



Agenda

Meeting: 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 13th July 2021

Time: 11.00 am

Venue: Remote meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Under his delegated decision making powers in the Officers' Delegation Scheme in the Council's Constitution, the Chief Executive Officer has power, in cases of emergency, to take any decision which could be taken by the Council, the Executive or a committee. Following on from the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, which allowed for committee meetings to be held remotely, the County Council resolved at its meeting on 5 May 2021 that, for the present time, in light of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic circumstances, remote live-broadcast committee meetings should continue (as informal meetings of the Committee Members), with any formal decisions required being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency decision making powers and after consultation with other Officers and Members as appropriate and after taking into account any views of the relevant Committee Members. This approach will be reviewed by full Council at its July meeting.

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. **Public Minutes of the Informal Meeting held on 22 June 2021** (Pages 5 - 8)
3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Exclusion of the public from the meeting during consideration of each of the items of business listed in Column 1 of the following table on the grounds that they each involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph(s) specified in column 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to information)(Variation) Order 2006:-**

Item number on the agenda	Paragraph Number
Appendix 1 to Agenda Item 12	3
13	3

5. 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 8th July 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.

6. Carbon Reduction Plan (Pages 9 - 38)

Recommendation:

That, subject to any comments Executive Members may have, the draft Carbon Reduction Plan at Appendix 1 be proposed to the Chief Executive Officer for his consideration and approval, using his emergency delegated powers.

7. Formal meetings of the Authority's Committees (Pages 39 - 44)

Recommendation:

That the members of the Executive consider the options outlined in section 5.7 of the report and then make a proposal to the Chief Executive Officer for recommendation, under his emergency delegated powers, to full Council for review at their meeting on 21 July 2021.

8. Proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel (Pages 45 - 48)

Recommendation:

That, subject to any comments Members may have, the outlined amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel be proposed to the Chief Executive Officer for recommendation, under his emergency decision making powers, to the meeting of the County Council on 21 July 2021.

9. Area Constituency Committee Feedback Report (Pages 49 - 52)

Recommendation: That the Executive notes the report and considers any matters arising from the work of the Area Constituency Committees, that merits further scrutiny, review or investigation at a county-level.

10. Support for the Tour de Yorkshire 2022 (Pages 53 - 56)

Recommendations:

That the Executive recommend to the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency delegated powers that he:

- i. approves funding of £100k to Welcome to Yorkshire as a fee to staging the 2022 Tour de Yorkshire;

- ii. approves the provision of a further fee of up to £100k in the event that Welcome to Yorkshire are unable to generate sufficient sponsorship for the 2022 event and that this provision is funded from the Strategic Capacity Unallocated; and
- iii. delegates authority to the Corporate Director, Business & Environmental Services in consultation with the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources to make any payment to Welcome to Yorkshire which becomes due after appropriate due diligence is carried out.

11. Forward Plan (Pages 57 - 66)

12. North Yorkshire Integrated Sexual Health Service (Pages 67 - 88)

Recommendations:

Executive Members are asked to note the contents of this report and to recommend to the Chief Executive Officer that using his emergency powers he:

- i. Approve the revised budget for the Section 75 agreement and delegate any amendments to this budget to the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services in consultation with the Corporate Director for Strategic Resources;
- ii. Delegate the approval of the consultation on the proposed new service model to the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services in consultation with the Director of Public Health and the Executive Member for Public Health.

13. Private Minute of the Informal Meeting held on 22 June 2021 (Pages 89 - 90)

14. Other business which the Leader agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances

Contact Details

Enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Melanie Carr Tel: 01609 533849 or e-mail:

Melanie.carr1@northyorks.gov.uk

Website: www.northyorks.gov.uk

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

Monday, 5 July 2021

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North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

Minutes of the remote meeting held on Tuesday, 22nd June, 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, Patrick Mulligan, Janet Sanderson and Greg White.

In attendance: County Councillors Paul Haslam.

Officers present: Stuart Carlton, Gary Fielding, Barry Khan, Richard Webb, Melanie Carr, Daniel Harry, Neil Irving, Michael Leah and John Lee.

Apologies: County Councillor Don Mackenzie, and officers Karl Battersby and Richard Flinton.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

598 Introductions

Members of the Executive and Corporate Management Team introduced themselves, followed by other Councillors present at the meeting.

599 Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 June 2021

Resolved –

Having considered the draft Minutes of the informal meeting of Executive members held on 8 June 2021, which had been printed and circulated, members of the Executive Members agreed to note them as a correct record.

600 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

601 Exclusion of the public from the meeting during consideration of each of the items of business listed in Column 1 of the following table on the grounds that they each involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph(s) specified in column 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to information)(Variation) Order 2006:-

Resolved –

That on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public was excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 10.

There were no public questions or statements.

603 Equality and Diversity Policy Statement

Considered – A report of the Chief Executive presenting the responses to a recent consultation on the draft refreshed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement, for Executive members consideration and recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer that using his emergency delegated powers, he recommend the revised statement to full Council for approval.

County Councillor David Chance introduced the report and outlined the proposed changes as detailed in the report. Neil Irving drew attention to the consultation process undertaken, as detailed in the report and the proposed addition of the word 'Inclusion' in the title of the Policy Statement.

As members had no questions, they agreed to note the report and it was

Resolved: That it be proposed to the Chief Executive that he recommend the revised Policy Statement to full Council.

604 Proposal to change the category of Danby CE Primary School from voluntary controlled to voluntary aided from 16th September 2021

Considered – Report by the Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Service seeking determination of a proposal published by the Governing Body of Danby CE Primary School to change the category of Danby CE Primary School from voluntary controlled to voluntary aided with effect from 16 September 2021.

County Councillor Patrick Mulligan introduced the report confirming the School had recently formed a federation with Egdon CE voluntary aided Primary School and now wished to better align themselves with Egdon, particularly the rules around staffing, and create a more formal link with the Diocese. Attention was drawn to the appropriate process undertaken, as detailed in paragraph 9 of the report.

Having noted the information provided in the report and at the meeting, Executive Members agreed with the proposal in the report and

Resolved:

That the proposal to change the category of Danby CE Primary School from voluntary controlled to voluntary aided with effect from 16 September 2021 be recommended to the Chief Executive Officer for his approval.

605 Grant of leases to NY Highways Ltd.

Considered – A report of the Corporate Director for Strategic Resources, seeking approval to grant the leases for four depot sites listed to NY Highways Ltd.

County Councillor Gareth Dadd introduced the report confirming that the four depots in question all had rental levels above that which officers could approve under delegated authority powers. He also noted that the proposed rental levels had been independently assessed and agreed to avoid any challenge.

Having considered the report and the information provided at the meeting, Executive

Members

Resolved:

That it be recommended to the Chief Executive Officer that he approve the grant of leases to NY Highways Ltd for the four sites listed in the report, on terms to be agreed by the Corporate Director for Strategic Resources.

606 National Bus Strategy

Considered – A report of the Corporate Director for Business and Environmental Services updating Executive Members on the National Bus Strategy and actions Local Transport Authorities were expected to take, and presenting the options and a recommendation in relation to the council's response.

County Councillor Andrew Lee presented the report, confirming the new national strategy was aimed at transforming bus services to deliver a more a more innovative demand-led service that was reliable, easier to understand, with improved frequency and more evening and weekend buses, which would be beneficial to a large rural county like North Yorkshire.

He drew attention to the funding provided by Government for bus service support during the pandemic. He also detailed the requirement of the new National Bus Strategy, which would enable Local Transport Authorities to continue to access the proposed £3b Fund for bus services, subject to signing up to one of three options, as detailed in the report.

It was noted that the preferred option for NYCC was an Enhanced Partnership i.e. an agreement with local bus operators to work together to improve bus services, which would require engagement with operators to understand what services are needed.

It was also noted that early engagement had already taken place with stakeholders, in support of developing the required Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), aimed at enhancing bus services across North Yorkshire, promoting healthier travel choices and lowering emissions through reduced car travel, which needed to be ready for submission by the end of October 2021.

Michael Leah, Assistant Director for Travel & Environment, Waste and Countryside Service confirmed the vision articulated in the report was only draft at this stage and would be further developed as the consultation and engagement progressed.

Executive Members agreed the National Bus Strategy had the potential to be really exciting for the County, bringing particular benefits for the more rural areas and were looking forward to the results from the demand-responsive pilot currently underway.

County Councillor Paul Haslem suggested the wording of the Vision should include reference to the BSIP forming part of the County Council's Integrated de-carbonisation Strategy.

County Councillor Gareth Dadd welcomed the report but noted a word of caution around raising expectations, and suggested the Authority needed to be mindful of any potentially unsustainable cost legacy that might arise in the longer term, from a service with limited passenger use.

Having considered the report and the information provided at the meeting, Executive Members

Resolved:

To recommend to the Chief Executive Officer that using his emergency delegated powers he approve:

- i. The option of Enhanced Partnership as the preferred option and agree the draft notice attached at Annex 1 can be published. Noting that a further decision on the council's final option position could be taken In October 2021 when details of the Enhanced Partnership work with operators, information on what the North Yorkshire BSIP would contain, any new details on funding and future funding available at that time.
- ii. The objectives set out in section 6.4 for inclusion in the council's Bus Service Improvement Plan.

At this stage in the meeting, the Chair decided to bring forward the remaining non-confidential items of business, so that the public meeting could be concluded before the Executive Members moved to meeting in private to consider confidential agenda item 10.

607 Area Constituency Committee Feedback Report

Considered – A report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Democratic Services) providing an overview of the key issues considered at a recent meeting of the Skipton & Ripon Area Constituency Committee.

Resolved - That the report be noted.

608 Forward Plan

Considered – An extract from the Forward Plan listing the forthcoming Executive items of business for the period 14 June 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Resolved:

That the update be noted.

609 Filey Road Park and Ride, Scarborough - Option agreement.

Agenda item 10 was considered in private and the public have no right of access to Minute No. 609.

The meeting concluded at 11.28 am.

North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

13 July 2021

Carbon Reduction Plan

Report of the Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:

- i. Present the draft Carbon Reduction Plan for Executive Members' consideration
- ii. Ask Executive Members to propose to the Chief Executive Officer that he approve the draft Carbon Reduction Plan, using his emergency delegated powers

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Under his delegated decision making powers in the Officers' Delegation Scheme in the Council's Constitution, the Chief Executive Officer has power, in cases of emergency, to take any decision which could be taken by the Council, the Executive or a committee. Following on from the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, which allowed for committee meetings to be held remotely, the County Council resolved at its meeting on 5 May 2021 that, for the present time, in light of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic circumstances, remote live-broadcast committee meetings should continue (as informal meetings of the Committee Members), with any formal decisions required being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency decision making powers and after consultation with other Officers and Members as appropriate and after taking into account any views of the relevant Committee Members. This approach will be reviewed by full Council at its July meeting.
- 2.2 On 24 July 2019 North Yorkshire County Council passed a motion which committed to producing a carbon reduction plan to meet aspirations to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as near to that date as possible.
- 2.3 Progress on development of the plan was slowed by the Covid response but work has now been undertaken on understanding our carbon footprint, developing a pathway tool and identifying realistic potential options to significantly reduce our footprint. These have all informed the content of the draft plan. We have also established a measure of cost-effectiveness (£ per ktCO₂e removed) to enable business cases to be assessed.
- 2.4 A Beyond Carbon programme within the Council's change management governance structure has been established to oversee the main strands of the plan and a one-off £1m fund for pump-priming and development of business cases has been committed in the Council's 2021-22 budget.
- 2.5 Other work has included developing and incorporating a climate change impact assessment tool into the council's decision making process, so that carbon emissions and other environmental considerations are taken into account when decisions are made.

3.0 Draft Carbon Reduction Plan

- 3.1 The draft carbon reduction plan sets out the Council's aspirations in relation to carbon reduction in the context of national and regional commitments.
- 3.2 It acknowledges that our carbon footprint consists of:
Scope 1 emissions – heating and ventilation of our corporate buildings and fleet vehicles. (This does not include school buildings).
Scope 2 emissions – electricity use for power and lighting (including street lighting)
Scope 3 emissions – including business travel using staff's own vehicles, procurement of goods and services, schools, companies owned by the County Council, waste and water use.
- 3.3 The plan concentrates on the emissions which we have direct control over and direct ways of measuring emissions from i.e. Scope 1 emissions, Scope 2 emissions and some Scope 3 emissions (water use and business travel). It provides details of achievements so far and future actions over the next three years.
- 3.4 is proposed in the future that the plan be integrated with the Council Plan and refreshed annually as a consequence.
- 3.5 The plan also details other areas of work to reduce wider carbon emissions and negative impacts on the environment.
- 3.6 The draft carbon reduction plan is attached at appendix 1.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There will need to be considerable financial investment to achieve the Council's aspiration to be carbon neutral. Some of this investment, for example in improvements to thermal insulation and heating systems, will save money in the longer term and a number of funding streams are available to support some elements of the required action e.g. tree planting, decarbonisation of heating of public sector buildings.
- 4.2 However, we and other local authorities will not be able to tackle every aspect of carbon reduction nor achieve net carbon neutrality without government support and action through legislation and fiscal measures.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The County Council will need to contribute to national legal targets for carbon emissions reduction.
- 5.2 The government is already working towards its commitment to reduce emissions in 2030 by at least 68% compared to 1990 levels. In addition, the Prime Minister recently agreed to legislate a new target to reduce national emissions by 78% by 2035 (compared to 1990 levels), including emissions from international shipping and aviation, following the independent Climate Change Committee's advice on the Sixth Carbon Budget.
- 5.2 The new target will become enshrined in law by the end of June 2021.

6.0 Equalities Implications

- 6.1 An equality impact assessment has been completed and is included at appendix 2.

6.2 Overall the plan's aim to reduce the Council's carbon footprint and its impact on climate change is positive for everyone in the county, including those with protected characteristics. The plan is an overarching document and specific equality impact assessments will be carried out on decisions made in relation to actions in each area.

7.0 Environmental Impacts/Benefits

7.1 A climate change impact assessment has been completed and is included at appendix 3.

7.2 The carbon reduction plan, by definition, aims to reduce the carbon footprint of the County Council and help it achieve its aspiration to be carbon neutral by 2030 or as near to that date as possible. From April 2022 the plan will be integrated into our Council Plan and reviewed annually. Progress will be regularly monitored as part of our corporate performance management framework including quarterly performance reports to our Management Board and Executive.

8.0 Recommendation

That, subject to any comments Executive Members may have, the draft Carbon Reduction Plan at Appendix 1 be proposed to the Chief Executive Officer for his consideration and approval, using his emergency delegated powers.

Richard Flinton

Chief Executive
County Hall
Northallerton
28 June 2021

Report Author – Deborah Hugill, Senior Strategy and Performance Officer
Presenter of Report – Neil Irving, Assistant Director, Policy, Partnerships and Communities, Central Services

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Draft carbon reduction plan
Appendix 2: Equality impact assessment
Appendix 3: Climate change impact assessment

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Draft Carbon Reduction Plan

1.0 Our vision and ambitions

1.1 We want North Yorkshire to be a thriving county which adapts to a changing world and remains a special place for everyone to live, work and visit. Our ambitions are:

- Leading for North Yorkshire
- Every child and young person has the best possible start in life
- Every adult has a longer, healthier and independent life
- North Yorkshire is a place with a strong economy and a commitment to sustainable growth
- Innovative and forward thinking Council

1.2 As part of delivering our vision and ambitions, we are seeking to work in a more sustainable way and reduce our costs. This includes:

- reducing our CO₂e emissions, energy and water consumption;
- minimising waste - reduce, re-use and recycle;
- rationalising our property and managing our land sustainably;
- procuring in a way which balances economic, social and environmental factors, and seeks to increase social value;
- ceasing unnecessary travel and reducing the impact and cost of necessary travel; and
- supporting and encouraging our staff, schools and residents to take similar actions.

