

# North Yorkshire County Council

## Executive

Minutes of the remote meeting held on Tuesday, 13 October 2020 commencing at 11.00 am.

County Councillor Carl Les in the Chair, plus County Councillors David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison, Andrew Lee, Don Mackenzie, Patrick Mulligan, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Other Councillors Present: County Councillors Paul Haslam

Officers present: Barry Khan, Gary Fielding, Richard Webb, David Bowe, Karl Battersby, Lincoln Sargeant, Daniel Harry, Daniel Dobney, Melanie Carr & Steve Loach

Apologies: Richard Flinton & Stuart Carlton

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**Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book**

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### 493. Introductions

Following members of the Executive and Corporate Management Team introducing themselves, County Councillor Carl Les congratulated the four NYCC officers awarded honours in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for their work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The new Corporate Director for Business & Environmental Services, Karl Battersby was also welcomed to his first Executive meeting.

### 494. Minutes

#### **Resolved –**

That the public Minutes of the meeting held on 25 August 2020, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 495. Declarations of Interest

County Councillors Carl Les and Don Mackenzie declared a non-disclosable pecuniary interest in Agenda item 6 as board members of both NYNet and Superfast North Yorkshire.

### 496. Public Questions and Statements

There were no public questions or statements.

### 497. The Future of the Healthy Child Programme

Considered –

A joint report of the Corporate Director Health and Adult Services, Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services and Director of Public Health.

County Councillor Caroline Dickinson introduced the Report, focused on the County Council's universal preventative child and family health promotion programme for children aged 0-19 - the aim of the programme being to ensure every child gets the good start they need to lay the foundations of a healthy life. She went on to detail the two components of the Programme i.e. 0-5 Health Visiting and services for 5-19 year olds.

It was noted that because of a major national reduction in public health grant, the County Council was having to review its entire public health programme. However, it was confirmed that Children's Services and a good start in life would continue to be prioritised even with the reduction in budget. It was also noted that the proposed revised approach to the Healthy Child Programme committed the County Council to a long-term partnership with Harrogate Trust.

Richard Webb, Corporate Director for Health & Adult Services confirmed the County Council would continue to invest at least a third of the grant received in to services for children and young people

He also provided an overview of the planned extensive consultation, with the best start in life for the under 5's being prioritised in the proposals being consulted on.

Lincoln Sargeant, NYCC Director of Public Health confirmed the proposals for the Healthy Child Programme were part of a whole series of service transformations across all public health services, in response to the cuts to the public health grant. The aim of that work being to ensure the continued delivery of high quality services across all of the responsibilities that Public Health has to residents of North Yorkshire.

Lincoln Sargeant went on to detail the proposed new delivery model for the five mandated visits delivered between 0-5 years - qualitative changes not quantitative. He confirmed the lessons learnt through lockdown, and that the successful delivery of virtual health visits had been evidenced. Finally, he confirmed advances in technology and digital approaches had proved very helpful in rural areas of the county and as a result even without the budget reductions; some of the proposals were timely, allowing parents a more tailored approach, with more options for input from specialists.

In regard to the main changes in the 5-19 element, traditionally known as school nursing, it was noted it would support all children regardless of whether they were in school, with a key focus on safeguarding. In particular, emotional and mental wellbeing of school aged children. The proposed consultation would enable the public to help shape the service going forward.

Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services) confirmed the legal regulations behind the five mandated health visits delivered between 0-5 years, and detailed the risk based approach being proposed for considering whether the circumstances were appropriate for virtual visits to take place. He drew members attention to the assessment criteria detailed in paragraph 9.6 of the report.

Daniel Harry, Democratic Services & Scrutiny Manager confirmed the Scrutiny of Health Committee had previously considered the rationale for, and the proposals detailed in the report. He confirmed the Committee were in favour of those proposals going out to consultation and would welcome the opportunity to review the consultation findings in due course.

Executive Members noted that resources for 5-19 year olds would be targeted on those most in need following a full assessment, with the most appropriate service leading on that delivery. Also, that the services available would include parenting programmes. In response to childhood obesity rates, it was also suggested that some focus on food and nutrition would be beneficial in supporting young children.

Whilst concern was expressed about the reducing Grant, Members recognised that the advances in technology etc would likely have led to innovations in ways of working and service delivery. Finally, it was noted that the Chair of the Children & Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee would be responding to the consultation.

Members voted unanimously in favour of the recommendations and it was

**Resolved – That:**

- i. A 10-week public consultation on the new service model, commencing in October 2020 be approved;
- ii. The outcome of the consultation be brought back to Executive, and subject to the outcome of the consultation, the draft Section 75 Agreement be brought to Executive for consideration in Winter 2020/21 prior to the start of consultation on the Agreement.

**498. Superfast North Yorkshire Phase 4**

Considered – A report of the Corporate Director for Strategic Resources. County Councillor Don Mackenzie introduced the report confirming the developments in the proposed expansion of the Superfast North Yorkshire project. He provided an overview of the history of the project, confirming the recommendations in the report would put the County Council on course to deliver high quality broadband to 97% of households and business across the county. He also detailed the County Council's £100m investment in the project to date.

Finally, County Councillor Don Mackenzie drew Members attention to the legal advice given to the Superfast North Yorkshire Governance Board which made clear that the extension of the invention area for which the county council was allowed to use state aid, required a new procurement for Phase IV. He confirmed the procurement exercise was ongoing with the contract likely to be awarded in October 2020.

Executive Members welcomed the report recognising:

- It supported a key investment project for the Administration
- The remarkable efforts of the County Council to reach 97% connectivity across the whole of the county
- Improvements in technology of this nature was key to the future delivery of services, as evidenced by the previous item on the agenda.

It was therefore

**Resolved – That**

- (i) Funding for Phase 4 of the SFNY Project totalling £12.5m be approved;
- (ii) Authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Strategic Resources, in consultation with the Executive Member for Access, and Legal and Democratic Services to award the contract to the successful bidder of the Phase 4 SFNY procurement process;
- (iii) Authority be delegated to the Corporate Director Strategic Resources, in consultation with

the Executive Member for Access, and the appropriate officer in Legal and Democratic Services to determine the final terms and then execute and complete the relevant documents to effect the appointment of the successful bidder following the conclusion of the process described in (ii) above.

#### **499. Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies**

Considered – A report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) proposing a number of appointments to the North Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Board

**Resolved** – That the following appointments be recommended to Council:

- a) Brent Kilmurray, Chief Executive of Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, as the representative of Mental Health Trusts.
- b) Michelle Waugh. Locality Manager, as the nominated deputy representative for NHS England and NHS Improvement (North East and Yorkshire).

#### **500. Report on Changes to Constitution**

Considered – Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services)

It was noted there had been no objections received from Members of the Constitution Working Party and therefore it was

**Resolved** – That the proposed changes to the Constitution, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be recommended to full Council for approval.

#### **501. Area Constituency Committee Feedback Report**

Considered – Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services), providing an overview of the key issues considered at recent Area Constituency Committee meetings. As members' had no questions, it was

**Resolved** - That the report be noted.

#### **502. Forward Work Plan**

Members considered the Forward Plan for the period from 2 October 2020 to 30 September 2021. County Councillor David Chance proposed that in order to comply with the County Council's constitutional requirements, a special meeting of the County Council would be required to discuss the County Council's proposed submission to Government for the Local Government Review.

Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services) confirmed a special meeting of the Executive would also be required. It was noted that a letter of invitation was received on 9 October 2020.

**Resolved** – That the Forward Plan be updated as proposed.

The meeting concluded at 11:43am  
MLC

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