

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

14 November 2018

**CORPORATE AND PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –
STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

Since my last statement to Council, the Corporate and Partnership Overview and Scrutiny Committee has held one formal meeting on 3 December 2018, and one mid cycle briefing on 21 January 2019.

In December, we met with North Yorkshire's Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner who updated us on the implementation of the plans for collaboration between North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service. This highlighted the major changes happening within North Yorkshire's Fire & Rescue Service (NYFRS) both to its senior management team and its governance model, and the ongoing work to carry out a full service review of NYFRS.

We received a progress update on the delivery of the County Council's alternative investment framework, and were pleased to note the investment progress to date and the planned focus of the work over the coming 12 months. We also received an overview of the operation of the Parish portal and parish council engagement.

We also concluded our review of over the counter banking services in the county and the role of branch banks and Post Offices in rural communities. The Committee's review final report is scheduled to go to the Executive in March.

At our mid cycle briefing in January, we reviewed the Corporate Risk Register and received an update on Insurance claims, risk exposure and risk management. We were pleased to note that the lessons learnt from previously conceded insurance claims had assisted in the development of preventative systems.

In addition, we received an update on the Customer Portal, and were particularly pleased with the significant improvements in the portal and the reduction in call answering times. We also carried out our annual review of the Workforce Plan.

Finally, in response to a previous Council Motion, the Committee considered the Council's current level of compliance with the Charter against Modern Slavery. The proactive steps that have been taken to date are notable and we are pleased to confirm there is no evidence of modern slavery in the County Council's supply chain, and that the Council can say with confidence that its contractors are compliant. We will be recommending to the Executive that once the necessary actions have been completed to bring the County Council to full compliance, that they consider exploring further additional measures to take the County Council beyond the commitments laid out in the motion.

Looking forward at our forthcoming Committee meeting in March 2019 we will be concluding our scrutiny review on adult reoffending by considering the effectiveness of rehabilitation interventions and work programmes, in changing adult offenders' offending behaviour. The National Probation Service will be attending the meeting to give us an update along with a representative of the CRC.

Cllr Derek Bastiman
Chairman - Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee
8 February 2019