1.3 North Yorkshire County Council supports the Government's aim for the UK to be net carbon neutral by 2050 and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership's ambition to be the UK's first carbon negative region – carbon neutral by 2034 and carbon negative by 2040. These ambitions were endorsed by the Leaders of the Councils of York and North Yorkshire through the submission of devolution asks in December 2020 aimed at achieving a carbon negative region.

1.4 In terms of our own carbon footprint, we have an aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030 or as close to that date as is possible. In this plan we set out our progress to date and our plans for the next three years.

1.5 From April 2022 this plan will be integrated into our Council Plan and reviewed annually. Progress will be regularly monitored as part of our corporate performance management framework including quarterly performance reports to our Management Board and Executive.

1.6 We are also part of a wider leadership team, including District Councils and the Local Enterprise Partnership, working to encourage and support our residents, businesses and communities to be part of the county and country achieving net carbon neutrality. A comprehensive joint work programme is still to be developed by the partners, although some initial elements are highlighted in this plan.

1.7 Whilst the actions identified in the plan focus on the County Council, we and other local authorities will not be able to tackle every aspect of carbon reduction nor achieve net carbon neutrality without government support and action through legislation and fiscal measures. Significant changes in national infrastructure will also be required, for example increases in generation, distribution and/or storage of electricity.

2.0 Terminology

2.1 A number of terms are used when describing the emissions which contribute to climate change and global warming. We explain some of these below:

2.2 Greenhouse gases (GHGs)

A greenhouse gas is any gas in the atmosphere which absorbs and re-emits heat, and thereby keeps the Earth's atmosphere warmer than it otherwise would be. The main GHGs in the Earth's atmosphere are water vapour, carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) and ozone (O₃). GHGs occur naturally in the Earth's atmosphere, but human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels, are increasing the levels of GHGs in the atmosphere, causing global warming and climate change.

2.3 **Carbon dioxide** Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the most common GHG emitted by human activities, in terms of the quantity released and the total impact on global warming.

2.4 Carbon dioxide equivalent

The term carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) is used to describe different greenhouse gases in a common unit. For any quantity and type of greenhouse gas, CO₂e signifies the amount of CO₂ which would have the equivalent global warming impact.

2.5 Carbon footprint

The amount of carbon dioxide equivalent released into the atmosphere as a result of the activities of a particular individual, organization, or community.

2.6 Net carbon neutrality

Because we will not be able to eliminate emissions entirely by 2030, net carbon neutrality refers to the reduction of emissions to the lowest levels possible and removing the remainder from the atmosphere through carbon sequestration programmes (or offsetting) such as tree planting.

Energy use is one of the main contributors to our carbon emissions and the route to net carbon neutrality in terms of energy is a three-step process:

- 1) Reducing energy use as much as possible
- 2) The use of energy from renewable sources
- 3) Sequestration. Carbon sequestration is the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide, for example through tree planting.

2.7 Scope 1 2 and 3 emissions

Scope 1 – All direct emissions from the activities of an organisation or under their control. This includes fuel combustion on site such as gas boilers, fleet vehicles and air-conditioning leaks.

Scope 2 – Indirect emissions from electricity purchased and used by the organisation. Emissions are created during the production of the energy and eventually used by the organisation.

Scope 3 – All other indirect emissions from activities of the organisation occurring from sources that they do not own or control. These are usually the greatest share of the carbon footprint, covering emissions associated with business travel, procurement, waste and water.

3.0 Our carbon footprint

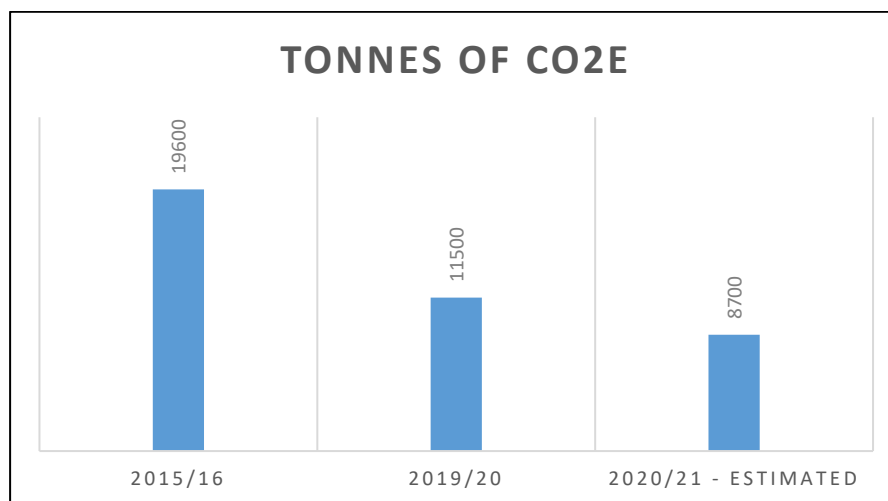
3.1 Our carbon footprint consists of:

- Scope 1 emissions – heating and ventilation of our corporate buildings and use of fleet vehicles. (This does not include school buildings).

- Scope 2 emissions – electricity use for power and lighting (including street lighting)
- Scope 3 emissions – including business travel using staff's own vehicles, procurement of goods and services, schools, companies owned by the County Council, waste and water use.

3.2 We have direct control over and direct ways of measuring emissions from Scope 1 and 2 emissions. This is also true of business travel in Scope 3.

3.3 We do not have such direct control over, nor currently, direct ways of measuring, many of the emissions in Scope 3. However, as set out below, we are seeking to address this.

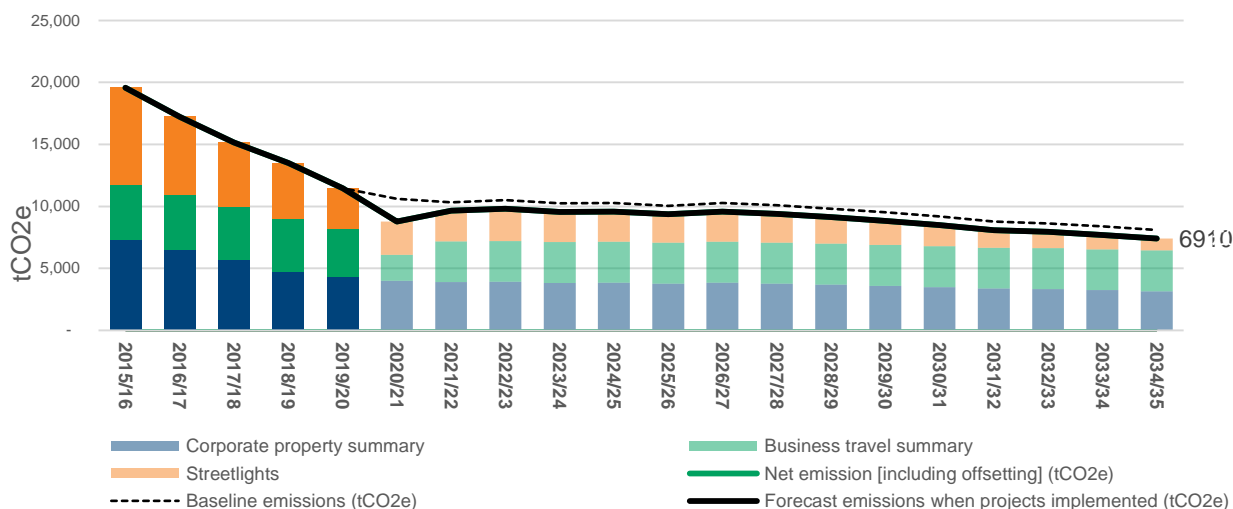


3.4 The emissions we have direct control over have reduced considerably over recent years.

3.5 About 40% of the estimated reduction in council property and vehicle emissions in 2020/21 is due to changes in working practices throughout the coronavirus pandemic. Clearly this was an unprecedented year and we estimate that without the influence of the pandemic our emissions would be around 9800 tonnes of CO₂e (tCO₂e). However, we aim to ensure that a number of these working practices which reduce our emissions are retained in the future.

3.6 Taking into account measures already agreed and funded, the electricity supply becoming greener because of government and market pressures, and continuing to reduce travel and office use begun during the pandemic - but without any further action - we estimate our carbon footprint in 2030/31 will be around 8400 tCO₂e.

3.7 The chart below show our predicted emissions to 2035 if we were to take no further action.



- 3.8 It may not be possible, using current technology, to reduce our direct carbon equivalent emissions to zero. To reach net carbon neutrality we will therefore need to consider a mix of reduction and sequestration.
- 3.9 Over time there will be changes that will aid the achievement of net carbon neutrality including legislation, fiscal incentives, new technological developments and market changes. But these will not, by themselves, enable us to achieve net carbon neutrality. We must take additional actions to achieve net carbon neutrality.
- 3.10 With regard to the emissions we have direct control over, we are not starting from scratch. We regularly explore opportunities to reduce emissions and we have a track record of taking appropriate opportunities within existing budgets and additional investments where there is a business case, for example our programme of installing LED street lighting. However, it is likely that future work will be more complex and expensive.
- 3.11 We recognise that actions that reduce carbon emissions in one area can result in increased emissions in other areas, for example having more staff working at home may reduce our direct carbon footprint, but the net impact will depend on individual circumstances including additional energy consumption at home and reduced travel. Similarly, property rationalisation should reduce our direct carbon footprint, but won't necessarily reduce the county's carbon footprint. These can be complex issues and the net impact of a decision should be explored in the relevant climate change impact assessments.

4.0 What we have achieved so far

4.1 Use of property (Scopes 1 and 2 - emissions under our direct control)

- 4.1.1 Since May 2019, our Property Service has had an energy consumption reduction target of 15% reduction in energy consumption by 2023/24 on a baseline of 2017/18. This is based on a property list of corporate properties managed directly by Property Service, both operational and those in redeployment.
- 4.1.2 As the table of consumption data below shows, the target has already been exceeded and is currently under review by the Property Service carbon reduction group.

Year	Total kWhs	Variance on previous year	Cumulative reduction from baseline
17/18 (baseline)	26,953,612.70	Baseline	Baseline
18/19	23,275,487.85	-13.65%	-13.65%
19/20*	22,132,617.98	-4.91%	-17.89%

4.1.3 The table below provides carbon emissions associated with the above consumption target.

Year	Tonnes CO2e	% reduction on previous year	Cumulative reduction from baseline
17/18 (baseline)	6,264.92	Baseline	Baseline
18/19	4,979.06	-20.52%	-20.52%
19/20*	4,547.66	-8.66%	-27.41%

*Covid-19 lockdown started 24th March 2020 with reducing amounts of staff in NYCC property leading up to this date from early March.

4.1.4 The activities of Property Service to reduce carbon emissions have been concentrated on rationalisation of property (Scopes 1 and 2, emissions under our direct control). They are working closely with services across the council to make more efficient use of space and release surplus accommodation that can be re-purposed or sold.

4.1.5 The impact on carbon emissions as a result of these activities is shown in the table below.

Year	Tonnes CO2e saved as result of property rationalisation
2018/19	109.92
2019/20	54.76

4.1.6 The ongoing activities of this work forecast to make the following carbon emission savings, although there are likely to be considerable further changes as a result of the Covid pandemic.

Year	Tonnes CO2e estimated to be saved as result of property rationalisation
2020/21	11.50
2021/22	69.86
2022/23	
2023/24	81.04
2024/25	
2025/26	31.06

4.1.7 The County Council has, for some years, been reviewing its use of property with the objective of rationalising its estate and reducing its overall expenditure in respect of property.

4.1.8 Examples of this include rationalisation projects in Scarborough and Northallerton which will lead to annual revenue savings of £230k being achieved by 2023.

4.1.9 The Beyond 2020 Modern Council Programme will be considering the further development of the workstyles of the County Council's staff, including those arising from the experience of the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is expected that this will result in further opportunities to rationalise property and, thus, further reduce carbon emissions.

4.2 **Energy (Scopes 1 and 2 - emissions under our direct control)**

4.2.1 We spend £1.8million each year on energy across our offices, libraries and elderly person homes, which results in 4,547 tonnes of carbon equivalent emissions (2019/20). Property Service is working on a range of programmes to reduce both costs, consumption and the associated carbon emissions from energy usage and these have contributed to a 25% reduction in consumption since 2017/18.

4.2.2 The programmes, co-ordinated by the Property Carbon Reduction Group, include:

- monitoring energy consumption data and bills to spot errors and ensure accuracy
- monitoring heating and hot water systems remotely in many of our buildings to ensure they are running efficiently
- undertaking changes to building systems to improve efficiency e.g. boiler replacements for more efficient models, lighting upgrades, insulation;
- feasibility studies exploring the heat decarbonisation, power generation and energy storage options available for different sites;
- production of a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for the county council; and
- reviewing funding opportunities to assist with the capital costs of such proposals.

4.2.3 In addition, we also carry out work to assist schools to reduce emissions, including

- dedicated staff who work with schools to help teachers and students understand and reduce energy use;
- supporting the popular environmental scheme 'eco schools', which more than two-thirds of our county's schools are working on

4.3 **Street lighting**

4.3.1 The council has just completed a project to replace its 50,400 street lights with new LED technology. This was completed two years earlier than originally estimated, saving capital costs of over £4m. Energy and maintenance savings of £1.285m are projected from 2021/22 with an associated CO₂e reduction exceeding 3,000 tonnes.

4.3.2 This follows a four-year programme, completed in 2016, which saw almost 27,000 of our streetlights converted to part-night operation. These streetlights switch off between midnight and 5am reducing energy consumption by £400k and CO₂e by 2,000 tonnes.

4.4 **Business travel**

4.4.1 We actively encourage sustainable travel amongst our staff, Councillors, service-users, contractors, residents and visitors and use available technologies (for example, video conferencing) to reduce or remove the need for travel. We are working to improve air quality for people living in the county, reduce CO₂ emissions and reduce the cost of the

miles that we drive. We operate two electric cars within our fleet for staff to use because of their low running costs, outstanding range and low emissions. We are continually seeking opportunities to increase this number and are procuring a further electric vehicle for the Highways service. We are also looking at the feasibility of using electric vehicles for domiciliary care visits.

4.4.2 We have also worked with staff and Councillors to reduce business mileage. Schemes such as Liftshare help our staff to travel more sustainably, whether this be commuting to and from work or attending a meeting. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that far fewer staff have been commuting to work and that the majority of meetings have been carried out virtually. We will ensure that we retain a number of these working practices which help us reduce our CO₂e emissions.

4.5 **Procurement**

4.5.1 We are committed to supporting North Yorkshire's residents and the local economy through the work we do.

4.5.2 Achieving value for money through our procurement and contract management activity will remain focused on the best mix of quality and effectiveness to deliver the requirements of the contract. We will take a broader view of value which includes social value. Where appropriate we will include award criteria which goes beyond the subject matter of the contract to encourage suppliers to operate in a way that contributes to economic, ethical, social and environmental outcomes.

4.6 **Waste management**

4.6.1 As a council we are working hard to ensure that we improve rates of reduction, reuse, recycling and compost of waste. Ten years ago we sent 94% of household waste to landfill. In 2019 approximately 47% of household waste was reused, recycled or composted, 9% sent to landfill and the rest sent for treatment.

