



QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, 19 July 2023

**Summons, Agenda, Minutes
and Reports**



NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend the Meeting of the Council. This meeting is being held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Northallerton on **Wednesday, 19 July 2023 at 10.30 am**, at which the following business will be transacted.

The meeting of the Council is being held as an in-person meeting and in public.

The meeting will be available to view once the meeting commences, via the following link - www.northyorks.gov.uk/livemeetings

Please contact the named supporting officer for the committee, if you have any queries or concerns.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2023

To move that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2023, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

(Pages 9 - 28)

2. Apologies for absence

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Chairman's Announcements

Any correspondence, communication or other business brought forward by the direction of the Chairman of the Council.

5. Statement by the Leader of the Council

(Pages 29 - 30)

6. 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 Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services – email: barry.khan@northyorks.gov.uk or in writing to Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Northallerton DL7 8AD by midday on Friday, 14 July 2023. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item.

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.

7. **To consider the report and recommendations of the Executive and make decisions on them**
 - Proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution
 - Local Plan Making for North Yorkshire

(Pages 31 - 34)
8. **Appointment to Committees according to Political Proportionality**

(Pages 35 - 46)
9. **Appointment of further Independent Persons for North Yorkshire Council**

(Pages 47 - 50)
10. **Application for Exemption to the Six Month Rule on Attendance**

(Pages 51 - 52)
11. **Final Recommendations on the Community Governance Reviews for Harrogate and Scarborough**

Report of the Standards and Governance Committee - Final Recommendations on the Community Governance Reviews relating to the unparished town centres in Harrogate and Scarborough

(Pages 53 - 60)
12. **Annual Overview and Scrutiny Report 2022/23**

(Pages 61 - 82)
13. **Statements of Executive Members and Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees**

Executive Members:

- 13(a) **Executive Member for Health and Adult Services - Councillor Michael Harrison**

(Pages 83 - 84)
- 13(b) **Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing - Councillor Simon Myers**

(Pages 85 - 88)
- 13(c) **Executive Member for Children and Families - Councillor Janet Sanderson**

(Pages 89 - 92)
- 13(d) **Executive Member for Managing our Environment - Councillor Greg White**

(Pages 93 - 96)
- 13(e) **Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills - Councillor Annabel Wilkinson**

(Pages 97 - 100)
- 13(f) **Executive Member for Finance and Assets - Councillor Gareth Dadd**

(Pages 101 - 102)

- 13(g) Executive Member for Open to Business - Councillor Derek Bastiman
(Pages 103 - 108)
- 13(h) Executive Member for Corporate Services - Councillor David Chance
(Pages 109 - 116)
- 13(i) Executive Member for Highways and Transportation - Councillor Keane Duncan
(Pages 117 - 118)

Overview and Scrutiny Chairs:

- 13(j) Scrutiny Board (Chair: Councillor Karin Sedgwick)
(Pages 119 - 120)
- 13(k) Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Barbara Brodigan)
(Pages 121 - 122)
- 13(l) Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Malcolm Taylor)
(Pages 123 - 126)
- 13(m) Care and Independence and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Karin Sedgwick)
(Pages 127 - 128)
- 13(n) Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor David Ireton)
(Pages 129 - 130)
- 13(o) Scrutiny of Health (Chair: Councillor Andrew Lee)
(Pages 131 - 132)
- 13(p) Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor David Staveley)
(Pages 133 - 136)

14. Notices of Motion

1) **Motion calling for a ban on trail hunting on council owned land**

North Yorkshire Council does not allow illegal activity on our land. As cited by Chief Supt Matt Longman, the National Police Chief's Council lead on foxhunting, the 2004 Hunting Act is not working effectively and illegal hunting is still common practice. Under the act, hunting mammals with hounds is banned but trail hunts using the scent of animals are allowed to take place. Across the country, hunts are using trail hunts as a loophole to carry on hunting foxes and other animals. So called terrier men are frequently present with shovels and terriers, while scent trails are often not present.

There have even been online sessions that tell people how to avoid being caught by using trail hunting as a smokescreen for the hunting of foxes. The Hunting Act is unworkable and leaves the police caught in the middle of the hunting debate.

Public confidence is being eroded.

A recent FOI request to NYC asking if trail hunting takes place on council owned land

produced a reply stating that “we are not aware of any trail hunting activity that takes place on council owned land”.

A similar response from the Exec when asked same.

North Yorkshire is the largest county in England. There are thirteen Hunts in North Yorkshire according to “northyorkshirehorse” and the BHSA (British Hounds Sports Assoc): Derwent, Sinnington, York & Ainsty North, Bedale, Bilsdale, Cleveland, Goathland & Glaisdale, Hurworth, Middleton, Staintondale, Highmoor Bloodhounds, West of Yore, York & Ainsty South.

This council has a duty to uphold the law. We must be pro-active. In order to guarantee the safety of North Yorkshire’s wildlife I present the following motion to council.

We call upon Council:

“This council resolves to ban trail hunting, exempt hunting, hound exercise and hunt meets outright across all council land where legally possible, including any NEW tenancies where there are positive covenants attached to the land that currently require the council as owner to allow trail hunting events and formal gatherings.”

We request that the Chairman considers that the matter be debated today at Council without being referred to the Executive or a relevant committee. This is because the hunting season is September to March and therefore this motion requires debating at the July full council as to do so in November will potentially put the lives of wildlife at risk.

Proposer – Cllr Rich Maw

Seconder – Cllr Arnold Warneken.

2) **Motion calling for a 20mph speed limit to be introduced across south and west Harrogate**

North Yorkshire Council resolves to: implement a maximum speed of 20mph and other associated infrastructure across south and west Harrogate to protect children and other vulnerable members of the community in Oatlands, parts of Pannal, the Stray, Hookstone, St George’s and the Pannal Ash area.

- a) This will be a standalone work package, separate from NYC 20mph policy (January 2022) and 20mph policy review (26 June 2023) and to note this is the first scheme of its type to address this issue which exists across the County, being a start for further schemes across the County and/or Harrogate & Knaresborough, specifically around schools
- b) It will be integrated into the existing NYC Harrogate traffic management work programme and implemented with immediate effect;
- c) NYC will work directly with the local campaign groups Oatlands Road Safety & Active Travel Campaign and Pannal Ash Safe Streets, the Road Safety School Group (including Head teachers & education leaders) and the Harrogate & Knaresborough Area Constituency Committee (ACC) on the detail and delivery of the package;
- d) NYC will ensure this has no effect on the agreed and committed Sustainable Transport Package of road safety and infrastructure improvements in the Pannal Ash area. This will be ring-fenced and protected (and has a budget of c£565,000 from the National Productivity Investment fund).

Further notes/information:

Schools and Education Settings in area:

Oatlands area:

- Oatlands Infant School
- Oatlands Junior School
- St John Fishers CE School
- St Aidan's CE School
- Busy Bees Nurseries (South Drive and Hornbeam Park)
- Harrogate College
- Willow Tree Primary School

Pannal Ash area:

- Harrogate Grammar School
- Rossett Acre Primary School
- Rossett School (Secondary)
- Ashville College
- Ashville Sports Centre
- Rossett Sports Centre
- Busy Bees Nursery, Otley Road

Proposer – Cllr Pat Marsh

Seconder – Cllr Arnold Warneken.

3) **Motion calling for a national ban on the sale of disposable vapes**

The recent increase in availability and use of disposal vapes has led to the position where it is estimated that £1.3 million of them are thrown away each week. The recycling and disposal of the vapes poses many challenges as they contain potentially dangerous metals, battery acid, and nicotine. Many of these disposable vapes are also littered in the street and pose an environmental risk as they enter the water course and soil surface. I therefore call upon Council to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to urge for a national ban on the sale of disposable vapes.

Proposer – Cllr Kevin Foster

Seconder - Cllr Rich Maw.

4) **Motion regarding Northern Powergrid and calls for increased network capacity**

This Council confirms its commitment to:

- (1) become carbon neutral in its own operations as soon as is practical.
- (2) play a leading role in assisting individuals, communities, businesses and other organisations to dramatically reduce their carbon emissions.

This Council notes that:

- (1) delivering many of the proposed projects to reduce carbon emissions in North Yorkshire will require significant additional capacity and connections to the electricity distribution network.
- (2) Northern Powergrid, the monopoly supplier of electricity distribution in North Yorkshire, seems unable to deliver the required capacity and connections in a timely or affordable way.

This Council asks Northern Powergrid to:

- (1) explain how and when it intends to increase its capacity to enable North Yorkshire to achieve its climate change goals.
- (2) increase its investment in the electricity network, including in smart grids, to ensure that the residents and organisations that invest in generating energy

- locally benefit from higher economic and environmental returns.
- (3) outline any barriers that might prevent or delay it increasing network capacity and investment.
 - (4) explore how this Council might assist it to overcome such barriers.

Proposer – Cllr Richard Foster

Seconder – Cllr Nigel Knapton

5) **Motion calling for support for a bathing water application for the River Nidd**

This council supports a bathing water application to the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) for the Lido on the River Nidd in Knaresborough.

This Council notes that the Nidd Action Group (a group dedicated to improving the water quality in the whole of the River Nidd) is working with other individuals and organisations on a bathing water application for the River Nidd in Knaresborough and that this application requires the support of the local authority which is North Yorkshire Council.

This council believes:

- 1) That the River Nidd is an important resource for the people of Knaresborough and the wider North Yorkshire area.
- 2) That improving the quality of the River Nidd would have significant benefits for the environment, public health, recreation, and the local economy.
- 3) That supporting the bathing water application for the River Nidd is in the best interests of the people of Knaresborough and North Yorkshire.

This Council resolves:

To express its support for the bathing water application for the Lido at the River Nidd in Knaresborough.

Proposer – Cllr Paul Haslam

Seconder – Cllr Nathan Hull.

6) **Motion regarding water quality and associated improvements in, health, wildlife, biodiversity and economy**

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Recognise it has a role to protect the rivers, watercourse and seas in North Yorkshire and precious habitats these support as far as possible from the cumulative impacts of pollution, including in line with its local planning policy and the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 2) Be aware that there is evidence of deterioration of water quality due to the cumulative impact of nitrates phosphates, micro-plastics, pharmaceuticals, historical metal mining activities, and multiple sewage discharge events from diffuse and point source pollution including private and statutory waste treatment systems and seek to better understand the impact on our local rivers, wildlife and the health of our residents.
- 3) Draw on relevant evidence that assesses the cumulative impact of pollution so that this is appropriately factored into the emerging North Yorkshire plan, including the overall level of future development
- 4) Ask the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee to invite senior representatives from Yorkshire Water, the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Dales River Trust, Nidd Action Group, Natural England, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and other interested groups to attend a meeting to allow

for a better understanding of the current levels of pollution and remedial action being taken in this regard.

- 5) Ask Yorkshire Water, from this date onwards, in its planning consultation responses for major developments, to clarify which treatment works will be managing the sewage; confirm that these treatment works have the additional capacity to take waste from agreed developments and whether it has the information available to assess the impact on the number or duration of sewage discharges into local rivers or seas, and if it does have this information to share it (noting that this can only be requested not required).
- 6) Request that planning assessments, from now onwards, include in all reports on major developments appropriate coverage of the impact on watercourses, including the potential for the development to affect sewage outflow into watercourses, so that this information is clearly and transparently set out. related to this is reducing the impact of surface water and encouraging the installation of Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SUDs) on new developments. whether this could be a standard for North Yorkshire
- 7) Ask the Leader and appropriate Executive Members to collaborate with other Local Authorities facing similar water quality problems in order to best understand how we can use our influence to reduce and mitigate the damage done to our watercourses.
- 8) This Council plays its part in securing bathing water status for the Lido on the River Nidd in Knaresborough and any other applications in North Yorkshire

This motion has been endorsed by the: Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust; River Ure Conservation Trust.

Proposer – Cllr Arnold Warneken
Seconder – Cllr Mike Schofield.

15. **Motion on Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner - Recommendation from Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
(Pages 137 - 140)
16. **Use of special urgency procedures since the last meeting of County Council**
(Pages 141 - 144)
17. **Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions**

RICHARD FLINTON
Chief Executive Officer

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive
Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall,
NORTHALLERTON

Tuesday, 11 July 2023

North Yorkshire Council

Annual Meeting of Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Wednesday 17 May 2023 commencing at 10.30 am.

Councillor David Ireton in the Chair and Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Phillip Barrett, Derek Bastiman, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Andy Brown, Nick Brown, Lindsay Burr MBE, David Chance, Mark Crane, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Stephanie Duckett, Keane Duncan, Bridget Fortune, Kevin Foster, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Paul Haslam, Robert Heseltine, Nathan Hull, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Peter Lacey, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, John Mann, Pat Marsh, Steve Mason, Rich Maw, John McCartney, Heather Moorhouse, Andrew Murday, Simon Myers, David Noland, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Mike Schofield, Karin Sedgwick, Subash Sharma, Monika Slater, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Matt Walker, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Apologies: Councillors John Cattnach, Liz Colling, Steve Shaw-Wright, Andy Solloway and David Whitfield.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

1 To elect a Chairman of the Council to serve until the May 2024 AGM

It was moved and seconded that Councillor David Ireton be elected Chairman of the Council to serve until the Annual General Meeting of the Council in 2024.

The vote was taken and the motion was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions.

Resolved -

That Councillor David Ireton is elected Chairman of the Council, to serve until the Annual General Meeting of the Council in 2024.

Councillor David Ireton then made his declaration of acceptance of office of Chairman of the Council.

Councillor David Ireton in the Chair

2 Minutes of the meetings held on 22 February 2023 and 24 February 2023

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the meeting of the County Council held on 22 February 2023 which was adjourned and then reconvened on 24 February 2023, having been printed and circulated, are confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The vote was taken and the motion was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions.

3 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Cattanach, Liz Colling, Steve Shaw-Wright, Andy Solloway and David Whitfield.

4 To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Council to serve until the May 2024 AGM

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Roberta Swiers be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council, to serve until the Annual General Meeting of the North Yorkshire Council in 2024.

The vote was taken and the motion was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions.

Resolved -

That Councillor Roberta Swiers is elected Vice-Chairman of the Council, to serve until the Annual General Meeting of the Council in 2024.

Councillor Roberta Swiers then made her declaration of acceptance of office of Vice-Chairman of the Council and thanked the Council for her appointment.

5 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were made as follows:

Councillor Karl Arthur regarding Minute 12(a).

Councillors Joy Andrews, Lindsey Burr, Caroline Goodrick and Steve Mason regarding Minute 8.

Councillor Keane Duncan regarding Minute 8.

Councillor Yvonne Peacock regarding Minute 12.

6 Chairman's Announcements

The Chair welcomed the Honorary Aldermen and members of the public and press who were present.

The Chair informed Members of the usual arrangements for the meeting.

The Chair informed Members that there were two Notices of Motion on the agenda and requests had been received that these be debated at the meeting. The Chair was required to give a ruling on whether to follow the normal procedure of referring these to the relevant committee or whether they should be debated at the meeting. The Chair considered that that Motion relating to Crustacean die-off be debated, and the Motion relating to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner be referred to the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Chair reminded Members that when considering Notices of Motion a Member can move that the motion can be put now and one Member can speak for five minutes for that Motion and one Member can speak for five minutes against. Should the motion on the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner be referred to the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and

Scrutiny Committee then it would be moved and seconded without comment.

The death of former County Councillor David Billing was noted. David was a County Councillor from 1985 to 2009 and then from 2013 to 2017 and he was also a Scarborough Borough Councillor.

A minute's silence was held in memory of the former County Councillor.

7 Statement by the Leader of the Council

Councillor Carl Les made a statement and answered questions under Council Procedure Rule 2.3 as Leader of the Council, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 31 and 32 of the agenda pack in the Minute Book (pages 25 to 26)

8 Public Questions or Statements

There were nine public questions, as follows:

The following public statement was submitted by John Plummer and read out at the meeting:

How does the council intend to boost the poor levels of public participation in elections in North Yorkshire without introducing proportional voting? Surely the creation of the new council is an ideal moment to take positive action?

The following public question was read out by Rosemary Livingstone

I am Rosemary Livingstone, a retired GP from Ripon and I am speaking in favour of the Motion before you, requesting that the North Yorkshire County Council writes to the Government urging it to adopt Proportional Representation for General, Mayoral and Local Elections. (Thank you for letting me speak).

We British like to think we live in a democracy but actually very few MPs are elected with more than half of the total votes cast. In General Elections between 2001 and 19 the share of the vote in all of the individual constituencies for the party that eventually formed the Government varied between 35 and 44%. So the majority of people who vote in elections do not get what they want.

We therefore get voter apathy and disillusionment. 35% of people do not bother to vote. In recent canvassing, the commonest reason given for this was that it would not make a jot of difference to the result. This is not good for our democratic process.

I feel very sad that in this, our 21st century democracy so many people feel disenfranchised and indeed are disenfranchised by our First Past the Post System. It leads to disillusionment, a lack of trust in both politicians and the political process and that then leads to a lack of trust in all our institutions and contributes to the feeling so many people have, which is that nobody really cares about them or their problems and they are not heard.

We could do much better.

We had coalition governments during both the First and Second World wars because it was thought that in those awful times, consensual government would be more effective and would serve the country better. Proportional Representation could achieve this today.

If you won't listen to me, what about listening to a Conservative Councillor, Emma Best, a London-wide member of the London Assembly who, on the Conservative at Home website

states:

“The Conservative Party is at risk of making a historic error. While the melodrama of the last year has left the party preoccupied with avoiding defeat at the next election, it is failing to grapple with an issue that could determine its fortunes far beyond 2024: the end of First Past the Post (FPTP)”.

She recognises that PR is coming and says:

“I am deeply concerned that we do not have a thought-out or well-argued position on what could be the most significant change to our political system in recent memory”.

I am concerned that we need PR now and we need you, as our representatives here in North Yorkshire to add your voices to the clamour for more fairness in our electoral system.

Thank you.

The following public question was read out by Baroness Harris of Richmond

I am most grateful for the opportunity to again bring forward the suggestion that North Yorkshire Council adopts Proportional Representation in future elections.

I have believed, all my political life, that Proportional Representation for elections is the way forward. Here in North Yorkshire we now have the opportunity to put those ideas into practice with a new Council having been formed. After all, Yorkshire has often been at the forefront of new ideas and campaigns for many years!

You have been told, I understand, that this is a minority idea – but I can absolutely assure you, it is most definitely not! Across the country, around half of the public (51%) are now in favour of introducing PR for Westminster elections. This is up from 27% in 2011. These results come from the National Centre for Social Research – which is funded by the DWP, the Government Equalities Office, the Nuffield Trust and the King’s Fund. Also the department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. These figures are therefore accurate.

I believe it would show North Yorkshire as being forward thinking and progressive, especially as we know that in Europe, only the UK and Belarus still use the archaic FPTP system – not the best look for our democracy!

PR makes the share of seats each Party gets match the share of votes they receive. It would also accurately represent the different community views and perspectives. An example might be the tale of two Richmonds! In the local elections in 2022, Richmond-on-Thames Conservatives won 22.6% of the vote, yet only 1.9% of seats on the council. In the last round of elections in North Yorkshire, the situation was reversed, with the Conservatives getting less than 50% of the vote – but having the majority of seats. In Epsom and Ewell Stamford Ward this month, in a 5 Party contest, the two winning candidates won with only 14% of the votes cast. How is that representative?

PR is already used to elect the Parliaments and Assemblies of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, where, of course, all elections are dealt with proportionally.

I do hope Councillors in North Yorkshire will allow for serious debate about this – and of course, I hope will come to the conclusion that Proportional Representation is a fairer, more just and reliable reflection of what our communities are hoping for.

Thank you.

Councillor David Chance provided the following response:

I would like to thank the three public speakers for their submission on Proportional

Representation. The Council is keen to hear from local people about the matters that concern them and is open to challenge and new ideas.

As the three submissions are very similar in content, I will provide one answer to cover the points raised in all of them.

Members will be aware that we are considering a motion on Proportional Representation at agenda item 14. This motion was referred to the Executive at their meeting on 16 November 2022, where a detailed officer report was considered. That report is included in the papers for this meeting.

In terms of the response to the submissions, I will make the following points:

No electoral system is perfect and there are always pros and cons associated with any form of voting used.

Proportional Representation based systems of voting do enable a greater number of parties to be represented on political bodies, which in turn can enable a broad range of political views to be heard. However, Proportional Representation often leads to coalition governments that can be unstable and short-lived, involve significant compromise and the elevation of smaller parties to positions of great and perhaps undue influence as coalitions are formed and deals done.

The First Past the Post system of voting has the advantage of providing a clear winner in every seat contested, it builds a strong relationship with the locally elected officials and is a well-known and a system of voting that is easy to understand.

The May 2022 elections to this Council were, as they have been for many years, conducted through the First Past the Post system and have returned a balanced and I would argue a healthy mix of political representation with Conservatives, Liberal Democrats and Liberals, Labour, Greens and independent councillors.

Our democratic processes are robust as is demonstrated by the consideration today of three Motions, put forward by opposition parties.

First Past the Post is used for elections to the House of Commons and local councils in England and Wales and that is not something that this Council can change unilaterally. Clearly, it is a decision for national government for whom a change in the voting system is simply not on the agenda at present.

The following public question was read out by Chris Parkin

In respect of the CIL Funding raised within Ryedale, to be spent in Ryedale, and the bids made by community bodies to apply any CIL grants in line with local development plans and projects, which elected Ryedale District Councillors thought appropriate, and which now appears to have been hijacked by the 'new' North Yorkshire Council, could I ask:

Do the Councillors here today consider that North Yorkshire Council has acted in proper, legal and morally acceptable fashion by not releasing these funds by the date specified?

The following public statement was submitted by Rob Williams and read out at the meeting:

Will the Council commit to using the established Urgency Procedures within its Constitution to reach a point of decision on all CIL Funding bids for which delay would mean the loss of an external grant from coming in to the benefit of the residents of the local community? The grounds for using the Urgency procedures are that the loss of external funds would be to

the detriment of the public interest. In the case of the bid from Malton Community Sports Centre for the addition of a fitness suite and community room, which has already been granted full planning permission, the community stand to lose £220,000 of investment from Section 106 funds that will be returned to the private developers on 30th June if the project is not commenced. This would be in addition to the loss of a £100,000 grant from Sport England. This has already been lost due to the time taken at District Council level in the consideration of CIL Funding. It would be an absolute tragedy for the community of Malton, Norton and surrounding villages to lose £320,000 of external funding purely as the consequence of unnecessary delays in the decision-making processes of their locally elected Councils. NYCC still have the chance to ensure this does not happen.

The following public question was read out by Paul Hogarth

Slingsby Sports and Social Club is an entirely voluntary run community organisation, of which I am proud to be chairperson, that provides sporting, play and social facilities for members of the community as well as visitors to the area.

The facilities are also used extensively by Slingsby Community Primary School as there only sports facilities.

We were allocated funding by Ryedale District Council from funds available from the Community Infrastructure Levy to provide access for people with disabilities, creating suitable changing facilities for use by the school and other organisations and make our facilities fit for junior sport.

Our project is one of a number of projects that were approved by a sovereign authority and will transform the Community Infrastructure across Ryedale but these projects are on hold due to the decision by this council to delay the release of the funds. We stand shoulder to shoulder with those other fantastic projects.

The project is dependent upon being able to commence the building work during the summer months to ensure that the work is completed before winter. Any further delay to the project beyond June would jeopardise our ability to complete the project by the end of this financial year.

This in turn would create significant problems as a significant amount of the match funding that we have raised is from grants from other organisations and needs to be drawn down in the current financial year. In total £19,000 of our funds have been raised in this way, including a £10,000 grant from Sport England, and without a timely release of the funds allocated we are at significant risk of losing the funds that we have secured after a huge amount of hard work and commitment.

Over 600 hours of unpaid volunteer time has already been devoted by an incredible and diverse group of people and we have met every target and all criteria that have been set of us.

We have been through a robust and challenging application process that has galvanised our community and created a sense of hope for the future.

The factor that is impacting our ability to deliver this project is the decision regarding the CIL funds from this Council.

I have emailed both the leader and deputy leader of the council regarding this matter, how to date, neither of which has provided me with courtesy of a reply.

You have publicly stated that this new council is being built with local communities "at its heart". This does not seem to be the case.

I would therefore like to ask this council, when will the funds allocated for projects across Ryedale, that will transform people's lives, be released by this council and avoid the risk of

us losing the other funds that we have raised and brought into the county?

The following public question was read out by Councillor Ian Conlon, Mayor of Malton Town Council

Malton and Old Malton has grown in population by one third from under 5000 to well over 6000 in just 10 years, and so generated significant unspent CIL money for Ryedale District Council in that time, and more young people needing good quality play facilities. Malton Town Council have had their application of CIL funds for a pump track approved by Ryedale District Council. It is a vital play facility for our many new young families, to spend in our community. It is one of a number of projects all legitimately meeting CIL requirements, that were approved by a huge majority of councillors at Ryedale District Council, but has been arbitrarily put on hold by this Council. The Structural Change Order that brought this Unitary Council into being imposed express requirements on NYCC to consult and cooperate with the district councils. It has a duty to take account the legitimate expectations of people affected by a decision. As Malton Town Council's Mayor, I am standing in solidarity with all applicants, and politely asking: where is the money for our projects now, and when will you be paying it? Ryedale District Council sent the applications to NYC before the 1st of April deadline. This play area is situated in a low-income area of Malton, and average incomes considerably below the average for Ryedale. Free to use facilities for our children and young families are vital, particularly with the cost-of-living crisis, and any further delay increases the neglect of our communities who expect us to deliver on a project that was widely consulted on. Cllr Duncan approved a £50,000 grant for the Norton Skate Park in his division by Ryedale District Council before his election on this Council, so surely he will want to join Cllr Burr and others in calling for approving another excellent play facility aimed at a younger age group starting out on wheels, and ALL the many other worthwhile community projects approved by Ryedale. In Malton we also have Kirkham Henry Performing Arts Centre whose building is falling to bits and desperately needs new changing rooms and disabled access, and to meet the needs of the many adult groups as well as children that use their facilities. The Hovingham to Malton cycle path needs a kick start on its technical section around Broughton Woods, Malton School's Sports Centre that is also there for the whole local community but needs vital upgrading and has already lost hugely significant matching grant money because of the unnecessary delay. There are many more projects around Ryedale, and CIL money generated in Ryedale that our elected representatives here have voted on. Let's honour the democratic will and start this Council on a sound, legal, and fair footing.

