



Agenda

**Notice of a
public meeting
of:**

Executive

To:

Councillors Carl Les (Chair), Gareth Dadd (Vice-Chair), David Chance, Caroline Dickinson, Michael Harrison, Andrew Lee, Don Mackenzie, Patrick Mulligan, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

Date:

Tuesday, 23rd March, 2021

Time:

11.00 am

Venue:

Remote meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Pursuant to The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, this meeting will be held using video conferencing with a live broadcast to the Council's YouTube site. Further information on this is available on the committee pages on the Council website -

<https://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk/>

The meeting will be available to view once the meeting commences, via the following link - www.northyorks.gov.uk/livemeetings. Recordings of previous live broadcast meetings are also available there.

Business

1. Introductions

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 March 2021

(Pages 3 - 10)

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Public Questions and Statements

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice to Melanie Carr of Democratic and Scrutiny Services and supplied the text (contact details below) by midday on Thursday 18th March 2021, three working days before the day of the meeting. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:-

- at this point in the meeting if their questions/statements relate to matters which are not otherwise on the Agenda (subject to an overall time limit of 30 minutes);
- when the relevant Agenda item is being considered if they wish to speak on a matter which is on the Agenda for this meeting.

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. Revised Plan for Economic Growth (Pages 11 - 28)**
This report outlines the updated North Yorkshire Plan for Economic Growth for 2021 – 2024
- 6. Scrutiny Review Final Report - Single Use Plastics (Pages 29 - 56)**
This report presents the findings and recommendations arising from the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee's review of Single Use Plastics.
- 7. Collaboration Agreement - Shared Waste Arrangements with City of York Council (Pages 57 - 70)**
This report seeks approval to update the Joint Waste Management Agreement with City of York Council
- 8. Forward Plan - Executive Extract (Pages 71 - 76)**
- 9. Other business which the Leader agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances**

Contact Details

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Barry Khan
Assistance Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

15 March 2021

North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

Minutes of the remote meeting held on Tuesday, 9th March, 2021 commencing at 11.00 am.

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

In attendance: County Councillors Paul Haslam, Derek Bastiman, John Ennis, Janet Jefferson, Karin Sedgwick, Andy Paraskos and Annabel Wilkinson and Paul Haslam.

Officers present: Richard Flinton, Barry Khan, Gary Fielding, Richard Webb, Stuart Carlton, Vicki Dixon, Howard Emmett, Steve Evans, Daniel Harry and Melanie Carr

Apologies: County Councillor Patrick Mulligan, and Officers Karl Battersby and Justine Brooksbank.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

560 Introductions

Members of the Executive, Corporate Management Team and Scrutiny Board introduced themselves, and County Councillor Carl Les welcomed other Councillors and officers present at the meeting.

561 Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 February 2021

Resolved –

That the public Minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2021, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed by the Chairman as a correct record.

562 Declarations of Interest

In regard to Agenda item 5, County Councillor Carl Les declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Board Member of Welcome to Yorkshire. He and County Councillor Janet Sanderson also both declared a non-pecuniary interest, as Chair and Member of the Trustee Board of North Yorkshire Youth respectively.

In addition, it was noted that as an employee of one of the organisations listed in Appendix 5D, Cllr Michael Harrison had a dispensation from the Standards Committee to vote on matters related to Treasury Management.

563 Public Questions and Statements

There were no public questions or statements.

564 Q3 Performance Monitoring and Budget report including: Revenue Plan; Capital Plan; Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators

Considered – A joint report of the Chief Executive and the Corporate Director for Strategic Resources, bringing together key aspects of the County Council's performance on a quarterly basis.

County Councillor David Chance introduced the Quarter 3 performance report, confirming the Council continued to demonstrate good performance across all four of its ambitions. He provided a brief summary of the strengths and challenges in performance across the four ambitions. In particular, he highlighted:

- GCSE Results
- Low repeat referrals for children's social care
- The final report arising from the Rural Commission, to be published in Spring
- The ongoing work of Stronger Communities, working with 23 community organisations around the county, helping an average of 2600 people a week
- The County Council's approved plans to become a gateway organisation under the Governments Kickstart scheme, offering 33 placements for young people within the Council, and 205 within 46 partner organisations
- The number of staff working from home - 3,237 on average weekdays
- The reduction in mileage costs throughout the Covid period
- An increase in public satisfaction in Highways and transportation
- The ongoing challenge of supporting the recovery of local businesses
- The impact of Covid on voluntary organisations with concern mounting about their future - over a third had needed to use their financial reserves in order to survive
- 56% of permanent placements for older people were currently above the authority's approved rates (87% in Harrogate)
- EHC Plans had increased to 3450 (a 13% increase from Qtr3 2020), with 145 new EHC Plans issued in the Quarter
- An increase in referrals from the Police (1780 in Qtr3 – up by 15%)

County Councillor Carl Les acknowledged the strong performance the County Council continued to deliver, and County Councillor Janet Sanderson introduced the in-depth focus of the performance report on 'Every child & young person has the best possible start in life'. She drew particular attention to:

- The lack of Ofsted inspections and formal exams due to school closures, as part of the Covid-19 lockdown measures
- The challenge of keeping schools open to ensure all vulnerable children and those with complex needs continued to attend school
- Good attendance levels (85-90% of those children had attended each day)
- A rise in elected home education, with the offer of support provided by Early Help
- Full term and permanent exclusions reduced for a second Qtr running
- The increase in Police referrals, thought to be due to an increased awareness campaign run by the Police around safeguarding issues
- The timeliness of assessments
- Child Protection Plans remained stable with no spikes in demand but there was some

concern around the level of second and subsequent Plans

- The anticipated rise in Looked After Children had not materialised
- A reduction in the number of dental checks was cause for concern – work would continue to lobby for good health and dental assessments
- 96.2% of Care Leavers were living in suitable accommodation – NYCC being the best performing Authority nationally
- Early Help had adjusted flexibly in response to the pandemic, using a blend of real and virtual meetings

County Councillor Janet Sanderson thanked CYPS officers for their excellent work, and acknowledged their resilience and creative and flexible approach to service delivery throughout the pandemic.

On behalf of the Scrutiny Board, County Councillor Derek Bastiman endorsed those thanks and went on to query the reason for the increase in Police referrals and what more could be done to reduce the backlog in criminal court cases.

Stuart Carlton, Corporate Director for Children and Young People Service confirmed the Police had applied some additional vigilance since the closure of schools, which had resulted in the rise in referrals. He noted schools would usually have noticed concerns earlier. He too expressed concern about the way young people in the custody of HMIP were being looked after during the pandemic, and confirmed the Youth Justice Board was very aware of all the issues and would continue to keep a focus on those concerns.

Other Members of the Board also raised a number of queries related to the performance report.

County Councillor Annabel Wilkinson raised the lack of availability of NHS dentistry, particularly for LAC and care leavers. It was noted that the Looked After Children Members Group remained focussed on ensuring those children continued to receive health and dental care check-ups, and County Councillor Janet Sanderson agreed the Council should lobby NHS England and the local Integrated Care System.

County Councillor John Ennis confirmed the Scrutiny of Health Committee was planning to carry out a review of NHS Dental Services across the county, particularly for vulnerable groups, and suggested the findings from that review could help inform any future lobbying for improved access to dentistry as part of the emerging integrated care system.

County Councillor Janet Jefferson raised concern about the rise in the number of families who had chosen to home school, and sought reassurance that those families would be encouraged back in to traditional schooling once the pandemic was over. She also expressed concern about delays in the OFSTED programme of inspections caused by Covid. Noting the number of years that had passed since some schools had been inspected, she recognised how unfair it was for those schools who had worked hard to improve their standards but were still being judged on their previous low Ofsted rating. Finally, she complimented the work of Traded services in schools in preparation for the return to school and added her thanks to the Directorate for its work throughout the pandemic and for keeping members informed.

Stuart Carlton confirmed the Ofsted inspection framework had changed in recent years and that inspections were expected to start again in the near future. He also noted the current lack of comparator data available to support those inspections, and confirmed that primary school attendance rates on day one of the return to school showed attendance around 97%.

County Councillor Gareth Dadd was **Page 5** note the high level of attendance on day

one. He was also pleased to note the enthusiasm from teachers and staff for the re-opening of schools, and the work they have undertaken to enable that to happen. Stuart Carlton drew attention to the support and guidance that had been given to all schools in the lead up to them re-opening.

County Councillor David Chance clarified that funding for the 23 Support Organisations had been extended to September 2021 to enable them to continue to support vulnerable residents/families. County Councillor Paul Haslem raised the importance of the provision of nutritious meals to children to ensure their best start in life.

Elsewhere in the report, County Councillor Don Mackenzie corrected an error that referred to the latest phase of the Superfast North Yorkshire Programme as Phase 3. He confirmed that Phase 3 was actually near to completion and it was Phase 4 that was now underway. He also paid tribute to:

- NYNet, for continuing an excellent job on delivering the project and maintaining the infrastructure throughout the pandemic,
- The Highways and Bridges Team for the rising public satisfaction levels
- The Public Rights of Way team for their work in maintaining the PROW throughout the pandemic, and in particular for the work of the volunteers.

Overall, the Executive endorsed the strong performance of the County Council, and noted the improvements required where necessary.

Revenue, Treasury Management & Capital Plan

County Councillor Gareth Dadd introduced those sections of the report. Concerning the revenue budget, he highlighted only marginal movement from Quarter 2 and drew attention to the projected net underspend of less than 1%, slightly down from the last quarter outturn.

In regard to Treasury Management, attention was drawn to the proposal to extend the time given to Welcome to Yorkshire to repay their loan, and it was noted that the County Council had benefitted financially from the interest paid on the loan, and that given the value of the property the loan was absolutely secure.

Members noted the Capital Plan section of the report, and noted the slight uplift in the Council's share of the Kex Gill Project, as detailed in the report. Gary Fielding, Corporate Director for Strategic Resources confirmed the additional £550K cost to the Council suppressed the underspend referred to in the Revenue section of the report.

Executive Members voted in favour of all of the recommendations in the report, and it was

Resolved – That:

- a) The latest position for the County Council's 2020/21 Revenue Budget, as summarised in paragraph 2.1.2 be noted;
- b) The position on the GWB (paragraphs 2.4.1 to 2.4.3) be noted;
- c) The position on the 'Strategic Capacity – Unallocated' reserve (paragraphs 2.4.4 to 2.4.6) be noted;
- d) The position on the County Council's Treasury Management activities during the third quarter of 2020/21 be noted
- e) Refer this report to the Audit Committee for their consideration as part of the overall monitoring arrangements for Treasury Management.
- f) The secured loan facility of up to £500k to Welcome to Yorkshire, be extended to 1st April 2022;

- g) Authority be delegated to the Corporate Director for Strategic Resources and the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services) to complete the necessary arrangements with Welcome to Yorkshire on existing terms.
- h) The updated Q3 2020/21 Capital Plan be noted; and
- i) The additional funding requirement for the Kex Gill realignment scheme (paragraph 4.5) be noted;

565 Covid Winter Grant Scheme Update

Considered - Report of the Corporate Director for Children & Young People's Service seeking approval for the final deployment of the Covid Winter Grant allocation to support vulnerable households and families with children affected by the pandemic.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson introduced the report confirming that the Council received an ring-fenced funding from the Government to support vulnerable households with children over the holiday period. She confirmed that a local eligibility framework had been introduced to grant payments to schools and academies, early years providers and post-16 schools and colleges, enabling allocations based on free school meal or pupil premium data. She also noted that the initial round of payments were distributed in time for Christmas.

Stuart Carlton, Corporate Director for Children and Young People Services drew Members' attention to the proposal to provide supermarket vouchers at £15 per week to cover the two weeks at Easter holiday period, and confirmed that the Government had very recently announced some further funding would now be made available to cover that period up to 16 April 2021. With this in mind, he requested two additional recommendations be considered i.e.:

- (iii) Approve an allocation equivalent to a further £20 one-off funding for other household essentials but with schools being granted further flexibilities should they believe local circumstances warrant such flexibility
- (iv) To delegate to the Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Services, in consultation with the appropriate Executive Member, the ability to administer the scheme and exercise his discretion in granting additional flexibilities

County Councillor Gareth Dadd welcomed the proposal to allow schools the flexibility to respond to their local circumstances, recognising they were best placed to identify those most in need of further support.

All Executive Members voted in favour of the revised recommendations, and it was

Resolved - That:

- i) The deployment of funding to schools, academies, colleges and early years' providers to provide supermarket vouchers totalling £15 per week for 2 weeks prior to the start of the Easter break be approved.
- ii) The allocation of supermarket vouchers totalling £15 per week for 2 weeks for eligible care leavers prior to the start of the Easter break be approved.
- (iii) An allocation equivalent to a further £20 one-off funding for other household essentials be approved, but with schools being granted further flexibilities should they believe local circumstances warrant such flexibility
- (iv) The ability to administer the scheme and exercise discretion in granting additional

flexibilities be delegated to the Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Services, in consultation with the appropriate Executive Member.

566 St Hilda's Roman Catholic Primary School, Whitby - School Closure Proposal

A report of the Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service providing information to support the Executive in determining a proposal to close St Hilda's Roman Catholic Primary School.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson introduced the report which recommended closure of the school with effect from 9 April 2021, and detailed the issues raised in the one objection received to the statutory notices.

The Executive and paid tribute to County Councillor Joe Plant for his efforts alongside the governing body to identify options that would allow the school to remain sustainable. They agreed that with only two children remaining on the school roll, the reasons for the proposal to close the school as laid out in the report, were correct and expressed sadness that closure was the only viable option at this stage.

