

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



QUARTERLY MEETING

20 February 2019

**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 summoned to attend the Meeting of the County Council to be held at County Hall, Northallerton, on **Wednesday 20 February 2019 at 10.30 am**, at which the following business 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 accessible via <http://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk>. 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.

BUSINESS

1. To move that the **Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 14 November 2018** having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

(Pages 6 to 19)

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 20 to 21)

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) or in writing to Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services), County Hall, Northallerton DL7 8AD by **midday on Friday, 15 February 2019**. 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.
- **Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy**
(Separate Booklet - Pages 37 to 336)
(Executive Report only - Pages 22 to 29)
6. To consider the **report and recommendations of the Members' Independent Remuneration Panel** and make decisions on them.
(Pages 30 to 41)
7. **Statements of Executive Members**, in the order set out below, **followed by the Annual Report of Overview and Scrutiny Committees**

Executive Members:

(Pages 42 to 63)

- (a) Executive Member for Stronger Communities - County Councillor David Chance
- (b) Executive Member for Health and Adult Services - County Councillor Michael Harrison
- (c) Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention and Supported Housing - County Councillor Caroline Dickinson
- (d) Executive Member for Open to Business - County Councillor Andrew Lee
- (e) Executive Member for Customer Engagement - County Councillor Greg White
- (f) Executive Member for Finance and Assets and Special Projects - County Councillor Gareth Dadd
- (g) Executive Member for Children's Services - County Councillor Janet Sanderson
- (h) Executive Member for Education and Skills - County Councillor Patrick Mulligan
- (i) Executive Member for Access - County Councillor Don Mackenzie

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen:

(Pages 64 to 78)

- (j) Scrutiny Board (Chairman: County Councillor Jim Clark).
- (k) Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Stanley Lumley).
- (l) Scrutiny of Health Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Jim Clark).
- (m) Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Janet Jefferson).
- (n) Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor John Ennis).

- (o) Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chairman: County Councillor Derek Bastiman).

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 19 February 2019**, the person to whom the question has been put may respond in writing, and this is then circulated to all Members.

8. Notice of Motion

“This Council calls upon the Government to reconsider transitional arrangements for women born on or after 6th April 1951, so that women do not live in hardship due to pension changes they were not told about until it was too late to make alternative arrangements.”

Proposed by County Councillor Mike Jordan
Seconded by County Councillor John McCartney

9. Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

RICHARD FLINTON
Chief Executive Officer

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

County Hall,
NORTHALLERTON.

12 February 2019



NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Northallerton on 14 November 2018, commencing at 10.30 am

PRESENT:-

County Councillor Robert Windass in the Chair.

County Councillors Val Arnold, Karl Arthur, Andrew Backhouse, Bob Baker, Philip Barrett, Derek Bastiman, John Blackie, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Lindsay Burr MBE, Michael Chambers MBE, David Chance, Jim Clark, Liz Colling, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Keane Duncan, John Ennis, David Goode, Caroline Goodrick, Bryn Griffiths, Michael Harrison, Paul Haslam, Robert Heseltine, Mel Hobson, David Hugill, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Andrew Jenkinson, Mike Jordan, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Stanley Lumley, Don Mackay, Don Mackenzie, John Mann, Stuart Martin MBE, John McCartney, Zoe Metcalfe, Heather Moorhouse, Patrick Mulligan, Richard Musgrave, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Caroline Patmore, Chris Pearson, Clive Pearson, Joe Plant, Gillian Quinn, Tony Randerson, Janet Sanderson, Peter Sowray, Helen Swiers, Angus Thompson, Cliff Trotter, Callam Walsh, Geoff Webber, John Weighell OBE, Richard Welch, Greg White and Annabel Wilkinson.

APOLOGIES:-

County Councillors Margaret Atkinson, David Blades, Richard Cooper, Stephanie Duckett, Helen Grant, Cliff Lunn, Joe Plant, Karin Sedgwick, Andy Solloway and Roberta Swiers.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 18 July 2018, having been printed and circulated, subject to the following amendments, are confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

County Councillor Caroline Goodrick asked that her non-attendance be noted in the apologies section of the Minutes for the last meeting.

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

Resolved -

57. That the Minutes of the Meeting of the County Council held on Wednesday, 18 July 2018, having been printed and circulated, subject to the stated amendment, are confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed the Honorary Aldermen who were in the public gallery. The Chairman informed of the election of County Councillor David Goode following the by-election for Knaresborough held on 16 August 2018. The Chairman informed of the appointment of on 6 November 2018 of Mrs Johanna Ropner as Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire.

The Chairman acknowledged the death of former County Councillor Beth Graham. Beth was a County Councillor from 1973 to 2004 representing Settle. A minutes silence was held.

The Chairman also reminded Members of the usual arrangements for the meeting.

Statement by the Leader

County Councillor Carl Les made a statement, under Contract 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 10549 to 10550 of the Minute Book). County Councillor Carl Les corrected his statement, noting that it was indeed the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War and not the 10th. County Councillor Carl Les then responded to various questions.

One of the questions related to the position of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire. County Councillor Patrick Mulligan left the room during the discussion.

Public Questions or Statements

Public Question 1 (pages 10551 to 10554 of the Minute Book)

Hello, my name is Alex Boyce and I am one of the organisers of the 'Save the Pupil Referral Service' Campaign. As you are aware, in an attempt to recoup the debt in the High Needs Budget, the council are proposing cuts of at least 50% across the 7 pupil referral units in North Yorkshire. This means they would either close completely or run with dangerously low staff numbers. I would like to give you a summary of some key documents surrounding the issue of exclusion as local people are confounded by the council's proposal:

Exclusions are increasing - The numbers of exclusions continues to increase. North Yorkshire's increase in exclusions is above both regional and national figures. Between the 2015/16 and 2016/17 academic years there was and [sic] increase in all fixed-term exclusions of 42%.¹

Nationally, there has been a "40% increase over the past three years"²

Mainstream schools cannot cater for some pupils and are excluding and off-rolling Children in care, children in need, children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and children in poverty are all more likely to be excluded than their peers.²

An unfortunate and unintended consequence of the Government's strong focus on school standards has led to school environments and practices that have resulted in disadvantaged

¹ NYCC Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 0-25 at <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/send-specialist-support-and-inclusion>

² House of Commons Education Committee Report "Forgotten children: alternative provision and the scandal of ever increasing exclusions" at

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmeduc/342/342.pdf>

children being disproportionately excluded, which includes a curriculum with a lack of focus on developing pupils' social and economic capital.²

The rise in so called 'zero-tolerance' behaviour policies is creating school environments where pupils are punished and ultimately excluded for incidents that could and should be managed within the mainstream school environment²

But... North Yorkshire CC plans to stop schools excluding and to force schools to take responsibility for previously-excluded children there should be little, if any, need for a young person to be permanently excluded from school.¹ Schools will not refuse to admit a pupil who has been denied a place at that school at appeal, if the protocol identifies that school as the one to admit the child.³

If a Fair Access Panel does not make an offer of a school place, the Local Authority will identify a school/academy to admit the young person³ Where a Fair Access Panel judges that a child is not yet ready for mainstream provision, based on the information provided, they will allocate a school roll and will consider which provisions are appropriate. The school is responsible for securing appropriate full-time educational provision.³

North Yorkshire doesn't have a plan for Alternative Provision – it just expects them to appear and operate.

We will:

- *Revise the local alternative provision directory for schools*
- *Establish a provider forum chaired by the local authority to provide advice and guidance to alternative providers operating in North Yorkshire and surrounding area*
- *Establish a forum for alternative provision with neighbouring local authorities to ensure illegal schools can be identified quickly¹*

There is no mention of quality assurance of alternative provision in the NYCC Strategic Plan for SEND. But... AP does not work on market principles. It needs a clear plan.

Our research suggests that there is not a single "best model" for arranging local AP. Instead, our research has underscored the importance of having a clear strategic plan that articulates a shared understanding of the role of local AP.⁴

Local AP needs to be seen as system that has to be planned strategically, rather than as a traditional market. Indeed, our research suggests that, in certain important ways, AP does not operate like a traditional market.⁴

And... Alternative Provision is unregistered, unregulated and generally low quality

In a quarter of the schools surveyed, the curriculum for pupils who attended alternative provision on a part-time basis was too narrow.⁵

As I am sure you are aware, I have repeatedly expressed my concerns about the number of children disappearing from the formal system and into unregulated, unregistered provision. That includes much alternative provision (AP), which does not always have to be registered and therefore is subject

³ NYCC Draft Fair Access Protocol (Sep 2018) at

https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fileroot/About%20the%20council/Consultations/Admission_arrangements_2020-21/Appendix_4_-_proposed_in-year_fair_access_protocol.pdf

⁴ Alternative provision market analysis by ISOS Partnership for DFE (Oct 2018) at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alternative-provision-market-analysis>

⁵ Alternative provision: the findings from Ofsted's three-year survey of schools' use of off-site alternative

provision at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alternative-school-provision-findings-of-a-three-year-survey>

to no independent scrutiny – despite the fact that a lot of AP caters for some of our most vulnerable children.⁶

The lack of information about where these children end up is perhaps my greatest concern as Chief Inspector.⁶

North Yorkshire wants local groups of schools to take responsibility for commissioning alternative provision. Local Area Inclusion Steering Groups will:

- Commission services and develop the alternative provision offer to meet identified needs within the locality and reduce exclusion, with the aim of a ‘no-exclusion’ approach in the area.¹
- Work to reduce the numbers of young people at risk of exclusion and poor attendance¹

But... school-led commissioning models are generally of poor quality. Schools do not always have the capacity and specialist knowledge to have full responsibility for the commissioning of long-term placements for pupils who will often have complex needs. A fragmented approach to commissioning responsibilities and a lack of oversight and scrutiny around decisions means that pupils are being left vulnerable to inappropriate placement decisions.²

Some schools were still not taking enough responsibility for ensuring the suitability of the placements they set up. A few of the schools in the survey placed pupils at an off-site provider without having visited first to check its safety and suitability. Some schools did not check for themselves that the relevant safety standards were met.⁵

AP provides for more than just those permanently excluded. These children have unmet needs and their numbers are growing. However, the AP population is made up of a greater number of students than those who are just permanently excluded.²

Most LAs use AP for a wide range of purposes, with the majority of LAs identifying multiple reasons why they would use AP. The most common reasons given were provision for excluded pupils (selected by 96% of LAs), provision for mental and physical health-related reasons (80%) and early, preventative support (78%)⁴

Many of these children are arriving in the AP sector with unidentified and unmet needs²

We expect the greatest increase in the areas of C&I (Communication and Interaction) and SEMH (Social Emotional and Mental Health)¹

There are increasing numbers of children with mental health needs in schools and alternative provision²

I am appealing to the council to oppose this proposal and re-consider both the speed and severity of the cuts. I would also appreciate the council's formal response to these questions:

- 1) Can the council explain how this proposal will remedy the problem of increasing exclusions in North Yorkshire?
- 2) Can the council provide a list of alternative provision centres available for September 2019 in North Yorkshire?
- 3) Can the council assure us that alternative provision will be as good as the education and support at PRUS which are rated Good or Outstanding?
- 4) Can the council guarantee that alternative providers will be assessed and monitored to ensure safe standards of care?

⁶ HHM Chief Inspector Amanda Spielman letter to the Public Accounts Committee (31 Oct 2018) at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/amanda-spielman-letter-to-the-public-accounts-committee>

- 5) Can the council provide any research they have completed into the anticipated costs of a new network of alternative provision in the county?
- 6) In the long term, does the council really believe handing over education to profit making providers will give the taxpayer value for money?
- 7) Can the council assure us that all ISOS reports (used to justify the proposal) have been finalised and please send them to my personal email address?

In response to question Alex Boyce's questions, County Councillor Patrick Mulligan said:

- 1) North Yorkshire is experiencing an increase in fixed and permanent exclusion despite an investment of £4.6 million per year from the Local Authority.

Young people who have been permanently excluded from school perform less well than their peers in mainstream in terms of academic achievement, life chances, and have an increased dependency on public services – on average costing an additional £370,000 per person.

North Yorkshire County Council wishes to invest in the reduction in the need for permanent exclusion across the county by:

- Encouraging the development of different approaches to alternative provision allowing schools to use it more flexibly to support young people disengaging from mainstream curriculum
 - Building capacity in schools for inclusion
 - Providing more opportunities for school leaders and the Local Authority to work collaboratively to shape provision.
- 2) There is currently a directory of alternative provision which is updated annually.
 - 3) We acknowledge the quality of provision across PRS/APs. This proposal is about taking steps to reducing the use of exclusion across NY. The Local Authority conducts safeguarding checks of alternative provision. Schools are responsible for quality assurance and monitoring of placements in AP for individual young people.
 - 4) As per the answer to question 3.
 - 5) The costs of places for a permanently excluded child are currently £19,000 per annum. Under the proposal this will be reduced to £17,000 per annum which is in line with national average (between £17,000 -18,000) and feedback from a number of Local Authorities nationally. The costs for other Alternative Providers range from £6,000 in Further Education to £20,500 in a special school and £30K for Alternative Provision academies.
 - 6) Schools are telling us that the range and capacity of Alternative Provision needs to be increased across North Yorkshire. Responsibility for monitoring quality, value for money will remain with the Local Authority and schools and overseen by the Locality Partnerships.
 - 7) There are a number of reports that underpin the review of AP including:
 - ISOS locality reviews 2016
 - Strategic Plan for SEND 2018-2023
 - October 2018 ISOS workshops on PRS/AP provision – currently in draft form with LA.

Alex Boyce then asked a supplementary question regarding home tuition for children and young people who are unable to attend school due to their medical needs.

In response to question Alex Boyce's question, County Councillor Patrick Mulligan said:

As detailed in the strategic plan for SEND education provision the local authority is intending to change the model of delivering home tuition for children and young people who are unable to attend school due to their medical needs and is planning to introduce this change from September 2019. This will be subject to further consultation in early 2019 but it is important to note this change has already been agreed in the strategic plan for SEND provision.

Currently the LA commissions the PRS/AP to deliver home based medical tuition for secondary students (except in the East where the funding is delegated to secondary schools). The current model involves staff from the PRS travelling to the home address of a child to deliver a teaching session. The numbers of hours offered to children varies according to need.

We intend to change the model to ensure the local authority funding is being used more efficiently to focus on teaching and to increase the tuition hours that will be available for young people whilst they cannot attend school.

The revised model will also provide greater oversight of young people who are receiving home tuition by schools and the local authority, thereby ensuring that their return to school is progressed at the appropriate opportunity and any additional needs in terms of SEN are identified in a timely manner, and appropriate provision put in place.

Public Question 2 (pages 10555 to 10556 of the Minute Book)

The following public questions were received from Richard Hughes, of Grove Academy Pupil Referral Unit.

1. My name is Richard Hughes and I teach at the Grove Academy Pupil Referral Unit. I am speaking on behalf of all staff and students at the PRU with the support of the leadership team at the Delta Academy Trust.
2. We work with some of the most complex and disaffected young people across the Harrogate area and have provided them with an Outstanding education support service for over twelve years now.
3. The PRU educates and supports a range of pupils with complex needs including extreme social, emotional, behavioural and medical problems which prevent them from attending 'mainstream' schools. These Special Educational Needs have proven extremely difficult if not impossible to accommodate in mainstream; these students have been, or are at risk of being, permanently excluded from school.
4. The Council's CYPS committee plan to cut their funding of the PRS service, in effect by 83% **from next April 2019**. (That is a removal their 'discretionary' payment, 2/3 of our budget and a serious reduction in their per pupil top up.) Essentially this destroys a national model of Outstanding SEN provision. The Council is expecting us to meet the needs of a rapidly increasing number of complex students with a staff team reduced by up to 80%. The Council maintain that all PRU heads were informed of the likely scale of this cut last year; in reality our management received this incredible news in September.
5. The Council have talked about a small transitional fund for the first year but this still represents a 50% funding cut that means we cannot function from April 2019.

6. This huge cut would of course be disastrous for this excellent service and mean at best huge downsizing if not closure. The severe damage would be to the students themselves, many of whom are the most vulnerable in the area, but then to their families, who often struggle with their own personal, social and health issues. In the wider community Public Services such as Policing and Social Care are already stretched and they will certainly be further pressured. Finally, the impact on local mainstream schools will potentially be catastrophic. They cannot cope with further SEN demands, as evidenced by the increasing number of exclusions and 'off rollings'; if they are forced to retain these pupils then how are they going to manage? There is no clear plan in place!

7. There has been a rapid increase in referrals to the PRS on medical grounds. These range from severe physical illnesses to autism and development disorder then to the full range of mental health conditions. There is a crisis of provision for those young people with health problems and the Council are proposing huge cuts to it – it simply does not make sense.

8. This proposal will dismantle many years of highest quality provision, experience and expertise; the staffing to support these pupils with their various needs and to safeguard them adequately. The Grove Academy PRU has been recognised as Outstanding by OFSTED **three times** in a row, a feat only achieved by 9 of some 350 PRUs across the whole country. Surely this is a beacon of quality provision that should be celebrated, not destroyed?