The following public statement was submitted by Councillor Jill Wells, Mayor of Kirkbymoorside Town Council, and read out at the meeting:

Dear Members of North Yorkshire Council,

As you will be aware, the Town Council's application for the Ryedale CIL funds has been recommended to the Council for final determination. On behalf of Kirkbymoorside Town Council I would like to invite Members and Officers to a site visit at the sportsfield, New Road, Kirkbymoorside, in order that the need and merits of the project may be appreciated. Please contact the Town Clerk to arrange a convenient date(s) and time(s).

The Town Council firmly believes that CIL monies raised from Ryedale developments should be allocated to support the infrastructure in Ryedale. This is based on the knowledge that CIL Regulations seek to achieve a link between the CIL charged and the cost of the infrastructure which requires to be funded using the CIL. The CIL Agreements associated with all developments will specify the allocation of CIL funds in the local area. The North Yorkshire Council website [[Community infrastructure levy | North Yorkshire Council]] states that "The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a planning charge that we can impose on new developments in Ryedale" With the LGR, whilst the 'charging authority' has now transferred, the allocation of funds to infrastructure in the 'locality' specific to each planning

application remains valid. Under section 221 of the 2018 Act, a charging authority is required to have regard to the guidance issued by the SoS: DCLG Guidance on the Community Infrastructure Levy. Referring specifically to the guidance on "infrastructure planning" by a charging authority, there is reference to the charging authority's Development Plan. Paragraphs 13 "Information on the charging authority area's infrastructure needs should be directly related to the infrastructure assessment that underpins their relevant Plan, as that planning identifies the quantum and type of infrastructure required to realise their local development and growth needs".

You will be aware that the developments that have contributed CIL funds in Ryedale were determined in accordance with the Ryedale Local Plan and it is this Plan to which the terms of the agreement are bound. Therefore allocation of the funds must remain within the boundaries of Ryedale.

The Town Council commends the initiative of Ryedale District Council to have initiated the process to shortlist suitable projects for the allocation of these funds. This exercise will undoubtedly have saved the Council considerable time and resources.

Pursuant to confirmation received from Gary Fielding the Town Council looks forward to receiving updates on the applications in the very near future.

Councillor Gareth Dadd provided the following response:

Firstly, can I say how much I welcome these questions. For too long, colleagues across the chamber, of all political persuasions, will have witnessed the many column inches that Ryedale CIL has commanded in local and regional media. This now gives me the opportunity to set out our position and to give some context.

I have refused to comment prior to today through the media and press as I wished to respect the democratic accountability of this chamber and everyone that sits within it.

I will firstly deal with, in a straight-forward manner, the actual questions posed before I comment upon the general position and way forward.

Chris Parkin asks a very direct question, and I quote, "Do the Councillors here today consider that North Yorkshire Council has acted in proper, legal and morally acceptable fashion by not releasing these funds by the date specified?"

Yes I do.

Rob Williams asks will we use established urgency procedures to determine the outcome of CIL bids.

Put very bluntly, no we will not, however what I can commit to is a request to officers to establish the best way forward should they not be successful. I will deal with the reasoning in my context shortly.

Paul Hogarth and Ian Conlon ask when a decision will be taken.

I am expecting a full analysis and report to go to Executive some time in June (20 June in all likelihood).

Jill Wells gives much the same commentary.

So for the context.

Some months ago, not long I may add before vesting day and after the Section 24 Direction was given, Ryedale Council decided on an attempt to allocate their £3m CIL pot with some

speed. I can only assume that this was driven by a desire to deny this Authority the power to prioritise where that spend ought to go. They did not consult with the County Council on what they perceived as the priorities as is normally the case. We informally and formally reminded them that they needed Section 24 consent. They did not, at first, accept this but by virtue of them submitting the requests on the last day of their existence one can only assume they then did.

I will point out that I view their behaviour as bad behaviour, the worst I have seen from any of the former Districts and Boroughs, the remainder acting with the utmost of cooperation and respecting the legal process. We also reminded them of the possible demands on future infrastructure we would face, for example a new School in Norton circa £6.5m. In addition we now know about planned capital spend at Welburn Hall of £5m. To hide behind the veil of Ryedale money to be spent in Ryedale simply does not stand up to scrutiny.

I feel very sympathetic to the organisations that bid, and some have indicated that, despite assurances from RDC, they were not aware of the inability of RDC to execute the “successful” applicants’ grant allocation. Each and every one of those awaiting a decision have worthwhile schemes and in their own right no reasonable person could deny their positive aspects. However, and it is a big however, each and every one of us has a duty to look beyond today’s headlines and plan carefully, especially with taxpayers money and public funds, taking into account future needs and priorities. That is why, we as an Authority, are taking time to consider these applications individually after consulting with a range of specialist officers across the new Council. These worthy organisations have been led up the garden path in the interests of political platforming, in my view, and RDC former Members that subscribed to this really ought to hang their heads in shame.

I also wish to respond to the democratic legitimacy point often raised. Yes, RDC was a sovereign body save for they are not sovereign now and the reasoning behind a Section 24 direction is to protect the medium term of any successor Authority. I look around this Chamber and challenge any Member to condone this behaviour given the demands on Capital we will face right across the County. It would be easy to simply roll over and accept the dash to splash the cash exercise that RDC deployed, with no sight on how we will fund other needs as a result of development. We could simply use reserves on Ryedale absolute necessities after deploying the CIL pot, but which Member would be content to forego capital spending in 5 years’ time in their divisions and on their priorities as a result? I am also going to be very blunt. I note, with some amazement, that the same former RDC Members that have made so much noise and comments on this matter were in many cases on the ballot paper and failed to take their desired seats in this Chamber. That is democracy in its purest form.

Whilst I am talking about Ryedale, and allegations made elsewhere that we only want to use this pot to fill in our deficit, there are 2 clear retorts. Firstly, perhaps those thinking that would benefit from a briefing on the difference between Capital and Revenue. I am more than happy to offer that session to elected Members within this Chamber should that be repeated. Secondly, I find it hard to accept any sort of economic advice from some from the former Authority that has bequeathed a Revenue budget deficit of £1.790M, or put another way 19% of what would have been their Revenue budget for 2023/24 when the combined Revenue Deficit this year for the new Authority was under 5%. and, I may add, a council whose Members chose to freeze council tax in the face of that deficit. They seemed quite keen for us to make the decisions on that particular financial issue didn’t they?

Moving forward, we shall be considering these applications fairly and openly but not in a rushed manner, with a scheduled date of 20 June. I will ask, once the draft is agreed, for Officers to informally let applicants know what the recommendations of the report are likely to be, subject to final decisions being taken by the Executive, thus enabling them to revert to their original plans of funding, if that is necessary, that existed before this risky flight of fancy was began by the former Ryedale District Council.

In conclusion Mr Chairman. I cannot express enough my sadness that perhaps false hope has been given to these community organisations and can only apologise on behalf of those that supported this at RDC. It should never ever have happened. I, and I am sure every decent Member of this Authority, will not be politically bullied, as we strive not for a cheap headline today but a medium and long term credible future for all we seek to serve. We have not gained the reputation of being among the best in terms of financial grip and prioritising resources by chance. Hard headed choices have always trumped today's cheap headlines and long may it continue.

Chris Parkin and Councillor Ian Conlon then asked supplementary questions.

Councillor Gareth Dadd responded.

The following public statement was submitted by Hazel Peacock and read out at the meeting:

Would the Executive Member for Highways & Transportation be able to advise when the report into 20mph will be released?

Councillor Keane Duncan provided the following response:

Work on the review will be concluded this month. It represents extensive work over the past six months, with input from a range of teams across the council and consultation with all councillors and key partners. The review's recommendations will be shared with councillors and the public in advance of the Executive meeting scheduled to take place on June 20.

9 To consider the report and recommendations of the Executive and make decisions on them

Implications of TUPE

The recommendation at pages 35 and 36 of the agenda pack (page 30 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded. The confidential appendix to the report that went to the Executive on 2 May 2023 was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting, upon request.

A vote was taken and the motion was declared carried with 83 for, none against and 1 abstention.

Resolved -

That Council approves the estimated costs, as detailed in paragraph 6.1 of the report, as they are over £100,000.

Local Area SEND Strategy Adoption

The recommendation at page 35 of the agenda pack (page 29 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded.

A vote was taken and the motion was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions.

Resolved -

That the Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy be formally approved and adopted.

Waste Collections – Separate Collection of Food Waste

The recommendations at page 36 of the agenda pack (page 30 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded.

It was moved that separate votes be taken on each of the two recommendations and the Chair agreed.

Separate votes were taken and it was

Resolved –

1. To accept the DEFRA transitional arrangement to implement separately collected food waste across North Yorkshire from 1 February 2043;

(The recommendation was declared carried with 63 for, 18 against and 3 abstentions)

2. To explore options for NYC to implement separately collected food waste at an earlier implementation date and to engage with DEFRA and Government to ensure that an earlier implementation date does not negatively affect our eligibility for funding.

(The recommendation was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions)

10 Proposed Governance Changes to the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

The recommendations at page 40 of the agenda pack (page 34 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

A vote was taken and the motion was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions.

Resolved –

1. That the seat allocation on the Police, Fire and Crime Panel (PFC Panel) be agreed as seven (7) seats for North Yorkshire Council and three (3) seats for City of York Council;
2. That a substitute Member Scheme is implemented for the PFC Panel, as outlined in Appendix A, and adopted within the Panel's Arrangements;
3. That the PFC Panel has one Vice Chair appointment, to be appointed by the Panel in July 2023 and annually thereafter;
4. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any consequential amendments to the North Yorkshire Council Constitution.

11 Appointments to Outside Bodies

The recommendations at page 44 of the agenda pack (page 38 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

On a vote being taken on appointments to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel, the recommendation was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions.

There were two nominations for the role of Member Champion for Climate Change, Councillors Paul Haslam and Arnold Warneken.

It was moved and seconded that both Councillors be selected to carry out the role jointly. On a vote being taken the motion fell with 40 votes for the motion, 43 against and there was 1 abstention.

A vote was taken on a single nomination and there were 43 votes for Councillor Paul Haslam, 38 votes for Councillor Arnold Warneken and 3 abstentions. The Chair declared that Councillor Paul Haslam was appointed.

On a vote being taken on appointments to the Health and Wellbeing Board for North Yorkshire, the recommendation was declared carried with 84 for, none against and no abstentions.

There were two nominations for the role of Vice-Chair for the Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillors Bryn Griffiths and Stuart Parsons.

On a vote being taken there were 27 votes for Councillor Bryn Griffiths and 5 votes for Councillor Stuart Parsons.

The Chair declared that Councillor Bryn Griffiths was appointed.

A standards issue was raised in relation to the vote on the motion that the Member Champion for Climate Change role be carried out jointly. The issue was addressed later in the meeting.

Resolved -

That Council:

1. Appoints to the Police, Fire and Crime Panel for North Yorkshire and York:

	Councillors Name	Political Group
1	LES, Carl	Conservative
2	WILKINSON, Peter	Conservative
3	GROGAN, Tim	Conservative
4	MOORHOUSE, Heather	Conservative
5	ALDRED, Chris	Liberal Democrat and Liberals
6	MAW, Rich	Labour
7	BURR, Lindsay	North Yorkshire Independent

2. Appoints a Member Champion for Climate Change - Councillor Paul Haslam;
3. Appoints to the Health and Wellbeing Board for North Yorkshire – the Executive Member for North Yorkshire Council with responsibility for Housing and Leisure and the Corporate Director for Community Development, North Yorkshire Council;
4. Appoints a Vice-Chair for the Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Bryn Griffiths
5. Notes the following changes to Committee membership notified by the Conservative group:

Richmond Area Constituency Planning Committee – Councillor Caroline Dickinson to be removed and Councillor Angus Thompson to be appointed in her place.

Councillor Nick Brown to be appointed in his place.

Pension Fund Committee – Councillor Carl Les to be removed and Councillor Mark Crane to be appointed in his place.

6. Notes the following changes to Committee membership notified by the Labour group:

Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillors Bob Packham to be removed and Councillor Subash Sharma to be appointed in his place. Councillor Melanie Davis to be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

At 12:45 pm the Chairman then adjourned the meeting for lunch.

The meeting was re-convened at 1:30 pm.

12 Statements of Executive Members and Chairmen of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Statements of Executive Members, in the order set out below, followed by the Statements of the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

12 Executive Member for Highways and Transportation - Councillor Keane Duncan

(a)

Councillor Keane Duncan, Executive Member for Highways and Transportation, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 45 – 46 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 39 to 40).

12 Executive Member for Health and Adult Services - Councillor Michael Harrison

(b)

Councillor Michael Harrison, Executive Member for Health and Adult Services, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 47 - 48 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 41 to 42).

12 Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing - Councillor Simon Myers

(c)

Councillor Simon Myers, Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing, made a statement. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 49 - 52 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (page 43 to 46).

12 Executive Member for Children and Families - Councillor Janet Sanderson

(d)

Councillor Janet Sanderson, Executive Member for Children and Families, made a statement, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 53 – 56 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 47 to 49).

12 Executive Member for Managing our Environment - Councillor Greg White

(e) Councillor Greg White, Executive Member for Managing our Environment, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 57 - 60 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 51 to 53).

12 Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills - Councillor Annabel Wilkinson

(f) Councillor Annabel Wilkinson, Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills, answered questions. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 61 – 64 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 55 to 57).

12 Executive Member for Finance and Resources - Councillor Gareth Dadd

(g) Councillor Gareth Dadd, Executive Member for Finance and Resources, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 65 - 66 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (page 59 to 60).

12 Executive Member for Open to Business - Councillor Derek Bastiman

(h) Councillor Derek Bastiman, Executive Member for Open to Business, answered questions. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 67 - 72 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 61 to 65).

12 Executive Member for Corporate Services - Councillor David Chance

(i) Councillor David Chance, Executive Member for Corporate Services, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 73 – 78 of the agenda pack and in the Minute Book (pages 67 to 71).

12 Scrutiny Board (Chair: Councillor Karin Sedgwick)

(j) The written statement of Councillor Karin Sedgwick having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 79 – 80 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (page 73), was noted. The Chair of the Scrutiny Board then answered questions.

12 Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor David Staveley)

(k) The written statement of Councillor David Staveley having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 81 – 82 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 75 to 76), was noted.

12 Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Barbara Brodigan)

The written statement of Councillor Barbara Brodigan having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 83 - 84 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book

(pages 77 to 78), was noted. The Chair of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee then answered questions.

12 Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Malcolm Taylor)
(m)

The written statement of Councillor Malcolm Taylor having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 85 - 86 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (page 79), was noted. The Chair of the Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee then answered questions.

12 Care and Independence and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Karin Sedgwick)
(n)

The written statement of Councillor Karin Sedgwick having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 87 - 90 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 81 to 84), was noted.

12 Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor David Ireton)
(o)

The written statement of Councillor David Ireton having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 91 – 92 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (page 85), was noted.

12 Scrutiny of Health (Chair: Councillor Andrew Lee)
(p)

The written statement of Councillor Andrew Lee having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 93 - 96 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 87 to 89), was noted. The Chair of the Scrutiny of Health Committee then answered questions.

13 Notices of Motion

The Chair, Councillor David Ireton, advised that two Notices of Motion had been submitted. The Proposer and Seconder of each of the motions had requested that each of the matters be debated on the day of Council and not referred to the Executive or relevant Committee, for the reasons given on page 5 of the agenda pack. The Chair confirmed that he had determined that the Motion relating to Crustacean Die-off be debated at the meeting.

13 Crustacean Die-Off Events along the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Coast since October 2021
(1)

The Notice of Motion was moved by Councillor Neil Swannick and seconded by Councillor Bryn Griffiths.

The motion was then debated. An amendment to the motion was moved by Councillor George Jabbour and seconded by Councillor Paul Haslam.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:18 pm to enable the proposers and seconders of the motions to agree upon revised wording.

The meeting was re-convened at 3:36 pm.

The amendment was then debated and an amendment to the amendment was then moved by Councillor Bryn Griffiths and seconded by Councillor Neil Swannick and this was accepted by the mover of the amendment.

A named vote was requested and over 20 Members stood to request the named vote. The motion was declared carried with 49 votes for, 27 against and 1 abstention.

For: Councillors Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Nick Brown, David Chance, Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Paul Haslam, Robert Heseltine, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, John Mann, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, David Staveley, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, and Robert Windass.

Against: Councillors Chris Aldred, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Lindsay Burr MBE, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Melanie Davis, Stephanie Duckett, Kevin Foster, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Peter Lacey, Pat Marsh, Steve Mason, Rich Maw, Andrew Murday, David Noland, Bob Packham, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Mike Schofield, Subash Sharma, Monika Slater, Neil Swannick, Matt Walker and Arnold Warneken.

Abstentions: Councillor Andy Brown.

On a vote being taken on the substantive motion the Chair declared the motion carried.

Resolved -

This Council notes with concern:

1. the unexplained die-offs and wash-ups of crabs, lobsters, prawns, clams, scallops, mussels and some species of fish along the North Yorkshire and Cleveland coast since October 2021 and the long time that it could take to rebuild marine life and crustacean stocks
2. the significant reduction in the catches of edible crabs and other crustaceans, as reported by the North East fishing communities and the impact that this has had on local people and businesses and on the wider local economy
3. the circulation of inconclusive claims about dredging to the detriment of the local community
4. the latest Independent Expert Assessment of Unusual Crustacean Mortality in the North-east of England in 2021 and 2022, which was compiled by a panel of independent experts convened by Defra's Chief Scientific Adviser and dated 17 January 2023, being inconclusive as to the cause of the die-offs

Therefore, this Council calls on the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to:

1. support the local economy and the local community at this difficult time, help in securing financial compensations for the fishing industry as a result of the loss in earnings incurred, and assist in arranging the necessary investment needed to rebuild marine life and crustacean stocks in the affected areas

2. create and fund a dedicated task force of local and national stakeholders and experts to continually monitor and investigate the situation and its impact on the local economy and the local community, and to recommend and oversee the implementation of remedial action. Such a task force would include representatives from North Yorkshire Council and other local and combined authorities
3. reconvene a panel of independent experts immediately after new evidence emerges
4. use existing national tourism bodies to promote the North Yorkshire and Cleveland coast
5. convene a Public Inquiry with powers to compel testimony and the release of all forms of evidence in order to address public concern about this issue

Furthermore, North Yorkshire Council will:

1. work with and support other local and combined authorities in dealing with this unprecedented incident
2. support North Yorkshire Council Leader's request to attend and engage with the Dead Crustaceans Collaborative Working Group that is managed by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
3. continue to use existing regional tourism bodies to promote the North Yorkshire and Cleveland coast

13 Call for Police Fire & Crime Commissioner to resign
(2)

North Yorkshire Council has serious concerns about the performance of the current Police, Fire, and Crime Commissioner, as evidenced by the two recent reports published by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services.

The council therefore calls for the Commissioner to resign with immediate effect.

Proposer - Councillor Bryn Griffiths
 Secunder - Councillor Mike Schofield

The motion was moved and seconded and referred to the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

14 **Report of the Executive concerning a Notice of Motion on Proportional Representation that was referred to the Executive at the meeting of the County Council on 16 November 2022**

Council were requested to consider the recommendation of the Executive following consideration of a Notice of Motion which had been referred to it by County Council at its meeting held on 16 November 2022. The original motion that was to be debated is as detailed below.

“Council resolves to write to H.M. Government calling for a change in our outdated electoral laws to enable Proportional Representation to be used for General, Local and Mayoral elections.

First Past the Post (FPTP) originated when land-owning aristocrats dominated parliament and voting was restricted to property-owning men.

In Europe, only the UK and authoritarian states still use archaic single round FPTP for

general elections. Meanwhile, internationally, Proportional Representation (PR) is used to elect parliaments in more than 80 countries. Those countries tend to be more equal, freer and greener.

PR ensures all votes count, have equal value, and those seats won, match votes cast. Under PR, MPs and Parliaments better reflect the age, gender and protected characteristics of local communities and the nation. MPs & Councillors better reflecting their communities leads to improved decision-making, wider participation and increased levels of ownership of decisions taken.

PR would also end minority rule. In 2019, 43.6% of the vote produced a government with 56.2% of the seats and 100% of the power. PR also prevents 'wrong winner' elections such as occurred in 1951 and February 1974.

PR is already used to elect the parliaments and assemblies of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. So why not Westminster & Local Government here in North Yorkshire."

Proposer – Councillor Chris Aldred

Seconder – Councillor Andy Brown

The motion was moved by Councillor Chris Aldred and Seconded by Councillor Andy Brown.

The motion was debated.

A named vote was requested and over 20 Members stood to request the named vote.

The motion fell with 30 votes for, 45 against and 1 abstention.

For: Councillors Chris Aldred, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Andy Brown, Lindsay Burr MBE, , Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Melanie Davis, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Stephanie Duckett, Kevin Foster, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Peter Lacey, Pat Marsh, Steve Mason, Rich Maw, Andrew Murday, David Noland, Bob Packham, Stuart Parsons, Kirsty Poskitt, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Mike Schofield, Subash Sharma, Monika Slater, Neil Swannick, Matt Walker and Arnold Warneken.

Against: Councillors Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Nick Brown, David Chance, Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Paul Haslam, Robert Heseltine, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Andrew Lee, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, John Mann, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Andy Paraskos, Yvonne Peacock, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, David Staveley, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, and Robert Windass.

Abstentions: Sam Cross

15 Amendments to the Constitution made under Delegated Authority – Report of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services

The recommendations at page 110 of the agenda pack were moved and seconded

Resolved –

That the consequential amendments to the Constitution set out in Appendix 1 to the report, made by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) under his specific delegated powers, be noted.

16 Use of Special Urgency and Call-in Exemption decisions under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16 - Report of the Leader

The report on the Use of Special Urgency Procedures since the last meeting of the Council on 22 and 24 February 2023 was considered and the recommendation at page 129 of the agenda pack (page 122 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded.

Resolved –

That the report on the Use of Special Urgency Procedures since the last meeting of the County Council in February 2023, be noted.

17 Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

There were no Council Procedure Rule 10 questions.

The meeting ended at 4.30 pm.

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

LEADER`S STATEMENT

First 100 days of North Yorkshire Council

It is worth reflecting that North Yorkshire Council has passed its first 100 days of being in existence, the third largest unitary council in the country. The new Council has incorporated all of the services and responsibilities from its eight predecessor councils. Day One of the new Council passed successfully without significant incident and since that time the Council has continued to consolidate and build the infrastructure associated with a new large unitary council. This includes all the democratic institutions of the new Council that we see as important to our roles, but also crucially for the people that we serve so its delivery has been consolidated and is performing well. For example the new Council has already received 200,000 requests for service from members of the public and if I look at just one of the Council's services - waste collection - in the course of the first 100 days, we have collected over 5,600,000 bins with only 129 missed bins in that time. We hope that there will be even fewer missed bins as we move forward as even one missed bin collection is important to that household!

We are moving forward with a range of new strategies to help guide our services over the years ahead. Significantly these include a new Climate Change Strategy for North Yorkshire as well as picking up on important areas such as the economy, housing and tourism.

We are also moving forward with our commitments around an agenda of localism. Pilot schemes for community partnerships have been approved by the Executive. We continue to work closely with town and parish councils. I hope that we will be able to approve shortly a new Parish Charter and that we will announce a range of "double devo" pilot partnerships with Parish Councils agreeing to take on more responsibilities where they are willing and able to do so.

There is of course more to be done and significant restructuring and transformation to take place within this new Council. However, the progress that we have made to date is an achievement and it is right that I use this opportunity to thank all Members for the roles that they have played but also, and very importantly, to thank all of the staff in the new Council who have worked extremely hard to both to keep services running and to bring together all of the elements of the new Council.

Devolution

We continue to work hard to ensure that the Devolution deal between North Yorkshire and York is delivered. We are liaising with the Department of Levelling Up, Homes and Communities around the legislative order that needs to be put in place to create the new Mayoral Combined Authority. Our understanding is that it is progressing. In the meantime we are working closely with our colleagues in the City of York to put in place the necessary arrangements to form the structure and operating model of the new Combined Authority. There is a new political administration in York and I have already had a number of discussions with the political leadership in York which have been both positive and constructive about the opportunities that we can achieve in this shared endeavour.

The Conservative Party should have chosen our candidate for Mayor by the time of this Council meeting, and we await other candidates being chosen by other parties or none, ahead of the election next May.

Single Council

One of the many significant benefits of us becoming a single council, with one voice for North Yorkshire, is the opportunity to grow our county's global brand and to boost the visitor economy here in a sustainable way – playing to our strengths.

I am pleased to say, that we are already seeing the benefits of this coordinated approach - with a significant campaign which has been live since May, paid for by a successful application to the Shared Prosperity Fund.

We all know there's 'No Place Like North Yorkshire' and this is the banner headline for a comprehensive regional and national campaign in London, marketing the broad offer for memorable days out and unforgettable short breaks. In time we will want to increase the dwell time. This campaign is also raising the profile of our diverse offering across history, heritage, coastal destinations, stunning rural landscapes and outstanding market towns alongside our famous Yorkshire welcome.

In addition, we had a high profile at the Great Yorkshire Show which is accepted as one of the best agricultural shows in the country, welcoming circa 140,000 visitors to its four-day event from all over the country, but also and especially from our own county and importantly from West Yorkshire, a key target market. This allowed us to showcase the whole county, alongside its strong local brands.

All this activity allows us to highlight a single vision for the whole county's visitor economy, which is worth £1.5 billion and accounts for 11 per cent of the county's overall economy, employing more than 41,000 people.