With that in mind, the Executive voted unanimously in favour of the recommendations, and it was

Resolved – That:

- a) The issues listed in paragraph 9.2 of the report had been satisfied and there could therefore be a determination of the proposals.
- b) That the Local Authority cease to maintain St Hilda's Roman Catholic (Voluntary Aided) Primary School, Whitby with effect from 9 April 2021.

567 Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

Considered – A report of the Corporate Director for Children & Young People's Service outlining the funding allocation for North Yorkshire County Council and the conditions of grant relating to the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

County Councillor Janet Sanderson introduced the report, and provided an overview of the proposals for the approach to deploying the HAF Programme grant funding allocation, aimed at supporting eligible children in the period Easter 2021 through to Christmas 2021. It was noted the Programme would provide healthy food and enriching activities to disadvantaged children who might otherwise not have them.

Stuart Carlton, Corporate Director for Children & Young People's Services confirmed it was a follow on scheme for school holidays and not a replacement for the free school meals scheme. It was not expected that all children who received free school meals would take part.

The Executive voted unanimously in favour of the recommendations, and it was

Resolved – That:

- (i) The approach to the local implementation of the Holiday Activities and Food programme in North Yorkshire for Easter 2021 be endorsed;
- (ii) Authority be delegated to the Corporate Director – Children & Young People's Service to develop the framework and approach for planning and organising activities for

Summer 2021 and Christmas 2021 consistent with the scheme aims and objective.

568 Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

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

Resolved – That the appointment of Ashley Green, Chief Executive Officer, as the nominated deputy representative for Healthwatch North Yorkshire, be recommended to Council.

569 Forward Plan Extract - Executive Items only

Members considered an Executive extract from the Forward Plan for the period from 1 March 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Resolved – That the Forward Plan be noted.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 pm.

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North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

23 March 2021

A Plan for Economic Growth 2021 - 2024

Report of the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To outline the updated North Yorkshire Plan for Economic Growth 2021 – 2024

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In 2018 the Council adopted a Plan for Economic Growth in North Yorkshire which set out aspirations for the economy and outlined the role of North Yorkshire County Council in delivering these aspirations. This report identifies the progress of the previous plan presents a revised document, which sets out priorities for the next three years.
- 2.2 The revisions to the existing plan have been developed through a process of engagement and consultation within the Council and with colleagues at the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership. An outline of the revised plan has been presented to the Council's Transport Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and also to the Business and Environment Services Executive Members and their comments incorporated into the revised draft document presented here as appendix A.
- 2.3 The revised plan retains its core vision of:
North Yorkshire is a place with a strong economy and a commitment to sustainable growth that enables everyone to fulfil their ambitions and aspirations, and it's objectives to increase good quality jobs, grow wages and foster equal opportunity across the County."
- 2.4 The revised plan outlines activities which have been delivered over the previous three years which include;
- The completion of a strategic spatial planning framework for York, North Yorkshire and the East Riding.
 - Completion of key transport projects including Bedale Bypass, work to improve the A59 at Kex Gill, reconstruction of Tadcaster Bridge and work to gain improvements to rail services between York and Scarborough.
 - Delivery of a healthy workplace initiative with private sector partners.
 - Work to develop the 'Better Business for All' programme with a range of local service bodies including districts, fire and police.
 - Highways improvements at Dalton Park, Thirsk and Ings Lane Kirkbymoorside to support local business parks and junction improvements to support housing developments in Scarborough.
 - Improvements made to the NYCC Adult Learning and Skills Service and engagement with the YNY LEP's skills development programme.
 - Support for Local Nature Partnerships, delivery of Tour de Yorkshire highways requirements and initial feasibility work on electric vehicle charging.

- Continued roll out of superfast, fibre broadband to rural areas and the development of new mobile communication infrastructure, including a 5G pilot project in the Yorkshire Dales.
- 2.5 During the last twelve months the impact of the coronavirus pandemic has been unprecedented, resulting the largest reduction in economic output in the UK for 300 years and increasing Government borrowing to levels not seen since the 1960's. Nationally the impact on GDP is calculated at a 9.9% reduction during the 2020 calendar year and the first quarter of 2021 has seen further falls as new lockdown measures have been implemented. In North Yorkshire the prevalence on the hospitality sector means that the effects may be greater, the proportion of jobs furloughed, approximately 40% at the peak, is among the highest of any local authority in the North of England. Government programmes aimed at reducing losses of jobs and businesses remain in place and the longer term impacts on the economy and on society in general are yet to be clearly understood.
- 2.6 In some instances the effects of the pandemic has been to accelerate existing trends in society including increasing online shopping and home working, as well as creating a desire for individuals and families to relocate from cities to rural areas. All of these trends will be likely to have an impact on the work of local government in the future and have implications for housing, transport, town centres and education in the mid to long term.
- 2.7 In the near term the York and North Yorkshire LEP, and the County Council will seek to undertake work to mitigate the worst impacts of the pandemic and this is reflected in the plan which links to the LEP led Covid Recovery Plan 'Greener, Fairer, Stronger'. This includes the following actions and initiatives currently being delivered;
- £31m planned investment in Selby, Skipton and Harrogate railway stations and their environs through the Transforming Cities Fund.
 - Supporting over 800 North Yorkshire businesses through the 'Buy Local' scheme.
 - Providing advice and guidance to businesses to enable compliance with Covid restrictions through the Council's Trading Standards Service.
 - Delivery of the Council's Covid Recovery Plan.
 - Support for the Scarborough and Whitby Town's Fund programmes.
 - Installing town centre Wi-Fi and enabling digital solutions for local retail and hospitality businesses across North Yorkshire.
- 2.8 Revisions to the plan from its previous iteration, focus on the opportunities to develop new economic activity linked to the low carbon economy and the environment and to strengthen work to support businesses and communities through town centre regeneration, support for tourism and improved digital infrastructure. This approach also seeks to better align the Plan with the LEP's Local Industrial Strategy and the anticipated investment by Government identified in recent announcements including the launch of the 'Levelling Up Fund' and will also take account of the findings of the North Yorkshire Rural Commission.
- 2.9 The development, monitoring and delivery of the Plan for Economic Growth is undertaken by a Steering Group made up of North Yorkshire County Council Assistant Directors with responsibilities that relate to each of the plans seven enablers of growth, chaired by the AD for Growth, Planning & Trading Standards. A draft action plan will be considered by the steering group in March 2021.

3.0 Equalities

3.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report. An equalities impact assessment is attached at appendix B

4.0 Finance

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report

5.0 Legal

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report

6.0 Climate Change

6.1 An environmental impact assessment is attached at appendix C

7.0 Recommendation(S)

7.1 That the Plan for Economic Growth 2021 - 2024 is considered for comments

MATT O'NEILL

Assistant Director – Growth, Planning and Trading Standards

Author of Report: Mark Kibblewhite

Background Documents: None

North Yorkshire County Council

A plan to deliver economic recovery and growth 2021 - 2024

1.0 Introduction and Foreword

This document outlines North Yorkshire County Council's vision for economic growth and identifies its role in supporting this aspiration. This plan for growth recognises the wider benefits and impacts that economic prosperity has in addressing inequalities in health, educational attainment and future opportunity and highlights the contribution made to shared aspirations across the County Council's statutory responsibilities as well as those of partners and stakeholders, particularly in District Council's and National Parks Authorities.

Vision: North Yorkshire is a place with a strong economy and a commitment to sustainable growth that enables everyone to fulfil their ambitions and aspirations.

Foreword

By Executive Member Cllr Andrew Lee

Welcome to the North Yorkshire County Council Plan for Economic Growth 2020-2023. This document provides a vision and a framework for stimulating North Yorkshire's economy and giving our businesses and residents the best possible chance to succeed.

The pandemic has had devastating impacts on some of the residents and businesses of North Yorkshire. I am proud of the work done by my colleagues at the County Council and our partners to stabilise the economy. Now, more than ever we must come together to provide the essential services across this large and varied population and find local solutions which is why this plan sits alongside and complements the Economic Recovery Plan for North Yorkshire and the York and North Yorkshire and East Riding LEPs Plan to Reshape our Economy.

We have refocussed the enablers that sit at the heart of this plan in all areas, in particular to drive forward our zero carbon ambitions, ensuring all of our residents, whether out of school or re-training, have the skills provision they need to succeed. We have also refocused our public health enabler to 'Live Well'. Focusing on a wider agenda for building strong communities but of course keeping our residents safe.

Above all we need an economic growth plan that gives the County Council the agility to take advantage of the opportunities to reshape our economy over the next three years.

2.0 Vision and Objectives

North Yorkshire is a place with a strong economy and a commitment to sustainable growth that enables everyone to fulfil their ambitions and aspirations.

Objectives

- A larger business base and increased number of good quality jobs in North Yorkshire.
- People across the county have equal access to economic opportunities
- Increased overall average median wage

3.0 The 2017 Plan for Economic Growth

This revised Plan for Economic Growth is a continuation of the previous plan developed in 2017 and published in 2018. Since then the following programmes have been delivered:

- Completion of a Spatial Framework for York, North Yorkshire and East Riding.
- Creation of Brierley Homes, NYCC owned commercial housing developer.
- Delivery of key development schemes including Dalton Business Park access, Bedale Bypass, North Northallerton infrastructure.
- Completion of key resilience projects including replacement of Tadcaster Bridge, repair of flood affected roads in the Yorkshire Dales. Improvements to A59 at Kex Gill.
- Work with rail operators to improve services between Scarborough and York.
- Support for LEP skills and employment programmes including capital investment in further education facilities.
- Work to improve NYCC's Adult Learning and Skills Service.
- NYCC apprenticeships.
- Delivery of the Healthy Workplace Programme.
- Engagement with planning for healthier places.
- Joint development of Better Business for All programme by Trading Standards.
- Proactive approach to supporting legitimate business through Trading Standards.
- Supporting infrastructure development at key commercial and industrial sites including Dalton Park and Malton Food Enterprise Zone.
- Support for Local Nature Partnerships across North Yorkshire.
- Development of Natural Capital Asset mapping and remote sensing programmes.
- Work to identify opportunities for electric vehicle charging and low carbon transport.
- Delivery of Tour de Yorkshire cycle stages and support for Welcome to Yorkshire.
- Ongoing work to deliver improved digital mobile communications in rural areas including the development of Mobile Access North Yorkshire (MANY) programme.
- Engagement with Government and mobile operators in respect of 5G development
- Ongoing rollout of fibre broadband through NYCC's NYNET subsidiary.

4.0 Priorities for the next four years

North Yorkshire will be a modern economy characterised by high quality, efficient transport and communications, higher levels of entrepreneurialism and opportunities for younger people to access good quality employment and affordable housing opportunities.

Alongside this an attractive and active quality of life, high quality affordable housing provision and access to cultural experiences will be important in attracting and retaining skills and knowledge as well as ensuring a healthy and happy workforce.

Enablers of Economic Growth – what we will do to achieve our aims:

Enabler 1. Create high quality places, increased housing provision and delivering infrastructure -

Working with partners, NYCC will support the development and delivery of strategic housing and employment sites alongside the required infrastructure to create high quality employment opportunities, housing provision (especially affordable housing), education and health care for everyone. Working with partners and stakeholders NYCC will support the regeneration of town centres rethinking the allocation of road space to create public realm that is accessible, safe, healthy and business friendly. NYCC will take a leadership role ensuring agility to take advantage of evolving government policy and funding opportunities

Enabler 2. Deliver a modern integrated transport network - Delivering the Council's Local Transport Plan, improving transport to, between and within all of our towns, (especially east-west links) to improve access to markets, skills and supply chains within the County and the rest of the UK. A strong focus on the use of the public realm and highway to allow access to business in a safe way. Active and sustainable travel including electric vehicle charging to enable the County Council to reach its carbon reduction goals.

Enabler 3. Increase skills levels and ensure that the workforce meets the needs of the County -

Ensure a clear pathway for young people from education to training and employment. Undertake measures to support the development of the workforce that meet the social and economic needs of the County. NYCC will work with partners, including the Local Enterprise Partnership, to support skills and training provision in North Yorkshire and seek to ensure that it meets the needs of North Yorkshire businesses and supports the aspirations of all the people of North Yorkshire as we emerge from the Coronavirus pandemic and adapt to new ways of working.

Enabler 4. Live well - Through working in partnership, to create fair employment and good work for all, we encourage a healthy standard of living and enable all working age people to live well. . The focus will be on creating Strong Communities that are complete and compact. In doing this we will seek to address inequality of opportunity, and recognise the challenges presented by health inequalities across North Yorkshire. Ensuring public safety through North Yorkshire County Councils Outbreak management plan we will focus on workplace settings, as they evolve, Leisure and Tourism and Housing, specifically houses of multiple occupancy.

Enabler 5. Creating the right conditions for business growth and investment - By promoting good growth across the County that is clean and inclusive. NYCC will seek to support investment projects by working closely with partners to facilitate business growth, inward investment and development of low carbon technologies and seek to raise the median and lowest wage levels across the County. Through its Trading Standards and licensing functions NYCC will continue to support legitimate businesses to trade successfully, recover from the economic impact of the Coronavirus pandemic and promote good growth.

Enabler 6. Enhancing the environment, developing tourism and the green economy:

By taking measures to reduce the Council's carbon footprint to net zero by 2030, NYCC move towards the UK's net zero carbon emissions goal by 2050 (UK Government target).

We will grow the green economy and support economic resilience by protecting the County's environment, ecology and heritage assets and by supporting environmental initiatives, which increase the value of agriculture, enhance biodiversity and reduce the impact of climate change, particularly in relation to severe flood events.

