

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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# **QUARTERLY MEETING**

**15 February 2017**

**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 put questions or statements to 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 Fire and Rescue 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. In these circumstances the speaking time will be limited to one minute.
- (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 Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic 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. Copies of all written Member questions received for a meeting of County Council will be circulated to all Members in the Council Chamber.
- (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 COUNTY COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of the County Council to be held at County Hall Northallerton on **Wednesday 15 February 2017 at 10.30 am**, at which time the business listed below will be transacted.

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

### BUSINESS

1. To move that the **Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 9 November 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 14)**
2. **Chairman's Announcements** - Any correspondence, communication or other business brought forward by the direction of the Chairman of the Council.
3. **A Statement by the Leader of the Council**  
**(Pages 15 to 16)**
4. **Public Questions or Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice and provided the text to Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) – email: [barry.khan@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:barry.khan@northyorks.gov.uk)) or in writing to Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services), County Hall, Northallerton DL7 8AD by **midday on Friday, 10 February 2017**. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item.

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

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

**Executive Report only (Pages 17 to 26)**

- The Council Plan 2017 to 2021  
**(Appendices Booklet pages 1 to 28)**
- Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/17 to 201, Revenue Budget and Council Tax  
**(Appendices Booklet pages 29 to 176)**
- Capital Plan  
**(Appendices Booklet pages 177 to 192)**
- Treasury Management  
**(Appendices Booklet pages 193 to 246)**
- Prudential Indicators  
**(Appendices Booklet pages 247 to 260)**
- LGPS Requirements for Asset Pooling  
**(Appendices Booklet pages 261 to 405)**
- School Admission Arrangements 2018/19  
**(Appendices Booklet pages 406 to 455)**
- Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies  
**(Pages 25 to 26)**

6. To consider the **report and recommendations of the Members' Independent Remuneration Panel** and make decisions on them.

**(Pages 27 to 38)**

7. **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 39 to 60)**

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

- (g) Highways, road safety, access to the countryside (including Broadband, mobile phone coverage) public transport (Portfolio holder: County Councillor Don Mackenzie)

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen:**

**(Pages 61 to 78)**

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

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 14 February 2017**, the person to whom the question has been put may respond in writing, and this is then circulated to all Members.

**8. Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions**

RICHARD FLINTON  
Chief Executive Officer

County Hall  
NORTHALLERTON

7 February 2017

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



## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held at the Civic Centre Hambleton District Council, Northallerton on 9 November 2016, commencing at 10.30am

### PRESENT:-

County Councillor Val Arnold in the Chair.

County Councillors Andrew Backhouse, Robert Baker, Arthur Barker, Derek Bastiman, Bernard Bateman MBE, David Billing, John Blackie, David Blades, Eric Broadbent, Lindsay Burr, Jean Butterfield, David Chance, Jim Clark, John Clark, Richard Cooper, Sam Cross, Gareth Dadd, Margaret-Ann de Courcey-Bayley, Caroline Dickinson, John Ennis, Andrew Goss, Bryn Griffiths, Michael Harrison, Roger Harrison-Topham, Michael Heseltine, Robert Heseltine, Peter Horton, Bill Hout, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Anne Jones, Mike Jordan, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, Don Mackenzie, Brian Marshall, Shelagh Marshall OBE, Chris Metcalfe, Heather Moorhouse, Patrick Mulligan, Bob Packham, Caroline Patmore, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, 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 Annual General Meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 20 July 2016, having been printed and circulated, are taken as read and are 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 -

**125.** That the Minutes of the Annual General meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 20 July 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 recorded thanks to Hambleton District Council for use of their Council Chamber and she advised Members of the death of former County Councillor Frank Wiggle who had represented Malton Division from 1977 to 1981. Members stood in silence in his memory.

### Statement by the Leader of the Council

County Councillor Carl Les made a statement, under Council Procedure Rule 2.3, as Leader of the Council, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appear in the Minute Book (pages 8399 to 8400). County Councillor Carl Les then responded to various questions.

### Public Questions or Statements

No notice had been received of questions or statements from the public.

### Report of the Executive

#### Revenue Budget 2016/17

The recommendation in paragraph 1 of the report (page 8402) was 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 –**

**125.** That County Council approve that £212k be earmarked for BES development initiatives, detailed in **paragraph 5.2.1 Annex 1** pages 8407 to 8408.

### Prudential Indicators

The recommendation in paragraph 2 of the report (page 8402) was 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 –**

**126.** That County Council approve the revised Prudential Indicators for the period 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in Appendix A, Annex 2, pages 8449 to 8461.

### Constitution Amendments 2016

The recommendations in paragraph 3 of the report pages 8403 to 8404 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 –

**127.** That, the proposed amendments to the Constitution as set out in the Amendments Chart at **Appendix 1, Annex 3 pages 8467 to 8476** are approved.

That, Council approve that all commons registration functions under Part 1 of the Commons Act 2006 and associated legislation are delegated to the Corporate Director Business and Environmental Services with power for him to refer such matters to the Planning and Regulatory Functions Sub-Committee for determination where, after consultation with any standing Chair of the Sub-Committee or, if none or unavailable, the Chair of the Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee, the Corporate Director Business and Environmental Services deems this to be appropriate.

That, the proposed amendments to the Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee and Sub-Committee Terms of Reference as set out at **Appendix 2 Annex 3 pages 8475 and 8476** are approved.

That, the proposed amendments to the Officers' Scheme of Delegation as set out at **Appendix 3 Annex 3 pages 8477 to 8482** are approved.

### Appointment of External Auditors

The recommendation in paragraph 4 of the report page 8404 was 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 –

**128.** That the County Council opt into a sector led body for the appointment of external Auditors when the current transitional arrangements expire, subject to satisfactory proposals by the Local Government Association as determined by the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services and the Chair of the Audit Committee.



### Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The recommendations in paragraph 5 of the report pages 8404 to 8405 and the addendum circulated at the meeting 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 –

#### 129. (a) Health and Wellbeing Board

That Gill Collinson is appointed in place of Debbie Newton as substitute for Janet Probert - representing NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG.

That Ros Tolcher, Chief Executive of Harrogate and District Foundation Trust, is appointed as the provider representative and that Patrick Crowley, Chief Executive of York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, is appointed as the designated substitute for Ros Tolcher.

#### (b) Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

That County Councillor John Fort BEM is nominated to fill the vacancy on the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority until the County Council election in May 2017, following the resignation of County Councillor Shelagh Marshall OBE.

#### (c) Standards Committee

That County Councillor Tony Randerson is appointed to the vacant seat until the County Council election in May 2017

#### Scrutiny Board Chairman

To remain vacant until the County Council election in May 2017.

#### Young People's Champion

To remain vacant until the County Council election in May 2017.

### Report and recommendations of the Audit Committee

The recommendation in paragraph 1 at page 8491 was 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 –

**130.** That the County Council note the Annual Report of the Audit Committee as set out at pages 8493 to 8500.

### **Report and recommendations of the Standards Committee**

The recommendation at page 8501 was 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 –**

**131.** That the County Council note the Annual Report of the Standards Committee as set out at pages 8503 to 8505,

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

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 8507- 8508) 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 8509 - 8514) 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 8515 - 8518) and responded to questions.

**County Councillor Lindsey Burr MBE declared an interest as she works with apprentices.**

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 8519 - 8522) and responded to questions.

County Councillor Clare Wood, the Executive Member for adult social care and health integration made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 8523 - 8524) 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 8525 – 8530) 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 8531 - 8534) and responded to a question.

The written statements of the Chairmen of the Scrutiny Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (pages 8535 - 8554) having previously been circulated, were noted.

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

There were no Council Procedure Rule 10 questions.

#### **Motion 1**

#### **Review of NHS acute services across the Tees Valley, South Durham and the northern part of North Yorkshire.**

County Councillor Carl Les moved and County Councillor John Blackie seconded the following motion:

"North Yorkshire County Council notes that:

NHS acute services across the Tees Valley, South Durham and the northern part of North Yorkshire are currently being reviewed as part of "The Better Health Programme". The Review includes:

- 24 / 7 Accident and Emergency (A&E) services
- 24 / 7 Consultant-led Maternity services
- 24 / 7 Consultant-led Paediatric services

These services are accessed at the Darlington Memorial Hospital by North Yorkshire residents in the north of the County, and the 24 / 7 Consultant-led maternity and paediatric services at the hospital were specifically committed by the NHS as an important alternative provision when the similar services were downgraded at The Friarage Hospital in 2014.

North Yorkshire County Council:

- calls upon the Better Health Programme review to take into account the needs of its residents and communities, many of them rural in nature, that rely upon these critical care services remaining at the Darlington Memorial Hospital
- and expects the review to honour the commitment to maintain them at the Darlington Memorial Hospital in line with the assurances given to residents in the County during the review of services provided at the Friarage Hospital in 2014."

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

## **Motion 2 Boundary Changes**

County Councillor Richard Cooper moved and County Councillor Robert Windass seconded the following motion:

"North Yorkshire County Council notes that:

North Yorkshire County Council welcomes the government's initiative to reduce the cost of Parliament whilst ensuring fairness of representation across the UK. It is important that the current arrangements for constituency boundaries in North Yorkshire be maintained as these present boundaries reflect strong community identities, effective transport links, recognised school catchment areas and important topographical features such as rivers, moors and hills.

North Yorkshire County Council:

- calls on the Boundary Commission to recognise the important influence of on strong community identities, effective transport links, recognised school catchment areas and important topographical features such as rivers, moors and hills on boundaries and maintain the present ones."

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

## **Motion 3 Educational Attainment and Grammar Schools**

In the absence of County Councillor Steve Shaw-Wright, County Councillor Eric Broadbent moved and County Councillor John Ritchie seconded the following motion:

"North Yorkshire County Council notes that:

The Government has failed to provide any evidence that grammar schools are the solution to improve the education for the majority of children. Neither is there any evidence that grammar schools provide a route for poor, academically able children to achieve better life chances. Existing evidence does, however, show that pupil selection discriminates against the poorest children. This policy will not benefit the majority of children, but will benefit a chosen few, mainly from wealthier families. Evidence shows pupil selection lowers the attainment of the children who do not get into grammar schools. Nor will this policy improve parental choice, because it won't give the majority of parents any more choice than they have already. Further selection will do nothing to stop 'selection by house price', nor will it eradicate child poverty. Grammar schools have never been a vehicle for social mobility.

North Yorkshire County Council:

- calls on the Government to recognise that this is a total distraction from addressing the most pressing crises facing schools – the shortage of school places, recruiting enough qualified teachers, and cuts to school budgets."

**County Councillor Andy Solloway declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the Motion as he coaches pupils taking the 11+ and he absented himself from the debate. County Councillor Lindsey Burr MBE also declared an interest as she works with schools and post 16s.**

An amendment to the motion was moved by County Councillor Arthur Barker and seconded by County Councillor Janet Sanderson as follows:

To delete the original wording and replace it with the following:

“The Council welcomes the Government’s commitment to addressing issues of poor educational attainment and lack of social mobility in certain areas and parts of society.

North Yorkshire County Council:

- Calls on Government to pursue these aspirations through existing policies to ensure all schools are good or outstanding and through the recently announced Opportunity Areas, other than the creation of new grammar schools or further increasing academic selection. The focus should be on addressing the most pressing issues facing schools – the provision of primary school places, recruiting enough qualified teachers, addressing pressures on nursery schools and schools’ budgets, through fairer funding for rural areas.”

**County Councillor Eric Broadbent, as the original mover of the motion, accepted the amendment and the vote was taken on the amended motion, and on a show of hands, the motion was declared carried, with none against and four abstentions.**

#### **Motion 4 Threats to Pharmacies**

County Councillor David Billing moved and County Councillor Eric Broadbent seconded the following motion:

"North Yorkshire County Council notes that:

North Yorkshire County Council notes that 121 Pharmacies in North Yorkshire offer a range of services such as dispensing prescriptions, disposal of unwanted medicines and supporting self-care. Pharmacies play an important role in promoting wellbeing such as healthy eating, smoking cessation, exercise, flu vaccination, sexual health, falls supervised consumption and more. Advice and support services are also available to care homes

North Yorkshire County Council is greatly concerned about Government imposed threats to pharmacies as a result of cuts in the budget of £170m nationally to take effect from October 2016. This is a 6% cut in cash terms but could effectively mean a cut of 12% during the financial year which could potentially close up to a quarter of pharmacies, with an increased focus on warehousing dispensary and online services. Service cuts in pharmacies put more residents at risk as well as putting pressure on GPs and on hospital services and therefore increasing NHS costs. A fully funded community pharmacy service is cost effective and is in the interest of patients and carers.

North Yorkshire County Council:

- agrees to write to the Secretary of State for Health, NHS England and Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby, Harrogate and Scarborough and Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group detailing the concerns and demanding an immediate reversal of these proposals.”

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

Meeting closed at 12.57

**North Yorkshire County Council Meeting****Wednesday 15 February 2017****Leader's Statement****Coastal flooding January 2017**

I want to express our thanks to County Council staff, partners and local volunteers for their work to assist the local communities before, during and after the East Coast Tidal Surge on 13/14 January. About 20 properties were flooded in the county, but we were fortunate that the winds and highest waves did not coincide with the peak tides.

**Syrian refugee families**

I am pleased to say that we have now welcomed over 110 refugees in North Yorkshire having escaped violence and torture in Syria. Thanks to thorough preparation by the organisations involved, we are confident that their settlement and integration will be as smooth as possible. They are being supported by local volunteers as well as public sector partners, and we are locating people in areas where there is good access to services. The priority for the refugees, and for those supporting them, is that they settle in and start to make independent lives for themselves as quickly as possible.

**Settlement**

When I wrote about the settlement at this time a year ago it was in the anticipation that the government had listened to our concerns about funding, and the final settlement was better than the provisional. Sadly I don't think we can expect any more better news this year. We have a difficult task to do later in this meeting's agenda, but the fact is that we have lost 34% of our spending power over the life of this Council. We can't do what we used to do, in the same way that we did it, so we have had to adapt, but our staff still continue to serve our communities 7 days a week, supporting schools, safeguarding young and old, mending roads, rebuilding bridges etc. We will continue to make the case with government as part of its fairer funding review for the rural parts of the country such as North Yorkshire where cost of delivery is higher yet funding lower than in urban areas.

Because we have a longer term approach to our planning and finances we are able to make investments and develop innovative ways of working rather than simply slashing services. That is why we have been able to continue roll out broadband in our aim to provide 100% high quality coverage, continue to develop extra care facilities, continue to support rural transport with excellent community led initiatives, and with the great help of our volunteers continue to provide our residents with a library service that is often open for longer and offering more facilities. In austerity we often see only the negatives, but we should also recognise the achievements in and for our communities.

## **Retiring Members**

There are a number of Members who intend to retire at this May's election. As this is the last Council meeting of this Council, I feel Council should record our gratitude today to all of them, of all political persuasions or none, for the work and efforts they have put in on behalf of their divisions and the wider community of North Yorkshire.

### **Michael Heseltine**

When we stand in silent remembrance at our meetings it is usually in memory of a past colleague, long since retired. Sadly in recent times we have paid our respects to valued colleagues Polly English and Tony Hall, both serving Members. This morning we will have done the same for Michael Heseltine. Michael occupied an almost unique position in the County Council, being the longest continuously serving Member, and was in fact only 4 months shy of serving for 40 years. Moreover because of changing boundaries in those 4 decades he represented communities not only in his "own patch" as he liked to describe it, but also in the divisions now represented by Roger, Helen and myself.

With his encyclopaedic knowledge of NY history and geography, and of NYCC procedure, he was a good friend to many a new Member, myself included. He will be sadly missed by many on all sides of this Chamber.

County Councillor Carl Les  
Leader of the Council

February, 2017



## The Report of the Executive

The Executive met on Tuesday, 15 November 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 Councillors Jim Clark, Patrick Mulligan.

The Executive met on Tuesday, 6 December 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 Richard Welch.

The Executive met on Tuesday, 31 January 2017 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 John Blackie

**1. The Council Plan:** The Council Plan is a key component of the County Council's policy framework, setting out the Council's objectives and how its resources are to be used to deliver those objectives. Ensuring the Plan is developed in a timely and robust manner is essential in order to drive forward the business of the Council and improve performance, including the County Council's contribution to the delivery of the North Yorkshire Community Plan. The process is closely allied to the budget setting process as this clearly demonstrates the golden thread running through the Council's objectives, priorities and allocation of resources. For this reason the Council Plan is submitted to the County Council in tandem with the budget report. The Council Plan is intended to be the public expression of the County Council's vision and a longer-term strategic document designed to plot the Council's course over the next 4 years. The format has changed slightly and now includes one section detailing four key ambitions with associated high level outcomes, links to key strategies, recent progress and priorities for the next four years. The more concise structure should make performance against the ambitions clearer. The funding section will be finalised once the County Council's budget is agreed. At the meeting held 31 January 2017 the Executive endorsed the Council Plan, and the report is shown in full in the **Appendices Booklet pages 1 to 28**.

### The Executive Recommends:

- That County Council approve the Council Plan 2017-2021;
- That County Council authorise the Chief Executive to make any necessary changes to the text, including reflecting decisions made by the County Council on the budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy and updated performance data.

