth Shields, David Simister, Andy Solloway, Peter Sowray, Tim Swales, Helen Swiers, Cliff Trotter, John Weighell OBE, Robert Windass and Clare Wood.

### Minutes

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 11 November 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 -

**101.** That the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 11 November 2016, 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 Andrew Backhouse, Robert Baker, Philip Barrett, Lindsay Burr, Jean Butterfield, John Fort BEM, David Ireton, Anne Jones, Robert Packman, Caroline Patmore and Richard Welch. He welcomed Honorary Aldermen Knaggs, Marshall and Turton to the meeting.

He formally announced the recent death of Dr Robert Cowley King, who served as a County Councillor from 1993 to 1997 representing the Upper Dales, and Councillor John Robinson, the former Chairman of Richmondshire District Council. Members stood in silence to their memory.

The Chairman also advised that County Councillor John Weighell was recognised in the New Year Honours. He was appointed OBE in recognition of his achievements during his time as Leader of the Council, particularly as a champion for rural communities.

### **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 7463 -7476). County Councillor Carl Les then responded to various questions.

### **Public Questions or Statements**

A public statement was made by Mrs Ruth Annison:

#### **“Local Bus Services**

We can all sympathise with the very difficult decisions councillors have to make when cutting budgets. We can also sympathise with the commercial bus operators who have to reduce their workforce as a result of those cuts. But another group deserve sympathy - the passengers, many of whose lives are being disrupted as bus services are reduced or changed, often with little or no notice or information. Imagine the inconvenience, frustration and disruption if, overnight, trains stopped running between Northallerton and Darlington on weekday afternoons and all day on Saturdays. And how would you travel between York and Newcastle? Only on weekday mornings!

Yet that is the rail equivalent of what happened to bus services between Bedale and Leyburn on February 1. It affects passengers along the whole 40 mile route between Northallerton and Hawes - and their families, employers, businesses, volunteers, the local economy and the wider community. This bus route is on the A684 - the link road between the A1(M) and the M6 - which had a mail coach service 175 years ago!

I am a very appreciative daily bus passenger in Wensleydale. However, to reach Northallerton in time for the start of this meeting , **I had to leave home at lunch-time yesterday to catch the last bus of the day 13 miles away in Leyburn;** and travel on three buses, with two changes; and book Bed & Breakfast last night in Northallerton. Now, after nearly a month of such difficulties faced by passengers every day with this timetable, a part-solution has been announced (a later community minibus between Bedale and Leyburn) - but it will not start until April. Can this be the right way to make changes to public transport in a civilised society? Public transport, which is fundamental to the local economy, social networks and a greener environment.

I have read the 175 page Local Transport Plan, 2015-2030, which councillors are likely to approve today, much of which reflects care in preparation, very hard work and, importantly, the document is very readable. However in the case of the organisation, introduction and marketing of bus services, North Yorkshire needs to serve its passengers rather better, even with its frustratingly declining resources.

**Can the evidence of real hardship amongst bus passengers that is accumulating day by day be collected, whilst it is fresh in everyone's minds, and turned to some positive advantage for use in future transport planning? Would the county council be willing to take the lead in drawing together community volunteers (often the 'critical friends' of public transport) with their own officers and other interested parties to gather such evidence?**

**Bus passengers are becoming more open about the problems because they believe that more could be done to help them.**

Ruth Annison”

In response County Councillor Don Mackenzie explained the context, acknowledging that the Council would be reducing the level of bus subsidies from £2m to £1.5m from 1 April 2016, noting that Integrated Passenger Transport had worked hard to minimise the adverse impact upon passengers. He stated that 85% of services were operated on a commercial basis, with operators regularly implementing innovative service improvements. Integrated Passenger Transport have worked with operators to convert subsidies into commercial services where possible, but where rural services are not sustainable due to very low passenger numbers of only 2 or 3 per journey, it is hard to justify subsidies. County Councillor Don Mackenzie stated that in such circumstances the role of the Little White Bus and other similar schemes comes into their own – using subsidies ‘smartly’ to fund alternative provision based upon part paid, part volunteer drivers and smaller vehicles. In the case of the 155 service, he advised that the operator Dales and District had withdrawn the service with very little notice and that since 1 February 2016 it had been provided using a Council fleet vehicle via Little White Bus.

Mrs Annison made a supplementary comment regarding sharing passenger experiences, and she suggested having a meeting with County Councillor Don Mackenzie to discuss the matter.

### **Report of the Executive**

#### **Council Plan (2020 North Yorkshire)**

The recommendations in paragraph 1 of the report (page 7467 to 7468) 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 –**

**102.** 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.

#### **Revenue Budget 2016/17 and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2016/17**

The recommendations in paragraph 2 of the report (pages 7470 - 7472) were moved and seconded.

**The Council voted on the motion and, on a vote by name there were:**



**For the motion:** County Councillors Val Arnold, Margaret Atkinson, Arthur Barker, 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, Gareth Dadd, John Ennis, Tony Hall, Michael Harrison, Roger Harrison-Topham, Michael Heseltine, Robert Heseltine, Peter Horton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Mike Jordan, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, Don Mackenzie, Penny Marsden, Brian Marshall, Shelagh Marshall OBE, John McCartney, Chris Metcalfe, Heather Moorhouse, Patrick Mulligan, Stuart Parsons, Chris Pearson, Joe Plant, Tony Randerson, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, John Savage, Steve Shaw-Wright, Andy Solloway, Peter Sowray, Tim Swales, Helen Swiers, Cliff Trotter, John Weighell OBE, Robert Windass and Clare Wood.

**Against the motion:** County Councillors Sam Cross and David Simister.

**Absentions:** County Councillors Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley, Andrew Goss, Helen Grant, Bryn Griffiths, Bill Hault, and Elizabeth Shields.

**The motion was declared carried.**

**Resolved –**

**103.**

- 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.
- s) That the County Council notes the delegation arrangements referred to in Section 10 that authorise the Corporate Directors to implement the budget proposals contained in the report for their respective service areas and for the Chief Executive in those areas where there are cross-Council proposals.
- t) That the County Council have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (identified in Section 8.2 to 8.6 and Appendix I) in approving the Budget proposals contained in this report.

### Capital Plan

The recommendations in paragraph 3 of the report (page 7473) 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 –**

**104.** 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**.

### Treasury Management

The recommendations in paragraph 4 of the report (page 7473 - 7474) 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 –

#### 105.

- (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.

### Revision of Prudential Indicators

The recommendations in paragraph 5 of the report (page 7474) 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 –**

- 106.** (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).

### Adoption of the new statutory Local Transport Plan

The recommendations in paragraph 6 of the report (pages 7474 – 7475) were moved and seconded.

An amendment to the motion was moved by County Councillor Bill Hoult and seconded by County Councillor Bryn Griffiths as follows:

#### **Proposed amendment to Recommendation:**

That County Council approve that the draft Local Transport Plan 2016-2045 (Booklet 2, pages 1 to 184) subject to the following amendment to 3m (page 173 of Booklet 2) second bullet point of the Plan to delete the words 'strive' and 'active' and insert the word 'identified' so it would read:

"To record all identified Rights of Way on the Definitive Map together with the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Parks Authorities."

Existing wording:

"Strive to record all active Rights of Way on the Definitive Map together with the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Park Authorities."

The amendment was withdrawn by the mover, when County Councillor Don Mackenzie advised that he would take the suggestion forward in consultation with officers.

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

**Resolved –**

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

**Approval of Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy as part of the policy framework**

The recommendations in paragraph 7 of the report (page 7475) 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 –**

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

**School Admission Arrangements for School Year 2017/18**

The recommendations in paragraph 8 of the report (pages 7475 - 7476) 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 –**

- 109.** 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]

**Constitution Review**

The recommendations in paragraph 9 of the report (pages 7476 - 7477) 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 –**

**110.** 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 Booklet 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.

**Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies**

The recommendations in paragraph 9 of the report (page 7477) 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 –**

**111.** That County Council approve the following appointments:

Health & Wellbeing Board

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

Pension Fund Committee

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

**Members Allowances**

The recommendations in paragraph 1 of the report (page 8143) 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 –**

**112.** That the County Council approve the retention of the existing Members' Allowance Scheme for 2016/17 with one amendment as identified in Appendix 2.

**Statements of Executive Members and  
Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees**

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 8153 - 8154) 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 8155 – 8158) 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 8159 - ) 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 8163 – 8164) 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 8165 - 8166) and responded to questions.

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 8167- 8170) and responded to questions.

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 8171 - 8172) and responded to questions.

The written statements of the Chairmen of the Scrutiny Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (pages 8173 - 8200) having previously been circulated, were noted.

### **Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions**

There were no Council Procedure Rule 10 questions.

### **Motion - Corporate tax evasion and avoidance**

County Councillor David Billing moved and County Councillor John Ritchie seconded the following motion:

"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."

---

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

Meeting closed 13.55

## Leader's Statement

### Peer Review

Members will know we have taken advantage of a free service provided by the Local Government Association, and recently welcomed a team of senior County Council officers, and a County Council Leader, for a week. During the time they were here in North Yorkshire they reviewed what and how we do our business, and interviewed many Members, and many of our partners.

I'm grateful to those Members and partners who agreed to make time to be interviewed.

I am pleased to report that they found our Council to be "very" (the highest category possible), well-led, well managed, and with staff who understand our communities and who "get" North Yorkshire, (85% live within the Council's boundaries), and who work extremely hard to deliver high quality services, working within the financial constraints set for us by central government. I say something more about our staff below.