Continue to support regional tourism by delivering world-class events and develop the County's cultural offer for the benefit of local communities and the visitor economy.

Enabler 7. Deliver a modern communications network – With the increased prevalence of home working a modern communications network is more important than ever. NYCC will continue to work alongside partners towards delivering mobile phone and data connectivity in currently unserved rural areas promoting 4G infill in areas of poor coverage and moving towards the roll out of new 5G technology to support rural businesses. Alongside this we will maintain our support for enhanced fibre broadband provision across North Yorkshire and the integration of mobile and broadband services to provide seamless access to the internet and telecommunications networks for all users.

5.0 The economy in North Yorkshire:

The population of North Yorkshire is 618,000.

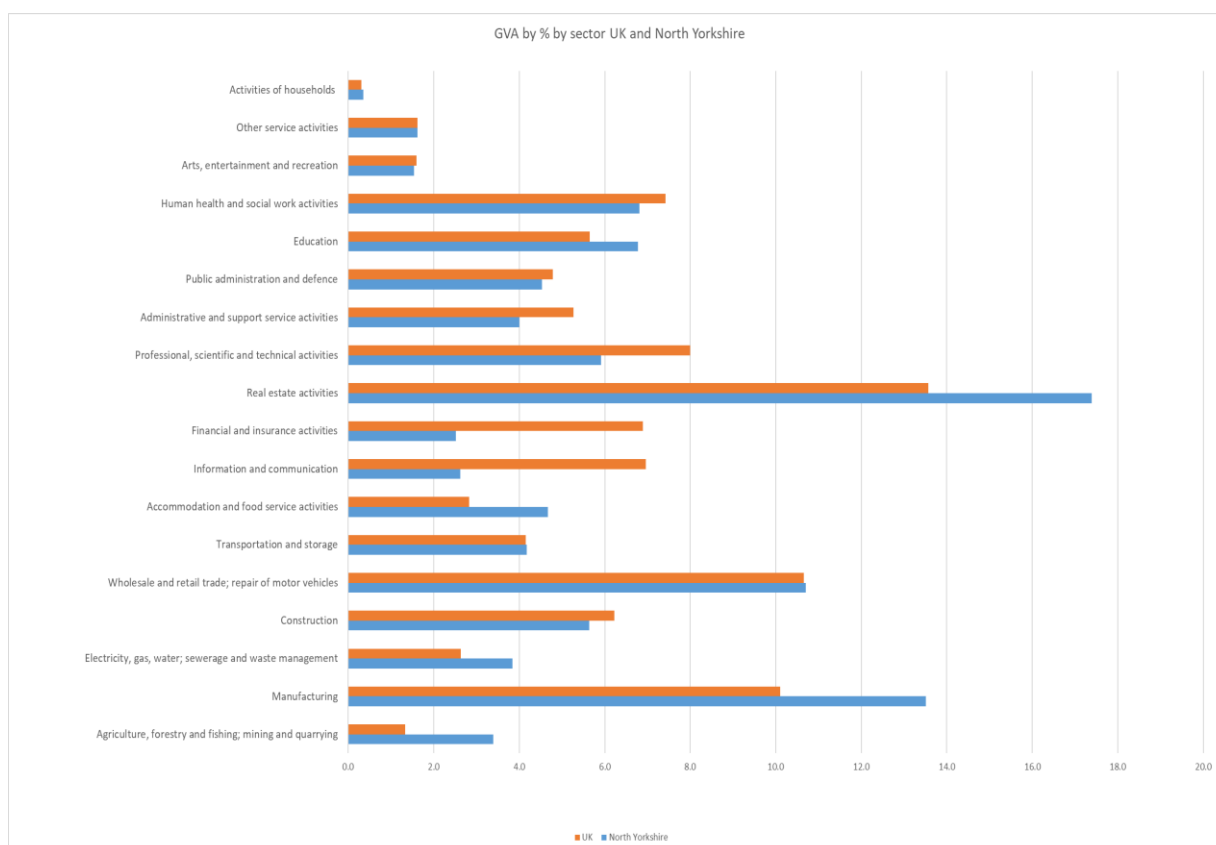
In September 2020 the number of people economically active was 293,400. This represents a reduction from a peak of 318,200 in 2016.

In September 2020 just 5,100 people or 1.7% of the economically active were unemployed compared to 4.2% nationally. Throughout the covid-19 pandemic unemployment has remained below national levels although the economic impact on the county's hospitality industry has been significant with up to 40% of the workforce furloughed at some point during the crisis.

Weekly earnings by place of residence in North Yorkshire are on average £552 compared with £587 nationally. Weekly earnings by workplace are below this however at £516. There are discrepancies across North Yorkshire with Richmondshire District having the lowest weekly wages by residence at £460 and Harrogate the highest at £604, a difference of £144 a week or £7,488 per annum.

Productivity measured by gross value added (GVA) per head of population is £23,376 in 2018. This compares with £20,191 in the East Riding of Yorkshire, £18,959 in Lincolnshire, £16,588 in Northumberland and £30,258 in York. In 2018 the average for the UK as a whole was £28,729.

North Yorkshire has sectorial strengths in manufacturing, accommodation and food, and logistics and transport. The chart below highlights the different industries in the County compared to national averages.



Tourism is an important part of the economy in North Yorkshire generating an estimated £1.5bn of visitor spend each year and supporting 41,000 jobs.

6.0 Economic Impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and a Framework for Economic Recovery

In the UK, it has been estimated that the national economy fell by 9.9% in 2020 compared with 2021. This is the largest reduction in economic output for 300 years. Given the start of the Pandemic began in March 2020, and lockdown regulations remain in force in the spring of 2021, the 2020/21 financial year is expected to see an even greater reduction in output. Officer estimates, based on the sectorial makeup of the county, and using a methodology similar to that of the Office for Budgetary responsibility indicate that the reduction in economic output in North Yorkshire during the financial year could be around 15%.

At the height of the covid-19 lockdown restrictions the number of jobs furloughed through the Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme reached 6.8m of which 1.65m were in the accommodation and food sector. North Yorkshire was among the regions with the highest levels of furloughed employees reaching almost 40% of the workforce.

It is estimated by the Office for Budgetary Responsibility that the cost to the treasury of the Covid-19 pandemic could be as much as £340bn, taking public sector net debt to almost 100% of GDP for the first time since the mid-1960s.

North Yorkshire Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery

The framework for economic recovery represents a short to medium term response to the impacts of the Covid-19 crisis. The framework is informed by the Plan for Economic Growth and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership's 'Reshaping the Economy' document.

A vision for the County's recovery from the economic crisis brought about by the Covid-19 Pandemic is that:

The economy of North Yorkshire is re-established and fully functioning. It is diverse, resilient, innovative and agile. The County Council's services and infrastructure are focused on supporting the socio-economic well-being of our residents, businesses and visitors. Businesses and public sector agencies are positioned to take advantage of new and emerging opportunities.

To deliver this vision, the Council will implement and monitor a countywide framework for economic recovery – providing the County Council's response to Covid-19 economic recovery, bridging the gap between the sub regional and local, addressing issues that are common to a number of authorities and sectors within North Yorkshire, and reflects the functions of the County Council. Focused on supporting the socio-economic well-being of our residents, businesses and visitors.

Goal and Objectives

Drawing on the Vision, Goals and Objectives, the following strategic objectives have been identified.

Overarching Goal - To revitalise the North Yorkshire economy so that it can meet the short term needs of business and the community during the recovery phase(s) whilst laying the foundations to establish a more resilient and inclusive Greener, Fairer & Stronger economy in line with the strategic direction of the York & North Yorkshire LEP's Economic Recovery Plan and Local Industrial Strategy, the County Council's Plan for Economic Growth and the York, North Yorkshire, East Riding and Hull Spatial Framework.

Objectives:

- Establish business support mechanisms and business friendly regulatory frameworks
- Restore business confidence and regional brand/identity
- Align people, skills and labour markets
- Enable investment and funding – public & private
- Identify growth opportunities, including infrastructure
- Regenerate town centres to function well at the heart of local communities
- Retaining viable existing business
- Diversification and expansion of priority sectors
- Invest recovery funding strategically

7.0 Strategic Context

The North Yorkshire Plan for Economic Growth and the Strategic Framework have been developed in the context of the York and North Yorkshire Local Industrial Strategy, The York and North Yorkshire covid recovery plan 'Reshaping our Economy' and the York and North Yorkshire Proposals For Devolution. The York and North Yorkshire Devolution Deal shares it's vision with the Local Industrial Strategy.

Our vision is for York and North Yorkshire to become England's first carbon negative region. The Local Industrial Strategy contributes to this, by transforming the way our economy works to deliver a carbon negative, circular economy that increases productivity and provides higher paid jobs.

8.0 Key Performance Indicators.

The following economic performance indicators are carried over from the previous Plan to Deliver Economic Growth. They will be refined and monitored by the Growth Plan Steering Group.

Indicator	2016 baseline	2020 target	actuals
1. Total number of full and part time jobs in North Yorkshire	253,900	275,000	266,000 (2019)
2. Median average weekly wage by residence	£487.70	At or above inflation	£552 (2020)
3. Number of LSOA's in the 20% most deprived nationally	17	13	17 – no new data (2015)
4. GVA per head of population	£21,801	£24,000	£23,376 (2018)
5. No of young people not in employment or training	610 / 3.4%	0	1010 / 8.8% NEET or not known; of which only 1% or 10 individuals known to be NEET (2020)
6. Superfast Broadband and mobile phone coverage	95%	100% coverage of high speed and / or latest generation mobile	Remains at 95%

Initial equality impact assessment screening form			
<p>This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.</p>			
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services		
Service area	Growth, Planning and Trading Standards		
Proposal being screened	Refresh of the County Council's Plan for Economic Growth		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Michael Reynolds		
What are you proposing to do?	The previous NYCC Plan for Growth span 2017 – 2020. The Growth Plan Steering Group has undertaken to refresh the plan for the next 4 years.		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<p>This document updates the Council's economic growth strategy</p> <p>The Plan for Economic Growth will form part of the Council Plan.</p>		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	The proposal is a desk based exercise drawing on existing resources through the Growth Plan Steering Group		
<p>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics</p> <p>As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Sex		X	
Race		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender reassignment		X	
Religion or belief		X	

APPENDIX B

Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas		X	
People on a low income		X	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		X	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	No		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	x	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	The proposal is a desk based refresh of council objectives relating to growth. Some aims and objectives included in the plan are likely to require projects that will go through their own equalities impact assessment screening process but this proposal does not warrant its own assessment.		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Matt O'Neill Assistant Director, Growth Planning and Trading Standards		
Date	05.03.2021		



Climate change impact assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	North Yorkshire County Council a new Plan for Economic Growth
Brief description of proposal	This report outlines the Council's new Plan for Economic Growth, a strategic document which outlines the work of the Council in delivering growth and links directly to the Council Plan
Directorate	Cross Directorate. The Lead Officer is based in BES.
Service area	Growth Planning and Trading Standards
Lead officer	Matt O'Neill, Assistant Director, Growth Planning and Trading Standards
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	Liz Small, Growth and Heritage Manager Mark Kibblewhite, Senior Policy Officer (Growth) Michael Reynolds, Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure)
Date impact assessment started	09-09-2020

Options appraisal

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

No. No alternatives to refreshing the Growth Plan were considered.

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

There are no additional costs associated with the development and monitoring of the Plan for economic Growth.

APPENDIX B

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.</p>	Emissions from travel	x				
<p>25</p>	Emissions from construction	x				
	Emissions from running of buildings	x				
	Other	x				
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>		x		<p>The plan is an electronic document only.</p>		
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		x				
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>		x				

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Other (please state below)</p>		<p>X</p>				

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Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

No

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

The refresh of the Growth Plan is an office based reassessment of the aims and objectives of the County Council relating to growth activity. It reassesses the Enablers which are the delivery mechanism for those objectives.

A positive global and local environmental impact is a thread that runs through most if not all Enablers of the Growth Plan.

As above, some of the aims and objectives are likely to include projects, work streams or initiatives that are likely to have an environmental impact. Examples of these would be Electric Vehicle Charging schemes, realignment of the highway and public realm, increased focus on the provision of green skills or modern methods of construction. Potential projects referred to directly in the growth plan or supporting action plan will be subject to their individual Environmental Impact assessments.

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Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Michael Reynolds
Job title	Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure)
Service area	Growth Planning and Trading Standards
Directorate	BES
Signature	Michael Reynolds
Completion date	03-03-21

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Matt O'Neill, Assistant Director, Growth, Planning and Trading Standards

Date: 05/03/2021

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North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

23 March 2021

Single Use Plastics Review

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To consider the report and recommendations of the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Single Use Plastics Review (attached at Annex A).

2 Introduction

2.1 The Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 24 January 2019, agreed to set up a task group to establish how North Yorkshire County Council, in partnership with others, could reduce the use of single-use plastics. The task group was to be set up once the detail of the government's proposals was known in its Resources and Waste Strategy.

2.2 The task group commenced and concluded its work in 2020.

3 The Task Group

3.1 The task group was chaired by County Councillor David Goode; working with County Councillors Paul Haslam, Robert Heseltine, David Jeffels, Clive Pearson and Roberta Swiers.

4 Aims of the Review

4.1 The aims of the review were:

- i) To establish additional ways to reduce the use of single use plastics by North Yorkshire County Council staff and visitors by:
- Committing to reducing our reliance on single-use plastics where practicably possible.
 - Identifying sites and service areas where significant improvements can be made.
 - Communicating to staff, building users and visitors the role they have to play to ensure the success of the reduction in single use plastics.
- ii) To establish how North Yorkshire County Council can work with partner organisations, local businesses and residents to encourage a reduction in the use of single-use plastics across North Yorkshire by:
- Encouraging partner businesses, schools and young people on board across North Yorkshire to reduce single-use plastics.
 - Engaging with businesses to provide strategic leadership on how they can develop their own actions with this agenda.

