



Agenda

Notice of a public meeting of Business and Environmental Services - Corporate Director and Executive Member - Open to Business

To: Councillor Derek Bastiman.

Date: Friday, 20th January, 2023

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Pink Room, County Hall, Northallerton

Business

1. Items for Executive Member decision
2. Dept for Education Skills Bootcamp (Pages 3 - 18)
3. Items for Corporate Director decision
4. Review of Waste and Countryside Services Charges (Pages 19 - 34)
5. Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Acceptance of further Section 31 Grant (Pages 35 - 46)

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall
Northallerton

Date Not Specified

This page is intentionally left blank

North Yorkshire County Council

Business and Environmental Services

Executive Members

20 January 2023

Department for Education Funding for Skills Bootcamps (York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership)

Report of the Assistant Director – Economic Partnership Unit

1.0 Purpose Of Report

- 1.1 To seek approval to accept funding from the Department for Education (DfE) to support delivery of a one year (April 2023 to March 2024) Skills Bootcamp programme in York and North Yorkshire and to seek delegation to the Corporate Director - Strategic Resources to accept the offer of £2,603,161 subject to acceptable terms and conditions being received.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNY LEP) is currently operating delivery of their first year of a Skills Bootcamp programme, under contract with the Department for Education (DfE). Skills Bootcamps is a national programme managed by DfE, with delivery both nationally via DfE, and locally via Combined Authorities (where they exist) or LEPs. The programme aims to support adults to acquire “in-demand” skills through a range of learning providers (delivery partners) to help them access local job opportunities with higher wages. Much of the programme activity relies on the delivery partners working with local employers to identify skills gaps linked to job vacancies, and to facilitate a guaranteed interview for a local job vacancy at the end of the course. It was indicated that this would be the first of a three year tranche of funding to be awarded annually (up to March 2025), subject to continued Government support for the Skills Bootcamp programme.
- 2.2 YNY LEP was invited early in November to submit proposals for a further year of Skills Bootcamps activity (April 2023 to March 2024) to be funded by Department for Education (DfE). The deadline for submissions was 30 November 2022. The proposed amount of DfE funding requested for 2023-24 was £2,366,510, with a further allowance of 10% to cover Programme Management costs ie a total of £2,603,161.
- 2.3 As in the current year, the Skills Bootcamp programme will be delivered in partnership with a range of external delivery partners (ie colleges and other training providers) through the relevant procurement processes. The external delivery partners will need to demonstrate how they are experienced in delivery of relevant skills training courses and must work with local employers to address current skills gaps.
- 2.4 Confirmation was received from the DfE on 22 December 2022, that the full amount of £2,603,161 has provisionally been allocated for activity in York and North Yorkshire for 2023/24. Initially a contract will be issued for 70% of this amount until DfE finalise their 2023/24 budgets:

*We know it is vital for your planning that you are able to start procurement and/or agreeing contract extensions now to ensure delivery begins in April, so we propose to issue a grant offer letter early in the new year for **£1,822,212** and, once secured, we will issue a grant variation letter detailing the full amount of **£2,603,161**.*

DfE 22 December 2022

- 2.5 As the amount of funding exceeds the officer delegation threshold for acceptance of external grants, Executive Member approval is now being sought for the full amount of £2,603,161, to mobilise the programme at the earliest opportunity.

3.0 Funding

- 3.1 North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) is the Accountable Body for YNY LEP and so the proposal is subject to and will operate in accordance with NYCC's robust Financial Management and Control systems. Skills Bootcamps will be funded via a grant award from the Department for Education (DfE) to NYCC, as the accountable body for the YNY LEP. There will be a grant award contract in place between DfE and NYCC, and contracts will be procured between NYCC and delivery partners. Project risks are set out in the attached Appendix 1.
- 3.2 DfE allows up to 10% of the total grant funding to be used for Programme Management costs, which will cover YNY LEP staff resources and other NYCC professional fees (eg Finance, Legal) to manage the programme delivery and compliance with the DfE contract.
- 3.3 The financial management of the programme and process for claiming the grant is already in place for delivery in the current year (2022-2023) and the expectation is that the 2023-2024 arrangements will continue as existing.

4.0 Equalities

- 4.1 There are no equality impacts as all activities will be fully accessible and inclusive to all learners thus ensuring equal access to support, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and NYCC Equality and Diversity policies. An initial equality impact assessment screening form is provided at Appendix 2.

5.0 Finance

- 5.1 DfE will initially issue a grant offer letter for **£1,822,212** and, subject to their own financial approvals, will issue a grant variation letter detailing the full amount of **£2,603,161**. This is a revenue grant for 2023/2024. The grant acceptance will need to be confirmed within a specified timescale, therefore, approval is requested for delegation to the Corporate Director - Strategic Resources to accept the full amount of funding subject to the terms and conditions being acceptable to the Council. Upon receipt of the Grant Offer Letter, the terms and conditions will be reviewed to ensure they are acceptable to the Council. These are expected to be very similar to the Grant Agreement that is in place for the current 2022/23 financial year. However, final acceptance of the grant will be subject to the terms and conditions being acceptable to the Council.
- 5.2 Delivery contracts will be procured between NYCC and delivery partners. As accountable body, NYCC will be responsible for the KPIs of the programme and for collecting the necessary data from the contracted suppliers and sharing it with DfE. Therefore the delivery partners will also be contracted to meet the KPIs for the programme and provide the required data/reporting.