Alongside all of this there is a developing Yorkshire-wide collaboration to promote the wider region effectively – no opportunity will be missed.

This is the sector that I have greatest knowledge of because of my former life. Of course this is only one sector of the North Yorkshire economy, however, and our economic strategy will seek to identify and promote sustainable growth across all sectors. Councils don't create wealth per se, but we should strive to be the enablers of it.

COUNCILLOR CARL LES

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

Report of the Executive

Report of the Leader of the Council

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Council with details of reports received and decisions made by the Executive and any subsequent recommendations to Council since the last meeting of Council on 17 May 2023.

2.0 DETAILS OF THE MEETINGS

- 2.1 The following sections provide details of decisions made by the Executive and recommendations to Council since its last meeting on 17 May 2023. The meetings were held on the following dates: 30 May 2023 (Performance Monitoring); 20 June 2023; 4 July 2023 and 18 July 2023.

2.2 30 May 2023 Executive (Performance Monitoring) Meeting

The Executive Members met on Tuesday 30 May 2023. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les in the Chair and Councillors Gareth Dadd, Derek Bastiman, Michael Harrison, Simon Myers, Janet Sanderson, David Chance, Keane Duncan, Greg White and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Councillors Alyson Baker, Barbara Brodigan, Caroline Dickinson, David Ireton, Andrew Lee, Karin Sedgwick, David Staveley, Paul Haslam, Malcolm Taylor, Chris Aldred, Kevin Foster, George Jabbour, Peter Lacey, Sam Gibbs and Pat Marsh.

Substantive agenda items were:

- Q4 Performance Monitoring and Budget Report
- Community Networks
- Skelton Newby Hall CE VC Primary School – School Closure Proposal
- Levelling Up Fund – Catterick Garrison Town Centre Regeneration Project
- Harrogate Transforming Cities Fund – Next Steps
- Sale of Residential Development Land at Airedale Avenue, Skipton (Appendix B to this report was considered in private).

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

[Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 30th May, 2023, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council](#)

2.3 20 June 2023 Executive Meeting

The Executive Members met on Tuesday 20 June 2023. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les in the Chair and Councillors Gareth Dadd, Derek Bastiman, Michael Harrison, Janet Sanderson, Keane Duncan, Greg White and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Councillors Paul Haslam, Kevin Foster, Lindsay Burr MBE, George

Jabbour, John McCartney and Andrew Murday.

Apologies received from Councillors David Chance and Simon Myers.

Substantive agenda items were:

- Proposal to amalgamate Caedmon College Whitby and Eskdale School
- Recommendations following consultation on de-registration of Children's Centres
- Selby Area Garden Waste Service
- Care Market Proposals for Craven
- To consider the CIL proposals submitted by Ryedale District Council 29 March 2023.

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

[Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 20th June, 2023, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council](#)

2.4 **4 July 2023 Executive Meeting**

The Executive Members met on Tuesday 4 July 2023. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les in the chair and Councillors Derek Bastiman, David Chance, Gareth Dadd, Keane Duncan, Simon Myers, Janet Sanderson, Greg White and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Councillors, Chris Aldred, Nick Brown, Caroline Dickinson, Kevin Foster, Bryn Griffiths, Paul Haslam, George Jabbour, John Mann, Monika Slater and Arnold Warneken.

Apologies were received from Councillor Michael Harrison.

Substantive agenda items were:

- Amendments to the Council's Constitution
- Rural England Prosperity Fund – Grant Acceptance
- Local Plan making for North Yorkshire – Recommended Change to the Council's decision in respect of continuing Development Plan Documents
- Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Fund Allocation
- Review of 20 mph Speed Limit Policy
- Area Constituency Committee Feedback Report
- Schools Condition Capital Programme 2023/24 (Appendix B confidential).

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

[Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 4th July, 2023, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council](#)

2.5 **18 July 2023 Executive Meeting**

A meeting of the Executive is scheduled for 18 July 2023 but this report to Council was published before that meeting took place and so details of the agenda items are included, as below:

- Adoption of the Parish Charter
- Local Authority Housing Fund
- North Yorkshire Council Statement of Community Involvement consultation draft
- Future delivery of the Minor Adaptations Service

- North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy
- Recharging Parish and Towns Councils for by-elections
- Adult Learning and Skills Service Accountability Statement
- Member Champion update.

A verbal update will be provided at the meeting of Council.

The link to the reports for this meeting is as follows:

[Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 18th July, 2023, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council](#)

3.0 MATTERS FOR APPROVAL/INFORMATION AT COUNCIL

3.1 The Executive considered the reports and resolved to recommend the following to the meeting of Full Council for consideration:

3.2 Amendments to the Council's Constitution

This item was considered at the meeting of the Executive on 4 July 2023, where Executive recommended to Council on 19 July 2023, that the proposed changes be made to the Constitution.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the following be recommended to Council for approval:

- i) The suggested miscellaneous amendments as set out in the amendments chart in Appendix 1 of the report;
- ii) The suggested amendments to the membership of the Health and Wellbeing Board and its Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix 2 of the report;
- iii) The suggested amendments to Council Procedure Rule 5.2 as set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report;
- iv) The suggested amendments to Council Procedure Rule 9 as set out in paragraph 6.1 of the report;
- v) The suggested amendments to Council Procedure Rule 15.1 as set out in paragraph 7.2 of the report; and
- vi) The suggested amendments to Council Procedure Rule 17 as set out in paragraph 8.1 of the report.

Link to report - [Amendments to the Council's Constitution](#)

Links to Appendices:

Appendix 1. [Proposed Amendments Chart](#)

Appendix 2. [Proposed amendments to Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference and membership lists](#)

Appendix 3. [Extract from the Code of Practice for Councillors and Officers dealing with planning matters](#)

Appendix 4. [Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form](#)

Appendix 5. [Climate Change Impact Assessment Screening Form](#)

3.3 **Local Plan Making for North Yorkshire – recommended change to the Council’s decision in respect of continuing Development Plan Documents**

This item was considered at the meeting of the Executive on 4 July 2023, where Executive recommended to Council on 19 July 2023, that work on the Ryedale Local Plan review be halted and that work undertaken to date be considered, as appropriate, in the preparation of the new Local Plan for North Yorkshire.

RECOMMENDATION:

That work on the Ryedale Local Plan review be halted and that work undertaken to date be considered, as appropriate, in the preparation of the new Local Plan for North Yorkshire.

Link to report - [Local Plan Making for North Yorkshire - recommended change to the Council's decision in respect of continuing Development Plan Documents](#)

4.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The financial implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

5.0 **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The legal implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

6.0 **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The equalities implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

7.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The climate change implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

Councillor Carl Les
Leader

North Yorkshire Council
County Hall
Northallerton

Background Documents:

Reports and minutes of the meetings of the Executive as detailed in the main body of the report.

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

11 July 2023

North Yorkshire Council

19 July 2023

Appointments to committee according to political proportionality

Report of Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To make recommendations for changes to the allocation of seats on and appointments to committees, subject to proportional representation.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Group Leaders met on 7 July 2023 to consider the impact of recent changes to the political make-up of the Council and what this meant for proportional representation.

3.0 CHANGES SINCE THE NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION IN MAY 2022.

- 3.1 The changes to the political make-up of the Council that have occurred since the last Election due to 2 By-Elections and changes of Elected Members political parties are as follows:

- The Masham and Fountains by election on 9 February 2023 went to the Liberal Democrats (Elected – Councillor Felicity Cunliffe-Lister).
- The Eastfield by election on 25 May 2023 went to the Unaffiliated Independents (Elected - Councillor Tony Randerson).
- Skipton West and West Craven division changed from Unaffiliated Independents to North Yorkshire Independents in March 2023 (Councillor Andy Solloway changed political party).
- Camblesforth and Carlton division changed from Conservative to Unaffiliated Independents in June 2023 (Councillor Mike Jordan changed political party).
- Harlow and St. Georges division changed from Liberal Democrats to Unaffiliated Independents in June 2023 (Councillor Mike Schofield changed political party).
- As of June 2023 Councillors Heseltine, Goodrick and Williams became members of the Conservative and Independents Group (with the Group name being changed from the Conservative Group).

3.2 The number of Councillors by political party is now as shown on the next page:

Party	May 2022 Post NYCC Election	Current Position July 2023	Overall Change
Conservative (now known the Conservatives and Independents Group)	47	48	Gain of 1
Labour (and Labour and Co-operative Party)	12	11	Loss of 1
Liberal Democrat & Liberal	13	13	No Overall Change
Independent (unaffiliated)	5	5	No Overall Change
Green	5	5	No Overall Change
NY Independents	8	8	No Overall Change
TOTAL	90	90	

3.3 The changes outlined in 3.1 above have an impact upon the allocation of seats in Council committees under proportionality.

3.4 This change has no impact on the proportionality calculation of any of the appointments to Major Outside Bodies that are subject to political proportionality. This is detailed at Appendix C.

4.0 ANALYSIS

4.1 The total impact of these changes can be found at appendix A to work out a purely mathematical proportionality basis for allocations. However, this calculation must comply with the principles found in paragraph 5.2 of this report.

4.2 The analysis suggests that allocation of seats on committees should be:

PARTY	ACTUAL (Required)	CURRENT (As now)	DIFFERENCE
Conservatives and Independents	105	100	5
NY Independent	15	14	1
Labour	23	23	
Liberal Democrat	24	22	2
Green	10	10	
Independent Unaffiliated	9	13	-4
TOTAL SEATS	186	182*	+4

*Please note that the Standards and Governance committee should have an additional 4 committee members that have not previously been allocated as full Council recommended an increase in the committee size in anticipation of additional work. On this calculation those 4 committee appointments should be 3 Conservative and 1 North Yorkshire Independent.

When considering ‘Scrutiny and Audit’ and by ‘Ordinary’ committees, the proportionality shows (see paras 5.3 and 5.4 for the definition of the committees):

- The Conservatives and Independents are over-represented by 3.47 seats on Scrutiny and Audit committees and over-represented by 2.33 seats on Ordinary committees (total over-representation of 5.80 seats).
This is unable to be altered due to proportionality rule 2 when a Group has the majority of seats of a Council. (See 5.2 below)
- The North Yorkshire Independents are under-represented by 1.42 seats on Scrutiny and Audit committees and under-represented by 0.11 seats on Ordinary committees (total under-representation of 1.53 seats).
- Labour’s figures are correct as per the mathematical proportionality calculation.
- The Liberal Democrats are under-represented by 1.31 seats on Scrutiny and Audit committees and under-represented by 1.56 seats on Ordinary committees (total under-representation of 2.87 seats).
- Unaffiliated Independents are under-represented by 0.89 seats on Scrutiny and Audit committees and under-represented by 0.44 seats on Ordinary committees (total under-representation of 1.33 seats).
- Green Group are correct as per proportionality.

The complete calculation is attached at Appendix A as well as the Area Constituency Planning Committee Allocation at Appendix B, where changes have occurred, and the calculations for Major Outside Bodies at Appendix C.

5.0 POLITICAL BALANCE GUIDANCE

- 5.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 introduced a requirement that certain appointments should be proportionate to the political composition of the Council.
- 5.2 The Council or the Committee must give effect to principles set out in the statutory provisions. The principles are:
- 1) All the seats must not be allocated to the same political group
 - 2) The majority of the seats must be allocated to the political group (if any) that holds the majority of seats on the Council
 - 3) Subject to 1) and 2), in the case of ordinary committees, the number of seats on the ordinary committees which are allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council.
- 5.3 Please note that “Ordinary Committees” of this Council are: Chief Officer Appointments and Disciplinary Committee; Employment Appeals Committee; Pension Fund Committee;

Planning and Regulatory Functions Committee; (Transport) Appeals Committee and Standards Committee.

5.4 Scrutiny committees and Audit are not “ordinary committees”.

5.5 This means that it is necessary to add up the total number of seats on all the ordinary committees. If a group represents, for example, three quarters of the membership of the Council, it is entitled to three quarters of the total number of seats on all ordinary committees.

5.6 This means that on some ordinary committees a group may have more members than the application of the next principle would justify. It provides an allowance for the fact that calculating the proportion will not usually lead to whole numbers.

5.7 The duty on the Council is to give effect to these principles *so far as reasonably practicable*. This recognises that there cannot be an exact application of the rules.

5.8 Co-optees are ignored in calculating political balance except for any co-opted member with voting rights appointed to a committee with education functions under section 13(5) Local Government and Housing Act 1989 - see section 15 of that Act.

6.0 ADDITIONAL LOCAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 It is expected, although not required, that every Councillor, who is not on the Executive, has a place on either an Overview and Scrutiny committee or on the Audit Committee.

6.2 During the period of this Council it has been the practice to allocate 1 seat on Scrutiny and Audit committees and 1 seat on Ordinary Committees to each of the unaffiliated Independents. This is practice rather than a requirement.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION OF THE ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE/GROUP LEADERS

7.1 In considering the proportionality calculations and analysis, Group Leaders have recommended that the following changes be made to the allocation of seats on committees:

- Standards and Governance Committee

Currently there are 6 Members appointed to this committee and full Council has recommended that there should be 10 Members. Under the proportionality calculation in Appendix A it is suggested that this is currently under populated by 3 Conservatives and Independents Members and 1 NY Independent Member.

- Transition (LGR) Committee

That Councillor B Packham replaces Councillor M Davis on this Committee (this is replacing a Labour appointment with a Labour appointment).

- Other Committees

- Conservatives and Independents are currently down 1 representative on Transport, Environment, Economy and Enterprise Committee and Independent Unaffiliated are 1 over (Councillor M Jordan).
- Conservatives and Independents are currently down 1 representative on General Licensing and Independent Unaffiliated are 1 over (Councillor M Jordan).
- Independent Unaffiliated are another representative over on General Licensing and Liberal Democrats are 1 short (Councillor M Schofield).
- Liberal Democrats are currently 1 representative short on Children and Families Committee and Independent Unaffiliated 1 over (Councillor M Schofield).
- Corporate and Partnerships Committee is under represented by 1 Labour Member

(Councillor T Randerson).

- Employment Appeals Committee is under populated by 1 Labour Member (Councillor T Randerson).
- The Committee positions previously occupied by Councillors Heseltine, Goodrick and Williams who are now Members of the Conservatives and Independents Group will need to be considered.

8.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 introduced a requirement that certain appointments should be proportionate to the political composition of the Council and the Group need to consider a fair distribution of seats.

9.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

12.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

13.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 introduced a requirement that certain appointments should be proportionate to the political composition of the Council. The changes to the political balance that resulted from the two by-elections and changes to political parties necessitated a review of the proportional allocation of seats.

14.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

14.1 To bring to the attention of Council the following outcome of the deliberations of the Group Leaders and make recommendations for changes to the allocation of seats on and appointments to committees, subject to proportional representation.

14.2 The potential following changes are recommended:

- 3 Conservatives and Independents appointments are made to the Standards and Governance Committee to fulfil Committee capacity
- 1 North Yorkshire Independent appointment is made to the Standards and Governance Committee to fulfil Committee capacity
- 1 Labour appointment is made to Corporate and Partnership Committee to replace Councillor T Randerson
- 1 Labour appointment is made to Employment Appeals Committee to replace Councillor T Randerson

- Independent Unaffiliated give up a seat on Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Committee to Conservative & Independents
- Independent Unaffiliated give up a seat on General Licensing Committee to Conservative & Independents
- Independent Unaffiliated give up a seat on General Licensing Committee to Liberal Democrats
- Independent Unaffiliated give up a seat on Children and Families Committee to Liberal Democrats
- The Committee positions previously occupied by Councillors Heseltine, Goodrick and Williams who are now Members of the Conservative and Independents Group, require replacements, this will need to be decided by the Group Leader
- That Councillor B Packham replaces Councillor M Davis on the Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee (this is a change of committee member within the same political group)
- Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Planning Committee: Conservatives and Independents Group gain a seat and the Unaffiliated Member loses a seat. However the Conservatives and Independent Members currently have five seats and therefore they now need to lose one seat and the NY Independents gain a seat.
- Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Planning Committee: the NY Independent and the Unaffiliated Member have an equal claim to one seat.
- Selby and Ainsty Area Constituency Planning Committee: the Green Group and the Unaffiliated Members have a claim to one seat.

APPENDICES:

- Appendix A – Political Balance Calculation and Committee Allocation
- Appendix B – Area Constituency Committee's Planning Allocation
- Appendix C – Major Outside Bodies Proportionality Calculation

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

Report Author:
 Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

10 July 2023

Appendix A

	Conservative				NY Independent				Labour				Liberal Democrats and Liberal				NY Green				Ind Unaff Agg				
	SEATS	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF
Care and Independence	16	8.53	9.00	9	0.47	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	1.96	2.00	2.00	0.04	2.31	2.00	2.00	-0.31	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11
Young People	16	8.53	9.00	9	0.47	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	1.96	2.00	2.00	0.04	2.31	2.00	2.00	-0.31	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11
Corporate and Partnerships	16	8.53	9.00	9	0.47	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	1.96	2.00	2.00	0.04	2.31	2.00	2.00	-0.31	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11
Scrutiny of Health	16	8.53	9.00	9	0.47	1.42	1.00	2.00	0.58	1.96	2.00	2.00	0.04	2.31	2.00	2.00	-0.31	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.89	1.00	0.00	-0.89
Transport, Economy & Environment	16	8.53	9.00	9	0.47	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	1.96	2.00	2.00	0.04	2.31	2.00	2.00	-0.31	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11
Audit	10	5.33	6.00	6	0.67	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	1.22	1.00	1.00	-0.22	1.44	1.00	2.00	0.56	1.00	0.00	-0.56	0.56	1.00	0.00	0.00	-0.56
Transition (LGR)	16	8.53	9.00	9	0.47	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	1.96	2.00	2.00	0.04	2.31	2.00	2.00	-0.31	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11
TOTALS SCRUTINY	106	56.53	57.00	60	3.47	9.42	9.00	8.00	-1.42	12.96	13.00	13.00	0.04	15.31	15.00	14.00	-1.31	5.89	6.00	6.00	0.11	5.89	6.00	5.00	-0.89
Chief Officer Appointments and Disciplinary Committee	10	5.33	6.00	6	0.67	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	1.22	1.00	1.00	-0.22	1.44	1.00	1.00	-0.44	0.56	1.00	1.00	0.44	0.56	1.00	0.00	-0.56
Employment Appeals Committee	5	2.67	3.00	3	0.33	0.44	0.00	0.00	-0.44	0.61	1.00	1.00	0.39	0.72	1.00	1.00	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.28
Pension Fund	10	5.33	6.00	6	0.67	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	1.22	1.00	1.00	-0.22	1.44	1.00	1.00	-0.44	0.56	1.00	1.00	0.44	0.56	1.00	0.00	-0.56
Strategic Planning Committee	15	8.00	8.00	8	0.00	1.33	1.00	1.00	-0.33	1.83	2.00	2.00	0.17	2.17	2.00	2.00	-0.17	0.83	1.00	1.00	0.17	0.83	1.00	1.00	0.17
(Transport) Appeals Committee	5	2.67	3.00	3	0.33	0.44	0.00	0.00	-0.44	0.61	1.00	1.00	0.39	0.72	1.00	0.00	-0.72	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.28	0.28	0.00	1.00	0.72
Standards and Governance	10	5.33	6.00	6	0.67	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	1.22	1.00	1.00	-0.22	1.44	1.00	1.00	-0.44	0.56	1.00	0.00	-0.56	0.56	1.00	1.00	0.44
Standards and Governance (Hearing Panel)	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
General Licensing and Registration (Taxi)	25	13.33	14.00	13	-0.33	2.22	2.00	3.00	0.78	3.06	3.00	3.00	-0.06	3.61	4.00	4.00	0.39	1.39	1.00	1.00	-0.39	1.39	1.00	1.00	-0.39
Statutory Licensing Committee (Alcohol & Premises)	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS ORDINARY	80	42.67	43.00	45	2.33	7.11	7.00	7.00	-0.11	9.78	10.00	10.00	0.22	11.56	12.00	10.00	-1.56	4.44	4.00	4.00	-0.44	4.44	4.00	4.00	-0.44
TOTAL	186	99.20	100.00	105	5.80	16.53	16.00	15.00	-1.53	22.73	23.00	23.00	0.27	26.87	27.00	24.00	-2.87	10.33	10.00	10.00	-0.33	10.33	10.00	9.00	-1.33

PARTY	SIZE	% SEATS	EG CTTEE SIZE
Conservative	48	53.33%	5.33
NY Independent	8	8.89%	0.89
Labour	11	12.22%	1.22
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	13	14.44%	1.44
NY Green	5	5.56%	0.56
Ind Unaff Agg	5	5.56%	0.56
Unaffiliated 2	0	0.00%	0.00
The Liberal Party	0	0.00%	0.00
Unaffiliated 3	0	0.00%	0.00
Unaffiliated 4	0	0.00%	0.00
Unaffiliated 5	0	0.00%	0.00
Awaiting By-election	0	0.00%	0.00
New Independent Group	0	0.00%	0.00
Total			10.00
	90		

Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Constituency Planning Committee

Old

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservative	5	2.69	3
NY Independent	0	0	0
Labour	0	0	0
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	8	4.31	4
Green	0	0	0
Independent Unaffiliated	0	0	0
Total	13	7	7

New

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservatives and Independents Group	5	2.69	3
NY Independent	0	0	0
Labour	0	0	0
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	7	3.77	4
Green	0	0	0
Independent Unaffiliated	1	0.54	0
Total	13	7	7

No Change

Conservative and Lib Dem higher % than Ind Unaff

Current members Cllrs

Marsh (C)	Lib Dem
Haslam (VC)	Con
Aldred	Lib Dem
Broadbank	Lib Dem
Gostlow	Lib Dem
Mann	Con
Windass	Con

Selby and Ainsty Planning Area Constituency Planning Committee

Old

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservative	7	3.06	3
NY Independent	2	0.88	1
Labour	5	2.19	2
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	0	0	0
Green	1	0.44	1
Independent Unaffiliated	1	0.44	0
Total	16	7	7

New

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservatives and Independents Group	6	2.63	3
NY Independent	2	0.88	1
Labour	5	2.19	2
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	0	0	0
Green	1	0.44	0
Independent Unaffiliated	2	0.88	1
Total	16	7	7

Council need to determine allocation of 1 place to either the Green Group or to the Independent Unaffiliated Members.

If Independent Unaffiliated Members are treated as a group they are entitled to 1 seat. If they are treated as two individuals then the Green Group and each of those individuals have an equal claim to that one seat.

Current Members Cllrs

Cattanach (C) NY Ind

Arthur Con

Crane Con

Lunn Con

Packham (VC) Lab

Shaw-Wright Lab

Warneken Green: either stays or goes to Independent Unaffiliated

Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Planning Committee

Old

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservative	7	3.27	3
NY Independent	1	0.47	1
Labour	7	3.27	3
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	0	0	0
Green	0	0	0
Independent Unaffiliated	0	0	0
Total	15	7	7

New

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservatives and Independents Group	7	3.27	3
NY Independent	1	0.47	0
Labour	6	2.80	3
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	0	0	0
Green	0	0	0
Independent Unaffiliated	1	0.47	0
Total	15	7	6

The NY Independent Group and the Independent Unaffiliated Member both have an equal claim to that one seat.

Current Members Cllrs

Broadbent	Lab
Jefferson	NY Ind: either stays the same or goes to the Independent Unaffiliated Member
Maw	Lab
Pearson	Con
Phillips	Con
Sharma (VC)	Lab
Trumper (C)	Con

Skipton and Ripon Planning Area Constituency Planning Committee

(with Cllr Cunliffe Lister already as Lib Dem)

Old

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservative	6	2.80	3
NY Independent	2	0.93	1
Labour	0	0	0
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	3	1.40	1
Green	2	0.93	1
Independent Unaffiliated	2	0.93	1
Total	15	7	8

New

Group	No. of Councillors in ACPC	7 Members proportionality	No. of places
Conservatives and Independents Group	8	3.73	4
NY Independent	2	0.93	1
Labour	0	0	0
Liberal Democrats and Liberal	3	1.40	1
Green	2	0.93	1
Independent Unaffiliated	0	0	0
Total	15	7	7

The political calculation shows that the Conservatives and Independents Group gain an additional seat. However the current make-up of this committee means that a Conservatives and Independents Group member needs to give up his/her seat and be replaced by an NY Independent Member.

Current Members Cllrs

Brodigan	Lib Dem
A Brown	Green
N Brown	Con to NY Ind
Heseltine	Con & Ind
Hull (C)	Con
Ireton	Con
Williams (VC)	Con & Ind

Appendix C – Major Outside Bodies Calculation

OUTSIDE BODY	PROP	Council Appt.	SEATS	Conservative				NY Independent				Labour				Liberal Democrats and Libel				NY Green				Ind Unaff Agg			
				PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF
North Yorks Moors National Park Authority	YES	YES	9	4.80	5.00	5.00	0.20	0.80	1.00	1.00	0.20	1.10	1.00	1.00	-0.10	1.30	1.00	1.00	-0.30	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	1.00	0.00	-0.50
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	YES	YES	10	5.33	6.00	6.00	0.67	1.22	1.00	1.00	-0.22	1.22	1.00	1.00	-0.22	1.44	1.00	1.00	-0.44	0.56	1.00	1.00	0.44	0.56	1.00	0.00	-0.56
North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel	YES	YES	7	3.73	4.00	4.00	0.27	1.01	1.00	1.00	-0.01	0.86	1.00	1.00	0.14	1.01	1.00	1.00	-0.01	0.39	0.00	0.00	-0.39	0.39	0.00	0.00	-0.39
North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	YES	YES																									

NY Moors Cllrs - Correct

Jabbour Con
 Fortune Con
 Jeffels Con
 Moorhouse Con
 Pearson Con
 Ritchie Lab
 Andrews Lib Dem
 Donohue-Moncrieff NY Ind
 Warneken Green

Police Fire and Crime Cllrs - Correct

Les Con
 Aldred Lib Dem
 Burr NY Ind
 Grogan Con
 Maw Lab
 Moorhouse Con
 Wilkinson Con

Yorkshire Dales Cllrs – Correct

Peacock Con
 Sedgwick Con
 Foster Con
 Heseltine Con
 Ireton Con
 Myers Con
 Murday Lib Dem
 Noland Green
 Parsons NY Ind
 Shaw-Wright Lab

NEIFCA Cllrs

Chance Con
 Randerson Ind Unaffiliated

There are only 2 seats on this Committee, proportionality would suggest both Conservatives and Independents Group. Councillor Randerson was on this committee previously.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

Appointment of further Independent Persons for North Yorkshire Council

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Council's approval the appointment of certain individuals as Independent Persons for Standards for the North Yorkshire Council.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Under the Localism Act 2011, each relevant authority must appoint at least one "Independent Person", who may be called upon to undertake the functions set out in the Act in relation to potential breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct as and when the circumstances arise.