- Engaging with residents through our webpage, social media, case studies, press releases, and identifying how they can contribute.
 - Suggesting simple changes that can be made to daily routines that will help save money, improve health and help the planet.
- iii) To look for alternatives to single-use plastics and best practice elsewhere including but not limited to other local authorities.

5 Process

- 5.1 The task group held a series of meetings to take evidence, including from North Yorkshire County Council's Head of Procurement and Contract Management, its Head of Property Service and from the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership.
- 5.2 The Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 21 January 2021, agreed the report including the recommendations to be presented to the Executive.

6 Financial & Legal Implications

- 6.1 The review did not undertake any detailed financial assessments or legal implications.

7 Recommendation

- 7.1 The Executive is asked to note the findings of the report and agree that the Executive Member for Open to Business, including growth, economic development, planning, waste management, trading standards unit and business relations takes forward the recommendations in the report.

Report compiled by:

Jonathan Spencer
Principal Scrutiny Officer
County Hall, Northallerton
Tel: 01609 780780
E-mail: jonathan.spencer@northyorks.gov.uk

Date: 27 January 2021

Background documents: None

Annexes:

Annex A: Report of the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Single Use Plastics Review.

Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee



“Nature is sending us a message”

Single Use Plastics Review

December 2020

‘We are at a moment in time where we must come together to create change. Building on the shared values and collective efforts that have brought us together during the pandemic, we can shift to a better life for everyone. Out of the challenges we must recognise the opportunity we have before us, to work with the grain of our place and grow our economy as greener, fairer and stronger – one that includes everyone in opportunities for innovation and change – and transforms how we live, learn, work and visit in York and North Yorkshire.’

Greener, Fairer, Stronger – Our Vision For York & North Yorkshire:
York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership

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Appendix 1: Wyre Council Single use plastic policy	

If you would like this document in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please ask us.

Tel: 0845 8 72 73 74

Email: communications@northyorks.gov.uk

Background and summary of findings

Single-use plastics include any disposable plastic item designed to be used only once. We frequently use single-use plastic items in packaging, consumer products, cosmetics and healthcare. Examples are lightweight plastic bags, disposable utensils, beverage containers, coffee cups, wet wipes, and razor blades¹.

As a recent report notes: 'Plastic waste often does not decompose and can last centuries in landfill, or else end up as litter in the natural environment, which in turn can pollute soils, rivers and oceans, and harm the creatures that inhabit them'.² Yet in many cases, such as plastic straws, takeaway food containers and coffee cups, there are practical SUP alternatives available that are either reusable or sustainable.³

By the 1990s, plastic waste had more than tripled in two decades and by the early 2000s plastic waste output rose more in a single decade than it had in the previous 40 years. Now 300 million tons of new plastic (equivalent to the entire weight of the human population) is made each year, half of which is for single-use plastics such as packaging and convenience foods.⁴ An estimated 2.5 billion disposable coffee cups alone are used in the UK each year, with the majority ending up in landfill, contributing to the disastrous impact that plastics have on the environment.⁵ The Government's "Our Waste, Our Resources" Strategy⁶ estimates that in the UK, we use five million tonnes of plastic each year. Globally, we have produced 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic since 1950, and without action, this is expected to rise to 34 billion tonnes by 2050. Around 12.7 million tonnes of plastic are entering the ocean every year, killing over one million seabirds and 100,000 marine mammals. By 2050 there could be more plastic in the ocean than fish, by weight.⁷

Since the broadcast of the BBC's Blue Planet II programme in autumn 2017 highlighting the effect of plastic pollution in seas, oceans and on beaches, this has become a much-debated topic with high levels of public interest. Indeed attitudes and behaviour in the UK towards plastics packaging waste have changed rapidly in recent years. A research study carried out by the charity WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme) in 2018 found that 52% of UK citizens scored the issue as a high concern (scoring 8-10 out of 10) and a further 30% said they were moderately concerned (scoring 6-7 out of 10)⁸.

¹https://ieep.eu/archive/uploads/2128/IEEP_ACES_Product_Fiche_Single_Use_Plastics_Final_October_2016.pdf

² *Plastic Waste*, House of Commons Library Briefing Paper Number 08515, 21 September 2020
<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-8515/>

³ <https://www.wwf.org.au/news/blogs/10-worst-single-use-plastics-and-eco-friendly-alternatives#gs.mmg9p1>

⁴ <https://www.unenvironment.org/interactive/beat-plastic-pollution/>

⁵ <https://yorkshiretimes.co.uk/article/York-University-YORCUP-Campaign>

⁶ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/765914/resources-waste-strategy-dec-2018.pdf

⁷ *How to give up plastic: a guide to changing the world, one plastic bottle at a time*, Will McCallum, Penguin Books, 2018

⁸ <https://wrap.org.uk/sites/files/wrap/Plastic%20Packaging%20Understanding%20existing%20behaviors%20attitudes%20and%20openness%20to%20change.pdf>

Some single-use plastics are necessary for certain uses in the absence of viable alternative materials invented. As a recent House of Commons briefing paper notes: single-use plastics provide benefits in relation to contributing to food safety and hygiene, and reducing packaging weight in transit and thereby reducing energy and emissions.⁹ A shrink-wrapped cucumber can last five times longer than an unwrapped one.¹⁰ The covid-19 pandemic has also highlighted its importance in terms of its use for medical and hygiene purposes.

Pandemics notwithstanding, societal changes and attitudes (e.g. plastic bottles becoming less acceptable) and legislative changes will mean the profits of those parts of the plastic industry producing single-use plastic will fall dramatically if they fail to adapt.

The World Economic Forum has called on manufacturers to retailers involved in the plastics supply chain to accelerate their efforts to end plastic waste: “Those that step up to the challenge of environmental stewardship by contributing to the creation of a circular economy will reap a rich bounty of public trust and profitability well into the future”.¹¹

In 2019 the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to convene a task group to establish how North Yorkshire County Council along with partners and members of the public could reduce the use of single-use plastics. The Committee agreed that the task group would meet once the government had published its proposals in its Resources and Waste Strategy.

The issue of how to reduce single-use plastics, reuse and recycle has been a part of North Yorkshire County Council’s work around waste reduction over several years. There are further measures to put in place though to reduce our usage of single-use plastics, some of which are relatively quick wins. There is also a role for the County Council to show leadership by amplifying action in a positive way to encourage others to reduce the use of single-use plastics. In recognition of this, the review looked at how the County Council could work with partner organisations, local businesses and residents to encourage a reduction in the use of single-use plastics across North Yorkshire.

The committee set up a task group made up of the following Members:

- Cllr. David Goode (Task Group Chairman)
- Cllr. Paul Haslam
- Cllr. Robert Heseltine
- Cllr. David Jeffels
- Cllr. Clive Pearson
- Cllr. Roberta Swiers

⁹ *Plastic Waste*, House of Commons Library Briefing Paper Number 08515, 21 September 2020
<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8515/CBP-8515.pdf>

¹⁰ *How packaging helps waste less food*, Recyclenow.com
<https://www.recyclenow.com/reduce-waste/packaging-and-storage/waste-less-food>

¹¹ *The plastic pandemic is only getting worse during COVID-19*, 1 July 2020, World Economic Forum
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/07/plastic-waste-management-covid19-ppe/>

The task group held a series of meetings between February and December 2020 to take evidence including from North Yorkshire County Council's Procurement and Property Management Teams and from the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership. The task group also researched into what a number of 'best practice' local authorities were doing in response to reducing single-use plastics.

The aims of our review were:

To establish additional ways to reduce the use of single-use plastics by North Yorkshire County Council staff and visitors by:

- Committing to reducing our reliance on single-use plastics where practicably possible.
- Identifying sites and service areas where significant improvements can be made.
- Communicating to staff, building users and visitors the role they have to play to ensure the success of the reduction in single-use plastics.

To establish how North Yorkshire County Council can work with partner organisations, local businesses and residents to encourage a reduction in the use of single-use plastics across North Yorkshire by:

- Encouraging partner businesses, schools and young people on board across North Yorkshire to reduce single-use plastics.
- Engaging with businesses to provide strategic leadership on how they can develop their own actions with this agenda.
- Engaging with residents through our webpage, social media, case studies, press releases, and identifying how they can contribute.
- Suggesting simple changes that can be made to daily routines that will help save money, improve health and help the planet.

To look for alternatives to single-use plastics and best practice elsewhere including but not limited to other local authorities.

The task group concluded the following:

- Elimination of single-use plastics is not realistic at present for us but a more decisive approach to reduce usage in our buildings and amongst our suppliers with alternative products is required. The County Council needs to move this up its policy agenda; and the wider policy background including the circular economy approach embraced by the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership support us in doing this.
- The County Council has made some steps already in reducing its usage of single-use plastics but as staff in our procurement team have acknowledged there is significantly more that the County Council could do. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic highlights in fact why we should not delay from taking a more comprehensive approach to reducing our use of single-use plastics including amongst our key suppliers.

- Work done to date by some other local authorities, shows what can be achieved in a relatively short time when there is commitment to do so.
- A starting point is for the County Council to produce a policy statement setting out some high level commitments to reduce single-use plastics in its buildings and services. Another quick win is to promote campaigns to reduce single-use plastics. The County Council's role in that regard, working with the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNY LEP), is to champion action to reduce single-use plastics; if we show leadership, others will come along.
- The County Council might be able to achieve a number of quick wins, particularly in relation to some of its centrally managed contracts, and we have suggested a number of ideas for officers to investigate.
- More comprehensively, to reduce the use of single-use plastics, procurement and commissioning need to work together. Directorates' policies, action plans and practices also need to be reviewed and behavioural change to occur amongst staff and our suppliers. The appointment of a senior officer champion will help achieve this, as will staff training.
- The County Council needs to update its Procurement and Management Strategy and the Procurement Service should undertake a more detailed and comprehensive supply chain audit to understand the volume and proliferation of single-use plastics among, as a minimum, all first-tier suppliers.
- The approach to reduce single-use plastics should be one of an ongoing review especially as new products come to the market and should take into account whole life product costs.
- A series of medium term measures to put in place include using scored tender evaluation questions relating to single-use plastic reduction; increasing the number of 'meet the buyer' events; and producing and regularly reviewing directorate-based action plans to reduce single-use plastics.

Policy Background

A recent House of Commons Briefing Paper¹² sets out the policy background and key drivers for change as follows:

UK Government ambitions and targets

The UK Government wants to work towards all plastic packaging placed on the market being recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025. Linked to this is the government's ambition of having zero avoidable waste by 2050 and the target of getting rid of avoidable plastic waste by late 2042.

The UK Government's December 2018 Resources and Waste Strategy contained a number of policies aimed at reducing plastic waste. Public consultations providing more detail on the proposals followed in February 2019. They included:

- Consultation on reforming the UK packaging-producer responsibility system;
- Plastic packaging tax: consultation;
- Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland; and
- Consultation on Consistency in Household and Business Recycling Collections in England.

Proposals on a deposit return scheme, consistency in recycling and reform of the extended producer responsibility systems have been included in the Environment Bill 2020. The Scottish Government has already made regulations to introduce a deposit return scheme from July 2022.

Plastic waste

A ban on single-use plastic straws, stirrers and cotton buds came into force in England in October 2020. The measure makes it illegal for businesses to sell or supply the items. A ban on cotton buds was already in place in Scotland.

Successive UK Governments have also signed-up-to many international agreements aimed at reducing plastic in the marine environment. For example, the Commonwealth Clean Oceans Alliance. EU strategy for plastics.

The European Union has produced a European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy. This includes a recently agreed Single Use Plastic Directive, which when it comes into force in 2021, will ban specified items of single-use plastic.

The European Commission has also published a European "Green Deal" and a new Circular Economy Action Plan, which includes further proposals to reduce plastic litter and improve recycling.

¹² *Plastic Waste*, House of Commons Library Briefing Paper Number 08515, 21 September 2020

Other plastics issues

China no longer accepts certain types of plastic waste from other countries. This has meant that UK local authorities have had to find alternative ways to dispose of plastic waste, which has in turn increased their costs. Some types of black plastic and low-grade plastic cannot be easily recycled though.

Initiatives are being introduced to try to change the way that plastics are designed, produced, used, re-used, disposed of and reprocessed. Examples of these include:

- the 'Plastics Pact', a collaboration of businesses, which has set a target to eliminate unnecessary single-use plastic packaging, for all plastic packaging to be re-usable, recyclable or compostable and for 70% to be recycled or composted by 2025.
- The "Plastics Industry Recycling Action Plan" (PIRAP), an industry action plan focusing on increased collection of recyclable plastics; improved sorting; and developing end markets for recycled plastics.
- The "UK Circular Plastics Network" (UKCPN), which aims to bring together plastic product users through a programme of networking and knowledge-sharing events.
- UK supermarkets and other retailers are putting into practice a range of initiatives to reduce plastic packaging, having plastic-free aisles and allowing customers to use their own packaging containers.

COVID-19 pandemic

The use of PPE during the COVID-19 global pandemic has highlighted that for the time being, single-use plastics are essential for some medical and hygiene purposes. Indeed, single-use personal protective equipment (PPE) has been vital to help reduce the spread of Covid-19 in medical environments.