4.6.2 We support district and borough councils with recycling and composting through the payment of a recycling credit which, together with excellent performance at our household waste and recycling centres, is ensuring we continue to exceed national average performance. Together with City of York Council we have contracted to provide our remaining household waste to Allerton Waste Recovery Park which will separate out any remaining recyclables, and treat what is left to generate renewable energy. AWRP became fully operational in March 2018 and is generating enough energy from our residual waste to meet the needs of 40,000 homes – 166,000Mwh of electricity. The carbon benefit of AWRP is equivalent to taking 12,000 cars permanently off the road.

4.6.3 In addition to environmental benefits, AWRP provides 70 permanent jobs and will contributing £220m GVA to the local economy over its 25-year life. The ash from the energy from waste part of AWRP will be recycled into aggregate, reducing our reliance on landfill further. A local landscape and cultural heritage scheme is also investing over £800k in the immediate area of the plant.

4.7 **Brierley Group**

- 4.7.1 The Brierley Group is the trading arm of North Yorkshire County Council and brings together council owned companies with the aim of improving customer experience and increasing overall shareholder value. All companies are moving towards more environmentally sustainable operating models, including:
- Brierley Homes has used air source heat pumps and timber frame construction in some housing schemes
 - Yorwaste has installed solar panels at its head office
 - Align Property Partners are registered as Low Carbon Consultants with architects accredited in low carbon technologies.

4.8 Schools

- 4.8.1 Our [energy and sustainability traded service](#) provides support to schools to educate pupils on climate change and environmental issues.
- 4.8.2 Our school meals follow a healthy eating policy and are produced freshly every day in school kitchens from only:
- fresh meat and poultry sourced from the region;
 - fruit and vegetables sourced regionally where possible using local suppliers;
 - products free from additives associated with health problems in young children;
 - fats free from hydrogenated oils; with
 - menus that are nutritionally balanced.

4.9 Buy Local

- 4.9.1 We developed our [Buy Local website](#) in 2020 at the start of the first Covid lockdown specifically to bring together local customers with county businesses. About 850 North Yorkshire businesses have already signed up to the site. Customers can search for a wide range of goods and services, encouraging residents to purchase from local suppliers, supporting the local economy, with the added benefit of reducing distance travelled and carbon emissions.

5.0 Future actions

- 5.1 Since agreeing our aspiration for net carbon neutrality, our main focus to date has been on:
- Understanding our carbon footprint and developing a pathway tool which helps us plot our route to net zero
 - Identifying realistic potential options to significantly reduce our carbon footprint
 - Establishing a measure of cost-effectiveness (£ per ktCO₂e removed) to help us prioritise our actions
 - Establishing programme management to ensure that work to reduce our carbon emissions is effectively supported and is integrated into our corporate change management processes
 - Developing a climate change impact assessment tool and incorporating it into the council's decision making process, so that carbon emissions and other environmental considerations are taken into account when decisions are made
- 5.2 All of these actions have helped inform our carbon reduction plan. In addition we are also:
- Engaging with partners, including district councils and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership and learning lessons from others. This includes participation in the commissioning of a Carbon Abatement Pathways study with the

LEP and other partners and developing the resulting required actions, and contribution to the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission.

- Encouraging our staff to take steps in the everyday ways they work to reduce our carbon footprint and save money
- Developing, implementing and supporting projects that will assist others to significantly reduce their carbon footprints and/or have other positive environmental impacts

6.0 What we need to do next to reduce our carbon footprint

6.1 Achieving carbon neutrality will require further action in addition to that which we are already undertaking. We will take the following actions over the next three years (all of which will require approval through normal decision-making processes):

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Corporate property			
Develop a business case for decarbonising heating and ventilation in corporate buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked to the successful application to the Public Sector Heat Decarbonisation Scheme, produce a Heat Decarbonisation Plan for county council properties. • Feasibility studies for heat decarbonisation and renewable generation options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and refine the implementation of the Decarbonisation Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and refine the implementation of the Decarbonisation Plan
Develop a business case for use of 'green' electricity for corporate property and street lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop business case for use of 'green' electricity 		
Carry out a programme of structural improvements to schools and corporate buildings using funding obtained from the Salix Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the changes to properties using the £1.9m funding granted by BEIS following a successful application to the Public Sector Heat Decarbonisation Scheme 		
Continue our property rationalisation programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop reporting format showing baseline emissions per property and property type • Further develop property rationalisation schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to implement and refine rationalisation programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to implement and refine rationalisation programme

Invest in energy efficiency measures within remaining estate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 4 of lighting upgrade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake further work arising from the initial feasibility studies Undertake further feasibility studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake further work arising from the initial feasibility studies Undertake further feasibility studies
Carry out a programme of behavioural change with staff to reduce energy use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual programme of campaigns developed Road show of campaigns being planned for main corporate offices – end Sept-mid Nov 2021 Linking of communications to Co26 event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual programme of campaigns developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual programme of campaigns developed
Take opportunities to work in partnership with other organisations to share property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess on case by case basis as opportunities arise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess on case by case basis as opportunities arise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess on case by case basis as opportunities arise
Develop smarter working practices in relation to property use, including those accelerated or begun during the coronavirus pandemic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop future working models for office based staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement and monitor energy utilisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement and monitor energy utilisation
Explore and take advantage of external funding opportunities as they arise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing.
Business travel			
Develop a business case for a move to battery Electric vehicles (BEV) for corporate fleet including provision of charge points on corporate sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy Saving Trust and telematics review of fleet Review of keyworker lease scheme Develop an approach to home charging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver BEV fleet as infrastructure allows Develop business case for the use of EV minibuses in the IPT fleet as the market develops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver BEV fleet as infrastructure allows

Review the locations of pool vehicles and booking system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review locations and define booking process for pool vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace pool vehicles with BEV 	
Carry out a programme of behavioural change with staff to reduce travel and energy use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Driving at Work strategy to utilise telematics to reduce fuel use 		
Explore and take advantage of external funding opportunities as they arise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
Sequestration (offsetting)			
Develop a business case for forestry planting and explore other opportunities to sequester carbon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake detailed options appraisal for using NYCC land / other land for woodland creation – with support from White Rose Forest (WRF) revenue funding. Develop a tree strategy for management of NYCC tree and woodland resource. Scope options for peat restoration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin implementation of tree planting schemes scoped in 21/22 	
Explore and take advantage of external funding opportunities as they arise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application to White Rose Forest Govt. grant funding 		
Work in partnership with other local authorities, landowners, businesses and communities to increase tree cover across the region through the White Rose Forest (WRF) project, the community forest for North and West Yorkshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish North Yorkshire WRF delivery group to support establishment of new woodland creation and local tree planting projects. 		
Training			

Work with the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership and the District Councils in North Yorkshire and City of York Council to develop a carbon literacy training programme for staff and Councillors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training module development completed – July 2021 Local authority rollout – from October 2021	Review training programme and revise if required.	
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7.0 Other areas of work to reduce wider carbon emissions and negative impacts on the environment

7.1 Solar energy

7.1.1 We are undertaking a feasibility study in relation to investment opportunities in solar energy. These would not directly reduce our carbon footprint, unless there was a physical direct wire between a solar farm and our direct use of electricity. However, it would increase the availability of solar energy in the market.

7.2 Procurement

7.2.1 As part of our Procurement Strategy, we will analyse our supply chains to identify carbon reduction opportunities and develop an action plan to address carbon reduction. We will engage and encourage suppliers to reduce their carbon footprints through procurement and contract management activity. We have jointly commissioned the development of a sustainable procurement toolkit to support consolidated purchasing power and reduce the carbon footprint of externally procured goods, works and services. We are also further developing our social value requirements of providers, including contributions to carbon reduction.

7.3 Brierley Group companies

7.3.1 We will require Brierley Group companies to adopt and implement a carbon reduction ambition no less than that of the council itself. All companies are reviewing their working arrangements to reduce emissions from commuting and future activities also include:

- Install electric vehicle charging points on all forthcoming housing schemes (Brierley Homes).
- Install solar panels on roofs of appropriate housing schemes (Brierley Homes).
- Explore further solar panel provision at main sites (Yorwaste).
- Change engineer vans to hybrid electric vehicles (NYnet)
- Publish a carbon management plan, and develop and implement a carbon accounting management tool (NY Highways).
- Appoint a low carbon champion (Align Property Partners).

7.4 Green homes

- 7.4.1 We have been successful, on behalf of a consortium with a number of the District and Borough Councils in North Yorkshire, in securing £2.4m to upgrade energy inefficient homes and reduce fuel poverty and seasonal ill health. This will include insulation to improve their energy efficiency and installing air source heat pumps. Selby District Council, Harrogate Borough Council and Craven District Council has also separately secured over £900k as part of a consortium with York and West Yorkshire.
- 7.4.2 We are also hoping to bid for further funding to extend this work in the future.
- 7.5 Electric vehicles and charging infrastructure**
- 7.5.1 We will support and encourage the use of Electric Vehicles (EVs) by installing and maintaining a network of charging points across North Yorkshire. To do this, we will develop an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Rollout Strategy for the county, considering the recommendations from the Electric Vehicle Charge Point Deployment Study, carried out by WSP in 2020, which recommended that NYCC should deliver 615 publicly available electric vehicle charge points by 2030 to accommodate the uptake and use of EVs in North Yorkshire.
- 7.5.2 A bid submission has been made to the Community Renewals Fund to pay for strategy development, a monitoring and evaluation plan, an innovative on-street charge point selection tool, an innovation competition designed to pump prime the market and £10,000 worth of capital to deliver a pilot/trial of the innovation competition. An announcement on this funding is expected late July/early August 2021 but projects must be delivered in the 21/22 financial year. Alternative funding will sought if we are unsuccessful in our bid.
- 7.5.3 We will also support and encourage greater use of electric vehicles for public transport.
- 7.6 Cycling and walking**
- 7.6.1 We are developing a series of Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) for the principal towns in the county. The aim of these is to identify the main cycle and walking improvements in a town to enable the Council to bid for government funding and/or to secure funding contributions from developers.
- 7.6.2 We are also looking at opportunities to fund feasibility work to provide cycling and walking interventions as part of a social prescribing offer.
- 7.7 Highway verges**
- 7.7.1 We recognise the importance of highway verges as an important natural habitat and the need to enhance biodiversity. We are commencing trials of different verge management regimes on our rural road network to understand the impacts they have on the ecology of the verges, costs of verge management and any impact on road safety.
- 7.8 Schools**
- 7.8.1 We will be launching a new sustainability/ carbon reduction badge linked to the North Yorkshire Healthy Schools award. This will focus on key public health priority actions such as school grounds development (for example, food growing and tree planting) and sustainable travel (encouraging walking and cycling to school). Schools will then be able to choose other carbon reduction actions depending on their own priorities.

7.9 Single use plastics

7.10.1 We are undertaking work as a council to reduce our use of single-use plastics. This includes a review of the centrally managed contracts for plastic use in county council properties, a review of how single use plastics are considered during procurements and developing a communications plan for the wider area.

7.10 Circular economy ambition

7.10.1 We are working with the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) on their Circular Yorkshire campaign. This aims to accelerate the transition to a circular economy across York and North Yorkshire, promoting a way of working for businesses and organisations that reduces waste, lowers carbon footprint and makes the most of our resources through collaboration. The Circular Yorkshire Strategy and Action Plan, along with case studies, guides and toolkits can be found at the Circular Yorkshire website [here](#) or via the Twitter [@CircularYorks](#).

7.11 Communication campaigns

7.11.1 We are developing coordinated communications and engagement campaigns, with the District Councils and the LEP, to encourage and support residents to take action to reduce their carbon footprints.

7.12 Waste management strategy

7.12.1 We will continue to work with partners to implement waste reduction strategies and increase recycling rates across the county.

8.0 How will we know, and review, how we are doing?

8.1 Our actions to reduce our carbon footprint will be integrated with our Council Plan and progress regularly monitored as part of our corporate performance management framework. This includes quarterly performance reports to our Management Board and Executive.

8.2 Progress will also be reviewed through our overview and scrutiny arrangements.

Equality impact assessment (EIA) form: evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

(Form updated April 2019)

Carbon reduction plan

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please contact the Communications Unit on 01609 53 2013 or email communications@northyorks.gov.uk.



যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are public documents. EIAs accompanying reports going to County Councillors for decisions are published with the committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting. To help people to find completed EIAs we also publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of our website. This will help people to see for themselves how we have paid due regard in order to meet statutory requirements.

Name of Directorate and Service Area	Central Services Policy, Partnerships and Communities
Lead Officer and contact details	Neil Irving, Assistant Director – Policy, Partnerships and Communities
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the EIA	Deborah Hugill – Senior Strategy and Performance Officer
How will you pay due regard? e.g. working group, individual officer	Individual officer with reference to climate change project leads within the council.
When did the due regard process start?	18 February 2021

Section 1. Please describe briefly what this EIA is about. (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)

On 24 July 2019 North Yorkshire County Council passed a motion which committed to producing a carbon reduction plan to meet aspirations to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as near to that date as possible.

The plan sets out our progress to date and our plans for the next three years.

The actions identified in the plan focus on the County Council, but we are also part of a wider leadership team, including District Councils and the Local Enterprise Partnership, working to encourage and support our residents, businesses and communities to be part of the county and country achieving net carbon neutrality. A comprehensive joint work programme is still to be developed by the partners, although some initial elements are highlighted in the plan.

Section 2. Why is this being proposed? What are the aims? What does the authority hope to achieve by it? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)

Emissions of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, from the combustion of fossil fuels are contributing to global warming and climate change. As global temperatures rise the impacts will become more severe, including more extreme weather and rising sea levels due to melting polar ice.

The UK Government target is to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. North Yorkshire County Council supports the Government's aim for the UK and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership's ambition to be the UK's first carbon negative region – carbon neutral by 2034 and carbon negative by 2040.

Section 3. What will change? What will be different for customers and/or staff?

Actions identified in this first iteration of the plan focus mainly on the following areas of the council's emissions:

- **Property** – decarbonising heating and ventilation in corporate buildings, structural improvements to buildings, continue rationalisation of property, behavioural change, smarter working practices.

Staff will benefit from structural improvements to buildings and heating and ventilation systems. Rationalisation of property may entail a change of office base for some staff. However, a blended mix of home working and office working will also reduce commuting for some staff. Greater use of digital will reduce the need to travel for meetings. Staff will be made aware of the importance of changes in their behaviour to reduce carbon emissions.

Access to services in person may entail customers travelling to a different premises due to rationalisation of our estate.

- **Business travel** – move towards using electric vehicles for corporate fleet, behavioural change

Relevant staff will use electric vehicles and other low emission alternatives to carry out their job. Greater use of digital will reduce the need to travel for meetings. Staff will be made aware of the importance of changes in their behaviour to reduce carbon emissions.

- Carbon sequestration through tree planting – work with White Rose Forest. Some of the Council's land holdings may be utilised for tree planting.
- Carbon literacy training – develop and roll out training in conjunction with LEP, districts and York

Staff will understand more about climate change, carbon emissions and actions required to reduce the impact. They will be better equipped to make decisions and carry out actions which contribute to the Council's aspiration to be carbon neutral.

Section 4. Involvement and consultation (What involvement and consultation has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results? What consultation will be needed and how will it be done?)

The plan's primary focus is on the Council's own emissions, although there is acknowledgement that these are only a small part of the emissions of the whole county and that work to engage the community and harness enthusiasm for reducing carbon emissions needs to be carried out. The Council cannot, and should not, do this in isolation and will work with District Councils, York City Council, the LEP and other partners to ensure messages and support are consistent.

Section 5. 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.

There will need to be considerable financial investment to achieve the Council's aspiration to be carbon neutral. Some of this investment, for example in improvements to thermal insulation and heating systems, will save money in the longer term and a number of funding streams are available to support some elements of the required action e.g. tree planting, decarbonisation of heating of public sector buildings.