A copy of the report has been circulated to all Members, and to our partners.

Of course the value of this peer review is not to have a trophy sitting in a cabinet, but to use the contents of the report to improve further for the benefit of our residents. This will form future business for the Executive and Management Board, but I have asked Derek Bastiman, as Chair of Corporate O&S to review the report and if necessary add to our actions going forward. It may be that other O&S Committees want to review their own areas of interest and make recommendations to the Executive.

### Staffing

County Council staff have been through huge changes since 2010 and these continue. Over 40% of our staff have been affected by service restructuring which has impacted on their jobs in some way with some staff having been through this two and three times since then. This level of change and uncertainty is obviously difficult for staff and we manage it by being open and honest with the staff affected, involving them from the outset in any proposed changes and support them throughout any change which affects them. This support is wide ranging with the outcome being that only 3% of staff who have left due to redundancy and change were still looking for a job at the time of leaving. We supported all the others to successfully find a job or do something else if that's what they wanted. To date, since 2010, we've removed over 1300 posts, many part time for a few hours a week, in well over 200 restructures but compulsory redundancies have been kept to a minimum through good planning and removing posts when vacancies occur or hours reduce. We continue to focus savings on non-frontline posts as far as possible and the reduction in back office and managerial posts remains well over 20% including senior management reductions of 24%, but frontline reductions by contrast are at around 4%.

Despite the ongoing changes, our staff remain positive and committed. The staffing information we look at shows that despite any personal uncertainty, staff continue to work hard and be positive about their work. For example staff turnover remains relatively static at around 12%, sickness absence is extremely low at around 6 to 6.5 days off per employee, in fact well over half of our staff have not had a day off sick in

the last 12 months, our spend on agency staff to cover gaps is extremely low, and the recent staff survey was reassuringly positive with staff saying they were clear about what they are expected to achieve, they understood and endorsed the need for change and the change programme, and felt there was a clear vision for the future. They also said they had the opportunity to discuss changes in their service and were positive about their managers encouraging ideas, providing positive feedback and listening. The survey was undertaken late last year and we are now doing a further follow up shorter survey with staff to check on key areas and ensure that they still feel engaged and involved. I've been delighted with how keen staff are to give us their ideas with the staff ideas section on the intranet receiving over 100 ideas so far and the recent staff Innovation Awards having over 40 entries with some really excellent ideas and proposals from staff.

So in view of all this it wasn't a surprise to see that the peer review acknowledged the excellent workforce we have, their commitment to the council and local communities, and their contribution to, and resilience in the face of, ongoing change and the fact they continue to go the extra mile.

#### Tour de Yorkshire

The second TdY has been another spectacular success, with estimates of 2 million people watching from the road side. Many of these folk would be visitors to the County, some from within the Region and the UK, but many from overseas, all spending money in our economy. The television coverage also showed off our natural assets to 148 countries. Apart from this economic benefit there was huge local interest and involvement in the race.

Our highways team help to plan the route with Welcome to Yorkshire and ASO, and our Emergency Planners plan for all eventualities – unfortunately the weather and communications aircraft are out with our control. We now have an enhanced set of skills that add value to other operations. Furthermore, we work closely with District and Borough officers, and other partners such as the Police.

Already Districts are bidding for next year's starts and finishes, and W2Y are negotiating for this race to be a 4 day event, so securing an even more important place in the world cycling programme, and further raising the game for Women's cycling.

#### Devolution

Regrettably no progress to report. We maintain our position, shared with many others that "no deal is better than a bad deal", and that any deal must be for the benefit of all, not just some.

18 May 2016

## **The Report of the Executive**

The Executive met on Tuesday, 15 March 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.

Also in attendance: County Councillor John Clark.

The Executive met on Tuesday, 5 April 2016 commencing at 11.00 am.

County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors Arthur Barker, David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Don Mackenzie, Janet Sanderson and Clare Wood.

Also in attendance: County Councillor Val Arnold.

The Executive met on Tuesday, 26 April 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, and Janet Sanderson.

Also in attendance: one member of the public and one media representative.

**1: Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies:** At the meeting held 24 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, as set out in the Recommendations below.

Following the recent death of County Councillor Tony Hall, a number of committee vacancies arise. These are as follows:

- Hambleton Area Committee
- Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Chief Officer Appointments and Disciplinary Committee – substitute member

The Northallerton Division by election will take place on 26 May 2016. It is therefore appropriate to appoint to these vacancies at the July meeting of County Council.

County Councillor Andrew Goss has left the Liberal Democrat Group and indicated that he wishes to join the North Yorkshire Independent Group. This would change the political balance of the Council and as a result of the recalculation certain changes may be required to the present allocation of committee seats, details of this will be circulated at the meeting.

### **The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

- |  |
|--|
| <p>(a) The re-appointment of County Councillors John Fort BEM, Robert Heseltine and David Jeffels to the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum, to serve until the next County Council elections in May 2017.</p> |
|--|

- (b) The appointment of a County Councillor to fill the present vacancy on the North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority.
- (c) Health and Wellbeing Board
- Vale of York CCG Representative: Doctor Andrew Phillips to be appointed in place of Doctor Mark Hayes.
  - HealthWatch Substitute: Nigel Ayre to be appointed in place of David Ita.
  - Mental Health Representative: Colin Martin to be appointed in place of Martin Barkley.
- (d) Pension Board
- That Phil MacDonald (University of Hull) be appointed to the vacant employer representative position.
- (e) To agree any other 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 Council.

CARL LES  
Chairman

County Hall,  
NORTHALLERTON

10 May 2016

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 May 2016**

### **STATEMENT FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, STRONGER COMMUNITIES, LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND THE ROLE OF AREA COMMITTEES**

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAVID CHANCE**

#### **County Councillor Locality Budgets**

The first year of the pilot was successful with every County Councillor participating. I approved a total of 376 recommendations; an average of just over five recommendations per County Councillor. The funding committed in year one totalled £349,996 (97% of budget).

The majority (59%) of the funding was allocated for projects and activities managed by not for profit organisations (including charities and voluntary organisations), 23% by parish and town councils, 9% by schools, and 7% by NYCC directorates for additional services over and above mainstream budgets.

The funding is supporting a very broad range of types of projects and activities, with the largest allocations to projects and activities supporting environmental improvements, village and community hall improvements, non-school activities for children and young people, and support for vulnerable adults.

A review of the first year will be presented to Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June.

I emailed all Members on 20 April announcing the immediate start of the second stage of the pilot. Updated personalised recommendation forms have also been distributed. The last date for the receipt of recommendations in year two of the pilot is 17 February 2017, to allow sufficient time for decisions to be made before the start of the pre-election period linked to County Council elections in May 2017.

#### **Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Programme**

We are working with many partners, particularly district councils, the NHS, voluntary organisations and schools, to ensure that North Yorkshire plays a proper part in providing relief and shelter to those Syrians who have endured unimaginable suffering. We are expecting the first 35 refugees to arrive in July, with a total of just under 200 being resettled in the county by the end of 2018.

## **Public Health Budget**

In my last statement I referred to the reductions in the public health (PH) grant and the need as a Council 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.

The original estimate of the PH grant in 2016/17 was £23.3m. Following the cuts announced in the spending review the grant was reduced to £22.9m, and it is estimated to reduce further to £21.2m in 2020/21.

About 50% of the grant funds core public health services which includes delivery of our mandated functions (excluding services for children and young people). With the transfer of the Healthy Child Programme 0-5 services from the NHS last October, public health services for children and young people represent the largest proportion of the grant spending accounting for approximately 35%. The remainder funds programmes such as Stronger Communities (Central Services), the Living Well Service (Health and Adult Services) and initiatives in Business and Environmental Services Directorate. They intend to strike a balance between funding the nationally mandated services that we are required to fund (for example, sexual health and NHS Health Checks) and our local priorities.

The review of the PH budget seeks to create a sustainable recurrent revenue budget by identifying various savings. The reserve that resulted from underspends in the first 2 years will be used in full over the period to 2020/21 to finance some contributions to time limited projects in other Directorates, extending (on a temporary basis) support of items proposed in the cuts and savings and contributing to new PH related schemes/projects that respond to our distinctive priorities as a county.

## **Young parents programme**

One of our priorities as a Council is ensuring every child has a healthy start in life. While teenage pregnancy rates in North Yorkshire continue to decline there are still around 433 young mothers in North Yorkshire at any one time. Research shows that for many young parents their health, education and economic outcomes remain disproportionately poor which affects the life chances for them and the next generation of children. For example mothers under 20 are half as likely to breastfeed, more likely to smoke during pregnancy and there is a 61% higher risk of infant mortality for babies born to women under 20.

A North Yorkshire-wide young parents programme has been established where enhanced tailor-made support is offered to all pregnant teenagers and young parents. The programme is being delivered jointly by the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme and NYCC's Prevention Service. This involves providing additional home visits during pregnancy and for the first 2 years of the child's life, and supporting young parents and their children to access services through children's centres. Specialist Health Visitors have been appointed through the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme who will co-ordinate the programme and provide training and



expertise to the children and young people's workforce around working with pregnant teenagers and teenage parents.

Outcomes set for the programme include increasing the numbers of young parents accessing education, training and employment, increasing breastfeeding, preventing second unplanned pregnancies, improving school readiness and improving emotional health and well-being.