**2. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2020/21 and Revenue Budget for 2017/18:** The Executive considered this report on 31 January 2017 and this is shown in full in the **Appendices Booklet at pages 29 to 176.**

**Medium Term Financial Strategy** By the end of 2016/17 the County Council will have delivered £126.7m of savings. It is estimated, however, that a further £42.7m will be required from 2017/18 to 2020. The aggregate savings requirement of £169.4m broadly equates to a 34% reduction in the Council's spending power since 2011. It is therefore essential that the County Council has a sound medium to longer term strategy to address this financial challenge. Whilst savings proposals of £32.9m have been identified from 2017/18 to the end of the MTFs, there remains a projected residual shortfall of £9.8m by 2020/21 which will, subject to further refinement, need to be addressed in future years (**see Appendices Booklet page 34/35 paragraph 2.2**). £2.0m of Reserves is projected to be used in 2017/18 and £9.9m by 2018/19 in order to meet the residual shortfall after savings proposals and investments. This increases to £28.4m over the period up to the end of 2020/21 unless savings proposals are brought forward and delivered in the interim (**see Appendices Booklet page 45 paragraph 3.7.1**). The MTFs for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 as set out in **Section 3 (see Appendices Booklet from page 35)** and **Appendix D (see Appendices Booklet page 76)** is recommended for approval (**paragraph 12.1 k, see Appendices Booklet page 66**).

**Reserves & Balances** Given the level of risks facing the County Council, it is proposed that the existing policy target for the minimum level of the General Working Balance is retained at £27.270m for all years of the MTFs (**paragraph 12.1q - see Appendices Booklet page 66**).

**Savings** Savings totalling £32.9m between 2017/18 and 2019/20 are proposed. £11.1m of these savings are new proposals and the remainder are broadly in line with the existing 2020 North Yorkshire Programme that was approved in last year's Budget / MTFs but provide for some re-profiling and a reduction in quantum of £3.7m (**paragraph 3.8.2 and Appendix E - see Appendices Booklet pages 77 to 93**). Further areas of opportunity are identified to address the residual savings gap of £9.8m. These areas will be progressed and any required approvals will be sought (**paragraph 3.8.7 - see Appendices Booklet page 49**).

**Investments** Investments are proposed as part of the 2017/18 Revenue Budget:-

- £1.5m is provided for Locality Budgets for the duration of the new County Council (2017/18 to 2020/21) subject to terms to be agreed with the Assistant Chief Legal & Democratic Services) in consultation with the Executive Member for Stronger Communities, Public Health and Legal & Democratic Services (**paragraph 3.9.1 and 12.1 g - see Appendices Booklet pages 50 and 65**).
- a further £250k is provided to fund the cost of elections in May 2017 (**paragraph 3.9.1 and 12.1 - see Appendices Booklet pages 50 and 65**).
- That £350k is provided to support community libraries (**paragraph 3.9.1 and 12.1 i - see Appendices Booklet pages 50 and 65**).
- £1.0m is earmarked for the 2020 North Yorkshire Programme to support delivery of the Programme in line with the proposed delegated authority as set out in **paragraphs 3.9.1 and 12.1 j - see Appendices Booklet pages 50 and 65**).

**Revenue Budget 2017/18** A net revenue budget of £359.203m, after use of Reserves, is proposed for 2017/18 (**paragraphs 4.1 and 12.1 d**) and **Appendix D - see Appendices Booklet pages 51-52 and 76**) and the allocation of the net revenue budget be allocated to

directorates, net of planned savings (set out in **Appendix E - see Appendices Booklet pages 77 to 93**), in line with **Appendix F, paragraph 12.1 d - see Appendices Booklet pages 65 and 76**.

**Council Tax** It is recommended that a general council tax increase of 1.99% is agreed in line with the existing MTFs and that this is supplemented with a 2% social care precept (total increase of 3.99%), resulting in a Band D council tax level of £1,189.50 for the Council in 2017/18 (**Section 5 and Appendix A - see Appendices Booklet pages 68 to 71**). The MTFs also assumes a 1.99% increase in general council tax and a 2% social care precept (total increase of 3.99%) for each year thereafter up to and including 2019/20 (**paragraphs 3.3.3 to 3.3.8 and 12.1 k - see Appendices Booklet pages 38 to 39 and 66**).

**Section 25 Statement** The Corporate Director, Strategic Resources is obliged to offer a view of the robustness of estimates used in the Revenue Budget 2017/18 and the associated level of balances/reserves. The Corporate Director, Strategic Resources is satisfied that the report meets such a requirement but notes the need for an on-going approach to develop a savings plan that provides the basis for addressing the residual savings gap and any further shortfalls that may arise given the degree of uncertainties in the current climate (**paragraph 8.17 - see Appendices Booklet page 62**).

**Other** The draft pay policy statement 2017/18 is set out for consideration at **Section 7 and Appendix G - see Appendices Booklet pages 56 to 57 and pages 95 to 101**). An assessment of the key financial risks to the County Council has been carried out in **Section 9 (see Appendices Booklet pages 62 to 64)**.

An overview of equality issues associated with the Council's budget proposals has been carried out and summarises the potential equality impacts in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty (**Section 8.2 to 8.6 and Appendix H - see Appendices Booklet pages 57 to 59 and 102 to 115**).

#### **The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| a) | That the Section 25 assurance statement provided by the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources regarding the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves ( <b>paragraph 8.17 - see Appendices Booklet page 62</b> ) and the risk assessment of the MTFs detailed in <b>Section 9 (see Appendices Booklet page 62 to 64)</b> 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 2017/18 of £271,548,611 is approved and that a Council Tax precept of this sum be issued to billing authorities in North Yorkshire ( <b>paragraphs 3.3.3 to 3.3.8 and Appendix A see Appendices Booklet pages 38 to 39 and 68 to 71</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 £1,189.50 is approved ( <b>paragraph 3.3.7 and Appendix A - see Appendices Booklet pages 39 and 68 to 71</b> ).  |
| d) | That a Net Revenue Budget for 2017/18, after use of reserves of £359.203m ( <b>paragraph 4.1 and Appendix D, see Appendices Booklet page 51 to 52 and 76</b> ) are approved and that the financial allocations to each Directorate, net of planned savings, be as detailed in <b>Appendix F (see Appendices Booklet page 94)</b> .  |

- e) That in the event that the final Local Government Settlement results in a variance of less than £5m then the difference to be addressed by a transfer to / from the Strategic Capacity Unallocated Reserve in line with **paragraph 3.2.3 (see Appendices Booklet page 38)** with such changes being made to **Appendix B (see Appendices Booklet page 72)** as appropriate.
- f) 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 (**paragraph 3.4.6, see Appendices Booklet page 40 to 41**).
- g) That £1.5m is provided for Locality Budgets for the duration of the new County Council (2017/18 to 2020/21) subject to terms to be agreed with the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services) in consultation with the Executive Member for Stronger Communities, Public Health and Legal & Democratic Services (**paragraph 3.9.1, see Appendices Booklet page 50**).
- h) That a further £250k is provided to fund the cost of elections in May 2017 (**paragraph 3.9.1, see Appendices Booklet page 50**).
- i) That £350k is provided to support community libraries (**paragraph 3.9.1, see Appendices Booklet page 50**).
- j) That £1.0m is earmarked for the 2020 North Yorkshire Programme to support delivery of the Programme and that the Chief Executive is authorised to approve investments in consultation with the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources and the Executive Member for Finance (**paragraph 3.9.1, see Appendices Booklet page 50**).
- k) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2018/19 to 2019/20, and its caveats, as laid out in **Section 3 and Appendix D (see Appendices Booklet pages 35 to 51 and 76)** is approved.
- l) That the Corporate Director – Business & Environmental Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for BES, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix E (BES 1 to 5), see Appendices Booklet page 81**.
- m) That the Corporate Director – Health and Adult Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for HAS, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix E (HAS 1 to 10) see Appendices Booklet page 89**.
- n) That the Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for CYPS, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix E (CYPS 1 to 9) see Appendices Booklet page 85**.

- o) That the Chief Executive is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for Central Services, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix E (CS 1 to 16) see Appendices Booklet page 92.**
- p) That any outcomes requiring changes following **Recommendations l), m) n) and o)** 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.
- q) That the existing policy target for the minimum level of the General Working Balance is retained at £27.270m in line with **paragraphs 3.6.4 to 3.6.6 and Appendix C, see Appendices Booklet pages 44 and 73 to 75.**
- r) That the attached pay policy statement (**Appendix G - see Appendices Booklet pages 95 to 101**) covering the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 (**Section 7 - see Appendices Booklet page 56 to 57**) be approved.

**3. Capital Plan:** At the meeting held 31 January 2017 the Executive considered and endorsed the Capital Plan, the report is available in full in the **Appendices Booklet pages 177 to 192.** The Council's Capital Plan to 2019/20 is put forward for approval **paragraph 4.1 (a) and Appendix E (see Appendices Booklet pages 183 and 189 to 191)** – it totals £118.6m in 2016/17, £103.1m in 2017/18, £93.8m in 2018/19, £62.7m in 2019/20 and £74.4m in later years. Since the update at Q2 there has been an overall re-phasing of expenditure from 2016/17 to later years as a result of slippage within the programme. There is an update on progress of some of the key capital schemes in the current Plan (**paragraph 3.7 see Appendices Booklet pages 179 to 181**). Financing of the Plan is set out in (**paragraph 3.8 and Appendix F, see Appendices Booklet pages 181 and 192**) with the majority from grants and contributions. Forecasts suggest potentially unallocated capital resources of £5.8m over the life of the Plan.

**The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

That the Q3 2016/17 Capital Plan, as summarised in **Appendices A to E, see Appendices Booklet pages 185 to 192,** be adopted.

**4. Treasury Management:** The Executive considered the Treasury Management Policy Statement (TMPS) on 31 January 2017, the full report is available in the **Appendices Booklet pages 193 to 246.** The TMPS put forward for approval is in line with Code of Practice requirements **paragraph 9.1 (a) and Appendix A (see Appendices Booklet pages 201 and 202 to 206).** The TMPS sets out the Council's approach to managing risk associated with investments, cashflows, banking, money market and capital market transactions. The Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2017/18 is put forward for approval in line with Code of Practice requirements as detailed in (**paragraph 9.1 (b) and Appendix B, see Appendices Booklet pages 201 and 207 to 246.** The key elements of the strategy are set out in **paragraph 4.2, see Appendices**

**Booklet page 194**, and amongst a number of limits relating to borrowing and investments include:

- an authorised limit (maximum amount that can be borrowed) for external debt of **£393.1m**;
- an operational boundary (the most likely level) for external debt of **£373.1m**.

Based on the Council's current capital spending plans, external debt is forecast to reduce from £328.2m in 2017 to £318.8m in 2020 (**paragraph 4.4 - see Appendices Booklet page 195**). The climate for investments remains challenging with the number of suitably rated counter parties reducing due to stringent credit ratings criteria. A number of options (**paragraphs 4.19 to 4.22, see Appendices Booklet pages 198 to 199**) could be considered should the need arise.

**The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

Approval of the following:

- a) the Treasury Management Policy Statement as attached as **Appendix A (Appendices Booklet pages 202 to 206)**;
- b) the Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy for 2017/18 as detailed in **Appendix B (Appendices Booklet pages 207 to 246)** and in particular;
  - (i) an authorised limit for external debt of £393.1m in 2017/18;
  - (ii) an operational boundary for external debt of £373.1m in 2017/18;
  - (iii) the Prudential and Treasury Indicators
  - (iv) 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;
  - (v) a 10% cap on capital financing costs as a proportion of the annual Net Revenue Budget;
  - (vi) a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy for debt repayment to be charged to Revenue in 2017/18
  - (vii) the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources to report to the County 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 County Council;
- c) that the Audit Committee be invited to review **Appendices A and B (Appendices Booklet pages 202 to 246)** and submit any proposals to the Executive for consideration at the earliest opportunity.

**5. Revision of Prudential Indicators:** The Executive considered the revision of Prudential Indicators in order to ensure compliance with the Prudential Code and to synchronise with the Council's Capital Plan on 31 January 2017. The full report is available in the **Appendices Booklet at pages 247 to 260**. It is necessary to revise and approve a set of prudential indicators which cover the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 (**paragraph 4.1, see Appendices Booklet page 248**). The recommended indicators are set out in Appendix A of the report, **see Appendices Booklet pages 249 to 260**.

**The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

- (i) approval of the updated Prudential Indicators for 2017/18 to 2019/20 as set out in **Appendix A (see Appendices Booklet pages 249 to 260)**.
- (ii) approval of an Authorised Limit for External Debt of £373.1m in 2017/18 under Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (**paragraph 3.4, see Appendices Booklet page 248**).

**6. Local Government Pension Scheme Requirements for Asset Pooling:** The Executive considered proposals on 31 January 2017 to ensure the Council as the Administering Authority for the North Yorkshire Pension Fund can meet its regulatory obligations for asset pooling through joining the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership (BCPP). The full report is available in **the Appendices Booklet pages 261 to 405**. This report was also considered at a special meeting of the Pension Fund Committee on 26 January 2017.

Following the Government's approval in December 2016 for BCPP to go ahead with pooling arrangements, each of the 12 administering authorities within the pool (that are to acquire a shareholding) will need to decide whether or not to formally commit to BCPP. In anticipation of this, these authorities have been reviewing their respective governance arrangements and determining the necessary changes. It is anticipated that the latest Full Council meeting of the 12 administering authorities will be on 21 March 2017 and that the necessary documents will be executed shortly thereafter. The administering authorities forming the BCPP pool will then need to push forward with these proposals and set up the regulated asset management company BCPP Ltd, ensure its FCA registration, appoint staff (including TUPE transfer where appropriate), find a suitable location to operate from, and implement the other necessary arrangements to facilitate pooling such as the appointments of a depositary and custodian.

**The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

That County Council, as the administering authority for the North Yorkshire Pension Fund, meet the regulatory requirements to pool Pension Fund assets by:

1. Agreeing to be a member of the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership and to adopt its arrangements, by:
  - i Entering into the Inter-Authority Agreement (Appendix 3 - **Appendices Booklet pages 284 to 310**) between the Council and the Administering Authorities of the other Pool Funds;

- ii entering into the Shareholder Agreement (Appendix 4 - **Appendices Booklet pages 311 to 355**) between the Council and the Administering Authorities of the other Pool Funds and Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited;
  - iii agreeing the Articles of Association to be adopted by Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Ltd (Appendix 5 **Appendices Booklet pages 356 to 381**);
  - iv approving the establishment of the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Joint Committee as a formal Joint Committee under section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 of in accordance with and to carry out the functions as set out in the Inter-Authority Agreement (Appendix 3 - **Appendices Booklet pages 284 to 310**).
2. Approving the subscription by the North Yorkshire Pension Fund of 1 Class A voting share in the asset management company, Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited.
  3. Referring the nomination of the shareholder to the Executive.
  4. Approving the subscription by the North Yorkshire Pension Fund for such number of Class B non-voting shares in the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Limited as shall be necessary to ensure that the Council contributes by way of equity one twelfth of the minimum regulatory capital requirement of the company as determined in by the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority.
  5. Appointing the Chair of the Pension Fund to represent the Council on behalf of the Fund at the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership Joint Committee meetings.
  6. Authorising the Assistant Chief Executive - Legal and Democratic Services to make the consequential changes required to the Constitution to reflect these new arrangements.
  7. Authorise the Assistant Chief Executive – Legal and Democratic Services in consultation with the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources to finalise the approval and execution, where required, of all legal documents necessary to give effect to the above decisions.

**7. School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2017/18:** At the meeting held 31 January 2017, the Executive considered and endorsed the proposed arrangements for 2017/18 - the full report is available in the Appendices Booklet commencing at page 406. As the admission authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools in North Yorkshire, the local authority consults annually on admission arrangements. The local authority is currently required to determine its admission arrangements, which includes admission policy and admission limits, annually by 15 April each year. This means that schools are consulted in autumn term each year for admissions nearly two years later. The process is, therefore, based to some degree on schools' best estimates of the numbers of requests for places informed by the local authority's forecasting model, which takes into account the patterns of parental preference over the years. Since the Council is the only body that may determine the matter, in February each year the proposed arrangements are duly considered.



**The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

Approval of 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 (**see Appendices Booklet pages 413 to 417**);
- the proposed co-ordinated admission arrangements appendix 3 (**see Appendices Booklet pages 418 to 438**);
- the proposed published admission numbers (PAN's) for community and voluntary controlled schools as show in appendices 4 (primary) and 5 (secondary) - **see Appendices Booklet pages 439 to 443 and 444 to 445**;
- the proposed changes to the catchment areas for Overdale CP and Wheatcroft CP schools, appendix 7 the proposed changes to the catchment areas for Graham School and George Pindar School, appendix 8 (**see Appendices Booklet pages 453 to 455**).

**8. Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies:** At the meeting held 31 January 2017 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, including those set out below be commended for approval.

**The Executive RECOMMENDS:**

Approval of the following

- **North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority** - County Councillor Helen Swiers to be nominated to serve in the vacant seat until the County Council election 4 May 2017.
- **Health and Wellbeing Board**  
  
Phil Mettam to be appointed as the representative of the Vale of York CCG and Andrew Phillips is to become the nominated substitute.  
  
Helen Hirst to be the appointed as the nominated substitute for Colin Renwick of the Airedale, Wharfedale and Carven CCG.
- **Scrutiny of Health**  
  
County Councillor Caroline Dickinson is to replace County Councillor Elizabeth Casling to serve until the County Council election 4 May 2017.