- 2.2 Legally, the Independent Person's views:

- are to be sought, and taken into account, by the authority before it makes its decision on an allegation that it has decided to investigate in relation to complaints against councillors, and
- may be sought—
 - by the authority in relation to an allegation in circumstances other than where being investigated;
 - by a subject member or co-opted member;

The Independent Person may also be required to attend a Chief Officers' Disciplinary Panel in the event that disciplinary action is required in respect of a Chief Officer in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 as amended.

- 2.3 The Council's arrangements go beyond this statutory minimum level and it involves its Independent Persons in all the Standards and Governance Committee's work in supporting the Council on ethical issues and key stages of complaint handling and invites the Independent Persons to all Standards and Governance Committee meetings (but they are not formal co-opted members).
- 2.4 The Independent Persons are paid an allowance (currently £921 a year) and expenses in accordance with the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme, which is reviewed each year by the Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' Allowances. An increased pool of Independent Persons means an increased financial implication for the new authority in this respect.
- 2.5 The term of office of the two Independent Persons for the predecessor authority North Yorkshire County Council continued post Vesting Day as a continuing authority model of local government reorganisation. The Standards and Governance Committee agreed that the Monitoring Officer should look to recruit additional Independent Persons to assist the new unitary authority in promoting and

maintaining the high standards of conduct amongst its elected and co-opted members as well as members of the town and parish councils in the area for which the Council assumed responsibility from Vesting Day.

3.0 RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT PROCESS

3.1 The Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Standards and Governance Committee, has power to exercise all functions in respect of the publication of Independent Person for Standards' vacancies. The Standards and Governance Committee has a role in assisting in the recruitment of Independent Persons (but not approving individual appointments, which is a function of full Council).

3.2 A recruitment process has been undertaken for additional Independent Persons including the publication of the vacancies on the Council's website and supported by a press release and social media publicity. Shortlisting of applicants was undertaken by the Monitoring Officer and the Chair of the Committee and interviews with the shortlisted applicants were undertaken by a panel of Members from the Committee. The panel agreed that the appointment of preferred applicants should be recommended to full Council through the Monitoring Officer.

3.3 Following the interviews, the Standards and Governance Committee, through the Monitoring Officer, recommends the appointment of the following applicants for a four year period (with the ability of the Monitoring Officer to extend in consultation with the Chair of the Standards and Governance Committee) as additional Independent Persons for Standards for the Council:

- **Richinda Taylor** – Richinda was an independent person for standards for Scarborough Borough Council since 2013.
- **James Nelson** – James was an independent person for standards for Hambleton District Council's Standards Hearing Panel from 2019 to 2023.
- **Roy Martin** – Roy was an independent person for standards for Hambleton District Council from 2019 to 2023.
- **Gillian Baker** – Gillian was an independent person for standards for Ryedale District Council from 2007 to 2023.

3.4 It is also recommended that the two Independent Persons for Standards whose terms of office automatically continued post Vesting Day, should be extended for a four year period (with the ability of the Monitoring Officer to extend in consultation with the Chair of the Standards and Governance Committee):

- Hilary Gilbertson MBE
- Louise Holroyd.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

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

7.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The roll was appropriately advertised in the local press and on the Council's website. The Council's policies were followed in undertaking the recruitment process. Therefore there are no significant equalities implications in these appointments.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the Council formally re-appoints

- Hilary Gilbertson MBE; and
- Louise Holroyd

as Independent Persons for Standards for the North Yorkshire Council for a four year period (with the ability of the Monitoring Officer to extend in consultation with the Chair of the Standards and Governance Committee).

8.2 That the Council appoints

- Richinda Taylor
- James Nelson
- Roy Martin
- Gillian Baker

as additional Independent Persons for Standards for the North Yorkshire Council for a four year period (with the ability of the Monitoring Officer to extend in consultation with the Chair of the Standards and Governance Committee).

BARRY KHAN

Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer

Background Documents: Localism Act 2011

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

6 July 2023

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

Application for exemption to the 6 month rule on attendance

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 For Council to consider an application for an exemption from the 6 month attendance rule for Councillor Dave Whitfield.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Local Government Act 1972 requires an elected member of a local authority to attend a meeting of their Council at least once in a period of six consecutive months. Where an elected member has failed to do so, then the automatic vacation of office provisions set out in section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 apply:

“if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority”.

- 2.2 A meeting of the authority is subsequently defined in section 85 (2) as follows:

“Attendance as a member at a meeting of any committee or sub-committee of the authority, or at a meeting of any joint committee, joint board or other body by whom for the time being any of the functions of the authority are being discharged, or who were appointed to advise the authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions, and attendance as representative of the authority at a meeting of any body of persons, shall be deemed for the purposes of subsection (1) above to be attendance at a meeting of the authority”.

- 2.3 If the 6 month rule and automatic vacation of office applies, then a by-election follows.

3.0 REQUEST FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM THE 6 MONTH ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT

- 3.1 Councillor Dave Whitfield’s last recorded attendance was 24 February 2023. He has been unable to attend meetings due to ill health. Six months from his last attendance would be 23 August 2023. At present, it is unlikely that he will be able to attend a committee meeting of the Council before that time.

- 3.2 Councillor Dave Whitfield and Councillor Kevin Foster, Leader of the Green Group, have requested that an exemption from the six month rule is granted by Council. This would then mean that Councillor Dave Whitfield would not have to attend a committee meeting of the Council until 23 February 2024. It is anticipated that Councillor Dave Whitfield will be able to return to his duties as a Councillor before that date.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 If the 6 month rule and automatic vacation of office applies, then a by-election would be held which would incur a cost to the Council.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The legal implications are set out in the main body of the report.

6.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no significant equality implications in considering this request.

7.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

8.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is within the remit of Council to consider requests for exemptions from the 6 month attendance rule.

9.0 RECOMMENDATION

9.1 That Council considers the application for an exemption from the 6 month attendance rule for Councillor Dave Whitfield.

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

11 July 2023

Report Author:

Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, North Yorkshire Council
(daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk)

Background Documents:

The Local Government Act 1972, section 85 - [Local Government Act 1972 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/24/section/85)

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

REPORT OF THE STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL

Final Recommendations on the Community Governance Reviews relating to the unparished town centres in Harrogate and Scarborough

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the recommendations of the Standards and Governance Committee made at the meeting of 5 July 2023 in relation to the Community Governance Reviews for the unparished parts of Harrogate and Scarborough, along with proposed minor amendments to parish boundaries in Scarborough affecting three parish councils.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On 19 July 2022 the Executive approved the terms of reference for a Community Governance Review (CGR) for the unparished parts of Harrogate and Scarborough. A CGR provides a principal council with the opportunity to consider what the most effective parish governance arrangements might be for an area as set out in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 2.2 Attached at Appendix A to this report is a copy of the report which was considered by the Standards and Governance Committee on 5 July 2023. The report outlines the process undertaken for the CGR, which included two periods of public consultation, and set out at paragraph 14.0 final recommendations in relation to the unparished parts of Harrogate and Scarborough.
- 2.3 The report's final recommendations were for new town councils to be created for Harrogate and Scarborough with effect from 1 April 2024. The report made further recommendations for minor amendments to be made to the boundaries of three parish councils adjoining the unparished area of Scarborough.
- 2.4 Under the council's constitution the terms of reference of the Standards and Governance Committee provide for it to make recommendations to Council in respect of community governance reviews.

3.0 DELIBERATIONS OF THE STANDARDS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The report's recommendations for the creation of the new town councils also included recommendations in relation to warding patterns and the number of councillors to be elected for each town council. For both town councils it was proposed to use the existing division boundaries as statutory guidance states that a parish ward should not be divided by the boundary of a principal council division.
- Harrogate – it was proposed that there should be 10 wards, with 2 councillors for each ward (with the exception of the small ward of Saltergate for which 1 councillor was proposed) giving a total of 19 councillors.
 - Scarborough – it was proposed that there should be 5 wards, with 3 councillors for each ward, giving a total of 15 councillors

- 3.2 Councillor Sam Gibbs attended the meeting to make representation on behalf of Councillor Michael Harrison who proposed a variation to the recommendations with particular reference to Harrogate, but which could also apply to Scarborough. Councillor Harrison proposed that the recommendations be amended to remove the proposed warding arrangement in favour of a single election of councillors to a town council consisting of one ward and suggested that a total of 10 councillors should be elected for Harrogate. If members felt unable to support a single election to a single ward, Councillor Harrison suggested that 1 councillor be elected to each ward, giving a total of 10 councillors for Harrogate.
- 3.3 The Committee discussed the merits of having single member wards rather than multiple member wards based on the division warding pattern. A suggestion had been put forward during the consultation that the warding pattern used for the former Harrogate Borough Council could be used, which would result in 19 single member wards, and comply with the statutory guidance that a parish ward not be divided by a division boundary. A proposal was made at the meeting that this warding pattern be adopted for Harrogate, and that there also be 15 single member wards for Scarborough. A map of the proposed warding pattern for Harrogate is included at Annex A.
- 3.4 The current Scarborough division boundaries are the same as the former Scarborough Borough Council ward pattern, there is no pre-existing warding pattern which can be used. To create a warding pattern of 15 single member wards would require each of the 5 divisions to be divided into 3 equal size wards. Should members wish to pursue this option work would need to take place over the summer and early autumn with a draft available for initial consultation with members later in the year. As there is no pre-existing warding pattern in Scarborough which can be used work will need to take place to draw up a proposed warding pattern which meets statutory criteria in relation to ensuring an equal distribution of electors whilst using easily defined boundaries and reflecting community identity and linkages. It will be necessary to consider the five year electoral forecast for each of the proposed new wards. This piece of work is not achievable in a short period of time.
- 3.5 Members were advised that the warding patterns recommended in the report had previously been consulted upon and received the support of a majority of respondents. Should Council resolve to implement alternative warding patterns a further round of consultation would be required before any town councils could be created to ensure that any revised proposals had been fully consulted on. This would be likely to change the implementation date to 1 April 2025.
- 3.6 The proposed recommendations specified in the report were voted against (with the Chair using his casting vote) and an alternative motion was passed by the Standards and Governance Committee, namely recommending that a further consultation exercise should be undertaken to reflect the desire to change the warding patterns to create single councillor warding. It was recognised by the Standards and Governance Committee that the timeframe set out in the original report and appendices will need to be amended accordingly to allow for this further consultation.

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The legal implications of the Community Governance Review are considered in the Standards and Governance Committee report of 5 July 2023. However, the Committee has made recommendations to change the warding pattern of the proposed Town Councils and therefore the legal implications of this change need to be considered.
- 4.2 Stage 2 of the consultation which was undertaken over a 9 week period from 2 March to 5 May 2023 where each household within the area was written to with a letter and information

pack. This part of the consultation had a proposal of creating a Town Council in Scarborough with 5 wards, with 3 councillors in each ward and a Town Council in Harrogate of 10 wards with 19 councillors. The result of this consultation showed that 65.5% of those responding supported the creation of the proposed Town Council in Harrogate and 69.9% of those responding supported the creation of the Town Council in Scarborough.

- 4.3 For Harrogate, of the 1,104 respondents who agreed with the creation of a town council, 968 agreed with the proposed warding pattern, and in total 1,058 respondents agreed, even if they did not agree with the creation of a parish council. Therefore the majority of those responding agreed with the proposed warding pattern, albeit there were some comments that stated they would like to see more wards and that the previous Borough Council's warding pattern should be used for the Town Council.
- 4.4 For Scarborough, of the 511 respondents who agreed with the creation of a town council, 484 agreed with the proposed warding pattern, and in total 541 respondents agreed, even if they did not agree with the creation of a parish council. Therefore the majority of those responding agreed with the proposed warding pattern.
- 4.5 As the public were not consulted on the revised warding pattern, there is a legal risk in proceeding with a revised warding pattern without a further consultation exercise. Indeed currently there is not a draft proposed warding arrangement for Scarborough as this would require officers to do additional work to produce new warding arrangements for Council to consider. Therefore if Council is minded to revise the warding patterns, the legal recommendation is for a further consultation exercise to be undertaken and for the results of that consultation to be considered afresh by a future Council meeting. This will give the public the chance to give their views on the proposed warding pattern and for the Council to make an informed decision.
- 4.6 If Council are minded to create new Town Councils for April 2024, then it would be acceptable to consider the responses to the original proposed warding patterns and proceed on the basis that it has been consulted upon.
- 4.7 On the basis of the above, Council have at least two choices to consider namely:

OPTION 1: RESOLUTIONS TO CREATE TOWN COUNCILS FOR 1 APRIL 2024

- 4.7.1 Council could consider the original recommendations in the report to the Standards and Governance Committee on 5 July 2023 (which the Standards and Governance Committee ultimately rejected) and proceed with the proposed warding arrangements identified in Stage 2 of the consultation to create the Town Councils in April 2024. In such circumstances the Council would need to resolve the following recommendations:
- A) *HARROGATE*
- (1) *to create a new parish for the unparished area of Harrogate*
- (2) *the new parish be named Harrogate*
- (3) *the new parish have a parish council and to name that parish council Harrogate Town Council*
- (4) *the parish come into effect from 1 April 2024 for administrative purposes, and the first election for the town council be 2 May 2024 for a reduced term of three years, with ordinary elections taking place in 2027 and every four years thereafter*
- (5) *the parish be divided into wards, named*

*Bilton & Nidd Gorge
Bilton Grange & New Park
Coppice Valley & Duchy
Fairfax & Starbeck
Harlow & St Georges
High Harrogate & Kingsley
Oatlands
Saltergate
Stray, Woodlands & Hookstone
Valley Gardens & Central Harrogate*

- (6) *there should be 19 councillors elected to the parish*
- (7) *the number of parish councillors to be elected for each ward shall be*
- | | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Bilton & Nidd Gorge</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Bilton Grange & New Park</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Coppice Valley & Duchy</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Fairfax & Starbeck</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Harlow & St Georges</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>High Harrogate & Kingsley</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Oatlands</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Saltergate</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Stray, Woodlands & Hookstone</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Valley Gardens & Central Harrogate</i> | <i>2</i> |
- (8) *the change take effect on 15th October 2023 for electoral purposes (ahead of publication of the revised register planned for 1 December 2023)*
- (9) *the boundaries of the new parish and wards should be as shown on the map at Appendix 1.*
- B) SCARBOROUGH**
- (1) *to create a new parish for the unparished area of Scarborough*
- (2) *the new parish be named Scarborough*
- (3) *the new parish have a parish council and to name that parish council Scarborough Town Council*
- (4) *the parish come into effect from 1 April 2024 for administrative purposes, and the first election for the town council be 2 May 2024 for a reduced term of three years, with ordinary elections taking place in 2027 and every four years thereafter*
- (5) *the parish be divided into wards, named*
- Castle
Falsgrave & Stepney
Northstead
Weaponness & Ramshill
Woodlands*
- (6) *there should be 15 councillors elected to the parish*

(7) *the number of parish councillors to be elected for each ward shall be*

Castle	3
Falsgrave & Stepney	3
Northstead	3
Weaponness & Ramshill	3
Woodlands	3

(8) *the change take effect on 15th October 2023 for electoral purposes (ahead of publication of the revised register planned for 01 December 2023)*

(9) *the boundaries of the new parish and wards should be as shown on the map at Appendix 1.*

C) **EASTFIELD**

(1) *the north-eastern boundary line of Eastfield Town Council be extended towards the A165 to match the Eastfield Division and Ward boundaries (and consequentially excluding the 3 known anomalous properties at Osgodby)*

(2) *the changes take effect on 01 April 2024 for administrative purposes.*

(3) *the change takes effect on 15th October 2023 for electoral purposes (ahead of publication of the revised register planned for 01 December 2023)*

(4) *the changes should be as shown on the map at Appendix 1*

D) **NEWBY AND SCALBY**

(1) *to extend Newby & Scalby Town Council boundary to include all of Charles Williams Apartments, to become coterminous with the Newby Division)*

(2) *the changes take effect on 01 April 2024 for administrative purposes.*

(3) *the change takes effect on 15th October 2023 for electoral purposes (ahead of publication of the revised register planned for 01 December 2023)*

(4) *the changes should be as shown on the map at Appendix 1*

E) **OSGODBY**

(1) *to extend Osgodby Parish Council boundary to include those 3 properties currently outside of the parish, at the norther boundary line, and to become coterminous with the Cayton Division*

(2) *the changes take effect on 01 April 2024 for administrative purposes.*

(3) *the change takes effect on 15th October 2023 for electoral purposes (ahead of publication of the revised register planned for 01 December 2023)*

(4) *the changes should be as shown on the map at Appendix 1*

- *if Council recommends creation of parish councils and changes to existing parishes authority be granted to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) in consultation with the Corporate Director of Resources to implement the*

decisions including making reorganisation orders which amongst other things will set the precept for the first year of the town councils to take effect from 1 April 2024.

OPTION 2: DEFER THE DECISION TO CARRY OUT FURTHER CONSULTATION ON WARDING ARRANGEMENTS

4.7.2 In order to create a proposal for single wards within Scarborough, additional work will need to be undertaken to create a proposal that can then subsequently be consulted upon. The Standards and Governance Committee recommended for Harrogate to use the former Borough Council warding arrangements, and again this proposal will need to be consulted upon. Therefore the recommendations of the Committee were to carry out this further process and those are the recommendations put forward in this report.

4.7.3 It is a matter for Council to determine how to proceed.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

5.1 That Council are requested to

- i) consider the consultation results and equality impact assessment
- ii) defer making resolutions to conclude the Community Governance Review in order for the following additional work to be undertaken:
 - (a) for the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services to draft up proposed warding arrangements for Scarborough Town Council to be 15 single member wards
 - (b) to propose the preferred warding arrangements for Harrogate Town Council to be 19 single member wards on the former Borough warding arrangements
 - (c) for the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services to carry out the necessary consultation on the revised warding arrangements and for the results of that consultation to be considered at a future Standards and Governance Committee and Council meeting.

Chair of the Standards and Governance Committee: Councillor Clive Pearson

County Hall
Northallerton

11 July 2023

APPENDICES:

Appendix A - [Final Recommendations on the Community Governance Reviews relating to the unparished town centres in Harrogate and Scarborough](#)

[Appendix 1 – Harrogate Final Recommendations](#)

[Appendix 2 – Scarborough Final Recommendations](#)

[Appendix 3 – Eastfield Final Recommendations](#)

[Appendix 4 – Newby and Scalby Final Recommendations](#)

[Appendix 5 – Osgodby Final Recommendations](#)

[Appendix 6 – Equality impact assessment screening form](#)

[Appendix 7 – Initial climate change impact assessment form](#)

Annex A – Proposed warding arrangements for Harrogate Town Council as suggested by the Standards and Governance Committee.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Executive report of 10 January 2023 – [Draft Recommendations on the Community Governance Reviews relating to the unparished town centres in Harrogate and Scarborough](#)

REPORT AUTHORS:

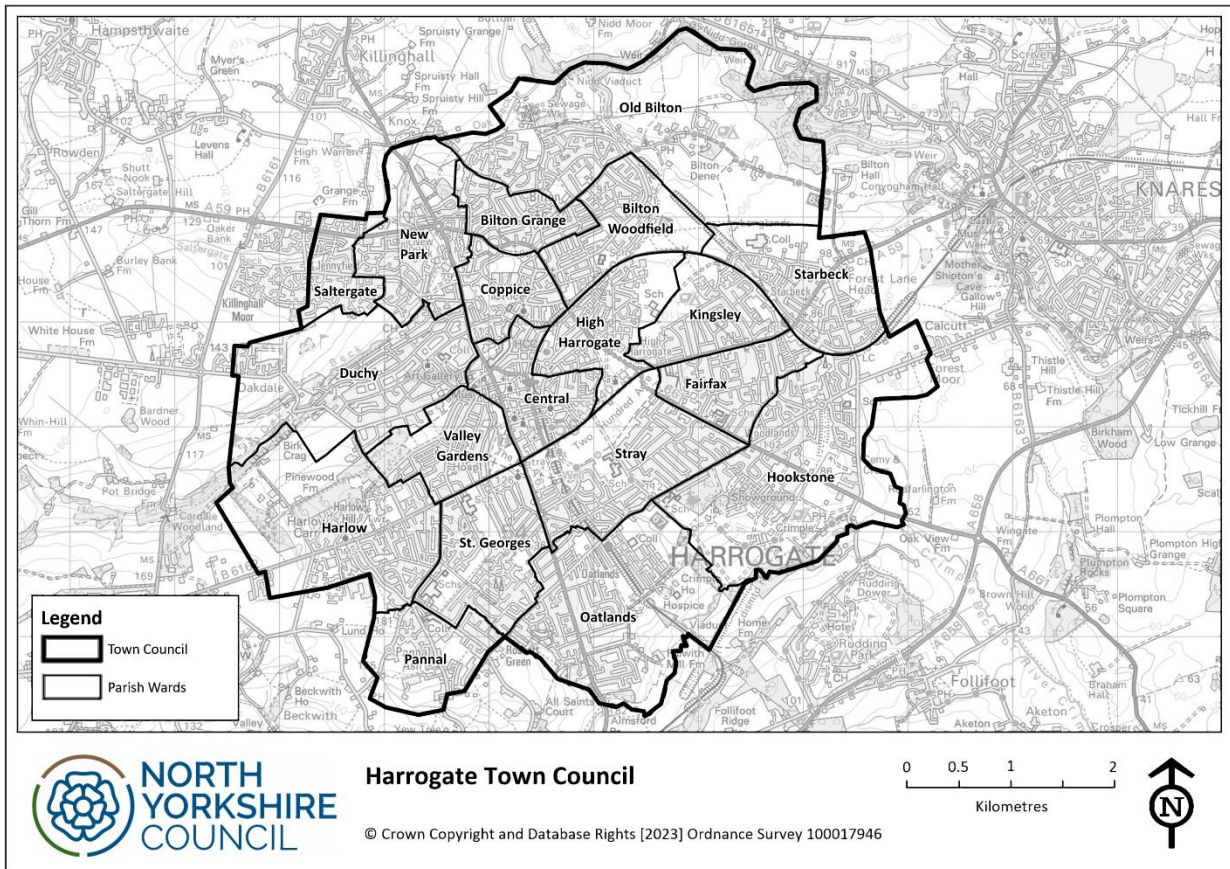
Barry Khan – Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services

Elizabeth Jackson – Democratic Services Manager

Kerry Russett – Head of Democratic Services and Corporate Modernisation

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

A) HARROGATE



Proposed warding arrangements for Harrogate Town Council as suggested by the Standards and Governance Committee.

North Yorkshire Council

Full Council

19 July 2023

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To bring to the attention of the Council the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2022/23.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23 is provided at Appendix A, on behalf of the Chair of Scrutiny Board, Councillor Karin Sedgwick and the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, Daniel Harry.

3.0 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23.

3.1 The report highlights key activity by the council's Overview and Scrutiny function over the period from May 2022 to the beginning of April 2023 in its role of holding the Executive to account and ensuring that value is added to the Council's ongoing work to improve outcomes for customers and communities.

3.2 All decision-making Committees continue to meet in person once again, with some Committees utilising a successful and pragmatic hybrid option for external presenters and additional attendees.

4.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 No alternative options were considered.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant financial considerations.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

8.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no climate change implications arising from this report.

9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 To share with Full Council the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees during 2022/23.