Lobbying groups for single-use plastic manufacturers have taken the opportunity to push back against single-use plastic bans.¹³ However, most people did not need to use single-use plastic PPE in their daily lives because cloth face masks and coverings are also effective in reducing virus transmission and infection when they are of optimal material and construction and fitted correctly.¹⁴ Coffee chains such as Starbucks that had formerly made commitments to sustainability, including promoting reusable cups, banned reusable cups in response to the coronavirus outbreak.¹⁵ Banning reusable cups though failed to account of possible contamination of single-

¹³ *Plastic Is the Hero of Coronavirus, Says the Plastics Industry*, 8 June 2020, Bloomberg <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2020-06-08/is-plastic-the-coronavirus-hero-the-plastics-industry-thinks-so>

¹⁴ *Face masks and coverings for the general public: Behavioural knowledge, effectiveness of cloth coverings and public messaging*, The Royal Society, June 2020 <https://royalsociety.org/-/media/policy/projects/set-c/set-c-facemasks.pdf>

¹⁵ *Coronavirus: Starbucks bans reusable cups to help tackle spread*, 6 March 2020, BBC <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51767092>

use plastic cups.¹⁶ Meanwhile some commentators argue that reusable containers are safe to use as long as they are “washed properly”.¹⁷

Commentators note that the COVID-19 pandemic will have a long-lasting impact on the fight against pollution, threatening to stall and even reverse progress with the rise in litter, especially of single-use plastic such as bottles and single-use masks.¹⁸ The World Economic Forum (WEF) notes that although the precise extent of the additional plastic waste generated during the pandemic is not yet known, preliminary data shows that in China, daily production of face masks soared to 116 million in February 2020.

The pandemic can in fact be seen as even more reason why there needs to be a move towards greater sustainability and a more circular economy across the globe. As the UN’s Environment Chief, Inger Andersen stated earlier this year: “We are intimately interconnected with nature, whether we like it or not... There are too many pressures at the same time on our natural systems and something has to give.”¹⁹

Circular Economy

Locally the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNY LEP) has developed a strategy and action plan for creating a carbon-neutral circular economy in York and North Yorkshire by 2030²⁰. One of its aims is to support innovation in sustainable food packaging, positioning Yorkshire as a leader in sustainable food packaging.

The solution to plastic pollution from a circular economy perspective is to eliminate unnecessary plastics and instead innovate so that plastic is reusable, recyclable or compostable.

Climate Change Assessment: North Yorkshire County Council

In 2019, North Yorkshire County Council passed a motion aspiring to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as near to that date as possible.

A climate change impact assessment form and associated guidance were subsequently developed to be used by staff when making changes to services. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify which projects will have positive effects. One of the areas in the impact assessment is to assess the impact that changes to services will have upon minimising waste, including reducing use of single-use plastics.

¹⁶ *Science Supports the End to the Reusable Coffee Cup Ban*, 29 September 2020, Foodprint, <https://foodprint.org/blog/reusable-coffee-cup-ban/>

¹⁷ *Reusable cups “safe” to use during pandemic, scientists say*, 22 June 2020, Circular <https://foodprint.org/blog/reusable-coffee-cup-ban/>

¹⁸ *Covid-19: Single-use plastic impact ‘will last forever’*, 26 September 2020, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-54265590>

¹⁹ <https://www.theweek.in/news/health/2020/03/26/Coronavirus-is-natures-message-to-humankind-says-environment-chief-of-UN.html>

²⁰ https://www.businessinspiredgrowth.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/v2Creating-a-competitive-carbon-neutral-circular-economy_York-North-Yorkshire.pdf

Examples of policy statements and action plans from other local authorities

The task group undertook research to find best practice examples of where local authorities had set out their commitments to reduce their use of single-use plastics and encouraging their local communities to do the same.

These included:

- Devon County Council (policy statement and action plan)²¹ – county council
- Durham County Council (action plan)²² – unitary council
- Dorset Council (policy statement and action plan)^{23 24} – unitary council
- Surrey County Council (policy statement and action plan)^{25 26} – county council
- Wyre Council (policy statement only)²⁷ – district council
- Brighton and Hove Council (policy statement only)²⁸ – unitary council

Action plans included aspects on use of single-use plastics within the local authority – ‘getting our own house in order’ (reducing its use in council offices; working with suppliers) and more externally focused aspects related to raising awareness amongst the public.

Most councils had started with undertaking a survey with key suppliers in order to understand and influence the reduction of single-use plastics and to include in future contract specifications consideration of using alternatives where possible.

Typical actions included:

- Revising existing procurement policy and procedures by for example including in future contract specifications consideration to use alternatives to single-use plastics wherever possible;
- Ensuring where contractually possible no single-use plastic cups, bottles, cutlery etc. are used by contractors at events the council runs;
- Removing the use of unnecessary single-use plastics in council buildings and services such as council catering services (cups, stirrers, straws, cutlery etc.)
- Staff communications - regularly sharing best practice guidance with staff for cascading the message of the importance of reducing single-use plastics;

²¹ <https://democracy.devon.gov.uk/documents/s17223/Environmental%20Policy%20-%20New%20Strategy%20and%20Action%20Plan%20for%20Plastics.pdf>

²² <https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s114027/Appendix%20-%20Single%20Use%20Plastic%20Action%20Plan%204th%20October%202019.pdf>

²³ <http://moderngov.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/documents/s17956/Appendix%201%20-%20The%20Single%20Use%20Plastic%20Policy.pdf>

²⁴ <https://moderngov.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/documents/s17957/Appendix%20-%20The%20Single%20Use%20Policy%20Action%20Plan.pdf>

²⁵ https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/181801/Single-use-Plastics-Policy-Nov-2018.pdf

²⁶ https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/192110/SUP-Strategy-Final-Mar-19.pdf

²⁷ https://www.wyre.gov.uk/info/200305/council_and_decisions/1320/single_use_plastic_policy

²⁸ <https://ww3.brighton-hove.gov.uk/sites/brighton-hove.gov.uk/files/single-use-plastic-policy.pdf>

- Embedding the policy driver of single-use plastics reduction into other key council strategies, policies and plans;
- Supporting schools, businesses and members of the public to become single-use plastic free by sharing and demonstrating the council's best practice. The work in schools included: reducing or eliminating single-use plastics in school-catering services; providing educational resources and talks in schools about promoting a circular economy; sustainable waste management practices in relation to single-use plastics and reducing litter. Raising awareness with the public included sharing best practice, marketing/promotional campaigns such as litter picks/beach clean ups and encouraging and supporting the rollout of Deposit Return Schemes.

Durham County Council had adopted a County Durham Single Use Plastics Pledge²⁹ supported by an action plan to guide this work; and to invite a wide variety of partner organisations from the public, private and community sector to make a similar commitment through adopting the pledge.

Prior to the covid-19 pandemic, Dorset Council had undertaken many actions within its council offices to reduce single-use plastics. The focus is now on working with individual services to reduce single-use plastics in other areas such as schools, highways, leisure services and visitor attractions.

Wyre Council had produced a policy statement but an action plan was not available to share at the time of this report due to delays in the action plan being finalised because of the covid-19 pandemic.

The Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) recommends that when local authorities develop their own single-use plastics policy and programmes, they should:

- Identify their current use of single-use plastics;
- Identify and develop alternatives to current products (e.g. providing reusable water bottles instead of cups, reusing existing supplies of poly-pockets)
- Implement the changes (e.g. removing single-use plastic products from ordering catalogues, establishing a timeline for the eradication of single-use plastics from the authority);
- Make sure where possible that changes do not negatively impact certain groups (e.g. straws for disabled people that require them), and generally make sure that what you are replacing the plastic with doesn't create other problems.³⁰

²⁹ <https://www.durham.gov.uk/singleuseplastics>

³⁰ <https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/index.cfm/members-area/briefings/2019/19-17-single-use-plastics-policy/>

Evidence hearings

North Yorkshire County Council's Head of Procurement & Contract Management and Head of the Property Service gave evidence to us at one of our meetings about the County Council's current use of single-use plastic and ways to reduce or possibly eliminate its usage of single-use plastics, including ways in which it can influence its supply chain to do the same.

Reducing Single Use Plastics in North Yorkshire County Council's (the Council's) Supply Chain

We were informed at the meeting that the County Council's procurement team has identified almost one-fifth (17%) of contracts where there is higher consumption of single-use plastics, with significant potential for its reduction or elimination. This includes property services, catering, office supplies and furniture, water coolers, removals and storage and some care services. The County Council's spend in 2018/19 was over £430m across more than 5,000 suppliers. The procurement team is of the view that realistically it is not appropriate to seek suppliers to eliminate single-use plastic. Instead, a more pragmatic approach for all suppliers is to have an emphasis on education, collaboration and best practice to reduce single-use plastics wherever possible.

The cost of switching to alternatives for single-use plastics could be prohibitive for some suppliers with some alternative products not yet at a sufficiently advanced and cost effective stage of development and production. A 5% price increase across County Council contracts identified as offering significant potential for plastic reduction or elimination would incur additional expenditure of £8.4m. Rather, positive supply-chain behaviour change should be encouraged rather than mandated.

The procurement team cannot influence change on its own but can provide guidance. Senior Management and the relevant Executive Portfolio Member are the driving force to help in making changes in the directorates.

Measures to reduce rather than to eliminate single-use plastics are the way forward.

The range of measures set out below outline what the Procurement and Contract Management Service can do to reduce single-use plastic usage in the Council's supply chain:

- Reducing single-use plastics in the council as a whole is a much broader piece of work, involving not just each directorate and service area, but also behaviour change at an individual level, and consideration of the policies and practices that can help enable change.
- As part of the UK Government's effort to remove single-use plastics from the majority of its estate, departments and other agencies by 1 January 2020; the Cabinet Office, and specifically the Crown Commercial Service with its links to key suppliers, offered best practice advice to departments, and monitored overall

progress against objectives. Procurement and Contract Management in the Council could adopt a similar role to the Crown Commercial Service, with Corporate Procurement Board, chaired by the Corporate Director Strategic Resources, monitoring overall Council progress.

- Undertake a more detailed and comprehensive supply chain audit to understand the volume and proliferation of single-use plastics among, as a minimum, all first-tier suppliers. This can be used to more accurately identify those key suppliers as well as an effective engagement strategy, to help understand the impact of, and also the ability to influence, the reduction of single-use plastics.
- Procurement legislation is currently subject to national consultation to consider how existing practice can be improved once the transition period with the European Union comes to an end. The Council should be using this opportunity to lobby the Crown Commercial Service to include a prompt for all suppliers in the standard invitation to tender document about how they intend to reduce their usage of single-use plastics.
- The Council can use its influence in the region as the Chair of the Yorkshire and Humber Councils Strategic Procurement Group to consider collective ways of reducing single-use plastic among the supply base, for example across common contracts.
- To include the reduction of single-use plastic as a key theme of each Category Sourcing Plan and the overarching Procurement and Contract Management Strategy.
- To lead by example, demonstrating positive change and quick wins on those contracts which are centrally managed, such as catering and removals, by the Procurement and Contract Management Service.
- The Crown Commercial Service highlight that a strong focus on engagement and ownership at all levels within the organisation is a critical success factor to embed change. Corporate Director ownership and increased visibility of the programme among staff, with regular articles, blogs and updates, can help to embed necessary culture change.
- Increasing the number of 'meet the buyer' events. Suppliers are invited to meet representatives of the Council to facilitate shared learning, promote business, and to understand expectations, in this case regarding single-use plastics. It should be noted that the Council intends to increase the number of meet the buyer events each year as part of its Procurement and Contract Management Strategy.
- To work with Legal Services to understand the scope to amend, or include new standard contractual terms and conditions to embed a commitment to reduce single-use plastics.

- Encouraging greater use of scored tender evaluation questions relating to single-use plastic reduction, particularly across key contracts, to reward those suppliers most proactive and engaged on the issue.

County Council premises:

Reduction of single-use plastics has commenced in relation to its use in county council buildings. This included two years ago introducing recycled plastic cups on the water coolers. Our property services department has worked with the catering supplier to provide recycled cups. There are many parallels with Energy/Carbon Reduction measures in that a lot of the influence came down to changing human behaviour.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, most County Council buildings closed down and staff facilities such as the catering service were not available. Consequently, this led to a reduction in single-use plastic in our buildings. However, the council has cancelled out this gain many times over through the purchase of PPE for its staff.

The YNY LEP Circular Economy approach and single-use plastic reduction initiatives in North Yorkshire

The task group invited Jos Holmes, the YNY LEP's LAs Climate Action Coordinator, to give evidence at the meeting about the LEP's Circular Economy agenda. We also wanted to establish what more the County Council could do to support the LEP in this approach, including working with other public sector organisations, local businesses and residents to encourage a reduction in the use of single-use plastics.

The principle behind the circular economy is that there should be no waste; we should instead design out waste in everything we do be it on a household or commercial basis.

Part of the YNYLEP's circular economy approach is to support innovation in sustainable food packaging, positioning Yorkshire as a leader in sustainable food packaging.

Local examples of the circular economy include 'Circular Malton & Norton'³¹, providing an opportunity to test out circular economy approaches that other market towns could also rollout. Plastic reduction initiatives include sculptured water drinking fountains to refill bottles and refillable water bottles for all schoolchildren in the area. This principle could be rolled out more widely to encourage people to take bottles to fill up at cafes.

Such initiatives could be popular. A national online survey in December 2018 found that over half (52%) of those who drink bottled water outside the home can see

³¹ <https://www.businessinspiredgrowth.com/circularmaltonnorton/>

themselves using a re-usable bottle instead and almost half (49%) of those not regularly taking their plastic soft drinks bottles consumed out of the house back home for recycling can see themselves doing this in future.³²

The YORCUP initiative³³ at York University, created in January 2019, in just seven months saved over 72,300 single-use cups from going to landfill with 3,330 joining the scheme³⁴. The semi-disposable cups can be returned to specific outlets to be washed. The cup can then be stored so it is ready for use when the person next wants to buy a hot drink. Companies in York such as John Lewis, McDonalds and Starbucks have also taken part in the scheme. This initiative could be rolled out to catering establishments in our market towns.