Councillor Wendy Hull and Councillor Linda Brockbank from Craven District Council are to exchange roles, with Councillor Wendy Hull to be appointed the member and Councillor Linda Brockbank to become the nominated substitute.

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

County Councillor Caroline Patmore to be appointed to the vacant seat until the County Council election 4 May 2017.

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

CARL LES  
Chairman

County Hall,  
NORTHALLERTON  
7 February 2017

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

15 FEBRUARY 2017

## MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME

**1.0 PURPOSE OF PAPER**

- 1.1 (a) To bring to the attention of the County Council the report of the Independent Panel on Members' Remuneration.
- (b) To seek approval to the recommended scheme of allowances for 2017/18.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

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

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 In making its recommendations, the Panel considered the allowances paid at the current time in the context of the current financial climate, and also comparator information from other Councils.
- 3.2 The County Council must approve any amendments to the Members' Scheme of Allowances, and must approve a Scheme of Allowances before the start of the financial year. The Panel has recommended the following changes to the current scheme:
- An increase of 5% to the Basic Allowance and all Special Responsibility Allowances. The Basic Allowance would therefore rise to £9,442 and the Special Responsibility Allowances would increase to the levels shown in Appendix 3.
  - That, if Members do not feel able to support this increase in full because of the present austerity measures, then the panel alternatively recommends them to agree as a minimum a 2.5% increase in the Basic Allowance and the Special Responsibility Allowances.
  - The Panel also recommends that the two Community Members of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel are paid a Special Responsibility Allowance equivalent to half a unit.
  - The Panel is making a recommendation for the voluntary return of a proportion of a Member's allowance if their attendance falls below a benchmark of 60%, except where there are mitigating circumstances such as illness.
  - The Panel requests that the Council approved the revised Terms of Reference for its work to reflect the additional requests it has now received. The proposed additions are set out in paragraph 1.3 of Appendix A.

#### 4.0 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 4.1 In line with the Regulations and previous practice, a notice publicising the report of the Panel has been placed in the Yorkshire Post and on the County Council's website. A copy of the report has been made available for public inspection at County Hall.
- 4.2 If the County Council adopts the proposed Allowances Scheme then it must ensure that copies of the Scheme are available for inspection by the public. In addition the Council must publish in one or more newspapers circulating in their area a notice which states that the Council has amended the Allowances Scheme and specify the period of time for which the Scheme has effect. In line with previous practice, this notice will be placed in the Yorkshire Post, and on the County Council's website.

#### 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 That the County Council approves:

- (a) An increase of 5% to the Basic Allowance and all Special Responsibility Allowances
- (b) In the event that (a) is not approved, an increase of 2.5% to the Basic Allowance and all Special Responsibility Allowances
- (c) The introduction of Special Responsibility Allowances of half a unit value for the two Community members of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel
- (d) That Members are invited to voluntarily return a proportion of their allowance if their attendance falls below a benchmark of 60%, except where there are mitigating circumstances such as illness
- (e) That the Terms of Reference of the Independent Remuneration Panel be as set out in paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 of Appendix A

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

Background papers: None

County Hall  
Northallerton  
6 February 2017

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

2017/18

#### Executive Summary

As the Independent Remuneration Panel, we consist of four independent people who review the Council's Members' Allowance Scheme to ensure that payments to Councillors are set at the appropriate level. We make recommendations to the County Council on the levels of remuneration we consider are justified to retain the balance between public duty and a realistic recompense for the time given up.

We referred in our 2016/7 Report to what we considered to be the unsatisfactory level of allowances paid to Members in North Yorkshire and undertook to carry out a more extensive review for 2017/8 and beyond. This we have now done by considering their Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) in relation to a number of relevant external comparisons which are described in the main body of our Report.

All the comparisons show that the position of Members has deteriorated significantly since 2009/10 when the Allowances were last increased. We are therefore recommending that both the Basic Allowance and all SRAs should be increased by 5% to the levels shown in Appendix 3.

The Basic Allowance would therefore become £9442, increasing the value of a unit to £1621. The aggregate cost of the increase in the Basic Allowance would be £32256 per annum, the equivalent figure for SRAs would be £13674 and the overall annual cost increase would be £45930.

We recognize these are not insignificant amounts at a time of financial stringency, however, we believe they are affordable, justified and necessary to compensate Members adequately for the duties they perform and to encourage a wide range of people to consider becoming Councillors **and to go some way to restoring the Basic Allowance comparator position from its current 14<sup>th</sup> position out of 16 comparator councils. (As proven in Appendix 1)**

However, if Members do not feel able to support this increase in full because of the present austerity measures, then the Panel alternatively recommends them to agree as a minimum a 2.5% increase in the Basic Allowance and the SRAs.

The Panel also recommends that the two Community Members of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel are paid an SRA equivalent to a half unit.

The Panel is also making a recommendation regarding the voluntary return of a proportion of a Member's allowance if their attendance falls below a benchmark of 60%, except where there are mitigating circumstances such as illness.

The Panel requests that the Council approves its revised Terms of Reference for its own work to reflect the additional requests it has now received.

The Panel has identified a forward programme of work including a full review of Special Responsibility Allowances in advance of making recommendations for the 2018/19 Scheme.

## **1.0 Introduction**

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

### **Mr John Thompson – Chairman**

Appointed in 2013 – past employment includes: Regional Manager for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and Regional Director for the Institute of Directors. Former Magistrate for 8 years. Director and senior manager of several diverse companies and PLCs and member of a range of business advisory groups, boards etc. Holds and has held a wide range of voluntary/community positions.

### **Mr John Robinson**

Appointed in 2013 – Specialist Member Transport Tribunal, Ministry for Justice, Member of the NYCC Education Appeals Panel, formerly Mentor for the Prince's Trust and Managing Director of Imperial Tankers Ltd. Co-founder of the Teesside Industrial Memories Project

### **Mr Howard Whitehead**

Appointed in 2016 – past employment includes American, Dutch, UK multinational and private businesses in engineering, manufacturing, chemicals and distribution in senior positions up to Shareholder and Director level. A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, and member of its Governing Council.

### **Mr Keith Trotter**

Appointed in 2016 – Retired Managing Director of hardware company. A Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Member of the Institute of Consultants and a Certified Management Consultant. Member of the Volunteering Programme for Start Up Companies financed by the Business Enterprise Fund.

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

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

1.3 The Panel considers that its Terms of Reference require updating to reflect the additional requests that it receives from time to time. We recommend that the Council agrees to add the following matters to our Terms of Reference:

- (iv) To carry out a triennial full review of Special Responsibility Allowances
- (v) To respond to requests to consider issues relating to the remuneration and expenses of independent and community members on relevant bodies
- (vi) To consider the remuneration of Councillors serving on other bodies/organisations when requested.

1.4 The Panel is convened under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. These regulations, which arise out of the relevant provisions in the Local Government Act 2000, require all local authorities to maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel to review and provide advice to their council on Members' allowances. This allows an independent group to review and make recommendations on the appropriate levels of remuneration and expenses to Councillors who, by law, have to make a decision on the levels of remuneration and expenses they collectively receive.

1.5 The County Council seeks the advice of the Panel before it makes any changes or amendments to its Members' Allowance Scheme and therefore should consider its recommendation and its reasoning before setting a new or amended Members' Allowance Scheme.

## 2.0 CONTEXTUAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Two new members were recruited to the Panel in 2016. The Panel met at County Hall in December 2016 and January and February 2017 to consider evidence as part of its review and formulate its recommendations. The evidence considered included information on benchmarking data, the Council's finances and other information contained in this report.
- 2.2 **Attendance at meetings 2015/16** – Overall attendance of Councillors was at 85% in 2015/16. The attendance level for full meetings of the County Council was 90%. Overall we consider these attendance levels to be satisfactory. However we have also considered whether there should be any recourse should an individual Councillor's attendance level fall below a reasonable level.
- 2.3 We consider 60% attendance to be an appropriate benchmark. We therefore recommend that if a Councillor's attendance falls below 60% over a 12 month period, they should be requested to repay an appropriate sum of the allowances received during that period, subject to mitigating circumstances such as illness. The Council cannot force this repayment but we recommend that a strong message should be endorsed by the Council that attendance at meetings is a critical part of a Councillor's representative role.
- 2.4 **Financial position of the Council** – By the end of the 2017/18 financial year the Council will have made on-going revenue savings of circa £127m since the start of the current period of austerity. During this period the Council has seen an increase in demand for its services and it has taken on additional responsibilities. However the Council has still to achieve a further cost saving of circa £50.4m between 2017-2020 and no doubt during this time will have to take on even further responsibilities.
- 2.5 We understand that the Council is seen as high performing and remains committed to delivering its core objectives as articulated in the Council Plan. These objectives require a focus on future activity as well as delivering services and the savings required on a daily basis. Through prudent financial management the Council has been able to use one-off monies to support these priorities and it is likely that there will be further requirements to help position the Council for 2020 and beyond, so that it remains well placed to serve the people of North Yorkshire. The Council has consistently made the savings it has been required to achieve by Central Government.
- 2.6 **Inflation rates** - The figures below show the latest position.

	<b>Inflation Rates for the 12 months up to December 2016</b>		
	December 2014	December 2015	December 2016
Retail Price Index (RPI)	1.6%	1.2%	2.5%
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	0.5%	0.2%	1.6%

The cumulative increase in RPI from April 2009 (the last time the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances were increased) to April 2016 was 23.6%. The cumulative rise in CPI over the same period was 16.59%. The Bank of England is expecting inflation to rise against a background of slowing economic growth.

- 2.7 **Local Government Pay** - the majority of local government staff received a pay award of 1% in April 2016, and will receive a further 1% in April 2017. The cumulative increase in most local government pay scales from April 2009 to April 2017 is 5.3%.
- 2.8 **Residents' views** - Through a Citizens' Panel survey we intend to break new ground by canvassing the views of the public on the Members' Allowances Scheme in the new financial year in order for the outcomes to feed into our considerations for the 2018/19 Scheme.
- 2.9 **Members' Views** - Members have also been surveyed regarding their views on any changes to the scheme. A limited number of responses were received, indicating a mixture of support for keeping the basic level of allowance at the current level or increasing it.

However, anecdotal evidence suggests that a large number of Members prefer the Independent Remuneration Panel to take an unfettered view in developing their recommendations to the Council. The Panel takes its role as an independent body seriously and therefore has looked at these responses only as part of the overall picture in coming up with its recommendations.

### 3.0 Councillors' Basic Allowance

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

3.3 The Basic Allowance for 2016/17 is £8,994 or 5.825 units (the value of 1 unit is £1,544). Comparator information with other County Councils for the last five years is shown in Appendix 1. **This shows that the Basic Allowance for North Yorkshire has slipped from 9th to 14th out of 16 and is now nearly 10% below the average of the comparator group.**

3.4 The Basic Allowance was last increased in 2009/10. The Panel made a recommendation for an increase in 2014 for the 2014/15 Scheme, but this was rejected by Councillors. The Panel reinforced the unsatisfactory nature of the position in its last report to the Council in May 2016 thus:

*"We have carefully reviewed the Scheme for 2016/17 and do not recommend any changes for this year, having respected the Council's previous decision not to recommend an increase in Basic Allowances and Special Responsibilities Allowances. However we note that there has not been any increase in the Basic Members Allowance for over 7 years (not even to cover the cost of inflation), nor has there been an inflation increase to the Special Responsibility Allowances. We are also aware that allowances for Members have continued to fall behind those in the County Council's comparator authorities. We believe this to be unsatisfactory and therefore the Panel wish to carry out a more extensive review for the following years (2017/18 onwards) to ensure that Members are adequately and appropriately compensated for their contributions."*

We also emphasise the large relative size of North Yorkshire to other counties and public bodies in England and the significant rural difficulties that this brings.

3.5 It is the strong belief of this Panel that while the reluctance of Members to continue to accept any increase in the Basic Allowance is admirable, it now has the possibility of becoming self-defeating. In our opinion, our recommendation is necessary to attract the required calibre of candidate from a wider range of backgrounds and diversity to stand and serve as a Councillor.

3.6 We have also taken consideration of the increased pressure on Councillors in their workload, due to the continued reductions in Council budgets and the rationing of resources, as well as the impact of an ageing population, whilst remaining mindful that the role also carries an element of voluntary public service for the community. The principles underpinning the Scheme, as set out in the introduction to the Scheme in the Council's constitution, continue to articulate the position well.

3.7 We believe that the Basic Allowance should continue to be based on the system of units which the Council has currently adopted, and that it should remain at the present value of 5.825 units. We recommend an increase of 5% in the value of each unit for 2017/18. This will bring the value of 1 unit to £1,621. The Basic Allowance for 2017/18 would therefore rise to £9,442. **This increase can be contained within the overall existing budget for Members' expenditure.**

3.8 We consider that such an increase will begin to address the existing unsatisfactorily low position of allowances in North Yorkshire. However, we believe that there remains a case for further increases over the next few years in order to ensure that North Yorkshire's Allowances Scheme adequately reflects the demands made on Councillors and moves to a



position more in line with the average paid across similar comparator authorities and other relevant comparisons.

#### **4.0 Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs)**

- 4.1 In addition to the Basic Allowance, each local authority may make provision for the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) for those Councillors who have significant responsibilities over and above the normal work of a Councillor. The current allowances paid by North Yorkshire County Council are shown in Appendix 2.
- 4.2 We have considered comparator information for Special Responsibility Allowances across the same group of comparator authorities as the Basic Allowance and note that in almost every case the level of allowance payable in North Yorkshire is well below the average. The last full review of SRAs was carried out in 2015 for the 2015/16 scheme. Following the appointment of 2 new members to this Panel, we intend to carry out a thorough review of SRAs and the attached unit weightings in time for approval of the 2018/19 Members' Allowance Scheme.
- 4.3 In the meantime, we recommend that the current SRAs are increased in line with the 5% increase in the value of a unit set out above. **This increase can also be contained within the overall existing budget for Members' expenditure.** This will result in the changes set out in Appendix 3.

#### **5.0 Alternative Option**

- 5.1 We acknowledge, given the financial challenges faced by the Council and the ongoing economic climate for local taxpayers, the previous reluctance of Members to accept an increase in their allowances against this backdrop. However, we reiterate this would be the first increase for 8 years. We believe the data we have gathered is compelling and we strongly suggest that our recommendations are accepted in full. Failure to approve this will significantly multiply the current negative position for future years.
- 5.2 It is recognised that the Council Members making the decision in February will not necessarily be the same Councillors who will receive the remuneration for 2017/18 as there will be an all-out election in May. We strongly recommend that Members accept our proposals and ask the Council to consider the message that is given to potential candidates in the future election to ensure that they are compensated adequately for becoming a Councillor. The Members' Allowance Scheme is not meant to represent a salary but we do not consider that it should be so low as to act as a barrier for potential candidates from all walks of life, ages and genders to volunteer to become a Councillor.
- 5.3 However, we are mindful of the austerity measures that the County Council is facing and therefore if our primary recommendation is not accepted, we make a recommendation of a minimum increase of 2.5%. This would result in the Basic Allowance rising to £9221 and the changes to Special Responsibility Allowances set out in Appendix 4.

#### **6.0 Police and Crime Panel Community Members**

- 6.1 We have considered a request from the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel, supported by Local Government North Yorkshire and York, to support the introduction of an allowance for the two Community Members of the Panel. When we first considered payments for this Panel in 2012 we considered that we did not have sufficient information on the potential workload associated with the role to make a recommendation on this matter.
- 6.2 We considered the report to Local Government North Yorkshire and York, which sets out details of the role and recruitment issues, alongside comparison data for allowances paid by other authorities. Having considered the available evidence, we support the request and recommend that an allowance of half a unit should be paid to each of the Community Members of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel. Community Members should also continue to be eligible to be paid expenses as at present. These allowances are currently covered by funding from the Home Office. The allowance is included in the revised recommended list of Special Responsibility Allowances at Appendix 3.

## **7.0 Travel and Subsistence Allowances**

- 7.1 The Panel asked for advice on the implications of ceasing to pay a mileage allowance to Members and allowing them to claim mileage allowance through HMRC instead. The advice received has shown this would not appropriately compensate mileage claims made by members.
- 7.2 County Councillors are currently paid the same rate as staff of 42p per mile, as against the HMRC national rate for several years of 45p per mile. We have commented on this in the past and continue to believe that Members should be recompensed at the national rate. However we have not recommended a change from the officer rate of 42p at this time.
- 7.3 The costs of motoring and especially fuel are continuing to rise. Councillors often travel long distances in carrying out their duties. We intend to review this area in more depth with a view to making recommendations for the 2018/19 scheme.