10.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

Council is invited to:

10.1 note the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2022/23; and

10.2 consider whether there are any issues arising from the Annual Report which need to be factored into the work programmes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in 2023/24.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

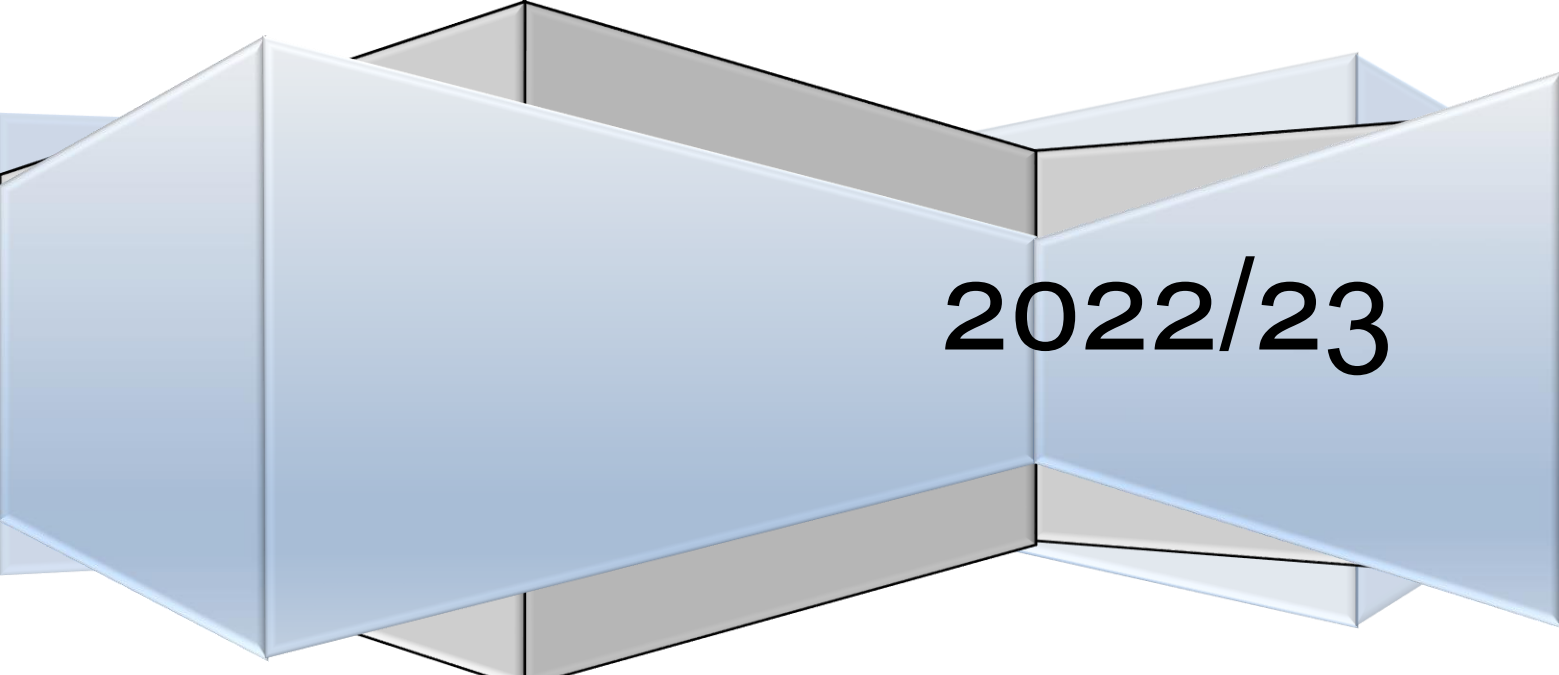
Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services
County Hall
Northallerton
30th June 2023

Report Author – Christine Phillipson, Principal Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer.
Presenter of Report – Cllr Karin Sedgwick, Chair of Scrutiny Board.

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report

**Cllr Karin Sedgwick, Chairman of the North
Yorkshire Council Scrutiny Board and Daniel Harry,
Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager.**



2022/23

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23



Foreword by Councillor Karin Sedgwick, Chair of Scrutiny Board

As Chair of the Scrutiny Board, I am pleased to introduce the 2022/23 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.

The circumstances of the last year have continued to be challenging for us all in different ways. It has been important for Members involved in Overview and Scrutiny to ensure we have been both supportive of the efforts of frontline services in their ongoing recovery from the pandemic, but also to continue to support the transition to the new normal.

On reviewing the achievements of the last year, I am confident that we achieved this, and have adapted well to returning to in person meetings successfully, whilst adapting to and developing robust hybrid options.

We have been a Unitary Council for only a few months now and whilst this has been a success it brings its own challenges. Scrutiny Committees have changed in their remits with the responsibility of new services. This will take time to develop, and I am confident that this will continue to provide opportunities for Councillors to work together to ensure Scrutiny remains a priority, allowing for transparency and accountability.

During the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023, there have been 24 meetings of the Council's Scrutiny Committees, plus another 26 meetings of the Area Constituency Committees. Once again, I must commend colleagues, officers and partners for their respective roles in continuing to make this possible and adapting to the changes we have seen with professionalism and ease.

I would like to record my appreciation to all of the Scrutiny Board Members for their contribution during this past year and wish them well in the forthcoming year.

I commend this report to the council.

Scrutiny Committees at North Yorkshire Council

Care and Independence
and Housing Overview
and Scrutiny
Committee

Corporate and
Partnerships Overview
and Scrutiny
Committee

Scrutiny of Health
Committee

Transition (LGR)
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee

Transport, Economy
Environment and
Enterprise Overview
and Scrutiny
Committee

Children and Families
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee

Introduction

This Annual Report provides a summary of the work undertaken by the scrutiny function at North Yorkshire Council during the 2022/2023 year and highlights the key achievements of each Scrutiny Committee.

Across the six thematic Scrutiny Committees a large number of work items were considered and 66 of the Council's 90 Members sat on Scrutiny Committees. Up to the end of March 2023 there were also 7 voting co-opted Members from the District's and Borough's.

All decision-making Committees continue to meet in person once again, with some Committees utilising a successful and pragmatic hybrid option for external presenters and additional attendees.

An update has been provided below, on some of the key topics considered by each of the thematic Overview and Scrutiny Committees, along with an outline of key areas of work for the year ahead.

Council Ambitions for 2023/24

- 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, and
- Innovative and forward-thinking Council.

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair - Councillor Barbara Brodigan

Purpose	Focus of the past 12 months	Focus for the next 12 months	Link to Council Ambition
To scrutinise the planning, commissioning and delivery of services for children, young people and their families, including education, care and protection and family support.	<p>Holiday Activities and Food Programme</p> <p>Being young in North Yorkshire</p> <p>Young Carers</p> <p>Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report</p> <p>North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report</p>	<p>Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey</p> <p>Early Years Sector</p> <p>Children's Mental Health</p> <p>School Closures/Governors</p> <p>North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2022/2023</p> <p>Strengthening the Offer for Post-16 Education</p> <p>Financial position - Children and Young People's Service</p> <p>Education Update</p> <p>County Lines</p> <p>Healthy Child Programme</p>	Every child and young person has the best possible start in life;

Care and Independence and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair - Councillor Karin Sedgwick

Purpose	Focus of past 12 months	Focus for next 12 months	Council Ambition
To scrutinise the planning, commissioning and delivery of services for vulnerable adults, older people and people whose independence needs to be supported by intervention from the public or voluntary sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult social care The care cap Home care Care market pressures Public health annual report ASC framework Unpaid carers Autism strategy Safeguarding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra care Direct payments Living well Digital lives Housing Supported housing Shared lives scheme Local account Dementia care Suicide prevention 	Every adult has a longer, healthier and independent life;

Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair - Councillor David Ireton

Purpose	Focus of past 12 months	Focus for next 12 months	Council Ambition
<p>Considers the Council's corporate organisation and structure, resource allocation, asset management, procurement policy, equalities, people strategy, performance management and the implementation of corporate initiatives. Also, partnership working, community development, community engagement, community strategies and community safety.</p>	<p>The Annual Plan Bi-annual updates from the Community Safety Partnership</p> <p>Improvements to the Parish Portal Work of the Stronger Communities team</p> <p>National Resilience Standards and ongoing Resilience and Emergencies work</p> <p>Implementation of Council Plan Priorities</p> <p>Progress in achieving the Council's new Equality and Diversity objectives</p> <p>Customer Portal</p> <p>NYC's Investment</p>	<p>Locality Budgets</p> <p>North Yorkshire Refugee Resettlement</p> <p>Community Libraries</p> <p>Stronger Communities</p> <p>Youth Justice</p> <p>Resilience and Emergencies</p> <p>Property Services</p> <p>Council Plan Development</p> <p>Equality and Diversity</p> <p>Customer Accessibility</p> <p>Annual Workforce Plan</p> <p>Community Safety</p> <p>Investment Strategy</p>	<p>Leading for North Yorkshire</p> <p>North Yorkshire is a place with a strong economy and a commitment to sustainable growth</p> <p>Innovative and forward thinking Council</p>

Scrutiny of Health Committee Chair - Councillor Andrew Lee

Purpose	Focus of past 12 months	Focus for next 12 months	Council Ambition
<p>The role of the Scrutiny of Health committee is to review any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in the county.</p>	<p>Pandemic and vaccination rates New Integrated Care Systems</p> <p>Care Quality Commission Autism and the Autism Strategy</p> <p>Catterick Integrated Care Campus Airedale Hospital</p> <p>Sexual Health Services in North Yorkshire</p> <p>Mental Health Enhanced Community Services</p> <p>Access to NHS Dentistry</p> <p>Director of Public Health's Annual Report</p> <p>Working with Area Constituency Committee's on local health issues</p>	<p>Update on the Integrated Care Systems, Partnerships and Boards</p> <p>Changes to primary care</p> <p>Response to workforce pressures within health and social care</p> <p>Capital investment in Scarborough Hospital</p> <p>Finance pressures with the local NHS system</p> <p>Maintaining focus on mental health services, accessibility, range of services and CQC inspections</p> <p>Access to community based wider health services</p> <p>Urgent Care Delivery in York and The East Coast.</p>	<p>Every child and young person has the best possible start in life;</p> <p>Every adult has a longer, healthier and independent life;</p>

Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair - Councillor Malcolm Taylor

Purpose	Focus of past 12 months	Focus for next 12 months	Council Ambition
To scrutinise the decisions taken through Local Government Reorganisation to ensure transparency and openness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Tax harmonisation Selby leisure services HR and workforce workstream Taxi licensing Local Government Reorganisation Priorities ahead of vesting day Plans for community networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systems updates Customer service Sport and leisure review Trail hunting Staff culture development LGR updates Housing integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair - Councillor David Staveley

Purpose	Focus of past 12 months	Focus for next 12 months	Council Ambition
To scrutinise the planning, commissioning and delivery of transport and communications infrastructure of all kinds, how the transport needs of the community are met, support to business and helping people develop their skills, sustainable development, climate change strategy, countryside management, waste management, environmental conservation and enhancement and cultural issues.	<p>Progress and performance of NY highways</p> <p>Transport scheme development Reducing single plastic use</p> <p>Bus and rail provision in the County</p> <p>Input to the carbon negative route map and climate change strategy</p> <p>Allerton waste recovery park</p> <p>Road casualty information</p> <p>20mph speed limit policy</p> <p>Gully clearance and maintenance work</p> <p>Financial performance and allocation of the Civil Parking Enforcement surplus</p> <p>Directorate update pre and post vesting day</p> <p>Reviewing the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Delivery Plan</p>	<p>Development of the NYC economic growth strategy</p> <p>NY highways performance</p> <p>Allerton waste recovery park</p> <p>Input to the Transport for the North Strategic Transport Plan</p> <p>Update on the directorate</p> <p>Future of rural bus services</p> <p>Annual report from climate change member champion</p>	<p>Leading for North Yorkshire</p> <p>North Yorkshire is a place with a strong economy and a commitment to sustainable growth</p> <p>Innovative and forward thinking Council</p>

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Committee has considered a range of topics and presentations to develop its understanding of issues, raise its awareness and provide challenge as part of its overview and scrutiny function.

Set out below are the areas considered by the Committee over the last 12 months and examples of the questions raised/lines of enquiry followed.

Holiday Activities and Food Programme

- How does the programme link with children in care?
- What outreach tactics are used to engage with young people and hard to reach groups?
- The monitoring of providers

Being young in North Yorkshire

- Had consideration has been given to a programme to test some of the underlying issues that may arise from elective home education?
- Could we engage young people more if they were offered more courses for vocational education?

Young Carers

- How confident are we that young carers are being identified and not going under the radar?
- The potential hidden problem caused by some young people not wanting to identify as carers
- The offer for young children who do not want to be part of a group setting

Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report

- Are there any patterns among the 17% of deaths that had modifiable factors?
- Is there now an agreed advice on safe sleeping as advice?

North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

- Are we satisfied with the arrangements in place in North Yorkshire to deal with drugs issues?
- When, in the eyes of the directorate, do young people stop being young people and how do we avoid a cliff edge effect when this occurs

Children and Young People's Service - Financial Position

- The process when a Notice of Financial Concern is issued by the Local Authority.
- Would Schools be allowed to fail, as constraints are often not of their own making

Adoptions in North Yorkshire

- How are the rights of the children and parents reconciled with those of the adoptive parents?
- Progress on the additional screening process for step-parent adoption
- The effect is on a child when a plan for adoption is reversed

Exclusions and Suspensions

- Whether the impact of COVID has accelerated the situation
- How long a child stays out of mainstream education
- The support received by parents

Education Update

- Why small schools are of such concern
- Does there need to be more of a thrust on interventions?
- Is the Local Authority going to need to be more robust and say it cannot underpin deficits?.

Looking ahead to the next year, key areas of focus for the Committee will include:

Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey - Analysis of the results of the survey and the Directorate's response to any particular issues.

Early Years Sector - The number of providers and how this compares with the last update in 2021 and the financial support available to providers.

Children's Mental Health - Update on demand pressures and unmet need, the impact of social isolation and disruption to education on children and young people's mental health and the level of that impact.

School Closures/Governors - Why a school is closed i.e., the process and how academies work within this, whether school closures and a lack of governors is related and how governors are recruited, trained and retained.

North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2022/2023.

Strengthening the Offer for Post-16 Education - The current offer and proposals for building on this.

Financial position - Information on local authority-maintained schools and school funding arrangements for 2024/2025.

Education Update - The current picture, for all north Yorkshire Council schools and academies, including:

- Performance and standards/attainment results
- Funding
- Strategic planning
- Attendance, admissions

County Lines

- The situation nationally
- The position in North Yorkshire
- The approach in North Yorkshire

Healthy Child Programme - Are the desired outcomes being achieved.

Care and Independence and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Over the last 12 months the committee has been:

- Reviewing the impact of the lifetime cap on the amount anyone in England will need to spend on their personal care.
- Reviewing the local, regional and financial pressures on the adult social care budget
- Scrutinising the annual North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board report
- Assessing the support provided to adult carers of adults in North Yorkshire
- Ensuring that direct payments enable more choice and control over the support people receive and how their social care needs are met
- Reviewing the published local account
- Monitoring preparation for the Adult Social Care Assurance Framework
- Reviewing the strategic plan for the transformation of carers offer across North Yorkshire.

Looking ahead, the committee's work programme will include:

- Managing the care market, looking at the current position (12 months since previous report) relating to approved provider list, Covid impact and measures
- An overview of day services and how the pandemic has changed the demand for these services
- Digital lives – looking at technology enabled care, financial assessment and supporting people and their independence in their own homes
- Continue assessing the support provided to adult carers of adults in North Yorkshire
- Revisiting how North Yorkshire Council is ensuring that direct payments enable more choice and control over the support people receive and how their social care needs are met
- An overview of housing and how this fits into the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Discharge arrangements
- Transforming care and current supported housing service overview
- Update on activity, prevalence and action in relation to suicide prevention.

Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Over the last 12 months the committees focus has included:

- Reviewing the annual report on the progress and performance of North Yorkshire Highways
- Updates on the development of major transport schemes in the county
- Feeding back views and comments on the North Yorkshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Receiving a report on progress made with reducing single use plastics across the county.
- Considering a report on rail developments and forthcoming changes in North Yorkshire

- Updates on bus transport provision in North Yorkshire
- The ability to provide views and comments on the York and North Yorkshire route map to carbon negative and the development of the consultation draft of the Climate Change Strategy for North Yorkshire Council.
- Hearing updates on the progress of low and zero carbon emission vehicles.
- Receiving a report on the Allerton waste recovery park for 2021-22.
- Reviewing the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Delivery Plan
- Understanding the road casualties for North Yorkshire in 2020 and 2021.
- Receiving an update on the application of the revised 20mph speed limit and zone policy since its adoption in 2022.
- Receiving a verbal update from the Corporate Director (Environment) on the activities of the directorate pre and post vesting day.
- Updates on the gully clearance and maintenance works undertaken over the last 12 months and the new risk-based approach adopted.
- The financial performance and allocation of the civil parking enforcement surplus and future review of parking to be undertaken in the County.

Over the next year, the key areas of focus for the Committee will include:

- Receiving an update on the development of the North Yorkshire Council Economic Growth Strategy
- North Yorkshire Highways performance and progress annual report
- National Highways report on maintenance and improvement activity
- Feed in views to the Transport for the North Strategic Transport Plan consultation
- Verbal update on the Environment Directorate from the Corporate Director
- Annual update from Allerton waste recovery park
- Considering an update on progress with NYNet and the rollout of rural broadband
- Understanding the future for rural bus services
- Reports from the Local Enterprise Partnership on delivery plan progress and capital programme position
- An opportunity for the committee to comment and feed into the Local Transport Plan
- Receipt of the annual report from the Member Champion for Climate Change, Councillor Paul Haslam
- An update to TEEE O&S committee members on tree planting activity within North Yorkshire and the progress of developing active travel schemes in the county.

In terms of more focussed specific work the Committee held a scoping meeting with officers into the issue of highways reinstatements by utility companies following complaints and feedback from residents.

North Yorkshire Council Officers attended the meeting to give an overview of the process undertaken, how the inspections work and the powers available to insist utility companies return to site to rectify poor quality work.

In May 2023 (after AGM), the TEEE O&S Committee invited members of the LGR Transition O&S Committee to attend a meeting at which the harmonisation of waste and recycling collection was presented and discussed due to the topic crossing the remits of both committees. Although led by TEEE, LGR Transition Members were given the ability to ask questions and raise comments to officers to feed in views ahead of wider consultation.

Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Over the last year, the committee has:

- Received an update from the LGR Member Working Group on Council Tax Harmonisation
- Had a presentation detailing the work of the Customer LGR workstream
- Received a presentation on the interim proposals for the Selby leisure service from August 2024 and the countywide Strategic Leisure Review
- Provided feedback on the proposals for introducing Community Networks
- Received an update on the work of the HR and Workforce workstream
- Had oversight of the draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy
- Discussed the progress of Local Government Reorganisation and future priorities ahead of vesting day
- Considered a presentation on plans to transition Economic Development as part of North Yorkshire Council
- Received an update from the IT and Digital workstream
- Heard from the LGR Programme Director on Day 1 Delivery and Continuity of Service.

Over the next year, the key areas of focus for the Committee will include:

- A verbal LGR update from Director of Transformation, Robert Ling
- A progress report from Corporate Director of Community Development, Nic Harne
- An overview of customer services at North Yorkshire Council
- An update on HR and developing staff culture within North Yorkshire Council
- Systems Updates
- Reviewing the work of the member working group on the Sport and Leisure Review and giving recommendations
- Trail Hunting.

It was agreed at the May Annual General Meeting that the Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny Committee would continue for a further 2/3 years following the transition to a Unitary authority in order that it can play a lead role overseeing Council functions previously carried out at District and Borough levels.

An informal meeting held in April 2023 allowed Members to speak freely in order to formulate a committee work programme for 2023/24 along with receiving a verbal update from Director of Transformation.

Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Over the last year, the committee has:

- Reviewed the annual plan
- Received bi-annual updates from the Community Safety Partnership
- Reviewed an update on improvements to the parish portal
- Received a Bi-annual update on work of the Stronger Communities team

- Had an overview of the National Resilience Standards and NYC's current performance, together with an overview of ongoing resilience and emergencies work
- Received a progress update on the implementation of council plan priorities
- Reviewed the progress in achieving the Council's new equality and diversity objectives
- Received updates on the operation of the customer portal
- Had an update on NYC's investment strategy & its investments.

Looking ahead, the Committee's work programme will include performance updates from:

- Locality budgets
- Workforce update
- North Yorkshire refugee resettlement update
- Community libraries
- Stronger communities
- Youth justice
- Resilience and emergencies
- Property services
- Council Plan development
- Equality and diversity
- Customer access
- Annual workforce plan
- Community safety
- Investment strategy.

The Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny committee is the Crime and Disorder Committee for the Council. It is envisaged that over the next 12 months there will be more scrutiny of both the office of the Crime Commissioner and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Local scrutiny of crime and disorder is undertaken by the 6 local Area Constituency Committees and this compliments the strategic work of the Corporate and Partnerships Committee.

Scrutiny of Health Committee

Over the last year, the committee has focused on the following:

- Prevalence data on the pandemic and vaccination rates
- NHS Update on North Yorkshire Place since Integrated Care Systems were established on 1 July 2022
- Care Quality Commission Inspection and Action Plans from TEWV, Scarborough and York, and South Tees
- Update on the deep dive into Autism and the Autism Strategy Report
- Update on Catterick Integrated Care Campus
- Update on Airedale Hospital
- Update on the Changes to Sexual Health Services in North Yorkshire
- Follow up on CQC inspections and improvement plans, particularly for mental health services
- Mental Health Enhanced Community Services

- Access to NHS Dentistry and potential changes to the commissioning of NHS dental services
- Director of Public Health's Annual Report
- Continuing to work with Area Constituency Committee's on local health issues.

The committee's programme of work for the forthcoming year will include:

- 12-month update and review following the creation of the Integrated Care Systems, Partnerships and Boards
- Changes to primary care and the possible emergence of a more integrated model of delivery, with a range of services accessed in the community
- Response to workforce pressures within health and social care
- Capital investment in Scarborough Hospital and the development of the emergency department and critical care facilities
- Hyper acute stroke services for the North Yorkshire population
- Finance pressures with the local NHS system
- Maintain focus on mental health services, access, range of services and CQC inspections
- Access to community based wider health services: dentistry; chiropody/podiatry; continence support; audiology
- Urgent care delivery in York and The East Coast.

In terms of more focussed specific work the Committee has been working in support of replacing Airedale hospital.

The Committee wrote to Rt. Hon Steve Barclay, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and copied Rt Hon Julian Smith MP and Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP (as MP's whose constituents use the services provided by Airedale Hospital), as well as Lord Markham (for the New Hospital Programme). A press release was also issued from the Committee Chair. Recent news has confirmed that Airedale has been accepted onto the Government's New Hospital's Programme and will have a brand-new hospital fit for the purpose and needs of the local community and beyond. This is an enormous success story.

The Committee has also recently made a submission to Steve Brine, Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee in relation to their call for evidence in support of an enquiry into the struggle to access NHS dentistry services. This followed the results of a survey that showed 90% of practices across the UK were not accepting new adult NHS patients.

We await publication of the response to this.

Overview and scrutiny functions are also supported through the following bodies:

- Scrutiny Board – this is made up of the Chairs of the six thematic Overview and Scrutiny committees, along with the Champions for Young People, Older People and Climate Change, and enables co-ordination across all five thematic Overview and Scrutiny committees.
- Police, Fire and Crime Panel - which scrutinises the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. There is also a Complaints Sub-Committee which meets on an

- ad-hoc basis. The Council is the host authority for the Panel and the Panel is supported by the Council's Scrutiny team, along with Officers providing guidance from Legal, Communications and Finance.
- Corporate Parenting Members Group – this is not a formal Committee but acts as an informal advisory group to the Executive Portfolio Holder for Children's and Young Peoples Services, the Executive and Council. The group performs a role consistent with statutory guidance for local authorities to promote the health and well-being of looked-after children.

North Yorkshire Scrutiny Officers' Network

This group is an informal information-sharing group for overview and scrutiny officer leads across North Yorkshire, York and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Over the last year, the network has considered issues such as:

- Planning for the transition of ongoing scrutiny previously undertaken by Districts and Boroughs to ensure continuity of local scrutiny and co-ordination of work plans.
- Development of the scrutiny function in NYC and consultation
- Clarification on routes for engagement with the Local Enterprise Partnership and their annual scrutiny review process
- Local Government Review and the role of scrutiny in a new Unitary Authority
- Issues relating to the Scrutiny of Health committee work programme.

The network has now been disbanded as the Officers are now part of the new Unitary Council and will work alongside the existing Scrutiny Officers. This will continue to provide a key forum for the sharing of information and ideas. This amalgamation of Officers will be invaluable in the transition to the new Unitary Council with relationships already established within the scrutiny function across the County.

Call-In

There have been no Call-Ins in 2022/23.

Powers of call in apply to

- all collective executive decisions (by the Executive and its committees and Area Constituency Committees);
- executive decisions (key or otherwise) by individual Executive Members; and
- key decisions by Officers.

This means that after the decision has been taken there will be a 5 clear working day 'standstill' period from publication of the minutes/decision record (not the date of decision), before the decision can be implemented. This is the call-in period. It allows any six Councillors to call the decision in for review by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

In-depth reviews

There have been no in-depth, stand-alone overview and scrutiny reviews over the past 12 months. There has been, however, ongoing scrutiny of a number of areas of work, including:

- Follow up to the changes to hyper acute stroke services at Scarborough Hospital
- Performance of mental health services in the County
- Support for the rebuilding of Airedale Hospital

- Pressures in Adult Social Care
- Focus and support of the Autism Strategy
- Access to dental and GP services across the County
- The continuing impact of the pandemic upon services both during the pandemic itself and then in the recovery and rebuilding phases.

It is envisaged that there will be more in-depth reviews and task and finish groups set up as part of scrutiny to review and understand new functions the Authority now has that were previously undertaken at District and Borough level.

Other Approaches

Work with the Area Constituency Committees

The Council's six Area Constituency Committees (ACC's) have continued to work closely with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and particularly with the Scrutiny of Health Committee. Examples include:

- Richmond (Yorks) ACC – the development of the Catterick Health Campus
- Skipton and Ripon ACC – the support for the rebuilding of Airedale Hospital
- Scarborough and Whitby ACC – the development of services at Scarborough and Whitby Hospitals.

Looking forward ACC's will take more of a lead role in local scrutiny and continue to compliment the work completed by the 6 thematic Committees.

Scrutiny work is co-ordinated between Overview and Scrutiny Chairs through the Scrutiny Board and ACC chairs through regular meetings to avoid duplication of work and allow a panoramic view of Scrutiny over the whole remit of North Yorkshire Council.

Directorates

Work is being done across all Directorates to ensure that Scrutiny is actively considered and that pre decision Scrutiny is undertaken. Management Board receive a six weekly forward plan of items due at all Scrutiny Committees and Scrutiny Officers regularly meet with colleagues in Directorates to discuss the content and workplans of the Scrutiny Committees

Development

The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny offer a arrange of support services, training and events. This is something we hope to utilise to Members benefit in the coming year.

Joint Scrutiny

The West Yorkshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has continued to meet to review the development of the Integrated Care System for West Yorkshire, which includes the Craven population and which has implications for the Harrogate population. It is anticipated that similar arrangements will be put in place for the Humber Coast and Vale Integrated Care System over the next year.

The Committee has also been involved in the following pieces of work over the past twelve months:

- West Yorkshire Association of Acute Trusts
- West Yorkshire Community Diagnostic Centre Plans

- Refreshing the Partnership's Five-Year Strategy and developing an improvement approach to delivery
- West Yorkshire Partnership's Five-Year Strategy - Working Draft and Joint Forward Plan Approach
- Update from Yorkshire Ambulance Service
- NHS England - Yorkshire and the Humber – Dentistry.