However, we and other local authorities will not be able to tackle every aspect of carbon reduction nor achieve net carbon neutrality without government support and action through legislation and fiscal measures.

Section 6. How will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics?	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
Age		X	X	Customer – Older people may be more likely to wish to access services physically. Property rationalisation may require customers to attend different buildings to access services. This may entail greater travel. Specific equality impact assessments will be carried out on decisions to remove properties from the estate and opportunities to improve accessibility will be taken up. Other access options, for example digital, will be made available wherever possible.
Disability		X	X	Customer – property rationalisation may require customers to attend different buildings to access services. Specific equality impact assessments will be carried out on decisions to remove properties from the estate and opportunities to improve accessibility will be taken up. Other access options, for example digital, will be made available wherever possible. Staff - Rationalisation of property may entail a change of office base for some staff. However, a

				<p>blended mix of home working and office working will also provide greater flexibility to provide an appropriate working environment. Any changes to office base will be subject to equality impact assessment and reasonable adjustments implemented. More use of digital meetings may make attendance for some disabled staff easier.</p> <p>All – Reductions in air pollution due to reduced travel and greater use of electric vehicles will positively impact on people with certain health conditions.</p>
Sex	X			No impacts specific to people with this protected characteristic are anticipated.
Race	X			No impacts specific to people with this protected characteristic are anticipated.
Gender reassignment	X			No impacts specific to people with this protected characteristic are anticipated.
Sexual orientation	X			No impacts specific to people with this protected characteristic are anticipated.
Religion or belief	X			No impacts specific to people with this protected characteristic are anticipated.
Pregnancy or maternity	X			No impacts specific to people with this protected characteristic are anticipated.
Marriage or civil partnership	X			No impacts specific to people with this protected characteristic are anticipated.

Section 7. How will this proposal affect people who...	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
...live in a rural area?		X	X	<p>Customer – Property rationalisation may require customers to attend different buildings to access services. This may entail greater travel and potentially expense. Specific equality impact assessments will carried out on decisions to remove properties from the estate and distance to travel will be considered. Other access options, for example digital, will be made available wherever possible.</p> <p>Staff - Rationalisation of property may entail a change of office base for some staff. However, a blended mix of home working and office working will also provide greater flexibility to reduce the need to travel for staff in rural areas.</p>
...have a low income?		X	X	<p>Customer – Property rationalisation may require customers to attend different buildings to access services. This may entail greater travel and potentially expense. Specific equality impact assessments will carried out on decisions to remove properties from the estate and distance to travel will be considered. Other access options, for example digital, will be made available wherever possible.</p>

				Staff - Rationalisation of property may entail a change of office base for some staff increasing travel costs. However, a blended mix of home working and office working will also provide greater flexibility to reduce the need to travel for staff. More home working may increase heating and power costs for staff.
...are carers (unpaid family or friend)?		X	X	Potential impacts referenced under Age and Disability may affect carers of people with these protected characteristics as part of their caring role.

Section 8. Geographic impact – Please detail where the impact will be (please tick all that apply)	
North Yorkshire wide	✓
Craven district	
Hambleton district	
Harrogate district	
Richmondshire district	
Ryedale district	
Scarborough district	
Selby district	
If you have ticked one or more districts, will specific town(s)/village(s) be particularly impacted? If so, please specify below.	

<p>Section 9. Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men) State what you think the effect may be and why, providing evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.</p> <p>There is no evidence that the proposal will affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics.</p>

Section 10. Next steps to address the anticipated impact. Select one of the following options and explain why this has been chosen. (Remember: we have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us)	Tick option chosen
1. No adverse impact - no major change needed to the proposal. There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact identified.	✓
2. Adverse impact - adjust the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We will change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or we will achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people.	
3. Adverse impact - continue the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We cannot change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, nor can we achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people. (There must be compelling reasons for continuing with proposals which will have the most adverse impacts. Get advice from Legal Services)	

4. Actual or potential unlawful discrimination - stop and remove the proposal – The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It must be stopped.	
Explanation of why option has been chosen. (Include any advice given by Legal Services.)	
Although mixed potential impacts have been identified in some areas these will be subject to more specific equality impact assessments when particular decisions are made. Overall the plan's aim to reduce the Council's carbon footprint and its impact on climate change is positive for everyone in the county.	

Section 11. If the proposal is to be implemented how will you find out how it is really affecting people? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)
Progress will be regularly monitored as part of our corporate performance management framework including quarterly performance reports to Management Board and Executive.

Section 12. Action plan. List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA, including post implementation review to find out how the outcomes have been achieved in practice and what impacts there have actually been on people with protected characteristics.				
Action	Lead	By when	Progress	Monitoring arrangements

Section 13. Summary Summarise the findings of your EIA, including impacts, 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.
Overall the plan's aim to reduce the Council's carbon footprint and its impact on climate change is positive for everyone in the county, including those with protected characteristics. The plan is an overarching document and specific equality impact assessments will be carried out on decisions made in relation to actions in each area.

Section 14. Sign off section
This full EIA was completed by:
Name: Deborah Hugill
Job title: Senior Strategy and Performance Officer
Directorate: Central Services
Signature: Deborah Hugill
Completion date: 28 May 2021
Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Neil Irving
Date: 28 May 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

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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 the summary section of the form below.

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

Title of proposal	Carbon reduction plan
Brief description of proposal	On 24 July 2019 North Yorkshire County Council passed a motion which committed to producing a carbon reduction plan to meet aspirations to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as near to that date as possible. The plan sets out our progress to date and our plans for the next three years.
Directorate	Central Services
Service area	Policy, Partnerships and Communities
Lead officer	Neil Irving, Assistant Director – Policy, Partnerships and Communities
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	Deborah Hugill – Senior Strategy and Performance Officer
Date impact assessment started	18 February 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 council motion on 24 July 2019 committed to develop and publish a carbon reduction plan. Work on the content of the plan has considered the scope and range of this document and a number of options for inclusion. Following discussions with Members and Management Board, the decision has been made to focus initially on those areas of our carbon footprint over which we have direct control and direct ways of measuring emissions.

These are:

- heating and ventilation of our corporate buildings and use of fleet vehicles. (This does not include school buildings). (Scope 1 emissions)
- electricity use for power and lighting (including street lighting) (Scope 2 emissions)
- business travel using staff's own vehicles (Scope 3 emissions)

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 will need to be considerable financial investment to achieve the Council's aspiration to be carbon neutral. Some of this investment, for example in improvements to thermal insulation and heating systems, will save money in the longer term and a number of funding streams are available to support some elements of the required action e.g. tree planting, decarbonisation of heating of public sector buildings.

However, we and other local authorities will not be able to tackle every aspect of carbon reduction nor achieve net carbon neutrality without government support and action through legislation and fiscal measures.

<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			Emissions from travel will be reduced by greater use of electric vehicles and reduction in business travel through greater use of digital.		Communication messaging, training and behavioural change programme.
	Emissions from construction			X	There will be short term negative impacts due to construction works needed to implement improvements to building fabric, heating systems and installation of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles. This will be outweighed by the longer term positive effects of this work.	These will be mitigated through design and specification.	
	Emissions from running of buildings	X			Emissions from buildings will be reduced due to decarbonisation of heating and ventilation of office buildings, smarter working practices and behavioural change of staff.		Communication messaging, training and behavioural change programme.
	Other						
Minimise waste : Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost	X				While the carbon reduction plan initially focusses mainly on the reduction of emissions		Communication messaging, training

<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>e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>				<p>from those areas of the council's footprint which can be directly controlled and measured, it will also act as an overarching document to encourage greater environmental awareness and drive change within the organisation. Work to reduce single use plastics is referenced in the plan.</p>		<p>and behavioural change programme.</p>
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>	<p>X</p>			<p>Improvements to buildings will include measures to reduce water consumption as will behavioural change programmes and messaging.</p>		<p>Communication messaging, training and behavioural change programme.</p>
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>	<p>X</p>			<p>Air pollution will be reduced by greater use of electric vehicles and reduction in business travel through greater use of digital.</p>		<p>Communication messaging, training and behavioural change programme.</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>The plan focusses initially on those areas of our carbon footprint over which we have direct control and direct ways of measuring emissions.</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>	<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>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>	<p>X</p>			<p>Woodland planting and peat restoration will contribute to wildlife conservation and biodiversity. The plan also details trials of different verge management regimes on our rural road network to understand impacts on the ecology of the verges.</p>		<p>Research and implement best practice in relation to conservation activity.</p>
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>		<p>X</p>		<p>The plan focusses initially on those areas of our carbon footprint over which we have direct control and direct ways of measuring emissions.</p>	<p>Any negative impacts on landscapes from tree planting will be mitigated through design and specification.</p>	
<p>Other (please state below)</p>						

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

Most councils are now taking measures to reduce their own carbon emissions and these are based on very similar areas of work to those detailed in North Yorkshire County Council's carbon reduction plan. Best practice standards for elements of these will be available and followed, for example in relation to building control.

NYCC is a member of APSE energy network which shares best practice in the area of carbon reduction and officers also participate in specific networks in their area of work. NYCC is also a member of Countryside Climate Network, a subnetwork of UK100, made up of council Leaders who pledge to secure the future for their communities by delivering on the promise of the UK's Net Zero goal. The national Government, whilst declaring its aim for the UK to be carbon neutral by 2050 has yet to publish specific requirements or best practice standards for local government.

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 carbon reduction plan, by definition, aims to reduce the carbon footprint of the County Council and help it achieve its aspiration to be carbon neutral by 2030 or as near to that date as possible. From April 2022 the plan will be integrated into our Council Plan and reviewed annually. Progress will be regularly monitored as part of our corporate performance management framework including quarterly performance reports to our Management Board and Executive.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Deborah Hugill
Job title	Senior Strategy and Performance Officer
Service area	Policy, Partnerships and Communities
Directorate	Central Services
Signature	Deborah Hugill
Completion date	28.5.21

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Neil Irving

Date: 28.5.21

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
INFORMAL MEETING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

13 July 2021

Formal meetings of the authority's committees from 21 July 2021 onwards

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present options for holding formal committee meetings from 21 July 2021 onwards to the Members of the Executive, for their consideration and then make a proposal to the Chief Executive Officer for recommendation, under his emergency delegated powers, to full Council.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Under his delegated decision making powers in the Officers' Delegation Scheme in the Council's Constitution, the Chief Executive Officer has power, in cases of emergency, to take any decision which could be taken by the Council, the Executive or a committee.
- 2.2 Following on from the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, which allowed for committee meetings to be held remotely, the County Council resolved at its meeting on 5 May 2021 that, for the present time, in light of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic circumstances, remote live-broadcast committee meetings should continue as informal meetings of the Committee Members, with any formal decisions required being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency decision making powers and after consultation with Officers and Members as appropriate and after taking into account any views of the relevant Committee Members. This approach will be reviewed by full Council at its meeting on 21 July 2021.
- 2.3 The report which went to the meeting of the County Council on 5 May 2021, outlined a number of options for how formal, public meetings of the Council could be held following the expiry of the government regulations enabling lawful remote access meetings to be held.
- 2.4 At the meeting on 5 May 2021, County Council specifically resolved that:
- a) the Council continues to hold remote live-broadcast committee meetings, with any formal decisions required being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency delegated powers;
 - b) that power be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - (i) make any decisions necessary to enable virtual meetings for members to continue (including considering the implications of the existing legal challenge once the judgement has been made),

- (ii) determine which committee meetings should be held virtually and which should be held physically.

2.5 This report provides an overview of key factors that the Executive Members may wish to consider when making a proposal to the Chief Executive Officer for recommendation onwards to Full Council as to how formal, public meetings of the Council are to be held.

3.0 COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD BETWEEN 19 MAY 2020 and 6 MAY 2021

3.1 A total of 106 remote access, live broadcast meetings of the Council's committees were held from 19 May 2020 to 6 May 2021. The benefits associated with holding remote access, live broadcast meetings have previously been discussed but some headline figures are as below, comparing the years 2019/20 (meetings in person at County Hall, Northallerton) and 2020/21 (remote access meetings):

- An overall reduction in mileage claimed by councillors of 131,338 miles
- An overall saving in travel claims of £55,221
- An estimated saving in terms of time not spent travelling to and from meetings of 5,013 hours or 668 working days
- An overall saving in carbon dioxide emissions associated with reduced travel estimated to be 36.774 tonnes per annum.

3.2 In addition, there has been a total of 6,597 views of the 106 meetings on the Council YouTube site. This equates to an average of 62 views per meeting. The lowest number of views for a meeting was 11 (Pension Board) and the highest number of views for a meeting was 391 (Executive). This compares to meetings in person, where it was the exception for people to attend a meeting rather than the norm.

4.0 COMMITTEE MEETINGS BETWEEN 7 MAY AND 21 JULY 2021

4.1 There are 36 committee meetings scheduled to be held between 7 May 2021 and 21 July 2021. All of these meetings have been or will be held as remote access, live broadcast informal meetings of the committee's Members. They are informal but held in public with the public still able to attend and ask a question or make a statement. Any formal decisions required are then taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency delegated powers, taking into account the views of the committee Members and all relevant information. All such decisions are published on the Council website and circulated to all County Councillors and senior officers. Even where call in would not normally apply, in a spirit of openness and transparency, all of the decisions taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency powers will be open to call in.

4.2 The majority of local authorities have returned to holding some meetings in person as of 7 May 2021.

5.0 MEETINGS TO BE HELD AFTER 21 JULY 2021

5.1 The Government regulations which explicitly allowed remote meetings to take place and permitted formal decisions to be taken at those meetings expired on 7 May 2021. The government call for evidence on remote access meetings closed on 17 June 2021. At this stage, there is no confirmation of, nor any timeframe for, the introduction of primary legislation to enable lawful remote access meetings of the Council, Executive and their committees.

- 5.2 It is anticipated that all adults will have had the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine by 1 July 2021 and that all over-40s will have had their second dose by mid to late July 2021. There are concerns about Covid-19 transmission rates, in particular with the emergence of new variants such as the 'Delta variant'. Also, the need for people to have two doses of the vaccine to have the fullest protection against new variants.
- 5.3 On 14 June 2021, a four week delay to Covid-19 lockdown easing in England was announced. As such, social distancing remains in force. The public health advice remains 'Hands. Face. Space. Fresh Air.' It is anticipated that the national lockdown will be eased as of 19 July 2021, subject to review.
- 5.4 If there is still to be some element of social distancing throughout July and beyond, either required as part of an extended lockdown or due to individual concerns, then it would only be practicable to hold formal public meetings of the Council's committees in the Council Chamber in the Brierley Building, Northallerton. In doing so and to be compliant with current government guidance on the safe use of council buildings, [COVID-19: Guidance for the safe use of council buildings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-council-buildings) advises that the following steps would be put in place:
1. Only those participants absolutely necessary should physically attend meetings and should maintain social distancing (2 metres apart or 1 metre with risk mitigation where 2 metres is not viable)
 2. Avoid transmission during meetings for example by not sharing pens, documents and other objects
 3. Provide hand sanitisers in the rooms
 4. Holding meetings in well ventilated rooms whenever possible
 5. Use floor signage to help people maintain social distancing
 6. Not allow the public to attend and instead broadcast the meetings online (the guidance states that the public should not be attending council meetings until after 21 June 2021).
- 5.5 It is also important to consider what Health and Safety measures the Council would want to put in place, over and above any specified in government guidance, as an employer and an organisation that effectively hosts public events.
- 5.6 Consideration would need to be given as to how the November 2021 meeting of the County Council was held.
- 5.7 When considering meetings to be held after 21 July 2021, there are a number of options that could be considered, as follows:
1. Carry on holding the remote access, live broadcast informal meetings with any formal decisions required by those committees subsequently being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency delegated powers, taking into account the views of the committee Members and all relevant information. This option assumes that the government will introduce new regulations that enable lawful remote access formal committee meetings to take place at some point later this year. At that point, the use of emergency delegated powers in this context would cease.
 2. Carry on holding remote access, live broadcast informal meetings, with decision-making by the Chief Executive Officer, as per option 1, whilst also developing a timetable for a return to all formal committee meetings being held physically in public by the end of the calendar year. This option assumes that the government will not

introduce new regulations permitting lawful remote access committee meetings to take place in this calendar year.