## **8.0 Future Work Programme**

- 8.1 The Panel has considered the areas it intends to review in advance of setting the 2018/19 Members' Allowance scheme, as follows:
- Consultation with the Citizens' Panel
  - Further review of the Basic Allowance
  - Full review of the Special Responsibility Allowances
  - Review of travel allowances
  - Review of payments to Councillors who sit on Council Companies

## **Appendices**

- 1 Basic Allowance comparator information
- 2 Current SRAs
- 3 Proposed new SRAs – 5%
- 4 Alternative proposed new SRAs – 2.5%

John A Thompson

Chairman

Date: 1 February 2017

## BASIC ALLOWANCE – COMPARATOR INFORMATION

Authority	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17	
	£	Rank	£	Rank	£	Rank	£	Rank	£	Rank
Nottinghamshire	12,906	1	12,906	1	12,906	1	13,190	1	<b>13,190</b>	<b>1</b>
Devon	10,970	2	10,970	2	10,970	2	10,970	2	<b>10,970</b>	<b>2</b>
Dorset	10,185	3	10,185	3	10,536	3	10,536	4	<b>10,641</b>	<b>3</b>
Somerset	9,880	6	9,880	6	10,354	4	10,580	3	<b>10,582</b>	<b>4</b>
Derbyshire	9,948	5	9,948	5	10,047	7	10,047	7	<b>10,371</b>	<b>5</b>
Lincolnshire	8,184	14	8,184	14	10,100	6	10,322	5	<b>10,322</b>	<b>6</b>
Leicestershire	10,152	4	10,152	4	10,152	5	10,152	6	<b>10,152</b>	<b>7</b>
Gloucestershire	8,800	12	8,800	12	9,000	11	9,100	11	<b>10,000</b>	<b>8=</b>
Oxfordshire	8,295	13	8,295	13	8,377	14	10,000	8	<b>10,000</b>	<b>8=</b>
Norfolk	8,929	11	8,929	11	9,018	10	9,216	9	<b>9,308</b>	<b>10</b>
Warwickshire	8,975	10	8,975	10	8,975	13	8,975	14	<b>9,263</b>	<b>11</b>
Staffordshire	9,244	7	9,244	7	9,022	8	9,072	10	<b>9,220</b>	<b>12</b>
Worcestershire	9,020	8	9,020	8	9,020	9	9,020	12	<b>9,110</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>NYCC</b>	8,994	9	8,994	9	8,994	12	8,994	13	<b>8,994</b>	<b>14</b>
Cumbria	8,030	15	8,030	15	8,030	15	8,322	15	<b>8,322</b>	<b>15</b>
Cambridgeshire	7,610	16	7,610	16	7,700	16	7,700	16	<b>7,855</b>	<b>16</b>
Year Average	9,383		9,383		9,575		9,762		<b>9,894</b>	
NYCC % of Average	95.9		95.9		93.9		92.1		<b>90.9</b>	

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

	Number of Units	Current Allowance	Number of Allowances	Total Cost of allowance	Recommended change	Updated allowance if implemented	Updated total cost if implemented	Review Comments
	A	£ B	C	£ D	£ E	£ F	£ G	H
<b>Value of a Unit</b>		1,544						
<b>SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES</b>								
Chairman of the County Council	6	9,264	1	9,264				
Vice Chairman of the County Council	2	3,088	1	3,088				
Leader of the County Council	16	24,704	1	24,704				
Deputy Leader	10	15,440	1	15,440				
Other Executive Members	9	13,896	6	83,376				
Chairman Of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	6	9,264	1	9,264				
Chairman of Other Overview and Scrutiny Committees	3	4,632	4	18,528				
Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committees	1	1,544	5	7,720				
Chairman of Area Committee	1.5	2,316	7	16,212				
Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee	2.5	3,860	1	3,860				
Regulatory Functions Sub-Committee	1	1,544	1	1,544				
Chairman of Appeals Committee	3	4,632	1	4,632				
Vice Chairman of Appeals Committee	0.5	772	1	772				
Chairman of Employment Appeals Committee	1	0	1	0				Payment suspended until after the pilot scheme and will be kept under review
Chairman of Pensions Committee	3	4,632	1	4,632				
Chairman of Scrutiny Board	1	1,544	1	1,544				
Chairman of Audit Committee	2	3,088	1	3,088				
Chairman of Standards Committee	1	1,544	1	1,544				
Champion for Young People	3	4,632	1	4,632				
Champion for Older People	3	4,632	1	4,632				
<u>Leaders of Political Groups</u>								
Second largest group membership	3	4,632	1	4,632				
Third largest group membership	1.5	2,316	1	2,316				
nb the allowance for the Third largest group leader is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group								
<u>Secretaries of Political Groups</u>								
Largest Group Membership	1.5	2,316	1	2,316				
Second largest group membership	1	1,544	1	1,544				
Third largest group membership	0.5	772	1	772				
nb the allowance for the Third largest group secretary is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group								
<b>POLICE &amp; CRIME PANEL (PCP)</b>								
Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	3	4,632	1	4,632				
Vice Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	1	1,544	2	3,088				
Community Members of the Police and Crime Panel								
<b>OTHER ALLOWANCES</b>								
Independent Persons	0.5	772	2	1,544				
Chairman of the Pensions Board	1.5	2,316	1	2,316				

<b>Total Special Responsibility Allowances</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>230,056</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Police &amp; Crime Panel Allowances</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7,720</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Other Allowances</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3,860</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>241,636</b>	<b>0</b>

Overall Change

## Proposed Special Responsibility Allowances, Other Allowances, and Allowances for the Police and Crime Panel 2017/18

	Number of Units	Current Allowance £	Number of Allowances	Total Cost of allowance £	Recommended change £	Updated allowance if implemented £	Updated total cost if implemented £	Review Comments
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
<b>Value of a Unit</b>		1,544			1,621			
<b>SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES</b>								
Chairman of the County Council	6	9,264	1	9,264		9,726	9,726	
Vice Chairman of the County Council	2	3,088	1	3,088		3,242	3,242	
Leader of the County Council	16	24,704	1	24,704		25,936	25,936	
Deputy Leader	10	15,440	1	15,440		16,210	16,210	
Other Executive Members	9	13,896	6	83,376		14,589	87,534	
Chairman Of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	6	9,264	1	9,264		9,726	9,726	
Chairman of Other Overview and Scrutiny Committees	3	4,632	4	18,528		4,863	19,452	
Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committees	1	1,544	5	7,720		1,621	8,105	
Chairman of Area Committee	1.5	2,316	7	16,212		2,432	17,021	
Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee	2.5	3,860	1	3,860		4,053	4,053	
Regulatory Functions Sub-Committee	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,621	1,621	
Chairman of Appeals Committee	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,863	4,863	
Vice Chairman of Appeals Committee	0.5	772	1	772		811	811	
Chairman of Employment Appeals Committee	1	0	1	0		0	0	Payment suspended until after the pilot scheme and will be kept under review
Chairman of Pensions Committee	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,863	4,863	
Chairman of Scrutiny Board	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,621	1,621	
Chairman of Audit Committee	2	3,088	1	3,088		3,242	3,242	
Chairman of Standards Committee	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,621	1,621	
Champion for Young People	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,863	4,863	
Champion for Older People	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,863	4,863	
<u>Leaders of Political Groups</u>								
Second largest group membership	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,863	4,863	
Third largest group membership	1.5	2,316	1	2,316		2,432	2,432	
nb the allowance for the Third largest group leader is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group								
<u>Secretaries of Political Groups</u>								
Largest Group Membership	1.5	2,316	1	2,316		2,432	2,432	
Second largest group membership	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,621	1,621	
Third largest group membership	0.5	772	1	772		811	811	
nb the allowance for the Third largest group secretary is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group								
<b>POLICE &amp; CRIME PANEL (PCP)</b>								
Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,863	4,863	
Vice Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	1	1,544	2	3,088		1,621	3,242	
Community Members of the Police and Crime Panel					0.5 units	811	1,622	New allowance proposed for 2017/18 of 0.5 units for 2 Community Members
<b>OTHER ALLOWANCES</b>								
Independent Persons	0.5	772	2	1,544		811	1,622	
Chairman of the Pensions Board	1.5	2,316	1	2,316		2,432	2,432	
<b>Total Special Responsibility Allowances</b>			<b>43</b>	<b>230,056</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>241,529</b>	
<b>Total Police &amp; Crime Panel Allowances</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>7,720</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>9,727</b>	
<b>Total Other Allowances</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>3,860</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>4,054</b>	
<b>Total</b>			<b>49</b>	<b>241,636</b>		<b>51</b>	<b>255,310</b>	
<b>Overall Change</b>							<b>13,674</b>	

## Alternative Proposed Special Responsibility Allowances, Other Allowances, and Allowances for the Police and Crime Panel 2017/18

	Number of Units	Current Allowance £	Number of Allowances	Total Cost of allowance £	Recommended change £	Updated allowance if implemented £	Updated total cost if implemented £	Review Comments
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
<b>Value of a Unit</b>		1,544			1,583			
<b>SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES</b>								
Chairman of the County Council	6	9,264	1	9,264		9,498	9,498	
Vice Chairman of the County Council	2	3,088	1	3,088		3,166	3,166	
Leader of the County Council	16	24,704	1	24,704		25,328	25,328	
Deputy Leader	10	15,440	1	15,440		15,830	15,830	
Other Executive Members	9	13,896	6	83,376		14,247	85,482	
Chairman Of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	6	9,264	1	9,264		9,498	9,498	
Chairman of Other Overview and Scrutiny Committees	3	4,632	4	18,528		4,749	18,996	
Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committees	1	1,544	5	7,720		1,583	7,915	
Chairman of Area Committee	1.5	2,316	7	16,212		2,375	16,622	
Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee	2.5	3,860	1	3,860		3,958	3,958	
Regulatory Functions Sub-Committee	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,583	1,583	
Chairman of Appeals Committee	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,749	4,749	
Vice Chairman of Appeals Committee	0.5	772	1	772		792	792	
Chairman of Employment Appeals Committee	1	0	1	0		0	0	Payment suspended until after the pilot scheme and will be kept under review
Chairman of Pensions Committee	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,749	4,749	
Chairman of Scrutiny Board	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,583	1,583	
Chairman of Audit Committee	2	3,088	1	3,088		3,166	3,166	
Chairman of Standards Committee	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,583	1,583	
Champion for Young People	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,749	4,749	
Champion for Older People	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,749	4,749	
<u>Leaders of Political Groups</u>								
Second largest group membership	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,749	4,749	
Third largest group membership	1.5	2,316	1	2,316		2,375	2,375	
nb the allowance for the Third largest group leader is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group								
<u>Secretaries of Political Groups</u>								
Largest Group Membership	1.5	2,316	1	2,316		2,375	2,375	
Second largest group membership	1	1,544	1	1,544		1,583	1,583	
Third largest group membership	0.5	772	1	772		792	792	
nb the allowance for the Third largest group secretary is shared equally where there is more than one eligible group								
<b>POLICE &amp; CRIME PANEL (PCP)</b>								
Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	3	4,632	1	4,632		4,749	4,749	
Vice Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	1	1,544	2	3,088		1,583	3,166	
Community Members of the Police and Crime Panel					0.5 units	792	1,584	New allowance proposed for 2017/18 of 0.5 units for 2 Community Members
<b>OTHER ALLOWANCES</b>								
Independent Persons	0.5	772	2	1,544		792	1,584	
Chairman of the Pensions Board	1.5	2,316	1	2,316		2,375	2,375	
<b>Total Special Responsibility Allowances</b>			<b>43</b>	<b>230,056</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>235,867</b>	
<b>Total Police &amp; Crime Panel Allowances</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>7,720</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>9,499</b>	
<b>Total Other Allowances</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>3,860</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3,959</b>	
<b>Total</b>			<b>49</b>	<b>241,636</b>		<b>51</b>	<b>249,325</b>	
<b>Overall Change</b>							<b>7,689</b>	

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

15 FEBRUARY 2017

**STATEMENT OF TRANSPORT, WASTE & COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, RAIL STRATEGY AND GROWTH, PLANNING & TRADING STANDARDS  
PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR CHRIS METCALFE****Waste Services**

Since the last County Council, one of our major waste delivery points closed after Impetus Waste Management based in Teesside went into administration. It is understood that the company was affected by a combination of factors including the decision last year by Air Products Limited to withdraw from the construction of a waste treatment plant on Teesside, and the recent fall in the value of the Pound against the Euro meaning that the costs of exporting waste derived fuels to Europe increased. These factors are believed to have resulted in the company being unable to honour its contract commitments to the Council and its other customers.

The Council received no notice of the closure and officers worked closely with Yorwaste to invoke service continuity plans to ensure no impact on the provision of services. I have previously briefed Members on new ways of contracting services with Yorwaste using the 'Teckal' exemption. Being able to deal with the closure of Impetus efficiently with no impact on services is an unexpected early benefit of these new arrangements.

Construction continues at Allerton Waste Recovery Park. I am pleased to report that the construction programme remains on schedule and we are still planning for a full service commencement date of 31 January 2018. The testing and commissioning period is planned to start in July this year with the first organic waste expected to be delivered to the site this April to prepare the Anaerobic Digestion plant for operation. Limited amounts of residual 'black bag' waste will be accepted from July.

Management of the council's 20 household waste recycling centres transfers to Yorwaste on 1 April 2017. Staff from the Council, Kier and Yorwaste are working closely behind the scenes to ensure that none of our customers, residents and businesses using the sites notices any difference beyond a change in uniforms. The site staff will transfer to Yorwaste, thereby ensuring continuity of customer-focused services. These new arrangements will deliver greater efficiency.

**Trading Standards****Multi-Agency Safeguarding Team (MAST)**

MAST has recently secured the conviction of a further three doorstep crime offenders who preyed upon vulnerable and elderly residents in the county.

On 29 November 2016 Darren Swales, from Bedale, was sentenced at Teesside Crown Court, and his nephew, Luke Cooney, from Dorset, at Bournemouth Crown Court, after they defrauded an 80 year old female from Morton on Swale of £8800 for tarmac work to her driveway. Swales received six months' imprisonment, suspended for 18 months, and was ordered to pay £1,000 in compensation to the victim and £500 costs. Cooney was sentenced to three years imprisonment. He was also convicted for five further offences following an investigation by Dorset Trading Standards.

On 9 December 2016 Sean Ayres pleaded guilty to eight charges of fraud and consumer protection offences. He had targeted an elderly couple in Scarborough, demanding payment upfront for drive-washing and roofing work, which was never completed. Even after being

charged with these offences, he went on to target a 93year old female in Harrogate for roofing work in August 2016, defrauding her of £1000. The magistrates considered that their sentencing powers were insufficient and he was sent to Teesside Crown Court, where he was given 12 months' imprisonment.

On 11 January 2017 two males were sentenced at Teesside Crown Court for contempt of court for breaching a restraint order issued under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, freezing their assets. The males were sentenced to four months' imprisonment each. Brothers Nathan and John King, face trial at Teesside Crown Court on 6 March 2017 for offences of conspiracy to defraud and money laundering in relation to their business Guardian Park Homes Ltd, which undertook work to individual properties at residential park home sites. This work is alleged to have been unnecessary, grossly overcharged and poorly carried out.

### **Farming, Food and Health**

#### **Avian Influenza Outbreak in North Yorkshire**

On 6 January, 2017 a confirmed case of Avian Influenza was declared on premises in Kirby Malham, near Settle. The premises contained a small "backyard flock" of 17 chickens and ducks. Several of these birds had died from the disease and the remainder were humanely culled. A 3km Protection Zone (PZ) and a 10km Surveillance Zone (SZ) have been put in place around the infected premises to limit the risk of the disease spreading.

Our Trading Standards Service initiated an immediate response and worked over that weekend with Defra, Animal & Plant Health Agency, other NYCC Services and NYLRF partner agencies to implement disease control measures. The Trading Standards Service is co-ordinating the response to the outbreak on behalf of the County Council.

Trading Standards officers are undertaking a number of disease control activities. This includes undertaking foot patrols in the Protection Zone to identify all poultry keepers in the zone, which have now been completed. Officers are now undertaking monitoring patrols within the PZ & SZ in order to support poultry keepers who may require advice on disease control measures, and to follow up on any breaches of the restrictions.

### **Planning Services**

#### **Minerals and Waste Local Plan**

Work is continuing on the production of the Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan. Having secured the requisite approvals from each of the planning authorities - NYCC, City of York and North York Moors National Park - the Publication Draft of the Plan was published in early November and made available for a period of six weeks for representations to be made on the soundness and legal compliance of the plan.

The County Council has received nearly 1,500 representations. These are being considered with a view to producing a document setting out the County Council's response to those representations and, where relevant, any proposed amendments. We continue to move ever closer to the submission of the Plan for Examination in Public. Given the complex nature of the issues, the examination process may take a number of months to complete before the Plan can be formally adopted. As we proceed, we will start to see the policies of the new plan being given increasing weight in decision-making by the County Council subject to the nature of any unresolved objections.

CHRIS METCALFE



**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

15 February 2017

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

Members will be aware of the planned reconfiguration of the libraries agreed by the Executive in July 2015, ie 7 core, 5 hybrid and a further 21 community managed libraries which will come into effect by April 2017. One library, Pateley Bridge, was taken on by Nidderdale Plus in September 2015 and a further library, Boroughbridge, was successfully taken on by the local community library group on 1 December 2016.

The Executive and Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committees received update reports on progress on 8 December and 14 November respectively.

The Library and Stronger Communities teams have continued to work with members and groups in local communities and a great deal of progress has been made by all the groups towards the work to be completed before 1 April 2017.

In summary there have been over 180 meetings involving officers from Libraries, Stronger Communities and Property and community groups, potential partners and volunteers across the County. Key areas of work with community library and potential partners in this period have been visioning meetings, governance, volunteer recruitment, project planning and business plans.

All community library groups have now prepared and submitted business plans and a county wide volunteer campaign was launched in November 2016. Bedale and Easingwold libraries had particularly successful events with in total almost 400 volunteers signing up to offer help. To date 17 events have been held. Volunteer training sessions are now underway across all libraries, with 101 sessions attended by just 250 volunteers.

At the same time work progressed with the staff re-structure which is now completed and ready for implementation in April.