Member Working Groups

There have been a number of Member Working Groups, initially throughout the Summer and Autumn of 2022, engaging with Members across all parties in shaping future policy and strategy. These meetings are private and not published and whilst they are invaluable in assessing views, they are not formal scrutiny. Post vesting day and continuing into the new authority the areas that have been in focus from these working groups will continue through the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee at Council to allow public awareness and transparency.

How to find out more about Overview and Scrutiny:

Further information on Overview and Scrutiny is available on the North Yorkshire Council website - [North Yorkshire Council - Overview and Scrutiny](#)

Or contact the Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, Daniel Harry
Email: daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk or T: 01609 533531.

Committee papers are available from the North Yorkshire Council website as follows - <http://edemocracy.northyorks.gov.uk/>

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

STATEMENT OF COUNCILLOR MICHAEL HARRISON

Healthy Ageing

In June we hosted a visit from the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Chris Whitty and his Public Health Registrar Dr Ben Holden. The focus of the visit was on healthy ageing, and how we support older adults, and had a particular focus on the challenges faced by rural locations as we have a higher proportion of older adults compared to the England average.

The day involved a round table with key partners in an Extra Care scheme in Harrogate, visits to community facilities in Darley, Dementia Forward's community hub in Burton Leonard and a showcase of our joint working with the NHS at Harrogate Hospital where the CMO learned more about our health and social care integration work, Living Well and the work of the Quality Improvement Team.

Craven care market proposals

In June the Executive approved a report that considered care market proposals for the Craven area. The proposals are designed to meet the emerging needs of the Craven locality, and enable delivery of the Council strategic intentions to develop new accommodation-based services in Craven. These include continuing to grow the provision of home-based care to support people with care needs to remain in their own homes for as long as possible, replacing Neville House with new Extra Care Housing in Gargrave subject to a successful procurement exercise.

The proposals also support procuring a new Extra Care development on the Eshton Road site in Gargrave as part of a wider successful programme of Extra Care across North Yorkshire and developing supported housing on the Neville House site once it becomes available. I recognise that these plans involve the closure of a much loved facility (Neville House), but I can assure members that I am committed to working with the staff and residents at Neville House to ensure a smooth transition to new homes and new roles.

National Institute for Health and Care Research bid

I am delighted to let you know we have been invited to submit a Stage 2 application to develop a North Yorkshire Health Determinants Research Collaboration in partnership with Hull and York Universities. If successful, this will mean £5million of investment to the Council over 5 years. The Collaborative would be set up to support research developments across the whole council and teams will be able to access staff across all three organisations as a resource to support achievement of key priorities and outcomes. The National Institute for Health & Care Research (NIHR) are investing in Local Authorities, to enable them to become more research active and to generate an evidence base to inform their decision making.

This new funding stream was launched by the NIHR in 2021 for the development of Health Determinants Research Collaborations (HDRCs) which are intended to address the wider determinants of health across all council services to lead to better health outcomes for all. The HDRC funding stream enables Councils to work in partnership with universities and wider partners, to develop a culture of engaging in, and using, research within a Council. It enables

infrastructural change, to create a HDRC team within a Council, who will lead Council-wide research developments.

Autism accreditation for Supportive Employment

Our supportive employment team includes both established and new members of staff and worked throughout the pandemic contacting autistic people to offer support, reassurance and guidance. The National Autistic Society has awarded the team Autism Accreditation Status at an advanced level.

The whole team were engaged and involved with the whole accreditation process which involved a review including autistic people and family members. The team will regroup to start working on the new standards which include recommendations made within the 2023 report focusing on ensuring autistic and young people preparing for adulthood are identified and can access the service and support they need in a timely manner.

Preparation for inspection

A new duty in the Health and Care Act 2022 instructed the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to independently review and assess how Local Authorities are delivering their Care Act functions and it is anticipated that we will receive an inspection and subsequent rating as part of this process.

We expect the focus of our inspection to be on 4 key domains - working with people; providing support; ensuring safety and leadership. It will also focus on co-production and how we involve people with lived experience in all aspects of care and support.

Planning and preparation is underway in advance of our inspection, and the Health & Adult Services Leadership Team recently completed a self-assessment and undertook a mock inspection to assist in preparing for inspection.

Nursing Times magazine awards

I am delighted to announce that three North Yorkshire services have been shortlisted for prestigious *Nursing Times* magazine awards:

<https://awards.nursingtimes.net/ntaw23/en/page/2023-shortlist>

We have two nominations for the joint North Yorkshire Council/Humber and North Yorkshire NHS Integrated Care Board Quality Team: for hydration in care homes and the Care Olympics. And the third nomination is for the joint REACH service in Scarborough, which is a partnership between the Council, Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, the Police, Primary Care and other services and which works with homeless people with multiple issues in their lives.

Congratulations to Sarah Fiori

Sarah Fiori leads our Quality Team and is our Principal Nurse as part of an integration pilot around care setting quality. Sarah was awarded the Chief Adult Social Care Nurse for the UK (Deborah Sturdy) Gold Award in recognition of her commitment to the continuous improvement within care settings. Well done Sarah!

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CULTURE, ARTS & HOUSING
including Culture, Arts, Libraries, Museums, Archives, Key venues, Leisure, and Housing

Leisure Services

Northallerton Leisure Centre Poolside Improvements

The swimming pool at Northallerton Leisure Centre is currently closed whilst essential work to replace the swimming pool air handling unit is carried out. The newly installed system will further enhance the centres carbon efficiency and help reduce energy costs, whilst closed, the centre has also planned further improvements to the pool area. This £350K programme of work will be completed in time for the busy school holidays.

Virtual Cycling

Stokesley Leisure Centre joins Bedale, Northallerton and Thirsk & Sowerby Leisure Centres with the installation and introduction of TechnoGyms virtual cycling offer. New audio-visual equipment has been installed alongside the virtual system to enhance the experience including a new sound and lighting system.

Scarborough Spa

July is shaping up to be a busy month with over 1,000 tickets now sold for ocean colour scene and two door cinema club. We also have summer show rehearsals starting on the July 6 and our Orchestra season starts again on July 23. In addition, we now have 14 weddings booked for 2024 and 7 for 2025 with the newly revamped Sun Court clearly attracting more weddings to the venue. There are also 3 new conference bookings for 2024 and 2025.

Peasholm Park

The attractions at Peasholm Park reopened for Easter this year and are now open daily until 3 September. Visitor's experience dragon boats, rowing boats and try out the putting green or 18 hole pitch and putt course. Additionally, we have a total of 29 Naval Warfare shows this year commencing Saturday 24 June 2023 at 3pm followed by Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays throughout July and August. The last show is on Saturday 2 September.

The Bandstand is host to local brass and silver bands every Sunday up until September 10, and provide free entertainment for visitors.

Open Air Theatre

The 2023 season is well under way with performances from Mamma Mia, Blondie, Rag n Bone Man, Sting and Paul Heaton with many more to come this season. The season is shaping up to be another huge success and the feedback received from all shows has been exceptional.

Scarborough Sparkle planning for 2023 is nearly complete and the hugely popular Christmas Festival will return on 24 – 26 November.

Armed Forces Day

The flag raising ceremony took place on Monday, June 19 at the Town Hall gardens, hosted by the Vice Chairman of NYC, Cllr Swiers. A number of standards, veterans, cadets and serving personnel were present.

Armed Forces Day took place on Saturday, June 24 on Scarborough's South Bay. The crowds, estimated to be in excess of 25,000 were treated to air displays by Strikemasters, Starlings, Titans and an autogyro.

The formal area was the focal point on the day for the presentation of military veteran awards at the opening ceremony, with VIPs including Major General Charlton-Weedy CBE DL, and the High Sheriff of North Yorkshire among those attending.

Out of the Box

Earlier this month colleagues attended the Association of Independent Museums national conference with one of our Ryedale freelancers to talk about the pilot project Out of the Box, a digital learning initiative delivered in partnership with independent museums in Ryedale. Colleagues shared learning and discussed wider opportunities for the expansion of the project and roll out of the model across a wider partnership of museums.

Craven Museum / STH Kids in Museums shortlist 2023

Craven Museum / Skipton Town Hall are excited to have been shortlisted for the Kids in Museums annual Family Friendly Museum Awards in the category for Best Accessible Museum – over 600 nominations were made for 110 museums and 18 made the shortlist across five categories. The shortlist will be judged by undercover family judges throughout the summer and winners will be announced in October.

Public art in Northallerton

As part of a project exploring local history in Northallerton, renowned sculptor Ray Lonsdale has been creating a piece called The Ballad of Sophia, which commemorates the life of Sophia Constable, the youngest inmate at Northallerton Prison. The sculpture is due to be installed shortly.

Archive at Dusk

On Thursday, May 25, we had an evening of archive adventure at the Record Office, for visitors to see behind the scenes and glimpse some of the wonderful and unique archival history within our collections. Around 250 visitors throughout the hugely successful evening. The teams involved are keen to continue offering these sorts of public access to history events in partnership with other local independent museums.

House History Travelling Exhibition

Raise the Roof! an exhibition showcasing many of the record sources available to people wanting to research the history of their homes, was recently held at the Record Office. The exhibition was very well received and is now touring North Yorkshire Libraries giving more people the opportunity to access inspiration and practical advice on how to begin this fascinating hobby.

NYOS Showcase

An exciting showcase of North Yorkshire Open Studios members will be going on display at the Exhibition Gallery in Skipton Town Hall this summer. Featuring selected artwork of thirty artists from across North Yorkshire. The exhibition highlights diverse artwork from the coast to the moors, Dales, and beyond and will run until the end of summer July 5 to September 16, 2023.

Skipton Pride

Skipton Library & Skipton Town Hall have been working together on Skipton Pride, along with North Yorkshire Youth Service, SELFA and Skipton Town Council. The programme of events took place from July 6-9.

Local & Community History Month

Libraries across North Yorkshire worked closely with Museums and Archives during May to hold a series of events around the theme of Folklore. Over 30 events were held with over 750 people attending talks, local history roadshows, craft sessions and exhibitions celebrating the rich and varied folklore of North Yorkshire.

Libraries of Sanctuary Accreditation

North Yorkshire Libraries have just been awarded Library of Sanctuary status. This is national recognition for our work to provide a safe and supportive space to people from all communities. The assessment panel were very interested in the support from our mobile library service which has been visiting asylum seekers in the hotels. We will be putting together a press release and arranging a 'celebration' event to receive our certificate.

Scarborough Library

Scarborough Library re-opened on May 22, following a £450K refurbishment partly funded through the Libraries Improvement Fund (DCMS funding administered by the Arts Council) to transform the downstairs space. There is a new children's library, IT areas with a mix of computers and touchdown spaces to use your own device, meeting booths, exhibition area, a community meeting space and a café area.

National Acquisitions Group Award

North Yorkshire Libraries were awarded the National Acquisitions Group (NAG) Award for Excellence 2022 for their innovative "Tough Topics" packs. The award was presented at the NAG Annual Seminar in London last month where the library team presented on their project to the wider NAG membership.

Housing

Whilst we are still gathering data from across the County on affordable housing completions for quarter 1 of 2023/24, initial indications are positive with more than 100 homes already delivered across the former Harrogate area alone.

As a housing authority, we are involved in all affordable housing delivery across our area, whether the homes are delivered directly by the council or through partnership working with others, such as housing associations or through our Rural Enabler Network.

In terms of direct delivery, North Yorkshire Council has an ongoing programme of newbuild on small, under- utilised sites. Last month saw the official handover of three social rented family homes; built by council's in house development team on a redundant garage site at Holmefield Road, Ripon. The council has also bought a number of former council houses for sale on the open market in recent months, concluding its programme of 20 acquisitions from 2022/23.

In the former Ryedale district, the remaining flat in a block of four owned by the Council, has sold on a leasehold basis as discount sale in the market town of Helmsley. This completes an allocation of affordable housing on a new build scheme under a S106 where the flats

were sold at a discount of 50% of the open market value, to people with a local connection to Helmsley.

Work has commenced on site on a major affordable housing scheme in Osgodby, just outside Scarborough, where 126 affordable homes are being built for Karbon Homes. The development will provide a mix of rented, rent to buy and shared ownership homes and the first completions will be in 2024.

Additional Ukrainian support- Homelessness Prevention Grant Uplift for 2023/24

The government is providing an additional £830,715 for North Yorkshire through the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG). This will ensure that Ukrainian guests can be supported to move into their own homes and reduce the risk of homelessness.

The funding will be allocated to all local authorities as a top-up to the existing Homelessness Prevention Grant. This grant is ring-fenced for homelessness prevention. The allocation to North Yorkshire reflects both Homes for Ukraine arrival numbers reported for each local

We welcome the additional funding which recognises the commitment of sponsors and the work we have already been doing during difficult economic times and will provide additional support and reassurance to Ukrainian families as they rebuild their lives and seek to overcome the trauma of war.

COUNCILLOR SIMON MYERS

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF COUNCILLOR JANET SANDERSON

Children and Families performance

Children & Families performance continues to deliver good performance despite continued high demand for services. During 2022/23 we received over 27,500 contacts, an increase of over 5,000 (22%) compared to the previous year. This continues to feed through and place demand on Children's Social Care (CSC). The number of referrals increasing in Q4 to 1,400. This is the highest number of referrals in a single quarter in seven years. Despite the sustained pressure on the service, we continue to see good performance. 97% of Children and Families assessments were completed on time which is significantly better than the national rate (84.5%).

The number of households receiving support from the Early Help Service has increased by 82 in May 2023 to 1,536 at the month end. This is the first time that that the number of ongoing households has exceeded 1,500.

Homes for Ukraine continued to be supported by Early Help, completing welfare, welcome and '5 month' visits to the sponsors and guests. As of 25th May, we now have 501 identified sponsors offering accommodation to families.

Children in our care

The overall number of looked after children rose by 3 this quarter to 454, of which 42 were UASC. Short term stability decreased slightly but performance remains good at 8.9%. Long term placement stability remained stable at 67% at the end of the quarter.

Both our No Wrong Door hubs have had significant refurbishment in the last few months and the homes have a brighter and more homely feel to them. Despite issues around capacity, staff continue to respond well to the increased pressures for children's placements.

At the beginning of May, NY voice and creative engagement team restructured the Care Champions youth group and there are now separate Junior and Senior groups. An exciting programme of activities for is planned for the summer holidays.

Fostering North Yorkshire held their 2023 Conference at the Lakeside Conference Centre. The theme was foster carer wellbeing. The conference provided a welcomed opportunity to talk to foster carers about the recent enhanced offer and to interact directly with those who look after the children in our care. We recognise the importance of this event and now plan to hold this conference annually.

Youth Justice

The 12 months ending December 2022 saw a decrease in the rate of First Time Entrant's in North Yorkshire compared with the same period 12 months earlier, to 131 (relates to 72 young people). The rate of custodial sentences in North Yorkshire remained very low at 0.04 during the 12 months ending March 2023. The latest 12-month cohort (Jul 20 – Jun 21) showed a decrease in the binary re-offending rate in North Yorkshire to 33.5% compared with the same period 12 months previously.

Inclusion

Performance of Statutory Assessment and Education, Health Care Plans

The inclusion service continues to receive high numbers of requests for assessment for an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan. The rise in new EHC plans being issued results from an increasing demand for assessments seen during the year. The trends observed in North Yorkshire are similar to those reported nationally. The number of EHC plans being issued within a 20-week period has improved on previous years and is continuing to improve over the year despite the increase in volume of requests.

The percentage of children and young people with an Education Health and Care plan (EHCP) in North Yorkshire is 2.8%, compared with 2.9% nationally. Recent data shows that the percentage of children with EHCPs who are educated in Special Schools (both Local Authority and Maintained Special schools) in North Yorkshire is 28%, compared with 27.7% nationally.

Suspensions and Exclusions.

This year has seen an increase in suspensions and exclusions in both primary and secondary schools, exceeding the figure seen in previous years to date. This reflects the national picture. The LA continues to work with schools to offer both support and challenge and this will continue into the new academic year. The work undertaken is aligned to the direction of travel outlined in the Department for Education SEND and Alternative Provision Action Plan (March 23), as well as North Yorkshire Area SEND Strategy.

“This is Me” festival

The disabled children’s social work team supports children and young people and their families to thrive and be fully included in their communities. A highlight this month has been the ‘This is Me’ festival in Ripon organised by North Yorkshire’s Nidderdale and Morton Children’s Resource Centre. The festival has run since 2018 and has grown in size year on year. This year it was attended by hundreds of children, young people and their families. The music festival offers a fun, family-friendly environment for children and young people with disabilities. Display stands offered information about local and national groups and support networks were shared. Feedback from young people and their families has been very positive.

Locality Boards

In North Yorkshire the LA supports Local Partnerships of schools (Locality Boards) to develop early intervention and preventative work at earlier levels of SEND need. They use data for their area to develop an action plan which is reviewed annually. In September each of the Boards will be contributing to an event for all schools and education settings to participate in. This event includes keynote speakers and opportunities to share good practice, and celebrate the impact their interventions have had to support Inclusion

Medium Term Financial Strategy – July 2023

Demand increases in the number of children and young people assessed as requiring an Education, Health and Care Plan have been well documented in the council’s finance and performance reporting. The financial pressure in North Yorkshire reflects a national funding issue and the Directorate are engaging with the Department for Education in Tranche 3 of the ‘Developing Better Value in SEND’ programme. The aim of the programme is, through diagnostic and case review work, to identify and implement sustainable changes that improve support and outcomes for children and young people with SEND, as well as to improve the financial stability of High Needs Block budgets.

Work is also progressing to mitigate demand pressures in high-cost external residential placements.

Although this information appears in my Statement to Council it should be noted that both Executive Members for the Children and Young People's Service have joint responsibility for all relevant resources.

COUNCILLOR JANET SANDERSON

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR MANAGING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Climate Change

The **Climate Change Strategy** consultation ended in April with the Young People's survey continuing into May. A team of officers have been out and about taking the strategy out to local community spaces such as libraries, markets and community events. Thank you to all the residents, businesses, visitors and community groups that responded, giving their views on how North Yorkshire Council should respond to the Climate Emergency we declared in July 2022. The themes of the Climate Change Strategy were well supported and are also evident in the emerging Economic Development Strategy and the Food Strategy, evidencing our commitment to embed climate change into and across all our services.

Whilst developing the Strategy, I am pleased to report that we continue to deliver climate actions and **bid for Government and other funding** to deliver programmes of work. These include:

- the Devolution Deal Net Zero Fund where several NYC bids have been asked to progress to full business case stage. This is not a guarantee of funding but does mean the bids have been shortlisted.
- the North Yorkshire Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural Development Programme for England, ensuring climate responsible actions are built into all the grant funding as the programme develops
Year 1 of the programme delivered
 - 50 Community Building Decarbonisation Plans
 - Decarbonisation plan for elderly people's flats in Richmondshire
 - Housing Stock survey to support HUG2 implementation
 - Farm based decarbonisation / energy programme at contracting stage.

For year 2 activity, workshops were held with communities and businesses in May and June to design the decarbonisation grant schemes and spend for year 2 of the programme which we hope to launch in the Autumn.

- Local Energy Advice Demonstrator – a bid for funding to this programme was made to provide locally based domestic energy efficiency advice, working with the LEP and with community based partners to deliver in rural communities across North Yorkshire.

Our support for **Electric Vehicle Charging Point** infrastructure continues with Scarborough EV Chargepoint rollout. There are now 18 EV charging sockets are now available across five sites in the centre of Scarborough as part of the 96-socket rollout project, with the rest expected by the end of July. Charging points have also been installed at County Hall ready for the EV Pool Car fleet which is on order.

We continue to share information and best practice with communities through the climate change newsletter and at events such as **Great Big Green Week**. The Council supported Coast and Vale Community Action to hold the Climate Change Roundtable event as part of Great Big Green Week in Scarborough, bringing together key local stakeholders to discuss how to best build on the Council's Climate Change Strategy with a particular focus on community energy.

Waste

Following last year's heatwave which saw refuse and recycling crews regularly working in temperatures over 30 degrees, the Council is trialling wearing high-visibility shorts while carrying out collection rounds. The trial is voluntary and will run until October with continual monitoring of crew to ensure their safety and welfare, the results of the trial will inform the working practices and personal protection equipment for future years.

Selby Garden Waste

At the Executive meeting on 20 June the Selby Area Garden Waste Service report was unanimously approved. The report recommended the introduction of a charge in the Selby area this financial year and the harmonisation of service delivery and charging across North Yorkshire from April 2024.

Filey Public Toilets

Following the completion of the new toilets at Filey Ravine and Country Park I am pleased to announce the opening of three new Changing Places toilets at Filey, Scarborough and Whitby. These blocks are for people with profound needs and allows them to visit our beautiful coastline and all it has to offer. The blocks have been delivered in partnership with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. They have been much needed, and I am pleased to be able to add these three sites to our network.

Allerton Waste Recovery Park (AWRP)

In May the Executive and full Council endorsed the response to DEFRA regarding the separate collection of food waste. The report recommends accepting DEFRA's transitional arrangements to implement separately collected food waste across North Yorkshire from 1 February 2043 and to explore options for NYC to implement separately collected food waste at an earlier implementation date.

AWRP has been issued a draft permit from the Environment Agency to implement changes to emissions monitoring. We are currently working with the contractor to understand any impacts for the project.

Government published its response to a 2022 consultation on removing charges for DIY waste disposal at Household Waste Recycling Centres. The changes will be brought into force in 2023 on a date to be determined. The most significant impact for the Council is the loss of income from receipt of this material and the additional disposal and haulage costs that we will incur. Until such time as the legislation changes, the existing practice of charging for DIY waste will remain at our HWRCs so that only those people that produce this material pay for it.

Licensing

Taxis - the new harmonised North Yorkshire Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy continues to settle in with continuous monitoring and adjustment to local and county wide procedures to improve consistency and our service to the trade. A final Licensing Member Working Group meeting took place in May to review and update on matters that were raised and considered during consultation for the current Policy. A full review of policy is planned to begin in autumn this year with proposed changes being taken to consultation then through to implementation in spring 2024.

During the original policy consultation it was recognised that some customers, particularly wheelchair users, were experiencing a lack of adapted taxis which was impacting on their daily lives. Tenders have now been received for an Inclusive Service Study and Plan to deliver improvements for passengers with differing abilities and with a particular focus on

wheelchair users. These are currently being evaluated with a view to work commencing in July.

Other licences – the first Statutory Licensing Committee and General Licensing and Registration Committee took place in May. Harmonised procedures for licensing hearings for North Yorkshire were agreed. Individual licence applications are now being determined in locations across North Yorkshire by Sub-Committees of three Elected Members from the two Committees. Work continues to bring together best practice from the former district authorities and to harmonise and improve working arrangements for Sub-Committee hearings.

The Licensing areas on the Council's website are under constant review and development to improve the customer experience. Adjustments are being made weekly to improve access to information and to processes, including licence applications and payments.

Work will be commencing soon to plan for harmonisation of all the other types of licences that we administer including alcohol and entertainment, gambling, street trading, scrap metal and many more. Specific officer groups and communication channels have been established to ensure that we are working as one team, to share best practice and to further harmonise procedures across the range of licenses that North Yorkshire Council issues.

Trading Standards

Healthier Choices webinar for schools

The Trading Standards healthy eating team, 'Healthier Choices', has hosted a webinar for 12 local schools in collaboration with the North Yorkshire Public Health, Healthy Schools team. Using the learning from previous engagement with Selby High School which involved the renovation of the entire canteen and seating area, a drastic improvement in the healthiness of the food being offered and removal of thousands of single use plastic bottles, the Healthier Choices team will audit the food provision at participating schools, providing guidance and support to enable each school to make improvements to the food offer within their establishment.

Recycling disposable vapes – awareness raising project

In collaboration with colleagues in Waste and Public Health, the team is working to raise awareness of the need to recycle disposable vapes in a safe and appropriate manner. This will include a press release, circulation of awareness raising materials at the point Public Health disseminate vapes as a tool to stop smoking and via messages within vape retail settings which will be visited as part of a wider compliance project.

In addition to this a reporting form has been created for schools and youth clubs to help identify retailers who are selling vapes to children. The reporting form will be used to inform the team of any concerns. This process is being presented to the School PHSE leads on 28 June at an event in Ripon. The school leads will then cascade this information throughout their organisations. Problem traders will then be targeted as part of the ongoing vape project.

Greg Chapman wins national award - 'Outstanding Contribution to Community Alcohol Partnerships'

Community Alcohol Partnerships (CAPs) are local partnerships of councils, police, retailers, schools, health providers and community groups which aim to reduce alcohol harm among young people, improve their health and wellbeing and enhance their communities. There are 80 CAPs in the UK and Senior Enforcement Officer, Greg Chapman, has won a national award, 'Outstanding Contribution to Community Alcohol Partnerships', for his work across the eight North Yorkshire partnerships. He was due to collect his award from Yvette Cooper MP at the House of Commons on 27 June.

Environmental Health

Food Exports

Since April we have been made aware that there have been a few issues with large food exports being held at foreign border control. North Yorkshire Council issues export certificates allowing the food to pass through borders but other countries such as Dubai and Turkey have questioned the validity of the new North Yorkshire Council certificates as they were used to the former Districts ones. Officers have supported businesses by communicating with foreign border control directly and providing them with evidence that the export certificates are legitimate. All exports have passed through successfully after our intervention.

Fly Tipping Awareness

Environmental Protection Officers have been working with Marketing and Communications Officers to develop appropriate wording and providing some thought provoking photographs for use in social media posts and for internal messages to be sent in the weekly news update to highlight the issues of fly-tipping, emphasising the importance of taking responsibility of disposing of waste in appropriate ways. The posts are aimed to make people think about how they can dispose of waste suitably, highlighting that we all have a duty of care to make sure that our waste does not end up being fly tipped.