9. The Council's so-called 'consultation' on what have only been termed 'changes' to the High Needs Budget, has been rushed and extremely poorly thought through. Its plan for provision in the future is very unclear. The only clear idea put forward seems to be that schools liaise with a new network of profit-making Alternative Provision centres or Charity providers to form a strategy. Ourselves and our colleagues are not aware of any such even basic quality providers locally. And this is to deal with the increasing number of permanently excluded children in the system, with the evident need for preventative placements and to accommodate the increasing number of students referred on medical grounds, **all by next April!**

10. Given the lack of Alternative Provision in the Harrogate area at present the pace of change seems completely unreasonable and, frankly, suggests **panic** on behalf of the Council. Whilst North Yorkshire council are proposing that these changes come into effect in some **4 months**, other councils have taken **at least 3 years** to create such a network of providers. Whilst there is certainly need for more alternative routes through education, getting rid of the safety net that the PRU provides without these options in place is asking for serious problems across schools and local communities.

11. The likely effects of these cuts will be a worsening of the current adolescent mental health crisis, an increase in truancy and children missing from education, an increased risk of child exploitation and coercion into criminal behaviour and an increased risk of anti-social behaviour within the community. North Yorkshire police are opposed to this proposal and are in the process of formalising their objections. Local schools are similarly shocked and in clear opposition. Parents, staff and students are outraged, all of this increasingly evidenced in local and national media.

Could the council please re-consider their position on the proposed cut to the funding of the Grove Academy Pupil Referral Unit. Could the council also respond to the following key questions about the cuts proposed for the Grove Academy PRU:

1) Harrogate PRU only found out about the proposed cuts on September 4th and they are due to take effect in April 2019. The Consultation opened in October and closed on November 11th. Could the Council explain how this is **a fair and timely** approach to such a significant **systemic** change?

2) All local schools contacted are objecting to the Council's proposal. What response have the Council had from local schools? Are the council prepared to direct mainstream schools to accept excluded students on to their roles?

Many thanks for your time and consideration on these critical matters

In response to public question 2), County Councillor Patrick Mulligan said:

The Consultation has finished and all views will be given due consideration including comments on timescales. The Consultation did state that transitional funding would be agreed for 2019/20 and PRS also have significant reserves of between £128,000 and £765,000.

Responses from local schools will be considered and made public when the consultation has been analysed.

Further work is required across localities to ensure young people who have been permanently excluded can access mainstream provision as appropriate. This is recognised by the Local Authority and is being addressed through the In Year fair Access Protocol and the establishment of the local Partnerships.

Richard Hughes then made a supplementary statement that highlighted that PRUs did not have significant reserve funds as there had significant expenditure of capital upon developing facilities.

Report of the Allocations Committee

The recommendation in the report (page 10559 of the Minute Book) 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 -

58. The following changes are noted:

Scrutiny & Audit

- Conservative to lose 2 seats (Transport Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
- Liberal Democrats to gain 1 seat (Transport Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
- Cllr Mike Jordan to gain 1 seat (Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee).

Other Committees

No change.

Report of the Executive

Proposals for Updating the Council Petitions Scheme

The recommendation at paragraph 1 of the report (page 10563 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded.

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

Resolved -

59. That the required number of signatures on a petition needed to trigger a debate at any Area Constituency Committee be amended to 500 is approved.

Looked After Children Strategy We care because you Matter: 2018-2021

The recommendation at paragraph 2 of the report (page 10563 of the Minute Book) 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 -

60. That Looked After Children Strategy We care because you Matter: 2018-2021 is approved.

Annual Report of the Pension Board 2017/18

The recommendation at paragraph 3 of the report (page 10563 of the Minute Book) 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 -

61. That the Annual Report of the Pension Board for 2017/18, as Administering Authority for North Yorkshire Pension Board, is noted.

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The recommendation at paragraph 4 of the report (page 10563 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded.

Additional appointments were proposed by Group Secretaries, as below:

County Councillor Stanley Lumley appointed to Chair of the Transport Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Councillor Cliff Trotter appointed to the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee to fill the vacant position, due to Nicola Wilson leaving

County Councillor Caroline Goodrick to become a full member of the Appeal (Home to School Transport) Committee

County Councillor Keane Duncan to stand down as Young People's Champion

County Councillor Annabel Wilkinson to be appointed to the role of Young People's Champion.

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

Resolved -

<p>62. That the appointments are noted.</p>

Report and Recommendations of the Standards Committee

The recommendation (page 10565 of the Minute Book) 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 -

<p>63. That the Annual Report of the Standards Committee, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, is noted.</p>

Report and Recommendations of the Audit Committee

The recommendation (page 10571 of the Minute Book) 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 -

64. That the Annual Report of the Pension Board for 2017/18, as Administering Authority for North Yorkshire Pension Board, is noted.

Statements by Executive Members and Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

County Councillor Janet Sanderson, Executive Member for Children's Services Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10601 to 10603), and responded to questions.

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan, Executive Member for Education and Skills Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10605 to 10606), and responded to questions.

County Councillor David Chance, Executive Member for Stronger Communities Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10583 to 10585).

County Councillor Michael Harrison, Executive Member for Health and Adult Services Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10587 to 10588).

County Councillor Caroline Dickinson, Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention and Supported Housing Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10589 to 10591), and responded to questions.

County Councillor Andrew Lee, Executive Member for Open to Business Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (page 10593), and responded to questions.

County Councillor Greg White, Executive Member for Customer Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10595 to 10597).

County Councillor Gareth Dadd, Executive Member for Finance and Assets and Special Projects Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10599 to 10600).

County Councillor Don Mackenzie, Executive Member for Access Engagement made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10607 to 10608), and responded to questions.

The written statements of the Chairmen of the Scrutiny Board and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees having previously been circulated, and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 10609 to 10626) were noted.

County Councillor Jim Clark, Chairman of the Scrutiny of Health Committee, responded to questions.

Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

The Chairman informed Council that this was the last opportunity to ask questions of the Chairman of the Fire and Rescue Authority, as the governance of the Fire and Rescue Service was being transferred to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

There were a number of questions asked and statements made relating to the new governance arrangements for the Fire and Rescue Service and thanks were expressed for the work of both the Fire and Rescue Service and the Fire and Rescue Authority.

These questions and statements related to the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire. County Councillor Patrick Mulligan left the meeting during the discussions.

Notices of Motion

Motion 1: “That this Council commits to working with other groups and councils with the aim of making North Yorkshire single-use plastic free.

That the County Council, working in partnership with its suppliers and contractors demonstrates support for plastic free initiatives within North Yorkshire by:

1. Phasing out, within the next 2 years, the use of single use plastic in NYCC premises.

and that this council

2. Sets up a task group or joins with other local environmental group initiatives and businesses to create a robust strategy to encourage local businesses, other organisations and residents to go single use plastic free.”

County Councillor David Goode proposed the motion, and this was seconded by County Councillor Bryn Griffiths.

Resolved -

<p>65. The Chairman determined that the Motion be referred to the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration before coming back to Council.</p>

Motion 2: “North Yorkshire County Council calls upon the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) that commission NHS Services across the County:

- (i) to fund the necessary PTS services to transport those whose medical, personal and financial needs require these services to attend hospital clinics, and to recognise that any failure to provide the level of service that reflects the rural nature of North Yorkshire may lead to patients having no alternative but to miss their appointments to the detriment of their health,
- (ii) to acknowledge their recent implementation of cutbacks in the PTS services without any consultation whatsoever has caused anxiety amongst those communities placed at distance from the hospitals that serve them, and calls upon the CCGs to review the impact of the cutbacks at Scrutiny Committees

across the County no later than early March 2019,

- (iii) to recognise the current network of Community Hospitals in North Yorkshire provide a range of essential NHS services, including in-patient beds for step-down, respite and palliative care that are highly valued by the communities they serve, and where CCGs are considering changes it should only be on the basis of improvements with no reduction in local accessibility of these services,

and instructs Committee Services to send the outcome of the debate on this Notice of Motion to the District and Borough Councils and the MPs that serve the communities in North Yorkshire.”

County Councillor John Blackie proposed the motion, and this was seconded by County Councillor Stuart Parsons.

The Chairman determined that the Motion should not be debated on the day, stating that a better venue for a more informed debate would be with the Scrutiny of Health Committee at their meeting on 14 December 2018. This would allow the relevant representatives from the NHS Bodies to be present with relevant members and have a proper discussion about the issues and the appropriate response. He stated that he had confidence that the Scrutiny of Health Committee will review the contents of the motion and provide a comprehensive view of the important issues the motion raises and the matter can then be referred back to the Council at its meeting of 20 February 2019.

County Councillor John Blackie moved that “The Motion be considered now” and County Councillor Stuart Parsons seconded this. After County Councillor John Blackie had spoken in favour of the Motion, County Councillor Michael Harrison spoke against it.

The vote was taken and, on a show of hands, the motion for the matter to be debated on the day was defeated, with 10 in favour, 52 against and no abstentions.

County Councillors John Blackie, Lindsay Burr MBE, Don Mackay, John McCartney and Stuart Parsons requested that their vote in favour of the motion be recorded.

Resolved -

66. The Chairman determined that the Motion be referred to the Scrutiny of Health Committee for consideration before coming back to Council on 20 February 2019.

Motion 3: “Charter Against Modern Slavery

North Yorkshire County Council will:

- ◆ Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply’s (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply.
- ◆ Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies, with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
- ◆ Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.
- ◆ Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.

- ◆ Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
- ◆ Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
- ◆ Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
- ◆ Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.
- ◆ Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
- ◆ Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually."

County Councillor Liz Colling proposed the motion, and this was seconded by County Councillor Eric Broadbent.

Resolved -

<p>67. The Chairman determined that the Motion be referred to the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration before coming back to Council.</p>

The meeting closed at 1:05pm

County Council Meeting**Wednesday 20 February 2019****Leader's Statement**

- Budget

We will be debating our next Budget and setting our Council tax later in today's meeting. We are told that austerity is coming to an end, although caveated by the Chancellor that this would require a "good" Brexit, and we have played our part in achieving the savings that were expected of us. Our staff need to be thanked for the part they have played in delivering these savings, mainly through efficiencies.

What we are seeing now is unprecedented demand in two key areas of our work – looking after vulnerable adults, and providing for children with higher needs. I'm grateful to our MP's who have taken up this cause, and for Ministers who have listened and provided extra funds this year. Hopefully these demands now recognised will find their way into the next Comprehensive Spending Review.

This will be influenced by the Fairer Funding Review and again through our MP's and the County Council Network we have made our case for a redistribution of funding based on the costs of delivering services in a rural context. There are clear imbalances per head of population between Inner London boroughs, urban areas and shire counties, with us coming last.

- Brexit

Without wanting to open up the debate about In or Out, we have had to make preparations for Brexit, with or without a deal, and whatever that deal may be. And therein lies the difficulty, that there is a lack of clarity about what we are preparing to encounter. Possible impacts forecast nationally are import delays, currency fluctuations and a shortage of labour in certain sectors. Regionally, work has been coordinated by the Resilience Forum. More locally we have been checking on our business continuity plans and putting in place sensible procedures using a 7 point check list for preparedness provided by govt, using funding of £175k over the next two years.

We have prudently allocated 1% of our gross budget to cover unexpected costs in service delivery. If not needed it will be returned to General Working Balances.

- LEP review

We are fortunate in this County to have an excellent private sector led LEP, originally chaired by Barry Dodd LL CBE, now followed by David Kerfoot DL MBE. Both built substantial highly successful businesses themselves and have given freely of their time to help the County they live(d) in. We have an exciting opportunity following the government's review of LEP's to take the best of our LEP, and the best of Leeds City Region LEP, and create a new LEP covering most of Yorkshire with an economy the size of Scotland's. Transition work is ongoing prior to a recommendation being made to both LEP boards in March. An exciting opportunity however which must not be to the detriment of our existing successes.

- Devolution

The previous item fits neatly with Devolution. I'm sure we can all sign up to the principle of decision making being removed from Whitehall to the Town Hall, and the fact that a large degree of spending power comes with that process. 19 out of 21 Yorkshire Leaders consider this to be worth pursuing, and Government have now sent the outline submission to the Treasury for analysis, and the Northern Powerhouse Minister Jake Berry congratulated the bid in the Yorkshire Post recently for its "ambition". We await the Treasury's response with interest. Again this is an exciting proposition, but it must build on our successes, not diminish them, and it must be achievable.

Carl Les

North Yorkshire County Council

20 February 2019

The Report of the Executive

The Executive met on Tuesday 27 November 2018. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison, Andrew Lee, Don Mackenzie, Patrick Mulligan, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Also in attendance: County Councillors Derek Bastiman, Jim Clark, John Ennis, Caroline Goodrick, Paul Haslam, Janet Jefferson and Stanley Lumley.

Key agenda items were:

- Quarterly Performance and Budget Monitoring Report
- Approval to Publish Statutory Notices - Moorside Infant School
- Proposed Development of Extra Care Housing Scheme in Helmsley - Appendix C to this report contained exempt information.

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

<http://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk/committees.aspx?commid=18&meetid=3782>

The Executive met on Tuesday 4 December 2018. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison, Andrew Lee, Don Mackenzie, Patrick Mulligan, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Also in attendance: County Councillors Cliff Lunn and Karin Sedgwick.

Key agenda items were:

- Tour de Yorkshire 2019 and 2020
- Implementing the National Pay Award – Changes to the Grading Structure for Council Staff
- Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies
- Acquisition of part of Whitby Hospital Site - this report contained exempt information.

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

<http://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk/committees.aspx?commid=14&meetid=4165>

The Executive met on Tuesday 15 January 2019. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison, Andrew Lee, Don Mackenzie, Patrick Mulligan, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Also in attendance: County Councillors Eric Broadbent, Geoff Webber, Paul Haslam, Janet Jefferson Annabel Wilkinson and David Goode.

Key agenda items were:

- Harrogate Adult Community Services Health and Social Care Integration
- Alternative Investments - Year 1 Review

- Schools Budget
- Changing the Resource Allocation System from Can-Do to a banded system
- Pupil Referral Service and Alternative Provision (PRS/AP) Budget and Fund Modelling
- Changes to Funding Arrangements for Post 16/19 Placements for Young People with Education, Health and Care Plans
- Harrogate Congestion Study.

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

<http://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk/committees.aspx?commid=18&meetid=3784>

The Executive met on Tuesday 29 January 2019. County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. County Councillors Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison, Andrew Lee, Don Mackenzie, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Apologies: County Councillors David Chance and Patrick Mulligan.

Also in attendance: County Councillors John Blackie, Paul Haslam and Annabel Wilkinson.

Key agenda items were:

- Budget 2019/20 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)
- Council Plan
- Future Structure of the Coroner Service in North Yorkshire
- Response by the Scrutiny of Health Committee to the Notice of Motion to County Council on 14 November 2018 on the NHS Patient Transport Service and Community Hospitals.
- LGPS Employer Discretions Policy
- School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2020/21.

Budget 2019/20 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

The Budget report made recommendations to Executive and so County Council regarding the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2019/20 to 2021/22, the Revenue Budget 2019/20 and Council Tax for 2019/20. This included the following elements, which were considered each in turn by Executive:

- Medium Term Financial Strategy
 - Reserves and Balances
 - Savings
 - Investments
- Revenue Budget 2019/20
- Council Tax
- Section 25 Statement
- Draft pay policy statement 2019/20
- Assessment of the key financial risks to the County Council
- Public engagement on the Budget
- Equality Impact Assessment
- Capital Plan to 2021/22
- Treasury Management Policy Statement
- Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2019/20
- Prudential Indicators for 2019/20 to 2021/22.

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

Recommendations by Executive for approval/information at Full Council

1. Budget: This item was considered at Executive on 29 January 2019 where Executive was asked to make recommendations to the County Council regarding the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2019/20 to 2021/22, the Revenue Budget for 2019/20 and Council Tax for 2019/20.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

Revenue Plan:

- a) The Section 25 assurance statement provided by the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources regarding the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves (paragraph 8.17) and the risk assessment of the MTFS detailed in Section 9 be noted.
- b) 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 2019/20 of £305,852,694 be approved and that a Council Tax precept of that sum be issued to billing authorities in North Yorkshire (Section 3.3 and Appendix C).
- c) 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 £1,311.16 be approved (paragraph 3.3.10 and Appendix C).
- d) A Net Revenue Budget for 2019/20, after use of reserves, of £382,018k (Section 4.0 and Appendix F) be approved, and that the financial allocations to each Directorate, net of planned savings, be as detailed in Appendix B.
- e) In the event that the final Local Government Settlement results in a variance of less than £5m in any single year then the difference to be addressed by a transfer to / from the Strategic Capacity Unallocated Reserve in line with paragraph 3.2.8 with such changes being made to Appendix D as appropriate.
- f) The Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Service be authorised, in consultation with the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources and the Executive Members for Schools and Finance, to take the final decision on the allocation of the Schools Budget including High Needs (paragraph 3.4.16).
- g) £360k be provided for Members Environmental Locality Budgets in 2019/20 in line with paragraph 3.9.2.
- h) A further £1m be provided to fund the on-going 2020 North Yorkshire Programme and its emerging successor (Beyond 2020 Programme) in response to the need to plan for further savings proposals as set out in paragraph 3.9.3.
- i) The Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2020/21 to 2021/22, and its caveats, as laid out in Section 3.0 and Appendix F be approved.