3. As per option 2, with an accelerated return to meeting in person (September 2021) for those committees that regularly make formal decisions, such as the Executive and the Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee. This then significantly reduces the reliance upon the Chief Executive Officer using his emergency delegated powers.
4. Return to meeting in person for all formal, public committee meetings as of 22 July 2021, a return to the pre-pandemic position.
5. Return to meeting in person for those public meetings of the Council, Executive and their committees where formal decisions are made, as of 22 July 2021. All other committees, such as the Area Constituency Committees and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, to continue to meet informally using remote access indefinitely. This may need to be reviewed where such a committee has to make a formal decision.

5.8 There are financial implications associated with the different ways that meetings are held. A meeting in person will incur travel costs, an opportunity cost associated with time spent travelling, costs for the provision of a meeting room, and IT costs for the recording and/or broadcasting of the meeting. By contrast, the costs associated with a remote meeting are limited to staffing required to facilitate a live broadcast meeting.

5.9 It is also recognised that it is important for individual committees to consider how best to conduct their meetings. In addition, there may need to be some consideration of how all councillors could be given the ability to express a preference how individual meetings are held, particularly those that are likely to consider more controversial/sensitive matters.

5.10 Any option which includes the continuation of virtual informal meetings will require Full Council to give its agreement that not attending a physical meeting in person for a 6 month period (as opposed to continuing to attend virtual informal meetings) will not disqualify a county councillor under the automatic vacation of office provisions set out in section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972. This is required as, since 7 May 2021, the meetings that have been attended by Members have been informal and so do not count towards their attendance record. As such, it is proposed that matters pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic and any consequential decision to continue with virtual informal meetings would be considered an approved reason for any Member's failure to attend meetings of the Council for a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance. This would not then count towards the operation of the automatic vacation of office provisions set out in section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972. Therefore, Members will not automatically lose their position by not attending physical meetings in person (as opposed to virtual informal meetings) during this period.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The financial implications are set out in the body of this report.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The legal implications are set out in the body of this report.

8.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report. However allowing informal virtual meetings of committee Members to continue will reduce carbon emissions by reducing the requirement to travel to meetings.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 Relevant Officers and Group Leaders have been consulted on how we hold committee meetings.

10.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 With the effective roll out of the national vaccination programme, the easing of the national lockdown and no clear indication if or when regulations will be put in place to enable lawful remote access committee meetings to be held by local authorities in England, it is necessary to consider the options for holding formal, public committee meetings going forwards.

11.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 That the members of the Executive consider the options outlined in section 5.7 of this report and then make a proposal to the Chief Executive Officer for recommendation, under his emergency delegated powers, to full Council for review at their meeting on 21 July 2021.

BARRY KHAN

Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) and Monitoring Officer

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

Background Documents:

The Council's Constitution

The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

2 July 2021

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
INFORMAL MEETING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

13 July 2021

Proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

1.0 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 That members of the Executive consider the outlined changes to the Terms of Reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel for proposal to the Chief Executive Officer to consider for recommendation, under his emergency decision making powers, to the meeting of the County Council on 21 July 2021.

2.0 **BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Under his delegated decision making powers in the Officers' Delegation Scheme in the Council's Constitution, the Chief Executive Officer has power, in cases of emergency, to take any decision which could be taken by the Council, the Executive or a committee.
- 2.2 Following on from the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, which allowed for committee meetings to be held remotely, the County Council resolved at its meeting on 5 May 2021 that, for the present time, in light of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic circumstances, remote live-broadcast committee meetings should continue as informal meetings of the Committee Members, with any formal decisions required being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency decision making powers and after consultation with Officers and Members as appropriate and after taking into account any views of the relevant Committee Members. This approach will be reviewed by full Council at its July meeting.
- 2.3 An Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) for North Yorkshire County Council was established in 2001 under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2001, with the remit to consider issues relating to Members' remuneration and expenses. The Panel was subsequently reconstituted in 2002/03 in order to comply with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.
- 2.4 The IRP reviews Members' remuneration and expenses on an annual basis, typically submitting a report to the County Council at its February meeting. The work of the IRP each year tends to start in late September and is complete in early January. The data and information considered by the IRP includes: the remuneration packages agreed by comparator councils; local economic indicators such as unemployment rates, average wage levels, benefits claims and inflation rates; the views of local people; and the role of Councillors and whether this has changed or is likely to change.

2.5 At present, the IRP has four members and appointments to these positions are made through an open recruitment process. A member of a committee or sub-committee of the Council cannot be a member of the IRP.

3.0 **REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE**

3.1 The current Terms of Reference for the IRP are as below:

- To consider issues relating to Members remuneration and expenses
- To carry out a full review of Special Responsibility Allowances for implementation every four years beginning from 2019/20
- To consider representations relating to the remuneration and expenses of independent and community members on relevant bodies and also Councillors serving on other bodies/organisations
- To make recommendations and provide advice to the County Council.

3.2 The IRP has four positions and appointments to these are made through an open recruitment process involving the Group Leaders, the Chief Executive Officer and the Monitoring Officer. They each are appointed for a four year term and can then be reappointed for a further four year term. A recruitment process is usually undertaken every two years to ensure that there is an overlap between appointees.

3.3 In February 2021, the IRP reviewed their Terms of Reference and concluded that it was timely to reconsider how the IRP worked. The suggested additions/amendments relate to the recruitment, induction and performance of new members of the panel and the duration of the term of office, as follows:

- The membership to be held at 3 members only for a trial period of 24 months (the period of 2 annual report cycles)
- A 12 month trial period to be introduced for all new appointees to the IRP, with a mechanism in place that enables the removal of any newly appointed member whose performance is not assessed as being satisfactory within that 12 month period
- Increase the term of IRP members from four to six years with the possibility of a further appointment for six years
- The Chair of the IRP or another member of the IRP to be a member of the interview panel during any recruitment to the IRP.

3.4 The rationale for the proposed changes was primarily that, with the bulk of the work of the IRP taking place between late September and early January each year, there is limited time available to induct new members and bring them up to speed with the work of the panel. Also, that the compressed time frame means that IRP members often face the prospect of seeking re-appointment or exceeding their maximum appointment period at a point in time where they have built up a detailed knowledge and understanding of the work of the Council and its councillors. The extended terms of office would allow for greater retention of skills and experience.

4.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are very limited financial implications, as the proposed reduction in the membership of the IRP upon a trial basis from four to 3 members would make some minor savings in allowances paid.

5.0 **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The legal implications are set out in the body of this report. The proposed changes to the Terms of Reference are in line with The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

6.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

7.0 **CONSULTATION**

7.1 Relevant Officers and Group Leaders have been consulted.

8.0 **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 The IRP has conducted a review of its current Terms of Reference and working practices and concluded that changes are needed to enable the members to work effectively together. The IRP is by definition an independent body and so where they wish to change the way in which they work it is usual for it to be supported, providing that The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 are complied with.

9.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 That, subject to any comments Members may have, the outlined amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel be proposed to the Chief Executive Officer for recommendation, under his emergency decision making powers, to the meeting of the County Council on 21 July 2021.

BARRY KHAN

Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) and Monitoring Officer

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

Report Author:

Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Background Documents:

The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2003/1021/contents/made>

2 July 2021

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North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

6 July 2021

Area Constituency Committee Feedback

1.0 Purpose of the Report

To bring to the attention of the Executive key issues considered at recent meetings of the Area Constituency Committees.

2.0 Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee on 9 June 2021

- 2.1 County Councillor David Hugill was appointed Chairman, and County Councillor Yvonne Peacock, Vice-Chairman, for 2021/22.
- 2.2 County Councillor Carl Les and other Executive Members present gave updates on the current position relating to COVID 19 and how that was being addressed, together with other key issues in the Constituency area and County-wide.
- 2.3 A presentation was provided in respect of economic recovery from the COVID pandemic, both County-wide and in the Constituency area. During discussion of the report Members raised a number of issues, including: the availability of rental housing, issues in relation to the availability of staff for the re-opening hospitality sector, the need to extend the period of support to assist people coming out of the pandemic and the provision of affordable housing to prevent people from leaving rural areas.
- 2.4 Members were provided with details of the new “in-house” company, North Yorkshire Highways, that will provide highways’ services in the County. Issues in relation to local highways matters were also discussed.
- 2.5 An update on the progress of the North Northallerton Bridge was provided, and it was indicated that the bridge was expected to be completed by January 2022, but would require extensive testing before it was open to traffic. It was also noted that action was underway to address the flooding situation on the A684.
- 2.6 Details of the Digital Demand Responsive Bus Service being piloted in Masham/Bedale in the Constituency area. Details of how the service operated were outlined.

3.0 Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Constituency Committee on 10 June 2021

- 3.1 The committee considered a presentation about economic recovery from the Covid pandemic. Members asked questions particularly in relation to the improvements being made to internet and mobile connectivity, and the areas within the Constituency where free WiFi is being made available. A Member suggested that 5G, together with sensor monitoring, could be used, in future, to provide real-time information about air quality outside schools and in town centres.
- 3.2 The committee considered an update following the changes which were made to stroke services at Harrogate District Hospital. NHS officers added that, at this stage, two

years on, ideally they would have wanted to provide a detailed analysis of figures and patient numbers. However, this was difficult because Covid issues had tended to skew some of the numbers. Members commented that the reconfiguration of stroke services in Harrogate in 2019 had been the correct thing to do. Arrangements were made for a full set of data, looking at the Stroke Admission Pathway, to be submitted to elected Members in a year's time. The NHS officer agreed to supply Committee Members, in the meantime, with the figures currently available, although these would be heavily caveated to recognise that they are not representative due to Covid.

3.3 The committee considered information about waiting times for clinical procedures at Harrogate District Hospital as a consequence of the impacts of Covid, together with the actions being taken by the Hospital to address the situation. Members thanked the Hospital's representative for a detailed and reassuring report.

3.4 County Councillor Carl Les and other Executive Members present gave updates on key issues arising in their portfolios and answered questions posed by the committee.

4.0 Selby & Ainsty Area Constituency Committee on 11 June 2021

4.1 County Councillor Carl Les and other Executive Members present gave updates on the current position relating to COVID 19 and how that was being addressed, together with other key issues in the Constituency area and County-wide.

4.2 A presentation was provided in respect of economic recovery from the COVID pandemic, both County-wide and in the Constituency area. During discussion of the report Members raised a number of issues, including: the need for appropriate infrastructure to support the large scale housing developments taking place, issues in relation to increasing traffic on the A59, the placement of the new Special School in the Selby District, the need for appropriately priced housing, the creation of good, well paid jobs, providing an adequate junction off the M62 into the Selby district to enhance job creation and securing a future for the Constituency area.

4.3 Members received a presentation relating to flooding issues in the Constituency and what was being provided to address those. Members raised issues in respect of the impact the Leeds flooding alleviation scheme was having on the Constituency area, the increase in the number and frequency of flooding incidents, the impact of surface water flooding and the need to speed up flooding alleviation schemes where funding has been identified.

4.4 An update was provided in respect of the Selby Place and Motion Study and it was noted that a final report would be brought to the Committee in September. Members highlighted issues that they hoped would be addressed through the study.

4.5 An update was provided in relation to the reconstruction and re-opening of the A19, following flooding in February 2020. It was expected that the road would re-open to traffic on 21st June 2021.

5.0 Thirsk & Malton Area Constituency Committee in 25 June 2021

5.1 The Committee considered a presentation provided by North Yorkshire Police on the levels of crime and incidences committed in 2020/21 in the Thirsk and Malton Constituency area. They were particularly keen to understand the reason for the increase in drug offences in the Scarborough & Ryedale area and what was driving it. As there was no representative from NYP available to attend the meeting, the Committee agreed to seek a written response to their enquiry.

5.2 The Committee were also pleased to have MP Kevin Hollinrake present at the meeting to give an update on ongoing issues across the Constituency area and at Westminster, and the Executive Member for Public Health, Prevention and Supported Housing who provided an update on the current position relating to COVID 19.

6.0 Recommendation

6.1 That the Executive notes the report and considers any matters arising from the work of the Area Constituency Committees detailed above, that merits further scrutiny, review or investigation at a county-level.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
County Hall
Northallerton

5 July 2021

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE

13 July 2021

Support for the Tour de Yorkshire 2022

Report of the Chief Executive Officer

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To recommend to the Chief executive Officer, under emergency delegated powers, that he approve a £100k fee to Welcome to Yorkshire towards staging the Tour de Yorkshire in 2022, and in the event that Welcome to Yorkshire are unable to secure sufficient race sponsorship, a further fee of up to £100K for the event in North Yorkshire.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Following on from the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 (“the 2020 Regulations”), which allowed for committee meetings to be held remotely, the County Council resolved at its meeting on 5 May 2021 that, for the present time, Committee business should be continued via the Chief Executive Officer making urgent decisions that would previously have been made by the Council’s committees, under his emergency decision making powers in the Officers’ Delegation Scheme, in consultation with other Officers and Members as appropriate. The Committee’s views and recommendations will be reported to the Chief Executive Officer for him to take into account in taking the formal decisions.
- 2.2 The Tour de Yorkshire had established itself as a key event in the both the regional and national sporting calendar. The race was cancelled last year due to Covid but the race has been re-scheduled to take place in 2022.
- 2.3 As a result, event preparations now need to begin. The race will play a key role as an opportunity to aid economic recovery across the region and it is planned to be the first and largest non-ticketed mass participation event of its kind in the UK since the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020. In parallel, Welcome to Yorkshire are planning a County wide ‘Festival of Yorkshire’ to take place for a full week and the race itself will be the headline act in what will be a celebration of the whole county highlighting local food and drink, arts and culture, heritage and music.
- 2.4 The event will be therefore used as a key marketing opportunity to bring new visitors into the region to enjoy the many other festivals and other attractions across Yorkshire. The 2019 Tour de Yorkshire and Asda Tour de Yorkshire Women’s Race were viewed across the globe by a record-breaking audience of 28 million. Independent research showed the race boosted the Yorkshire economy by £60 million as 1.96 million spectators lined the routes over the four days of action between 2-5 May 2019. The race will therefore provide a welcome boost to many local businesses, many of whom will have suffered during Covid lockdowns. This is an increase of 124 per cent on the fourth edition viewing figures of 12.5 million in 2018.
- 2.5 The 2020 race will start and finish in the same host towns and cities as announced and intended in 2020. This comprises of:-

Day 1: Beverley to Redcar (Mens race only)
Day 2: Skipton to Leyburn (Mens and Womens race)
Day 3: Barnsley to Huddersfield (Mens and Womens race)
Day 4: Halifax to Leeds (Mens race only)