**Comic Relief for Sporting Memories**

Following the recent visit by a reporter from Comic Relief to the Sporting Memories group at Northallerton Library, their planning and communications team were very impressed by what was reported back, in particular what those in caring roles had to say about the impact of the group has had on their own wellbeing as well as that of their partners. As a result their filming unit came along to the library on January 26<sup>th</sup> to make a feature film, including Dame Penelope Wilton, which was screened by the BBC on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> January.

## **Creative Residencies**

The Creative Residencies programme is an exciting and innovative partnership project between the North Yorkshire County Council Library Service, Youth Service and NYMAZ and supported by Arts Council England.

The project has centred around eight locations across North Yorkshire and over the past three years has worked with 24 different artists to create new pieces with members of the community.

During the three years communities have met in their local libraries to explore new skills in music, mosaic, felt making, stop frame animation, photography, creative writing and machine embroidery to name but a few, new partnerships have been developed and new groups and friendships have been established.

Already, locations from year one and two have shown that there is a growing audience for arts workshops in library settings and that activities and groups facilitated by library teams are sustainable after the initial funding has been used.

Catterick Garrison Library will host an event to showcase the works created throughout the 3 years of the project on 1 March (2-4)pm. Stokesley and Leyburn libraries will showcase local work on 20 February (2-4pm) and 16 March (2-4pm) respectively. A further event is to be held at Bilton Library (date to be confirmed)

## **Archives**

### **Explore Your Archive**

In November, the Record Office took part in *Explore Your Archive* week, a national campaign to showcase the archival collections held by organisations across the UK. Pop-up archives were set up in Scarborough and Harrogate where researchers were able to view examples of records relating to their community and to learn more about Record Office holdings and collections. Record Office staff were on hand to answer questions and offer advice on local and family history.

As part of the campaign and to explore the creative use of archives, audiences were also invited to take part in a day of textile crafts entitled *The Fabric of Yorkshire*. A local eighteenth century damask weaving book, preserved in the archives, was used to inspire members of local craft groups to create their own pieces. Group members were also on hand to encourage beginners to start to develop their own work in response to the archival material on show. An exhibition of the work is on display at the Record Office.

### **Grounds for Appeal**

The Record Office is now half way through its £8,500 Heritage Lottery Funded *Grounds for Appeal* project which is cataloguing a rare surviving collection of 6000 North Riding World War I appeal tribunal papers. Thirty five enthusiastic volunteers have catalogued almost 3000 case files, details of which are now being published online. Volunteers have also begun to research further into the lives of some of the appellants in preparation for an exhibition and have helped the project leader to deliver talks to interested community groups.

CHRIS METCALFE

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****15 February 2017****COUNTY COUNCILLOR GARETH DADD**Budget / Medium Term Financial Strategy

One of our key decisions today is to consider the County Council's budget for 2017/18 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy. I think it is fair to say that much of the Budget / MTFS will feel very familiar to members as we continue with our medium term strategy which has stood us in good stead.

By the end of March 2017 we will have delivered £127m of recurring savings and the delivery of this programme has meant that we have also been able to invest in many of the initiatives that the Leader has mentioned in his statement to Council. Good progress continues to be made but, for the first time, the savings programme in 2016/17 has fallen slight behind the plan. Our approach allows us to work our way through any on-off shortfalls but it is a good reminder to us all that we can not afford complacency.

£11m of new savings proposals (alongside a further £22m that were included in last year's report) are put forward for consideration in the Budget / MTFS yet we still estimate that we need to find a further £10m of savings over the life of the MTFS. There are also many uncertainties and variables so we are likely to see this position change over the next few years. We hope that rural councils get a better deal and that social care receives the necessary funding to ensure we continue to protect the most vulnerable in society but, whatever happens, I am sure that we will need to generate further savings as we strive to be as efficient as possible.

As this statement is written we are disappointingly still not in possession of the Final Local Government Finance settlement. As a result there may be some last minute news to share with Members on the day but I do not anticipate any fundamental changes.

Property

Members will be aware that extensive and essential building works continue to be undertaken to the Brierley Building, include work recently undertaken to reinstate the Council Chamber Ceiling and ongoing works to the roof. The works to the Council Chamber were undertaken following an inspection which identified that the ceiling as a result of its age, water ingress and an inadequate number of fixings. It should be noted that the ceiling was of similar construction to that in the Apollo Theatre, London which collapsed onto an audience in December 2013.

The work has been undertaken in accordance with consent that was required to be obtained from the Conservation Officer and involved a detailed analysis of the decoration to ensure that the redecoration scheme was close to the detail of the original scheme. External works are now being undertaken to address extensive areas of deterioration to the original lead work above the Council Chamber, and other associated works – damage which has occurred over the last 100 year period.

The scaffolding, with roof, was provided to ensure that working area remains watertight and to protect the ceiling. The work will be completed and scaffolding removed by May

GARETH DADD

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

15 FEBRUARY 2017

**STATEMENT OF SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS PORTFOLIO HOLDER****COUNTY COUNCILLOR ARTHUR BARKER****National education policy developments**

Government published the Green Paper “Schools that work for everyone” in September and consultation on the proposals regarding grammar schools closed in December. It has been suggested by the Education Policy Institute that North Yorkshire was one of six areas that nationally that might benefit from increased selection. The North Yorkshire Education Partnership (Schools Forum) debated the green paper at its meeting on 16 November 2016 and a formal response to the consultation has been made. Our response welcomed the development of Opportunity Areas as a route to enhancing social mobility rather than a focus on increasing selective provision. The government’s response to the consultation is now awaited along with details of any subsequent changes to legislation.

A consultation on the findings of the national review, led by Alan Wood, into the powers and levers required by local authorities in order to enable them to carry out their statutory duties, is likely to take place this Spring. Details of the timetable are still awaited.

North Yorkshire continues to support schools in any discussions that are likely to result in positive and productive partnership working which generate still further improvement.

**School and Early Years Funding**

Since the last Council meeting we have had information from the DfE regarding the future funding for schools, high needs and early years. The Government’s response to our comments about the early years proposals show that the Department has listened at least in part to our concerns. The new arrangements will effectively mean a stand-still position in overall funding terms (rather than the previously proposed significant reduction) although there is an impact on funding rates at individual provider rate. We are doing our best, including using one-off funding, to ease the transition to the new system which will come into effect later this year.

On school and high needs funding, the DfE released the long-awaited stage two consultation on a National Funding Formula in December 2016. Again, I am pleased to note that the government has listened to our concerns and, for example, has decided not to proceed with its proposal to end our ability to help schools who experience changes in pupil mobility throughout the year.

The consultation notes that when new arrangements take effect from April 2018, there will be a net gain to schools in North Yorkshire of £7m – on top of the £9.8m we received in 2015. Whilst this is welcome, we have concerns about how this money will be distributed at an individual school level. A National Funding Formula means that decisions around this will be taken at a national level and will mean that 10% of local primary schools will lose out, as will 55% of secondary schools. In particular we do not agree with the reduction in sparsity funding and the allocation of the same lump sum amount to both primary and secondary schools.

The deadline for replying to the Stage 2 consultation is 22 March and we will again set out where we think further refinements can be made, after discussions with school representatives in the county.

School budgets for 2017-18 are currently being finalised and this will mean an increase to school delegated budgets of around £4m, partially a result of higher pupil numbers, but also additional delegation to schools as a result of changes in regulations.

### **Implementation of the Early Years 30 hour offer**

North Yorkshire County Council is one of four new councils which have been invited to deliver the Government's flagship 30 hours childcare offer early, before the programme rolls out nationally in September 2017. Along with Dorset, Leicestershire and Tower Hamlets, we will join the eight original "Early Implementer" Councils who launched the offer last September, building on their work so far in testing delivery benefits and challenges.

Each Council will work with nurseries, pre-schools and childminders in their area to begin offering the 30 hours of free childcare places per week to all eligible three and four-year-olds from April, doubling the existing 15 hours entitlement currently available for parents. The four additional councils to join the programme will have the opportunity to test specific elements of childcare delivery, such as rural geography or levels of deprivation. Each will work closely with the existing Early Implementer councils (Hertfordshire, Newham, Northumberland, Portsmouth, Staffordshire, Swindon, Wigan and York) who will be able to offer advice throughout the launch period and early delivery phase.

### **School Organisation**

The governing body of Horton-in-Ribblesdale CE VA Primary School, having consulted on the closure of the school at Easter 2017 due to very low pupil numbers, decided not to take forward statutory proposals for closure. The Executive at its meeting on 6 December decided to proceed to publication. The representation period closed on 2 February with a final decision on the proposal to be taken by the Executive on 21 February 2017. There are currently 12 statutory aged pupils on roll.

On 18 October the Executive Member for Schools agreed to initiate a consultation on a proposal to close Drax Community Primary School, with effect from 31 August 2017, due to very low pupil numbers. The consultation ran until 12 December and the Executive agreed, on 31 January, to publish statutory notices. A final decision on the proposals will be taken by the Executive on 28 March 2017. There are currently nine pupils on roll.

The governing body of the Mount Grace Federation which included Osmotherley Primary School, Swainby and Potto VA CE Primary School and Ingleby Arncliffe VA CE Primary School decided in November to dissolve their federation and seek views on the amalgamation of the two Church of England schools. The governors' consultation on the amalgamation proposal was initiated on 10 January and runs to 20 February 2017. It proposes the technical closure of Swainby and Potto VA CE School and the expansion of the catchment area of Ingleby Arncliffe school. They will take a decision on whether to proceed with the publication of statutory closure proposals in March with a final decision to be taken by the Executive in May for implementation in September 2017. There are 26 pupils in total across the two schools.

An expression of interest has been lodged by the LA with the Department for Education to establish a Free Special School in the Selby area. We await the outcome of the Department's consideration of the application hopefully by April 2017. Children requiring special school provision in Selby are currently needing to travel some distances to access provision.

We continue to support schools to look where possible to working with others and ensuring that any decisions made by governing bodies or the local authority are made in the interests of high quality and sustainable education for children.

## **School Ofsted inspection outcomes**

The percentage of pupils attending good or outstanding schools remains above national average: 92% of primary age pupils (1% above the national average) and 87% of secondary age pupils (5% above the national average). The proportion of secondary schools which are good or outstanding is 85% (6% above national average), with 28% outstanding (6% above national). 91% of primary schools are good or outstanding, which is in line with national (91% national).

There are currently two primary schools which hold an inadequate judgement - Moorside Infants and Richmond CE Primary School. One secondary school holds an inadequate judgment – Easingwold School. The LA is working closely with the Regional Schools Commissioner, the schools themselves and potential academy sponsors.

## **GCSE and A level performance tables published January 2017**

North Yorkshire is again one of the top local education authorities nationally for school achievement at A-level and GCSE.

In secondary schools, end of key stage 4 attainment placed North Yorkshire in the top 20% of Local Authorities for the proportion of students attaining A\* - C in both English and Mathematics improving by over 2% to 67.5% (4% above the national average of 63%). North Yorkshire outcomes for attainment of the academic suite of GCSEs known as the EBacc were also 4 per cent above the national average, with 29 per cent of students attaining A\* - C in a combined suite of English, mathematics, sciences, language and humanities. The proportion of pupils who attained good GCSEs in the separate academic subject areas of mathematics, science and languages was more than 5 per cent above the national average.

North Yorkshire is above the national average for both progress and attainment, using the new key stage 4 accountability measures which demonstrate the achievement of all pupils across a broad curriculum, with double weighting for English and mathematics. North Yorkshire's 2016 new Attainment 8 score is 51.8, in comparison with 50.1 nationally. North Yorkshire's Progress 8 score is +0.04, above the national average of -0.03.

A new set of accountability measures has been introduced for Post-16 results. Using the new points system, A level results placed North Yorkshire in the top 20% of Local Authorities for average A level point score of 35.16, which converts to grade B-, above national of C+. North Yorkshire is in the top 10% of Local Authorities for Applied General qualifications, with an average outcome of Distinction+.

Destinations are now a key accountability measure. 91% of North Yorkshire's sixth form leavers going on to positive and sustained education or employment destinations, 3% above national average of 88%. 24% of North Yorkshire students progress into one of the top third of UK Higher Education Institutions, 7% above the national average.

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

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

15 February 2017

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

I am delighted to announce that our housing partners have been successful in obtaining a grant award from the Homes and Communities Agency. The monies have been allocated from the Government's Shared Ownership and Affordable Homes Programme which is administered by the Homes and Communities Agency and should enable over 150 new homes to be built. The successful providers are Housing and Care 21 and Home Group and officers in Health & Adult Services will now work very closely with them to ensure that the Extra Care schemes are developed across the County as soon as is practicable.

**Rural Arts**

I am pleased to report that, as a result of an innovative partnership, Thirsk-based Rural Arts is now undertaking a programme of arts activities with residents of Extra Care schemes across the County. We hope that this programme will be fun for residents and, also, ensure their voices are heard, in the running of the schemes and in how we plan services for the future. This is a major step forward in ensuring that we can build inclusive communities and reduce social isolation within our Extra Care Schemes and enable people the opportunity to develop new friendships and live independent lives.

**Income Maximisation Team**

The Income Maximisation Team continues to thrive, providing an income and benefits check for individuals not yet in receipt of formal Council services, but potentially on the cusp of care needs. Results for the first two years of operation show that the seven staff in the team enabled 2,987 benefits applications to be made, generating £970k in backdated lump sums and £6.3m of additional income every year for North Yorkshire residents. People receiving care services also have an income and benefits check as part of the financial assessment process. I am sure Members will also want to join me in congratulating the team on winning an award in the Council's recent Innovation Awards scheme.

**Learning Disability Strategy**

I am pleased to report that we agreed a joint strategy with the NHS at the Health and Wellbeing Board in January. The Strategy, "Live Well, Live Longer" continues our commitment to enabling people with a learning disability to lead fulfilling lives and builds on previous successes in offering more personalised support, more people living in their own homes and more people in employment and being part of the life of their communities. It particularly prioritises work to improve people's health and to support carers. As ever, value for money and service quality will be important considerations.

**Innovation Fund**

The Innovation Fund was set up several years ago, with funding from both the Public Health Grant and the Supporting People programme. Its aim was to provide the opportunity for the voluntary sector to try new ideas and approaches to help vulnerable people improve their



health and wellbeing. We have worked closely with Your Consortium, a social enterprise based in Knaresborough, who have managed the scheme for us.

In January we announced new funding through this initiative, for 8 schemes, most of which are aiming to support older people, carers and people with mental health or learning disabilities to be less isolated, more active and feel supported to deal with changes in their lives.

This is the final round for the current version of the Fund – in future, it will be part of the Stronger Communities programme, where we also have the opportunity to support new ideas and offer start-up funding. We will still support innovation, but in a more joined up way.

### **Social Care Mental Health Services**

On the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016. Social Care Mental Health services were brought back into the direct management of the County Council, albeit continuing to work in joint teams with NHS colleagues. An initial review of the service is now underway and NYCC staff are clearly saying that they feel more valued and are better able to carry out their social care responsibilities to the public. The new structure is also enabling the Council to work in partnership with the Department of Health and Leeds University to develop a stronger prevention and recovery approach for North Yorkshire residents who have a mental illness.

### **Care & Support Re-structure**

This significant programme of change, part of the Council's 2020 plan, is on track for implementation on 3 April 2017. This change will enable the Council to further strengthen prevention services and to develop our reablement service to support people to be as independent as possible and to maximise their own abilities to achieve a high level of wellbeing. The early phase of implementation including the Care & Support Team in the Customer Resolution Centre has already identified an increase in the timeliness of responses through providing professional advice and information when it really matters. I would like to thank all staff and managers who are involved in this major change, and people who use services, who have helped us to develop the proposals.

### **Winter Pressures**

As ever at this time of year, there has been a major focus nationally and locally on managing Winter pressures and ensuring that people can be discharged from hospital in a timely manner. Members will be aware that the national state of the care market makes this a challenging situation. We continue to operate at Winter levels and I can report that during December and January, the daily number of delays ranged from 12 to 30, with the average being under 20 people, out of a total number of approximately 1500 acute hospitals beds serving the County. I would like to thank all staff and managers, both within NYCC and partner agencies, who are involved in supporting people who are being discharged from hospital.

### **Paul Cresswell**

I would like to thank Paul Cresswell, Assistant Director, Strategic Resources, as he relocates to Gloucestershire to care for his partner who is unwell. Paul has contributed significantly to local government in several councils across the County and I am sure you will join me in wishing him all the best.

**Clare Wood**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**15<sup>th</sup> February 2017**STATEMENT FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES,  
PUBLIC HEALTH, LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES  
AND THE ROLE OF AREA COMMITTEES****COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAVID CHANCE****STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

The main focus of the Stronger Communities Programme continues to be supporting the final stages of the library service reconfiguration in the run up to 1<sup>st</sup> April. Two libraries, Pateley Bridge and Boroughbridge have already transferred to community ownership and good progress is being made across the county with the remaining 18<sup>1</sup> community library management committees to ensure they have the resources and capacity in place to successfully manage and operate their library from 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Utilising the experiences and lessons learned over the past two years, work is underway to revise the existing Stronger Communities grants scheme with the intention of launching the new scheme from June 2017. Based on a prospectus of a small, select number of proven projects that are replicable and deliver desired outcomes, the new grants scheme will have clearly defined boundaries and focus funding in areas of identified need. The projects will all feed into an Impact (Measurement) Framework to provide a deeper evidence of the tangible difference the Programme is making, building on the feedback of the LGA Peer Review to 'achieve even more'.