- j) The Corporate Director – Business & Environmental Services be 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 A1 (BES 1 to 7).
- k) The Corporate Director – Health and Adult Services be 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 A1 (HAS 1 to 17).
- l) The Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Services be 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 A1 (CYPS 1 to 7).
- m) 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 A1 (CS 1 to 17).
- n) Any outcomes requiring changes following Recommendations j), k), l), and m) above be brought back to the Executive to consider and, where changes are recommended to the existing major policy framework, then such matters be considered by full County Council.
- o) The existing policy target for the minimum level of the General Working Balance is retained at £27m in line with paragraphs 3.6.4 to 3.6.5 and Appendix E.
- p) The pay policy statement (Appendix H) covering the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 be approved as set out in Section 6.
- q) The recommendation of the Chief Officers Appointment and Disciplinary Sub Committee to combine current grades Director 2 and 3 into a single grade be approved as set out in Section 6 and as incorporated within Appendix H.

In addition, the Executive also:

- Noted and agreed the delegation arrangements referred to in Section 10 that authorised the Corporate Directors to implement the Budget proposals contained in the report for their respective service areas and for the Chief Executive in those areas where there were cross-Council proposals.
- Had regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (identified in Section 7 and Appendix I) in approving the Budget proposals contained in the report.

Capital Plan:

- a) Approved the updated Capital Plan, summarised at Appendix E which incorporated a number of specific refinements reported in paragraph 4 of the report.
- b) Agreed that no action be taken at this stage to allocate any further additional capital resources (paragraph 6.4)
- c) Agreed to Recommend to the County Council that the Q3 2018/19 Capital Plan, as summarised in Appendices A to E be adopted.

Treasury Management Strategy:

- a) The Treasury Management Policy Statement as attached as Appendix A;
- b) The Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy for 2019/20 as detailed in Appendix B and Prudential Indicators attached as Schedule E, in particular;
 - i. an authorised limit for external debt of £537.2m in 2019/20;
 - ii. an operational boundary for external debt of £517.2m in 2019/20;
 - iii. the Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2019/20 to 2020/21
 - iv. a limit of £40m of the total cash sums available for investment (both in house and externally managed) to be invested in Non-Specified Investments over 365 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 2019/20
 - 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) The Capital Strategy as attached as Appendix C
- d) That the Audit Committee be invited to review Appendices A, B and C and submit any proposals to the Executive for consideration at the earliest opportunity.

Please note that the Budget Papers are in full in the Booklet that accompanies the papers for the County Council meeting.

2. Council Plan: This item was considered at Executive on 29 January 2019 where Executive was asked to recommend to full Council the draft Council Plan and authorises the Chief Executive to make any necessary changes to the text, including decisions made by full Council on the budget, Medium Term Financial Strategy and updated performance data.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve the draft Council Plan and authorises 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.

3. Response by the Scrutiny of Health Committee to the Notice of Motion to County Council on 14 November 2018 on the NHS Patient Transport Service and Community Hospitals: This item was considered at Executive on 29 January 2019 where Executive was asked to consider the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny of Health Committee meeting on 14 December 2018 and in turn make recommendations to Council.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve the approach that has been adopted by the Scrutiny of Health Committee and the recommendations that were considered by Executive. These are detailed in full as follows:

NHS Patient Transport Service

1. The Clinical Commissioning Groups and Yorkshire Ambulance Service to provide data on:
 - the number of appeals (successful and unsuccessful) as a percentage of the overall number of journeys
 - the financial impact of the changes to the application of the eligibility criteria
 - the number of 'Did Not Attends' for medical appointments that can be linked to the changes in the application of the eligibility criteria.
2. The Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service to consider amending the assessment criteria to explicitly include as considerations:
 - the impact of rurality
 - the level of access to public transport
 - the distances that have to be travelled.
3. The Vale of York CCG and Scarborough and Ryedale CCG to consider amending their criteria so that patients undergoing Chemotherapy, Radiotherapy, Renal and Other Oncology are automatically entitled to patient transport services and do not need an assessment.
4. The appeals process to be simplified and better publicised.
5. The Council's Scrutiny of Health Committee to liaise with the Council's Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee over changes to adult social care transport charging that are currently being consulted upon.
6. Daniel Harry to draft a report that outlines the Scrutiny of Health Committee response to the Notice of Motion, based upon the discussions today, and circulate to the members of the committee for comment.
7. That an update on the impact of the changes to the way in which the eligibility criteria for the Patient Transport Service are applied is provided to the Scrutiny of Health committee meeting on 21 June 2019.

These were considered by the Executive on 29 January 2019. In addition to the above, Executive also made the following recommendations for Council to consider, that:

- All CCGs operate a consistent approach to the commissioning and operation of Patient Transport Services
- The fourth resolution should be strengthened to say 'The entire appeals policy and process should be simplified, made clearer and more transparent, and better publicised'.

Community Hospitals

At the Scrutiny of Health Committee Mid Cycle Briefing on 1 February 2019, local NHS commissioners and providers started a discussion about what the long term vision could be for small and community hospitals.

4. LGPS Employer Discretions Policy: This item was considered at Executive on 29 January 2019 where Executive was asked to recommend approval of the proposed revisions to the LGPS Employer Discretions:

- Revision in the redundancy pay calculation as a result of employment law change requiring the incorporation of employers' pension contributions into the calculation of a week's pay
- Revision of discretion allowing aggregation of LGPS service for pre-2014 re-joiners
- Revised provision around the application of pension bands to employees' pay.

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve the changes to the LGPS Employer Discretions Policy.

5. School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2020/21: This item was considered at Executive on 29 January 2019 where Executive was asked

The Executive RECOMMENDS:

That County Council approve the proposed Admissions 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 and 2 of the report
- iii. the proposed co-ordinated admission arrangements as set out in Appendix 3 to the report;
- iv. the proposed in Year Fair Access Protocol as set out in Appendix 3a to the report; and
- v. the proposed published admission numbers (PAN's) for community and voluntary controlled schools as shown in Appendices 4 (Primary) and 5 (Secondary).

6. Appointments to Committee and Outside Bodies: The following appointments are to be noted by County Council.

That County Councillors Caroline Goodrick, David Goode and Liz Colling are appointed to the Looked After Children Members' Group.

7. Progress with the three Notices of Motion that went to County Council on 14 November 2018: The following update with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees investigation response to the three Notices of Motion that were raised at the meeting of County Council on 14 November 2018 is as below:

Patient Transport Service and Community Hospitals – as outlined in section 3.

Phasing out of single use plastics and the support for plastic free initiatives within North Yorkshire – The Transport and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee resolved to engage in the Government consultation on the Resources and Waste Strategy and the way in which its actions are to be implemented and then establish a task group to work through the local implications and possible responses.

Charter Against Modern Slavery – The Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report from Procurement regarding the compliance of the Council with the Charter Against Modern Slavery at their Mid-Cycle Briefing on 21 January 2019. Recommendations will be made to the Executive in March 2019, date to be confirmed.

CARL LES
Chairman
County Hall
Northallerton

12 February 2019

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

20 FEBRUARY 2019

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 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 2019/20.

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 allowances scheme.

3.0 PANEL 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. This year the Panel has carried out an in-depth review of all Special Responsibility Allowances.
- 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 2.6% to the Basic Allowance and all Special Responsibility Allowances. The Basic Allowance would therefore rise to £9,885 and the Special Responsibility Allowances would increase to the levels shown in Appendix 3.
 - The Panel also recommends that the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Leader of the Council is uplifted by 3 units to 19 units.
 - The Panel also recommends that the Allowances paid to members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel are changed as follows:
 - Chair's allowance to increase from 3 to 5 units
 - Vice Chairs' allowance to increase from 1 to 2 units
 - Community Co-opted members' allowance to increase from 0.5 to 1 unit
 - All other Police, Fire and Crime Panel members to receive an allowance of 1 unit (These allowances are currently partially offset by a Home Office grant.)
 - Following a recommendation from the Panel two years ago, the Council agreed that if attendance falls below a benchmark of 60%, Members would be invited to return of a proportion of any allowances received, except where there are mitigating circumstances such as illness. The Panel is now recommending that this threshold is also applied to members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel who are not County Councillors.

- The Panel recommends that, if there are any increases in the travel and subsistence rates payable to staff, a similar increase should be made to the rates in the Members' Allowances Scheme to come into effect at the same time.

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 2.6% to the Basic Allowance and all Special Responsibility Allowances
- (b) An increase of 3 units in the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Leader of the Council
- (c) An increase of 2 units in the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Chair of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel; an increase of 1 unit in the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Vice Chairs of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel; an increase of 0.5 units in the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Community Co-opted members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel; and the introduction of a Special Responsibility Allowance of 1 unit for other members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel
- (d) That members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel who are not County Councillors 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, in line with the existing scheme for County Councillors
- (e) That, if there are any increases in the travel and subsistence rates payable to staff, a similar increase be made to the rates in the Members' Allowances Scheme, to come into effect at the same time.

Report prepared by:

Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive – Legal & Democratic Services

Background papers: None

County Hall
Northallerton
6 February 2019

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT PANEL ON THE REMUNERATION OF
MEMBERS OF NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
2019/20**

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, commitment and responsibility to undertake the role.

In our 2018/19 report we recommended a 4.5% increase in the Basic Allowance and the Special Responsibility Allowance unit rate (SRAs). We recognised that this was not an insignificant amount at a time of financial stringency, but we believed that this was 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, as well as to go some way to restoring North Yorkshire's Basic Allowance comparator position from its 14th position out of 16 comparator county councils.

For 2019/20 we have, as is our usual practice, reviewed several sources of information which have a bearing on our recommendations. These are described in detail in Section 2 of our report on Contextual Background. Overall, we believe there is a case for a further increase in allowances for the reasons described above, but our recommendations have been tempered by the financial challenges which continue to face the Council and the projected salary increases for its own employees. Despite the increases over the last two years, North Yorkshire's position is still 8.5% below the average for comparator county councils following increases elsewhere (see Appendix 1).

We therefore recommend that Members agree to an increase this year in the Basic Allowance of 2.6%, taking account of prevailing and forecast inflation and local government staff pay rises across the board. The Basic Allowance would therefore become £9,885, with the value of a unit increasing to £1,697. The aggregate cost of the increase in the Basic Allowance would be £18,000 per annum.

The Panel has also carried out an in depth review of Special Responsibility Allowances this year and makes the following recommendations:

- An increase in the number of units for the position of Leader from 16 to 19, reflecting the increasing complexity and demands of the role since the last uplift in 2006, with particular regard to steering the local authority through significant financial challenges and the growing importance of external relationships.
- Changes to the allowances payable to members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel:
 - Chair's allowance to increase from 3 to 5 units
 - Vice Chairs' allowance to increase from 1 to 2 units
 - Community Co-opted members' allowance to increase from 0.5 to 1 unit
 - All other Panel members to receive an allowance of 1 unit

The overall annual cost increase of our recommendations on County Council Special Responsibility Allowances would be £12,042, including the 2.6% increase across all Special Responsibility Allowances.

The total financial implication of our recommendations for the Council's budget for 2019/20 would be £30,042. This represents less than 0.01% of the Council's net budget. The increase in allowances for the Police, Fire and Crime Panel would be £20,622. Whilst outside the Panel's remit, we acknowledge that the County Council may wish to seek contributions towards the Police, Fire and Crime Panel allowances from the other constituent authorities.

Two years ago the Council accepted our recommendation 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 Panel has reviewed this threshold and recommends this figure of attendance is also applied to members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel who are not County Councillors.

In relation to Travel and Subsistence Allowances, the Panel recommends that if there are any increases in the rates payable to staff, that a similar increase should be made to the rates in the Members' Allowances Scheme to come into effect at the same time.

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. Great Ayton Parish Councillor.

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.

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;
- (iii) To make recommendations and provide advice to the County Council;
- (iv) To carry out a full review of Special Responsibility Allowances for implementation every 4 years beginning from 2019/20;
- (v) To respond to requests to consider issues relating to the remuneration and expenses of independent and community members on relevant bodies; and
- (vi) To consider the remuneration of Councillors serving on other bodies/organisations when requested.

1.3 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.

1.4 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 recommendations and its reasoning before setting a new or amended Members' Allowance Scheme.

2.0 CONTEXTUAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Panel carried out research over the summer and autumn of 2018 and met at County Hall in November and December 2018 to consider evidence as part of its review and to formulate its recommendations. The evidence considered included national and local contextual information on benchmarking data, attendance data, financial context and input on SRA roles from current allowance holders and senior council officers.
- 2.2 **Attendance at meetings 2017/18** – Overall attendance of Councillors was at 86.6% in 2017/18. The attendance level for full meetings of the County Council was 92.3%. This is an increase on the previous year (80.8% and 85% respectively) and slightly higher than the year before that (85% and 90% respectively). Overall we consider these attendance levels to be satisfactory. Two years ago the Council accepted our recommendation that if a Councillor’s attendance falls below 60% over a 12 month period, he/she 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 enforce this repayment but we recommended that a strong message should be endorsed by the Council that attendance at meetings is a critical part of a Councillor’s representative role. We have reviewed this threshold and recommend that it remains at 60% but also that the attendance at the Police, Fire and Crime Panel is similarly monitored for all members of that Panel.
- 2.3 **Financial position of the Council** – Council funding continues to be challenging, despite the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s recent announcement that austerity is coming to an end and the announcement of extra funding of around £5m for the County Council next year in the provisional local government finance settlement announced shortly before Christmas. The County Council has already achieved savings of £157m but still needs to find a further £40m towards a projected budget shortfall of £197m by 2021/22. The Council continues to work on plans and proposals for further savings to meet the remaining funding gap.
- 2.4 We also took account of the external auditor’s annual audit letter for 2017/18 and the conclusions reached about the Council’s arrangements to secure value for money, having looked at the Council’s arrangements to make informed decision making, sustainable resource deployment and working with partners and third parties. The auditors were satisfied that the authority had appropriate arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of its resources.
- 2.5 **Inflation rates** - The figures below show the latest position.

	Inflation Rates for the preceding 12 months up to		
	December 2016	December 2017	December 2018
Retail Price Index (RPI)	2.5%	4.1%	2.7%
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	1.6%	3.0%	2.1%

Source ONS website

- 2.6 **Local Government Pay Award** – Following a two year pay agreement reached in 2018, most local government employees, including Chief Executives and Senior Managers, will receive a 2% increase in April 2019. Those on the lowest pay grades receive a larger increase, as in previous years.
- 2.7 **Residents’ views** – In 2017 the Panel broke new ground by canvassing the views of the public on the Members’ Allowances Scheme through the Citizens’ Panel Survey. As a reminder, the summarised findings were that almost half (48%) of all respondents said that they believed the current level of basic allowance was ‘about right’. However, when asked whether Councillors in North Yorkshire should receive ‘below the average’, ‘above the average’ or ‘about the same’ in relation to the basic allowance paid to Councillors in other comparable authorities, the majority of all respondents (59%) were of the view that they

should receive 'about the same'. *Source NYCC Citizens' Panel 32 – Summer 2017 survey – Survey Report* <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/citizens-panel>