The LEP is seeking to have joint collaboration and prioritisation across the nine local authorities in York and North Yorkshire and the two national parks authorities on various community engagement projects to do with promoting carbon reduction. To manage resources effectively this will work best by each local authority and national parks authority taking the lead on at least one campaign. The same campaign can then roll out to all those participating, including potentially to town and parish councils. In a similar vein, a lead local authority could oversee a single-use plastics reduction campaign. Reinventing the wheel would not be necessary as there are plenty of national and global initiatives that could be tapped into and adapted for a local audience. Examples for 2021 on the awarenessdays.com website include Plastic Free July and National Refill Day, asking the UK public to stop plastic pollution by switching from a single-use plastic bottle to a reusable one³⁵. Other initiatives include Zero Waste Week 2021. North Yorkshire County Council could take a lead on single-use plastic reduction campaigns helped by its links into schools.

Another collaborative project that the LEP is hoping to undertake is to introduce a staff-training module for all staff across North Yorkshire and York about low carbon – the choices to make in everyday life. Reference to single-use plastic (SUP) would be built into the training.

Local authority procurement across the LEP area and more widely in the Yorkshire and Humber region has a key role to play in influencing businesses to reduce their usage of SUP. Local authorities in the Yorkshire & Humber Region have a combined external spend of some £4.5 billion per annum.³⁶ The Region has a single strategic procurement strategy, under the leadership of YORprocure, which aims to ensure best practice procurement across the region. Sending a signal to the market through YorTender³⁷ to say Yorkshire and Humber Local Authorities value low carbon activities and want to have an understanding of where the supply chain comes from, would encourage companies to consider sustainability options. If for

³²<https://wrap.org.uk/sites/files/wrap/Plastic%20Packaging%20Understanding%20existing%20behaviors%20attitudes%20and%20openness%20to%20change.pdf>

³³<https://www.york.ac.uk/eatatyork/sustainability/yorcup/>

³⁴<https://yorkshiretimes.co.uk/article/York-University-YORCUP-Campaign>

³⁵<https://www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/national-refill-day-2021/>

³⁶<https://www.yortender.co.uk/>

³⁷ YORtender, comprising of the local authorities in Yorkshire and the Humber is the procurement portal for the Yorkshire and Humber Region <https://www.yortender.co.uk/>

example companies showed that they are reducing their use of SUP, they need to know they will get some value from that in terms of added ability to tender for contracts.

In terms of supporting the private sector more generally, there are grant schemes to shorten the supply chains around packaging and to utilise waste products.

Business examples of reduction in single-use plastics including the Spark Fund, a North Yorkshire based charity <https://www.spark-fund.co.uk/>

A number of companies in the UK have signed up to WRAP's UK Plastic Pact seeking to transform the UK plastic packaging sector by meeting four world-leading targets by 2025 including amongst others for 100% of plastic packaging to be reusable, recyclable or compostable.³⁸

A free app is available to download on i-phones and android phones called 're-fill'; part of a campaign from City to Sea to help people use less plastic. The app connects people to places they can eat, drink and shop without using unnecessary packaging. The app is free to download.³⁹

More locally, a selection of Yorkshire-based companies taking action now to reduce single-use plastic include:

- Just Peel, a printing firm based near Goole that has secured funding to launch the 'UK's first' sustainable disposable pint and half pint standardised paper cups for the drinks industry⁴⁰.
- Taylors of Harrogate (producer of the Yorkshire Tea brand) replaced the plastic used to seal its tea bags with a renewable plant-based material.⁴¹ <https://www.yorkshiretea.co.uk/brew-news/our-use-of-plastic>
- Harrogate Spring Water has switched a large share of its bottles to Polyethylene terephthalate plastic, a material which is 100 per cent recyclable.⁴² PET plastic bottles also use less energy and produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions in the manufacturing process than the production of drink cans or tetra paks.⁴³
- Since 2018 Yorkshire Water in partnership with Refill Yorkshire has been promoting the 'Yorkshire on Tap' campaign to encourage local businesses to

³⁸ <https://www.wrap.org.uk/content/the-uk-plastics-pact>

³⁹ <https://www.refill.org.uk/>

⁴⁰ *Printing firm to launch 'UK's first' sustainable cups with six-figure HSBC funding*, 24 November 2020, Bdaily News https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2020/11/24/printing-firm-to-launch-uks-first-sustainable-cups-with-six-figure-hsbc-funding?utm_source=bulletin&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2020-11-25-yorkshire&utm_content=readmore

⁴¹ <https://www.yorkshiretea.co.uk/brew-news/our-use-of-plastic>

⁴² *Fab Harrogate leads way on plastic waste battle*, 24 May 2018, Harrogate Advertiser <https://www.harrogateadvertiser.co.uk/news/fab-harrogate-leads-way-plastic-waste-battle-288485>

⁴³ <https://nicsnutrition.com/5-tips-to-reduce-single-use-plastic/>

sign up to become free water refill stations to encourage consumers to move away from buying single-use plastics bottles.⁴⁴

Selby High School is a good example of ways to reduce single-use plastic in schools. The school, which has been awarded the North East Eco Champion Mark in recognition of its work to eliminate single-use plastics, gave all students a re-usable water bottle. Previously 114,000 bottles of water and juice were supplied annually at lunchtimes. The school has also got rid of plastic cutlery and plates and all food packaging for sandwiches, wraps etc. is biodegradable.⁴⁵

Plastic Free community-based groups exist in the county in Harrogate, Ripon and Skipton set up to reduce single-use plastic in those areas. They link in with the national campaign of 'Surfers Against Sewage' seeking to get rid of avoidable single-use plastic.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ <https://www.yorkshirewater.com/news-media/2018/yorkshire-wildlife-trust-refill-2018/>

⁴⁵ <https://www.selby-high.org.uk/News/Selby-High-School-awarded-Eco-Champions-Mark/>

⁴⁶ <https://www.sas.org.uk/plastic-free-communities/>

Findings and conclusions

Elimination of single-use plastics, although desirable is not realistic at this stage. Single-use plastics contribute to food safety and hygiene, and reduce packaging weight in transit. The COVID-19 pandemic has also served to highlight that it is essential at present for some medical and hygiene purposes.

The pandemic should not be a reason though to row back on commitments to reduce single-use plastics overall. As the World Economic Forum notes “COVID-19 was a known risk that policymakers chose to ignore and the last thing the world needs is to allow other well-known threats to remain unaddressed. The warning bells have been ringing loud and clear for many years when it comes to plastic waste.”⁴⁷ The legacy of the pandemic is more not less reason to act in reducing single-use plastics, especially in light of the massive expansion of its use and all the related pollution that that has entailed.

It is easy to see a tension between the immediate crisis of the covid-19 pandemic with all that this has brought in terms of the considerable financial burden placed on North Yorkshire County Council - £82 million and counting⁴⁸ - versus making further moves to protect the environment. However, reducing single-use plastics beyond the steps made to date by the County Council is not an issue that we can leave to deal with another day. The financial impacts on the County Council’s budget of the pandemic and the years of austerity that preceded it will be with us for years to come anyway, even though the cost of borrowing is at a record low.

The pandemic in fact highlights why we should not delay, and that the choice should not be economic development versus environmental protection. Instead, if we want our economy to be sustainable in the future, protecting the environment is a fundamental part of that. As the YNY LEP notes, whilst the pandemic has brought hardship it also has brought with it a moment in time where we are empowered to do things differently. ‘Making bold, agile and principled decisions in the short-term, we can bring our economy to life in a way that will underpin longer term growth and position our region to be greener, fairer and stronger – for places, for people, for businesses and for our natural environment.’⁴⁹

It also makes good economic sense because societal changes and attitudes and legislative changes will mean the profits of those parts of the plastic industry producing single-use plastics will fall dramatically if they fail to adapt. Indeed, by 2025, the government wants all plastic packaging placed on the market to be recyclable, reusable or compostable. There are a number of Yorkshire-based companies taking action now to reduce single-use plastic, as referenced earlier in this report.

⁴⁷ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/07/plastic-waste-management-covid19-ppe/>

⁴⁸ <https://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/news/politics/north-yorkshire-county-council-says-covid-pandemic-has-cost-it-ps82m-3054057>

⁴⁹ <https://www.businessinspiredgrowth.com/vision-and-recovery-narrative/>

Rather than delaying measures until our directorates have worked up detailed action plans, we need to put in place some quick wins and then develop these further. A starting point is for the County Council to produce a policy statement setting out some high level commitments to reduce single-use plastics in its buildings and services. Another quick win is to promote campaigns to reduce single-use plastics. Our role in that regard is to champion action to reduce single-use plastics; if we show leadership, others will come along.

We are not asking for there to be a headlong rush towards reducing single-use plastics in the County Council or amongst its supply chain. There needs to be a speeding up though of the steps that we have made to date and for single-use plastics reduction to be more visible as a policy priority. This approach fits in with the spirit of The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 in calling for all public sector commissioning to factor in economic, social and environmental well-being in connection with public services contracts and related purposes. It also fits with the policy agenda to promote sustainable procurement.⁵⁰

The range of measures set out below highlight some of the actions that the County Council could do in the short term to reduce the use of single-use plastics in its buildings if existing contracts allow.

- A communications programme linked to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in generating single-use plastics waste, to encourage behavioural change amongst staff and the public to reduce their use of single-use plastics in the office and in their home.
- Reduce single-use plastic items in the staff restaurant and kitchen, in the vending machines and at meetings and training events; taking into account though the environmental and financial risks of using alternative materials.
- Explore alternative options to replace the black plastic bin liners used in office rubbish and recycling bins.
- Review the use of cleaning and hygiene products and office equipment (such as envelopes).
- Ensure where contractually possible that contractors at council-run events do not use cups, bottles, plates or cutlery made out of single-use plastics.

A key message to promote in any campaign to staff or to the wider community is that whilst alternative products to single-use plastics might be more environmentally-friendly, they need to be re-used many times in order to get a carbon reduction benefit from using them in place of an equivalent single-use plastics product. Cotton bags and ceramic cups are a greener alternative to single-use plastic but only if they are used hundreds of times in order to outweigh their considerably higher carbon footprint involved in their production. The production of cotton bags is carbon intensive including in terms of washing and dyeing the cotton. Messages to promote are 'reuse, reuse and reuse' - use fewer things, many times, and do not buy new

⁵⁰ Sustainable Procurement is 'a process whereby organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the economy, whilst minimising damage to the environment. *HMRC Sustainable Procurement Strategy* https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/310632/HMRC_Sustainable_Procurement_Strategy.pdf

ones.⁵¹ Other messages to communicate are the impact that individual action has upon the wider global context. Illustrated examples at the global level could include a polar bear dying due to eating plastic waste; down to the national level of exhausted landfill sites; and then down to the local level of plastic waste on Scarborough's coastline.

As part of a single-use plastics reduction campaign, the County Council could produce a webpage on its website or other suitable platform in the county to give top tips for reducing usage and the types of plastic that can be reused, recycled or composted. Surrey's Environment Partnership single-use plastics webpage is an example of this⁵². The webpage could also explain about the seven plastic codes to make it easier to choose plastics and to know which plastics to recycle.⁵³

In our evidence hearings, the County Council's procurement service set out a range of measures to reduce the use of single-use plastics in the Council's supply chain. We support those and recognise that reducing single-use plastics in the council as a whole is a bigger task than just procurement.

To reduce the use of single-use plastics, procurement and commissioning need to work together. Directorates' policies, action plans and practices also need to be reviewed and behavioural change to occur amongst staff and our suppliers. Our approach to reduce single-use plastics should be one of an ongoing review especially as new products come to the market and should take into account whole life product costs⁵⁴. Training for staff will be important in that regard as well. These changes cannot occur overnight but the appointment of a senior officer in the County Council to act as a 'champion' for reducing single-use plastics across the organisation would help drive the agenda forward in that regard.

We understand that alternative options to single-use plastics might be limited and not cost effective at present. However, a starting point would be to update the County Council's Procurement and Management Strategy⁵⁵.

- *Theme 6 – Social Value*, in the main body of the strategy document mentions that the current focuses for the Council include working to increase the numbers of local suppliers, SMEs and those within the voluntary sector, reducing SUP and achieving net carbon zero. This is not evident in the accompanying action plan though beyond a more generally worded action about delivering social value through service design, procurement and contract management opportunities.

⁵¹ <https://qz.com/1585027/when-it-comes-to-climate-change-cotton-totes-might-be-worse-than-plastic/>

⁵² <https://www.surreyep.org.uk/reduce-reuse-recycle/single-use-plastics/>

⁵³ <https://learn.eartheasy.com/articles/plastics-by-the-numbers/>

⁵⁴ The Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply defines whole life costing as taking into account the total cost of a product or service over its lifetime, from concept through to disposal including purchase, hire or lease, maintenance, operation, utilities, training and disposal.

<https://www.cips.org/knowledge/procurement-topics-and-skills/strategy-policy/whole-life-costing/>

⁵⁵ North Yorkshire County Council Procurement and Contract Management Strategy 2018-2022 <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fileroot/Business%20and%20economy/Procurement%20and%20contract%20management/Procurement%20and%20Contract%20Management%20Strategy%202018-2022%20New.pdf>

- In signalling a more decisive approach to its suppliers, the County Council could include in the strategy's accompanying action plan, an action to end the use of single-use plastics products by suppliers wherever possible and appropriate to do so. Explicit reference would give clearer direction to our suppliers that suitable alternatives to single-use plastics products will be considered in future as part of the tender requirements when supplier contracts are due for retender.
- An action to include once a more detailed supply chain audit had been undertaken would be to use scored tender evaluation questions relating to single-use plastics reduction, across our contracts with first-tier key suppliers to reward those suppliers most proactive and engaged on the issue.