3.0 The Request from Welcome to Yorkshire

- 3.1 The County Council has been requested to provide a £100k fee towards the costs of staging the event in 2022 as has been the case in previous years. However there is a further request that a further fee of up to £100k is provided if Welcome to Yorkshire are unable to secure sufficient sponsorship, which would result in the total fee for the event being up to £200K.
- 3.2 This request has arisen as the Amaury Sport Organisation (ASO) have indicated that they are no longer prepared to underwrite the sponsorship funding and will call upon Welcome to Yorkshire to provide any shortfall. Welcome to Yorkshire are unable to provide such a guarantee and have therefore called upon all those councils (nine as Craven and Richmondshire District Councils as well as the County Council given the two-tier nature) who are hosting a start / finish to contribute a further fee for the event in the event that insufficient sponsorship is received. The race will not proceed without a guarantee being in place.
- 3.3 A new team has been drawn together to lead the search for sponsorship by Welcome to Yorkshire and this team draws upon many credible business people. In addition, Welcome to Yorkshire are looking to move away from the previous approach to find a 'high figure' headline sponsor to act as the main rights holder of the race. The new strategy is to align with some of the societal values that have become increasingly important over the last year and could mean looking for businesses to be Equality, Sustainability, Mental Health and Diversity Partners. Welcome to Yorkshire have stated that, following what will have been a very difficult two years for all involved, the race needs to again be seen as a genuine celebration of Yorkshire as opposed to just a bike race. This will mean a much longer lead into the race with events celebrating the inherent Culture, Heritage, Arts, Craft, Food and Drink offering of the whole county with the race being the Headline act of 9 months of activation.
- 3.4 At this stage it is not possible to determine how much of the additional fee would be required but the approach set out, and the personnel involved, provides a high degree of assurance that there is a good plan. As a result, Welcome to Yorkshire feel it is "unlikely" that the additional fee of up to £100K will be required. Clearly, there will need to be some form of assessment of the effectiveness of the commercial sponsorship strategy following the 2022 event in order to inform future events.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The race "fee" of £100k has already been provided for from previous commitments to fund previous cancelled races. This was originally generated from business rates surpluses and was "earmarked" for further economic development. No further funding needs to be provided for this element should the Executive recommend the Chief Executive Officer agree to this contribution.
- 4.2 The further fee of up to £100k may well not be required. However, should the Executive recommend the Chief Executive Officer agree to this request then it should be fully provided for and it is recommended that £100k is set-aside from the Strategic Capacity

Unallocated Reserve and is released only as and when Welcome to Yorkshire make the final evidenced request.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The fee payable to Welcome to Yorkshire is a contractual payment to the event organiser towards the delivery of the event and services received from Welcome to Yorkshire, therefore the payment is not considered to be a subsidy.
- 5.2 The event can be delivered by one organisation only, so is a public procurement is not required.

6.0 Environmental Implications

- 6.1 The event is to be run by Welcome to Yorkshire with ASO. They will lead on environmental matters but, as noted above, they are keen to promote sustainability.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 That the Executive recommend to the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency delegated powers that he:
- i. approves funding of £100k to Welcome to Yorkshire as a fee to staging the 2022 Tour de Yorkshire;
 - ii. approves the provision of a further fee of up to £100k in the event that Welcome to Yorkshire are unable to generate sufficient sponsorship for the 2022 event and that this provision is funded from the Strategic Capacity Unallocated; and
 - iii. delegates authority to the Corporate Director, Business & Environmental Services in consultation with the Corporate Director, Strategic Resources to make any payment to Welcome to Yorkshire which becomes due after appropriate due diligence is carried out.

Richard Flinton
Chief Executive

13 July 2021

Background Documents - None

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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: 5 July 2021 Last updated: 5 July 2021
Period covered by Plan: 31 July 2022

PLEASE NOTE:-

During the continuing Covid-19 pandemic, following the expiry of the legislation permitting remote committee meetings, remote live-broadcast committee meetings will continue, but with any formal decisions required being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency decision-making powers in the Officers' Delegation Scheme, following consultation with Officers and Members as appropriate and after taking into account any views of the relevant Committee Members.

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
13 Jul 2021	Chief Executive Officer		North Yorkshire integrated Sexual Health Service	Yes	To note the revisions to the draft Model and the revised budget for the S75 Agreement and to delegate the decision to commence public consultation on the proposed service changes to the Executive Member of Public Health in consultation with Corporate Director.	York and Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Plus, Executive Members and Management Board at the informal Executive meeting held on 6 July 2021.	Published via the Council's website	Emma Davis, Health Improvement Manager, Health and Adult Services, Katie Needham, Public Health Consultant, Health and Adult Services 01609 797063/01609 797154,	
13 Jul 2021	Chief Executive Officer		Proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for the Independent Remuneration Panel	No	To approve the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference.	Independent Remuneration Panel and Legal and Democratic Services staff. Plus Executive Members and Management Board at the informal Executive meeting held on 6 July 2021	Email circulation of draft ToR for comment.	Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk	

FUTURE DECISIONS

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13 Jul 2021	Chief Executive Officer		Review of formal meetings of the Authority's Committees	Yes	To review arrangements for holding formal meetings of the Authority's Committees.	All County Councillors. Plus, Executive Members and Management Board at the informal Executive meeting held on 6 July 2021.	Consultation with all County Councillors.	Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk	
13 Jul 2021	Chief Executive Officer		Carbon Reduction Plan	Yes	To consider draft carbon reduction plan.	Executive Members and Management Board at the informal Executive meeting held on 6 July 2021.	Meetings	Neil Irving, Assistant Director - Policy, Partnerships and Communities neil.irving@northyorks.gov.uk	
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
31 Aug 2021	Executive		York and North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership	Yes	Seek approval to adopt the strategy	Executive Members and Management	N/a	Fiona Ancell fiona.ancell@northyorks.gov.uk	

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FUTURE DECISIONS

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			Strategy 2021-26			Board at the informal Executive meeting held on 22 June 2021			
31 Aug 2021	Executive		Redeployment of land to the north and south of Crosshills Lane, Selby	Yes	To approve the proposed redeployment of the property	Executive members and Management Board at the informal Executive meeting held on 8 June 2021		Philip Cowan, Non-Operational Property Manager, NYCC Property Services Philip.Cowan@northyorks.gov.uk	
31 Aug 2021	Executive		Elective Home Education Policy Statement	Yes	To update and approve the existing Elective Home Education policy and procedures in line with the new Elective Home Education pathway.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Marion Sadler, Business Support Manager/Leadership Support (CYPS) sarah.fawcett@northyorks.gov.uk	
31 Aug 2021	Executive		Healthy Child Programme - Emotional Health and Wellbeing	Yes	To request approval of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing draft section 75 and	North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group	Published via the Council's website	Victoria Ononeze, Public Health Consultant, Michael Rudd, Head of Housing Marketing Development	

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FUTURE DECISIONS

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30 Aug 2021					a decision to consult on the content and use of the draft Section 75 with North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group			(Commissioning), Health and Adult Services 01609 535347,	
30 Aug 2021	Executive		Development of Adult Social Care Provider Services	Yes	To inform Executive of the proposed development of adult social care provider services.	Local Stakeholders	Meetings and communications	Michael Rudd, Head of Housing Marketing Development (Commissioning), Health and Adult Services 01609 535347	
31 Aug 2021	Executive		Community Renewal Fund - Notice of decision by MHCLG	Yes	To agree acceptance of funding from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and to enter into funding agreements with third party grant recipients - to be identified	Legal & Financial services	Internal consultation with appropriate officers	Mak Kibblewhite, Senior Policy Officer, Economic Growth mark.kibblewhite@northyorks.gov.uk	Community Renewal Fund - Notice of decision by MHCLG

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FUTURE DECISIONS

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21 Sep 2021	Executive		Lowering the age range of Barrowcliff Community Primary School to 2-11	Yes	To seek approval to publish statutory notices to lower the school age range of Barrowcliff Community Primary School from January 2022	School community, wider community, other schools, Early Years providers.	In May 2021 the Governing Body of Barrowcliff CP School consulted the local community on their proposal. If approved statutory notices would be published between 7th Sept and 5th Oct 2021.	Matt George, Strategic Planning Officer, CYPS matt.george@northyorks.gov.uk	
12 Oct 2021	Executive		Adoption of Minerals and Waste Joint Plan	Yes	To approve the adoption of the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan			Rachel Pillar rachel.pillar@northyorks.gov.uk	
12 Oct 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	Executive Members and Management Board at the informal Executive meeting held on 6 July 2021.	N/A	Mark Hugill, Senior Engineer, Highways & Transportation mark.hugill@northyorks.gov.uk	
23 Nov	Executive		To inform	Yes	To request	York and	Published via	Emma Davis, Health	

FUTURE DECISIONS

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2021			Executive of the Sexual Health Service service model consultation feedback and a decision to consult on the draft section 75 with York and Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.		agreement to move forward with the accepted service model. Approval of the draft section 75 & decision to consult on the section 75 with York and Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.	Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	the Council's website	Improvement Manager, Health and Adult Services, Katie Needham, Public Health Consultant, Health and Adult Services 01609 797063/01609 797154,	
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
11 Jan 2022	Executive		Healthy Child Programme - Emotional Health and Wellbeing	Yes	To inform Executive of the Emotional Health and wellbeing	North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group	Published via the Council's website	Victoria Ononeze, Public Health Consultant, Michael Rudd, Head of Housing Marketing	

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FUTURE DECISIONS

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Page 6 of 20					Section 75 consultation feedback and to request formal approval to move to a Partnership agreement			Development (Commissioning), Health and Adult Services 01609 535347,	
	20 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: • 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	
	25 Jan 2022	Executive	Council Plan 2022-2026	Yes	To consider Council Plan 2022-2026	Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny	Meetings.	Neil Irving, Assistant Director - Policy, Partnerships and Communities	

FUTURE DECISIONS									
Likely Date of Decision	Decision Taker (a full list of the 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 an indication if the report contains any exempt (not for publication) information and the reasons for this	Key Decision YES/NO	Decision Required	Consultees (ie the identity of the principal groups whom the decision-taker proposes to consult)	Consultation Process (ie 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
						Committee and Management Board.		neil.iring@northyorks.gov.uk	
22 Mar 2022	Executive		To inform Executive of the Sexual Health Service Section 75 consultation feedback and to request formal approval to move to a Partnership agreement	Yes	Approve the final model and section 75 to move to Partnership model.	York and Scarborough Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	Published via the Council's website	Emma Davis, Health Improvement Manager, Health and Adult Services, Katie Needham, Public Health Consultant, Health and Adult Services 01609 797063 / 01609 797154	

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.

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North Yorkshire County Council

Executive

13 July 2021

North Yorkshire Integrated Sexual Health Service

Report of the Corporate Director – Health and Adult Services and Director of Public Health

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Executive Members with an update and revised position on the Section 75 agreement between NYCC and York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (YSFT).
- 1.2 To request that the Executive recommend to the Chief Executive Officer that he use his emergency delegated powers to :
 - i. approve the proposed budget for the Section 75 Agreement and delegate the final budget for the Section 75 to the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services in consultation with the Corporate Director Strategic Resources; and
 - ii. delegate the approval of the consultation on the proposed new service model to the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services in consultation with the Director of Public Health and the Executive Member for Public Health.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Under his delegated decision making powers in the Officers' Delegation Scheme in the Council's Constitution, the Chief Executive Officer has power, in cases of emergency, to take any decision which could be taken by the Council, the Executive or a committee. Following on from the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, which allowed for committee meetings to be held remotely, the County Council resolved at its meeting on 5 May 2021 that, for the present time, in light of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic circumstances, remote live-broadcast committee meetings should continue (as informal meetings of the Committee Members), with any formal decisions required being taken by the Chief Executive Officer under his emergency decision making powers and after consultation with other Officers and Members as appropriate and after taking into account any views of the relevant Committee Members. This approach will be reviewed by full Council at its July meeting.
- 2.2 Sexual and reproductive health is not just about preventing disease or infection. It also means promoting good sexual health in a wider context, including relationships, sexuality and sexual rights. Good sexual health is a vital aspect of overall health and wellbeing. However, poor sexual health outcomes fall disproportionately on certain groups. Sexual health spans the three domains of public health, health improvement, health protection, and healthcare public health.
- 2.3 Since 1 April 2013, Local Authorities have been mandated to ensure that comprehensive, open access, confidential sexual health services are available to all people who are present in their area (whether resident in that area or not). The requirement for Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM), Contraception and Sexual Health (CaSH) services to be provided on an open access basis is stipulated in the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013.

- 2.4 During 2013/14 the Public Health team invested significant time on a major redesign and procurement of an integrated sexual health service for North Yorkshire, resulting in the contract being awarded to one provider for a service which was historically delivered through nine different contracts including inheritance of the military sexual health function.
- 2.5 York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is the provider of the integrated sexual health service in North Yorkshire (YorSexualHealth). The contract commenced 1 July 2015 with an expiry date of 31 March 2018. Within the existing contract, there was the option to extend for a further two years; this was utilised taking the expiry date to March 2020. Since then due to financial negotiations and subsequently COVID-19 further extensions, 12 months and 6+6 months approved via key decisions with end date of 31 March 2022.
- 2.6 £958,048 has been saved over 5 years from the existing contract. Due to COVID-19 in 2020/21, a significant underspend on the Primary Care and out of area budgets was achieved, with reductions in activity, and associated prescribing costs.
- 2.7 On September 3 2019 NYCC Executive approved proposals for the initiation of a Section 75 agreement covering up to ten years for delivery of an integrated sexual health service between NYCC and YFT subject to a 30-day consultation.
- 2.8 On 26 November 2019 NYCC Executive received feedback on the outcome of the consultation and delegated the final decision (subject to YSFT Board approvals) to Corporate Directors of Strategic Resources and Health and Adult Services, the Assistant Chief Executive and the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Executive Members for those respective portfolios.

3.0 Issues

- 3.1 Shortly after the NYCC Executive decision, COVID-19 took hold and both organisations could not progress to the final stages of the Section 75 agreement as planned, hence the latest extension.
- 3.2 A detailed review of the previous position is complete including a significant look at all the sexual health budgets, as part of the wider Public Health Grant review. This review has led to recommending an amendment to the financial position, the service model and initial length of Section 75 agreement.
- 3.3 Discussions between the organisations has resumed and the first Shadow Board meeting took place on 15 June 2021 whereby both organisations agreed that the financial envelope was close to being finalised.
- 3.4 NYCC and YSFT are looking to enter into an initial 5-year partnership agreement with an option to extend for a further 5 years (5+3+2) with agreed break clauses. The future financial uncertainty beyond 5 years makes it difficult to work beyond this period for both organisations.
- 3.5 In light of the budget reductions there will be proposed service changes subject to a 60-day public consultation and virtual workshops for partners.
- 3.6 The timescales for this piece of work are challenging for 1 April 2022.

4.0 Outline of Proposed Service Model

- 4.1 NYCC and YSFT have developed an amended service model in light of budget reductions and COVID-19. YSFT considers the new model to be affordable within the reduced financial

envelope - Confidential Appendix 1 details the proposed changes to the Integrated Sexual Health Service Model.

4.2 Proposed service model summary:

- Sexual health promotion and information – a revised digital offer that puts choice and control at its core. A new offer that provides a convenient, efficient and cost effective method for e-sexual and reproductive health services. Further development of digital information, advice and signposting to self-care.
- Contraceptive services – an enabling approach with General Practice partners to support repeat contraception. The service will offer repeat contraception to those under 19 and to all ages after the issue of emergency contraception.
- STI services – a new tailored arrangement for online provision, offering a more targeted approach to convenient and accessible STI testing resulting in a more responsive and proactive approach to monitoring prevalence and responding with targeted testing treatment and partner notification.
- Training – customer focused, based on training needs of the local sexual health partners delivered via increased remote means e.g. webinars.
- Clinical and community outreach – a targeted and combined approach will be mobilised to best support the people with the greatest or most complex needs. This joined up approach will see clinical practitioners, community development workers and counselling therapists working together to provide practical support, an outcomes focused team supporting people to take control of their sexual and reproductive health.
- YSFT will make continued efficiencies regarding staffing over the 5 years, avoiding redundancies by adjusting skill mix through staff turnover and sourcing alternative accommodation both clinical and non-clinical to reduce high rents.