118 community groups and projects have been supported so far in 2016/17 with investment of circa £909k.

**Libraries – Supporting community and hybrid libraries**

Significant progress has been made to date with community library management committees, achieving key milestones on their journey to transform how the library service will operate from April 2017. All business plans have been approved and all community management committees, where applicable, have submitted constitutions to the Charities Commission. Support from Stronger Communities in the final quarter of 16/17 will focus on supporting the groups and the library service with a range of operational matters prior to handover.

<sup>1</sup> Catterick, Colburn and Richmond libraries are being managed by one community library management committee.

It is important to note that the community and hybrid libraries will continue to need support from the Council following handover and as such, libraries will continue to be a priority for the Stronger Programme for 2017/18 and beyond.

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

The focus in 2016/17 has been to utilise local experience and intelligence from within the established Stronger Communities Team and Living Well service coupled with emerging national research to inform a more targeted approach to reduce, prevent or delay demand for statutory services.

This has been achieved through a number of internal projects including: identifying and mapping demand for services, refining the funding process around the national 'Five Ways to Wellbeing', a number of workshops with the Living Well Service, using a single outcome framework and measurement tool, and the creation of an officer sub-group of the Stronger Communities Programme Board to take a strategic lead on this issue within the County Council. This work will then inform and prioritise future investment in the voluntary and community sector.

### **Community Transport**

The emphasis of support continues to be strengthening the existing community transport offer in light of the reduction in bus subsidies and changes to Integrated Passenger Transport to ensure access to services and connectivity across the County.

In order to seek to build the customer base for community transport providers and help make them more sustainable, a branding and marketing exercise was commissioned in August to establish a North Yorkshire community transport brand; re-positioning community transport as a universal service rather than one that is associated with either people on low incomes or for health services.

Stage one of this project has now concluded. An overarching brand has been co-designed with community transport operators and market tested with the public promoting the theme of 'Go Local'. In addition a marketing plan has been drawn up with steps that the Council can take to maximise the awareness of the brand and its ideals.

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

Building on the work with the Prevention Service and North Yorkshire Youth in 2015/16, this year has seen investment in infrastructure support services that ensure the long term sustainability of youth services in each locality, as well as continuing to support the development of new volunteer led groups/activities for children and young people across the county. A youth volunteering project is being developed in partnership with North Yorkshire Youth to help broaden the pool of volunteers in the

county. In addition Stronger Communities will continue to support the implementation of the 0-5 Early Years Strategy 2016/17.

## **Syrian Refugees**

North Yorkshire has now resettled 125 Syrian refugees (26 families) across Craven, Harrogate, Selby and Scarborough districts as part of the government's commitment to help refugees from Syria. Ryedale, Hambleton and Richmondshire districts will follow later this year. The County Council is providing the overall project management.

Funding for the resettlement scheme comes from central government and the refugees who are arriving have been specifically selected and vetted by the government, in conjunction with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), prior to their arrival. Having escaped violence and torture in their own country, the refugees that we are resettling have been identified as some of the most vulnerable people – a number include disabled adults and children.

We continue to work closely with the district councils, the police, CCGs and the Refugee Council to prepare for the families' arrival. The support that the Refugee Council provides is proving to be invaluable: helping the refugees with language support, access to services such as GPs and integration into the community. This support will be in place for a year but is most intensive in the first few weeks. The Refugee Council is also working with local volunteers to provide longer-term befriending support to ensure that the refugees can become independent as quickly as possible. A good base of volunteers now exists in each of the current resettlement districts and the families themselves are providing their own support network. Our input post-arrival includes providing English language support and supporting families that have more complex health and social care needs.

A number of schools have commented on what a delight it is to have the children in their school especially as they set a good example in their eagerness to learn. Some of the adults have started volunteering, providing a first step to employment.

Plans are underway to utilise the government's funding for Years 2 to 5 of the families' resettlement, to provide some level of continued support including employment support.

We hope that step by step the families will be able to rebuild their shattered lives and regain independence and control.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **Health Protection**

The outbreak of avian influenza in poultry that was reported in Craven in January 2017 highlights the key role that the Council has for assuring that the necessary plans and arrangements are in place to protect our residents from environmental and infectious disease threats. We work with a number of agencies to ensure that we can respond quickly to these threats and minimise harm to the public.

In the past few months our Public Health Team has worked with colleagues in Public Health England, NHS and District Environmental Health Department to manage outbreaks of food poisoning, Norovirus, influenza and water-borne infections among others. Each of these had the potential to escalate if not properly controlled with the effect of causing illness in large numbers of people, disruption of health and social care services through prolonged closure of hospital wards and care homes and adverse impacts on the tourist trade where hotels, food establishments and tourist attractions are affected.

### **NHS Health Check Annual Report 2015/16**

NHS Health Check is a mandated programme which aims to reduce the risks of cardiovascular diseases such as stroke, diabetes and vascular dementia. During 2015/16 the number of eligible people offered a health check has increased when compared to 2014/15. The number of people who received a health check increased from 12,832 in 2014/15 to 16,784 in 2015/16.

The Public Health Team continue to closely monitor the levels of invitation and uptake. Individual practice reports are produced to feedback to GP practices about their performance. The team continue to work with practices to improve the quality of the Health Check programme and to understand the reasons for variation of uptake across the county.

### **Tobacco Control Annual Report**

North Yorkshire Tobacco Control Alliance led by Public Health has produced an excellent annual report which highlights the range of activity that has taken place over the year across the 5 priority areas of NY Tobacco control strategy, working towards the vision of 'inspiring a smoke free generation in North Yorkshire'.

Key points to note:

- Smoking prevalence in adults is 13.3% across North Yorkshire although there is wide variation across the county (Harrogate 10.2% and Hambleton 17.2%).
- North Yorkshire currently has significantly higher rates of smoking at time of delivery 14% compared to England at 10.6% with our highest Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area being Scarborough and Ryedale at 19%. Scarborough and Ryedale CCG and Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby CCG have received Department of Health funding to do targeted work on this issue and we are working with them to develop or enhance action plans.
- **Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control.** In September 2016, the Council signed up to the local government declaration on tobacco control, alongside all five of the North Yorkshire CCGs who signed up to the NHS Statement of support for tobacco control. The statements provide a public commitment to work towards further reducing smoking

prevalence in our localities. This is an impressive display of commitment across North Yorkshire.

- **Protecting our children from second hand smoke with the creation of smoke free play areas across the county.** Last year Scarborough Borough Council launched a smoke free play area and has committed including a smoke free message in all replacement signage over forthcoming years. Harrogate Borough Council as launched smoke free play areas in Valley Gardens, Knaresborough Pool and Ripon Spa Park in response to requests from local parent groups championing the agenda. Richmondshire District council is also working with local people to have their say on smoke free play areas.
- **Reducing illegal tobacco available in our communities.** Survey work was undertaken to evaluate prevalence of illicit tobacco in the county and North Yorkshire is now part of regional work to raise awareness of the issue in communities. In February 2016 Trading Standards took place in Operation Henry 2, a regionally funded operation using specially trained dogs to detect illicit tobacco at suspected premises.

### **Smoke free Workplace Policies**

The Council has launched a refreshed smoke free workplace policy which coincides with January's Health Harms campaign, aimed at helping smokers quit in 2017. Nearly 60% of our employees who smoke want to quit and the new policy ensures that we provide a supportive environment and access to the local stop smoking service for those who wish to quit.

In addition to the refreshed smoking policy, a new policy has been introduced which deals with the use of e-cigarettes, also known as vaping. Public Health England estimated that e-cigarettes are 95% safer than smoking tobacco and has become the most popular stop smoking aid. The new policy allows the use of e cigarettes on Council sites – outdoors only and away from doors and windows.

### **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)**

Members may be aware of the planned NHS England reforms to pharmacy funding. The Public Health team work with local pharmacies to deliver a range a health improvement services including stop smoking, chlamydia screening, emergency contraception, brief advice about alcohol and falls prevention.

In addition the Council has a responsibility through the Health and Wellbeing Board for developing and updating the local pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA). The PNA is used by NHS England to commission pharmacy services for our residents. The current North Yorkshire PNA covered the period 2015 to 2018 and a new PNA is being planned for publication early next year.

## **LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

### **County Council Election**

Preparations are well underway for the four yearly County Council election which will take place on Thursday 4 May 2017 covering all 72 seats, across 68 divisions. The County Council co-ordinates activity across the 7 District Councils. The Richmondshire North vacancy following the death of County Councillor Michael Heseltine, will remain until the County Council election - as it arises within 6 months of the scheduled election. The Notice of Election will be published on 20 March 2017 and therefore the pre-election (purdah) period will run from 20 March through to 4 May 2017. As in previous years the counts will take place on the Friday 5 May 2017 in each of the 7 District Councils, Legal and Democratic Services will then collate and publish the results across the County as they come in.

DAVID CHANCE

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

15 FEBRUARY 2017

## 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.

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.

**Local area inspection of arrangements for children and young people with SEND**

As mentioned in my last Statement to Council, North Yorkshire children's services, along with health providers underwent a five day Ofsted/Care Quality Commission inspection of arrangements for assessing and meeting the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in June 2016. The final Inspection report has now been published and confirms that North Yorkshire is well placed for further developments in SEND and is fully aware of both its strengths but also areas for further development. The recommendations from the inspection and the additional SEND reviews commissioned through ISOS in 2015 into education provision have been incorporated into the SEND Strategy which will be finalised imminently. Work is already underway in addressing the recommendations from the Inspection. A few examples include the redevelopment of the web based Local Offer and the reshaping of the range of education provision for children and young people with primary needs of Autism and Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs.

**Retirement of Pete Dwyer, Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service**

Members may be aware that Pete has announced his retirement to take effect later in the summer. Pete has been a director of children's services for 10 years, most importantly for the last four years at North Yorkshire County Council, joining us from City of York in 2013. He has led significant improvement in our children's services: North Yorkshire's "Good" Ofsted judgement, DfE Partners in Practice status (one of only eight authorities nationally), 10,000 more children now in good or outstanding schools than two years ago, a 20% reduction in the care population which has saved £2M with less young people placed out of county than ever before, to name but a few. Pete will be very much missed but is here for the next six months to make sure good transition arrangements are in place for his successor. We will have further opportunities to wish him well in his retirement.

**Children in Care**

Although the number of Looked After Children appears to have increased again this quarter, this is a direct result of the increase in the number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children. If these are counted separately, as North Yorkshire has received funding for them from the Government, the number of Looked After Children has decreased slightly on last



quarter. The rate of Looked After Children, at 34.8 per 10,000 children (under the age of 18), remains significantly lower (better) than both the rates reported nationally (60 per 10k) and by our Statistical Neighbours (57.2 per 10k). North Yorkshire remains in a strong position to achieve the ambitious target of safely reducing the number of Looked After Children to 400 (excluding unaccompanied asylum seeking children) and the rate (per 10,000) to 34 by 2020, whilst ensuring that children's safety remains at the very centre of everything we do and our procedures to responding to all safeguarding issues remain robust and swift.

The percentage of Looked After Children in North Yorkshire with three or more placements in the last 12 months has fallen this quarter. We are pleased to report that North Yorkshire's rate for this measure has returned to being lower (better) than both the latest known rate for England and for our Statistical Neighbours. According to the latest Growing up in North Yorkshire survey results, Looked After Children in primary schools feel safer both at home and at school than their non-looked after counterparts, showing the safety and stability North Yorkshire's placements offer. There are consistently high levels of Looked After Children with the various appropriate Health and Dental checks in place and up-to-date. We currently have universal coverage of eligible children having an up-to-date Under 5 development check for the eighth consecutive quarter and our percentage of up-to-date dental checks remains higher than the national average.

North Yorkshire continues to place a significant majority of children in a stable family home environment, which is testament to the high quality of our foster care placements and the strength of the relationships that foster carers develop with the children they care for. Although North Yorkshire continues to make very low use of Residential Care, Sir Martin Narey has identified and highlighted in the Residential Care in England review that "residential care in North Yorkshire is of exceptional quality"

### **Regional approach to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children**

In my last statement to Council we were in the very early stage of developing a welcome centre approach for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). This was being done through using the building which was previously occupied by Woodleigh children home. This approach has proved to be very successful, enabling us to receive a group of young people of the same nationality (Sudanese), language and religion. The group were later joined by two further young people from Sudan and Egypt. The welcome centre approach has received substantial support from all partner agencies and the community. It has enabled us to provide support (such as health services and assessment) to them as a group creating some efficiencies that could not be achieved through other less planned arrangements.

The current group, having been through an assessment process, are now safely moving on to other more independent arrangements, with three moving to an adult centre in Wakefield, having reached 18 prior to accruing leaving care status. Although the numbers arriving in the country have reduced, there is still a demand for further placements from overstretched southern port LAs. We will shortly receive a further five young people, again within a group. Once these have arrived we will have 19 UASC with one young person due to move to a neighbouring Authority. The numbers therefore remain significantly lower than the total number (96) which could be placed over a period of two years, although it is not anticipated that numbers will go beyond 50% of this ceiling.

### **Regionalisation of Adoption**

As previously reported the Government requires all adoption agencies to move to larger agencies by the end of this parliament in a desire to see fewer agencies in their drive for improvements in three key areas:

- A system where children are matched with the most suitable adopter as quickly as possible;

- Recruitment taking place at an efficient scale to provide a pool of ‘adoption ready’ adopters large enough and well enough matched to the needs of children waiting; and
- Sufficient high quality adoption support services available nationwide.

We are part of the North hub with York anticipated as the lead (subject to Executive approval). Significant progress has been made in the North and we anticipate going “live” in some form as an agency by 1 April 2107, with an implementation plan through to the end of 2017.

### **LGC Awards**

The Children and Young People’s Service has been shortlisted in two categories this year: Best LA Children’s Services and Partnership Council of the Year for its Multi-Agency Assessment and Screening Team. The winners will be announced at the LGC award ceremony on 8th March

### **Children and Families Performance**

North Yorkshire’s Children and Families Service continues to perform very strongly across the board, with top quartile performance in a number of indicators. The service continues to perform ahead of national benchmark in many performance areas whilst ensuring that the appropriate support remains available where it is needed.

The work of the Multi-Agency Assessment and Screening Team (MAST) continues to ensure that all contacts are directed to the service that is able to provide the most suitable level of support/ intervention. The strategic investment targeting early help and intervention, through the Prevention Service providing support to families, continues to ensure that a wider range of provision is available to provide help and support at the earliest opportunity. The number of referrals to Children’s Social Care fell to the lowest figure since at least 2011/12 despite the continued high number of contacts. Of these referrals, all subsequently led to a Children & Families Assessment. The proportion of children subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time continues to decrease and further evidences that if families are worked with at an early stage fewer then require social care intervention. Of the children who are subject to subsequent Child Protection Plans, it is reassuring to know that, for the most part, they are unrelated to the previous plan: the numbers of children who are subject to subsequent Child Protection Plans are often increased due to large sibling groups coming back onto a Plan.

### **Partners in Practice update**

The DfE Partners in Practice Programme continues to develop. Following communication of our offer to regional authorities to share best practice, advice and support in 11 specialist areas, we have received numerous requests for support from other LAs. These are now being considered and arrangements formalised. Adding extra service capacity to support this work is crucial and we have increased our own capacity to enable such work elsewhere to be safely undertaken. Following extensive design work both of our No Wrong Door Extension projects now have focused plans for delivery and are clear on what specialist roles are required to ensure the support and guidance is available for this methodology to be extended successfully. Colleagues from the Department for Education have been attending the Programme’s Strategic Board regularly and have stated that they are very pleased with the way in which North Yorkshire is progressing in all aspects. I was delighted to meet with the Secretary of State Justine Greening for her to see first-hand the quality of work undertaken at Stepney Rd in Scarborough, as part of a wider visit to the Opportunity Area programme.

**County Councillor Janet Sanderson, Executive Member for Children’s Services and Special Educational Needs**

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

15 FEBRUARY 2017

**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 and Transportation****Tadcaster Bridge**

Members will know that we have re-opened an improved Tadcaster Bridge. Thirteen months and five days after heavy, prolonged rainfall caused a partial collapse of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, listed structure over the River Wharfe, we were able to hand back this vital link to the town's residents on Friday 3 February.

From a standing start, this Council's highways engineers, together with our contractors, Balfour Beatty, succeeded in carrying out a major piece of civil engineering in little more than half the time such a task would normally take. Many challenges were faced, including not least to ensure compliance with the rigorous requirements for a listed structure. Matching stone was found and quarried. A design to widen the bridge by means of a cantilever were drawn up, a planning application for the work was submitted to, and approved by, Selby DC in record time.

I take this opportunity to thank all officers in our BES team, and particularly our bridge expert, John Smith, for their remarkable efforts. I congratulate the workforce of our contractors for their unfailing dedication to get the work done, often in very bad weather conditions.

Above all, I pay tribute to the people of Tadcaster for their patience, understanding and support throughout the many months of difficulties after 29 December 2015. Their steadfastness has been rewarded with a perfectly restored bridge, wider and better than before.

**Winter Update**

I am pleased to say that nothing so dramatic has happened (so far) this winter. Although we have had to grit regularly when conditions merited, we have experienced no prolonged road closures or bridge damage due to the weather.