5.3 The arrangements for the current year provided for an initial instalment of 50% of the grant award plus 100% of the Programme Management costs to be paid at the commencement of the contract. This has enabled the delivery partners to be paid in accordance with the contract conditions which are linked to specific milestones for learner progress. The balance of the total grant award is then claimed from DfE following defrayal of the initial instalment. Therefore, there has been no cash flow risk to the County Council. The arrangements for 2023/24 are expected to be the same.

5.4 No match funding is required from NYCC to accept the grant.

6.0 Legal

6.1 The grant terms, when received, will be considered by legal services and if any of the terms present an unacceptable risk for NYCC or YNY LEP then the grant would be declined. In administering the grant, the necessary competitive procurement processes will be carried out, in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules, and if relevant, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. Advice will also be taken from legal services to ensure that delivery partners activities will be compliant with the subsidy control rules.

6.2 During the 2023-2024 year, should the transition to a Mayoral Combined Authority proceed on the current planned timescales, it will be necessary to review the contracted arrangements between NYCC and DfE and also between NYCC and the delivery partners. Delivery of the Skills Bootcamps programme is a function of the Combined Authority, where one exists.

7.0 Climate Change

7.1 The programme of Skills Bootcamps includes activity which directly meet the needs of the green economy, by supporting the transition from high to low carbon, directly contributing to the achievement of the UK's net zero emissions target and helping mitigate climate risk. DfE encourages schemes which strengthen Green Power, Green Construction, Green Transport, Protection of Natural Resources, Green Business and industry. A copy of the Climate Change Impact Assessment is attached as Appendix 3.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 It is recommended that the offer of grant funding from the Department for Education (DfE) for funding to support delivery of a one year (April 2023 to March 2024) Skills Bootcamp programme in York and North Yorkshire at a total amount of £2,603,161 be accepted and that;
- i. when the DfE grant offer is received, it will be reviewed and final acceptance of the grant will be subject to the terms and conditions being acceptable;
 - ii. subject to (i) the Executive Member for Open to Business, after consultation with the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services, the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources and the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Officer, authorises the Corporate Director – Strategic Resources to accept the grant funding.

Author of Report: Liz Philpot, Head of Delivery (York and North Yorkshire LEP)

Background Documents:

Appendix 1: Project Risk Register

Appendix 2: Initial equality impact assessment screening form

Appendix 3: Climate Change Impact Assessment Form

Project Risk Register

Risk	Risk Type and RAG Level	Mitigation
Overall risk for the Accountable Body	Financial	Contractual liabilities between DfE and NYCC will be discharged to delivery partners, which have been approved as acceptable for the current year delivery 2022-2023; expected that these will remain un-changed - any amendments will be reviewed to manage risk to NYCC
Timing of grant payments from DfE	Financial	Expected to be as for 22/23 year – which paid an initial instalment of 50% of the grant plus 100% of the Programme Management costs at the commencement of the contract. This has enabled the delivery partners to be paid in accordance with the contract conditions which are linked to specific milestones for learner progress. The balance of the total grant award is then claimed from DfE following defrayal of the initial instalment. Therefore, there is no cash flow risk to the County Council
Delay in project start	Delivery	This is reliant on DfE decisions being made on time to enable procurement process to be mobilised as required for delivery to commence as soon as possible in 2023-2024
DfE grant balance (30%) not forthcoming	Financial/ Delivery	Of total provisional allocation (£2,603,161) DfE initial approval is for 70% of this amount, with balance approval expected after DfE business planning at the end of January/ early February 2023. Initial grant offer letter to be issued for £1,822,212. If the balance of funds is not forthcoming the delivery activity is scaleable and will be reviewed to contain activity within the amount available.
Procurement of training providers to deliver programme	Delivery	Proposals are based on information from existing and potential new providers with good levels of interest; reliant on all current interest being maintained at formal procurement stage
Insufficient NYCC and LEP resource to carry out project	Resources	Limited demand on NYCC resource - mainly meeting Accountable Body compliance requirements - main demand on procurement services and contacting with delivery partners; LEP resources - additional (permanent) staff now in post funded from current year DfE programme management allowance, and will continue to support 2023-2024 programme
Insufficient funding to support delivery of project	Financial	As for 22/23 DfE have confirmed in 2023/24 10% of the grant application total can be for programme management costs; this will cover all the NYCC and LEP programme management costs. Training providers will submit fully costed proposals which will be capped at the level of their bids.
End of Programme Closedown Liabilities	Financial	Confirmed by DfE that 6 months in subsequent year is allowed for completion of final stage payments
Limited interest from employers/businesses	Delivery	Significant emphasis for 2023-2024 to meet local employer needs - majority are local training providers who already have good business engagement links to support local employers with their skills needs. However, mostly will require contribution to costs from employers so risks to take-up depending on business capacity/willingness to fund training
Limited interest from learners	Delivery	The training/learning delivery partners will be required to promote the availability of the learning - there will also be national publicity by DfE to promote the national element of the programme; the programme will also be promoted to employers through existing business networks and communications channels including YNY LEP Growth Hub (website has 30,000 unique hits p.a.); activity is at a mature stage due to existing ESF programme delivery and similar previous programmes
Business Continuity (previously Covid-19 related issues)	Delivery	Training providers have become adept at mixed delivery with socially distant and online offer so future impacts can be managed effectively
External provider organisational issues (i.e. stops trading)	Legal & Compliance	Payments will be in arrears based on three defined stages of learner progression so risks are minimised; there will be flexibility to move funding between delivery partners