### **New smoking cessation service**

The Council continues a programme of reviewing the services inherited when public health transferred from the NHS. Stop smoking services were previously delivered through GP practices and a specialist smoking cessation service. However, the numbers supported to quit through this system had been declining and there was little evidence that the service was proactively targeting groups who needed specialist support to stop smoking.

The Council has now awarded a contract to Solutions 4 Health to deliver the stop smoking service. Smokefreelife North Yorkshire started in January. This new service is delivered in conjunction with primary care through subcontracts with Solutions 4 Health. The service is incentivised to help people from key priority groups such as people in routine and manual occupations, pregnant women and mental health service users to stop smoking. Smokefreelife North Yorkshire will have a strong outreach focus to identify and work with these groups in new and innovative ways.

### **Suicide prevention**

Suicide affects all communities and devastates the lives of those affected. The Public Health team completed the first audit of suicides in North Yorkshire to identify "at risk" groups and to inform suicide prevention across all services.

Data were collected from 227 Coroners files across a five year period (2010-14) and analysed to determine those most at risk, where incidents took place and why individuals chose to take their own lives. This included profiling by socio-demographic characteristics and access to services.

People who took their lives were mainly men (82%). The peak age group was 40-49 years (25%). Most incidents occurred at home (66%). Hanging/strangulation (56%) and self-poisoning (11%) were the most common methods. Mental health issues (53%), long-term illness (41%), emotional loss (40%) and alcohol use (33%) were among the common associated factors. Over half had made contact with their GP in the previous 4 weeks.

Whilst males aged 40-49 were identified as a key "at risk" group, we identified others including aging "baby boomers" struggling with increasing frailty and individuals with complex, fragmented lifestyles. Lowered resilience, often linked to mental health difficulties, caused individuals to escalate their perception of events from problematic to catastrophic. Alcohol was identified as a facilitator/enabler.

A system-wide multi-agency response to suicide prevention is being developed including on-going surveillance with real-time early alerts to prompt an integrated response to incidents where a cluster is identified.

### **e Democracy - NY 2020 Modern Council**

The e Democracy rollout to Members is largely completed - the positivity shown by Members responding to this initiative, it is very much appreciated. Only one or two have yet to receive induction (as a result of being unable to attend the group sessions and have yet to take up the offer of one to one briefings). For those requiring on-going support this is organised to suit the individuals concerned, and support is also being offered before the start of committee meetings, both in County Hall and at external venues, during April and May. Drop in sessions after Members Seminars and County Council meetings will continue to be offered. Where necessary home visits are also being undertaken. It is acknowledged action is still being taken to resolve issues with Craven District Council provided iPads, as used by twin-hatted Craven Members.

From the beginning of April, the move was made to predominantly paperless committees. It is acknowledged that certain complex documents may always need to be circulated in paper form to facilitate decision making, and so we will not be 100% paperless, but instead 'paperlight' to achieve the targeted savings of £20,000 per annum on printing and postage. It is accepted that where Members are unable to embrace e-working due to physical constraints, hard copy agendas will continue to be issued, as they will for co-opted members of committees and the public attending these meetings. (Hard copies also continue to be temporarily provided for twin-hatted Craven Members until their iPad issues are resolved.)

A Skype for business taster session was run for Members at the April Members' Seminar and a more detailed insight will be provided this afternoon for interested parties<sup>05</sup>. The use of Skype to participate in certain informal meetings will help reduce Members' travelling time, carbon footprint, and travel costs.

### **Stronger Communities**

A key focus for the Stronger Communities programme over 2015/16 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. This focus will continue through 2016/17 as groups are supported to complete a business plan, recruit and train volunteers and develop their operating models prior to hand over in April 2017.

Over 120 groups were supported by the Stronger Programme in 2015/16 with investment of circa £750k. In addition to the 21 community library groups and 5 hybrids; 84 voluntary and community sector groups were given help to expand or extend their existing provision and to build organisational capacity. 24 new groups

were also established providing activities and support to both adults and children and young people across the county.

### **Libraries – Supporting community and hybrid libraries**

To date 19 out of 21 Expressions of Interest have been submitted from community library management committees. Work is underway with newly formed groups to obtain charitable status and to prepare their formal business plans. The first set of business plans will go to the evaluation panel on 26 May.

The Stronger Communities team have carried out a range of development activities with new and emerging groups including community visioning events to explore potential partners and future service options for community libraries, options appraisals, trustee recruitment and skills audits and preparation of constitutions. An additional visioning event is being planned with Eastfield library in early June.

All 5 proposed hybrids have established a management committee and are being supported to submit a community proposal.

### **Services for Older People and Vulnerable Adults**

Over 2015/16, the programme has supported 69 grass roots community projects aimed at reducing loneliness and isolation and supporting the “reduce, prevent and delay” objectives of the Targeted Prevention programme in Health and Adult Services.

In term of investment, this priority has seen the biggest proportion of support. An analysis of projects supported under the programme to date shows around 800 volunteer opportunities created with a target of 14,000 beneficiaries. Projects supported include: Men’s Sheds, Dancing for Wellbeing, Digital Neighbours projects, community cafes, a community shop and a range of social and well-being groups providing low level preventative services. All projects are being monitored to establish actual figures and will be reported at the end of the project term.

### **Community Transport**

The Stronger Communities team have supported 2 existing providers – in Craven and Ryedale - with management advice and support to help them establish sustainable business models and a provider in the north of the Scarborough district to extend its services. In order to seek to build the customer base for community transport providers and thus helping to make them more sustainable, a marketing brief has been prepared to carry out a piece of work that aims to re-position community transport as a universal service rather than one that is associated with either people on low incomes or for health services and to establish a North Yorkshire community transport brand.

## **Services for Children, Young People and Families**

The team has been supported Children and Young People's Services over 2015/16 as it moved to the establishment of the 0-19 Prevention service by working with communities on the development of community based youth clubs and on the development of a community provided offer for under 5s. Youth provider networks have been established in 2 market towns and the focus for 2016/17 will be to extend this to a further 5 market towns. Marketing materials have been developed for community playgroups and parent and toddler groups; and a training programme – with a focus on healthy eating – has been developed with the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

## **Public Health Outcomes**

The Stronger Communities programme contributes to the delivery of the following public health outcomes: wider determinants, public mental health, general prevention, social exclusion, physical activity, information and intelligence and accident prevention.

In 2016/17 the programme will focus its support for groups around the 5 ways to well-being as developed by Public Health England in 2008: *Connect...*, *Be Active...*, *Take Notice...*, *Keep Learning...* and *Giving...*. A monitoring tool for projects has been agreed and will be used by Health and Adult Services prevention projects, Living Well and Public Health. This will allow the different approaches to be compared in terms of effectiveness and value for money.

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 MAY 2016**

### **STATEMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

#### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR JANET SANDERSON**

##### **Medium Term 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.

Although this information appears in my Statement to Council it should be noted that both Executive Members for the Children and Young People's Service have joint responsibility for all relevant resources.

##### **Visit of the Chief Social Worker**

Isabelle Trowler, Chief Social Worker for England, visited North Yorkshire on 22nd April. She addressed an audience of social workers and managers and spoke very highly of the work of the Children and Families Service. She said she was proved wrong in believing that early intervention doesn't show impact as she had seen the statistics for North Yorkshire which showed an increased number of cases open to prevention and reduction in cases requiring higher needs of child protection and looked after. Isabelle spoke about our exemplar service and why we have been chosen to be Partners in Practice with the Department for Education in helping other authorities improve. There was also an interesting discussion about the potential of technology with one of our social workers in engaging young people.

##### **Children and Families Performance**

Performance for the work of Children's Social Care and the Prevention Service continues to impress. The service, which for the last year has been a joining up of Prevention and Social Care, has one referral pathway through the Customer Contact Centre. Through that process we have seen that more cases are routed to the Prevention Service with 2750 cases now being open. This is the highest number of cases recorded. Conversely there has been a reduction in the number of cases being worked with in Child Protection and Looked After categories. This is very good news for families showing that by intervening early we are reducing the need for high level interventions.

##### **Children in Care**

The number of children in North Yorkshire's care continues to reduce as we work with young people earlier to prevent family breakdown. The number of children and young people in our care is now 409 - a reduction of 20%. This success is bucking the national trend as we see a

rise in children in care across the country with some authorities having double the number per 10,000 that we look after.

In addition, 73 Authorities took part in a recent CIPFA Benchmarking Club report. North Yorkshire performs exceptionally well in the comparisons with other authorities and is the -

- Highest ranking for looking after children placed in our own foster care placements
- Lowest user of independent placements (Independent Fostering Agencies)
- Second lowest costs

In addition our performance continues to show great outturn, with children having completed health checks now at 86% and dental checks at 88%. Short term stability (children having less than three moves in one year) is well below the national average. We are currently looking at our long term stability which is 6% behind the England average.

Staying put is now a government priority and North Yorkshire performs very well - we recently celebrated our 100th staying put placement. Individually many care leavers achieve against the odds and we are proud of every one of them. One of the notable stories this week has been the news that one of our care leavers has been awarded a scholarship to study for her Master's Degree in Beijing.

### **MJ Awards Finalists - No Wrong Door**

No Wrong Door continues to attract national and international interest. The project recently won the Local Government Chronicle Award for the Best Innovation in Local Government and is also a finalist in the Municipal Journal Awards taking place on 16 May. The judges summed up the entry by saying "No Wrong Door is an innovative multi agency model that rethinks care for adolescents ... it is improving the chance of vulnerable adolescent's. Evidence of intelligence sharing is very positive".