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 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.
- 3.2 The Basic Allowance for 2018/19 is £9,635 or 5.825 units (the value of 1 unit is £1,654). Comparator information with other County Councils for the last six years is shown in Appendix 1. This shows that, despite the 7% increase implemented since April 2017, the Basic Allowance for North Yorkshire places the authority 12th out of 16, and is still 8.5% below the average of the comparator group.
- 3.3 It continues to be the strong belief of this Panel that, while the previous reluctance of Members to accept proposed increases in the Basic Allowance has been admirable in the light of the financial climate, Members should be adequately and appropriately compensated for their contributions. In our opinion, our recommendation is also necessary to attract the required calibre of candidate from a more diverse range of backgrounds to stand and serve as a Councillor.
- 3.4 We also take into consideration 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. At the same time we remain mindful that the role also carries a strong 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.
- 3.5 We continue to believe that the Basic Allowance should be based on the system of units which the Council has adopted, and that it should remain at the present value of 5.825 units. In the light of all the evidence we have considered, the view of the Panel is to recommend an increase of 2.6% in the value of each unit for 2019/20. This will bring the value of 1 unit to £1,697. The Basic Allowance for 2019/20 would therefore rise to £9,885. Our recommendation reflects the prevailing and predicted rates of inflation as well as the local government pay settlement, recognising that lower paid staff will receive more than the 2% baseline increase. It is noted that it is proposed that those staff on the lowest spinal point will potentially receive over 5% increase in 2019/20.
- 3.6 We consider that such an increase will do no more than maintain the current position for councillors in terms of mitigating the impact of inflation. However, we acknowledge that a very significant increase would be required to further improve North Yorkshire's position with regard to its comparator authorities, and we do not believe that this would be appropriate for this year in the continuing very challenging financial climate faced by local authorities.
- 3.7 Nevertheless, we do still strongly believe that there remains a case for further increases over the next few years in order to ensure that North Yorkshire's Allowance Scheme adequately reflects the demands made on Councillors.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS ON 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 The Panel's approved Protocol of 30 November 2017 requires it to carry out an in-depth review of SRA's every 4 years. The last full review was carried out in 2015 for the 2015/16 scheme and therefore the Panel has been required to carry out a further full review for 2019/20, which has been carried out in accordance with the Protocol.
- 4.3 In support of our review, we conducted research across our comparator authority group, and considered information from officers highlighting any significant changes in roles and responsibilities since the last review was undertaken.
- 4.4 The Panel decided to carry out a survey of all Members who receive a Special Responsibility Allowance and determined to review only those where there was an agreed change in the role. We analysed the information provided to us by various sources and also spoke to a number of postholders of a Special Responsibility Allowance. We were not aware of any role where there had been a decrease in responsibility.
- 4.5 The roles that were determined to have changed since the last substantial review were the following:
- (i) Leader of the Council
 - (ii) Executive Members
 - (iii) Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees
 - (iv) Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee
 - (v) Chairman of Pension Fund Committee
 - (vi) Chair of Police, Fire and Crime Panel
 - (vii) Vice-Chairs of Police, Fire and Crime Panel
 - (viii) Police, Fire and Crime Panel Community Co-opted Members
 - (ix) Police, Fire and Crime Panel Members
 - (x) Area Constituency Committee Chairmen
- 4.6 We considered that the following changes should take place:
- (i) Leader of the Council: We heard from the current postholder about the increased role and responsibility for Council Leaders to advocate on behalf of their authorities at a national level; the increased focus on external collaboration and partnership working; and the challenge of steering the authority through austerity whilst continuing to meet the needs of residents. We noted that the number of units assigned to the role had last been raised in 2006. We also considered comparator information from the 16 comparator county councils. In comparison to his peers, the current postholder receives an allowance which places the role 14th out of the 16 authorities. The current allowance of £26,464 is just under 84% of the average allowance of £31,533. We are therefore recommending an increase in the number of units for the position of Leader from 16 to 19 to reflect the increasing complexity and demands of the role since the last uplift in 2006, with particular regard to steering the local authority through significant financial challenges and the growing importance of external relationships.
 - (ii) Executive Members: it was noted that there was a mixture of responses received from Executive Members with some stating that their role had changed and others that it had not. It is important to note that the Panel's role is to review the generic Special Responsibility Allowance that is paid to the role of Executive Member and therefore it was determined that on balance there was no change to the overall role of these posts and therefore it is not recommended to make any change to the Special Responsibility Allowance.
 - (iii) Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees: it was noted that, of the four Chairmen, two stated that their roles had not changed and two stated that theirs had. It is important to note that the Panel's role is to review the generic Special Responsibility Allowance that is paid to the role and therefore it was determined that on balance there was no change to the overall role of these posts. Therefore, it is not recommended to make any change to the Special Responsibility Allowance.

- (iv) Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee: the Panel heard evidence with regards to the increase in responsibility and complexity of planning applications and the planning process and determined that there is no obvious significant change to the responsibility from last year.
- (v) Chairman of Pension Fund Committee: the Panel reviewed the evidence which showed that there was an increase in complexity with regard to the work of the Pension Fund Committee and noted that there were added complications through the creation of the Border to Coast Pension Fund and the creation of the specific pension company, but that there was not enough evidence at this stage to warrant an increase in allowance. However, this can still be reviewed upon request in the future. It is noted that the non-Executive Directors of the Pension Fund company get an additional allowance through the costs of running that company and that role is outside the remit of this Independent Remuneration Panel. It was noted that the additional work falls on all members of the Committee. On balance it was considered that there should not be an increase or decrease to the Special Responsibility Allowance for this role.
- (vi) Chair of Police, Fire and Crime Panel: The Panel heard from the current holder of this post who stated that the role had increased due to additional work and also that the work was due to increase because of the change of the Police and Crime Panel to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel as the Panel has additional responsibility in carrying out its functions regarding the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. At this stage it is hard to envisage exactly how much additional work is required of the new Panel and this will be kept under review. The Panel considered the evidence and made the following recommendation. We recommend that the allowance for this role increases from 3 units to 5 units to reflect additional work that is already undertaken.
- (vii) Vice-Chairs of Police, Fire and Crime Panel: The Panel read evidence and heard from a current holder of this post who stated that the role had increased due to additional work and also that the work was due to increase through the change of the Police and Crime Panel to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel as the Panel has additional responsibility in carrying out its functions regarding the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. At this stage it is hard to envisage exactly how much additional work is required of the new Panel and this will be kept under review. The Panel considered the evidence and made the following recommendation. We recommend that the allowance for these roles increases from 1 unit to 2 units to reflect additional work that is already undertaken.
- (viii) The Police, Fire and Crime Panel Community Co-opted Members: The Panel heard evidence, and considered written representations from one Community Co-opted Member, who stated that the role had increased due to additional work and also that the work was due to increase through the change of the Police and Crime Panel to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel as the Panel has additional responsibility in carrying out its functions regarding the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. At this stage it is hard to envisage exactly how much additional work is required of the new Panel and this will be kept under review. The Panel considered the evidence and made the following recommendation. We recommend that the allowance for these roles increases from 0.5 units to 1 unit to reflect additional work that is already undertaken.
- (ix) Police, Fire and Crime Panel Members: The Panel heard evidence and considered representations which indicated that there was additional work required in providing independent scrutiny and support of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. We noted that there is a necessity to recruit and retain the required calibre of member, and that on one occasion a meeting had to be cancelled due to being inquorate. We noted that it is unusual to recommend that an allowance is paid to all members of a body, although there is provision for this where it is agreed that the demands of membership are above those normally covered by the Basic Allowance, requiring an amount of time and effort equal to or greater than the other roles described. The Panel considered the evidence and made the following recommendation. We recommend that an allowance

of 1 unit is introduced for all Panel members other than the Chair, Vice-Chairs and Community Co-opted members, in recognition of the existing demands of this role.

- (x) Area Constituency Committee Chairmen: In May 2018 the Constitution was changed to reduce the number of Area Committees from seven to six. We note that there is a potential for the duties of the Chairmen of the new Area Constituency Committees to increase as additional scrutiny functions are delegated to them. We concluded that it was too soon to review this allowance.

4.7 These proposed changes are all set out in Appendix 3.

4.8 The Panel's next full in-depth review of SRAs will take place in 2022 for 2023/24. In the meantime, if requested to do so, the Panel may review the SRA of any post holder on an ad hoc basis.

4.9 During our deliberations about the Police, Fire and Crime Panel we were made aware that funding for the current allowances is partially obtained from a Home Office grant, albeit one that does not cover the total costs of providing this service, including the officer support to the Panel. Whilst not directly within our remit, we acknowledge the potential concerns for North Yorkshire County Council taxpayers if the costs fall on the County Council's budget as lead authority to subsidise the work of the Panel beyond the level of this grant. It may be felt that seeking a contribution from other constituent authorities would be an appropriate way forward.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS ON TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES

5.1 The Panel considered the current arrangements for travel and subsistence allowances. The arrangements are linked to the rates for council staff. We are not recommending any changes as there have been no changes in staff rates. However, in order to maintain this link, the Panel recommends that, if at any time staff rates are increased, a similar increase should be made to the rates in the Members' Allowances Scheme to come into effect at the same time.

6.0 FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

6.1 The Panel has considered the areas it intends to review in advance of setting the 2020/21 Members' Allowance Scheme, as follows:

- Annual review of the Basic Allowance
- Ad hoc review of the Special Responsibility Allowances until 2022 when a full SRA review will be conducted following the County Council elections in 2021.

Appendices

- 1 Basic Allowance comparator information
- 2 Current SRAs
- 3 Proposed new SRAs

John A Thompson

Chairman

Date: 18 January 2019

BASIC ALLOWANCE – COMPARATOR INFORMATION

	2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19	
Authority	£	Rank	£	Rank	£	Rank	£	Rank	£	Rank	£	Rank
Nottinghamshire	12,906	1	12,906	1	13,190	1	13,190	1	14,325	1	14,325	1
Devon	10,970	2	10,970	2	10,970	2	10,970	2	10,970	2	12,607	2
Somerset	9,880	6	10,354	4	10,580	3	10,582	4	10,795	3	11,011	3
Leicestershire	10,152	4	10,152	5	10,152	6	10,152	7	10,691	4	10,905	4
Norfolk	8,929	11	9,018	10	9,216	9	9,308	10	9,401	11	10,710	5
Derbyshire	9,948	5	10,047	7	10,047	7	10,371	5	10,476	6	10,692	6
Dorset	10,185	3	10,536	3	10,536	4	10,641	3	10,641	5	10,641	7
Lincolnshire	8,184	14	10,100	6	10,322	5	10,322	6	10,426	7	10,530	8
Oxfordshire	8,295	13	8,377	14	10,100	8	10,201	8	10,303	9	10,509	9
Cambridgeshire	7,610	16	7,700	16	7,700	16	7,855	16	10,315	8	10,315	10
Gloucestershire	8,800	12	9,000	11	9,100	11	10,000	9	10,000	10	10,100	11
NYCC	8,994	9	8,994	12	8,994	13	8,994	14	9,221	14	9,635	12
Warwickshire	8,975	10	8,975	13	8,975	14	9,263	11	9,263	13	9,448	13
Staffordshire	9,244	7	9,022	8	9,072	10	9,221	12	9,313	12	9,406	14
Worcestershire	9,020	8	9,020	9	9,020	12	9,020	13	9,012	15	9,192	15
Cumbria	8,030	15	8,030	15	8,322	15	8,322	15	8,322	16	8,405	16
Year average	9,383		9,575		9,762		9,894		10,218		10,527	
NYCC % of average	95.9		93.9		92.1		90.9		90.2		91.5	

Special Responsibility Allowances, Other Allowances, and Allowances for the Police and Crime Panel 2018/19					
	Number of Units	Current Allowance £	Number of Allowances	Total Cost of allowance £	Notes
	A	B	C	D	E
Value of a Unit		1,654			
SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES					
Chairman of the County Council	6	9,924	1	9,924	
Vice Chairman of the County Council	2	3,308	1	3,308	
Leader of the County Council	16	26,464	1	26,464	
Deputy Leader	10	16,540	1	16,540	
Other Executive Members	9	14,886	8	119,088	
Chairman of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	6	9,924	1	9,924	
Chairman of Other Overview and Scrutiny Committees	3	4,962	4	19,848	
Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committees	1	1,654	5	8,270	
Chairman of Area Constituency Committee	1.5	2,481	6	14,886	
Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee	2.5	4,135	1	4,135	
Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Sub-Committee	1	1,654	1	1,654	
Chairman of Appeals Committee	3	4,962	1	4,962	
Vice Chairman of Appeals Committee	0.5	827	1	827	
Chairman of Pension Fund Committee	3	4,962	1	4,962	
Chairman of Audit Committee	2	3,308	1	3,308	
Chairman of Standards Committee	1	1,654	1	1,654	
Champion for Young People	1	1,654	1	1,654	
Champion for Older People	1	1,654	1	1,654	
Leaders of Political Groups					
Second largest group membership	3	4,962	1	4,962	
Third largest group membership	1.5	2,481	1	2,481	
When there is only one second largest group, and no other eligible groups, the Leader of the second largest group receives an SRA of 3 units. In all other cases the total SRA allocation is then shared between the eligible Group Leaders on the basis that the Leader/s of the second largest group(s) receive an SRA twice the amount as the Leader/s of the other eligible groups. The basis of the calculation is to ensure there is not an increase to the cost of the total SRA allocation.					
Secretaries of Political Groups					
Largest Group Membership	1.5	2,481	1	2,481	
Second largest group membership	1	1,654	1	1,654	
Third largest group membership	0.5	827	1	827	
When there is only one second largest group, and no other eligible groups, the Secretary of the second largest group receives an SRA of 1 unit. In all other cases the total SRA allocation is then shared between the eligible Group Secretaries on the basis that the Secretary/ies of the second largest group(s) receive an SRA twice the amount as the Secretary/ies of the other eligible groups. The basis of the calculation is to ensure there is not an increase to the cost of the total SRA allocation.					
POLICE & CRIME PANEL					
Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	3	4,962	1	4,962	
Vice Chair of the Police and Crime Panel	1	1,654	2	3,308	
		1,583			
Community Members of the Police and Crime Panel	0.5	827	2	1,654	
OTHER ALLOWANCES					
Independent Persons	0.5	827	2	1,654	
Chairman of the Pension Board	N/A	3,000	1	3,000	
Total Special Responsibility Allowances			42	265,467	
Independent Persons			2	1,654	
Total NYCC funded			44	267,121	
Total Police & Crime Panel Allowances			5	9,924	Funded by Home Office
Pension Board			1	3,000	Funded by Pension Fund
Total			50	280,045	

Proposed Special Responsibility Allowances, Other Allowances, and Allowances for the Police, Fire and Crime Panel 2019/20

	Number of Units	Current Allowance	Number of Allowances	Total Cost of allowance	Recommended change	Updated allowance if implemented	Updated total cost if implemented	Notes
	A	£ B	C	£ D	£ E	£ F	£ G	H
Value of a Unit		1,654			1,697			
SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES								
Chairman of the County Council	6	9,924	1	9,924		10,182	10,182	
Vice Chairman of the County Council	2	3,308	1	3,308		3,394	3,394	
Leader of the County Council	16	26,464	1	26,464	19	32,243	32,243	Increase proposed
Deputy Leader	10	16,540	1	16,540		16,970	16,970	
Other Executive Members	9	14,886	8	119,088		15,273	122,184	
Chairman of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	6	9,924	1	9,924		10,182	10,182	
Chairman of Other Overview and Scrutiny Committees	3	4,962	4	19,848		5,091	20,364	
Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committees	1	1,654	5	8,270		1,697	8,485	
Chairman of Area Constituency Committees	1.5	2,481	6	14,886		2,546	15,276	
Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee	2.5	4,135	1	4,135		4,243	4,243	
Chairman of Planning and Regulatory Functions Sub-Committee	1	1,654	1	1,654		1,697	1,697	
Chairman of Appeals Committee	3	4,962	1	4,962		5,091	5,091	
Vice Chairman of Appeals Committee	0.5	827	1	827		849	849	
Chairman of Pension Fund Committee	3	4,962	1	4,962		5,091	5,091	
Chairman of Audit Committee	2	3,308	1	3,308		3,394	3,394	
Chairman of Standards Committee	1	1,654	1	1,654		1,697	1,697	
Champion for Young People	1	1,654	1	1,654		1,697	1,697	
Champion for Older People	1	1,654	1	1,654		1,697	1,697	
Leaders of Political Groups								
Second largest group membership	3	4,962	1	4,962		5,091	5,091	
Third largest group membership	1.5	2,481	1	2,481		2,546	2,546	
When there is only one second largest group, and no other eligible groups, the Leader of the second largest group receives an SRA of 3 units. In all other cases the total SRA allocation is then shared between the eligible Group Leaders on the basis that the Leader/s of the second largest group(s) receive an SRA twice the amount as the Leader/s of the other eligible groups. The basis of the calculation is to ensure there is not an increase to the cost of the total SRA allocation.								
Secretaries of Political Groups								
Largest Group Membership	1.5	2,481	1	2,481		2,546	2,546	
Second largest group membership	1	1,654	1	1,654		1,697	1,697	
Third largest group membership	0.5	827	1	827		849	849	
When there is only one second largest group, and no other eligible groups, the Secretary of the second largest group receives an SRA of 1 unit. In all other cases the total SRA allocation is then shared between the eligible Group Secretaries on the basis that the Secretary/ies of the second largest group(s) receive an SRA twice the amount as the Secretary/ies of the other eligible groups. The basis of the calculation is to ensure there is not an increase to the cost of the total SRA allocation.								
POLICE, FIRE & CRIME PANEL (PFCEP)								
Chair of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel	3	4,962	1	4,962	5	8,485	8,485	Increase proposed
Vice Chair of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel	1	1,654	2	3,308	2	3,394	6,788	Increase proposed
Members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel		N/A	7	0	1	1,697	11,879	New allowance proposed
Community Co-opted Members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel	0.5	827	2	1,654	1	1,697	3,394	Increase proposed
OTHER ALLOWANCES								
Independent Persons	0.5	827	2	1,654		849	1,698	
Chairman of the Pension Board	N/A	3,000	1	3,000	N/A	3,000	3,000	
Total Special Responsibility Allowances								
			42	265,467	42		277,465	
Independent Persons								
			2	1,654	2		1,698	
Total NYCC funded								
			44	267,121	44		279,163	
Total Police, Fire & Crime Panel Allowances								
			5	9,924	12		30,546	Funded from Home Office grant
Pension Board								
			1	3,000	1		3,000	Funded by Pension Fund
Total								
			50	280,045	57		312,709	

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL20th February 2019**STATEMENT FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES,
LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES, CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT,
SCRUTINY, AREA COMMITTEES, PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND
LOCALITY BUDGETS****COUNTY COUNCILLOR DAVID CHANCE****STRONGER COMMUNITIES****Strong and Steady**

It is now almost 12 months since the Executive Member for Public Health - Councillor Dickinson and I attended the official launch of the countywide physical activity service for older people; Strong and Steady. The targeted element of this service, which is focussed on more intensive support tailored to individual needs, has now fully rolled out with 16 sessions running regularly across the county. 166 people are being supported by the Programme, the majority of who are over the age of 75. The focus for the coming year will be on universal sessions, providing a structured community led opportunity for social interaction through age and ability appropriate physical activity and sport.

