

## **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**18 JULY 2018**

### **STATEMENT OF THE OPEN TO BUSINESS PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANDREW LEE (INCLUDING GROWTH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, WASTE MANAGEMENT, TRADING STANDARDS AND BUSINESS RELATIONS)**

#### **Design Quality Fund**

With support from the County and District Councils the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has secured £285k to assist the development of a series of master plans for major housing sites, and promoting the use of Off Site Manufactured housing. Schemes for Catterick Garrison, Pannal, South Cayton and Selby are being supported. A joint commission for a master plan at Cross Hills Lane in Selby has been progressed by the District and County Council and two local land owners. This is building on the work done last year on the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) bid. It will support allocations coming forward in the Local Plan and help to achieve a more co-ordinated and efficient approach to infrastructure delivery for both the short and long term growth of the area.

#### **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**

In Spring, Government consulted on draft changes to the NPPF and proposed changes to the Developer Contributions process. This is the first major review of the NPPF since it was introduced in 2012. It is the culmination of various consultation processes that the Government has undertaken over the last few years (including the Housing White Paper and CIL). It is important as these documents are central to the planning process – both in terms of policy/plan making and decision making on applications. This will have implications for development, land use and infrastructure. The reviews were broadly welcomed as it is important that planning policy and practice remain up to date, relevant, efficient and effective. The response on behalf of the County Council advocated for an integrated approach for land use and infrastructure, and for measures that will ensure that developer contributions are effective in delivering the infrastructure and service required to enable sustainable growth. It is anticipated that Government will announce the new policy framework during the Summer.

#### **Economic Development**

Considering the potential impact of brexit on agriculture, the York, North Yorkshire & East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership has brought together a Commission of stakeholders, including the NFU, CLA and Yorkshire Agricultural Society, as well as large and influential businesses, such as McCain and FERA Science, to use this disruption as a stimulus for positive change. They have established the Grow Yorkshire campaign, which aims to drive growth in the farming and food industries equal to the amount of subsidy we currently receive. The work will involve advice and support to farmers, influencing government policy and developing new opportunities.

#### **Green Garden Waste**

The County Council expect to pay the district and borough councils in North Yorkshire some £4,691K in recycling credits for 2017/18, for recycling and composting of household waste. The collection and composting of green garden waste has been an easy win for both WCAs and the County Council. With low risks and relatively cheap processing costs, green garden waste composting currently accounts for almost half of the combined recycling performance of the waste collection authorities in North Yorkshire. However, the value of recycling credit now exceeds any savings in disposal costs, and the payment of the recycling credits for green waste

significantly outweighs the cost of composting. In short, the County Council is subsidising district council green garden waste collections.

Financial pressures on the County Council have driven a review of the powers and duties to pay recycling credits to waste collection authorities, and we are currently consulting on alternative arrangements for the processing of green garden waste that will save the County Council up to £1,200K p.a.

The issues are complex and there will be impacts on district councils which need to be understood and considered before we decide how to progress. We have given options for change, but have also invited proposals from districts for alternative mechanisms which could achieve the same outcomes. The consultation is open until 5 August and Members wishing to know more should contact Ian Fielding.

### **Farming, Food & Health – Disease Control**

Mr Lynas, a farmer from Richmond, was prosecuted on 4 June at Northallerton Magistrates Court for matters relating to the failure to dispose of sheep carcasses. Mr Lynas pleaded guilty to 22 offences and was fined £120 with costs of £500 and a £39 victim surcharge.

ANDREW LEE