### **Improving health outcomes for children and young people**

A workshop event "Reimagining Health for all Children in North Yorkshire" took place on 25 April. The event, the first of its kind, was commissioned by the Children's Trust Board following consideration of detailed analysis of Children's Health across the County, one of the three priority areas in our Children & Young People's Plan, Young and Yorkshire.

The event brought together leaders and practitioners with responsibility for children's wellbeing to debate some of the biggest health challenges, in particular inequalities in children's health across the county. Eustace de Sousa (National Lead- Children, Young People & Families, Public Health England) and internationally acclaimed academic Kate Pickett (University of York and co-author of the Spirit Level) were keynote speakers, addressing inequalities in children's health at a National and local level.

Through focused workshops, leaders and practitioners were asked to challenge themselves, coming up with new and innovation solutions to ensure that all children in North Yorkshire are as healthy as they can be. Outcomes and feedback from the event will be taken to the next meeting of the Children's Trust Board for their consideration in June, and using the evidence from the event to inform priorities in the next iteration of our Young & Yorkshire plan.

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

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 MAY 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**

#### **Highways Capital Programme**

We have had some good news about funding for this year and for subsequent years, and I would like to give members details.

The Department for Transport confirmed our capital maintenance funding for the current financial year. This is now allocated in three parts as follows:

1. Needs-Based Grant (based on total length of highway)
2. Incentive Grant (based on a self-assessment questionnaire)
3. Challenge Fund Grant (subject to bids in excess of £5m).

Our allocations are:

1. £30.2m.
2. £1.65m on the basis of our assessment as Band 2 (There are Bands 1-3, with 3 as the best)) This is the maximum allocation since 2 and 3 are the same for 2016/17;
3. Challenge Fund Grant. We were unsuccessful in the first round but there will be an opportunity to bid next year for 2018/19 to 20/21.

Additionally, further funding has already been confirmed as follows:

1. £24m (2016/17 to 2020/21) from the Department for Transport via the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership. This was a successful bid to the Local Growth Fund for the maintenance of our rural network
2. £8m (2016/17 to 2020/21) NYCC corporate match funding to the LGF allocation
3. £4.3m Flood Recovery Fund
4. £1.64m for 2016/17 from the Pothole Action Fund for repairs and prevention

I welcome this additional funding and assure members that the extra investment will be put to very good use in maintaining the County's highways infrastructure.

A county-wide programme of surface dressing works has begun. This is a highly effective, preventative maintenance procedure which ensures that roads which are in good condition remain that way.

#### **Flood Recovery**

My last report provided an update on the recovery work being carried out by NYCC to help communities to recover from the December floods. Excellent progress continues to be made.

The provision of the temporary footbridge over the Wharfe in Tadcaster has been widely welcomed by local residents and businesses. In the meantime, our engineers and contractors have carried out repairs to secure the piers of the road bridge to prevent further damage. We have completed the detailed and painstaking survey work that was essential for the design of the repair scheme.

The construction of a cofferdam to allow the reconstruction of the listed bridge is set to begin. We are well on track to complete the scheme by the end of this year. We remain in close contact with the Environment Agency and Historic England, and have recently introduced enhanced communications on site in order to keep residents updated on progress.

We re-opened the A59 at Kex Gill on 27 February on schedule, and in spite of continued atrocious weather conditions at this remote location for weeks beforehand. I would like to record my thanks to, and my appreciation of, the superb efforts of our officers and contractors. This was a major incident which disrupted a key trans-Pennine route. It was vital to reopen the road as early as possible, which is exactly what we did. I also express my gratitude to local residents who bore the disruption to their daily lives with great patience and understanding.

We estimate that we suffered £5.3m worth of damage to the highway network, in respect of which we have received approximately £4.3m from Government, which is very welcome.

In addition, we continue to work with the districts and the LEP to ensure prompt payment of government support grants to affected homes and businesses. Payments have been made to 99% of households and 100% of businesses that have applied. Additional grants are also available to support households and businesses wishing to increase their flood resilience.

### **A684 Bedale Aiskew Leeming Bar Bypass**

This major scheme continues to progress on time and budget. The roundabouts at either end of the bypass are now open to traffic. The link road between Leases Rd and J51 of the A1(M) was opened on the 10 February. The carriageway construction to the west of the motorway is 90% complete and east of the Leases Road is 60% complete.

### **A174 Sandsend Road Coastal Protection**

This project involves the construction of 800m of concrete stepped sea defences, and supporting infrastructure such as public access stairs, stabilisation of the coastal slopes and infilling of Raithwaite Gill.

The works are expected to be complete at the beginning of next month on budget.

### **Special Events Attended**

I would like to inform members about my attendance at two important community events since my last report.

The launch of the Upper Wharfedale Venturer, a community transport enterprise serving the Grassington, Kettlewell and Buckden areas in Craven, took place on Saturday 9 April. Shelagh Marshall and John Blackie attended with me, as did Richard Owens, who had retired a few days before, and other members of the IPT team. I have received a report on the first month's activities and the scheme, supported financially by NYCC, has enjoyed great success thanks to the leadership of the organisation, assisted by advice and support given to it particularly by Richard and his team, and by John Blackie.

On Friday 29 April I attended with Julian Smith MP and David Ireton the switching-on of a hyperfast broadband connection at a remote farm near Clapham. This local community, with help of Broadband for the Rural North (B4RN) and using volunteer labour to lay cables, now enjoys hyperfast broadband provided by Fibre to the Premise (FTTP).

Both of these events brought home to me how much can be achieved by volunteer groups who are prepared to work together to the benefit of their communities.

DON MACKENZIE



## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 MAY 2016**

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

#### **Waste Services**

##### **Waste Management**

The construction of Allerton Waste Recovery Park continues broadly on programme with approximately ½ million man hours worked since works started on site in January 2015. Anyone travelling past the site will have noticed the cranes and the steel frame of the Energy from Waste plant begin to show above the tree line as the building approaches its full height. A significant project milestone was passed on 24 April with the installation of the boiler for Line 1 of the EFW ahead of programme. A further significant milestone is planned for May 2016 with the installation of the electricity grid connection cables from the plant to the Coneythorpe sub-station. Commissioning remains on target beginning in June 2017, with full operation expected in January 2018.

I am especially pleased to advise members that Amey has begun recruitment for staff to work at Allerton Waste Recovery Park. They will be holding a recruitment fair in Boroughbridge on 8 June and are wanting to recruit into a variety of roles including management, support services, technicians and operational staff. When fully operating the plant will sustain 70 full time employees and will help contribute £220million at 2014 prices to the local economy over the life of the project. Further details of the recruitment fair are available on Amey's website at: <http://wasteservices.amey.co.uk/where-we-work/north-yorkshire/>

#### **Economic Development**

The York North Yorkshire & East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership has fully delivered on the first year of its £122m Local Growth Deal. This year has included investments in every North Yorkshire districts demonstrating its ability to support both urban and rural economies. It is now planning a further bid for capital funding as part of the £1.8bn announced by the Chancellor in the budget. The outcome will be announced in the Autumn Statement with funding 2019-2021.

#### **Rail Strategy**

New franchises for Transpennine (the future InterCity Operator of the North) and Northern (local operator of the North) started on 1 April 2016.

The franchises will deliver improvements in 4 key areas of service:-

1. Increased frequencies
  - Harrogate line and Scarborough line will see doubling of the frequency and earlier and later trains (from 2 to 4 trains per hour between Harrogate and Leeds from December 2017)
  - Hull – Selby – York and Scarborough – Hull (roughly hourly service)
    - New hourly Scarborough – York service in Northern Franchise to combine with Transpennine to provide 2 trains per hour
    - All other routes in North Yorkshire will have extra trains at key times of the day

2. Earlier and later trains and development of a 7 day railway
  - Earlier trains from Scarborough – York which will get people into London for 0900
  - An earlier train between Whitby and Middlesbrough which means for the first time people will be able to arrive in Middlesbrough for 0830
  - The Bentham line gets later trains to and from Leeds
  - Significant increase in Sunday services
3. Rolling stock over the next four years on the North's rail network will either be new or modernised to the latest standards, with the withdrawal of outdated 'Pacer' units by 2019.
4. Stations – all stations in North Yorkshire will see some investment and should reach a minimum standard.

Rail North is now becoming established and working well and has helped secure the positive franchise specification. On-going management arrangements for the franchise, through the Department for Transport/Rail North Partnership (NYCC is represented on the Rail North Board through Councillor Chris Metcalfe), have been established and the Council will be involved in the development and management of these franchises over the next 7-10 years.

It is expected that by 2020 the railways in North Yorkshire will be totally different from today, with investment in the East Coast Main Line (London – Yorkshire – North East – Scotland) and Virgin Trains investment in new trains on the route. First Hull Trains are also investing in new trains between Hull – Selby and London, and brand new Intercity express trains operating 7 direct daily trains between Harrogate and London

## **Trading Standards**

### **Farming, Food & Health**

#### **Public Health – “Healthier Choices” project launched in the Harrogate area**

In November, 2015 Trading Standards launched a “Healthier Choices” certification scheme in the Scarborough area. The scheme aims to recognise food manufacturers and food retailers' activities in providing healthier food and drinks to their customers. The objective is to change attitudes and perceptions of healthy eating with a view to improving the overall health of our communities and the desired outcome of reducing obesity levels in North Yorkshire. On 4 April 2016, the Healthier Choices certification scheme started in Harrogate with a promotional launch involving Councillor Chance and one of the food businesses in the area. The scheme now has 28 businesses in Scarborough and Harrogate going through the assessment process with the provider to Harrogate hospital and a Harrogate residential home also keen to participate.