Underperformance by delivery partners	Delivery	Providers will need to demonstrate track record of delivery; programme management by YNY LEP and processing of claims/reporting also identifies any underperformance with prompt follow-up action; appointment of Delivery Relationship Manager role (Jan 2023) will add to existing resource to ensure regular performance meetings with training providers and take corrective action as necessary.
Overlap with National provision	Delivery	Regular contact and close working relationship developed with DfE will ensure project aligns with national provision - however may affect delivery partner capacity/performance.
Completion of activity and spend within programme deadline	Financial	Commissioning and contracting via Funding Agreements will set out staged payments linked to progress with key milestones for delivery of outputs/ outcomes; Monthly programme and project monitoring of delivery partners is in place and any risk areas are followed up immediately with individual delivery partners, for corrective action



Initial equality impact assessment screening form

This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.	
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services
Service area	The York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNY LEP)
Proposal being screened	Skills Bootcamps – York and North Yorkshire
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Liz Philpot/Paul Clark
What are you proposing to do?	<p>This screening concerns the YNY LEP application for Department for Education (DfE) funding to support delivery of a 1-year (April 2023 to March 2024) Skills Bootcamp programme in York and North Yorkshire.</p> <p>The Skills Bootcamp grant funding will enable YNY LEP to procure a range of technical skills training that meets evidenced need for skills in YNY. It will support individuals to gain intermediate and higher-level skills and support employers to recruit the skills they require by helping to shape training packages and/or providing interviews for course participants.</p> <p>The Skills Bootcamp flexible training programme will be delivered in partnership with a range of external delivery partners (i.e. Colleges and other training providers). These organisations will need to demonstrate how they are experienced in delivery skills of relevant training courses and working with local employers to meet skills needs in their respective areas.</p>
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	<p>The Skills Bootcamp programme will address the problem of employer/sector ‘in-demand’ skills needs.</p> <p>This will support skills issued identified in the YNY LEP published ‘Covid-19 A Plan to Reshape our Economy’ plan published in October 2020; the Skills Strategy, launched in January 2021; and the LEPs Labour Market Analysis 2021 which provides an assessment of York and North Yorkshire’s (YNY’s) skills needs based on a detailed analysis of the supply of and demand for skills.</p> <p>The aim of the Skills Bootcamps programme is to secure benefits for adults by giving them access to in-</p>

	<p>demand skills training and a guaranteed interview for a more sustainable, higher-skilled job and higher wages over time. The benefits for employers include helping them fill specific skills shortage vacancies, enabling them to become more productive, more quickly.</p> <p>The Skills Bootcamp programme will deliver significant benefits and outcomes such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addressing the needs of employers and the wider economy, to deliver targeted interventions to meet short-medium term demand to fill vacancies and drive productivity. They will help fill medium-higher level vacancies and bring individuals closer to better jobs, by linking them with line of sight to a job/ different role, additional responsibilities or new opportunities/contracts. - Addressing the needs of adults (19+) who are full-time and part-time employed, unemployed, returning to work after a break or self-employed, and provide individuals with wider access to opportunities to retrain, update or formalise their skills or acquire specialist skills. - Enabling adults (19+) to do training around work and other commitments, looking to gain work, additional responsibilities, or access new opportunities and will offer a guaranteed job interview (in the case of a new job) to individual participants on completion of the course. - Helping to fill vacancies and bring individuals closer to better jobs (including those currently in employment), by linking them with line of sight to a job/different role, additional responsibilities or new opportunities/contracts.
<p>Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC’s additional agreed characteristics As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? 	

- Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?
- Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to?

The delivery partners will be expected to promote equality and diversity through the skills training provided and offer appropriate, timely and impartial information, advice and guidance. In delivering the training programme, the delivery partners will put measures in place that will prevent any unlawful discrimination relating to discrimination (whether in race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, age or otherwise) in employment.

If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your [Equality rep](#) for advice if you are in any doubt.

Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	No	No	
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual orientation		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Religion or belief		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	
Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas		✓	
People on a low income		✓	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)			N/A
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	N/A		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	The Skills Bootcamp flexible training programme will be delivered in partnership with a range of external delivery partners (i.e. Colleges and other training providers). These organisations will ensure that all activities will be fully accessible and inclusive to all learners thus ensuring equal access to support, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and NYCC Equality and Diversity policies.		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:

<p>Reason for decision</p>	<p>There are no equality impacts as all activities will be fully accessible and inclusive to all learners thus ensuring equal access to support, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and NYCC Equality and Diversity policies.</p> <p>The Local Enterprise Partnership operates in accordance with the National Local Growth Assurance Framework, and its own Local Assurance Framework, which contains a Diversity Statement setting out its commitments to fairness and inclusivity in its procurement and partnership arrangements.</p> <p>Screening exercises will continue throughout the project and where necessary and proportionate, an Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken.</p>
<p>Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)</p>	<p>James Farrar</p>
<p>Date</p>	<p>04/01/2023</p>



Climate change impact assessment

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

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

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

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

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

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

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

Title of proposal	DfE Skills Bootcamps - Adult Employability Skills Training
Brief description of proposal	YNY LEP to procure a range of technical skills training that meets evidenced need for skills in YNY. It will support individuals to gain intermediate and higher-level skills and support employers to recruit the skills they require by helping to shape training packages and/or providing interviews for course participants. The Skills Bootcamp flexible training programme will be delivered in partnership with a range of external delivery partners (i.e. Colleges and other training providers).
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services
Service area	York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNY LEP)
Lead officer	Liz Philpot
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	N/A
Date impact assessment started	5 Jan 2023

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.

This is a Department of Education that is delivered nationally as well as offering Combined Authorities/LEPs opportunity to access local funding for delivery to meet specific employer skills gaps in their area.

Therefore options are :

Do Nothing OR

Apply for funds for local delivery

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.