Area Constituency Committee Showcase

Members will remember the Community Showcase organised by Stronger Communities early in 2018. These visits to community projects across the county demonstrated the dedication and commitment of local communities to help one another and add to the richness of local life. It is right that we continue to recognise and celebrate the work of communities. This year, to coincide with the new Area Constituency Committees, the Stronger Communities Team have invited a local group or project to attend and share their story with Members.

Volunteering Strategy

As well as the work of local communities, it is important that we, as a Council, support and celebrate those volunteers who play an increasingly important role in helping to develop and deliver Council services.

A comprehensive volunteering strategy is being developed for the Council; led by the new internal volunteering advisor and supported by a sub-group of the Stronger Communities Programme Board. The purpose of the strategy is to set out the Council's principles and practices for involving volunteers, and focussing on standardising ways that we can improve recruitment, management, retention and the celebration of our volunteers.

Enabling Social Action Programme

The Council has been named as one of six national partners for the Enabling Social Action Programme, working with the DCMS, University of Hull and University of

Sheffield. The Programme aims to understand how communities can work in partnership with health and social care to support older and vulnerable people to live independently in a deeply rural area, and develop community led services. Stronger Communities submitted the bid focussing particularly on the Upper Dales 'A Good Life' project, and the role of that community in supporting challenges around social care provision.

Working with Communities

'Working with Communities' is one of the strands of the Beyond 2020 transformation programme, considering service areas which might deliver significant additional savings through a greater involvement of communities, beyond that already being undertaken through Stronger Communities. A range of options have been drawn up from across the Directorates with a decision about the future priority areas expected later in the year.

LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Area Constituency Committees – the committees have now met three times and have established robust work programmes and practices that focus upon key strategic issues in their areas. The committees are taking a more scrutiny like approach to their work and ensuring that any reviews that they undertake have a clear outcome, follow up and means of escalation. There is a strong move against accepting reports 'to note' and a desire to influence the development of policy and commissioning in their local area. The work programmes for the 6 committees are wide ranging, which reflects the geographic rather than thematic focus of their work.

Overview and Scrutiny – we still await new statutory guidance on overview and scrutiny in local government. It was going to be published in December 2018 but publication has been pushed back. It is likely that the guidance will address a number of key issues that came out of the 2017 Communities and Local Government (CLG) Committee inquiry into overview and scrutiny in local government. These may include: greater clarity around the support that council executives and senior officers give to scrutiny; the restatement of the importance of the independence of scrutiny; access to and use of information in scrutiny; how scrutiny is supported to engage with the public; scrutiny of "external bodies"; and more detail on how scrutiny of financial resilience and sustainability of councils is undertaken.

School Admission Appeals – the appeals team in Democratic Services continues to administer education admission appeals on behalf of schools in the county. The number of appeals heard is over 400 a year. The quality and reputation of the appeals team is such that they have been approached by a number of councils in the North East to see whether they are able to administer school admission appeals on their behalf.

Committees – a project is underway with Technology and Change to see whether it will be possible to do audio recordings of all public meetings of the Council. At present, only the meeting of the County Council and the Police Fire and Crime Panel are routinely recorded. I am supportive of this project as it will help promote engagement with and accountability to the public. I will update members as this work progresses.

Performance Management

Over the last year we have continued to develop our performance management processes and reporting. The quarterly performance report received by Executive is now clearly aligned to the Council Plan.

Indeed the Council Plan put to you at this meeting now contains specific performance indicators aligned to the Ambitions and Priorities set within it. These will form the basis of our performance monitoring over the next year and will be reviewed annually alongside the Council Plan.

We believe this degree of transparency and rigour is important, even in an organisation with such an enviable track record of delivery as ours.

Our enhanced approach to monitoring performance has recently seen North Yorkshire County Council cited as an example of good practice by the Local Government Association.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR LOCALITY BUDGETS

Since the start of the scheme for this financial year on 14 May 2018, I have approved 354 recommendations from 66 Elected Members for funding totalling £281,323.95 (78.14% of the annual budget) for projects that benefit the communities they represent. The final date for recommendations to be submitted this financial year is 28 February 2019.

The scheme for the next financial year will start on 13 May 2019.

DAVID CHANCE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

20 February 2019

**STATEMENT OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH INTEGRATION
PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR MICHAEL HARRISON****Extra Care Programme Update**

The Council's Extra Care programme now has 1117 units of Extra Care housing in 22 schemes across the county, and working with Clinical Commissioning Group partners we are expanding step up, step down and respite units within them.

One new scheme (the Cuttings, Harrogate) has opened in 2019 with 55 new units, and Bransdale View in Helmsley (64 units) is due to open in March. Five schemes under construction are due to complete by 2020 adding an additional 300 units

The Extra Care programme has been running for nearly 15 years and is a great success story for the Council with other local authorities in regular contact to learn from our expertise. The programme has allowed us to offer care and support to people in their own communities in high quality accommodation whilst also contributing recurring annual savings in excess of £1.5 as part of the 2020 programme.

The coming year will see a renewed focus on what Extra Care can offer including new hybrid care models, Extra Care+ (EC with Nursing) and support for younger people with Learning Disabilities.

NHS Long Term Plan

The NHS Long Term Plan was published in January and covers many areas of health including out of hospital care; reducing pressure on emergency hospital services; supporting people to take control of their health and personalise care as well as a push to maximise the potential of digital technology.

The plan sets out priorities for the new funding settlement that was announced in June 2018 of a real term increase of £20.5bn by 2023/24. The plan highlights the importance of Integrated Care Systems and integration across health and social care; as well as the importance of prevention and challenging health inequalities. Having sufficient numbers of people that are trained to work across the various disciplines is also a priority.

These priorities are entirely in line with many of the Council's strategic objectives and the impact of the plan on Local Government will become clearer over the forthcoming months.

Delayed Transfers of Care

Delayed transfers of care have remained a priority for the Council over the winter, and over the last year delays attributed to social care have halved. Resilience has been good across the services over the Christmas period. However, NHS and social care services continue to be very busy and we have contingencies in place for a surge in hospital activity should it occur. I would like to thank colleagues who provided support during this time.

Harrogate and Rural Alliance

In January the Executive approved the business case to create a new integrated community health and social care service in the Harrogate and Rural locality for 2019 and beyond. Working alongside key partners the aim is to develop an operating model which is anchored in primary care. It will focus on Prevention, Planned and Unplanned Care, with care provided at home wherever possible and crucially will focus on population health as opposed to organisations, and is intended to be centred around GP practices.

This programme represents radical change for Health and Social Care adult community services in the Harrogate and Rural locality, and will be one of the first places in England to integrate all health and social care adult community services, general practice, with community health and social care professionals working together as one team. These changes will start on a phased basis from the Spring.

Recent Consultations

Following consultations with colleagues a new structure for the Council's Mental Health services will be implemented from May, and a new model for the Supported Employment service will be implemented in April.

We have recently completed a consultation on separate proposals to include the total cost of care when assessing the level of personal contributions that people may have to make towards their care (where two care workers are required to deliver care), as well as increases to our transport charges. A decision will be made in due course when the consultation responses have been fully considered.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

February 2019

**STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH, PREVENTION & SUPPORTED HOUSING
PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR CAROLINE DICKINSON****Elected Members' Public Health Network**

In November I hosted the first Elected Members' Public Health Network. The network was set up in response to a sector led improvement peer review undertaken in the spring. The feedback from the "Delivering Excellence in Public Health" review of public health in North Yorkshire, reflected on work in District Councils. They stated "We felt that foundations are broadly there but could be strengthened with the District Councils. The locality working approach in Selby received lots of positive feedback and could be replicated in other areas."

The purpose of the Network is twofold. Firstly, it aims to bring together elected members with portfolios relating to population health from all districts, to attend sessions themed around different public health issues, with the view that they can inform, steer and enable public health priorities and share good practice. Secondly, for members to take an advocacy role in their Districts and Boroughs around different issues.

The afternoon was split into two main sessions: a focus on elected members' role in public health and a session on Age Friendly North Yorkshire. Members supported work to proceed to secure Age Friendly status for North Yorkshire. It was agreed the elected members' network was a useful meeting, and should be held twice a year. I will work with Dr Sargeant and member colleagues to identify future areas of focus.

Childhood Obesity

North Yorkshire was one of 13 areas selected to receive funding and support to develop innovative plans to reduce childhood obesity that can be shared across the country as part of the government's Childhood Obesity Trailblazer Programme run in partnership with the Local Government Association. This is a two stage plan. In the first stage of the programme councils will develop practical plans and submit to the Department of Health and Social Care who will select five successful authorities to take their plans forward over three years.

The North Yorkshire bid is to implement a Healthy School Zone which will assess and modify the school zone environment (400m radius around the school) by looking at influences on healthy weight such as provision of unhealthy versus healthy foods; takeaways; food outlets; and opportunities and barriers to physical activity. This work is part of ongoing work to implement our Healthy Weight Healthy Lives Strategy.

Pandemic Flu

Pandemic flu is recognised as a national risk and each Council needs to have plans in place to prepare for responding to this threat. The North Yorkshire County Council Pandemic Flu Plan has been written and staff from all directorates as well as key partners came together on 28th January to test the plan in a simulated scenario. The event increased our awareness of pandemic flu and the likely impacts across different service areas. The exercise assessed whether the plan makes sense in practice and whether directorate and team business continuity plans are fit for purpose. I found the exercise to be very informative and highlighted the roles we need to play in a pandemic situation as well as the partners we work with to do this.

I would like to register thanks to the Resilience and Emergencies and Public Health teams who led the drafting of the Plan and organised the exercise to test it.

Suicide Prevention

In April 2018 Durham, Darlington, Tees, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) were invited to submit a proposed plan to NHS England for use of funding allocation from April 2018 for suicide prevention. The funding across the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG area will be used to support an overall national 10% reduction in the suicide rate by 2020/21.

The funding will enhance existing work underway in the locality Suicide Action Plan and improve access and quality of mental health services and prevent suicides more broadly. The funding will be delivered through the Stronger Communities grant process and was launched in January 2019. Due to the success of the Stronger Communities programme to deliver this STP grant we will also be managing the Darlington grant funding on behalf of the STP. Organisations will be able to bid for between £500 and £5,000 for funding up to the end of March 2019 and will focus on the development of a range of targeted interventions in order to strengthen and build resilience and make a positive contribution to one, or more, of the following:

- Reducing stigma and discrimination
- Developing mentally healthy communities and workplaces
- Reducing loneliness and social and emotional isolation
- Reducing suicides

STP funding has also been secured to develop further Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and SafeTalk training in the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG area.

Stop Smoking Service

Smoking still kills and remains the number one cause of **preventable** death and related illness in North Yorkshire. Smoking is harmful to health, not just to the individual but of those around them, including babies and children. Stopping smoking is the strongest action we can take to improve the health of our population.

Providing support for smokers to quit is highly cost effective and the evidence is clear that smokers who receive a combination of pharmacotherapy and skilled behavioural support are up to four times as likely to quit successfully. On the 1st April NYCC will become the provider of the Specialist Stop Smoking Service integrated with the services offered through primary care. The rationale for this, is that NYCC will be a 'system integrator' for smoking cessation services. NYCC will also be a specialist provider of service as part of an integrated model with primary care. NYCC as a system integrator will coordinate the work of the specialist service with partners such as NHS Trusts and other specialist providers (e.g. mental health, substance misuse, midwifery services etc.). Having the service 'in house' allows NYCC to direct and shape the service without negotiating with a third party.

Bring Me Sunshine – Living Well with Dementia

Since the launch of the 'Bring Me Sunshine – Living Well With Dementia' Strategy, partners have been working together in localities to implement the four principles and five priorities of the strategy. The key achievements have been driven by the passion and commitment of local individuals, partners and organisations working together to improve outcomes for people living with Dementia and their carers.

This year has seen the enhancement of 14 local Dementia Action Alliance / Dementia Friendly Community groups that have been raising awareness of dementia and reduce stigma, improving accessibility of communities and reducing social isolation and loneliness across North Yorkshire.

Examples include:

- Creating Dementia Friends and Dementia Friend Champions
- working with schools to create a Dementia Friendly Generation
- Launching a Dementia Friendly railway
- Dementia Friendly Activities including cinema, theatre, walks and movement session
- Working to improve diagnosis rates and pathways
- Changes to the blue badge criteria

Community based wellbeing, prevention and mental health support

During 2018, 13 new locality-based contracts were procured and commenced on the 1st October 2018

- The wellbeing and prevention contracts form part of the Councils' overall investment into targeted prevention, which aims to support people who may be at risk to help them avoid developing problems or having problems escalating, resulting in a need for long-term support from statutory social care and health services.
- Support provided will have a focus on older people and people with physical disabilities and will be focused on the following: information and advice, social inclusion and social activities (including befriending), and low level practical support to help people stay independent in their own homes.
- Contracts have been awarded to: Age UK North Yorkshire and Darlington (working in partnership with Age UK North Craven) for Craven, Hambleton and Richmondshire districts; Harrogate CVS for Harrogate District, Scarborough and Ryedale Carers Resource for Scarborough and Ryedale Districts, and Selby District Age UK for Selby District.
- The community based mental health contracts are for the provision of preventative community-based support to help people avoid developing mental health issues and prevent the escalation of need in those who have existing mental health issues. Engagement and consultation with stakeholders, including service users and carers, indicated that this type of support was seen as highly beneficial and complementary to other services, including statutory mental health services.
- The new contracts are for delivery of support based on a 'hub and spoke' model to enable people to be able to access support close to where they live. The types of support provided by the contracts include: information and advice, brief practical interventions (for example support with finances, housing or employment), social networks and peer support, and self care and life skills support.

Contracts have been awarded to: Harrogate Mind for Harrogate district, Darlington Mind for Hambleton and Richmondshire districts, Scarborough Survivors for Scarborough district, Next Steps for Ryedale District, Pioneer Projects for Craven district and Horton Housing for Selby district. The re-configuration of investment means that there is now new funds in voluntary sector community based mental health support for Craven and Selby districts.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**20 FEBRUARY 2019****STATEMENT OF THE OPEN TO BUSINESS PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANDREW LEE (INCLUDING GROWTH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, WASTE MANAGEMENT, TRADING STANDARDS AND BUSINESS RELATIONS)****Economic Development**

The York, North Yorkshire & East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) remains on track to fully deliver its Growth Deal. A priority at the moment is negotiating the agreed merge with Leeds City Region to create a single LEP covering North & West Yorkshire. This new LEP will be responsible for developing the Local Industrial Strategy and ensuring our rural, coastal and towns continue to receive significant investment in the future

Resources and Waste Strategy

The government published their Resources and Waste Strategy on 18 December 2018. The strategy will see a fundamental change in the way waste is managed in the future. The polluter pays principle is at the heart of the document, in a move that will see businesses and manufacturers taking on more responsibility to manage the waste arising from the goods they produce. Plastics waste features large in the strategy with measures to reduce single use plastics and incentivise more plastic recycling. Plans for separate collection of food waste from households are also outlined within the Government's strategy.

There will be implications for all Councils and our officers will be ensuring that we are in the best position to maximise benefits and mitigate risks from future changes. A series of consultations is expected in the next few months to guide what the future will look like in practice, and we will be providing responses where appropriate. We will also be lobbying government through relevant professional associations to achieve the best possible outcomes for the public sector.

We do not know what it will mean for us but we can be confident in our ability to respond. Allerton Waste Recovery Park has the flexibility to deal with varying amounts and types of waste, and already provides the technology to process separately collected food waste.

Trading Standards

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Team (MAST), hosted at Trading Standards, had an exceptionally busy and successful end to the year in 2018. Between August and December, they convicted a total of seventeen offenders for frauds against vulnerable and elderly victims. The convictions related to four separate conspiracy to defraud investigations.

The first, Operation Honeybee, in August, saw three males convicted of defrauding 27 victims across the country for roofing works and other property repairs. They were sentenced to a total of 11 and a half years imprisonment.

The second, Operation Vole, at the end of October, saw two males convicted of defrauding three victims for property repair works. This included an 80 year old vulnerable female from Filey defrauded of a total of £94,500 over a nine month period. They were sentenced to a total of seven and a half years imprisonment.

The third, Operation Kudu, in November / December, saw a three week trial for a tarmac gang from Darlington and York, convicted of defrauding 12 residents across North Yorkshire, East Riding and the North East for tarmac works conducted at their properties. The four males were sentenced to a total of 14 years imprisonment.