High winds did bring tidal surges along the east coast on Friday 13 January. A small number of residential and commercial properties were flooded but the impact overall was minimal thanks to multi-agency planning, which was very effective. Our local highway teams played a key role by providing sandbagging and emergency traffic management.

Winter service is within budget and operations have been delivered in line with policy.

**A59 Kex Gill**

At this time last year, the A59 was closed at Kex Gill for seven weeks. There have been no problems this year following last year's extensive work to stabilise the steep slope above this trans-Pennine route. Nevertheless, we are monitoring the situation there very carefully and on 23 January began to drill boreholes in the slope and through the carriageway to install highly sensitive meters to provide enhanced data. This work is being conducted under temporary traffic lights.

The Kex Gill Steering Group has met twice to consider options to divert the route away from this difficult and unreliable location.

### **Funding updates – some good news**

Government has recently announced a number of funding settlements for 2017/18. This is the picture so far:

**£26.6m** confirmed as capital allocation for highway maintenance.

**£2.4m** as our share of the Government's Pothole Action Fund.

**£5.1m** provisionally given to us from the National Productivity Investment Fund.

The NPIF was first identified in the Autumn Statement and is intended to be used to ease congestion, unlock economic growth and support job creation opportunities through delivery of new housing. This funding will be confirmed next month once our officers have identified which schemes meet the fund's conditions.

There is also new funding for highways authorities to make their most dangerous roads safer. We will submit bids for three such sections of road before the end of April.

The Incentive Element of our maintenance allocation, which is based on how well we manage our highway assets, is expected to be announced soon.

Finally, and as reported recently in the media, we have made a successful bid for almost £1m from the Government's Access Fund. This funding will allow us to promote cycling and walking in Harrogate, Knaresborough, Scarborough and Skipton. This was a very competitive bidding process and I am pleased that our hard work in drawing up the bid paid off.

### **Access to the Countryside**

I am delighted to report that North Yorkshire came out as top authority in the recent National Highways and Transportation Network's survey to measure public satisfaction with public rights of way, a remarkable achievement given our size and rurality.

### **Broadband and Mobile Telephony**

The expansion of high-quality broadband (>24Mbps) throughout the county continues. Superfast North Yorkshire is the County's wholly-owned organisation, which is leading the programme to bring this increasingly important utility to households and businesses in those areas, which would not otherwise receive the service from commercial providers.

SFNY will complete Phase 2 of this project in June, by which time 165,000 premises will have been connected up, taking overall provision in North Yorkshire to 90%. We expect to award the contract for Phase 3 in the next few weeks. This is worth up to £30m and when completed will take coverage up to 95%.

The programme represents excellent value for taxpayers' money, with an average connection cost of £217 per property so far, the lowest achieved by any rural authority in the country.

DON MACKENZIE

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**15 February 2017**

**SCRUTINY BOARD**

**STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

1. Scrutiny Board attended Executive (Performance Monitoring) on 15 November 2016 and contributed to 'in-depth' discussions on performance with regard to Health and Adult Services, including:
  - Performance against the national Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) indicators
  - Contacts about and referrals into adult social care services
  - Delayed Transfers of Care from hospitals to community-based care
  - Social care provider market and the impact of the National Living Wage.

A number of key issues were raised by Scrutiny Board members, including:

- The reasons for Delayed Transfers of Care and what actions were being taken to reduce them
  - The need to address shortages in skilled, qualified and experienced workers across health and social care in the county
  - The progress being made with the development of 7-day services within the NHS locally and what this meant for the delivery of integrated health and social care services in the county.
2. Scrutiny Board last met on 3 November 2016. This was the first meeting of the Board in its new format, whereby there was a strong focus upon: investigating Council – wide performance issues to see whether there is a need for overview and scrutiny to pursue particular lines of enquiry; and better co-ordination of overview and scrutiny work across the Council to maximise impact and value.
  3. The next meeting of Scrutiny Board is to be on 16 February 2017.

**County Councillor Jim Clark**  
**Acting Chairman: Scrutiny Board**

**February 2017**

**North Yorkshire County Council  
15 February 2017**

**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 meetings on 15 November 2016 and 16 January 2017.

**Reconfiguration of Library services**

2. The meeting of the Committee on 15 November 2016 was devoted to the scrutiny of the progress that had been made with the reconfiguration of library services in the county. This was the culmination of 12 months of in-depth scrutiny by the Committee.
3. We heard that the Library Service and the Stronger Communities Team had developed and implemented a programme of intervention and support to enable communities to take on a greater role in the delivery of library services in their area. Also, that both had developed strong working relations with volunteers and community groups, which enabled the effective and early resolution of problems that would otherwise have jeopardised the transfer of library services.
4. The Committee made a recommendation to Executive supporting the libraries reconfiguration programme but also detailing a number of areas in which reassurances were sought. These included: a commitment to maintain support to libraries to enable them to recruit and retain volunteers; and a commitment to intervene and provide support, should a library experience difficulties in the running of its services.
5. The Committee will continue to scrutinise this important area of work over the next 12 months, seeking progress reports as the newly configured libraries commence their first year of operation.

**Insurance tender and insurance claims analysis report**

6. On 16 January 2017, we received an update on the outcome of the 2016 insurance tender and an overview analysis of the Council's insurance claims experience over recent years.
7. We were pleased to see that the re-procurement exercise had resulted in significant savings to the Council of over £100,000. However, it was noted that much of these savings will not be realised due to increases in Insurance Premium Tax.

8. The Committee also noted that the analysis of the Council's insurance claims experience demonstrated that there remains a strong focus upon the identification and management of risks and insurance exposure to help reduce the number of claims made. Also, that there remained a robust approach to the management of claims, with a commitment to maintain a 'vigorous defence of any claim where it is thought that NYCC are not liable'.

### **2020 Customer and digital self-service**

9. At the Committee meeting on 16 January 2017, we also had an update on the progress that was being made against the 2020 target to have 70% of all contacts with customers being made through digital self-service channels.
10. We heard that the approach taken to increasing digital self-service had been developed with customers and that the Customer Strategy had been widely consulted upon. Also, that a balance was struck between maintaining a sharp focus on enabling self-service and the achievement of the associated financial savings, with the need to ensure a good customer experience and high levels of satisfaction.
11. The Committee also learned that there was a strong tie in with the work that was being undertaken on the reconfiguration of library services. Members will be aware that libraries are uniquely placed to provide access to IT equipment and support in using it.
11. The Committee was supportive of the programme of work that was underway and appreciated the need to promote self-service across all the aspects of the Council's work. We noted, however, that there was still a need to maintain some telephony and 'face to face' facilities so that people who were unable to use digital self-service could still access the information, advice and services they needed.

### **Committee work programme**

12. The work programme for the Committee has been drafted for the next 12 months. Following the extended scrutiny of the reconfiguration of library services, the Committee will now focus upon the work that is underway to achieve the 2020 North Yorkshire Programme savings and also the work of those agencies, organisations and partnerships that promote community safety in the county.

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

February 2017

**North Yorkshire County Council**

**15 February 2017**

**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 1 February 2017. The meeting had an economic development theme.

**Committee – 1 February 2017**

YNYER Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) update

2. We received an update on the work of the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP relating to:
  - 2017 performance against targets
  - Local Growth Fund update
  - EU funding update
  - Collaboration with neighbouring LEPs
  - Brexit and Industrial Strategy.
3. The decision to exit the EU has meant that a number of EU funded business support projects have started later than anticipated. However we were glad to hear that the latest EU funding update confirms that contracts signed right up to the point at which the UK leaves the EU will be honoured.
4. The formal announcement of the LEP's Local Growth Deal 3 bid has now been made. The new funding will deliver amongst other things investment in Scarborough to encourage and incentivise investment in strategic housing development sites; employment and housing growth in Skipton; improvements to Harrogate railway station, helping to open up potential housing and employment opportunities; and support for a new employment site at Pickering to allow the expansion of the high tech engineering sector there.
5. We were informed that the YNYER LEP is working closely with its neighbouring LEPs including joint investment in specific construction investments. An exciting example includes Europe's largest house building factory at Sherburn in Elmet. Collaboration with neighbouring LEPs in our region makes a lot of sense; local authority boundaries are largely an irrelevance to businesses – something that all politicians in our region should take into account!
6. There was a brief discussion at our meeting about the government's intention to develop a national Industrial Strategy; the Green Paper: *Building Our Industrial Strategy* was published last month. Group Spokespersons will be looking at the Green Paper in greater detail when we meet at our mid cycle briefing in March. The document has a strong place element, allowing local areas to identify their needs and push for support for the issues which have greatest impact on their



local economy. A key ask on government that we think the County Council should be making, is around increased job creation in rural areas and the importance of connectivity in delivering this. The government's approach should be about putting rural areas first when it comes to improving connectivity - be it the next generation broadband, mobile phone connectivity or linking areas into major national infrastructure such as HS2. It is after all in rural areas where problems of connectivity exist so the roll-out of new technologies should start there first. We were pleased to note at the meeting that the County Council and the major mobile phone operators have met recently to see how some of the barriers to mobile phone connectivity in the county could be overcome. A concern though is that the rollout of the next generation of mobile data connectivity – 5G- might just be focused on our strategic road networks leading to rural areas being neglected again.

7. Overall we felt that the YNYER LEP has continued to make significant progress this year. It's heartening to see the strong working relationship that exists between local authorities in North Yorkshire and the LEP, which is paying dividends for all by helping to lever in funding for capital projects.

#### North Yorkshire Director of Public Health Annual Report Update

8. We were provided with a progress update on the report, which as Members will know, for 2016 focused on the working age population and their health and wellbeing. The two strategic priorities for action were to create healthy workplaces and to build a healthy workforce.
9. We supported the initiatives being undertaken - the Wellbeing Charter and the 'Making Every Contact Count' approach. Practical examples include initiatives being undertaken locally with the NHS to encourage people to stop smoking. Such initiatives are being provided to people at the point of need, which we think is right in order to avoid the risk of such initiatives being seen by the wider population as 'nanny state' impositions.

#### Apprenticeships

10. An update on the County Council's activities on apprenticeships and other employment support initiatives relating to the government's national reforms to apprenticeships was provided at the meeting.
11. We discussed the government's new national arrangements for apprenticeships effective from this April. Apprenticeships will be much more employer led with new standards developed to ensure apprentices have the skills, knowledge and competency for their jobs. Only individuals on an approved statutory apprenticeship scheme will be able to be called an apprentice. This will ensure that apprentices are employed in real jobs and can work towards achieving an agreed standard or framework in a particular profession. All of this is to be welcomed of course but the apprenticeship levy and associated public sector apprenticeship target will pose something of a challenge to the County Council and also to community and voluntary controlled schools where the local authority is the employer.

12. It was good to note the work that the County Council is doing more generally around its targeted workforce and succession planning. Both entry level and higher apprenticeships will help fill gaps in 'hotspot' areas and likely future skills shortages, notably front line adult care. The Council is also working with Higher Education partners including Coventry University in Scarborough on degree level apprenticeships for 'hard to fill' graduate areas such as engineering. Hopefully this initiative along with other initiatives being led by the YNYER LEP's Careers Strategy Group will mean that more young people stay in the county.

**County Councillor Andrew Backhouse**

**Chairman**

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

3 February 2017

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****15 February 2017****SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE – STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

The main topics arising since my last statement are:

**Sustainability and Transformation Plans**

The Scrutiny of Health Committee continues to scrutinise the development of the three Sustainability and Transformation Plans that cover North Yorkshire.

At the November 2016 committee meeting, members resolved to call upon the lead officers for the STPs to attend a Mid Cycle Briefing and provide answers to a number of questions about the: scope of the STPs; level of engagement with local authorities and other key partners; governance and decision making processes; projected 'do nothing deficits to 2021'; and plans to divert funding from acute trusts to community services. Some reassurances were given, principally about the engagement of a broader range of non-NHS services and organisations but concerns remained about the governance arrangements and how realistic and robust the financial plans were.

We followed up these lines of enquiry at the January 2017 committee meeting and members re-iterated their concerns about the risk posed to local health and social care, community-based funding and services in the county. Members will be aware that the STP process may lead to NHS funding being drawn away from the county to large urban areas like Middlesbrough, Leeds and Bradford, and Hull. This then risks downgrading of services at places like the Darlington Memorial Hospital and Ripon Community Hospital.

On behalf of the committee, I continue to work with the Chair of the North Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Board, the Director of Health and Adult Services and the Chief Executive to ensure that there is a co-ordinated approach to the oversight of and engagement with STPs.

I remain concerned that the STP process is NHS dominated, rushed in its development and unrealistic in its financial assumptions and planning. Whilst the STP process is supported in principle and offers a very real opportunity to make the NHS fit for the future, it runs the risk of being another heavy-handed, top-down reorganisation of health that will not deliver what has been promised.

**Joint Scrutiny of Health**

Members will be aware that I and two other county councillors, Cllrs Blackie and Dickinson, are involved in joint health scrutiny in the north of the county. A Joint Health Scrutiny Committee has been in place for the last 6 months, looking at the development of the 'Better Health Programme' for the Tees Valley and the Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby CCG area. A similar committee is now in place for West Yorkshire, covering the 'Healthy Futures Programme'.

Whilst both of these committees have a role to play in scrutinising the development of two of the three STPs that cover the county, I am concerned that their remit only includes an element of the STP process, typically major service changes at acute trusts, and not the totality of what is being proposed. I am also concerned that the key role that North Yorkshire has to play is often overlooked and that the county has, in effect, been dismembered for the purposes of the STP planning process.

We will continue to engage in the joint scrutiny process and argue the case for North Yorkshire.

### **Changes to mental health services across the county**

Proposals for changes in the way that mental health services are delivered in the county have been a recurrent theme at the Scrutiny of Health Committee.

In November, we received a report from the Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust providing an update on mental health services in York/Selby area, including the proposed public consultation on the development for a new mental health hospital for the Vale of York.

In January, Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby CCG and Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust updated members on the plans to develop mental health services in the HRW CCG area, including: rationale; principles; national guidelines; and the programme for engagement and consultation.

We welcome the drive by Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust and others to improve services and to start the process of closing the gap after years of under-investment in mental health provision in the county. There is a concern, however, that the services on offer in North Yorkshire continue to lag behind those in neighbouring authorities, particularly County Durham and the Tees Valley.

I am also concerned that the approach currently taken appears to be piecemeal, focussing on services and areas of the county one at a time. Whilst such an approach ensures a strong focus upon the development of individual services according to local needs, it does not take a system wide view of what the needs are across the county as a whole. As such, the committee will continue to seek reassurance that a comprehensive approach to mental health services is considered.

### **End of Life Care – outcome of extended scrutiny**

The Scrutiny of Health Committee has been looking into end of life care services and interventions since July 2016, as part of a piece of extended scrutiny. The work has involved desk-top research, expert witnesses giving evidence at committee meetings, visits to hospices in the county and a number of telephone interviews with service commissioners and providers.

The draft report was presented to the Scrutiny of Health Committee at their meeting on 27 January 2017 for review and comment. Whilst the report is not yet complete and there remain lines of enquiry to be undertaken, there are a number of recommendations that have been drafted, as follows:

- That a multi-agency forum is established for commissioners and providers of end of life care in the county
- That a local financial analysis of community-based end of life care and bereavement services be undertaken
- That a multi-agency programme of training in end of life care and care for the dying be developed and implemented
- That existing joint work between the NHS and the County Council on health and social care workforce planning, takes into account the need for skilled, specialist staff to co-ordinate end of life care and palliative care
- That a way of enabling the sharing and updating of end of life care plans and patient notes electronically is developed for all health and social care agencies and organisations in the county
- That a local analysis of 'the patient of the future' is undertaken that looks at the changing disease profile of people in their last 12 months of life and what this means for the development and delivery of end of life care
- That a system-wide analysis is undertaken of the current provision of out of hours, specialist end of life care and palliative care, including access to palliative care medication
- That agencies and organisations work together to promote a culture of open and honest discussions about death and planning the last 12 months of someone's life.

During February, the draft report will be reviewed by stakeholders and the outstanding lines of enquiry pursued. Then, the final version of the report will be taken to the committee Mid Cycle Briefing on 3 March 2017 for sign off, ahead of being presented to the North Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Board on 17 March 2017.

### **Funding for community pharmacies - Notice of Motion from 9 November 2016**

At the meeting of the County Council in November 2016, a Notice of Motion was passed regarding concerns about the impact of reductions in central government funding to community pharmacies. Specifically, that the services on offer would be reduced and that some community pharmacies may be forced to close. The matter was referred to the Scrutiny of Health Committee.

At the committee Mid Cycle Briefing on 16 December 2016, we heard a presentation by Jack Davies, Chief Executive Officer of Community Pharmacy North Yorkshire (Local Pharmaceutical Committee). In the short term, it is not anticipated that there will be any closures or mergers of community pharmacies. Concerns have been raised, however, that some community pharmacies will have to tailor the services that they offer, reducing opening hours, ending free services and reducing stock held on the premises.

In response, Members determined to maintain a watching brief on impact of the funding cuts, receiving 6 monthly updates at committee. Also, to undertake a piece of work with NYCC Public Health and others to better understand the potential impact in the longer term.

Members will be aware that community pharmacies are the first point of contact for people with non-emergency health concerns, relieving pressure upon GPs and A&E and so saving the NHS money. I am concerned that, in the longer term, the erosion of services provided by community pharmacies will mean that the savings made in the community pharmacy contract will be far outweighed by the increased costs picked up by GPs and A&E.