The proposal will NOT impact on Council budgets – it is cost neutral and all costs (including those for resources required to deliver and administer the project) are covered by the grant provided by DfE

<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			Some of the course will be offered online		
	Emissions from construction	X			N/A		
	Emissions from running of buildings	X			Activities will be delivered from existing premises of colleges/learning providers, and may help to better utilise some estate		
	Other						
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>		X			N/A		
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		X			N/A		
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>		X			N/A		

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>	X			<p>The DfE criteria puts significant emphasis on encouraging support for increasing the delivery of Green Skills to support emerging gaps in (eg) sustainable construction methods etc.</p>		
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>	X			<p>The courses offered in 22/23, and likely to be extended in 23/24 included Arboriculture and Forestry to meet skills shortages in the lower Dales area (Craven College)</p>		
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>	X			<p>As above</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.

No, other than the opportunity to develop training programmes to improve and adapt relevant skills to respond to environmental standards etc.

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 impact of this proposal is very limited – some positive impacts where training programmes can be developed to respond to environmental management activities.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Liz Philpot
Job title	Head of Delivery
Service area	York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Directorate	BES
Signature	<i>Liz Philpot</i>
Completion date	6 Jan 2023

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): James Farrar

Date: 9 Jan 2023

This page is intentionally left blank

North Yorkshire County Council

Business and Environmental Services

Executive Members

20 January 2023

Review of Waste and Countryside Services Charges

Report of the Assistant Director – Travel, Environment and Countryside Services

1.0 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform the Corporate Director Business and Environmental Services (BES) and the BES Executive Members of charges made for services provided by Waste and Countryside Services, and to obtain approval to set charges for 2023/24.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Waste and Countryside Services make charges in respect of the following services:

- In Countryside Access there are five areas of charging
 - i) Public Path Orders (PPOs)
 - ii) Making a Statement or Declaration under Section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980
 - iii) Temporary Closure Orders
 - iv) Stopping up Orders
 - v) Local Searches
- In Waste charges are made for
 - i) Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) commercial and non-household waste and for waste from customers that are not North Yorkshire residents

- 2.2 The Corporate Director (BES) approved 2022/23 Waste and Countryside Service charges in consultation with Executive Members on 18 February 2022.

- 2.3 Charges used by Countryside Services for Local Searches, Temporary Closures and Stopping up Orders are based on Highways and Transportation fees. These charges are currently subject to review.

3.0 Current Charges and Income

- 3.1 Full details of current and proposed charges are included in Annex A.

- 3.2 The income from the Waste and Countryside Services fees and charges for 2021/22 and 2022/23 estimates are set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Waste and Countryside Services Income 2021/22 and 2022/23	2021/22	2022/23 Est.
Countryside Access Service charges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Path Orders Statement or Declaration under Section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 and section 15A(1) of the Commons Act 2006 	£131,937	£129,100
Highways based charges used by Countryside Access Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Closure orders Stopping Up Orders Local Searches charges 	£88,395	£91,000
Household Waste Recycling Centre - Commercial and Non-Household Waste	£498,145	£513,089
TOTAL	£718,477	£733,189

3.3 The estimated income for waste from the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) has increased in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22 by 3%. The charges were increased in 22/23 by inflation, which was 7.2% in November 2021, however commercial tonnages at the HWRCs have declined by 18% compared to 21/22. Tonnages of non-household wastes (hardcore and rubble; plasterboard and tyres) have all decreased in 2022/23, with hardcore and rubble, and plasterboard tonnages reducing by 9% (240 tonnes).

3.4 The number of statement of declaration applications has dropped this financial year, possibly as a consequence of lessening pressure on landowners wishing to prevent the establishment of Public Rights of Way on their land post Covid, which accounts for the minor reduction in estimated income for Countryside Access Service (CAS) charges compared to the 2021/22 outturn. However, a sustained increase in the volume of local searches is expected to maintain the overall income for CAS as a whole.

4.0 Proposed Charges and Income

4.1 Inflationary increases have been applied to Waste and Countryside Services charges. No increase has been applied to Highways based charges which are subject to review.

4.2 Proposed charges for 2023/24 are included in Annex A.

4.3 2022/23 and 2023/24 Income estimates are shown in Table 2 below:

Table 2 - Estimated income	2022/23 Est	2023/24 Est
Countryside Access Service charges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Path Orders Statement or Declaration under Section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 and section 15A(1) of the Commons Act 2006 	£129,100	£136,846
Highways based charges used by Countryside Access Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Closure orders Stopping Up Orders Local Searches charges 	£91,000	£96,460
Household Waste Recycling Centre - Commercial and Non-Household Waste	£513,089	£574,295
TOTAL	£733,189	£807,601

4.4 Income from HWRC commercial and non-household wastes is expected to increase on 2022/23 levels due to the inflationary increase in charges. There is no expected increase in tonnages accepted at the HWRCs.

4.5 Similarly, income for the Countryside Access Service is expected to increase on 2022/23 levels due to the inflationary increase in charges.

5.0 Equalities Implications

5.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse equality impacts arising from the recommendations (See. Annex B - EIA Screening Form). It is the view that the recommendations do not have an adverse impact on any of the protected characteristics identified in the Equalities Act 2010.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 The financial impact is set out in detail in paragraph 4.3 above. In summary, this report proposes that waste and countryside services estimated income will increase to £807,601 for the 23/24 financial year – increasing from an estimated £733,189 in 2022/23 due to inflationary increases in charging.