The final case, Operation Tapir, saw eight males convicted of conspiracy to defraud, money laundering and forgery offences in relation to roofing works conducted at the homes of five elderly and vulnerable males. This included an 89 yr old from Middleton Tyas, driven three times by the offenders to banks in Darlington to make bank transfers totalling £17,000. Six of the males were sentenced to a total of 18 years imprisonment in December. The sentencing results achieved a total of 51 yrs imprisonment in five months and brings the total achievements of the MAST to 84 yrs 8 months imprisonment since it began in April 2015.

eCrime

The Consumer Rights Act 2015 (CRA) was implemented following concerns by parliament regarding the online resale of tickets to sporting, recreational and cultural events and the information consumers were receiving during such sales. The CRA places a duty on an individual who re-sells a ticket for a recreational sporting or cultural event through a secondary ticketing facility, and on the operator of the secondary ticketing facility itself, to provide the following information to the buyer before the buyer concludes the purchase;

- The face value of the ticket
- The seat/row/block the ticket is for (if it is a seated ticket)
- Any restrictions on the use of the ticket

Where an enforcement authority is satisfied on the balance of probabilities that a person has breached this duty, the authority may impose a financial penalty on the person in respect of that breach. The amount of financial penalty to be imposed “may be such as the enforcement authority imposing it determines” but must not exceed £5,000.

The Department for Businesses, Energy and Industrial Strategy provided funding to the National Trading Standards (NTS) eCrime team which is hosted by North Yorkshire County Council and the City of York Council to undertake enforcement work and test out the legislation. In April 2018, the County Council Executive signed off a policy on the enforcement of the secondary ticketing provisions, which allowed enforcement work to be undertaken by trading standards, as the NTS eCrime team.

The NTS eCrime team have since issued 12 monetary penalties, each of £5,000 against businesses which had re-sold tickets without the information required by the CRA. Two of the penalties have been paid, and the remaining 10 penalties have been appealed to the First Tier Tribunal.

Planning Services

Following the Examination Hearing Sessions into the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan in February-April 2018, the Inspector decided that two additional Hearing Sessions should happen to discuss further matters relating to fracking and potash safeguarding. These took place on 24 and 25 January 2019 and the Inspector requested further information be provided by the Authorities and Industry. Additional information is in the process of being supplied and an updated Schedule of Main Modifications is being produced. It is expected that the consultation on the Main Modification will take place later this spring.

ANDREW LEE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**20th February 2019****STATEMENT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER -
LIBRARY, CUSTOMER AND COMMUNITY SERVICES****COUNTY COUNCILLOR GREG WHITE****Library and Information Service****Reading Pictures: Seeing Stories in North Yorkshire Libraries**

I am pleased to say that the Reading Pictures: Seeing Stories festival was successful with 14 events held across libraries in North Yorkshire; 186 children took part; with the number of new 0-19s registering up by 15%. This festival was a regional library initiative celebrating children's book illustration, comic and digital art in a series of events and workshops.

ECode

ECODE (2018/19). Funded from the Essential Life Skills Fund (£38k) and Wellcome Trust (£5k). Working with NPO Invisible Dust, the project aims to support young people to become more confident by developing creative, digital and communication skills; raise aspirations to broaden career prospects; support STEAM learning and develop transferrable skills. The project creates opportunities to engage with professional artists using innovative technology, introduces young people to a range of scientists and conservationists and is providing volunteering opportunities.

Young people from schools across Scarborough will be working on three projects with professional artists and have already embarked on the first aspect of the project with a visit to the local beach and follow up coding work on their recordings with renowned sound artist Rob Mackay. The work of the project will be highlighted to a wider audience at this summer's Scarborough Seafest, the NYCC Youth Voice Conference and at events in the library during British Science week in March

Community Library Update

Members will be pleased to hear that our community-managed libraries continue to be successful, opening hours are increased and the events and activities held are proving popular. The Service Agreement review meetings have been completed and we are looking forward to their working on new projects in the coming years. As part of our continued support for the volunteer groups a number of seminars have been held over the past 12 months, including library specific themes such as stock management and marketing as well as practical considerations with sessions on energy suppliers and GDPR. Colleagues within the Communications team and Stronger Communities have supported these sessions. Groups are currently signing up to seminars on running events delivered by members of the libraries team with considerable experience in event management. There is also an ongoing programme of visits to Library Headquarters for volunteers to spend time with the Bibliographic services team learning about the behind the scenes work necessary for the smooth running of the service and for volunteers to share their experience of the sharp end on delivery.

Together with the county Stronger Community team local network meetings are being developed to encourage sharing of best practice and problem solving.

I am also proud to share the news that the 3-D Printing Club held at The Globe @ Stokesley has reached the finals of the "Meet and Code" Awards, which means they in the final 15 of

500 projects that were entered. They are the only UK group to have reached the finals, and representatives from The Globe will be going to Frankfurt for the awards.

Virtual Reality

I am looking forward to attending North Yorkshire's first pop-up "Digital Makey" at Harrogate Library. VIRTUAL reality and digital arts will be among the futuristic and high-tech attractions at the event, on Saturday, 2 March. I would encourage members to drop in to the library during the day.

As well as offering local communities free access to technology, the Digital Makey workshop gives people the opportunity to socialise and learn. There will be all kinds of creative tech kit made available, including Virtual Reality Headsets, small programmable computers including Raspberry Pi and Micro:bits and robotic Lego.

The Digital Makey event takes place at Harrogate Library on Victoria Avenue between 10.30am and 3.30pm. It is free to attend, but some activities, including using the Virtual Reality headsets, should be booked in advance.

Brew Monday

Blue Monday is the third Monday in January, which is known as one of the most difficult days of the year due to a combination of post-Christmas blues, cold dark nights and the arrival of credit card bills. Northallerton library hosted a community drop-in turning Blue Monday into Brew Monday, promoting services offered by the Samaritans, as well as offering an opportunity to help to beat the January blues by getting together with friends, family or colleagues over a brew.

North Yorkshire's libraries also support mental health self-care with a range of self-help guides. Books from the Reading Well collections for mental health, dementia and long-term conditions and also a Shelf-help range for teenagers are available free via all libraries.

Members will also remember the launch of the Well-being Bag project from last time, I am pleased to announce that these are extremely popular and the service is looking to increase the number available in the near future.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Libraries elsewhere across North Yorkshire will joined in the commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day with displays of posters, educational materials, leaflets and books.

Pickering library hosted an event to mark the approach of Holocaust Memorial Day on Sunday, 27 January, the date in 1944 of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau by the Soviet armies, with visitors participating in a live webcast by the Holocaust Education Trust.

New limited edition Library Cards

North Yorkshire libraries are offering new members colourful reminders of this year's glorious summer to help to banish the winter chill. Photographers from across the county were invited to capture the beauty and diversity of a North Yorkshire summer in a competition organised by the county council's library service. Six winners were chosen, after long deliberation, from 350 images submitted by more than 100 people covering all aspects of the county, from coast to moors, rolling farmland, dramatic landscapes, historic towns and villages, wildlife and nature. These limited edition cards were launched in December and an exhibition of the winning photos will be touring libraries.

Blue Badge applications

January saw the roll out of the new on-line application procedure for Blue Badges. For those requiring assistance our main libraries are offering appointments.

Archives

The Record Office continues to offer its conservation service commercially and has been awarded a contract from Network Rail for the cleaning and conservation of over 900 historic plans of railway structures, including St Pancras station and the iconic Forth Bridge. The contract is to be completed over the coming year.

The Record Office is to appoint to a new post of graduate trainee archivist. This is a great opportunity for a graduate to receive training in all aspects of archival work, whilst at the same time benefiting from the Council's graduate development programme. It will increase the service's capacity to open up access to the archives through cataloguing, outreach and audience development work and allow the post holder to contribute to the future direction of the service.

Coroners

The current Senior Coroner for the Eastern area (Scarborough, Ryedale and Hambleton) of North Yorkshire, Mr Michael Oakley, will retire on the 31st March. Mr Oakley has been a Coroner for 40 years and has given long and honourable service to many thousands of bereaved families. I wish to acknowledge that and to thank him on behalf of the County Council for all that he has done.

Mr Robert Turnbull, currently the Senior Coroner for the Western area will assume the role of Eastern Senior Coroner in addition to his current appointment.

The Executive has also agreed that that detailed discussions should be opened with the City of York to ascertain whether a merger of the York and North Yorkshire areas is both feasible and desirable. Such a merger would be in line with the Chief Coroner's strategic aim of amalgamating smaller Coroners areas into one larger area

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

20 February 2019

COUNTY COUNCILLOR GARETH DADD

Budget / Medium Term Financial Strategy

As the Leader has already indicated, one of the key items for County Council today is the budget for 2019/20 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy which runs up to 2021/22. I do not propose to go through the detail of that budget in this statement but wanted to flag a number of related issues for Members attention.

Following this years budget local government will face some very significant changes to the way in which it is funded. We are eagerly awaiting a new Spending Review which will set out the quantum of funding for councils; the new formula for funding in line with the Fairer Funding Review is due to be implemented; and councils are set to retain a greater share of business rates as part of their core funding. All of this means that there are lots of external factors which are unknown but that is why it is even more important that we remain focussed on delivering a sound financial plan in the medium term.

As you would expect the Leader, myself and relevant officers are all making strong representations to the Government to ensure that the voice of rural councils like North Yorkshire receive a better deal.

Members will have noted that much greater effort has been given this year to consulting the public on the budget and where our priorities should be. The output is shared with Members in the budget papers but the response has been much greater than in previous years and we are keen to continue with that approach. A number of budget briefings were also provided at Constituency Area Committees and both the Leader and I attended those sessions and found them extremely helpful. All Members have been provided with the document that was used as the basis of the budget consultation – “Your Services, Your Say”. Feedback thus far has been positive but please let me know if you have further ideas as to how we engage with members of the public.

Property

Members will recollect that approval was previously given to carry out some significant changes to the County Hall campus. The aim is to make more efficient use of County Hall and to ultimately demolish the East Block which is beyond its economic life.

The construction works are currently being tendered. Following the appointment of a contractor detailed work will be undertaken to agree the arrangements for the safe delivery of works. Work is expected to commence in the summer and completion of the Brierley Building is expected to take 12 months.

Detailed plans are being finalised for the arrangements for staff and Members during the period of the works and will be being communicated once they are approved.

Commercial Investments

I am pleased to report that the County Council has now secured its 3rd commercial property investment. The Council has now acquired properties worth over £11m which delivers just over £600k of rent per annum. This return is significantly in excess of what the Council would earn from simply investing cash and the additional revenue therefore plays a welcome role in funding the essential frontline delivery.

I can assure Members that our investments are not funded by borrowing and you may find it interesting to note that the largest acquisition at just over £9m was the Royal Baths in Harrogate.

School Resource Management Advisor Contract

North Yorkshire County Council is one of only 9 organisations nationally to be awarded the accredited School Resource Management Advisor contract from the Department for Education. This sees the Council working with schools using integrated curriculum and financial planning to achieve value for money from their ever tightening resources. The award of the contract recognises the quality financial service that the County Council provides to schools and academies and should prove to be helpful in attracting further business opportunities.

GARETH DADD

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

20 FEBRUARY 2019

STATEMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER

Looked after Children and Care Leavers Strategy Launch Events

In December four locality based events were hosted with the seven District Councils to formally launch the Looked after Children and Care Leavers Strategy. These multi-agency events included presentations from the Districts, Young People's Council, Virtual School as well as Children and Families staff and included an audience of professionals, carers, and young people. Work is continuing within localities to ensure the promises committed to in the document are enacted locally. Our thanks to district colleagues for hosting these hugely successful evenings. The first of these has seen the Scarborough Borough Council launch their leisure passes for looked after children and care leavers.

Medium Term Financial Strategy & 2020 North Yorkshire – Feb 2018

High Needs financial pressures have continued to present a financial challenge to the Directorate. This has been a national trend stemming from the unfunded increase in the number of children assessed as requiring EHCPs following the implementation of SEND legislative reforms in 2014. The Directorate has taken proportionate measures to address the cost pressures and, following consultation, a number of projects will now be implemented including the transformation of the Pupil Referral Service across the county to deal with the impact of rising permanent and fixed-term exclusions.

Despite the December announcement of an additional £2.5m from the Department for Education (£1.25m in 2018/19 and £1.25m in 2019/20), the scale and pace of the financial pressure exceeds this allocation and we will continue to lobby the Department for additional recurring funding.

Linked with the SEN trends and numbers of pupils assessed as having additional needs, the SEN Transport budget remains under similar, significant financial pressure and we continue to ensure that transport provision is arranged efficiently and economically.

Innovation remains a key part of the Directorate's strategy to reshape provision and provide value for money. As part of the Government's announcement that North Yorkshire will roll out the successful No Wrong Door model, the Directorate has been in discussion with the Department for Education in developing proposals for the deployment of a share of the £84m announced.

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.

Secure Home Bid

You will recall from my Statement in November that we were encouraged by the DFE to put forward a bid to fund a scoping exercise for developing and running a Secure Children's Home. We were one of only three successful bids and were awarded a grant of circa £100k in October 2018 to further develop a feasibility study proposal for the development of a Secure Children's Home.

Detailed work has progressed on the development of a delivery model, which combines the core principles and ethos of the successful No Wrong Door approach, with a service model

which incorporates both a secure children's home and a secure school (separate initiative led by the MOJ). We have worked closely with the DfE to understand their expectations of this stage of the process and understand that we have progressed significantly with our project, in comparison to other successful bidders. Our proposal activity remains on target to meet the deadline of 31 March set by the DfE: our understanding following submission is that the DfE will commission further funded work (where proposals are deemed acceptable) and subject to agreement we will move into a more detailed planning phase.

Children & Families Performance

Despite facing continuing high demand, our Children & Families Service continues to deliver outstanding services to vulnerable children, and their families, across North Yorkshire. During the nine months from 1 April to 31 December 2018, the service received a total of 17,804 contacts (up by more than 2,000 compared to the same period in 2016 – equivalent to approximately a month's worth of contacts). This sustained increase in demand is reflected in the number of referrals being made to Children's Social Care each quarter increasing from 854 in Quarter 3 2016/17 to 1,061 in Quarter 2 2018/19 and 1,033 in Quarter 3. The service is currently investigating ways to reduce the number of potentially inappropriate contacts and improve the experience of contacts that have been resolved through the provision of information and advice.

The importance of children, young people and their families receiving the support they need in a timely manner is a key priority. During Quarter 3, 97.5% of Children & Families assessments were completed within 45 working days, exceeding any previous performance. New practice guidance has also recently been introduced to ensure the timely completion of assessments. Since the introduction of this, we have seen the proportion of assessments completed within 30 working days almost double from 35% in Quarter 1 to 68.1%.

The high demand continues to be reflected in the number of children in our care. At the end of Quarter 3 there were 430 children in care, excluding 25 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children. Whilst this does show a further slight increase on last Quarter, North Yorkshire does continue to remain in a comparatively strong position at a time when the number of children in care nationally is at a 10 year high.

North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board Update

Following The Wood Review (2015) and the subsequent government guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)' there is a requirement for all local areas to review their multi agency safeguarding arrangements (MASA) and publish their arrangements by June 2019 and implemented by September 2019.

The new MASA will operate in accordance with the requirements set out in "Working Together" and will continue to cover the county of North Yorkshire. The three local safeguarding partners, North Yorkshire County Council, North Yorkshire Police and Clinical Commissioning Group, will become the three statutory partners and will set out how they will work with other relevant agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the County. Work is being undertaken to review the NYSCB current arrangements and establish the new proposed structures with consultation with partners.

Janet Sanderson

Executive Member for Children's Services and Special Educational Needs

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**20 FEBRUARY 2019****STATEMENT OF EDUCATION & SKILLS PORTFOLIO HOLDER****School funding**

From April 2019, we will continue to operate a 'soft' funding formula which moves the county towards the national funding formula. All schools in North Yorkshire will receive the minimum per pupil level of funding (£4,800 for secondary schools and £3,500 for primary schools). Given pressures on high needs, there will be a transfer from schools block to high needs block (although we are waiting for conformation from Secretary of State to the agreed amount). The local authority fully understands that schools in North Yorkshire continue to see budget pressures and this transfer is a measured approach to ensure that available funding is targeted to support those pupils with additional needs.

Concerns remain over funding for small, rural schools – secondary schools, in particular, and we continue to lobby central government to ensure that schools in North Yorkshire receive a fair funding deal. The national funding formula does not yet deliver. However, we continue to work with schools to mitigate the financial pressures and we continue efforts to lobby central government to ensure that schools in North Yorkshire receive a fair funding deal.

The local authority has worked with a number of schools in, or projecting, financial deficit to support school leaders to deliver a good quality, financially sustainable education to children and young people. Work will continue with individual schools to ensure that they are able to deploy their resources efficiently.

Educational Standards

At Key Stage 4 (GCSE) North Yorkshire is above all benchmarks for every indicator and performance is in the top 25% of all local authorities nationally. Performance is also very strong at Key Stage 5 (A-level) with North Yorkshire in the top 20% for students achieving at least two A's and a B. Despite improvement, the percentage of children achieving the expected level or above in reading, writing and maths combined at Key Stage 2 remains an ongoing challenge. Whilst performance is similar to the region, it is below national and statistical neighbour benchmarks. For individual subjects, reading and writing are actually in line with national, but maths is significantly behind which is impacting on overall performance.