5.0 Performance Implications

- 5.1 Nationally NY ranks 26th / 149 Local Authorities for sexual and reproductive health outcomes. In a comparison to 16 nearest CIPFA neighbours NY ranks 2nd for sexual and reproductive health outcomes (Devon 1st with higher spend).
- 5.2 The provision of contraception is widely recognised as a highly cost-effective public health intervention. When considering total cost savings across the public sector (including both healthcare and non-healthcare cost savings), the Return On Investment (ROI) is £1.86 after one year (exceeding break-even) and £4.64 over 5 years. Over 10 years, the ROI is £9.00, or in other words, there is an £9.00 saving for every £1 invested in publicly provided contraception.
- 5.3 The existing provider is very experienced and has established a high quality, well-regarded integrated sexual health service across North Yorkshire, which is continually reviewed to explore ways of improving service delivery. The existing provider is performing to expectations and often above, delivering the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) within the contract, and works closely with the Council to address any areas of concern that may arise.
- 5.4 A Service Specification and Performance and Outcomes Framework will remain in place as part of the Section 75 agreement, these documents will form the basis of the agreement.

6.0 Policy Implications

- 6.1 The integrated sexual health service supports the local population outcome which is that “all people in North Yorkshire experience good sexual health” as set out in the local strategic framework for sexual health.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 To address the decrease in the Council's Public Health Grant allocation in September 2019 Executive approved a 2% reducing budget on the integrated sexual health service contract value, this equated to a saving of c £260,000 after five years.
- 7.2 Following a review of the Public Health Grant position, a revised annual reduction of £144,299 minimum efficiency saving will be applied across all the sexual health budgets. This includes an upfront year 1 reduction of c£120,000 from the YSFT budget and £25,169 from Primary Care.
- 7.3 The proposed annual budget for the Section 75 agreement with York and Scarborough Foundation Trust over the next 5 years is £2,987,450, with an annual saving to NYCC of c. £120,000. In addition, any annual Public Health Grant uplift for NHS pay will not be passed on and retained as further savings (all subject to YSFT agreement). With a 5 year fixed term contract and a year 3 break clause position, this will allow both parties to review the financial position and service model with a 1-year notice period.
- 7.4 The revised budget and savings plan has been approved by Health and Adult Services Leadership Team and Management Board, set in the context of the wider Public Health Grant appraisal with no adverse impact on achieving a balanced budget.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 The Local Authority is required as part of its public health statutory duties to ensure that comprehensive, open access, confidential sexual health services are available to people in North Yorkshire **(whether they live here or not)**. This is set out in Regulation 6 of the Local Authorities (Public Health Functions and Entry to Premises by Local Healthwatch Representatives) Regulations 2013.
- 8.2 Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000, S.I. 617 ("Regulations") enable NHS bodies to exercise prescribed local authority health-related functions in conjunction with their own NHS functions. The power to enter into section 75 agreements is conditional on the following:
- i. The arrangements are likely to lead to an improvement in the way in which those functions are exercised; and;
 - ii. The partners have jointly consulted people likely to be affected by such arrangements.
- 8.3 Under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCRs) two contracting authorities can enter into a collaboration agreement (co-operation) subject to meeting the tests of Regulation 12 (7) PCRs (known as Hamburg).

9.0 Consultation Undertaken and Responses

- 9.1 A 30-day joint consultation between both NYCC and YFT began on 7 October 2019 and ended 6 November 2019. The NHS and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000 stipulate, "the partners may not enter into any partnership agreements [under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006] unless they have consulted jointly such persons as appear to them to be affected by such arrangements". The consultation set out the proposal to put in place a formal Partnership Agreement for the delivery of the Integrated Sexual Health Service and invited comments from both the public and interested parties.
- 9.2 The consultation and responses fed back to NYCC Executive on 26 November 2019 were overwhelmingly supportive of entering into a Section 75 partnership with 38 in agreement and 1 in disagreement.
- 9.3 A further two consultations will be undertaken before 1 April 2022. The first will ask the public and partners about the proposed changes to the service delivery model and the second will

share the Section 75 framework, associated service specification and performance dashboard, and ask for comment.

10.0 Impact on Other Services/Organisations

10.1 The Council will work with the Provider to ensure that there is no significant negative impact on the health and wellbeing of the North Yorkshire population.

11.0 Equalities Implications

11.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) on the integrated sexual health service is complete and attached at Appendix 2.

12.0 Recommendation(s)

12.1 Executive Members are asked to note the contents of this report and to recommend to the Chief Executive Officer that using his emergency powers he:

- i. Approve the revised budget for the Section 75 agreement and delegate any amendments to this budget to the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services in consultation with the Corporate Director for Strategic Resources;
- ii. Delegate the approval of the consultation on the proposed new service model to the Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services in consultation with the Director of Public Health and the Executive Member for Public Health.

Richard Webb
Corporate Director – Health and Adult Services
County Hall
Northallerton

28 June 2021

Report Author – Emma Davis, Health Improvement Manager
Presenter of Report – Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health / Richard Webb, Corporate Director Health and Adult Services.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Proposed Integrated Sexual Health Service Model Changes (Confidential)
Appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Equality impact assessment (EIA) form: evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

(Form updated May 2015)

North Yorkshire Specialist Sexual Health Services

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please contact the Communications Unit on 01609 53 2013 or email communications@northyorks.gov.uk.



যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھیے۔

Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are public documents. EIAs accompanying reports going to County Councillors for decisions are published with the committee papers on our website and are available in hard copy at the relevant meeting. To help people to find completed EIAs we also publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of our website. This will help people to see for themselves how we have paid due regard in order to meet statutory requirements.

Name of Directorate and Service Area	Health and Adult Services, Public Health
Lead Officer and contact details	Emma Davis – Health Improvement Manager
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the EIA	Project Task Group – Sexual Health Dan Atkinson – Health Improvement Officer Emma Davis – Health Improvement Manager
How will you pay due regard? e.g. working group, individual officer	Project Task Group – Sexual Health
When did the due regard process start?	06 January 2014 Refresh 2019/20 Review June 2021

Section 1. Please describe briefly what this EIA is about. (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, stopping doing something?)

The NYCC Public health team are reviewing the North Yorkshire Integrated Specialist Sexual Health Service, following a 7-year contract with provider York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, branded YorSexualHealth.

The service will remain an open access specialist sexual health service including a focus on the county's priority groups as identified in the Sexual Health Needs Assessment refresh 2019. The service will follow the national specification recommendations and evidence based standards for service provision as outlined in the reviewed service specification.

Since 1 April 2013, North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) have been required by regulation to commission HIV prevention and sexual health promotion, open access genito-urinary medicine and contraception service for all age groups. Other elements of the sexual health system are commissioned by partner organisations.

North Yorkshire County Council intend to enter into a Section 75 partnership agreement with York Hospital NHS Foundation Trust to deliver a comparable service to commence on 1st April 2022. The existing Primary Care contract for GP's and Pharmacies will remain separate.

This EIA is being completed with regards to updates to statistics for protected characteristics of the population and updates to the service specification as part of updates to the evidence base.

Section 2. Why is this being proposed? What are the aims? What does the authority hope to achieve by it? (e.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)

As detailed above, the current contract for the Integrated Specialist Sexual Health service provided by YorSexualHealth is due to expire on 31st March 2022 after a 7-year period utilising all contract extensions.

Sexual health covers the provision of advice and services around contraception, relationships, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) (including HIV) and abortion. Provision of sexual health services is complex and can be delivered by a wide range of providers, including general practice, community services, acute hospitals, pharmacies and the voluntary, charitable and independent sector (Department of Health, 2013).

Despite efforts to control STIs, including the improved availability and uptake of sexual health screening, we are not seeing a significant impact on numbers of STIs diagnosed, with STI rates continuing to rise. Whilst some of the increase is associated with improved access to services and more testing, it is clear that high rates of infection persist in some population groups such as men who have sex with men (MSM) and young people. This highlights the continued importance of sexual health services.

The percentage of late stage diagnosis of new cases of HIV remains a concern, and improved uptake of HIV testing, particularly for those with HIV indicator conditions, is vital for early detection and treatment to reduce morbidity and mortality.

Existing prevention efforts, such as greater STI screening coverage and easier, more rapid access to sexual health services need to be sustained and improved in some localities to support earlier diagnosis and prevent onward transmission. These efforts need to be focussed on high-risk groups in particular.

Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) is the most effective form of contraception. Provision of LARC services is exceptional across North Yorkshire and maintaining and up-skilling

healthcare professionals to support people to make informed choices about contraception, and fit and remove LARC, needs to be ensured.

The uptake in North Yorkshire is excellent, with an increasing trend, 77.0 per 1,000 total prescribed LARC (excluding injections). GP prescribed LARC 59.4 per 1,000, higher than England and SRH services prescribing 17.6 per 1,000 lower than England.

Whilst good progress has been made on teenage pregnancy rates across North Yorkshire, more needs to be done in certain localities and should be supported by broader prevention work to identify and support young people at risk of unplanned teenage pregnancy.

Improving the sexual health of the population of North Yorkshire requires an integrated response from all relevant agencies. The Local Authority is responsible for commissioning comprehensive, open-access sexual health services. It needs to work with key partners to build on the existing good work that has previously occurred.

Section 3. What will change? What will be different for customers and/or staff?

The new service will be largely the same for service users (customers) and staff. The changes to be made to the current service specification highlight good working practices and updates in light of new evidence and learning from COVID-19.

The main changes are as follows:

- Sexual health promotion and information – a revised digital offer that puts choice and control at its core. A new offer that provides a convenient, efficient and cost effective method for e-sexual and reproductive health services. Further development of digital information, advice and signposting to self-care.
- Contraceptive services – an enabling approach with General Practice partners to support repeat contraception. The service will offer repeat contraception to those under 19 and to all ages after the issue of emergency contraception.
- STI services – a new tailored arrangement for online provision, offering a more targeted approach to convenient and accessible STI testing resulting in a more responsive and proactive approach to monitoring prevalence and responding with targeted testing treatment and partner notification.
- Training – customer focused, based on training needs of the local sexual health partners delivered via increased remote means e.g. webinars.
- Clinical and community outreach – a targeted and combined approach will be mobilised to best support the people with the greatest or most complex needs. This joined up approach will see clinical practitioners, community development workers and counselling therapists working together to provide practical support, an outcomes focused team supporting people to take control of their sexual and reproductive health.

The aim of the service will remain the same; all people in North Yorkshire to experience good sexual health. Residents of North Yorkshire will be supported in making informed, confident choices around their sexual health with a particular focus on prevention, and supporting young people and other at risk groups and communities from experiencing sexual ill-health.

The service will continue to be delivered via an integrated specialist service, complemented by a separate contract for Primary Care (GP's and Pharmacies).

Eligibility Criteria

The eligibility criteria and key components of the service offer remain the same.

The Local Authority is mandated to commission open access confidential services. The provider must operate an open access policy for both contraception and STI services regardless of residence of the patient. The legislation defines services as:

- (i) for preventing the spread of sexually transmitted infections;
- (ii) for treating and caring for persons with such infections;
- (iii) for notifying sexual partners of persons with such infections
- (iv) advice on, and reasonable access to, a broad range of contraceptive substances and appliances;
- (v) advice on preventing unintended pregnancy

However this service specification is commissioning a range of service elements over and above a core offer. Therefore not all service elements have to be delivered regardless of residence of the patient, it is acceptable for some elements to only be available for North Yorkshire residents'.

The funding received for the Integrated Sexual Health Service (ISHS) pays for residents of North Yorkshire only. However, the Provider shall provide a free, open access, ISHS to anyone that attends without referral, irrespective of their place of residence or GP registration.

Staff

The Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE) which protects employees' terms and conditions of employment when a business is transferred from one owner to another will not apply if a Section 75 partnership agreement is established.

Priorities

The key principles developed to inform the sexual health service delivery help achieve the goal of improving sexual health outcomes of residents, informed by an engagement exercise conducted as part of the review. In the market testing (online) all respondents supported the current principles of the service and felt they still reflected the need for the service. The key principles are:

- Priority to be given to prevention and early intervention with a focus on young people and most at risk populations.
- Services to be delivered by a professional integrated skilled sexual health workforce.
- Strong clinical leadership to be embedded across the local sexual health system.
- Encourage the use of evidence based practice, innovation and use of technology.
- Ensure rapid and easy access to services - including in rural areas- delivering services in appropriate settings.
- Ensure all contraceptive and STI diagnosis and treatment is dealt with in one place.
- The partnership will ensure available resources are focussed on delivering the best possible sexual health outcomes for all people in North Yorkshire

Strong links exist between deprivation and STIs, teenage conceptions and abortions with the highest burden borne by women, men who have sex with men ("MSM"), trans community, teenagers, young adults and black and minority ethnic groups. HIV infection also has an unequal impact on MSM and Black African populations. Some groups at higher risk of poor sexual health face stigma and discrimination, which can influence their ability to access services. The Integrated Sexual Health Service will be delivered with an aim to address these inequalities by providing easily accessible services.

The decision has been made not to include sexual health services currently commissioned from GP practices and pharmacies in the services review at this stage. This is due to the need to allow for flexibility in the development of primary care sexual health services and for the development of the primary care market. Instead, these services will continue to be commissioned as they are

currently, as part of the public health primary care services contract. The current Approved Provider List, and associated service specifications, have been extended until 31st March 2025.

Section 4. Involvement and consultation (What involvement and consultation has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results? What consultation will be needed and how will it be done?)

North Yorkshire County Council intends to enter into a Section 75 partnership agreement with current provider York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to deliver the Integrated Sexual Health Service for North Yorkshire (ISHS).

Procurement of the ISHS 2013-15

A significant review and re-configuration programme commenced in August 2013.

An extensive joint engagement exercise with City of York Council took place during August-October 2013 to establish what stakeholders views were on what the successful elements and challenges were with current service provision, as well as views on how services could be improved. Based on the feedback from the engagement exercise a proposed new system for delivery of services was developed.

North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council held a joint public consultation on the proposed new system for delivery of sexual health services in both local authorities over an eight-week period from 6th January 2014 to 28th February 2014.

These activities were summarised and recorded to shape and inform the new model used for the commissioning arrangements of the North Yorkshire ISHS in 2014. A Sexual Health Needs Assessment was conducted and a full review of the evidence base.

Review of the ISHS 2018/19

Throughout December 2018 – February 2019 a refresh of the Sexual Health Needs Assessment was completed, a review of the evidence including advances in diagnostic and treatment of STI's, and the Integrated Sexual Health Services; A suggested national service specification (PHE and DoH, August 2018) and a look at the landscape regionally and with comparable neighbours. In addition to this, engagement activity with stakeholders and professionals has been conducted online for market testing and information checking.

The combination of information provided from the market engagement, the needs assessment, regional and neighbour benchmarking, and evidence review has informed and shaped the changes in the service specification update. Relevant UK clinical guidance covering the specialities of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare and Genitourinary Medicine can be found at www.fsrh.org and www.bashh.org. The Provider shall ensure the ISHS reflect updates in guidance and recommendations as and when produced.

Consultation – Section 75 agreement - 2019

North Yorkshire County Council and York & Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust jointly ran a 30-day consultation on the proposed Section 75 agreement between September and October 2019. This consultation set out a proposal to put in place a formal Partnership Agreement for the delivery of the integrated sexual health service.