7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 The power to charge for these services is included in Table 3 below:

Table 3—Power to charge for services	Power to charge
Public Path Order	Local Authorities (recovery of costs for Public Path orders) Regulations 1993 amended by regulation 3 of the Local authorities (charges for overseas Assistance and Public Path orders) Regulations 1996
Making a Statement or Declaration under Section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 and section 15A(1) of the Commons Act 2006	The Commons (Registration of Town or Village Greens) and Dedicated Highways (Landowner Statements and Declarations) (England) Regulations 2013 -Regulation 2
Temporary closure orders	The Local Authorities (Transport Charges) Regulations 1998
Stopping up Orders	Section 117 of the Highways Act 1980
Con 29(Local Searches) Q5 charges	The Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008 The Environmental Information Regulations 2004
HWRC commercial and non-household waste charges	Environmental Protection Act 1990 section 51 (3) and Local Government Act 2003 section 93

8.0 Climate change Implications

8.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse climate change impacts arising from the recommendation. If people chose to dispose of Commercial and Non-Household waste using other options, due to the increase in charges, emissions and pollution may increase. A Climate Change Implication is included as Annex C of this report.

9.0 Recommendation

- 9.1 It is recommended that the Corporate Director BES acting in consultation with BES Executive Member for Open for Business approves proposals for fees and charges for 2023/24 as detailed in Annex A of this report.

MICHAEL LEAH
Assistant Director, Travel, Environment and Countryside Services

Authors of Report: Joanne Kearney and Ian Kelly

Background Papers: None

Current and Proposed Waste and Countryside Services Charges

1) Countryside Access Service

Public Path Order Charges

	Current 2022/23 Charges	Proposed 2023/24 Charges
1. Initial advice and site visit	£510	£540.60
2. Registration	£70	£74.20
3. Informal consultation	£790	£837.40
4. Initial liaison with objectors (only charged where a proposal is opposed)	£810	£858.60
5. Making of a Public Path Order	£1,960 Further £190 for each additional path	£2077.60 Further £201.40 for each additional path
6. Liaison with objectors (only charged where an Order is opposed)	£1,460	£1,547.60
7. Forwarding opposed Order to the Secretary of State	No Charge	No Charge
8. Confirming an unopposed Public Path Order	£430	£455.80
Based on the charges above an unopposed PPO will cost an applicant (plus the actual cost of the 2 statutory newspaper adverts, one at the end of Stage 5 AND one at the end of Stage 8. Each advert costs in the region of £400 - £700 depending on the local newspaper's fee).	£3,760	£3,985.60

Making a Statement or Declaration under Section 31(6) of the Highways Act 1980 Charges

	Current 2022/23 Charges	Proposed 2023/24 Charges	What is included:
New S31(6) submission Registration fee	£380	£402.80	Includes the processing and registration of the Highway Statement and Highway Declaration for up to two blocks of land
New S31(6) submission Registration of extra blocks of land	£30 per block (up to a max of £150)	£31.80 per block (up to a max of £159)	Additional fee for the processing and registration of land holdings made up of multiple blocks of land
Renewal of a current submission with no changes to be made Renewal fee	£60	£63.60	Processing of a Highways Declaration to renew a previous submission which has not yet expired and where there have been no changes to the land holding or other details

Renewal of a current submission where changes are being made Renewal update fee	£260	£275.60	Processing of a Highways Statement and/or Highways Declaration to renew a previous submission which has not yet expired, to include minor modifications to the land holding (e.g., to include additional land purchased adjoining the current land holding, or to delete blocks of land which have been sold)
<p>Please note where additional land has been purchased which is separate from (i.e. not adjoining) the current land holding or where large areas of new land are being added, the fee for a new registration will be charged.</p> <p>For all renewals where land is being added to the land holding, both a Highways Statement and Highways Declaration must be submitted, to ensure all land is protected</p> <p>Definition of “Block of land” A block of land is a single, contiguous area of land not broken in multiple parts by land in another person’s possession or by a public road. For example, two fields separated by a boundary fence or hedge would constitute one block of land; the same two fields separated by a public road would constitute two blocks of land. Please note no registration will be processed until the appropriate fee is received.</p>			

CHARGES DETERMINED BY HIGHWAYS - Local Searches charges (2022/23 charge)
£9.30 *

CHARGES DETERMINED BY HIGHWAYS - Temporary Closure Orders (2022/23 charges) *

Period	Adverts	Notice Required	Cost (VAT Exempt)	Estimated Total Cost
Emergency (21 Days)	Not required	Next day	£350.53	£350.53
5 days	Not required	2 weeks	£350.53	£350.53
6 months	2 Chargeable Adverts	6 weeks	£468.08	£468.08 + cost of adverts at cost
6 month extension	1 Chargeable Adverts	3-4 weeks	£468.08	£468.08 + cost of adverts at cost

Advertising rates vary according to the local newspaper used but are typically between £300 and £500 per advert.

CHARGES DETERMINED BY HIGHWAYS - Stopping up Orders (2022/23 charges) *

Stopping up order	<p>Officer time spent dealing with an application will be charged at an hourly rate of £46.60</p> <p>Other external costs incurred by the Council will be recharged to the applicant.</p> <p>The applicant must pay a fee of £876.86 with the initial request and the balance must be settled prior to the application to the Magistrates Court.</p>
-------------------	--

*Please note the above charges determined by Highways are subject to review.