There are a number of long standing performance challenges around children eligible for free school meals (FSM). In terms of attainment, despite some improvements FSM-eligible children remain below the national benchmark. This cohort are also above national benchmarks for school absence and are over-represented in terms of exclusions.

School Ofsted inspections

There were 21 school inspections in Q3: 15 judged good; 4 judged requires improvement; and 2 judged inadequate. The percentage of pupils attending a good or outstanding school continues to be high and is above national at secondary, but below national at primary. At a district level the percentage of children attending a good or outstanding school at both primary and secondary in Scarborough (71.5% primary and 57.9% secondary) and secondary in Hambleton (24.6%) are significantly lower than North Yorkshire overall.

Percentage of pupils attending a good or outstanding school (end of Q3 2018/19)		
	Primary	Secondary
National	88.9%	83%
North Yorkshire	86.1%	86.3%
Craven	79.8%	92.7%
Hambleton	88.9%	24.6%
Harrogate	89.3%	100.0%
Richmondshire	78.1%	100.0%
Ryedale	87.6%	100.0%
Scarborough	71.5%	57.9%
Selby	94.0%	90.1%

There are currently 35 schools judged requires improvement and 14 judged inadequate. At primary 31.7% of these schools are either academy status or are due to convert in the near future, whilst at secondary this figure is 75%. The Council continue to support Local Authority Maintained schools to implement the necessary improvements. The Regional Schools Commissioner is responsible for taking action where academies are underperforming.

Academy Conversions

There has been 1 primary academy conversion in Q3 and no secondary conversions. There are currently 17 schools that have either been issued with an Academy Order, or an Academy Order is pending, and are in the pipeline to convert. Furthermore, there are 8 additional schools anticipated to convert in 2019 and become part of the St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Academy Trust.

Beyond the expected conversions (forced and voluntary) during 2019 the pipeline appears to be slowing. It is thought that the increased number of schools forecasting financial deficits contributes to fewer conversions given the need to pass financial due-diligence. It is a reasonable assumption, based on current knowledge, that there will be fewer conversions from 2020.

Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 0-25

Work is progressing to implement the action in the Strategic Plan. This includes:

- Development of a directory of continuous professional development opportunities for professionals working in the area of SEND
- Discussions with existing enhanced mainstream schools about taking forward the new model of targeted provision
- Working alongside Headteachers to develop the future model of alternative provision, proposals for budget modelling for the Pupil Referral Service/alternative provision having been approved by the Executive on 15 January
- Consultation on proposals for years 2 and 3 of the Special Provision Capital Funding which are for work at Brooklands Community Special School and the proposed Mowbray satellite provision.

We expect to hear the outcome of the bid for a special free school in Selby in the near future.

North Yorkshire Coast Opportunities Area

The North Yorkshire Coast Opportunity Area Programme is focussed on improving social mobility in Scarborough, Whitby and Filey. The programme's delivery plan was published in October 2017 and there are a variety of initiatives to boost help improve early years provision, as well as outcomes in numeracy and literacy. This has included the launch of a Literacy Hub with the

National Literacy Trust, expert support to recruit to more than 40 teaching posts in schools and investment of more than £800k in regular, additional extra-curricular activities. In March 2019, the first Maths Month will be launched across the borough of Scarborough to provide engaging and free events to support improved engagement with maths as an important life skill.

School Organisation

At a meeting on 21 January the Governing Board of the BAWB Federation (Bainbridge, Askrigg and West Burton Schools) confirmed their refusal of the request that West Burton School be allowed to leave the federation.

The proposal for the amalgamation of Moorside Infant and Junior Schools, and the establishment of satellite provision for Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant site, are both due to be determined by the Executive Member for Schools on 19 February 2019.

The consultation on a proposal to close Arkengarthdale School at the end of the current academic year is underway and runs until 15 March with Executive due to consider the consultation responses on 16 April. The consultation on a proposal to close Clapham School at the end of the current academic year opened on 14 February and runs until 4 April. Executive are due to consider the consultation responses on 16 April.

School Capital projects:

Significant capital projects are either underway or recently completed at a number of North Yorkshire schools and delivered from the School's Capital Programme and the Basic Need Programme. Examples are:

- Barwic Parade CP School, Selby – hall extension and related improvements
- Graham School, Scarborough - new two storey teaching block
- King James's School, Knaresborough – new 6th form centre including demolition of existing provision.
- Selby Community Primary School – provision of a new foundation stage unit
- St Mary's RC Primary School, Malton – expansion to provide additional places

Cllr Patrick Mulligan
Executive Member for Education and Skills

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**20 FEBRUARY 2019****STATEMENT OF THE ACCESS PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR
DON MACKENZIE (INCLUDING HIGHWAYS, ROAD AND RAIL TRANSPORT,
BROADBAND, MOBILE TELEPHONY)****Funding for Highway Maintenance**

In October last year we received notice that the Department for Transport had allocated to the County Council an additional £13.1m of new money to be used during the current financial year for local highway maintenance.

At a recent meeting of the BES Corporate Director and BES Executive Members, approval was given to spend this extra money in a variety of ways, including on LED street lights, surface dressing chippings, recycling sites for tar-based materials, additional salt storage facilities, and general road repair and signals upgrades.

Accelerated LED Installations

Our programme to convert over 44,000 incandescent street lights to efficient LED technology is proceeding on schedule. It is expected that the work completed to-date will deliver annual savings in energy costs of £480,000 with an associated reduction in carbon emissions of 1600 tonnes.

This programme of work has been carried out efficiently and without inconvenience to the residents of North Yorkshire, and I extend my thanks to our street lighting team and to our contractor, Ringway.

Street Works Permit Scheme

This scheme for utility companies and their contractors commenced exactly a year ago. There is growing evidence that the need to apply and pay for a permit is effective in improving the way street works are carried out, leading to less disruption to the travelling public. Much more detailed information about roadworks is available now on our website by means of an interactive map and there has been a noticeable decline in complaints by members of the public since the permit scheme went live.

AppyParking, Harrogate

This App-based smart parking system, the first of its kind in the country, is now in use in Harrogate town centre streets and car parks. Over 2000 sensors installed on the road surface in on-street parking areas allow smart phone users to locate and pay for parking.

This pilot scheme is a partnership between NYCC and Harrogate Borough Council, VISA and AppyParking, and is part of a wider strategy to identify innovative ways to improve traffic flows in the town. This system can help users find a parking space more quickly, and offers a cash-free payment method for the convenience of visitors.

The trial will last for up to 18 months during which time the performance of the system will be carefully monitored. Data gathered via the sensors will provide valuable information which can be used to tailor parking provision to meet the needs of users whilst achieving traffic management benefits.

Harrogate Congestion Study

At its meeting on 15 January, the Executive agreed to support a wide public consultation on two packages of measures shortlisted as part of the Harrogate Congestion Study. Officers are working with consultants WSP to finalise details. The consultation is expected to start next month, and will run for 10 weeks.

Bus operator John Smith and Son Ltd

On the morning of 17 January Thirsk-based bus operator John Smith and Son Ltd informed our passenger transport team that it was terminating its 14 home-to-school and one local bus service contracts with immediate effect. Yet again, the passenger transport was faced with the challenge of setting up alternative arrangements so that no pupil would be without transport at the end of that school day. I pay tribute once more to the team's remarkable efforts as they rose to that challenge.

These emergency alternative arrangements will be in place until the end of this week. Longer term contracts will run from the beginning of the new half term. The local bus service 150 between Thirsk and Ripon has been picked up by the County Council's own fleet team with minor changes.

Scarborough Park & Ride

A consultation on options to reduce or withdraw the two Park & Ride services in Scarborough is currently underway and will last for a total of 12 weeks.

These services were introduced in February 2009 at sites on the A64 and A165 on the outskirts of town. The service is currently available seven days a week all year round with buses every 15 minutes. Demand has reduced by half in recent years and it is now appropriate to review the service provision to ensure that it offers good value for money.

English National Concessionary Travel Scheme – New Scheme

The council has been responsible for administering concessionary travel since April 2011. The current scheme, led by NYCC and delivered jointly with City of York Council, ends on 31 March. A new scheme will come into effect from 1 April and will continue to provide enhanced eligibility to include disabled persons and companion passes.

The updated scheme introduces revised reimbursement rates for bus operators. Our budget for concessionary travel in the current year is £7.9m.

Broadband and Mobile Telephony

Phase 3 of the SFNY project is well underway. Initially valued at £20.5m this latest phase of superfast broadband expansion will benefit 14,239 properties, most with top-of-the-range Fibre to the Premise technology. NYCC has secured additional funding for up to a further 11,000 connections, which will ensure that almost 98% of all business and domestic properties in the county will have access to a high quality service.

At the same time, mobile phone reception will be boosted further this year following the award by NYCC of a £1m contract to build four masts in areas with poor mobile phone signal. The work will be finished by early 2020 and many more residents and businesses will be able to benefit from 4G coverage.

DON MACKENZIE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
20 February 2019
SCRUTINY BOARD – STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

Members will be aware that Scrutiny Board brings together the Chairs of the five thematic overview and scrutiny committees at the Council and the Older Peoples' and Young People's Champions. It provides an opportunity for a whole council view of scrutiny activity, which avoids gaps and overlaps and helps establish a lead committee for areas of joint interest. It also provides a forum in which the key performance issues for the Council can be reviewed and items for further scrutiny identified.

The planned meeting of Scrutiny Board on 23 November 2019 was cancelled due to clashes with other meetings.

In lieu of meeting, a briefing on the Q2 report performance management report was circulated to members of Scrutiny Board. Members of Scrutiny Board attended the Executive Performance Monitoring meeting on 27 November 2018. The issues below were identified for follow up with the Executive:

- Why is the Care and Support Team based in the customer contact centre experiencing an increase in the number of contacts it handles?
- What more could be done to support the market for domiciliary care?
- What more can be done to ensure that placements for older people are at approved budget rates, particularly in Harrogate and Craven?
- What is behind the increase in demand for child protection services over the past 18 months?
- What work is being done by the Council with the 23.6% of North Yorkshire local authority maintained schools that are forecasting a deficit balance carry forward position to 2019/20?
- What more can be done to enable children, young people and young adults to access vocational education and training, as opposed to academic, classroom-based provision?

The next meeting of Scrutiny Board is on 14 February 2019. In addition to scrutinising council-wide performance and reviewing scrutiny practice, the meeting will review:

- Anticipated Government guidance on local authority overview and scrutiny
- The NHS 10 year plan
- How scrutiny work is co-ordinated with the 6 Area Constituency Committees.

Chairman
County Councillor Jim Clark
4 February 2019.

North Yorkshire County Council

20 February 2019

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

Chairman's Statement

1. Since the previous statement the Committee met on 24 January 2019.

Committee – 24 January 2019

York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership

2. The Committee received the annual update report on the performance of the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP Partnership and Members' were asked for their views on the proposed merger of the Leeds City Region LEP.
3. We noted that the merged LEP – which would be the largest in the country geographically and economically – could give North Yorkshire much more weight at the regional and national level. However in order for that to happen the new LEP's governance model and structure must take into account North Yorkshire's priorities. Both YNYER LEP and Leeds City Region LEP have good working practices and a diverse skills set that could be pulled together allowing each to learn from the other be it about rural or urban policy.

Update report from Adult Learning and Skills Service on progress since the last Ofsted Inspection

4. The Committee received an update report from the Adult Learning and Skills Service (ALSS). A return Ofsted inspection is expected any day now. We were pleased to hear that the service is a very different one to the one that was inspected in June 2017. However it was acknowledged at the meeting that there remains much work to improve the quality of provision and the key is going to be whether the progress that has been made will be enough to move the service to a 'good' rating at the next inspection.
5. County Councillor Caroline Patmore has been nominated by the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the ALSS governance group, which has been set up to drive forward service improvements in the longer term.

Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) – protocol to allow parishes to buy and maintain temporary VAS

6. The Committee received a verbal update on progress. Traffic Engineering Officers are currently speaking with potential suppliers and are in the process of finalising the protocol to allow parishes to purchase temporary VAS.
7. The protocol will include matters such as site assessment, the supplier/s to be used, site preparation, safety management, installation and maintenance. As part

of the protocol a legal agreement will be put in place with parish councils taking part in the scheme. This will cover aspects such as funding, the deployment and rotation of the signs between specified sites within a parish, safety management, risk assessment and insurance. The scheme is still on course to be operational by 1 April 2019. To date NYCC Highways have been contacted by up to 40 parishes interested in the scheme.

County Council Motion – 14 November 2018 relating to the use of plastics

- 8. The Motion asked the Committee to set up a task group or join with other local environmental group initiatives and businesses to create a robust strategy to encourage local businesses, other organisations and residents to go single use plastic free.
- 9. There will be a lot happening at national government level regarding tackling the production and disposal of single use plastics in the coming months and years. Specifically, the Government launched its Resources and Waste Strategy in December 2018 and shortly will be carrying out an 8 or 12 week consultation on ways to implement the measures set out in the strategy. The strategy includes measures to reduce single use plastics including extended producer responsibility, taxing plastic production and requiring collections from businesses as well as households.
- 10. The Committee will respond to the government’s consultation either at its next committee meeting in April or at its mid cycle briefing meeting in March depending upon whether the consultation is eight or 12 weeks in length. Following this the Committee will then set up a task group later in the year once the detail of the government’s proposals is known.

Committee – 17 April 2019

- 11. The following items are planned to be brought to the next committee meeting on 17 April 2019:

SEND Home to School Transport	Update report relating to the impact of the implementation of the SEND Home to School Transport policy changes in 2018, in particular the removal of the free transport statement for SEND post 16 to 18 students with an EHCP
Scarborough Park and Ride	Consultation of options to change the level of service provision of Park and Ride in Scarborough.
Mobile phone coverage project	To report the outcome of the tender and the locations where the phone masts will be built
Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Update on the implementation of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy including flood risk/coastal erosion alleviation measures put in place/scheduled to be put in place; funding; issues.

Other future planned work: 20 mph speed limit task group review

20 mph speed limits

12. The Committee agreed at its meeting on 12 July 2018 to convene a task group to review the County Council's current 20 mph Speed Limit Policy, once the National Research project by the DfT examining 20 mph speed limits had been published. The national report has now been published.
13. Group Spokespersons will discuss the timescales and scope of the review at the mid cycle briefing meeting on 7 March 2019. The Committee will then be asked to approve the scope of the review at its meeting on 17 April 2019.

County Councillor Stanley Lumley Chairman

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

7 February 2019

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
20 February 2019

SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE – STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

Since my last statement to Council, the Scrutiny of Health Committee formally met on 14 December 2018 and held a Mid Cycle Briefing on 1 February 2019.

Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion was put to Council on 14 November 2018 by Councillor John Blackie seconded by Councillor Stuart Parsons. The first element, the changes to the way in which the eligibility criteria for the Patient Transport Service are applied, was reviewed at the Scrutiny of Health Committee meeting on 14 December 2018. The second element, the long term sustainability of small and community hospitals in the county, was reviewed at the committee Mid Cycle Briefing on 1 February 2019.

Patient Transport Service

At the Scrutiny of Health Committee meeting on 14 December 2018, further detail was provided on the changes to the way in which the eligibility criteria for the Patient Transport Service were being applied. Members of the committee raised a number of concerns relating to: the impact of rurality, distances travelled and the limited access to public transport; the impact on people on low or fixed incomes, living in rural areas; the complexity of the existing appeals process; and the differences in the eligibility criteria between the Vale of York and the Scarborough and Ryedale CCGs and the Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby and the Harrogate and Rural District CCGs.

The Scrutiny of Health Committee made a number of resolutions for the CCGs to respond to, as summarised below:

1. The Clinical Commissioning Groups and Yorkshire Ambulance Service to provide data on:
 - the number of appeals (successful and unsuccessful) as a percentage of the overall number of journeys
 - the financial impact of the changes to the application of the eligibility criteria
 - the number of 'Did Not Attends' for medical appointments that can be linked to the changes in the application of the eligibility criteria.
2. The Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service to consider amending the assessment criteria to explicitly include as considerations:
 - the impact of rurality
 - the level of access to public transport
 - the distances that have to be travelled.
3. The Vale of York CCG and Scarborough and Ryedale CCG to consider amending their criteria so that patients undergoing Chemotherapy, Radiotherapy, Renal and Other Oncology are automatically entitled to patient transport services and do not need an assessment.
4. The appeals process to be simplified and better publicised.
5. The Council's Scrutiny of Health Committee to liaise with the Council's Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee over changes to adult social care transport charging that are currently being consulted upon.

6. Daniel Harry to draft a report that outlines the Scrutiny of Health Committee response to the Notice of Motion, based upon the discussions today, and circulate to the members of the committee for comment.
7. That an update on the impact of the changes to the way in which the eligibility criteria for the Patient Transport Service are applied is provided to the Scrutiny of Health committee meeting on 21 June 2019.

These were considered by the Executive on 29 January 2019. In addition to the above, Executive also made the following recommendations for Council to consider, that:

- All CCGs operate a consistent approach to the commissioning and operation of Patient Transport Services
- The fourth resolution should be strengthened to say 'The entire appeals policy and process should be simplified, made clearer and more transparent, and better publicised'.