Air Quality

Environmental Health and Public Health are keen to adopt a holistic approach to air quality issues, integrating health promotion and education with regulation and enforcement, to achieve better outcomes. As a start, North Yorkshire Council is committing as a “supporter” of Clean Air Day, the UK's largest air pollution campaign. Clean Air Day took place on 15 June and the council has placed information posts on its social media as part of the campaign.

Bereavement Services

Invest to Save Projects - Heat Exchanger

A Heat Exchanger has recently been installed at Woodlands Crematorium in Scarborough. On the back of a recent office extension to Scarborough's Crematorium, a heat exchanger has just been installed to connect its cremators to the on-site Chapel. The exchanger works by transferring the heat generated by the cremators to fulfil most of the heating requirements of the Chapel. This improvement will lead to a significant reduction in the Crematorium's overall gas utility bills. Harrogate Crematorium already uses this technology so we are currently looking to see whether similar projects would be possible at our Skipton and Thirsk sites.

Coroners Service

Early discussions have taken place with North Yorkshire Police to develop closer partnership working in respect of the Coroner's support service. Both the Police and NYC are keen to make the best use of resources to help the Coroner deliver an effective service and these discussions are also picking up best practice from elsewhere in the country notably Wakefield.

COUNCILLOR GREG WHITE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

STATEMENT OF COUNCILLOR WILKINSON EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS PORTFOLIO HOLDER

School Improvement

During this academic year (since September 2022 to the end of May 2023), there have been in excess of 120 Ofsted inspections of both LA maintained schools and academies.

The latest Ofsted monthly management report (May 2023) shows that the proportion of North Yorkshire schools and academies judged good or outstanding is 83%. This has increased by 1% compared to the May 2022 figure. The rate of increase is in-line with the national rate of improvement for the same period.

This year the local authority has seen a number of its schools improve from Requires Improvement judgements to Good. Of notable success is Ripley Endowed CE School improved from Inadequate to Good at its recent graded (section 5) inspection. After a long period of underperformance, the school has benefitted from the support of the council's education teams, the appointment of an Interim Executive Board and a local community that have been responsive to the changes.

A group of schools and academies within the DfE Priority Education Investment Area (former Scarborough District) have been invited to participate in a DfE funded programme of school improvement support. The selected schools share several contextual challenges. Participating schools and academies are currently working at the planning stage on priorities specific to their context. The programme will move to the implementation stage in the autumn.

Music service

The Music Service will be bidding for the next round of funding from Arts Council England, to deliver the new National Plan for Music Education. This will be a joint bid with York as the regional boundaries have been re-drawn.

The new fund holders will be announced in April 2024, at which point the new Music Hub will come into effect.

Our Music Centres are starting to offer a range of new opportunities for children and families. Harrogate Music Centre will be opening an Early Years music group on a Saturday morning, and we are starting a new guitar ensemble in Selby. We are also working with a professional trumpet player from the University of Hull to develop brass playing in the Selby area. We very much hope that this will lead to the re-launch of Selby Music Centre Brass Band.

Adult learning and skills

The Adult Learning and Skills Service have drawn up and are implementing an action plan in response to the February 2023 Ofsted inspection. These actions address the areas for improvement and seek to demonstrate the impact of the council's strategy.

On behalf of the council, the service has published a draft accountability statement in response to the Local Skills Improvement Plan, this details how the service will seek to cement its position as the gateway to upskilling and re-skilling of adults in priority sectors and to target adults who would most benefit from training but are not currently engaging. The service is part of a collaboration to effectively utilise the funding from the Learning and Skills Improvement Fund which commenced in June 2023.

Outdoor Learning Service

The Outdoor Learning Service successfully completed its first full financial year since re-opening.

Since reorganisation in September, the service has worked together with the Communications Team and Property Services, collaborating to make most efficient use of resources and opportunities. A new website is due for imminent launch in order to promote our unique real outdoor adventure opportunities to children and young people across the county and beyond.

The new Head of Outdoor Learning started in post at the beginning of July, and two new roles, Level 3 Apprentice Outdoor Education Tutors are also taking up post this summer, one each at Beverley Park and East Barnby.

Work is continuing to finalise the business case for future investment and service development to be presented to the Executive for a decision in November.

School Organisation

Skelton Newby Hall Primary School – On 30 May 2023 the Executive determined that the School should close at the end of the current academic year.

Whitby Secondary Schools – On 20 June 2023 the Executive approved the amalgamation of Caedmon College Whitby and Eskdale School for implementation in September 2024.

Wavell Infant and Junior Schools – the Council are currently consulting on a proposal to amalgamate the two Wavell schools in Catterick to create a single 3-11 primary school. The consultation closes on 21 July and the Executive are scheduled to consider the consultation feedback on 22 August 2023. The change, if approved, would be implemented in April 2024. [Proposal to amalgamate Wavell infant and junior schools in Catterick | North Yorkshire Council](#)

Proposal to establish a new special school provision in Harrogate - the Council are currently consulting on a proposal to establish a special school for autistic children at the site of the former Woodfield Community Primary School in Harrogate. The consultation closes on 24 July and the Executive are scheduled to consider the consultation feedback on 22 August 2023. [Proposal to establish a new special school provision for autistic children | North Yorkshire Council](#)

New schools

Northallerton new primary school – the construction of the new primary school to serve the North Northallerton development area commenced on 19 June 2023. The school is scheduled to open in September 2024.

Selby Special Free School -The Department for Education (DfE) are currently in the process of agreeing draft plans with a recently appointed lead construction contractor. Once this is in place, public consultation on the draft plans will be held with the intention to do so by autumn 2023, following which a planning application will be submitted. Timescales for

delivery will be dependent on the planning process but the DfE are aiming to open the school in the academic year of 2025/26. Officers within the council continue to provide all of the support requested to assist the DfE in delivering the school

Northallerton new special school - In March 2023 the Council were informed by the Department for Education (DfE) that its bid to create a new special school on the former Northallerton School site on Grammar School Lane had been successful. The project is to be delivered by the DfE and is in its very early stages, as such it is too soon to speculate on a target opening date for the school.

Medium Term Financial Strategy – July 2023

Demand increases in the number of children and young people assessed as requiring an Education, Health and Care Plan have been well documented in the council's finance and performance reporting. The financial pressure in North Yorkshire reflects a national funding issue and the Directorate are engaging with the Department for Education in Tranche 3 of the 'Developing Better Value in SEND' programme. The aim of the programme is, through diagnostic and case review work, to identify and implement sustainable changes that improve support and outcomes for children and young people with SEND, as well as to improve the financial stability of High Needs Block budgets.

Work is also progressing to mitigate demand pressures in high-cost external residential placements.

Although this information appears in my Statement to Council it should be noted that both Executive Members for the Children and Young People's Service have joint responsibility for all relevant resources.

We continue to work with schools that are facing financial difficulty through support, challenge and where necessary, intervention. We recognise the particular challenges of small, rural secondary schools and we will continue to represent schools in advocating for a fair financial settlement. As the Department for Education continues to move towards a direct national funding formula for all schools, we will continue to engage with national consultations and the North Yorkshire Schools Forum on schools, high needs and early years funding.

The Spring Budget 2023 announced additional funding to increase the hourly funding rates for early years providers to deliver the existing early years entitlements for disadvantaged 2-year olds and 3- to 4-year olds from September 2023. We anticipate that the Department for Education will provide further details on the Early Years Supplementary Grant (EYSG) in summer 2023

COUNCILLOR ANNABEL WILKINSON

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

COUNCILLOR GARETH DADD

Workforce

It is early days for a complete picture of the new Council's workforce data but we can confirm a whole workforce of 10,659 employees (over 18,000 including schools).

75% of the workforce are on NYC terms and conditions with 25% on TUPE protected arrangements. The majority (75%) are on established contracts with 8% on temporary arrangements and 17% are casual / relief.

The average age of the workforce is 47 with 35% of the workforce over 55, and 4% under 25. Minority ethnic workforce is 3.8% compared to North Yorkshire population 3.3% (Office for National Statistics).

As we start the life of the new council it will not be possible to do historic like-for-like comparisons on trends such as sickness absence; turnover; and agency spend. We are, however, busy pulling together data such as this and identifying areas where we can improve. Further detail will be available in quarterly reports to the Executive as well as in my future statements.

Finance

100 days in to the new Council we have achieved some critical milestones...our finance teams area still organised around the legacy councils and have been working to finalise the 22/23 statement of accounts which I am pleased to report are largely now done. 6 of the 8 statements have been published on the Council's website and discussions are now on-going with the various audit firms on plans for concluding the 24 outstanding audits.

After some initial teething problems on financial systems and processes, with the extra support put in place things have settled down but more fundamental change is needed. One of the challenges in bringing together eight councils is to retain financial grip and that means having a single view of the new council's finances. Functionality has therefore had to suffer in some areas but this needs to be seen as a temporary state of affairs. Proposals to improve our systems and ways of working are therefore a high priority (eg automating our ordering and payment processes) for initial transformation and that work will start in the next quarter.

As a result of having a single view of the council's finances, however, we are on track to receive the first quarterly budget monitoring report at the Executive in August. This will be a major milestone for the new council and will no doubt bring with it stories of both success and challenge. On the issue of challenge I can also report that in-depth discussions are taking place to identify savings opportunities across the council for 2024/05 and beyond as we prepare for the Budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan. as part of this approach I will be meeting with my Executive Member colleagues and Corporate Directors to ensure that there is a clear focus on the art of the possible when it comes to savings opportunities while ensuring that we continue to deliver the best we can for our residents.

I have committed to updating members on a regular basis as to progress on savings. As Members will have seen to the report to the Executive on 2 May 2023 future savings of £3.8m are anticipated on Senior Manager costs for tiers 1 to 3. This will be updated at the quarterly monitoring report on 29 August.

Property

I reported in my last Statement that a key area of opportunity following Local Government Reorganisation is the rationalisation of the council's operational assets, and I can confirm that good progress is being made in this area. An initial project to deliver a number of 'quick wins' is underway including proposals to vacate a small number of properties by transferring services into the main Civic Centres in Harrogate, Scarborough and Richmond where there is capacity, and mothballing certain areas of office accommodation in Malton, Hambleton and Skipton. The space vacated through these proposals will be appraised for potential future uses, including a review of opportunities to utilise it to enhance service delivery, deliver corporate priorities, generate rental income or deliver capital receipts.

High level data on all Council occupied operational sites such as offices, depots and customer service hubs are in the process of being collated and this will inform the wider, longer-term programme of asset rationalisation; allowing potential savings opportunities to be quantified and factored into future year budget projections. Non-financial considerations, such as carbon reduction targets, will also be key drivers in the decision making process for this programme.

I have established a cross party Member Working Group to provide political input into this process and an inaugural meeting has been held. A second meeting is planned and will consider a set of principles to be applied to the longer term rationalisation programme.

Technology

NYC Technology Services has spent this first quarter year of our new organisation getting to know what 'working as one' really means. This includes:

- finishing some day one projects, such as the ongoing work to ensure our finance systems function effectively,
- completing some essential upgrades that which will improve technology stability for our users, including standardising the management of our firewalls so we are less reliant on costly third parties.
- and planning for the consolidation of our systems.

The current complexity of multiple versions of systems, and all of the separate networks, means that we are getting some unexpected (and sometimes widespread) outages when we are making changes. Because we cannot predict them accurately, we are introducing a period of 'stability prioritisation' limiting change to only what is absolutely essential to make sure that we do not unexpectedly negatively impact the wider organisation.

And finally, an important benefit of being one NYC service has started to become visible with technology staff now working together across the region. Teams and individuals have been supporting each other by working in different locations, helping to fill knowledge, skills, or capacity gaps, and while doing so they have been building individual and team knowledge and forming a strong one team approach to drive forward the consolidation and transformation plans for the service.

COUNCILLOR GARETH DADD

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR OPEN TO BUSINESS

including Economic Development & Regeneration, Planning, Visitor Economy, Broadband, and Harbours

Economic Development, Regeneration, Tourism & Skills

Economic Growth Strategy

The first draft of the Economic Growth Strategy for the Council has been produced and a variety of sessions are taking place with members and key partners to test, challenge and shape the development of the strategy over the summer. Following revisions to reflect the comments received, the Strategy will be submitted to the Executive and then to Council for adoption in November 2023.

Tourism Review – Development of Destination Management Plan

Work has commenced on the review of tourism and the development of a new Destination Management Plan for North Yorkshire. Consultation with council members, stakeholders, business groups and internal senior officers has taken place. The first draft of the plan will be circulated for consultation during July with a view to having the final draft plan to bring to Council in August/September.

Yorkshire Tourism Project/Partnership

In addition to the North Yorkshire tourism review, officers and members have been working on the development of a new Yorkshire wide Partnership with tourism leads from councils across East, North, South and West Yorkshire and Visit England coming together to developing a new Marketing Strategy to promote the brand of Yorkshire Nationally and Internationally. A Marketing Manager will be appointed to support this work and work closely with Yorkshire's sub-regional partners.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has approved the Council's Rural England Prosperity Fund Investment Plan providing a further £5.4m of investment for rural communities in North Yorkshire. A programme manager has been appointed to oversee the delivery of the UKSPF and REPF investment plans. In this financial year there is a total of £5.4m to deliver with the majority of the fund (more than £15 million) becoming available from 2024/25. North Yorkshire Council has the largest Rural England Prosperity Fund allocation in the Country.

L&G Modular Homes & Ilke

L&GMH have announced that it would cease production at its Sherburn operation, making the majority of the 475 staff redundant. Council staff were at the forefront of initiatives to team up staff with local employers looking to recruit. Efforts appear to have been successful, and we are optimistic that all of those looking for roles will find something suitable replacements. The modular housebuilder Ilke Homes which is based near junction 47 of the A1 have also very recently gone into administration. We will be offering similar comprehensive support for staffing to be redeployed.

Treadmills Development Update

The new Everyman cinema is now open and the main public square completed. At the end of July, a major piece of public art will be installed at the Treadmills development, one of the final finishing touches to this eight-year redevelopment project.

'The ballad of Sophia' is an eight-foot steel fabricated sculpture depicting the youngest female inmate ever incarcerated in Northallerton's former prison. World renowned Durham based steel sculpture artist, Ray Lonsdale was commissioned to produce the statue which will be a focal point for the development and will be visible from town's High Street.

Warm Welcome at the Northallerton BID Breakfast Meeting

Last month I accepted an invitation to present to the Northallerton BID, who are currently part way through their second 5-year term. With good attendance from BID members and the Town Council those present were keen to hear about future plans and ways of working following the transition to North Yorkshire Council. I outlined the ambitions of the new Council, including the importance of local place and the emerging vision of the North Yorkshire Economic Growth Strategy currently being developed. Good questions were raised, and a healthy positive conversation followed the presentation around partnership working through the local Town Team. This was a great opportunity to engage with the businesses of Northallerton. I'm also delighted that the recent Harrogate BID ballot was successful with a 76% yes vote.

Catterick Garrison Town Centre Levelling Up Fund project

The project is progressing well. Stage 2 designs and costings have been signed off. Stage 3 design work is now focusing on the Community Engagement Centre, Public Realm and Accessibility/Connectivity. Pre-application designs have been submitted to Planning with the planning application expected to follow in August 2023. Request for Information for building contractors have been launched through 2 frameworks. Heads of terms for the Land Transfer between North Yorkshire Council (NYC) and the MOD/DIO is proceeding as expected with expected completion Oct 23. There are also a series of further public engagement serials taking place W/C 3rd July in and around the Garrison area culminating in an all-day stand at Tesco on the 7th July. The Project is expected to complete June 2025.

Scarborough and Whitby Town Deals

Work continues to progress both the Whitby and Scarborough Town Deal programmes. The Scarborough Cricket Club improvement project is on schedule for completion in June allowing the club to continue to host first class cricket at the ground. In Whitby proposals for the renovation and improvements to the Old Town Hall and Market Place have now been submitted to the planning authority for determination later this summer.

Pop Up Friday Markets in Scarborough

This Shared Prosperity Fund project has been running fortnightly since April. The outdoor markets are bringing together new creatives and makers whilst showcasing local musicians, and offering family friendly arts activities. To date the pop ups have showcased over 44 different artists and are attracting around 1100 visitors every Friday. The event has attracted a further increase of 10% footfall to the Inside Market.

Northallerton Heritage Trail – launched Easter

This is a brand-new augmented reality free app, taking you on a journey to discover more about the heritage of Northallerton. As you step into portals to the past you will uncover

hidden stories, fascinating people, places, and events that have shaped the historic town of Northallerton through the centuries.

Northallerton Food Festival

June saw the much anticipated and welcome return of the award-winning and hugely successful [Northallerton Homegrown Food Festival](#). Now in its 9th year the fun, free and family-friendly event attracted a huge crowd and provided a showcase for artisan food and drink manufacturers from across the region. It is estimated that over 5000 people attended the event throughout the day with over 40 market stalls selling locally produced food and drink ranging from Syrian street food to gourmet scotch eggs from firm festival favourite The Clucking Pig.

Church Fenton Creative Industries Hub

Church Fenton Aerodrome near Sherburn in Elmet was recently granted planning permission for a Film & creative industries hub involving 3 new film studios plus 160,000 sq. ft. of new floor space for film related ancillary businesses. The site expects to employ 1800 people and add £0.94bn to the GVA of the region over 10 years. The site is already being dubbed “the Hollywood of the North”.

Sherburn 2 Employment site

Glentool Developments have submitted a detailed planning application for Sherburn 2 featuring units covering a range of sizes from 2850 sq. Ft. to 48330 sq. Ft. including some much-needed small units, Construction is expected to start in Q1 2024.

Selby and Tadcaster - Changing Places toilets for disabled users

The former Selby District Council secured £90,000 to improve accessibility in the district through the installation of two of these facilities. They offer larger accessible toilets for people who cannot use standard accessible toilets, with equipment such as hoists, curtains, adult-sized changing benches, and spaces for carers. The funding is from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) plus match from NYC. The locations of the Changing Places facilities are Tadcaster Bus Station and at Selby Park. Both Changing Places designs have now been approved by Muscular Dystrophy and both facilities will be completed in March 2024.

Tourism Marketing Campaigns

Whilst the new North Yorkshire Destination Management Plan is being developed Shared Prosperity Fund funding has been secured to: carry out a digital marketing campaign that will take place throughout early summer; new photography and film footage is being taken to showcase the diversity of the tourism offer to key target markets in London and the South. The digital campaigns are running across Chronical Live, Yorkshire Live and My London digital channels. The campaign has already exceeded expectations with over 3,000 click through's to the No Place Like North Yorkshire website in the first three weeks.

The NYC Tourism team will also be promoting the County along with some of our private sector members at the Yorkshire Show 11-14 July. The stand will promote the diversity of the county promoting towns, cities, rural and coastal aspects. Interactive displays and competitions will be on offer on the stand for visitors to enjoy.

Whitby Fish and Ships Festival

The Whitby Fish and Ships Festival was held over the weekend of 20- 21st May. The event was attended by approximately 15,000 visitors over the two days. Of those who attended 30% were local, and 26% were visitors from within a 40 mile radius. 13% were from

Yorkshire and 31% were from other English regions. 36% of respondents, who were predominantly 31-45, were staying in Whitby overnight with 33% staying for 1 week or more. The event was positively received with 80% confirming they would return to Whitby again as a result of the event.

Dovecote Barns

<https://www.dovecotebarnsyork.co.uk/> - won the Silver Award at the Visit England Awards for Excellence in the Self-Catering accommodation category last week. The awards were at the Harry Potter studios, and they were the ONLY Yorkshire business in the whole of the awards (all 16 categories).

PLANNING

A new leadership structure for the Planning Service is being progressed following the bringing together of resources from the legacy district, borough and county councils.

The creation of a new Planning Service for North Yorkshire is an exciting opportunity for us to bring together an efficient, highly performing and ambitious approach to the whole of the planning function, with quality of place and delivery at its core.

Staff consultation on the new leadership structure is underway and implementation is scheduled for early September.

Development Management & Enforcement

Every Constituency Area Planning Committee has now met along with the Strategic Committee. They have been dealing with a range of important items including housing sites, proposals relating to storage and distribution and changes to important historic buildings. In addition to committee, planning applications are being successfully submitted and decided under the approved scheme of delegation.

Recruitment & Retention

The Planning Service presents some challenges in terms of recruitment & retention which officers are working to address. More specifically the service has a relatively high vacancy rate and a dependency on agency staff. An exercise has been undertaken to ensure that the resources we do have are fully utilised by exploring the opportunities to work across the new geography. Working with our Resourcing Solutions team an innovative and exciting recruitment campaign was launched on 21st June 2023. The campaign makes full use of social media and online platforms.

Planning Policy and Strategy

Work is progressing on a new Local Plan for North Yorkshire. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and the Local Development Scheme (LDS) are the first stages on the road to preparing and adopting a new local plan for North Yorkshire.

Officers are bringing together a detailed work programme to support plan preparation as well as undertaking scoping events with key partners to start to bring together the priorities and to identify the evidence that will be needed to shape the new local plan. Key themes such as sustainable economic and housing growth, health, climate change and transport will be integral. Officers are also preparing an engagement strategy to ensure early and regular input from Councillors throughout the preparation of the new local plan.

Alongside work on the new local plan, officers are bringing together information on all strategic sites across North Yorkshire, including sites that are allocated within current adopted local plans. It is important that these sites are delivered in order to meet the housing and employment needs of North Yorkshire. These are often complex schemes and

the council has an important role in influencing their delivery, including quality of place and coordination of infrastructure.

Strategic Sites

We are presently working on several strategic applications summarised briefly below:-

Scotland to England Green Link 2 (SEGL2)

The Scotland to England Green Link 2 English Onshore Scheme is sited adjacent to Drax Power Station and would be a satellite development, not forming part of the power station site itself, but within an adjacent agricultural field. Outline planning permission is sought for a convertor station. Full planning permission is also sought for an underground cable up to the East Riding boundary. A separate planning permission has been granted for the continuation of the underground cable within the East Riding area.

Gascoigne Wood Rail Freight Interchange

Gascoigne Wood is a former colliery site to the south-east of Sherburn-in-Elmet. We currently have a proposal for the demolition of existing colliery buildings and the construction of up to 1,460,000 sq ft of employment floorspace comprising Use Classes B2, B8 and E(g).

Former Kellingley Colliery Site (Konect)

Kellingley Colliery is a former mine site in the South East of the former Selby area. Outline planning permission was first granted in February 2019 for the construction of an employment park - first reserved matters application was granted in March 2021 for the construction of three units. These have since been constructed. Second reserved matters application was granted in May 2022. These are currently under construction. We currently have an application in to amend the second reserved matters application. Submissions of further applications are expected Summer 2023.

Motorway Service Station

Planning application 2019/0547/EIA for a new motorway service station at the junction of the A1M/A63 Lumby was presented to the Selby District Council Planning Committee recommended for refusal primarily on Green Belt policy grounds. The application is being finalised and it is aimed to bring it before the August meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee. Once a decision has been made, the application was need to be referred to the Secretary of State as a Departure.

Catterick Town Centre LUF

Pre-application advice has commenced between the Council and Align Property Partners acting as architects for the LUF Project at Shute Road on Catterick Garrison. The £19m funding is to be used to reinvigorate the old Garrison town centre by clearing vacant property, improving the surrounding Coronation Park and introducing enhanced routes for pedestrians and cyclists to improve access to and from the new town centre with its range of modern facilities. The aim is to submit a planning application in August 2023 with a start on site spring 2024.

Catterick Integrated Care Campus (CICC)

Planning Committee approved the development of the new Catterick Integrated Care Campus, a joint MoD/NHS project designed to enhance the range of health and social care services for Catterick Garrison and wider former Richmondshire area. The CICC is the first of its kind, a truly transformational scheme between the MOD and NHS to cater for a rebasing of trained and untrained MOD personnel and their dependents, as well as the expected growth in the general population, to provide the necessary medical and dental facilities. Ministerial backing has been given for a collaborative project between the two government departments.

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)

In North Yorkshire these are currently all energy related projects apart from the A66 dualling scheme.

Current Projects under consideration are:

- Trans Pennine A66 dualling – the examination has ended, and the Council position remains largely supportive however there are detailed design and environmental impacts still to be finalised.
- Drax Bio Energy and Carbon Capture – the Examination will complete mid-July. We are still in discussion about noise and landscape impacts.
- Yorkshire Green Enablement Project – This will increase capacity of overhead lines between York and Selby. The examination is underway on this project too.
- Helios Solar Farm to the NE of the DRAX power station – This includes battery storage facilities and is proposed to connect to the National Grid.
- Boom Power – East Riding Solar Farm – situated outside North Yorkshire but will be connected via underground cable to the National Grid at DRAX.
- Humber Low Carbon Pipeline Project – this is the installation of a carbon capture pipeline to carry carbon away from DRAX and other facilities to store under the North Sea.

Harbour Executive

The first meeting of North Yorkshire Council's Harbour Executive took place on 14 June 2023 preceded by a harbours familiarisation session to ensure a common understanding across the range of services involved in harbour operations. The Harbour Executive will meet on a quarterly basis to discuss operational issues and receive updates from the Harbour Master. The group underpins both the Council's commitment to the Governments Ports Governance Guidelines and to the Port Marine Safety Code, with Duty Holder Karl Battersby acting as Chair.

Repairs to Scarborough Lighthouse

Repairs to the roof and lamp room at Scarborough Lighthouse are now well underway and will be completed in the coming weeks. The historic structure continues to act as an important Aid to Navigation for vessels utilising the harbour as well as hosting Scarborough Yacht Club and acting as a key focal point on the Scarborough skyline.

York and North Yorkshire LEP

The York and North Yorkshire LEP continues to deliver on its programmes as it transitions towards the planned Mayoral Combined Authority. In particular –

- The £2.3m Skills Bootcamps programme which offers free courses upto 16 weeks are now contracted and operational.
- York and North Yorkshire has delivered 12 inward investments into the region over the last year securing over 370 new jobs.

The LEP Annual report detailing its performance over the last year was published on 30 June and I would recommend it to all members to understand the impact the LEP has had on the region.