All of the above relates to 'getting our own house in order' but the Achilles heel in North Yorkshire is that currently there is not a consistent approach across the waste collection authorities as to what materials can be collected for recycling. By 2023, though all local authorities will be legally obliged to recycle a consistent set of core recyclable materials⁵⁶. This will include amongst others plastic bottles, pots, subs and trays.⁵⁷

⁵⁶ *Environment Bill summer policy statement*, 23 July 2019, DEFRA

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/draft-environment-principles-and-governance-bill-2018/environment-bill-summer-policy-statement-july-2019>

⁵⁷ *Councils will be forced to recycle household waste consistently within four years to end chaos*, 23 July 2019, TW News <https://twnews.co.uk/uk-news/councils-will-be-forced-to-recycle-household-waste-consistently-within-four-years-to-end-chaos>

Recommendations

We recommend that:

In the short-term (the next 12 months), North Yorkshire County Council:

- 1) Produces a concise policy statement with high-level commitments to reduce single-use plastics in its buildings and in its supplier chain.
- 2) Appoints a senior officer by its Management Board to act as a 'champion' for reducing single-use plastics across the council's directorates and to report at timely intervals to the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on progress made across directorates.
- 3) Updates its Procurement and Management Strategy to include an action to end the use of single-use plastics products by suppliers wherever possible and appropriate to do so.
- 4) Leads by example, demonstrating positive change and quick wins on those contracts which are centrally managed, by for example:
 - Reducing single-use plastic items in the staff restaurant and kitchen, in the vending machines and at meetings and training events, taking into account the environmental and financial risks of using alternative materials.
 - Replacing the black plastic bin liners used in office rubbish and recycling bins with a suitable alternative.
 - Reviewing the use of cleaning and hygiene products and office equipment (such as envelopes).
 - Ensuring that contractors at council-run events do not use single-use plastics cups, bottles, plates or cutlery.
- 5) Undertakes a more detailed and comprehensive supply chain audit to understand the volume and proliferation of single-use plastics among, as a minimum, all first-tier suppliers.
- 6) Progresses work to understand the scope to amend, or include new standard contractual terms and conditions to embed a commitment to reduce single-use plastics amongst its suppliers.
- 7) Uses its influence in the region as the Chair of the Yorkshire and Humber Councils Strategic Procurement Group to consider collective ways of reducing single-use plastic among the supply base, for example across common contracts.

- 8) Lobbies the Crown Commercial Service to include a prompt for all suppliers in the standard invitation to tender document, about how they intend to reduce their usage of single-use plastics.
- 9) Takes the lead on behalf of the YNY LEP, in putting in place a communications programme linked to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in generating single-use plastics waste, encouraging behavioural change amongst council staff and the public to reduce their use of single-use plastics in the workplace and in the home. To ensure this is not a one-off short-term campaign:
 - Produce regular articles, blogs and updates;
 - Produce posters for display across all county council buildings; and
 - Produce a webpage on our website or other suitable platform with a North Yorkshire audience to give top tips for reducing usage and the types of plastic that can be reused, recycled or composted.
- 10) Promotes the single-use plastics campaign to schools, providing best practice examples.
- 11) Shares key messages from the communications campaign with our contractors and suppliers to give them notice of our intentions to reduce single-use plastics.
- 12) Shares a copy of this report with North Yorkshire District Councils and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership to inform and build upon joint initiatives aimed at reducing the use of single-use plastics.

In the medium term (12 months and beyond), North Yorkshire County Council:

- 13) Uses scored tender evaluation questions relating to single-use plastic reduction, particularly across key contracts, to reward those suppliers most proactive and engaged on the issue.
- 14) Increases the number of 'meet the buyer' events for suppliers to meet representatives of the Council to facilitate shared learning, promote business, and to understand expectations; in this case regarding single-use plastics.
- 15) Produces and regularly reviews directorate-based action plans to reduce single-use plastics, and updates the progress made
- 16) Educates and trains staff particularly those involved in commissioning to reduce single-use plastics by:
 - Reviewing the supply chain including consumption of goods, services and works, to determine if alternative, more environmentally-friendly products are available that still provide value for money and are fit for purpose.
 - Evaluating whole life product costs.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Wyre Council Single use plastic policy

Wyre Council commits to:

- Engage with staff to ensure that single-use plastics are phased out across council locations
- That where possible improved recycling at council facilities be introduced regarding plastics and other materials
- Work with event organisers to reduce single-use plastics and provide improved recycling opportunities at events held on council land
- Use government legislation that regulates against the use of single use plastics to support our efforts
- Work with our supply chain to raise awareness and minimise the use of single-use plastics in service provision and seek sustainable alternatives
- Where single use plastic is unavoidable, encourage the use of recycled plastics and pursue pioneering recycling opportunities
- Encourage strategic partners to adopt single use plastic policies
- Share best practice and information about plastic free initiatives, to residents, businesses, visitors and beyond, through the council's communication channels
- Join forces with external organisations who champion cleaner greener environments
- Communicate the importance of protecting our urban, rural and marine environments, and support and promote positive initiatives, campaigns and actions for reducing plastic waste
- Continue to support communities, beach cleans and litter-pick initiatives to ensure our parks, beaches and open spaces are free from plastic litter.

https://www.wyre.gov.uk/info/200305/council_and_decisions/1320/single_useplastic_policy

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North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

23 March 2021

Collaboration Agreement Relating to Shared Waste Arrangements with City of York Council

Report of the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 North Yorkshire County Council entered into a Joint Waste Management agreement with City of York Council in 2011. This report seeks approval to update that arrangement and delegate the authority to the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services in consultation with Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) to take such steps as are necessary to complete the agreement.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) entered into a Joint Waste Management agreement with City of York Council (CYC) in 2011, which supported NYCC contracting with AmeyCespa (AWRP) SPV Ltd (AmeyCespa) for the provision of a long term waste management service at Allerton Waste Recovery Plant (AWRP). In September 2014 the Executive approved subject to full Council to proceed to Financial Close for the long term waste management service.
- 2.2 The AWRP contract is between NYCC and AmeyCespa and the CYC has signed a Joint Waste Management Agreement which flows down the relevant obligations of the contract to CYC and sets out payment provisions and governance. The overall costs to the authorities for the service totalled over £35m in 2019/20. CYC pays a contribution to NYCC for the contract management work undertaken on their behalf.
- 2.3 Separately both NYCC and CYC have entered into a Services Agreement with Yorwaste for the provision of Waste Management Services including the bulking and transport of waste to AWRP as well as the management of the council's Household Waste Recycling Centres and Waste Transfer Stations.

Current Management Arrangements

- 2.4 The contract with AmeyCespa is managed by NYCC and is led by the Assistant Director for Transport, Waste and Countryside Services. There are a number of boards and joint meetings arranged in order to manage the contracts between the parties including :

Meeting	Attendees	Frequency	Key Purpose
AWRP Project Board	NYCC Director and support / CYC Assistant Director / Amey / Shareholders	6 Monthly	Commercial / Contractual Issues
AWRP Joint Meeting	NYCC / CYC / Amey	Monthly	Operational Updates
NYCC / CYC	NYCC / CYC	Monthly	Commercial / Finance / Operational

Drivers for Change

- 2.5 CYC acknowledge that they are heavily reliant on NYCC's contract management function and, having managed the contract for a number of years now, NYCC has greater insight into the resources required to manage the contract with AmeyCespa. NYCC has advised CYC that a greater contribution to NYCC's resources and overheads is required.
- 2.6 The forthcoming Government review of waste is expected to add new obligations on councils in terms of waste collection and recycling. This will likely impact the service at Allerton Park and closer collaboration with CYC and the District and Borough Councils is anticipated.
- 2.7 There are significant linkages between the AWRP contract and Yorwaste particularly in relation to bulking and delivering waste from transfer stations and transporting waste to AWRP. Any delays at the transfer station have ongoing financial implications to the councils. There is also a requirement for Yorwaste to source commercial waste from within North Yorkshire to deliver to AWRP in order to maximise the commercial benefit of the AWRP contract rates. The benefit is shared between NYCC and CYC.

Proposal

- 2.8 There are significant synergies between CYC and NYCC regarding its Waste Disposal Authority services. Officers commenced preliminary discussions in 2019 to explore whether the benefits of greater collaboration through shared waste arrangements could benefit the two organisations. Officers from both authorities have concluded that a shared waste arrangement would be the preferred solution for NYCC to provide the following functions to CYC:
- Contract Management of AmeyCespa
 - Contract Management of Yorwaste
 - Client Management of Household Waste Recycling Centres
 - Payment of Invoices on behalf of authorities
 - Provision of Management Information including completion of Waste Data Flow
- 2.9 Excluded from the scope of the Collaboration Agreement are the Waste Collection Authority functions delivered by CYC in their capacity as a Unitary Authority, including kerbside collections, bulky waste collections from households, and local bring recycling centres. CYC retain their responsibility to determine the level of service provided to City of York residents at their Household Waste Recycling Centres and kerbside collection services. The Collaboration Agreement does not affect CYC's existing commitment to jointly work with NYCC to treat residual waste through AWRP as set out in the original Joint Waste Management Agreement.
- 2.10 The service will be managed by a Head of Service who will jointly report to the Assistant Director Transport, Waste and Countryside Services at NYCC and the Assistant Director Transport, Highways and the Environment at CYC. The staff will be employed by NYCC.

3.0 Equalities

- 3.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse equality impacts arising from the proposed standards. It is the view of officers that the proposals will not have significant adverse impact on any groups of people with protected characteristics identified in the Equalities Act 2010. Proper regard has been given to the public sector equality duty and a 'decision not to EIA' document has been completed and is appended at Appendix 1.

4.0 Finance

- 4.1 NYCC currently recharge CYC approximately £140,000 per annum made up of a contribution of £85,000 towards NYCC staffing and £55,000 towards advisors costs.

4.2 The estimated cost to CYC of the proposed new shared waste service through the proposed Collaboration Agreement is approximately £60,000 greater than the current cost in order to provide a significantly enhanced service, and is more reflective of the value that CYC derives.

5.0 Legal

5.1 NYCC and CYC have the power to collaborate as set out in the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970, s1 of the Localism Act 2011, s93 of the Local Government Act 2003 and s101 and s111 of the Local Government Act 1972.

5.2 The arrangements contemplated by the Collaboration Agreement do not require a procurement process to be carried out as they are in accordance with the provisions of regulation 12(7) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (Regulations) regarding collaboration arrangements between authorities. Regulation 12(7) recognises that the public procurement rules as set out in the Regulations are not designed to interfere with the freedom of public authorities to perform the public service tasks conferred on them by using their own resources which includes the possibility of cooperation with other public authorities.

5.3 NYCC and CYC entered into the JWMA on 26th August 2011 which provides for sharing of costs between NYCC and CYC relating to the procurement of the long term service provided by AmeyCespa but does not extend to arrangements for formal management of the AWRP Contract.

5.4 The Collaboration Agreement allows the authorities to collaborate in the management of contracted waste disposal services including AWRP, HWRCs, and the submission of mandatory performance information to discharge the duties of the Waste Disposal Authorities.

6.0 Climate Change

6.1 The shared waste arrangements include the contract management of waste services delivered by AmeyCespa and Yorwaste. The contractors performance is monitored and reviewed with regards to reuse, composting, recycling and diversion of waste from landfill and waste haulage, to ensure that the waste hierarchy is applied, the value recovered from waste where practicable, and the impact from vehicle movements is minimised. Further details appended in the Climate Change Assessment at Appendix 2.

7.0 Recommendation

- 7.1 The Executive is asked to agree to enter into the 'Collaboration Agreement. Relating to: Shared Waste Arrangements' with City of York Council, and to delegate to the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services in consultation with Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) to take such steps as are necessary to complete the agreement.