### **The Lambert at Thirsk – transfer of services and long term plans for site**

Members will be aware that the Lambert Memorial Hospital in Thirsk has been closed since December 2016. This final closure follows a period of 15 months, during which the hospital was temporarily closed due to workforce shortages.

The services that were provided at the Lambert are now being provided across a number of different sites in the area, following a period of engagement, consultation and service re-design that was led by the Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby CCG. We will continue to monitor these services to ensure that people are accessing the healthcare they need at or above the level they did when the Lambert was open.

We will also scrutinise any proposals for the development of the Lambert building, lobbying for the site to be used as a community hub for health and social care services in Thirsk and the surrounding area.

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

**February 2017**

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****15 February 2017****YOUNG PEOPLES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT****Growing Up in North Yorkshire**

1. I was pleased that the committee was able to review the results of the Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey Report before this year's publication date. This is a hugely important document; its range of information is impressive, covering group reports for example for the teaching alliances, Closing the gap project school groups and further bespoke analysis, e.g. analysis of the survey results for service family pupils, looked after children, pupil premium, young carers, minority ethnic, LGB and Transgender pupils.
2. I am grateful to the Corporate Director and his staff for putting in the extra effort that must have been necessary to get the analysis completed in so short a time, without losing any of the high level of quality of interpretation that we've come to expect. I also want to thank and pay tribute to all the pupils and schools who took part. There was 100% participation rate of all local authority maintained secondary schools with the majority of secondary school academies taking part (10/12). Primary school uptake was similar to 2014, and it was pleasing to see the increased uptake of Special Schools.
3. As far as scrutiny is concerned, being able to review it before it was published meant that we could take a view on the rigour of the survey process, how the results had been analysed, and receive reassurance that the potential of the findings to help children and young people and the services that support them, is being used to the greatest possible extent.
4. We liked the introduction in the 2016 survey of an increased focus on risk taking behaviours, including additional questions on online safety, use of e-cigarettes and healthy relationships. Also useful, and informative, is the broadening of the approach to reporting to include a specific focus on outcomes for 'Disadvantaged pupils' in every report where sample size permits.
5. The range of information is simply too wide for me to do justice to in a statement like this, so I have selected a few emerging trends which the committee took particular note of.

6. the identified priorities from 2014 remain the same:

- Developing Resilience and Emotional Wellbeing
- Pupil Voice influencing decisions
- Positive Ethos and Culture of School
- Risky Behaviours including those related to use of modern technologies

Transition at KS2/3 has improved, but Careers Guidance and post-16 transition remain a priority - something we looked at in our last meeting.

7. The Key Stage One results are very similar to the previous questionnaire in 2014

- 17% have friends online that they don't know in real life
- Looking at items related to online safety, more boys than girls seem to be at risk.

8. The Key Stage Two results show continued improvements in the percentage who don't drink energy drinks (up from 50% in 2012 to 60% in 2014 to 69% in 2016), however the percentage who do not drink alcohol has decreased slightly (48% in 2012, 83% in 2014 and 75% on 2016).

9. There are positive trends around internet safety, with 8% responding they communicate online with people they don't know (13% in 2014). 30% say they are never supervised when using the internet (33% in 2014). 74% of pupils say they found school lessons on internet safety 'quite' or 'very' useful.

10. At Key Stage Four there has been a continued improvement in the situation regarding alcohol with a higher percentage reporting that they never drink alcohol (up from 31% in 2012 to 43% in 2014 and 46% in 2016), a decrease in the percentage who had been given alcohol by a friend in the week preceding the questionnaire (down from 10% in 2012 to 6% in 2014 to 4% in 2016), and a decrease in the percentage who had drunk alcohol in the week preceding the questionnaire (down from 31% in 2012 to 24% in 2014 to 20% in 2016).

11. There has been an improvement in some of the questions around bullying and negative behaviour with pupils now less likely to say they have experienced negative behaviour during lesson time in the month before the survey (23% in 2014, 17% in 2016) and the percentage experiencing negative behaviour outside school decreasing from 26% to 20%.

12. There are some positive trends around internet safety, with secondary pupils are less likely now to communicate with people they have met online and don't know in real life (22% in 2014, 18% in 2016).



13. There has been an apparent increase in the reporting of bullying or aggressive behaviours within dating relationships among Y10 pupils. 4% said they were experiencing aggression in their current relationship, while 22% said they had with a previous boy-/girl-friend; the figures for 2014 were 3% and 20%.
14. The survey results on “Closing the Gap” were illuminating, especially as this has featured on the committee's work programme on number of occasions over recent years and will be part of a report to our next meeting.
15. Compared to the rest of Year 6:
- Disadvantaged children are more likely to have lower wellbeing scores, be bullied and to worry about school and less likely to do 7+ hours of exercise a week.
  - SEN and pupils with disabilities are more likely to be bullied at school and worry about their health
16. Compared to the rest of Year 10:
- Disadvantaged children were less likely to intend to go to University and more likely to be bullied, skip breakfast, be absent from school, smoke and be a victim of crime/violence.
  - Armed forces pupils were more likely to have been offered drugs and to be sexually active
17. As an authority we should be proud of the high degree of professionalism shown in carrying out the survey. Scrutiny Members could see that there are clear and effective mechanisms for capitalising on the richness and relevance of the information to inform service planning and activity. I'm determined to see scrutiny make the utmost use the results to help shape the items in the work programme. I'll turn now to what that scrutiny business looks like in the short and medium term.

### **Upcoming Work**

18. We have settled on a packed work programme for the next eighteen months. At our next meeting we return to reviewing the approach being taken to improve the resilience of pupils, especially those at key Stage 2. this work to include:
- Profile of KS2 performance: eg geographically, by gender breakdown etc.
  - Understanding conclusions about the reason for relative under-performance in KS2.
  - Quality of information and data - How we identify lowest achieving pupils etc.
  - Effectiveness of support provided to schools by the LEA, approach, and capacity, targeted?
  - What strategies are being employed by governors, head teachers, schools, and how does the EA support this.

19. On a personal level, I am particularly looking forward to hearing at the next meeting about the Youth Justice Service. Clearly we will be interested in understanding how effective the current arrangements are in reducing offending and re-offending, but I intend to set the work in the wider context of youth justice and local position, covering the local Youth Justice plan, how young people are supported “at ground level” and an introduction to the proposed new service delivery model – it being acknowledged that the consultation on this will only just have ended. Ideally, we will also have a conversation with operational staff and with young person and/or their representatives.
  
20. Other work in the pipeline – which will now fall to the new committee membership after the elections - includes: Challenging the use of the pupil premium; Supporting Underperforming Schools - especially those in Special Measures; Roles and Responsibilities of Parent Governors; and Closing the Gap in Educational Achievement.
  
21. We will also plan ahead for future work on Hospital Admissions: especially mental health services. This work will focus on support for young people and managing cases in the community. The new committee will also start work on early intervention in schools in relation to substance misuse.

**JANET JEFFERSON**

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

3 February 2017

Background Documents - Nil.

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****15 February 2017****CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT****Annual Older Peoples Champion**

1. For seventeen years Shelagh Marshall has reported to us on her work as Older Peoples Champion, promoting the interests of people aged 50 and above. In this year's report - which Shelagh says is to be her last - she took us through the changes she has seen in her role, and how she has furthered older people's interests in the things they say matter the most: health, financial security and social connections. Her's is an impressive record of championing opportunities for older people, ensuring they are well informed to make the right choices to improve the quality of their lives in their later years.
2. I am pleased that Shelagh intends to continue supporting the national older people's agenda through involvement in the Campaign to End Loneliness and, in North Yorkshire, through the Yorkshire & Humber Advisory Forum. We have indeed been fortunate to have had such a respected and well-liked ambassador for North Yorkshire older peoples' interests.

**Supported Employment**

3. In the fourth in a series of conversations the committee has had with social care providers, at the last meeting we turned to Supported Employment - an in-house service for supporting people with significant disabilities to secure and retain paid employment.
4. We found that the service performs well in the following key areas:
  - Providing a comprehensive assessment of a person's skills, abilities resulting in a vocational/employment related action plan.
  - Supporting people to find paid employment, both part time and full time.
  - Signposting and advice for jobseekers and carers and professionals on a range of employment issues.
  - Supporting disabled people to retain their jobs if their support needs change.
  - Supporting and advice to employers on adjustments or training
5. But there are challenges. Within the current economic situation, there is evidence both within the team and nationally that finding paid work is becoming increasingly difficult for disabled job seekers. There is also local evidence that disabled employees are finding

it increasingly challenging to maintain their employment as employers have increased expectations of their workforce and are often unwilling to make reasonable adjustments within the workplace.

6. The figures suggest the service is doing well in this difficult climate. In 2015, 61 people were successfully supported into employment by the service in North Yorkshire - 17 people with a physical or sensory impairment, 22 with learning disability and 22 people with Autism. Nationally, the current employment rates are 74% of the general population. 43% of people with mental health problems are in employment. 65% of people with other health conditions. Figures show that in North Yorkshire 10.7% of people with an LD are in employment against a national average of 6%. This is against national target of 46% for people with LD. Figures for people with MH in North Yorkshire are at 13.9%, which compares favourably against a national average of 6.8%.
7. The stability of the management and operation of the service helps it to build strong and long lasting relationships. The continuity of the support it offers is seen, by employers especially, as credible. The team's track record inspires confidence in clients but also in employers who can be reassured that the service's approach will be both comprehensive, stable and sustainable. It also is able to leverage existing relationships with key partners for example health, other authorities and other service providers.

### **Emerging Conclusions after meeting Social Care Providers**

8. What we learned from reviewing Supported Employment augments our emerging thoughts about how the authority commissions and works with organisations that deliver, on our behalf, social care services and public health initiatives:
  - There is a good understanding the needs of users and other communities;
  - There is regular review of the impact that the service is having;
  - There is a determination to seek and use feedback from service users, communities and providers so that commissioning is in tune with local needs;
  - Contract monitoring is good, but because there is good information sharing, terms can be flexible, allowing appropriate changes to be made.
  - The success of these contractual relationships stems in part from people's willingness to use resources imaginatively rather than protectively.
9. We now intend to move the topic another step forward by:
  - Reviewing the linkages between strategic policies and the commissioning process;
  - Focussing on how service user and provider views are harnessed to ensure commissioning is in tune with local needs; and
  - Examining how we guarantee compliance with the very best practice standards.

## **Upcoming Work**

10. Advocacy was reported last year as part of the committee wanting to understand our preparedness for the Care Act implications. One year into the current contract, we will talk to the successful providers at our meeting on 27 April 2017. We will be interested to learn about their experiences and what is like on the ground.
11. More broadly, to help plan business for the next eighteen months, I will be suggesting that the committee settle on a limited number of big themes. I would anticipate “integrated health and social care services” will feature, as, I hope, will “how services are being transformed and resources managed to respond to growing/changing demand”.

## **Delayed Transfers of Care**

12. Unnecessary delays in discharging people from hospital are a long standing issue nationally. In a recent report the National Audit Office (NAO) cautioned: *“There are currently far too many older people in hospitals who do not need to be there. Without radical action, this problem will worsen and add further financial strain to the NHS and local government”*.
13. The main drivers for the increase are attributed to the number of days spent waiting for a package of home care and waiting for a nursing home placement or availability. The committee's aim was to try to understand the scale of the problem in North Yorkshire from a social care perspective. And, if the problem is significant, to what extent can that be traced to local social care provision and support in the community.
14. For the year April 2015 – March 2016, data indicates there were 14,290 delayed transfer days for patients resident in North Yorkshire who were the subject of a transfer of care from hospital. The NHS was solely responsible for 60% (8,596) of the total delayed days with social care being solely responsible for 34% (4,801). Both the NHS and social care were jointly responsible for the remaining 6% (893) i.e. the patient requires both health and social care support upon discharge.
15. The period June to October 2016, however, shows that there has been a steady and significant increase in the number of days attributable to social care. This is in part explained by South Tees Hospital Trust beginning to report adult social care delays for the first time since 2014.
16. In respect of delayed days, North Yorkshire's performance compares better against shire counties than with regional authorities, though rankings have slipped across all categories since April 2016.

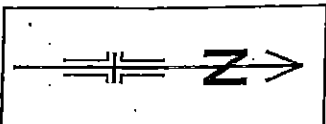
17. A locally agreed target and action plan for reducing delayed transfers of care has been developed, as part of the 2016/17 North Yorkshire Better Care Fund plan, on the basis of maintaining the outturn position for 2015/16.
18. While partners agreed that a stretch target would not be realistic at this time, the committee acknowledged there remains a strong ambition across the partnership to further reduce delayed transfers of care and improve the health and independence of local people in line with the aims of the Better Care Fund and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
19. While delays are increasing this is clearly in the context of a worsening situation across the country; comparative performance in North Yorkshire remains good. Action plans are being developed at all levels and for all partners, with specific actions being taken by Health and Adult Services to address social care delays. The provision of social care is critical to preventing unnecessary delays in discharge from hospital but there are some significant challenges for social care in North Yorkshire, in particular capacity within the care market and the ability of social care providers to respond to demand.
20. I don't doubt the committee will want to maintain a keen interest in this very topical issue.

**PATRICK MULLIGAN**

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

3 February 2017

Background Documents - Nil.



Members  
Car Parking

Visitors  
Car Parking

Pond

Pond

**SOUTH SIDE  
CAR PARK**

Fire Assembly  
Point

MAIN  
EVACUATION ROUTE

Council  
Chamber

Fire Assembly  
Point

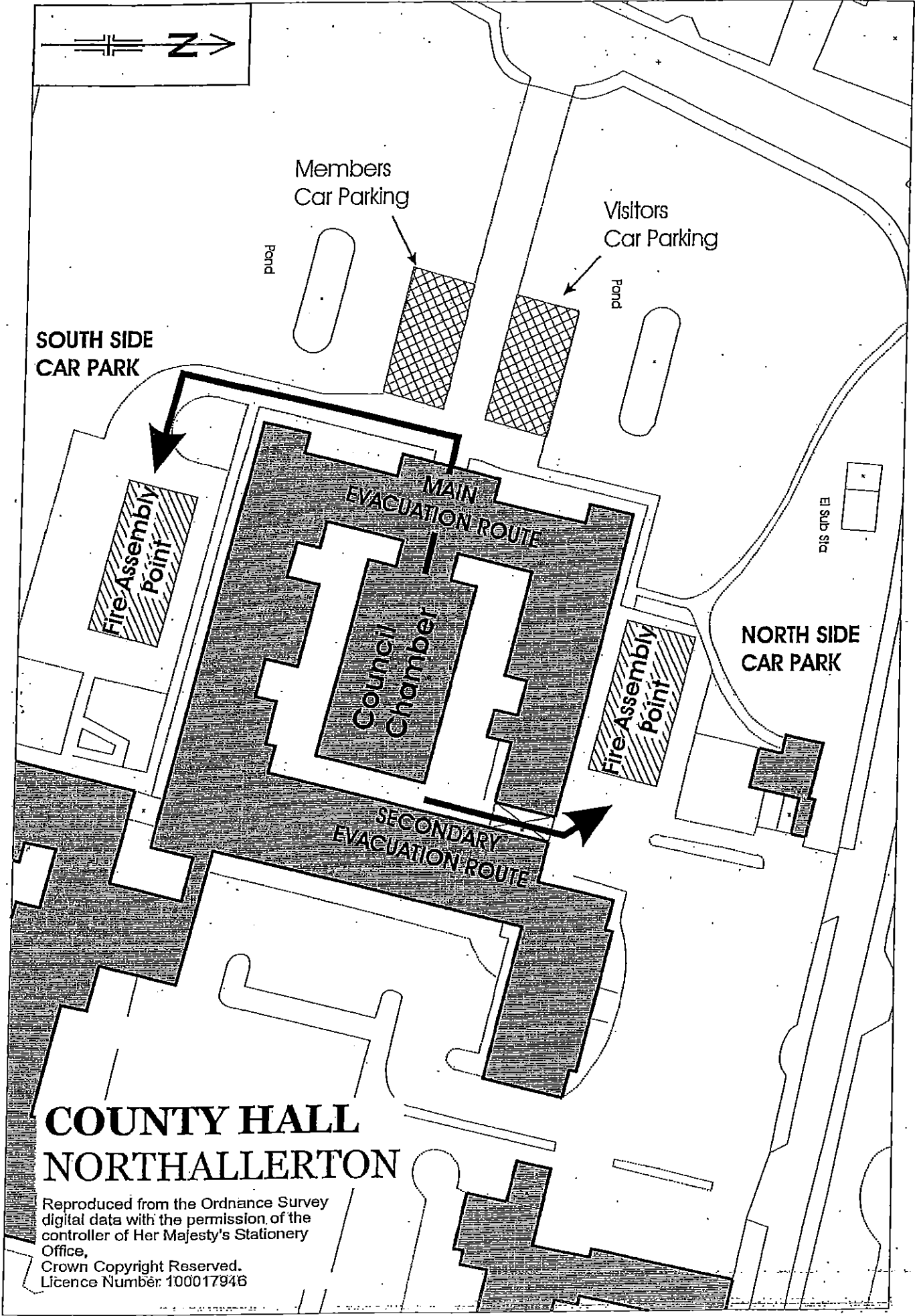
**NORTH SIDE  
CAR PARK**

SECONDARY  
EVACUATION ROUTE

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## 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).