The survey hosted on the North Yorkshire County Council Partnerships website and YorSexualHealth (brand name of York & Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust current sexual health provider) website, so any member of the public or fellow professional could

comment on the proposals. Hard copies of the consultation document were also able to be obtained by contacting the North Yorkshire Public Health Team.

The consultation was designed to ask the following questions:

1. In what role are you completing this survey? (I am responding on behalf of an organisation/in my professional role, I am responding as a current provider of sexual health services, I am a member of the public who lives in North Yorkshire)
2. Do you agree that the Council should develop the future of these services through a partnership agreement with York Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, in which the Trust provides the services on behalf of the Council?
Yes/No/Don't Know
3. Please feel free to provide any relevant supporting information to accompany your previous answer.

Over the course of the 30-day duration that the consultation was live, the survey garnered 39 responses. Overall positive, only one of the responses received was in disagreement of the proposal.

A further two consultations will be undertaken before 1 April 2022. The first will ask the public and partners about the proposed changes to the service delivery model and the second will share the Section 75 framework, associated service specification and performance dashboard, and ask for comment. These consultations will be online (and available as hard copies) and via virtual workshops.

Section 5. 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.

The council intends to invest approximately £2,987,450 per annum into the Integrated Sexual Health Service over the next 5 years. This is funded through the Public Health Grant. Significant efficiencies have already been made over the course of the existing contract life from 2013/14. As part of the new partnership arrangement and in the context of public health grant reductions further efficiencies are required.

The efficiency of the sexual health services integrated contract has been improved since the introduction of the collated sexual health service in 2014. This has shown to be cost effective through the Public Health Outcomes Framework and the BEST self-assessment review.

We have compared our performance and spend per head of eligible population nationally, as well as to those considered as statistical neighbours (CIPFA). Nationally, North Yorkshire ranks 26th out of 149 Local Authorities for sexual and reproductive health outcomes. Comparing North Yorkshire to the 16 nearest CIPFA neighbours, it ranks 2nd for sexual and reproductive health outcomes. For reference, Devon ranks first but does have a higher spend.

The provision of contraception is widely recognised as a highly cost-effective public health intervention. When considering total cost savings across the public sector (including both healthcare and non-healthcare cost savings), the ROI is £1.86 after one year (exceeding break-even) and £4.64 over 5 years. Over 10 years, the ROI is £9.00, or in other words, there is an £9.00 saving for every £1 invested in publicly provided contraception.

It is important to retain an appropriate critical mass within the service to facilitate the provider to deliver a responsive, safe and effective service that is capable of addressing unmet need and further improving performance.

Value for money will continue to be assessed under new arrangements.

Section 6. How will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics?	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
Age	X			<p>The ISHS is an open access all age service. The Provider shall comply with their specific responsibilities and safeguarding protocols relating to young people aged 13-15 years and for those under the age of 13 years.</p> <p>In addition, those aged under 24 will be eligible for the Condom Distribution Scheme. Those under 25 diagnosed with Chlamydia will be re-tested 3-months after treatment. There will be a targeted service for Young People aged up to 25 and at risk groups due to being more likely to have poor sexual health including higher rates of Sexually Transmitted Infections, and abortions than older people. STI's disproportionately affect the younger population and the open-access service combined with targeted interventions for under-25's aims to improve this. The Provider shall find innovative methods for delivering the ISHS specifically to meet the sexual health and contraceptive needs of young people. This will include a wide range of digital solutions.</p> <p>The service is provided on an open access basis and available to anyone requiring care, irrespective of their age, gender, place of residence or GP registration, without referral in line with the National Integrated Sexual Health Services specification (2018).</p> <p>Throughout COVID-19, YorSexualHealth introduced a mobile number specifically for younger people to be able to contact the service in a means that is accessible for them, i.e. text messaging. This mobile number will continue to be utilised by the service to make the service as accessible as possible.</p> <p>North Yorkshire is due to see an increase in the older population by 19.8% in the 65-84 age group and 42.6% in the 85+ age group between 2020 and 2030. In contrast, a reduction in the 45-64 age group by 9.8% is expected in the same period.</p>
Disability	X			<p>The ISHS is an open access service – available to all who need it. We currently have no evidence of an impact in relation to disability. The successful provider will be expected to meet all requirements around the Equality Act 2010 to ensure their services are accessible to people with a disability. This is built into the service specification.</p>

			<p>The ISHS will actively work towards providing sexual health information and advice in order to increase knowledge and understanding of sexual health issues with a specific focus on high-risk groups including those with learning disabilities or mental health conditions. This will require resources and webpages to be produced in a range of texts accessible to those with learning disabilities.</p> <p>Each premises will be fit for purpose for the services delivered in that particular location, be well maintained and compliant with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).</p> <p>The Provider will deliver a Specialist Clinical and Community Outreach Team to provide services to the most complex, young people and adults. This will include, but is not limited to, people with learning disabilities, mental health problems and military populations including in Catterick and Harrogate.</p> <p>The provider will ensure there are referral routes to receive patients with disabilities including learning disabilities and also the ability to refer on and signpost to additional services for support to ensure a continued pathway of care.</p> <p>Service user feedback and engagement through the provider will be conducted with a variety of groups including those with disabilities and learning disabilities. The provider will ensure they have processes in place for routinely seeking and recording feedback to demonstrate how this informs their practices and service development. This information will be published within their annual report.</p>
Sex (Gender)	X		<p>The ISHS is an open access service – available to all who need it.</p> <p>The service offers the full range of contraceptive services including a free condom distribution scheme and LARC (Long Acting Reversible Contraception).</p> <p>Nationally there is significant variance in the diagnosis of STI's in males and females. In 2019, Chlamydia was diagnosed 83,515 times in males and 81,741 times in females in England. Gonorrhoea diagnoses in males was 50,418 and 18,792 in females. There were 11,832 Herpes (first episode) diagnoses in men and 21,814 in women. Syphilis is diagnosed more commonly in males (7,094 in 2019) compared to females (666). Nationally the total STI diagnoses rates are similar for males and females with 181,907 new diagnoses in males in 2019 and</p>

				143,799 in females, however there are variations as outlined above in individual STIs.
Race	X			<p>The ISHS is an open access service – available to all who need it.</p> <p>Ethnic diversity varies between districts, with Harrogate having the biggest number of those not in the non-white categories; however, Richmondshire has the greatest proportion of BME groups in the County, with non-white groups making up 4.6% of the population. Ryedale is the least diverse district, with only 1.3% of the population being non-white.</p> <p>The 2011 census data indicates that North Yorkshire has a smaller proportion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups than the national average of 14.5% in all districts (Craven 2.7%, Hambleton 1.7%, Harrogate 3.7%, Richmondshire 4.6%, Ryedale 1.3%, Scarborough 2.5%, Selby 1.6%). Within these minority groups, the highest proportion is those in the Asian/Asian British categories, with 1.5% of the Harrogate population falling into this group and 2.4% of the total population of Richmondshire (2011 census).</p> <p>Gonococcal infection (Gonorrhoea) tends to be concentrated in the UK amongst homosexual/bisexual men and black ethnic minority populations. Due to the small overall BAME population in North Yorkshire, it is not possible to comment on the diagnoses of STIs in this population.</p>
Gender reassignment	X			<p>The ISHS is an open access service – available to all who need it. There is currently no data on this group in North Yorkshire.</p> <p>Transgender persons are amongst the most at risk groups of people experiencing a higher risk of poor sexual health outcomes. The provider will ensure that sexual health interventions are available for this group, to reduce their risk of exposure to HIV and other STIs throughout North Yorkshire. In addition the Clinical and Community Outreach Service for Most at Risk Populations will aim to improve their access to HIV/STI diagnostic and treatment interventions.</p>
Sexual orientation	X			<p>The ISHS is an open access service – available to all who need it. There are some groups of individuals or communities that are at higher risk of poor sexual health outcomes due to their risk taking behaviours or lifestyles this includes the LGBTQ+ community and MSM. The Provider shall ensure that sexual health interventions are targeted at groups at high risk of exposure to HIV and other STIs in North Yorkshire.</p>

				<p>HIV infection also has an unequal impact on Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), they are also disproportionately affected by STIs. Public health interventions will be targeted at key prevention groups including MSM and LGBTQ+.</p> <p>New HIV diagnoses among MSM has decreased by almost a third (31%) since 2015 to 2,330 diagnoses in 2017. The Number of gay and bisexual men newly diagnosed with HIV dropped by 28% outside of London from 1,618 to 1,167 in 2017⁷. The North Yorkshire rates have not decreased as significantly and instead seem to be relatively stable (<i>North Yorkshire Sexual Health Needs Assessment, 2019</i>).</p> <p>There will be a targeted offer for Hepatitis A and B vaccination for those most-at risk including MSM with multiple sexual partners.</p>
Religion or belief	X			The ISHS is an open access service – available to all who need it. We currently have no evidence of an impact in relation to religion or belief. Open access services will be available in each North Yorkshire district. The provider will be expected to meet all service user needs relating to religion or belief.
Pregnancy or maternity	X			We have no evidence of an impact in relation to pregnancy/maternity.
Marriage or civil partnership	X			We have no evidence of an impact in relation to marriage or civil partnership.

Section 7. How will this proposal affect people who...	No impact	Make things better	Make things worse	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.
..live in a rural area?		X		<p>The provider will ensure that individuals receive the same level of service regardless of location, rurality, socioeconomic status and protected characteristics. North Yorkshire covers 3,000 square miles ranging from isolated rural settlements and farms to market towns and larger urban conurbations such as Harrogate and Scarborough.</p> <p>The Provider shall address the range of factors that impact on accessibility of the Integrated Sexual Health Service. These include being able to deliver the Integrated Sexual Health Service to a diverse population living in the largest county in England. The geography of North Yorkshire presents practical difficulties in locating services and staff in the best possible locations to enable them to engage with the local community and to respond to service demands. Whilst the scale of local provision should be determined by local need and the requirement to provide value for money, the Provider shall be able to demonstrate reach of the Integrated Sexual Health Service into every District Council area in North Yorkshire.</p>

			<p>The specification states that the provider will ensure rapid and easy access to the Integrated Sexual Health Service including in rural areas, delivering services in appropriate settings.</p> <p>Patients should have the option of accessing services without the need for seeing a practitioner and/or attending a clinic. Patients should be provided with information about sexual health, online and telephone triage, signposting to the most appropriate services for their needs and the option of ordering condoms and self-sampling kits for chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis and HIV. Routine STI test results should be available electronically to patients within 72 hours. Patients who are diagnosed with an STI will be offered an appointment within 24 hours or fast tracked. Free online treatment service should be provided where it is clinically safe to do so (e.g. chlamydia), including a follow up procedure and tracking to check the treatment programme has been completed.</p>
...have a low income?		X	<p>Whilst North Yorkshire is in overall terms more affluent than a typical local authority in England, there are nevertheless areas of profound deprivation, including some parts of the County that are ranked within the 20% most deprived areas in England.</p> <p>Strong links exist between deprivation and STIs. Sexual ill health has broad social and economic costs for society.</p> <p>Treatment provided through the ISHS is free from prescription charges although the Provider shall ensure that Service Users are made aware that if they receive treatment from other settings, such as primary care, charges may apply. In addition Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) is available free of charge to young people in North Yorkshire aged 14-24 from participating pharmacies (under the Primary Care contract).</p> <p>The funding received for the ISHS pays for residents of North Yorkshire only. However, the Provider shall provide a free, open access, ISHS to anyone that attends without referral, irrespective of their place of residence or GP registration. The Provider shall have in place cross charging mechanisms for charging other Local Authorities for out of area attendances.</p>

Section 8. Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men) State what you think the effect may be and why, providing evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information etc.

The North Yorkshire ISHS will retain open access for all people who live in North Yorkshire or are registered with a North Yorkshire GP practice. The service will continue to have a focus on those priority groups who have a higher risk of ill sexual health. The service is offered free of charge at point of access including free prescription costs for associated medicines. All these factors ensure that all regardless of age, gender, income and other protected characteristics as outlined by the 2010 Equality Act will be able to access the service.

The service will be insight led and this should be a continuous process throughout the partnership, to ensure the service is working hard for the population it serves. The service will be expected to monitor its population and be led by need, this means the service will target age groups with highest STI prevalence, maintain focus on additional at risk groups and follow technology changes for online testing. The service provider will be expected to meet all requirements of Equality Act 2010.

The rural nature of North Yorkshire can sometimes adversely impact on populations in terms of access to services, to mitigate against this potential impact the service specification details what the provider must put in place such as online signposting and information, an online booking system, a one-stop service where appropriate and online testing, in addition to minimum travel times for face to face appointments.

Section 9. Next steps to address the anticipated impact. Select one of the following options and explain why this has been chosen. (Remember: we have an anticipatory duty to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled people can access services and work for us)	Tick option chosen
1. No adverse impact - no major change needed to the proposal. There is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact identified.	X
2. Adverse impact - adjust the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We will change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, or we will achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people.	
3. Adverse impact - continue the proposal - The EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. We cannot change our proposal to reduce or remove these adverse impacts, nor can we achieve our aim in another way which will not make things worse for people. (There must be compelling reasons for continuing with proposals which will have the most adverse impacts. Get advice from Legal Services)	
4. Actual or potential unlawful discrimination - stop and remove the proposal – The EIA identifies actual or potential unlawful discrimination. It must be stopped.	
Explanation of why option has been chosen. (Include any advice given by Legal Services.) The ISHS is being re-procured on a specification largely the same as the existing specification of which the ISHS is currently being delivered in North Yorkshire.	

Section 10. If the proposal is to be implemented how will you find out how it is really affecting people? (How will you monitor and review the changes?)

Quarterly performance reporting to ensure the provider is delivering to the service specification and performance and outcome framework.

Annual S75 reviews will be a further opportunity to explore service impact on our population.

The service will be insight led, will collect feedback from its service users and make improvements based on the feedback.

Section 11. Action plan. List any actions you need to take which have been identified in this EIA, including post implementation review to find out how the outcomes have been achieved in practice and what impacts there have actually been on people with protected characteristics.				
Action	Lead	By when	Progress	Monitoring arrangements
Quarterly reporting	Provider/ED	Quarterly		Performance report
Annual S75 reviews	Provider/ED/Contracting	Annually		S75 review
Service insight	Provider	Quarterly		Performance report
Service user feedback	Provider	Quarterly		Performance report

Section 12. Summary Summarise the findings of your EIA, including impacts, 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.
<p>The North Yorkshire ISHS will retain open access for all people who live in North Yorkshire or are registered with a North Yorkshire GP practice. The service will continue to have a focus on those priority groups who have a higher risk of ill sexual health. The service is offered free of charge at point of access including free of prescription costs for associated medicines. All these factors ensure that all regardless of age, gender, income and other protected characteristics as outlined by the 2010 Equality Act will be able to access the service.</p> <p>The service will be insight led and this should be a continuous process throughout the contract, to ensure the service is working hard for the population it serves. The service will be expected to monitor its population and be led by need, this means the service will target age groups with highest STI prevalence, maintain focus on additional at risk groups and follow technology changes for online testing.</p> <p>North Yorkshire County Council and the provider will ensure annual reports make reference to ongoing work with those most at risk groups as identified from the national service specification, the North Yorkshire Sexual Health Needs Assessment and protected characteristics as defined in the 2010 Equality Act.</p>

Section 13. Sign off section
<p>This full EIA was completed by:</p> <p>Name: Emma Davis and Dan Atkinson Job title: Health Improvement Manager, Health Improvement Officer Directorate: Health and Adult Services (Public Health)</p> <p>Signature: Emma Davis</p> <p>Completion date: 30 June 2021</p> <p>Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health</p> <p>Date: 1 July 2021</p>

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