Long term vision for small and community hospitals

At the Scrutiny of Health Committee Mid Cycle Briefing on 1 February 2019, local NHS commissioners and providers started a discussion about what the long term vision could be for small and community hospitals. There was general agreement that the current model of a large number of small units with in-patient beds is outdated and does not meet patient needs. Instead, new ways of working and planning health and social care services could be adopted that result in better outcomes for patients. This could include:

- Some outpatient appointments and reviews being conducted remotely through the use of telemedicine at the local GP surgery or another community venue
- Increased use of step up-step down units with linked community teams and supported housing
- Researching how the 'dementia village' model that is used in the Netherlands could be applied locally
- Community hubs, based upon defined localities, which combine GP surgeries, rehabilitation services, social care and some step up and step down beds.

These have been early discussions that will develop over time. It was reassuring to see that all present recognised that the existing health system needed to evolve to meet the changing needs of our population and to provide care as close to home as possible and only in a hospital setting when clinically needed.

Integrated Care Systems

The Integrated Care Systems for the North East and Cumbria and West Yorkshire and Harrogate are becoming more established and progressing their work to develop co-ordinated commissioning and service provision in their areas. Progress in the Humber Coast and Vale system appears not to be as far forward, as the other two areas. There remain concerns as to how these systems, which cover huge geographic areas and populations, can be made to work for North Yorkshire. I am hopeful, however, that we will be able to embed a North Yorkshire geography at the centre of these 3 systems.

Whitby Hospital

The Full Business Case for the development of services at the Whitby hospital site has been approved by the Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG Governing Body. The Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Property Services are now due to approve proposals at their respective Board meetings.

NHS East Coast Review

There is a review underway of the services that are provided at Scarborough Hospital. I have asked the Area Constituency Committees to engage in this process and a joint meeting of the Scarborough and Whitby and the Thirsk and Malton Area Constituency Committees will be held on 20 March 2019 in Whitby. They will report back any issues or immediate concern to the Scrutiny of Health Committee.

Friarage Hospital, Northallerton

A public consultation on proposals for changes to the way in which Emergency Medicine and Anaesthesia will be delivered at the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton is expected to take place after the local government elections in May 2019. There are concerns, however, that the ongoing shortages of key staff at the hospital and elsewhere in the Foundation Trust may mean that changes to services are required on patient safety grounds ahead of May.

Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

A one-off meeting of a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny committee to look at changes to mental health services in the greater Harrogate area has been convened to meet on 15 February 2019 by North Yorkshire County Council, City of York Council and Leeds City Council. This follows on from scrutiny of proposals at the Council's Scrutiny of Health committee meeting on 14 December 2018. Concerns raised then included:

- How the transition will be made between running down in-patient beds and building up community resources
- What the impact will be upon the Yorkshire Ambulance Service of longer journey times
- What the impact will be upon patients from Wetherby
- What the impact will be upon carers and loved ones who have to travel greater distances to visit people in in-patient care.

The outcome of the meeting will be referred back to the Scrutiny of Health Committee.

Scrutiny of Health Committee

The meeting of the committee on 15 March 2019 will be my last as Chairman. I will continue to be a member of the committee and I will also continue to follow developments in NHS services locally. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with committee members, commissioners and providers over the past 8 years and wish my successor every good fortune as they scrutinise the increasingly complex health situation in the county and region.

County Councillor Jim Clark
Chairman, Scrutiny of Health Committee
4 February 2019

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**20 February 2019****YOUNG PEOPLES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT****Elective Home Education**

1. The number of home-schooled children is believed to have risen by about 40% over three years. Around 48,000 children were being home-educated across the UK in 2016-2017, up from about 34,000 in 2014-15.
2. We reviewed what the CYPS directorate knows in terms of the prevalence and experience of North Yorkshire children of compulsory school age whose parents opt, as is their right in law, to educate their child at home instead of sending them to school. This is referred to as Elective Home Education (EHE).
3. Under section 7 of the Education Act of 1996, parents have a duty to ensure their children are educated. They are not required to teach the national curriculum, have any specific qualifications, register with a local authority, allow inspectors into their homes, or get approval for the sort of education provided at home.
4. Data is not collected centrally by the DfE and while local authorities keep a register of home-educated children, this only covers children who have been withdrawn from school. Children who are never put into school are currently not required to register.
5. We wanted reassurance that we are meeting all our obligations. Whilst Local Authorities have no statutory duties in relation to monitoring the quality of home education on a routine basis, we do have a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. We heard that systems are in place to ensure that when we are notified of the intention to Home Educate, the case is allocated to a Family Outreach Worker. An offer of a home visit is made to the family. But as it is not a statutory requirement, parents are not obligated to accept the offer of the visit.
6. If at any stage concerns are identified with regards to the child/young person's welfare, these are immediately discussed with the Team Leader for Case Work.
7. If any concerns are identified regarding the quality of the home education, the Prevention Service will notify the Education and Skills Service.
8. If the child is identified as having Special Educational Needs or a Disability (SEND), the Inclusive Education Service are notified and will be sent a record of the visit.

9. In terms of prevalence, we are broadly in line with other local authorities who have reported an average 20% year-on-year increase in the number of children and young people known to be home schooled over the previous 5 years. On 4 October 2018, we were aware of 607 children and young people being home schooled in North Yorkshire.
10. We were interested in understanding the underlying reasons for this growth. Many of us wondered whether a factor contributing to the increase in the home education population relates to some schools poorly advising families about EHE and encouraging action that was not always in the best interests of the child.
11. In order to test just this hypothesis, CYPS undertook to directly contact 262 families over the 2018 summer, asking them to respond to some questions, and inviting them to offer additional comment on their EHE experience.
12. Overall, as part of the survey, 121 families (46%) were contacted. Most said their choice was freely made, without pressures from schools.
13. Key themes from the survey in terms of what led parents/carers to educate their child(ren) at home include:
 - Increased levels of stress/anxiety when at school, associated with mental health deterioration often linked to bullying and/or peer group pressure.
 - An unaccommodating school 'culture' in relation to not meeting the specific needs of the 'individual' child, leading to increasing parental (and pupil) disillusionment with the mainstream education system. Autism is also a feature.
 - Communication breakdown between schools and parents also feature within the responses to the survey
 - Where parents do not feel listened to or confident in the school's ability to meet the particular special educational or health needs of the child, they sometimes feel as if removal from the school roll is their only option.
 - More considered views are evident that some parents are able to provide a more appropriate education for their child, outside of the mainstream school system.
14. The results of this survey are informing directorate action. For example, the directorate is looking at how it can most effectively reduce those situations where families feel they have not 'freely' chosen to EHE.
15. The committee was reassured that procedures are in place when we are notified of the intention to home educate, and the directorate is doing what it can to understand the reasons for the rise in the number of parents opting for EHE.
16. The committee will return to this topic later in the year.

CYPS Financial Pressures

17. In October last year it became clear that the authority was heading towards a projected overspend in Children and Young People's Services of over £10m. I am pleased that committee members had an opportunity not just to understand how this situation had come about, but also receive a clear articulation of what the risks are to children's services.
18. Like many authorities, NYCC is having to cope with a year-on-year rising rise in demand of eligible pupils requiring special educational needs support. Quite rightly, members focussed on our most significant financial pressure – that relating to SEN within the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). In 2018-19, the Directorate is projecting an underlying overspend of £5.7m which is offset, in part, by the application of £1.66m which was agreed with Schools Forum. But this transfer has not been adequate to counter new cost pressures arising out of the unprecedented increase in Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). In short, costs within the High Needs Block have continued to exceed the funding allocation.
19. Linked with this pressures arising from the increase in EHCPs, the local authority is also seeing financial pressure in SEN home to school transport budgets.
20. The committee believed it had received a reasonable, full and honest account of all the significant financial pressures the service is facing - not just those connected with having to find the necessary resources to meet special educational needs provision. Although satisfied that action is in place that will address this situation, the committee does not underestimate the scale of the task ahead to bring these budgets back into balance.
21. Since the recent adoption of the SEND Strategic Plan we had already planned to maintain a continuing interest in SEND. The evident budget risks associated with this service area vindicate that decision.

Looking ahead

22. Next meeting's agenda is a mixture of some themes previously worked on, and introduces topics hitherto not scrutinised:
 - A first look at the roles and duties of governing boards, and how we support and advise on the skills, knowledge and behaviours they need to be effective.
 - We'll continue our interest in early years by reviewing school readiness and the 30 Hours preschool programme.
 - An introduction into the local authority role in supporting underperforming schools, concentrating especially on what happens to schools which are rated 'inadequate' and in special measures.

23. Other topics in the pipeline include:

- Young People with additional needs transitioning to Adulthood.
- Healthy Child Programme.
- Disabled Children Service.
- Opportunities for Physical Activities and Physical Education in School and the community (including Disability and empowerment).

JANET JEFFERSON

Chairman, Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Hall,

NORTHALLERTON

7 February 2019

Background Documents - Nil.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**20 February 2019****CARE AND INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT****Client Contributions to Cost of Adult Social Care Services**

1. In my last statement I reported on initial proposals for charging for community-based services. Since then there has been a full consultation.
2. Once again, members acknowledged the financial pressures driving these proposals. But the people affected are some of the most vulnerable members of our communities; it is unsurprising, therefore, that opinion within the committee, on both changes, remained mixed.
3. Taking the proposals in turn.

Ensuring that the total cost of care and support is taken into account when determining the level of contributions paid by those people who use the service

4. At the moment, if a person needs to have two care workers at the same time on the same day, they are only charged for one. The proposal is to revise the charging policy to ensure that the client makes a contribution towards the cost of the whole package of care (including the second carer).
5. The expectation is that a small number of people may end up paying more. This whole exercise - including re-assessment of need - should give us further grounds for being confident that we are meeting people's needs in the best way we can - given current financial constraints. Some members repeated their discomfort with a situation where an individual who requires "two-handed" care will pay more because they have additional and/or complex needs. However, it was noted that the amount the person pays will continue to be calculated by completing the means tested financial assessment, taking into account an individual's income and expenditure accordingly.

Increasing the charge made to people who use the transport service, while confirming that NYCC will continue to pay most of the cost

6. The notion of a fairer and more efficient collection of charges for transport was supported. The committee considered that changes would be more palatable if there were to be a flat rate per journey and a weekly cap on the charge to any individual. To most members this seemed a fairer and less complex than schemes which, for

example, attempted to calculate cost per distance travelled. It is understood that rates of £7.50 per journey and a £40 weekly cap are under consideration in the Directorate. Nevertheless, whilst broadly supportive of the rationale behind the proposals on transport charges, the committee does wonder whether it will have a "chilling" effect on service users' inclination to participate in activities.

7. We found the consultation process to be thorough and well organised. The documentation was clear, easily understood and explained the proposals and their implications clearly.
8. Members expressed the view that consideration should be given, assuming either or both proposals go ahead, to some form of phased implementation.
9. The consultation ended on the 21 January 2019. I will be talking to the Directorate and to group spokesperson colleagues about what happens next, and how we might best assess the impact of these proposals should they be adopted.

Health and Adult Services Financial Pressures

10. When it was reported that Health and Adult Services was forecasting a projected overspend in Quarter 2 of 2018 of £3.5m, we sought a detailed explanation of the cause and possible implications.
11. The main area of overspend is within Care and Support, the service area which accounts for £124m of a net £155m directorate budget. An overspend in this area of £4.3m is being offset by underspends elsewhere in the Directorate. An effective action plan is now in place aimed at reducing the financial pressures, while continuing to look for other savings to support the Council's overall budget position.
12. The committee recognised that, despite all these pressures, the Directorate has already contributed significantly to the Council's savings requirement.
13. The committee believed it had received a reasonable, full and honest account of the financial pressures the service is facing, including a detailed and thorough explanation of how this situation had come about, and what the risks are to social care services and the council as a whole. We were satisfied that the right action is in place to address this situation.

Looking ahead

14. The joint members task group on Health and Social Care Integration is entering the key stage of its work - holding in depth conversations with representatives of key Clinical Commissioning Groups and NHS Trusts, based on submissions they have already made to us.

15. Also in the pipeline for the committee is:

- An understanding-building session on the importance, purpose and future of Respite.
- Support for Carers – in particular how we respond to pressures upon families
- How NYCC uses Assistive Technology to help people to live independently, manage or eliminate a wide range of risks to both themselves and their property, and helps deliver greater privacy or dignity.
- Take up of Direct Payments as a part of personal budgets - how NYCC is ensuring that Direct Payments enable more choice and control over the support people receive and how their social care needs are met.

JOHN ENNIS

Chairman, Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee

County Hall,

NORTHALLERTON

7 February 2019

Background Documents - Nil

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.

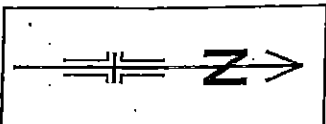
At our mid cycle briefing in January, we reviewed the Corporate Risk Register and received an update on Insurance claims, risk exposure and risk management. We were pleased to note that the lessons learnt from previously conceded insurance claims had assisted in the development of preventative systems.

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



Members
Car Parking

Visitors
Car Parking

Pond

Pond

**SOUTH SIDE
CAR PARK**

Fire Assembly
Point

MAIN
EVACUATION ROUTE

Council
Chamber

Fire Assembly
Point

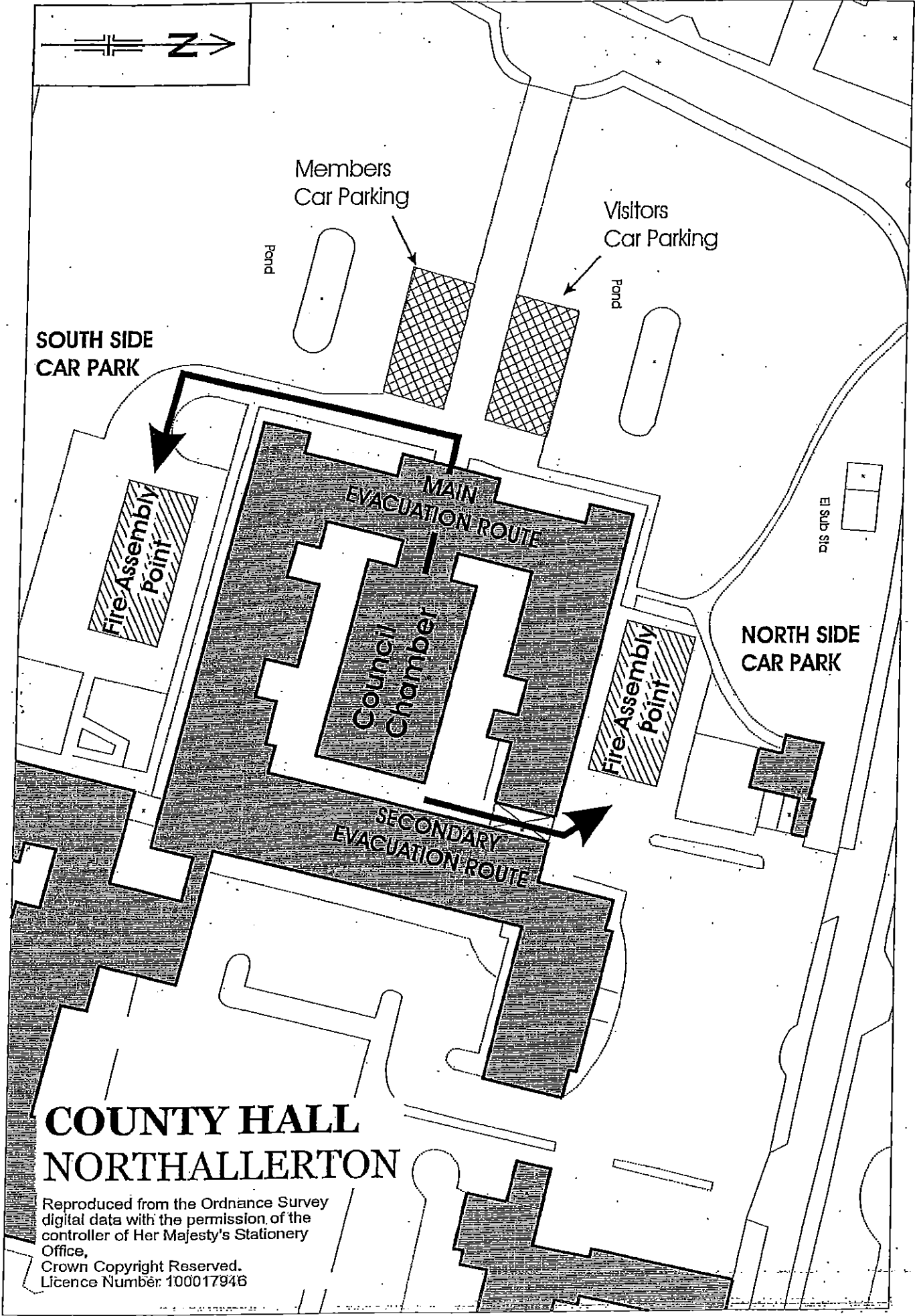
**NORTH SIDE
CAR PARK**

El Sub Sid

SECONDARY
EVACUATION ROUTE

COUNTY HALL NORTHALLERTON

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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).