



## Agenda

- Meeting:** Thirsk and Malton Area Constituency Committee
- To:** Councillors Caroline Goodrick (Chair), Keane Duncan, Val Arnold, Robert Baker, Lindsay Burr, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Patmore, Janet Sanderson, Peter Sowray, Helen Swiers, Roberta Swiers and Greg White.
- Date:** Wednesday, 12th January 2022
- Time:** 10.00 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 in February 2022.

The meeting will be available to view once the meeting commences, via the following link - [www.northyorks.gov.uk/livemeetings](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/livemeetings). Recording of previous live broadcast meetings are also available there.

### Business

- 1. Welcome by the Chair - Introductions & Updates**
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 December 2021** (Pages 3 - 6)
- 3. Apologies & Declarations of Interest**
- 4. Public Questions or Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice and provided the text to Melanie Carr of Democratic Services (*contact details below*) no later than midday on 7 January 2022. 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 those taking a recording to cease whilst you speak.

**5. County Council Budget Proposals 2022/23 (Pages 7 - 8)**

The Committee are recommended to note the report and refer their comments on the County Council's budget for 2022/23 to the County Council's Executive for consideration.

**6. Work Programme (Pages 9 - 10)**

Purpose: To consider, develop and adopt a Work Programme for 2020/21 for the Area Constituency Committee.

**7. Other business which the Chairman 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:

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Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive  
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall  
Northallerton

4 January 2022

## North Yorkshire County Council

### Thirsk and Malton Area Constituency Committee

Minutes of the remote meeting held on Friday, 3rd December 2021 commencing at 2.30 pm.

County Councillor Caroline Goodrick in the Chair. plus County Councillors Val Arnold, Robert Baker, Gareth Dadd, Peter Sowray, Helen Swiers, Roberta Swiers and Greg White.

In attendance: County Councillor Carl Les.

Officers present: Richard Marr and Melanie Carr.

Other Attendees: MP Kevin Hollinrake.

Apologies: County Councillor Janet Sanderson.

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

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#### **112 Welcome by the Chair - Introductions & Updates**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the Leader and MP Kevin Hollinrake, and confirmed there were no updates to provide.

#### **113 Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 October 2021**

##### **Resolved –**

That the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Thirsk and Malton Area Constituency Committee held on 1 October 2021, having been printed and circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### **114 Apologies & Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

#### **115 Public Questions or Statements**

There were no public questions or statements.

#### **116 Attendance of MP Kevin Hollinrake**

The MP provided an overview of how things were at Westminster and his views on issues affecting his constituency. This included:

- The management of the new Covid-19 Omnicom variant, and the new restrictions in place;
- The improvements in the economy which he expected would be back to pre-Covid levels by the end of the financial year, evidenced by massive labour shortages;
- The recent turbulence in Parliament as a result of the recent serious breaches of the

lobbying rules - Members discussed the clamour in Parliament to ban all private consultation work in light of those events, and the MP confirmed new rules were being proposed but suggested more oversight was needed. Members agreed that it could deter some from stepping forward and if taken too far, could make it difficult for MPs to ensure your future employability post tenure;

- The pressure on supply chains and the increasing cost of raw materials and energy, putting pressure on inflation;
- Concerns about regional investment – the MP confirmed his view that the integrated Rail Plan would not deliver improvements in east-west journeys, in particular it not including the proposed northern powerhouse rail link between Leeds and Manchester. He suggested it would not be possible to level up the North as was needed without that new line.
- The unfair cap on Adult Social Care, which would disregard the means test – Members were pleased to note the MP had voted against the Adult Health & Social Care Bill. County Councillor Greg White suggested the removal of the means test coupled with the lower house prices in the north, would result in little benefit to North Yorkshire residents from the new scheme. The MP confirmed there was a housing disregard for those receiving domiciliary care, with the home only being taken into account if moving to a care home. The MP confirmed that of the £12bn raised by the Health & Social Care Levy a year, only £2bn approximately goes into Local Authority social care, with the rest effectively going to the NHS;
- The need to follow through with levelling up – fiscal measures needed to be fair for those in the north;
- The small boats crisis – both a diplomatic and domestic legislation issue;
- The devolution deal for York City Region for York and North Yorkshire, with the benefits it would bring, such as having a directly elected Mayor leading on regional development and inward investment;
- The national 4% unemployment rate, considered to be full employment. The MP suggested the country needed to be more productive and efficient through greater business investment;

County Councillor Greg White raised the issue of vaccinations and boosters and the planned closure of some of the vaccination centres across northern Ryedale and southern Hambleton at the end of January 2022, meaning residents would have to travel much further to receive them, which would be a barrier to some. The MP agreed it was a concern but confirmed the decision had been taken in order to try to address the drop in GP appointments available for issues other than Covid. He also expressed concern about the deployment of vaccines at school level.

County Councillor Bob Baker drew attention to the shortage in labour in farming and health care because of Brexit. The MP agreed that the combination of Brexit and Covid was having an influence and suggested it would only become clear whether a structural change in immigration rules was required once Covid was over. He also noted that inflation would influence any future decision to open up more to an external workforce.