2) Waste Charges**HWRC Commercial Waste Charges (all VAT free)**

Type	Volume	Current 2022/23 Charges	Proposed 2023/24 Charges
Active waste	Standard waste bags	£4.20	£4.70
	Up to 0.5 standard transit sized van load	£53.90	£60.30
	0.5 to 1 standard transit sized van load	£107.80	£120.70
	1 to 1.5 standard transit sized van loads	£161.80	£181.10
	1.5 to 2 standard transit sized van loads	£215.80	£241.50
Green waste	Standard waste bags	£2.30	£2.60
	Up to 0.5 standard transit sized van load	£39.00	£43.70
	0.5 to 1 standard transit sized van load	£77.90	£87.20
	1 to 1.5 standard transit sized van loads	£117.00	£131.00
	1.5 to 2 standard transit sized van loads	£155.90	£174.50
Wood waste	Standard waste bags	£1.50	£1.70
	Up to 0.5 standard transit sized van load	£48.00	£53.70
	0.5 to 1 standard transit sized van load	£95.90	£107.30
	1 to 1.5 standard transit sized van loads	£144.00	£161.20
	1.5 to 2 standard transit sized van loads	£191.80	£214.70

Cardboard waste	Standard waste bags	£0.60	£0.70
	Up to 0.5 standard transit sized van load	£11.80	£13.20
	0.5 to 1 standard transit sized van load	£23.60	£26.40
	1 to 1.5 standard transit sized van loads	£35.50	£39.70
	1.5 to 2 standard transit sized van loads	£47.30	£52.90
Glass waste	Standard waste bags	£1.20	£1.30
	Up to 0.5 standard transit sized van load	£37.50	£42.00
	0.5 to 1 standard transit sized van load	£75.00	£83.90
	1 to 1.5 standard transit sized van loads	£112.50	£125.90
	1.5 to 2 standard transit sized van loads	£149.90	£167.80
Paper waste	Standard waste bags	£1.40	£1.60
	Up to 0.5 standard transit sized van load	£46.10	£51.60
	0.5 to 1 standard transit sized van load	£92.20	£103.20
	1 to 1.5 standard transit sized van loads	£138.30	£154.80
	1.5 to 2 standard transit sized van loads	£184.50	£206.50
Hardcore/ rubble	Standard hardcore and rubble bag	£3.10	£3.50
Plasterboard	Standard hardcore and rubble bag	£3.00	£3.40
Cooking Oil	Up to 5 litres	£0.60	£0.70
	Up to 25 litres	£3.00	£3.40
LPG bottles (repatriable)	Less than 15kg	£0.60	£0.70
	15kg and above	£3.00	£3.40
Tyres	Standard tyre (car/motorcycle/4x4) (off rim)	£2.90	£3.20
	Standard tyre (car/motorcycle/4x4) (on rim)	£2.90	£3.20
	Truck (off rim)	£10.80	£12.10
	Truck (on rim)	£13.20	£14.80
	Agricultural (off rim)	£18.00	£20.10
	Agricultural (on rim)	£23.90	£26.80
	Solid	£13.20	£14.80

Initial equality impact assessment screening form			
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.			
Directorate	BES		
Service area	TECS		
Proposal being screened	Inflationary increase to Waste and Countryside Services charges		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Joanne Kearney and Ian Kelly		
What are you proposing to do?	To obtain approval for 2023/24 charges in order to ensure that the authority can cover legitimate costs and to authorise the Corp Dir BES to apply annual inflationary increases.		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	Inflationary increases can be applied annually to ensure that the authority can cover legitimate costs for undertaking a range of functions		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No		
Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics			
As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? 			
If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		x	
Disability		x	
Sex		x	
Race		x	
Sexual orientation		x	
Gender reassignment		x	
Religion or belief		x	
Pregnancy or maternity		x	
Marriage or civil partnership		x	
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas		x	
People on a low income		x	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		x	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable	No		

impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.			
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No		
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	x	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	<p>The charges will be levied on a range of customers who choose to pay for the services in question.</p> <p>Some of those customers will fall within the group of protected characteristics within the equality act. However, there is no evidence that the charges will disproportionately impact on customers within any of the protected characteristic groups.</p>		
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	<i>Michael Leah</i>		
Date	<i>9 January 2023</i>		



Climate change impact assessment

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

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

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

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

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

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

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

Title of proposal	Review of Waste and Countryside Services Charges
Brief description of proposal	To inform the Corporate Director Business and Environmental Services (BES) and the BES Executive Members of charges made for services provided by Waste and Countryside Services, and to obtain approval to set charges for 2023/24.
Directorate	Business and Environmental Services
Service area	Transport, Environment and Countryside Services
Lead officer(s)	Joanne Kearney and Ian Kelly
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	Joanne Kearney, Waste Contracts Manager Ian Kelly, Countryside Access Manager
Date impact assessment started	January 2023

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 authority has three options in reviewing the charges made by Waste and Countryside services

Option 1 - No change to the existing charges.

Option 2 - An inflationary increase should be applied to one or more of the charges.

Option 3 - An above inflation increase should be applied to one or more of the charges.

Option 2 provides the most desirable outcome as he increases ensure the authority can cover its legitimate costs.

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.