## **Planning**

### **Planning Application on land at Kirby Misperton on behalf of Third Energy UK Gas Limited**

With regard to Third Energy's planning application, the County Council recently announced that an extraordinary meeting of the Planning & Regulatory Functions Committee will be held on Friday 20 May where the application will be presented to Members for their determination.

CHRIS METCALFE

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 May 2016**

### **STATEMENT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER - LIBRARY, CUSTOMER AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNTY COUNCILLOR CHRIS METCALFE**

#### **Libraries**

##### **Service reconfiguration**

Members will be aware of the planned reconfiguration of libraries agreed by the Executive in July 2015, ie 7 core, 5 hybrid and a further 21 community managed libraries, to come into effect by the spring of 2017.

Work carried out by the service and Stronger Communities since my last report includes:

- 119 meetings involving officers from Libraries, Stronger Communities, Legal and Property with local communities and organisations across the County. These have included meetings with newly formed management groups; meetings with town and parish councils as well as community organisations and with volunteers. There have also been a number of meetings between groups and Property and Legal Services to discuss implications around leases, employment legislation and health and safety. Local members are involved in a number of the groups. Whilst groups are all at different stages, all groups have made progress. Development of
- A simplified generic Service Level Agreement, has been produced produced in consultation with existing community library groups and staff.
- Continued work on the production of the revised operations handbook and the volunteer training programme which will be launched in the autumn.
- Production and distribution of an up to date community library toolkit by Stronger Communities, who have also run community visioning events to explore potential partners and future service options; carried out option appraisals; trustee recruitment; management group skills audits; assisted with the preparation of constitutions and given support to groups who have started work on their business plans. They have also developed a project timeline with a number of key milestones which need to be delivered by April 2017 and have prepared individual project plans for each group which detail the activities that need to be completed.
- Work on staff restructure – the formal 90-day staff consultation period came to an end on Friday 22 April. There were meetings with staff across the county and FAQs circulated regularly. A final response was issued to staff on May 6<sup>th</sup>, comprising an information pack guiding staff through the next stages of the process.

##### **Creative Residencies**

Since its successful bid to Arts Council England; the service has completed the second phase of workshops. in Pickering and Sherburn in Elmet, and begun the third phase with art workshops in Stokesley, Leyburn, Catterick Garrison Library and Bilton and Woodfield Community Library. All of the workshops to date have been successful and beneficial to local residents, staff and volunteers.

At Pickering local families worked with Sight Support, Wilf Ward Trust, Ryedale Ukulele Club, and Roose, to produce feltwork, stop-frame animations, a photography book and a banner for the library. At Sherburn; Hungate School, Sherburn High School, Sherburn Photography club and local families produced a mural for the library, created artwork for the

Teen zone of the library as well as a photography book. During the workshops the library was transformed into a cinema space to view the animated films created by local children.

In Richmondshire artists have been working with Hunslet School, Catterick Veterans and The Beacon to create artworks following the theme 'This is me' in which children spoke to their families to find out about their ancestry. At Thornborough Hall in Leyburn artists and residents of to create poems and artworks based on their photographs of work and home life.

Ingleton Library once again are running and hosting events as a partner in the Overground Underground festival in June and at Stokesley residents from Yatton House, along with young people have participated in music and photography workshops. Eastfield has also established a monthly photography club and further music, creative writing, and felt making workshops have received financial support from Eastfield Parish Council.

Bilton Library held open music workshops for local residents and have done radio interviews for BBC Radio York and StrayFM to promote the upcoming photography and animation workshops taking place there.

### **Settle Library**

Settle Library enjoyed its official opening in April as part of the extra-care facility at Limestone View. Since opening; the Library has seen a 25% increase in business all areas including the number of visitors, book borrowing and computer use. The state of the art facilities have also organisations to run a wide range of activities and meetings including storytimes for under-fives, book groups, beginners' IT courses and regular IT help sessions as well as drop-in sessions by Craven District Council and Craven CVS. Recent events marked World Book Night and the Settle Stories Festival.

### **Reading habit**

As part of a government initiative to get more primary school children reading, libraries in North Yorkshire ran a promotion from Sept 2015-March 2016 to invite Year 3 school children to visit their local library. As part of the visit children were able to join the library and borrow a book, as well as finding out more about what is on offer. During the promotion 159 class visits took place across the county and over 900 children joined the library.

### **GCHQ Pop up Museum**

For the first time in its 102 year history GCHQ is having a pop up museum in the community and Scarborough Library will be the first community space to hold the exhibition, which will run from 27<sup>th</sup> June until 18 August 2016, and will follow the chronological history of GCHQ starting in at 1914. The exhibition is being curated by the GCHQ Curator and will have the theme of Coding through the years.

Highlights of the exhibition will include:

- Original code intercepts from the first and second world wars
- Listening machines, headphones and equipment from 1914 -18
- Museum of the Future (if you were looking back on today from the future what would be an exhibit?)
- Soil Radio- an interactive exhibit that demonstrates secure and insecure communications and how soil was used to conduct radio signals during the first world war.
- Children's puzzle solving activities.

The "museum" will have links to local history in the school curriculum with school visits and a pack for teachers.

As well as the above, events including an afternoon tea for former GCHQ staff and their families, a demonstration of one of the original Enigma machines and a talk by the GCHQ historian on the 'Myths of Bletchley Park'.

## **County Records Office and Archives**

### **Online Services**

The Record Office continues to improve its online service in response to user demand and the third release of parish register holdings via the commercial website, Find My Past, has made a further 1.3 million records available. This along with the publication of hundreds of school admission registers now provides an extensive new resource for family historians. The online Archives shop now contains over 2,500 maps, photographs and publications for sale and is providing valuable income for the service and an enhanced service offer to "virtual" visitors.

### **The Big Draw**

The Big Draw is an annual drawing festival which sees galleries, museums and heritage sites across the county hold events for anyone who loves to draw and last year the Record Office event drew its inspiration from historic mapping. The event was entered for the Big Draw awards and against particularly fierce competition won the Community, Participatory and Libraries award category, receiving a prize of £750 to be awarded at a ceremony in London later this month. The money will be used to support Record Office events and a second Big Draw day to be held later this year.

CHRIS METCALFE

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 May 2016**

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR GARETH DADD**

#### Pay award update

The pay award for NJC staff, which applies to the vast majority of non-teaching council staff, is set nationally and determined by national negotiations. 2 of the 3 trade unions (GMB and Unison) have now accepted the employers' offer leaving just Unite to respond. So hopefully there will be a final settlement very soon which will apply from 1st Apr 2016. It is a two-year agreement with a 1% increase in each of 2016 and 2017 for staff paid £18k and above and higher percentages for staff paid less, up to a maximum of 6.5% for our lowest paid staff. This pay award is to be welcomed and is within the 1.2% allocated in the budget. In the absence of this national agreement we had already had to increase the bottom pay points by 2% to accommodate the new national minimum rate from 1<sup>st</sup> April of £7.20 which will now be subsumed by this national increase. This national agreement which increases the pay of staff at the bottom of our pay grades to a greater extent whilst providing a small increase of 1% for other staff for the next 2 years will start to move our lower pay towards the new minimum living wage of around £9 by 2020 and offset cost of living increases for other staff. Our staff continue to work hard and perform well and it is important that this is recognised in a pay award which of course need to be affordable in these times of continuing budget reductions.

#### Revenue Budget

The outturn figures for 2015-16 are currently being finalised and will be reported to Executive on 14 June 2016. Provisionally, it looks like the outturn will be broadly in line with the figures reported at Q3 so it is encouraging that delivery of the savings programme remains on course with some areas ahead of schedule.

The Council has now received further information about the offer of a "multi-year financial settlement" from DCLG. We need to give notice to DCLG should we wish to take up the offer by 14 October 2016. The offer is to have some degree of certainty on Revenue Support Grant; Transitional Grant; and Rural Services Delivery Grant for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20. This decision will require Executive consideration and a subsequent recommendation to full County Council. We are therefore working to a date of 20 July 2016 for full County Council and further details will be provided in the run-up to that date.

#### LGA Corporate Peer Challenge

As the Leader has raised in his statement, the LGA recently completed a corporate peer review of the Council. The scope of the review was to look at the plans we have in place and challenge whether they will get us to where we need to be by the year 2020. The LGA stress the review is not an inspection, is not mandatory and is part of their free sector-led improvement offering. As members will see from the report, the overall response from the LGA was extremely positive, noting excellent service

delivery across the Council. They also noted strong political and managerial leadership; that we have “tremendous grip” of our finances – although they noted there are further financial challenges ahead; how well we work in partnership to deliver great outcomes at a local level and, as a particular example, referenced our Children’s service as a “beacon” for other authorities to look towards.

Of course these types of review are not only to promote the strengths of the Council but also to highlight some areas where we can learn and improve upon. Crucially the LGA did not identify any specific gaps in our 2020 North Yorkshire plans and instead chose to state that we should continue in those areas where we are making progress. Examples of this include the work on commerciality (through SmartSolutions), our approach to economic growth and succession planning of key members of staff. In addition to the above, the LGA also recognised the challenges and opportunities in working in a complex partnership environment.