County Councillor Carl Les confirmed it would be a tough budget round this time with the ongoing challenges to the County Council being Covid, Climate Change and the Care Market. County Councillor Gareth Dadd suggested those issues would be helped by Devolution and the Local Government Review, and the authority would be helped by a 2/3 year funding settlement.

County Councillor Peter Sowray drew attention to the level of fraud reported with the bounce back loan scheme, and the number of those loans going into default. The MP suggested that many of the loans were taken out as a form of insurance rather than to address an immediate need, and therefore the default rate would likely be lower than expected. He also agreed more transparency and accountability was needed around

government grants and subsidised loans, in order to limit the opportunity for fraud.

In regard to education, County Councillor Caroline Goodrick suggested that poor degree choices was leading to a void in the appropriate skills required to address today's employment needs. The MP confirmed his view that the vocational qualification route was being lost, and suggested that instead of pushing students into university; more should be done to encourage a take up of technical subjects. Members agreed it would be helpful if the courses available were more coordinated with the needs of the region.

The Chair thanked the MP for his attendance and his contribution at the meeting.

## **117 Work Programme**

Members considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) which contained the Committee's current work programme for the remainder of the municipal year (2020/21).

The Chair highlighted the issues with getting an update from both Highways England and the Environment Agency, and confirmed that as a result both items had been slipped to the March 2022 meeting.

**Resolved** – That the work programme for the remainder of 2020/21 be noted.

The meeting concluded at 3.30 pm.

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## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Thirsk & Malton Area Constituency Committee  
Wednesday 12 January 2022 @ 10am

### County Council Budget 2022/23

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To advise of the arrangements for reporting the County Council's budget for 2022/23 at this meeting and to seek the Committee's comments concerning the budget for referral to the Executive.

#### **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The local government finance settlement is the annual determination of funding to local government and requires the approval of the House of Commons.
- 2.2 The local government settlement for 2022/23 has been published later than anticipated and so it has not been possible to prepare a paper regarding the settlement for circulation with the agenda for this meeting.

#### **3.0 Arrangements**

- 3.1 Gary Fielding (the County Council's Corporate Director - Strategic Resources) will attend this meeting to give a verbal briefing on the 2022/23 local government settlement and to respond to questions.
- 3.2 The Committee, having received the verbal briefing, is invited to comment on the County Council's budget for 2022/23.

#### **4.0 Recommendation**

- 4.1 That the local government settlement, as reported verbally at this meeting, be noted.
- 4.2 That the Committee's comments concerning the County Council's budget for 2022/23 be referred to the County Council's Executive for consideration.

Daniel Harry  
Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager  
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North Yorkshire County Council  
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Background Documents – None

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**Thirsk and Malton Area Constituency Committee  
Work Programme 2021/22**

**2pm on Friday 25 June 2021 – to held remotely via TEAMS**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
Attendance of local MP	Opportunity for MP Kevin Hollinrake to share his views on issues affecting the constituency area
Policing Update	North Yorkshire Police Constituency Update
Appointments to Local Bodies	An extension of the appointments to Local Bodies in the Thirsk & Malton Area Constituency Committee area.
Work Programme	Review of future topics relevant to the Constituency area

**10am on Friday 1 October 2021**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
Attendance of new NY PFCC	Opportunity for Phillip Allot to share his views and his objectives going forward.
Rural Policing Update	Presentation from the NYP Rural Taskforce Unit – Clive Turner (Head of Taskforce)
Schools, Educational Achievement & Finance	Annual overview of the local educational landscape, educational achievement and the financial challenges affecting schools in the Thirsk & Malton constituency area.
Work Programme	Review of work undertaken to date and future topic proposals

**2:30pm on Friday 3 December 2021**

Attendance of local MP	Opportunity for MP Kevin Hollinrake to share his views on issues affecting the constituency area
Work Programme	Review of future topics relevant to the Constituency area

**10am on Wednesday 12 January 2022**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
Budget 2021-2022 Briefing	Consideration of annual budget proposals – Gary Fielding
Work Programme	Review of future topics relevant to the Constituency area

**10am on Friday 25 March 2022**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
Public Health Area Profile	Overview of Life Expectancy across the Constituency area – Louise Wallace
Highways England Update	Attendance of Paul Mitchinson - Highways England Representative
Environment Agency Update	Attendance of an Environment Agency representation to provide an overview of the issues affecting the quality of the water and pollution levels in the water courses/streams running through various villages in the constituency area.
Work Programme	Review of future topics relevant to the Constituency area

**Areas of work identified but not scheduled:**

1. North Yorkshire Police Update - Presentation on crime data for the constituency area
2. Supported Living - review of supported living provision and links to future development of the NYCC services
3. Heritage and Natural Environment - Tourism and the promotion of local heritage and natural environment
4. Mobile phone coverage – black spots – proposals for improvements
5. Unpaid Carers (young and old)
6. Fracking