If demand for the services are maintained the proposed recommendation has no additional costs and the impact will be income neutral

How will this proposal impact on the environment?		Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where	No impact (Place a X in the box below where	Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where	Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale? Where possible/relevant please include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.	Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.
Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.	Emissions from travel			x	As charges are being increased, there is a risk that some existing users who dispose of Commercial and Non-household wastes at the Household Waste Recycling centres (HWRC) or Commercial waste through their collection authorities, may choose other options for disposal of their waste, these may be more or less convenient for them but the impact should be minimal. There will be no impact from increase in Countryside Access charges.	Ensure service data is captures to assess Commercial and Non-Household waste quantities to make informed decisions	N/A
	Emissions from construction		x				
	Emissions from running of buildings		x				
	Other		x				

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>		x		<p>Recycling/ reuse options are available for most types of Commercial and Non-Household wastes and there are no charges for some of these wastes.</p>	<p>Continue to encourage separation of wastes and recycling /reuse</p>	
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		x				
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>			x	<p>As charges are being increased, there is a risk that some existing users who dispose of Commercial and Non-Household wastes at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC), or Commercial waste through their collection authorities, may choose other less environmentally beneficial options for disposal of their waste, but the impact should be minimal.</p> <p>There will be no impact from increase in Countryside Access charges.</p>	<p>Ensure service data is captured to assess Commercial and Non-Household waste quantities to make informed decisions. Continue to benchmark prices against other local authorities where comparable data exists.</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</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>		<p>X</p>				
<p>Other (please state below)</p>		<p>X</p>				

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

Not currently aware of any good practice relating to this.

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.

If people chose to dispose of Commercial and Non-Household waste using other options, due to the increase in charges, emissions may increase. The same is applicable to pollution.

Recycling/ reuse options are available for most types of Commercial and Non-Household wastes and there are no charges for some of these wastes.

It is anticipated that there will be minimal, if any, impact on water consumption, resilience, conservation and distinctive features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Joanne Kearney	Ian Kelly
Job title	Waste Contracts Manager	Countryside Access Manager
Service area	Travel, Environment and Countryside Services	
Directorate	BES	
Signature	Joanne Kearney	Ian Kelly
Completion date	January 2023	

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature):

Date:

North Yorkshire County Council

Business and Environmental Services

Executive Members

20 January 2023

Appointment of North Yorkshire County Council as the Responsible Authority for Local Nature Recovery Strategy covering North Yorkshire and City of York – continuation of provisional offer and acceptance of additional seed funding from Defra

Report of the Assistant Director – Growth, Planning and Trading Standards

1.0 Purpose Of Report

- 1.1 To update the Executive Member for Open to Business on an approach from Defra to North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) reaffirming provisional appointment of NYCC as the Responsible Authority (RA) to lead production of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) covering the whole administrative county of North Yorkshire and the City of York.
- 1.2 To seek approval to accept a further £32,500 of funding from Defra to support preparatory work on the LNRS.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are a new, England-wide system of spatial strategies established by clauses 104 to 108 of the Environment Act 2021.
- 2.2 They are designed as tools to drive more coordinated, practical and focussed action to help nature. Each Strategy will, for the area that it covers:
 - agree priorities for nature's recovery,
 - map the most valuable existing areas for nature,
 - map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals.
- 2.3 In March 2022, following endorsement by the Executive, NYCC confirmed to Defra that it was content to be identified as the provisional Responsible Authority (RA) for the production of a combined LNRS covering North Yorkshire and the City of York.
- 2.4 At that time it was expected that formal LNRS regulations and guidance along with confirmation of promised 'additional burdens' funding to facilitate RA's work in developing and delivering LNRSs would be available within a few months. However, there have been further significant delays in confirming these matters and full details are now expected early in the new year – with full roll-out of the LNRS process from April 2023.
- 2.5 On 28 November, Defra wrote to provisional LNRS Responsible Authorities with an update on the likely timetable and to seek confirmation that those organisations are content to remain as the provisional RA for their LNRS area. It was stated in that email that this confirmation would facilitate payment of a further Section 31 Grant. On 6 December the Corporate Director - Business and Environmental Services confirmed that position on behalf of NYCC.

3.0 Finance

- 3.1 Earlier in the year, Defra provided £16,500 of seed funding in the form of a Section 31 grant to each provisional Responsible Authority. This is revenue funding and was intended to help facilitate preparations and preparedness and was provided ahead of (and in addition to) further resourcing confirmation associated with the full roll-out of LNRS.
- 3.2 In light of the further delay to full roll out of LNRS, Defra has now proposed additional revenue seed funding of £32,500 per provisional RA to support ongoing preparatory work on the LNRS. This funding will be paid as a Section 31 grant. There is no match funding required as a result of accepting the grant.
- 3.3 The full sum available as 'additional burdens' funding from DEFRA to support the RA's work in producing LNRSs is still not confirmed. Five pilot LNRS areas were given £240,000 to develop their strategies but there is no further indication yet as to the full amount of new resource offered.
- 3.4 Any final financial offer associated with the formal invitation to be appointed as the RA will be the subject of a further report.
- 3.5 It is likely that this will be a significant amount of work involving staff time and commissioning of specialist work; however, the LNRS guidance has still not been issued and the detailed implications cannot therefore be confirmed at this point.
- 3.6 It is intended that when further details are known an update report will be provided to the Executive Member for Open to Business.

4.0 Legal

- 4.1 This ongoing provisional offer of appointment as the RA is made at official level. Any formal offer made by DEFRA and any grant terms which become available in future will be considered by NYCC legal services and recommendations will be put forward to Members in due course.

5.0 Equalities

- 5.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed, attached as Appendix 1.
- 5.2 No equalities issues are raised by the matters addressed in this report.

6.0 Climate Change

- 6.1 A Climate Change Impact Assessment has been completed, attached as Appendix 2.
- 6.2 The matters addressed in this report do not directly impact on the Council's response to climate change. However, improvements to nature recovery and biodiversity arising from measures identified in the LNRS, once this is in place and influencing future actions, are likely to be beneficial both in terms of helping to mitigate further damaging climate change and in helping the natural environment adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 It is recommended that the Executive Member for Open to Business, after consultation with the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services:

authorises the Corporate Director - Strategic Resources to accept a further Section 31 Grant of £32,500 offered by Defra to support ongoing work on the LNRS covering North Yorkshire and City of York.