A formal letter with the report findings will be issued by the LGA in the coming weeks which will be published publicly. We will also be providing a more detailed update at the member’s seminar on 11th May and Overview & Scrutiny Committees will no doubt review the report as the Leader has indicated. Finally, the LGA will be returning in the future to reflect on progress we have made since their review.

#### County Hall update

As previously advised, we are about to launch an exercise to find new catering contractors for the County Hall campus. We have had some discovery days with a number of potential interested parties and we remain interested in what other think we can do with the facilities. We hope to get a further good response and I will report back to Members the outcome of the exercise.

Some of you will also have noticed that much of scaffolding has now been removed from the front of County Hall. Work is on-going on some smaller scale repairs but the remainder of the scaffolding from the front of the building will soon be down and will feel more like normal service has resumed.

There have been lots of positive comments about the work that has been done to the meeting rooms and the improvements that have been made. The new technology also appears to be proving successful and is hopefully helping Members in carrying out their role as we look to modernise how the whole Council works.

GARETH DADD

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 MAY 2016**

### **STATEMENT OF SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

#### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR ARTHUR BARKER**

##### **White Paper “Educational Excellence Everywhere”**

The White Paper “Educational Excellence Everywhere” was published in March. It contained a clear statement of intent by Government regarding a direction of travel towards a fully academised system. For areas such as North Yorkshire, where the numbers of existing academies are very small (8%), the challenge is to ensure schools are in good, productive and quality arrangements which will secure improvement as well as retaining appropriate levels of autonomy.

There is no doubt that the ambitious language in the White Paper - which recognises how “education unlocks opportunity helping children from all backgrounds to shape their own destiny” - is one we recognise and particularly share.

The White Paper was the subject of considerable national and local debate. The Leader and myself joined the debate writing to the Secretary of State to express concern not about the ambition expressed but about both the proposed compulsion approach to conversion and additionally the potential impact on small schools.

By 6 May government had reflected further and announced that they had decided that, while reaffirming their continued determination to see all schools become academies in the next six years, it is not necessary to bring legislation to achieve blanket conversion of all schools. They propose use of existing powers for conversion as well as two new powers where

- it is clear that the local authority can no longer viably support its remaining schools because a critical mass of schools in that area has converted
- the local authority consistently fails to meet a minimum performance threshold across its schools, demonstrating an inability to bring about meaningful school improvement

Neither of these descriptors are currently applicable to North Yorkshire.

##### **School Funding**

In March, the DfE launched the first part of a two-stage consultation on a national funding formula. This consultation kept very much to principles but allowed us to gain some insight into the government’s longer term plans.

We have lobbied for a number of years now for a fairer distribution of school funding across England and it looks likely that the details – when available later this year – will confirm a move towards this. However we do have some concerns if the government moves to allocate funding direct to every school in the country – without any local input – from April 2019. In particular they have suggested getting rid of a “mobility” factor which is absolutely necessary at schools in North Yorkshire with high pupil turnover. This is an issue for those supporting service families or in areas with seasonal employment trends. We also have concerns about the simplistic way of calculating sparsity which does not take account of the nature of North Yorkshire and such geographic barriers as rivers, dales, moors and hills.



Our response noted these concerns and we await with interest the government's reply to these, along with the details in stage two. The proposals will also have an (as yet unquantified) impact on the council's overall finances and services as it seeks to restrict the local decision-making abilities of the North Yorkshire Education Partnership and County Council in setting budgets.

### **School Organisation**

Following the County Council's decision following consultation to publish statutory proposals to amalgamate Selby High School and Brayton High School, the Regional Schools Commissioner published an academy order authorising Brayton High School to enter into a Multi Academy Trust with Rodillian Academy Trust in Wakefield. Statutory proposals for amalgamation have therefore not been published. Brayton governors are now consulting parents on the Academy proposal which is expected to take effect in September 2016.

As a result of the publication of the White Paper in March, it was decided to suspend decision-making, following initial consultation, on a proposal to amalgamate Caedmon College Whitby and Eskdale School. Governors of both schools, with the support of the local authority, will consider alternative options during the summer term.

### **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 April 2016, 86.8% of North Yorkshire's primary schools are graded as good or outstanding which is just above the national figure of 86.7%, and 82.5% of secondary schools are good or outstanding, which remains considerably better than the national figure of 75.8%.

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 April 2016, 87.1% of North Yorkshire's primary school pupils attended a good or outstanding school (better than the national figure of 85.8%). 85.5% of North Yorkshire's secondary pupils attend a good or outstanding school, which again is higher than the national figure of 78.9%.

There are now three primary schools that are inadequate and none in secondary. Moorside Infants received a judgement of inadequate in inspection during March. The other two schools are Hawes Community Primary and Richmond CE Primary Schools. In all cases the LA is working closely with the DfE, the schools and potential academy sponsors.

**County Councillor Arthur Barker**  
**Executive Member for Schools and Early Years**

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 May 2016**

### **STATEMENT OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH INTEGRATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLARE WOOD**

#### **Extra Care**

I am delighted to be able to report that another of our new Extra Care schemes has been opened formally. Limestone View in Settle had its official launch on 14 April, which sadly I was unable to attend, but I am very grateful to Councillor Jeffels for undertaking the formalities. I understand the day went very well.

Progress continues with the new scheme in Leyburn. Although the bad weather has delayed the completion of the building work a little, we fully expect people to be able to start moving in by the end of the summer.

I remain fully committed to our ambitious and exciting programme. I have asked that we support and influence in any way we can the government's review of the proposals to change the rules for social housing rents and the Local Housing Allowance. These have, I believe, had unforeseen consequences in respect of the costs for supported housing and extra care. The Government has agreed to delay the introduction of the planned changes for supported housing schemes whilst the review is undertaken. However, with the help of our local MPs, we are lobbying Government Ministers to put in place measures which will restore investor confidence.

#### **NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plans**

I am very grateful to Councillor Jim Clark for his letter to NHS England pointing out the challenges for the County Council in the development of three NHS Sustainability and Transformation Plans for our North Yorkshire health communities. Councillor Clark has quite rightly highlighted our concerns that the areas covered in these plans will give priority to the needs of Leeds, Hull and Teesside and represent a missed opportunity for addressing health issues in rural and coastal areas.

Regardless of these challenges, I am pleased to report that, as a County Council, we have developed clear plans which we have shared with our Clinical Commissioning Groups, setting out how we will be working on the local priorities to deliver the outcomes we have agreed for the County, in line with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and our 2020 vision for Health and Adult Services. My intention is that we retain a clear and consistent North Yorkshire approach, but with real regard to the local needs and opportunities.

## **Better Care Fund**

As Council papers went to press, negotiations were continuing for the transfer of funding from the NHS to maintain and protect social care. Like many other large counties, with multiple NHS partners, this year's Better Care Fund negotiations have been a real challenge and I hope that we will be able to find a solution soon.

## **HealthWatch**

I would like to acknowledge the work of Sir Michael Carlisle, who is retiring as Chairman of Healthwatch, and a member of the Health and Well-being Board, at the end of June. Sir Michael has been HealthWatch Chairman during a challenging eighteen months for that organisation and has overseen some necessary changes to strengthen the role and voice of the public in health and social care issues.

## **Assessment and Reablement Services**

As part of the 2020 Programme, we are undertaking significant changes within adult social care assessment and reablement services, to help us to keep more people independent for longer and to prevent, reduce and delay the need for long term care wherever possible. A three month consultation has just been launched with the 1500 staff who provide these services including social workers, occupational therapists, reablement and home care staff.

Likewise, we are also consulting with our social care mental health staff, who are currently managed by NHS Mental Health Trusts, to restore the direct line management link with the County Council, so that people with mental health issues are able to get the same kind of support from local government that older and disabled people access already.

## **Safe Places**

Earlier this month, we celebrated the official launch of the North Yorkshire Safe Places scheme, which offers help to people with a disability, dementia or a mental health problem if they are out and about and are feeling unwell, or anxious, or are a victim of bullying or harassment. Already 120 venues across the County are designated as 'Safe Places', with specially trained staff and links to a call centre which can get in contact with family and friends. Our local scheme has been developed by people who use services, alongside the County Council, North Yorkshire Police and the voluntary sector. Current 'Safe Places' include libraries, leisure centres, pharmacies and railway stations. Allerton Court Hotel has just become our first hospitality sector partner and we are hopeful of signing up a number of High Street names.