KARL BATTERSBY
Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services

Author of Report:
Peter Jeffreys, Head of Waste, Business and Environmental Services

Background Documents: Joint Waste Management Agreement, 26 August 2011
Financial Close for the long term waste service contract,
Executive, 9 September 2014. Summary.
Draft Collaboration Agreement Relating to: Shared Waste
Arrangements

Initial equality impact assessment screening form	
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.	
Directorate	BES
Service area	TWACS
Proposal being screened	Collaboration Agreement Relating to Shared Waste Arrangements with City of York Council
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Andy Holmes
What are you proposing to do?	North Yorkshire County Council entered into a Joint Waste Management agreement with City of York Council (CYC) in 2011. This report seeks approval to update that arrangement and delegate the authority to the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services in consultation with Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) to take such steps as are necessary to complete the agreement.
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<p>CYC acknowledge that they are heavily reliant on NYCC's contract management function and, having managed the contract for a number of years now, NYCC has greater insight into the resources required to manage the contract with AmeyCespa. NYCC has advised that these will need to increase including a contribution to NYCC's overheads.</p> <p>The forthcoming Government review of waste is expected to add new obligations on councils in terms of waste collection and recycling. This will likely impact the service at Allerton Park and closer collaboration with CYC and the District and Borough Councils is anticipated.</p> <p>There are significant linkages between the AWRP contract and Yorwaste particularly in relation to bulking and delivering waste from transfer stations and transporting waste to AWRP. Any delays at the transfer station have ongoing financial implications to the councils. There is also a requirement for Yorwaste to source commercial waste from within North Yorkshire to deliver to AWRP in order to maximise the commercial benefit of the AWRP contract rates. The benefit is shared between NYCC and CYC.</p>
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	The estimated cost to CYC of the proposed new shared waste service through the proposed Collaboration Agreement is approximately £60,000 greater than the current cost but provides a significantly enhanced service and is

	more reflective of the value that CYC derives. The scope of a management information system to validate contractor financial transactions has been extended to include those relating to CYC in order to streamline the process.		
<p>Is there likely to be an adverse impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics?</p> <p>As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be a significant adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>			
Protected characteristic	Yes	No	Don't know/No info available
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Sex (Gender)		X	
Race		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender reassignment		X	
Religion or belief		X	
Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	
NYCC additional characteristic			
People in rural areas		X	
People on a low income		X	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		X	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	No		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	X	Continue to full EIA:

Reason for decision	The proposal does not change any outcomes for any protected characteristic.
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Michael Leah
Date	4 March 2021



The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	Collaboration Agreement Relating to Shared Waste Arrangements with City of York Council
Brief description of proposal	North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and City of York Council (CYC) are to provide shared waste arrangements to deliver the Contract Management of AmeyCespa, Contract Management of Yorwaste, Client Management of Household Waste Recycling Centres, Payment of Invoices on behalf of authorities, and Provision of Management Information including completion of Waste Data Flow.
Directorate	BES
Service area	TWACS
Lead officer	Peter Jeffreys
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	Not applicable
Date impact assessment started	March 2021

Options appraisal

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

The contract with AmeyCespa to provide Allerton Waste Recovery Park is managed by NYCC and is led by the Assistant Director for Transport, Waste and Countryside Services. CYC acknowledge that they are heavily reliant on NYCC's contract management function and, having managed the contract for a number of years now, NYCC has greater insight into the resources required to manage the contract with AmeyCespa. Separately both NYCC and CYC have entered into a Services Agreement with Yorwaste for the provision of Waste Management Services including the bulking and transport of waste to AWRP as well as the management of the council's Household Waste Recycling Centres and Waste Transfer Stations.

An alternative approach is for CYC to continue to manage its contract with Yorwaste and to reimburse NYCC for its role in contract managing AmeyCespa. However, this duplication of tasks is not an efficient use of the two Council's resources and a shared service seeks to deliver an efficient and improved contract management function.

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

CYC will contribute an additional ~£60,000 per annum to NYCC to reflect the existing and new functions delivered by the shared waste service.

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How will this proposal impact on the environment? N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.	Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where	No impact (Place a X in the box below where	Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where	Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale? Where possible/relevant please include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.	Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.
Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.	Emissions from travel	x		Residual waste generated in the City of York area is currently hauled and treated at the Allerton Waste Recovery Park which remains unchanged through this proposal.	Not applicable	Effective contract management of AWRP improves the diversion of waste from landfill to minimise CO2 emissions.
	Emissions from construction	x		Not applicable (no construction is envisaged through this proposal)	Not applicable	Not applicable
	Emissions from running of buildings	x		It is not envisaged that the running of buildings will change through this proposal.	Not applicable	Not applicable
	Other					
Minimise waste : Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic	x			Consolidating the contract management of HWRCs in CYC and NYCC in a single team will deliver best practice across the whole area and	Not applicable	Service improvements and lessons learnt will be considered when seeking

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes over and above business as usual Evidence or measurement of effect Figures for CO₂e Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>maximise the amount of waste reused, recycled and composted.</p>						<p>service improvements in order to recover value from waste and promote the circular economy.</p>
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		x		<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>	x			<p>Benefits to air pollution can be delivered by the shared waste service by ensuring the efficient compaction of waste materials at HWRCs to minimise the transport requirement, and working with the contractor to minimise bulk vehicle movements to haul waste to AWRP by loading vehicles effectively and securing fuel efficient vehicles.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Engaging with Yorwaste (the Council's Teckal waste company) in an open and transparent way to contribute towards the Council's aim of carbon neutrality by 2030.</p>
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		x		<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where	No impact (Place a X in the box below where	Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes over and above business as usual Evidence or measurement of effect Figures for CO₂e Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
Enhance conservation and wildlife		x		Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape		x		Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Other (please state below)		x		Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

A six monthly report will be prepared by the shared waste service, which will include the environmental performance and availability of Allerton Waste Recovery Park and HWRCs managed through this agreement. The waste service regularly engages with best practice organisations such as NAWDO, LARAC, APSE, ADEPT and WIDP to ensure that best practice environmental standards are considered and adopted where practicable.

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

The shared waste arrangements include the contract management of waste services delivered by AmeyCespa and Yorwaste. The contractors performance is monitored and reviewed with regards to reuse, composting, recycling and diversion of waste from landfill and waste haulage, to ensure that the waste hierarchy is applied, the value recovered from waste where practicable, and the impact from vehicle movements is minimised.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Peter Jeffreys
Job title	Head of Waste
Service area	TWACS
Directorate	BES
Signature	Peter Jeffreys
Completion date	3/3/21

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Michael Leah, Assistant Director, Transport, Waste and Countryside Services

Date: 4 March 2021

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FORWARD PLAN

The decisions likely to be taken by North Yorkshire County Council in the following 12 months are set out below:

Publication Date: 15 March 2021 Last updated: 15 March 2021
Period covered by Plan: 31 March 2022

All public Committee meetings of the Council where the public can attend have been suspended. Following on from the Prime Minister's announcement on 23 March 2020 about fundamental restrictions on public travel and movement, the Leader of the Council, Cllr Carl Les, has stopped all public, committee meetings of the Council for the foreseeable future. The council business will continue but in a different way. Emergency powers have been invoked that enable the Chief Executive, Richard Flinton, to make decisions that would previously have been made by the Council's committees. We will keep the position under review as the Government consider drafting legislation and regulations to allow for virtual meetings and we will consider how best to engage with the public to ensure that good governance, transparency and public engagement is maintained during this time.

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PLEASE NOTE:-

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to information)(England) Regulations 2012, at least **28 clear days' notice**, excluding the day of notification and the day of decision taking, must be published on the Forward Plan of any intended key decision. It is also a requirement that **28 clear days' notice** is published of the intention to hold a Executive meeting or any part of it in private for the consideration of confidential or exempt information. For further information and advice please contact the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager on 01609 533531.

FUTURE DECISIONS

Likely Date of Decision	Decision Taker (membership of the Council and all its Committees is set out in Part 3 of the Constitution)	In Consultation with (Executive Member or Corporate Director)	Description of Matter – including if the report contains any exempt information and the reasons why	Key Decision YES / NO	Decision Required	Consultees (i.e. the principal groups to be consulted)	Consultation Process (i.e. the means by which any such consultation is to be undertaken)	How representations may be made and details of Contact Person (Tel: 0845 034 9494) unless specified otherwise)	Relevant documents already submitted to Decision Taker
23 Mar 2021	Executive		Collaboration Agreement - Shared Waste Arrangements with City of York Council	Yes	To agree to enter into a collaboration agreement for a shared waste arrangement with City of York Council	Not applicable	Not applicable	Peter Jeffreys, Head of Service - Waste peter.jeffreys@northyorks.gov.uk	
23 Mar 2021	Executive		Revised Plan for Economic Growth	Yes	To approve the revised NYCC plan for Economic Growth	NYCC Directorates, BES Executive Members, District Authorities / NPA's LEP	Internal workshops with NYCC Members and officers, and written informal consultation with external partners. Representations can be made by email to lead officer.	Mark Kibblewhite, Senior Policy Officer, Economic Growth Mark.Kibblewhite@northyorks.gov.uk	
23 Mar 2021	Executive		Scrutiny Review Final Report - Single Use Plastics	No	To present the findings and recommendations arising from the scrutiny review undertaken by the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview &		By email to Jonathan Spencer, Corporate Development Officer jonathan.spencer@northyorks.gov.uk	Jonathan Robert Spencer, Principal Scrutiny Officer jonathan.spencer@northyorks.gov.uk	

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FUTURE DECISIONS

Likely Date of Decision	Decision Taker membership of the Council and all its Committees is set out in Part 3 of the Constitution	In Consultation with (Executive Member or Corporate Director)	Description of Matter – including if the report contains any exempt information and the reasons why	Key Decision YES/NO	Decision Required	Consultees (i.e. the principal groups to be consulted)	Consultation Process (i.e. the means by which any such consultation is to be undertaken)	How representations may be made and details of Contact Person (Tel: 0845 034 9494) unless specified otherwise)	Relevant documents already submitted to Decision Taker
Page					Scrutiny Committee on its review of ways to reduce single-use plastics usage by the County Council, its suppliers and amongst residents.				
20 Apr 2021	Executive		Amendments to Council Constitution	Yes	To present proposed amendments for consideration and to recommend to full Council for approval.	Relevant NYCC officers and Members	Correspondence and meetings	Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager Daniel.Harry@northyorks.gov.uk	
20 Apr 2021	Executive		Redeployment of land to the north and south of Crosshills Lane, Selby	Yes	To approve the proposed redeployment of the property			Philip Cowan, Non-Operational Property Manager, NYCC Property Services Philip.Cowan@northyorks.gov.uk	
20 Apr 2021	Executive		Young People's Accommodation Pathway	Yes	To consider options for the future commissioning of arrangements. A decision is required to	District Councils.	Officer engagement via working group.	Mel Hutchinson Mel.Hutchinson@northyorks.gov.uk	None.

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FUTURE DECISIONS

Likely Date of Decision	Decision Taker membership of the Council and all its Committees is set out in Part 3 of the Constitution	In Consultation with (Executive Member or Corporate Director)	Description of Matter – including if the report contains any exempt information and the reasons why	Key Decision YES/NO	Decision Required	Consultees (i.e. the principal groups to be consulted)	Consultation Process (i.e. the means by which any such consultation is to be undertaken)	How representations may be made and details of Contact Person (Tel: 0845 034 9494) unless specified otherwise)	Relevant documents already submitted to Decision Taker
					approve the approach and to agree a public consultation with service users.				
22 Apr 2021	Executive		A59 Kex Gill Diversion Contract Award	Yes	To inform members of the outcome of the tendering process and seek approval to award the A59 Kex Gill diversion contract	N/A	N/A	Ken Moody, Major Projects Manager, BES Kenneth.Moody@northyorks.gov.uk	
25 May 2021	Executive		Q4 Performance Monitoring & Budget Report	No	To update members on Q4 performance and budget, including Revenue Plan and Capital Plan	Management Board		Gary Fielding, Corporate Director for Strategic Resources Gary.fielding@northyorks.gov.uk	Previous Quarterly Reports
25 May 2021	Executive		0-19 Healthy Child Section 75 Agreement - Consultation Feedback & Approval to move to a Partnership	Yes	To approve the final model and Section 75 Agreement	Harrogate District Foundation Trust	Via the Council's website	Victoria Ononeze, Public Health Consultant, Michael Rudd, Head of Housing Marketing Development (Commissioning),	0-19 Healthy Child Section 75 Agreement Report Healthy Child

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FUTURE DECISIONS

Likely Date of Decision	Decision Taker membership of the Council and all its Committees is set out in Part 3 of the Constitution	In Consultation with (Executive Member or Corporate Director)	Description of Matter – including if the report contains any exempt information and the reasons why	Key Decision YES/NO	Decision Required	Consultees (i.e. the principal groups to be consulted)	Consultation Process (i.e. the means by which any such consultation is to be undertaken)	How representations may be made and details of Contact Person (Tel: 0845 034 9494) unless specified otherwise)	Relevant documents already submitted to Decision Taker
			Model					Health and Adult Services 01609 535347/797045,	Programme Report
22 Jun 2021	Executive		Young People's Accommodation Pathway - Consultation Feedback & Extension of current Contract	Yes	To consider feedback from public consultation and to propose extension of current Contract			Mel Hutchinson 01609 536542	
24 Aug 2021	Executive		Q1 Performance Monitoring & Budget Report	No	Financial and Performance Monitoring report including: Revenue Plan; Capital Plan; Treasury Management & Prudential Indicators	Management Board		Gary Fielding, Corporate Director for Strategic Resources Gary.Fielding@northyorks.gov.uk	Previous Quarterly Reports
7 Dec 2021	Executive		Q2 Performance Monitoring & Budget Report	No	Financial and Performance Monitoring report including: Revenue Plan; Capital Plan; Treasury Management & Prudential Indicators	Management Board		Gary Fielding, Corporate Director for Strategic Resources Gary.Fielding@northyorks.gov.uk	Previous Quarterly Reports

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FUTURE DECISIONS									
Likely Date of Decision	Decision Taker membership of the Council and all its Committees is set out in Part 3 of the Constitution	In Consultation with (Executive Member or Corporate Director)	Description of Matter – including if the report contains any exempt information and the reasons why	Key Decision YES/NO	Decision Required	Consultees (i.e. the principal groups to be consulted)	Consultation Process (i.e. the means by which any such consultation is to be undertaken)	How representations may be made and details of Contact Person (Tel: 0845 034 9494) unless specified otherwise)	Relevant documents already submitted to Decision Taker
25 Jan 2022	Executive		Draft Revenue Budget 2022/23 & Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)	No	To consider and recommend to County Council the Revenue Budget 2022/23 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) including the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue Plan • Capital Plan • Treasury Management • Prudential Indicators 	All members	Budget consultation process	Gary Fielding, Corporate Director for Strategic Resources Gary.Fielding@northyorks.gov.uk	

Should you wish to make representation as to the matter being discussed in public please contact Daniel Harry
Email: (daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk) Tel: 01609 533531.