David Caulfield
Assistant Director - Growth, Planning and Trading Standards

Author of Report:
Hugh Clear Hill, Principal Environmental Policy and Project Officer, NYCC

Appendices

- 1 Equalities Impact Assessment
- 2 Climate Change Impact Assessment

Initial equality impact assessment screening form			
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.			
Directorate	BES		
Service area	Growth, Planning and Trading Standards		
Proposal being screened	Approval to accept Defra grant to support work on Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for North Yorkshire and City of York. NYCC is the designated provisional Responsible Authority for this LNRS.		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Hugh Clear Hill, Principal Environmental Policy and Projects Officer		
What are you proposing to do?	Accept £32,500 of revenue seed funding from Defra for LNRS preparatory work		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	Secure additional resource to support preparatory work on the LNRS		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	Acceptance of this grant will secure significant additional resource for NYCC to undertake work on the LNRS, a new statutory provision arising from the Environment Act 2021.		
<p>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics</p> <p>As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	No	Yes	
Age	X		
Disability	X		
Sex	X		
Race	X		
Sexual orientation	X		
Gender reassignment	X		
Religion or belief	X		
Pregnancy or maternity	X		
Marriage or civil partnership	X		
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas	X		
People on a low income	X		
Carer (unpaid family or friend)	X		
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable	Funding will support preparatory work on the LNRS covering the whole of North Yorkshire and City of York. Measures identified in the LNRS may offer		

APPENDIX 1

<p>impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.</p>	<p>some opportunities to improved access to the natural environment for all communities.</p>			
<p>Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.</p>	<p>No</p>			
<p>Decision (Please tick one option)</p>	<p>EIA not relevant or proportionate:</p>	<p align="center">X</p>	<p>Continue to full EIA:</p>	
<p>Reason for decision</p>	<p>This report is solely related to the acceptance of additional DEFRA funding. As a consequence, there are no impacts on people with protected characteristics.</p>			
<p>Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)</p>	<p><i>David Caulfield, Assistant Director – Growth, Planning and Trading Standards</i></p>			
<p>Date</p>	<p>15/12/22</p>			



Climate change impact assessment

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

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

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

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

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

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

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

Title of proposal	Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) – S31 seed funding
Brief description of proposal	Proposed acceptance by NYCC of additional S31 grant to support preparatory work on LNRS covering North Yorkshire and City and York
Directorate	BES
Service area	Growth, Planning and Trading Standards
Lead officer	Hugh Clear Hill, Principal Environmental Policy and Projects Officer
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	n/a
Date impact assessment started	15/12/22

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.

LNRSs are a new statutory provision under the Environment Act 2021. NYCC has been identified as the provisional Responsible Authority to produce the LNRS covering North Yorkshire and City of York.

Defra provided £16500 of seed funding to start work on LNRS preparation in March 2022 – that offer was accepted by NYCC. A further allocation of £32500 of revenue funding was notified by Defra on 28/11/22. Authorisation is now sought to accept this additional funding which will further support preparatory work on the LNRS before detailed guidance and regulations are published, now expected to happen in Spring 2023. Detail of promised ‘additional burdens’ funding to support full delivery of the LNRS is also awaited from Defra.

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.

The £32,500 of additional seed funding will be paid to NYCC as a Section 31 revenue grant. Together with the initial seed funding of £16500 paid in March 2022, this means the funding provided for preparatory work on the LNRS will total £49,000.

<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 construction	X				
	Emissions from running of buildings	X				
	Other					
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>		X				
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		X				<p>maximising opportunities and avoiding adverse impacts.</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>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 43</p>	X			<p>In itself, preparing the LNRS will not have direct benefits in terms of helping to minimise pollution. However, improvements to nature recovery and biodiversity arising from measures identified in the LNRS, once this is in place and influencing future actions, are likely to be beneficial both in terms of helping to reduce pollution impacts on air, water and land.</p>		
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>	X			<p>In itself, preparing the LNRS will not direct benefit climate resilience. However, improvements to nature recovery and biodiversity arising from measures identified in the LNRS, once this is in place and influencing future actions, are likely to be beneficial both in terms of helping the</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 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 44</p>				<p>natural environment adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts.</p>		
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>	X			<p>In itself, preparing the LNRS will not direct benefit conservation and wildlife. However, improvements to nature recovery and biodiversity arising from measures identified in the LNRS, once this is in place and influencing future actions, will have clear benefits for conservation and wildlife.</p>		
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>	X			<p>The measures identified in the LNRS may provide substantial benefits in terms of enhancing and adding to the diversity of North Yorkshire's landscape.</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>Other (please state below)</p>						

Page 45

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

Development of the LNRS for North Yorkshire and City of York will follow best practice that is being developed across the country including lessons learnt from five LNRS pilot projects funded by Defra.

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.

Acceptance of this further funding to support preparatory work on the LNRS will not have any direct climate change impacts. However, if funding is accepted by NYCC, that will provide significant additional revenue funding to support ongoing preparatory work that will help to ensure the LNRS is fit for purpose and delivers on the potential to bring substantial benefits as outlined.

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Hugh CLEAR HILL
Job title	Principal Environmental Policy and Projects Officer
Service area	Growth, Planning and Trading Standards
Directorate	BES
Signature	<i>Hugh Clear Hill</i>
Completion date	21/12/2022

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): David Caulfield, Assistant Director – Growth, Planning and Trading Standards

Date: 21/12/2022