**Clare Wood**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 May 2016**

**SCRUTINY BOARD**

**STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

1. Since County Council on 24 February 2016 Scrutiny Board has not met.
2. Our next meeting will be on 14 June 2016 when Scrutiny Chairmen will also be attending the Executive (Performance Monitoring) for discussions on performance with regard to:
  - Public Health
  - Local Enterprise Partnership
  - Highway Condition (as part of the wider Highways report)
  - Workforce Performance
  - Compliments and Complaints

**County Councillor Elizabeth Casling**  
**Chairman: Scrutiny Board**

**May 2016**

# **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 May 2016**

## **YOUNG PEOPLES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

#### **Review of Preventative Services**

1. In April 2015, the Committee reviewed the range of prevention services implemented by the Directorate. The aim of this change programme was to bring together a range of preventative work, but for it to be managed in a different way, thus creating a service which operates seamlessly throughout the 0-19 age range. As a committee, we very much supported the aim of eliminating duplication and unhelpful transitions for families and reduction of numbers of children and young people requiring more intensive and more costly interventions through children's social care and other services.
2. One year on, the staffing structure of 12 area teams appears to have embedded well and, though a seamless service for all children and young people, to be achieving better outcomes for children and young people and families. We saw clear and strong signs of: engagement; of practical hands-on support for the whole family approach; of increasingly positive attempts to capture the voice of the child and young person in the family; and of the use of evidence around interventions to improve practice generally.
3. In the face of significant budget reductions to prevention and children social care - £8m in total - the achievements have been impressive, especially in terms of numbers of referrals to children's social care, and seeing the lowest numbers of looked after children in six years. A 25% reduction in child protection and the lowest numbers of young people in custody are further, pleasing signs of that the changes have been a success.
4. Our overall assessment was that the framework of new prevention services, even after just one year, is already achieving rapid and highly impressive results. Implementation, which involved a complex assimilation and transformation process, with many staff moving into the new structure, has been handled efficiently and sensitively.
5. We heard from a Luke Rodgers regarding his looked after experience. After a challenging start in life, characterised by a series of placement breakdowns, Luke has made an inspirational success of being a social entrepreneur as the Founder and Director of Foster Focus. He talked passionately and sensitively about the need for honest communication with young people, especially as part of the fostering

process. On so many occasions in the past a young person in the care system was, fundamentally, seen as a problem with many authorities' assessments consequently, and unhelpfully, being framed in that way. Luke explained to us that by changing the mind-set of how agencies view a young person and their behaviour, and by engaging with them about the care they experience, the statistics for children in care can be dramatically improved. By empowering young people's ideas, we can unlock their potential and create organisational structures that are child focused and better the life chances for children in care

### **Consultation on Short Breaks**

6. In April last year the committee considered a draft strategy to support disabled children and young people and their families which, when implemented, provided an increased focus on light touch interventions for families to meet needs and reduce the number of families who may require access to higher cost statutory services. As part of the change, it was agreed that the proposed budget reduction for discretionary short break grants from £150,000 to £100,000 per annum should be deferred pending consultation. We were interested to see how this would unfold.
7. After reviewing the results, we were satisfied that the views expressed during the consultation exercise have been carefully and sensitively crafted into a proposed model which not only combines good practice from other local authorities, but which also devises a system to better manage short break grants against a reducing budget. The introduction of appropriate qualifying criteria will promote better targeting for families who need support the most. The previous system, whilst inclusive, had not required substantial evidence of need. Better management and scrutiny of the current budget will enable appropriate levels of support.

### **White Paper: Proposed amalgamation Caedmon College and Eskdale School**

8. As you now know, the process regarding the proposal to amalgamate Caedmon College and Eskdale School at Whitby has been paused. This was against the backdrop of the implications of the White Paper: "Educational Excellence Everywhere", which set out the Government's intention that all schools will be expected to become, or be in the process of becoming, academies by 2020, with all converted by 2022.
9. At the time of writing this report we now understand that the Government, as a result of recent conversations with MPs, teachers, school leaders and parents, has decided, while reaffirming its continued determination to see all schools to become academies in the next 6 years, that it is not necessary to bring legislation to bring about blanket conversion of all schools to academy status.

10. My intention, therefore, is for the committee's group spokespersons to discuss this thoroughly at the next briefing in order that a view can be taken as to how best to bring this to the attention of the committee at its June meeting.

**JANET JEFFERSON**

Chairman, Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
County Hall,  
NORTHALLERTON

9 May 2016

Background Documents - Nil.

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 May 2016**

### **CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

#### **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

##### **Framework Providers for Domiciliary Care**

1. Domiciliary care is a term for care and support provided in the home by care workers to assist someone with their daily life. Health and Adult Services undertook a procurement exercise in 2014 to introduce new "Framework" arrangements for domiciliary care as Phase 1 of a review of home care contracts. The first phase was targeted at care provided in the areas with greatest need and demand for support in Harrogate, Selby and Scarborough. Through the Frameworks our aim was to reduce the number of providers we work with, to allow for much closer partnership working in order to improve quality and at the same time reduce transactional costs.
2. Consultation with people receiving services had highlighted two key areas of concern with home care – timeliness of visits and continuity of care. The new specification enhanced the quality standards for providers including these two key areas. The new specifications also help us deliver more personalised care, and the outcomes that people want from their support.
3. We examined the success of this arrangement, from the providers' perspective, when we met representatives of the two framework domiciliary care providers awarded the contracts for Selby and Harrogate, respectively, until 2019. Many of the issues raised by Mike Richards from "Riccallcare" and Samantha Harrison from "Continued Care" were not unexpected. Both stressed the business pressures of absorbing the increase in the living wage, and the difficulty ensuring a sufficient margin to continue to invest in the business against the backcloth of what is an increasingly complex social care market, with continuing problems recruiting, training and retaining staff.
4. We found the relationship between the two providers and the HAS Directorate, for example in terms of communication and continuity of assessments, to be excellent. In part, this has resulted in referral arrangements for personal care with clients being grouped so that staff can visit clients within a recognised local area thereby reducing travelling time between appointments - a key benefit in a predominantly rural area.
5. This exercise puts the committee in a good position to assess progress of Phase 2 of the rollout of the framework domiciliary care to other areas of the county.



6. The method and format we adopted in this meeting - that of an open conversation and dialogue with providers - is one that we intend to replicate in the future with both in-house and external providers where the scope of their activity matches key areas of our work programme.

### **Inspection of Care Homes and Member Notifications**

7. At a previous meeting we heard from the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) Regional Inspector about the inspection of care providers, and particularly new arrangements around increased transparency of inspection findings. We noted the CQC's rating systems for providers, which range from: outstanding; good; requires improvement or inadequate. This new system does help inform users about the quality of the provision. When combined with new recently produced CQC area profiles, members of the public can thus be reassured that the commissioning of HAS services is sustained at a high quality level. It is, however, early days for the CQC rating system and many people are clearly struggling to understand what the rating categories actually mean in practice. Constituents regularly contact elected members about issues that they are experiencing locally in relation to family members. We asked ourselves, therefore, how elected members are informed about, and possibly connected to, all this information regarding the regulation and inspection of care establishments.
8. In many instances where a home is rated as requiring improvement by the CQC this might mistakenly cause people to worry that this finding implies something more serious about the standard of care. Currently, discretion lies with the HAS Directorate about how and whether directorate held information is then shared with the local elected member. The committee has agreed to continue the current arrangement whereby a judgment will be made on the merits of each case. This means, for example, where a home is found to be requiring improvement, a judgment will be made based upon those findings and locally held information, as to how this situation should be shared with the local Member. Depending upon the circumstances, a finding of "Inadequate" is more likely to trigger contact with the local member. However, unless truly exceptional circumstances apply, the Committee and the relevant local Member will be notified *automatically* when a provider is suspended or ceases training.

### **Advocacy Post Care Act**

9. As part of its continuing work in assessing the Council's preparedness and implementation of the Care Act, we reviewed how the Directorate was making arrangements for providing advocacy services for people who experience substantial difficulty in being involved with the care and support process.
10. Advocates provide an independent support to people who, through vulnerability or lack of capacity, need support to help them to make a decision, or express what they

want to say, or someone to act on their behalf or represent their best interests. The Department of Health have suggested there was likely to be a 10% increase in the demand for advocacy as a result of the new Care Act responsibilities. We heard how an invitation to tender was sought for one countywide provider with the ability for a consortia to bid, or for a lead provider to sub-contract. A successful tendering process was conducted and, as a result of robust evaluation, “Cloverleaf” have been selected as the new provider. Although they have indicated in their bid submission that they may sub-contract with York Mind and Advocacy Service.

11. This means a change as the previous provider of the generic advocacy (North Yorkshire Advocacy) was not part of the successful bid. We were reassured that plans are in place to work with the outgoing provider to ensure a smooth transfer to the new contract.
12. We hope to meet representatives of Cloverleaf in the very near future.

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR PATRICK MULLIGAN**

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

9 May 2016

Background Documents - Nil.

## **North Yorkshire County Council**

**18 May 2016**

### **Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

#### **Chairman's Statement**

1. My statement for this full Council summarises the main topics considered at our Committee meeting on 18 April 2016.

#### **Reconfiguration of the Library Service**

2. We heard that under the Red, Amber, or Green (RAG) ratings good progress has been toward establishing the planned 21 community managed libraries.
3. Since my last statement to Council in February when I reported that that there were 7 rated Amber I am pleased to report there are now only 2 – Bentham and Thirsk.
4. We noted that 18 were assessed as Green, including Pateley Bridge which has already transferred to community management and is now operated by Nidderdale Plus, in their new premises with the support of volunteers and some dedicated library staffing.
5. The only library assessed as Red was Stokesley. Further engagement work and options appraisals are being prioritised in order to achieve a successful outcome in the form of an outline Expression of Interest.
6. Whilst priority has been given to the community libraries as these are a full transfer of service delivery, work has also progressed with the hybrid libraries, currently assessed as Amber. Meetings have taken place with potential management group members in Filey, Knaresborough, Pickering, Ripon and Whitby and follow up meetings are already planned. These groups will work towards becoming formalised over the coming weeks and once established, will be requested to complete a Community Proposal form clarifying their capacity to work with the Council in delivering the service.
7. We look forward continued involvement and we are very optimistic that the reconfiguration will be fully implemented by 1 April 2017.

#### **Equality**

8. We received a comprehensive report which summarised the Council's work under 4 broad headings:
  - a) Progress on equal pay
  - b) Monitoring of workforce data
  - c) Member training on equality issues
  - d) Refreshed equality objectives.
9. In terms of Equal Pay we heard that there is much, to be positive about, for instance, the latest audit had identified that the progression of male employees and female employees is equal through the grades and changes to the increments policy have offered greater protection staff with a disability who may need to be absent from work.
10. The Council monitors information on age, gender, ethnicity and disability.

11. With regards to Member training we felt that all Councillors should receive more training on equality issues and we should all complete the e-learning package on the Council's Learning Zone as is the case for all staff.
12. We noted that equality objectives are being refreshed and we look forward to more information on that work in due course.

## **Workforce**

13. We heard that the County Council's workforce (non schools) continues to reduce at a relatively steady place as below:

	Headcount	FTE
Q2 2012/13	8,580	5,810
Q2 2013/14	7,716	5,659
Q2 2014/15	7,663	5,668

14. The 15/16 end of year outturn had yet to be finalised on 18 April but was reported as 5,632 FTE.
15. Since April 2014 the impact of the 2020 organisational restructurings has been significant, for instance over 2,000 staff have been involved in redundancy consultations and 50 restructurings have been completed.
16. Sickness levels reached a record low of 6.21 days lost per employee for 2014/15. The staff survey showed that morale is holding up well.
17. In terms of taking forward the Workforce Strategy we heard that key issues include:
  - The need to continue to engage with the workforce in times of constant change as part of measures to provide the necessary support.
  - The need to develop talent
  - Coming to terms with new national requirements for apprenticeships;
  - Improving recruitment and retention of social care staff.
18. We look forward to continued involvement in workforce issues.

**County Councillor Derek Bastiman**  
**Chairman - Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
 County Hall, Northallerton

May 2016

## **North Yorkshire County Council**

**18 May 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 13 April 2016.

#### **Committee – 13 April**

##### Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) update

2. The Committee received an update on the work of the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP relating to strategy and funding, infrastructure (including the Local Growth Fund), business support and skills.
3. The LEP is currently refreshing the Strategic Economic Plan and developing a series of action plans. The Local Growth Deal totals £122m supporting 21 capital projects. All of the 2015/16 projects have now received full funding agreements with many now starting on site, although some flagship projects have slipped into future years. The LEP has put in place a number of initiatives to help small and micro businesses grow by providing advice and information, and supporting business networks to pilot new areas. Careers information advice and guidance, in partnership with the County Council, is being piloted to a number of schools in North Yorkshire.
4. We feel that the LEP has achieved significant momentum in the past year. We discussed what plans the LEP is putting in place to respond to future developments (actual or possible) relating to devolution and Brexit. The LEP is keen to ensure that all the local authorities work as one on the offer and asks to government with regards to devolution. EU Structural Investment Funding provides a significant chunk of support to the LEP (110 million euros) and is being invested against the LEP's strategic priorities. The funding committed to date is expected to be unaffected by the results of the EU referendum but there remains business uncertainty in the lead up to the referendum. Outside of these two developments, the poor East-West transport connections remain a brake on economic development.

##### Local Flood Risk Management Strategy update

5. The Committee was consulted on the draft strategy in October 2014. Since then there have been a number of flooding incidents with Storm Desmond presenting a significant test to the strategy. We were reassured to hear that the strategy has been effective in delivering a flood responsive service to affected communities during this and previous incidents. It helps that the strategy provides key information about the roles and responsibilities of the various parties involved in Flood Risk Management so that the public can see who does what.

### Minerals and Waste Plan - Fracking

6. Following on from the Committee's joint meeting with the Scrutiny of Health Committee in January, looking into the impacts of hydraulic fracturing ('fracking'), a draft report was presented to our meeting in April.
7. The Committee agreed with the findings but asked for the recommendations to be made more specific and to re-emphasise the need for the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan to take into account the cumulative impacts of lorry movements on our rural roads if and when an onshore shale gas industry develops in the county.
8. It was also agreed that County Councillor Jim Clark and I would finalise the report for the Executive on 24 May 2016 after taking into account discussions at the committee meeting and comments from the group spokespersons of both committees.

**County Councillor Andrew Backhouse**  
**Chairman**

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

10 May 2016

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

18 May 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 Sustainability and Transformational Plan (STP) and their Implications for North Yorkshire**

Representatives from Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) covering North Yorkshire and NHS England attended our committee meeting on 22 April 2016.

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.

NHS England (Yorkshire and the Humber) is recommending the main five 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 STPs will become the single application and approval process for being accepted onto programmes with transformational funding for 2017/18 onwards.** As funding for CCGs is already being squeezed it is likely that the only new or growth funding will be through this transformational route.

As I stated at Council in February 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 Middlesbrough, 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. I did not hear anything at our meeting in April that persuaded me these fears are unfounded and I have written formally to NHS England setting out these concerns and requesting a response. My letter was also copied to the Senior Responsible Officer at each STP with a view to establishing arrangements under which the committee will receive regular collective updates, including how they will:

- a) address the specific issues of healthcare in North Yorkshire;
- b) ensure that North Yorkshire receives a fair share of the Transformation Fund linked to STPs.

## **Vale of York CCG**

At our meeting in April we heard that the Vale of York CCG had closing deficit position for 2016/17 projected to be £13.3m which was an improvement of £3m from the plan that was considered by the CCG's Governing Body on 7 April 2016. This has been achieved through cutting discretionary spend and increasing the risk within the plan. The long term financial plan still anticipates that this will be the last deterioration with the deficit held in 2017/18 and recovered over 2 years 2018/19 – 2019/20 with a return to surplus by the end of 2019/20. But this would need to be remodelled following 18 April submission of 2016/17 plan.

It was significant that the CCG still had work to do to agree the contract with the York Teaching Hospitals NHS FT and it was likely that the CCG would be entering into a formal an arbitration process if the contract was not agreed by 25 April 2016.

The CCG is planning savings across a range of areas, for instance to make savings in prescribing budgets, over the counter medications, eligibility for MRI scans and eligibility to elective surgery by being more evidence based and possibly linking eligibility to patient BMI index.

We also heard that NHS England would be carrying out a “deep dive” project into CCG's finances and recovery plan.

Linking back to STPs we heard that the CCG acknowledges there may be issues to overcome such as whether or not other CCGs in the STP feel that transition funding should be invested in the Vale of York CCG.

We continue to have serious concerns about the potential impact on front-line services in the CCG area and we will be maintaining a very close eye on how things develop. This is likely to involve working closely with the scrutiny of health committee at York City Council.

## **Developments in the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG area**

We are already currently involved in a range of “live” initiatives across the CCG area:

### **“Transforming our Communities” (Including the Lambert Hospital, Thirsk)**

Against a background of the temporary closure of the Lambert Hospital in Thirsk and the public meeting organised by County Councillor Gareth Dadd on 22 March 2016 the CCG and the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust have been carrying out joint public engagement activities to seek views and suggestions on the future provision of care in the Thirsk area.

A number of listening events and a number of key themes have already been identified including:

- Support for a new model of palliative care
- Support for the provision of step up step down bed model
- Support for the development of integrated locality teams
- Concerns regarding the future use of the Lambert Hospital
- Concerns regarding the impact of the future increase in population in the Thirsk area.

A formal public consultation is planned between July – September 2016.



### Shuttle Bus

The CCG has launched a period of public engagement with current and potential passengers of a local bus service known as “The Shuttle Bus”.

The CCG introduced the “Shuttle Bus” service between The Friarage Hospital, Northallerton and James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough in November 2014 as a pilot to support users of those services affected by the reconfigured maternity and paediatric services.

The CCG has to save £7.7million in 2016/17 in order to deliver a balanced financial position which it is statutorily required to do. Consequently it is prioritising core health services and those which we are required to commission by law, above those which may be considered supplementary to core healthcare provision.

### NHS Durham and Darlington CCG - Better Health Programme

This CCG is currently looking at the following services across Darlington, Durham and Tees:

- Acute Medicine
- Acute Surgery
- Accident and Emergency
- Critical Care
- Acute Paediatrics, Maternity and Neonatology (services for very small babies)
- Interventional radiology

While this initiative is not being led by the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG it could impact on communities especially in Richmondshire if services are withdrawn from the Darlington Hospital. Consequently we are monitoring developments closely.

We will receive a briefing on all of these developments at our mid cycle briefing on Friday 13 May 2016. I will report orally on the outcome of those discussions at County Council.

### **Minerals and Waste Plan - Fracking**

Following on from the Committee’s joint meeting with the Transport, Economy and Environment Committee in January, looking into the impacts of hydraulic fracturing, a draft report was presented to our meeting in April.

It was agreed that County Councillor Andrew Backhouse and I would finalise the report for the Executive on 24 May 2016 after taking into account discussions at the committee meeting and comments from the group spokespersons of both committees.

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

**May 2016**

## **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.

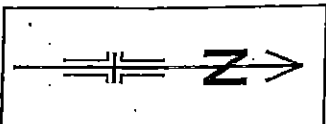
(b) If the fire alarm is sounded during Group meetings:-

- 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

SECONDARY  
EVACUATION ROUTE

Fire Assembly  
Point

**NORTH SIDE  
CAR PARK**

El Sub Sta

# COUNTY HALL NORTHALLERTON

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey  
digital data with the permission of the  
controller of Her Majesty's Stationery  
Office,  
Crown Copyright Reserved.  
Licence Number: 100017946