COUNCILLOR DEREK J BASTIMAN

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF COUNCILLOR DAVID CHANCE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Legal & Democratic Services

The Democratic Services Teams from the former district, borough and county councils have been working together as one service since 1 April 2023, with their work co-ordinated across eight sites by a core management group. The focus in these first months has been upon aligning working practices, particularly with regard to the operation of Planning and Licensing Committees. There are also a number of projects underway to support the development of Democratic Services and support for members, officers and the public in the new North Yorkshire Council, including:

- a review of recording and broadcasting of council meetings
- support for members in their Electoral Division and the training offer
- how we work with and support the Parish and Town Councils

Since 1 April 2023, there has been a welcome increase in public participation in decision making by the Council, with more members of the public submitting questions and statements to the meetings of the Council's committees, and an increase in the number of petitions submitted through the Council's Petitions Scheme. The latter has involved an increase in the number of referrals to the Area Constituency Committees (ACCs) for consideration and a subsequent increase in the number of recommendations then made to the Executive and/or Executive members. As a Council, we seek to encourage engagement with the public and stakeholders and to be locally attentive and responsive.

The ACCS completed their first round of meetings in June. These were the first meetings of this next iteration of the ACCs, whereby they take on an enhanced role in their locality. The work taken on by the ACCs will develop over time as they go through issues of key concern locally, play a greater role in local economic development, hold service providers to account for their performance (the Council itself and other organisations), lead on local scrutiny and link in with key local agencies and organisations such as the Parish and Town Councils and the community networks.

The Member Working Group on the Constitution continues to play a key role in reviewing the Constitution and making recommendations to the Executive and Council for any necessary changes or updates to reflect changes in the law, guidance or working practices. The working group is cross party and politically balanced. It last met in June and will meet again in October.

The School Admission Appeals Service provides a statutory service and works to the Department of Education School Admissions Appeals code. Since April, it has been administering the bulk admissions appeals for primary and secondary schools ahead of the start of the September school term. The work will continue through to the end of the summer school term in late July. Typically, 350 appeals are heard each year over this period in addition to the 'in-year' appeals.

Councillor Locality Budgets

The ninth year of the scheme started on 3 April 2023, and the last date for the receipt of recommendations will be 31 January 2024. Members are able to make recommendations totalling £10,000 and the arrangements are as in previous years. With the exception that a member may increase their maximum spend on a project from £5,000 to £10,000 if the grant is to assist organisations providing support to the public due to the cost of living crisis.

This year Councillors are particularly encouraged to focus on projects or activities that respond to local needs and community initiatives arising from the cost of living crisis, the impact of climate change, and/or that promote the Council's Stronger Communities programme.

165 recommendations have been made to date, amounting to £160,600 (17.84%) of the allocated funding.

Customer, Revenue & Benefits

Household Support Fund (HSF)

Work commenced in Quarter One on the development of the fourth phase of HSF. The Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) funded programme aims to support those most in need or crisis with significantly rising living costs in 2023/24.

In line with the expenditure guidelines and the agreed eligibility framework and delivery plan, c25,000 households across North Yorkshire will receive a direct award in the form of a shopping voucher to support them over the autumn and winter months. This will encompass eligible families, pensioners and working age adult households, as well as those who missed out on other forms of national Cost of Living support. In addition to this, funding has been awarded to:

- North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund (NYLAF), enabling the maximum number of awards for emergency food and utilities to remain at four over a 12 month rolling period
- The provision of Energy Support which will be available from 1 September 2023
- Food Support: a grants scheme for providers of free or low-cost food was launched in Quarter One
- An HSF Exceptional Circumstances Fund will be delivered, to support those who may have missed out on support due to circumstances beyond their control throughout the time period the direct award is live

North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund

Caveat: data between April 1st April - 25th June 2023

In Quarter One, 2,892 applications were received^[1] with a 92% approval rate. A total of £344,135 was spent^[2], with 40% on food and energy vouchers, and 60% on standard awards. In keeping with previous years, the highest levels of demand are seen in Scarborough (39%), followed by Harrogate, with lowest levels of demand in Richmondshire (4%).

^[1] Compared to 2,648 applications received and the 2,399 approved in Q1 22/23 (last year comparison).

^[2] Compared to £303,816 spent Q1, 22/23.

Table 1 ↑ arrow highlights that this quarter has seen an increase against both time period comparisons used in this table, last quarter, and the same quarter 1, but 12 months previously

	Q4 2022/23 (Last quarter)	Q1 2022/23 (Q1, 12 months ago)	Q1 2023/24 (current)
Food Voucher	2,783	1,783	2,041
Clothing Voucher	84	79	78
Energy Voucher	2,089	1,581	1,418
White goods	84	231	311
Cash awards	1	0	0
Other household items	251	202	174
Furniture	309	256	411

Quarterly data update

- On average, NYLAF received 257 applications a week this quarter.
- There have been 573 first time applicants to the Fund this quarter.
- The number of food and energy applications decreased by 19% between April and May.
- The number of standard applications increased by 9% between April and May.
- Phone calls have seen a decrease of 21% between April and May.
- Vulnerability category data is also monitored monthly. It shows no significant change in who we are supporting through the scheme and in which geographical areas, with those with experiencing mental health challenges (32%), those who are homeless (21%) and families under extreme pressure (15%) continuing to be the three highest vulnerability categories in Q1.

Other key areas of note this quarter include:

- An extension to the Household Support Fund was announced in the Spring Budget so the food and energy award levels are staying at the increased limit of four awards in a rolling twelve-month period until the end of March 2024.
- NYLAF has supported the Governments Homes for Ukraine Scheme, with 25 awards going to refugees or host families this quarter to directly support those that have fled Ukraine.
- As well as the reported figures above, further food parcels were delivered across the Scarborough town area through our ongoing partnership with the Rainbow Centre.^[3]

^[3] Final figure tbc for this quarter. Using April data we could estimate 105 additional food parcels delivered.

Customer

Telephone demand for the customer service function has remained consistent over the 3 months since the launch of NYC (North Yorkshire Council) but performance has improved month on month.

In April, the average time a customer waited to be answered was 2 min and 51 sec and this has reduced to 1 min 43 sec in June.

The top 5 demands are:

- Bins
- Council Tax
- Roads, parking, and travel
- Housing and homeless
- Birth, deaths, and ceremonies

In May and June, the customer service function has balanced customer demand across all 8 customer service centres to provide the best performance for customers. Whilst this offers a short-term solution to answering calls quickly it does not allow for a full integrated service to be offered to customers. Full integration of all 8 contact centres will be completed through service transformation.

The new call routing solution linked to the new 0300 number continues to deliver an improved experience for a high proportion of customers calling. Only 3.5% of calls were handled by the safety net team in the month of June. The initial target was 20% or lower.

Currently only Craven is directing all call traffic through this solution, but the plan is to move other centres to enable the customer function to gather more customer insight and negate the need for customers to navigate through complex option menus.

A dedicated Cllr number has also been created. This number is 01609 797263. This number will be available as a priority number for Members between 9.00am - 5pm Mon, Tues and Thur. 9.30am - 5pm on Wednesday. 9.00am - 4.30pm on a Friday.

Seamer Horse Fair

At the time of writing, the Seamer Horse Fair took place in the Scarborough locality on 15 July.

North Yorkshire Council teams (Environmental Health, Facilities Management and Highways) and North Yorkshire Police worked together to manage the event through a Multi-Agency meeting that also included representatives from the RSPCA. This group met on a weekly basis in the lead up to the event and met more regularly if required to pick up site specific issues such as unauthorised camping and litter/waste clearing.

The Council site for travelling families to camp was opened from 12 to 15 July and numerous Traffic Orders were also in place to help manage the increased traffic around the location of the fair.

There were some reported instances of unauthorised encampments, most notably at the Filey Country Park whereby the Council took direct action through service of a Section 77 Notice and followed this up by initiating proceedings in Scarborough Magistrates Court to have the Notice enforced. Formal action was not required as following site visits from officers the Travellers moved on but the action taken by the Council ensured that other families were not encouraged to join the unauthorised camp prior to the opening of the official site.

Officers continued to engage with Police colleagues at a senior and operational level throughout the event and a follow up meeting will be taking place to discuss planning for next year's event. Members should contact Callum McKeon, Assistant Director for Regulatory Services, if they have any issues related to the fair that they wish to discuss.

Stronger Communities

Community Anchor Organisations (CAOs)

In February 2023, as part of the long established 'Achieve Together' Investment Programme, Stronger Communities opened a new opportunity to establish a Community Anchor model for North Yorkshire. In Q1 evaluation of submissions took place, with 23 place-based organisations from across the County progressing to the next stage of development work, which will encompass a collective assessment workshop and the development of organisational action plans. For the ten localities where a suitable CAO has not been initially identified, development work will continue to explore the potential for a local voluntary sector organisation to become a CAO, or to look at alternative models.

Recognising that in our larger urban areas where there are a number of distinctive neighbourhoods, the model of a single place-based community anchor may not work, we are working with local partners in Harrogate and Scarborough to understand what the optimal options for investing in Community Anchors are in those areas. Work on this will also progress in Q2.

Community Partnerships

In Q1, Executive agreed to develop the ambition of supporting local partnership and multi-agency working through the establishment of local Community Partnerships, focussing on principal towns and surrounding areas and reflecting natural communities. This will take a phased approach, with work starting in Q2 in five pilot areas: Easingwold, Leyburn and Middleham, Ripon, Sherburn and Thornton-le-Dale and rural hinterland.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

The HAF programme continues to develop and improve its reach in all areas of North Yorkshire. The Easter programme saw 8841 free HAF sessions enjoyed by 2200 children who met the Department of Education (DfE) criteria, and an additional 1173 children and young people who didn't qualify also took part in the activities using paid for places. Having blended sessions helps FSM children and young people to take part in the same activities as their non-FSM friends without cost being a barrier. It is important to note that having paid for places does not reduce the quantity of HAF funded places but often gives the provider the benefit of economies of scale when using hired premises.

Easter's monitoring and feedback was the first year that providers have reported significant non-attendance and cancellations being an issue. In order to tackle this for the summer period, an online booking system has been put in place to proactively manage bookings. Alongside this, we will be mindful that not everyone has access to the internet, and we must ensure that the booking system is not a barrier that prevents children and young people from attending.

HAF codes for summer 23 have already been distributed to children and young people with summer activities being promoted on the North Yorkshire Together FEAST website and by the providers locally. There are 66 different providers running sessions across the County providing a broad range of activities. This year, particular attention is being given to neurodiversity and understanding how activities need to be flexible in order to provide the best possible experience for all children.

Homes for Ukraine

Between the 1 April and the end of June 2023, 49 additional Ukrainian guests arrived in North Yorkshire, making a total of 1336 arrivals since the start of the Homes for Ukraine scheme. During this quarter we have seen a rise in the number of single guest arrivals joining family members in North Yorkshire.

The number of guests still living with a sponsor is approximately 616, reduced from 733 in Q4 2022/23.

Since the start of the scheme, 720 guests who initially arrived in North Yorkshire have moved on from their sponsors' accommodation. Further detail relating to these movements is summarised in the table below (cumulative since the start of the programme):

	Households	Individuals
Re-matched to sponsor outside of North Yorkshire	24	47
Returned to Ukraine	86	172
Moved to another country	21	41
University	3	3
Private Rental – in North Yorkshire	155	371
Social Housing – in North Yorkshire	10	24
Private Rental – outside of North Yorkshire	33	62
TOTAL	332	720

*Please note there may be a small amount of time between guests moving and informing NYC, so above figures could vary slightly.

Health and Wellbeing

Stronger Communities continue to work in partnership with the NHS to transform mental health services for people with a serious mental illness through building capacity within communities and the voluntary sector. The approach includes financial investment, managed by Stronger Communities, working with four place based multi-agency partnerships to develop and/or pilot new community -based services and projects through grant funding to voluntary organisations and community groups with the over-arching aim of enabling people with a serious mental illness to live well in their communities.

Local Food Support

Work on the collaborative insight work with City of York Council to better understand the regional food insecurity landscape is now complete, with the final report made available in Q1. The work evaluates the range of food support services that were established during the pandemic and explores potential opportunities for future service provision alongside a series of recommendations. Work has now commenced to start planning a partnership event to launch the findings/carry out some further engagement work in autumn 2023, and the findings are already being used to inform other related work areas both internally across the Council, and externally with partners.

Reboot North Yorkshire

Work on Reboot North Yorkshire continues to progress with a steady flow of referrals into the scheme from a broad range of organisations and NYC services. This quarter, 58 devices have been gifted to socially isolated individuals or those in need of a device to access training or to continue their education. Our community partner Craven Reboot have similarly

been active in gifting devices, supporting people with IT needs, and encouraging donations within their communities.

This quarter also saw the start of conversations with York Community Furniture Stores who have branches in Selby and Scarborough, about how they could be involved with the project. They already have a successful scheme called IT Reuse York.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

Stronger Communities continue to take the lead role in the delivery of the Communities and Place strand of the Council's UKSPF programme. An advisory group is in place made up of public and voluntary sector partners, who are overseeing the work being progressed on the year one allocations.

COUNCILLOR DAVID CHANCE

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Surface Dressing

The first phase of this year's surface dressing programme is complete, with lining and re-studding work ongoing and to programme. The second phase commenced on 4 July. Performance by the contractor has been good throughout the works with a high-quality delivery of service and in a timely manner.

New speed limits approach

The Executive approved an ambitious new approach to setting speed limits on 4 July. This will see a programme of planned reviews undertaken across all parts of North Yorkshire and a pipeline of schemes developed. Being more proactive and strategic will move us away from the piecemeal and fragmented approach where we looked at requests relating to one location at one point of time.

As part of our approach, there will be the opportunity for further 20mph limits and zones. However, we will not roll out a default 20mph in every town and village. Local communities and their elected councillors will be involved in shaping proposals for their areas, with their support an essential component of our localism agenda.

A59 Kex Gill

We are almost ready to begin construction work to realign Kex Gill, which is amongst the council's biggest ever infrastructure projects. Our Full Business Case was approved by Department for Transport (DfT) in February, unlocking the £56.1m grant. The Council awarded preferred bidder status to John Sisk & Son (Holdings) Ltd, a family-owned international contractor. The full contract award was made on the 16 June when signed by both parties and sealed.

Transforming Cities Fund – Harrogate, Selby and Skipton

We continue to make progress on £42m work to improve access to three of North Yorkshire's rail stations as part of the government's Transforming Cities Fund:

- in Harrogate, we received key, cross-party support from local councillors via the Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Constituency Committee. With localism at the heart of the new council, the Executive was keen to consult local councillors on this key investment. The Executive met on 30 May to decide whether to submit a Full Business Case to West Yorkshire Combined Authority and approved unanimously to proceed;
- planning permission for the Selby scheme was granted in September, with minor amendments due to be discharged in July 23. We are currently developing a construction plan for the project, working closely with Network Rail and TransPennine Express given key parts of the scheme involve railway land, including new lifts as part of the NR Access for All scheme. We are preparing to commence demolition of the Selby Railway Sports & Social Club on Station Road and James William House on Cowie Drive, together with utility diversions related to the new Bawtry Road underpass. Detailed design for the highways element of the project is now complete, and focus is switching to the station building;
- in Skipton, a planning application for the railway car park has been submitted, however, further details are being submitted to the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water

before their objections can be lifted and application determined. We continue to work with Network Rail, Northern and the Canal and River Trust on design finalisation. Subject to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority approving business cases for the three schemes in November, construction mobilisation is expected to start before the year ends.

Levelling Up Fund – Thirsk, Seamer, Scarborough and Malton stations

Levelling Up Fund (LUF) bids to improve Thirsk, Seamer, Scarborough and Malton rail stations were unfortunately unsuccessful. While this is disappointing news, we remain undeterred in our efforts to deliver these key transport improvements, which collectively have a value of almost £60m. Our plans are ready to go and we are seeking alternative funding, such as from the next LUF round or from devolution investment funds.

Electric Vehicle Charging

The Executive approved the Electric Vehicle (EV) Public Charging Infrastructure Rollout Strategy on 2 May. We will use this as our guide for network planning across North Yorkshire which will lead to mass rollout of Electric Vehicle Charge Points (EVCPs). It is forecast that 3,161 public charge points are required by 2030. It is anticipated that the public sector will need to fund 1,529 of the overall charge point requirements by 2030 at an approximate cost of £10.3m.

We have received £3.27m funding so far, through two Office for Zero Emissions Vehicles to deliver 150 EVCPs and renewable technology alongside 70 of those chargers. We have also bid for a further £4.88m from the LEVI Capital Fund, which was offered as an indicative allocation rather than a competition, which should enable delivery of around 1,000 EVCPs. NYC also received £88,920 from the LEVI Capability Fund to cover resource for this project. We have since also bid for a further £405,080. We await a decision on these key grants.

Local Transport Plan

Public engagement on the future Local Transport Plan (LTP) has started and many responses have been received. Meetings with all members via their Area Constituency Committees have also taken place and further meetings will be planned as the LTP develops. Over the Summer the responses from public and stakeholder engagement will be collated and analysed. A decision on the final LTP will be made by Full Council.

Buses

The YORbus pilot scheme ceased, as planned, on 30 June. The two-year pilot allowed us to gain valuable information about a digital demand responsive bus service. While YORbus proved popular with passengers, the service only operated in one part of the county and the cost per journey was significantly higher than the traditional, timetabled bus routes.

The Department for Transport announced additional support for buses. Firstly, the national £2 fare cap initiative has been extended to the end of October. After this the fare cap will be £2.50 until November 2024. This has proven very popular with passengers. Secondly, we were awarded a further £1.4m in funding to support delivery of our Bus Service Improvement Plan and to aid the retention of services.

COUNCILLOR KEANE DUNCAN

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY BOARD

Scrutiny Board brings together the Chairs of the six thematic overview and scrutiny committees at the Council and the Older Peoples', Young People's and Climate Change Champions. It provides an opportunity for a whole council view of scrutiny activity, which avoids gaps and overlaps and helps establish a lead committee for areas of joint interest. It also provides a forum in which the key performance issues for the Council can be reviewed and items for further scrutiny identified.

The scrutiny function was created to act as a check on and balance to the executive and it is a statutory requirement for all authorities operating executive arrangements. There has been one meeting of Scrutiny Board since my last statement to Council.

The meeting of Scrutiny Board on 26 May 2023 focussed upon the scrutiny of the Executive Q4 Performance Monitoring Report, ahead of the members of the Board attending the meeting of the Executive at 11am on Tuesday 30 May 2023. Some of the issues raised at the Executive meeting by members of the Scrutiny Board are highlighted below:

- The increase in demand for support from children and young people's services and whether this is a legacy of the pandemic which has been exacerbated by recent increase in the cost of living
- Understanding how children and young people's services can continue to perform well during such an increase in demand for services and whether there is any good practice that could be applied elsewhere in the council
- The changes the behaviour of some children in school and the impact of the pandemic and a prolonged period outside formal, in-person teaching in 2020 and 2021
- Concerns about the apparent increase in the number of children and young people who are vaping and potential health risk posed by cheap and/or counterfeit vapes that may not meet national production and safety standards
- The impact of the cost of living crisis and the associated increases in gas and electricity, food and wages upon the average cost of a care home placement for someone aged 65+
- Understanding the impact upon reablement as capacity continues to be diverted to support domiciliary care
- Staffing shortages and particular concerns about local, regional and national shortages in planning officers and what this means for the longer term sustainability of the service
- The wide variation in the costs associated with the collection of council tax and what work is being done to reduce these costs and align practices over the different teams.

Members of Scrutiny Board also received an update on the work that is underway to support the Council's 6 Area Constituency Committees (ACCs) as they develop and embed their new ways of working. There is a need to ensure that local scrutiny is co-ordinated and that work undertaken by the ACCs complements that of the Council's six thematic overview and scrutiny committees.

The Older People's and Young People's Champions provided an update on key aspects of their work over the past three months. A common theme was the key role that the community and voluntary sector continue to play in supporting vulnerable people in the community and the added value that many of the networks and groups bring by enabling people to meet,

exchange ideas and views and access support. There was also a discussion about the working definition of an 'older person', being someone who was over 50 years or age, and whether this adequately reflected the different circumstances that people are in as the age.

The recently appointed Climate Change Champion attended Scrutiny Board for the first time on 26 May 2023 and expressed his interest in raising the profile of and interest in work to promote carbon reduction across the Council.

Members of Scrutiny Board are next due meet at 18 August 2023. At that meeting, the Executive Q1 Performance and Finance Management Report will be scrutinised.

COUNCILLOR KARIN SEDGWICK
26 June 2023

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF CHAIR

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Feedback from Executive (Performance Monitoring) Committee on 30 May 2023

I informed Members of the matters that I had raised at the above meeting and the responses to these from the Executive Members and the Corporate Director.

Young People's Champion – Annual Report

Councillor Alyson Baker presented her report which summarised her work as Young People's Champion in the last year. Some examples from her report are provided below:-

Service Children's Remembrance Day - This commemorated the late Monarch, HM Queen Elizabeth II, recognising her service during the Second World War and her involvement and commitment to our serving personnel and families during her 70 years as Commander-in-Chief of the British Armed Forces. The children's artwork and contributions to the service reflecting this was on display.

Virtual School Graduation – A wonderful event held in the Council Chamber at County Hall. A celebration of triumph over adversity. Each of the 18 young people had a video message from important people, such as foster carers, teachers, social workers and leaving care workers.

School Safeguarding Conference – Councillor Baker was most interested and concerned about the exploitation of young people due to County Lines. Although North Yorkshire is a beautiful area, there is a risk of our young being targeted by these gangs as they are deemed to be "clean" and not an obvious target for police intervention.

Early Years

We considered a presentation by the Corporate Director, Stuart Carlton.

The key elements of the presentation, which is available [here](#), outlined:-

- The Grow and Learn initiative
- Early years Strategy/Transformation Work
- Support for families from Ukraine with early years children
- Safeguarding
- Information on the number of providers, broken down by category

The Corporate Director responded to a number of questions from Members including:-

- The support offered to any providers who are rated by OFSTED as *Inadequate*
- How we go about engaging with parents, some of whom may not realise they/their children require assistance
- Whether there is a risk that, due to resource issues, Schools will have difficulty linking up with providers to ensure wraparound care, from September 2025, for School age children (part of the roll out of the extended childcare offer)

Growing up in North Yorkshire Survey (GUNY)

Louise Wilson, Head of School Improvement and Clare Barrowman, Senior Education Adviser, made a presentation, which is available [here](#)

It provided a comprehensive summary of the 2022 GUNY Survey. The Survey is undertaken bi-annually and is the ninth since its inception.

Some 17,000 pupils completed the Survey.

The presentation covered:-

- Key findings
- Trends/changes over time
- How the results of the Survey have been used

Officers responded to a number of questions from Members including:-

- How the Directorate is supporting Schools in terms of the pressure caused by the number of wellbeing incidents
- What is being done to warn about the dangers of vaping, which is seen, by some, as a good alternative to smoking
- How the drop off, at a secondary level, in the percentage of girls who are confident in doing sport might be reversed

Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) in the Scarborough and Whitby area

Janet Crawford, Assistant Director for Inclusion, presented this report which advised the Committee of the establishment of this SEND Task and Finish Group and its proposed Terms of Reference.

The Assistant Director commented that the review had the potential to be extremely wide-ranging. Therefore, Members who had met to consider the scope of the review felt that the focus needed to be quite tight.

The Committee approved the Terms of Reference with the exception that the Membership be amended by Councillor David Jeffels being on the Task and Finish Group, rather than myself. I will attend any meetings as an observer.

Looking ahead

Items currently scheduled for our next meeting, on 1 September 2023, are:-

- Children's Mental Health
- School Closures/Governors
- Child Death Overview Panel – Annual Report 2022/2023

COUNCILLOR BARBARA BRODIGAN

5 JULY 2023

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE TRANSITION (LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION) OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Transition (LGR) Overview and Scrutiny committee was constituted back in July 2022 to work alongside the existing five overview and scrutiny committees undertaking their 'business as usual' work, with a particular focus on helping to shape the development of the new unitary authority. As part of the new constitution for North Yorkshire Council, the committee has now been retained for a further three years (until 31 March 2026) with a review after two years.

Following vesting day on 1 April 2023 and the move to the new unitary authority, the committee have been closely following developments and gathering feedback from residents.

Meeting of the TEEE O&S Committee on 25 May 2023

Committee members were invited to a meeting of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise O&S in May to consider progress with service harmonisation of the waste and recycling collections. I understand it was a very informative presentation on the various options under consideration, and the committee will be following this matter closely as the plans develop.

Committee Meeting on 19 June 2023

The committee met in person in the Brierley Room at County Hall. At the meeting, members received detailed presentations on: the progress of the transition and transformation following Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), initiatives to support the development of a staff culture within North Yorkshire Council and the work of the Customer Services teams across the county.

Outlined below are further details in relation to some of the areas that the committee considered:

LGR Transition and Transformation

Robert Ling, Director of Transformation, attended to provide an update on the overall transition process in the lead up to vesting day and the work now starting to get underway to transform service areas. Following a relatively smooth transition across to North Yorkshire Council, attention has now turned to learning lessons for the future and the involvement of the committee in scrutinising this piece of work. All staff across the organisation have been asked to submit current 'niggles' that need fixing since LGR to try and iron out issues, both major and minor, that have arisen.

Topics discussed in the Q&A with Robert that followed included:

- The improvements required to a number of corporate systems to ensure they are fit for purpose and working in the way that we want them to for the future
- A request for elected members to be kept updated on ongoing issues related to the new council to enable prompt responses to residents' queries
- Ensuring best practice from the predecessor councils is utilised as part of the service transformation process
- Issues experienced by residents trying to pay North Yorkshire Council by phone
- Success with reporting issues via the new council website has proved indifferent

It was agreed that the update from Robert will become a standing item for future committee meetings.

Developing a staff culture

Trudy Forster, Assistant Chief Executive for HR and Business Support joined the meeting to present to the committee on the schemes and events undertaken to help with developing a staff culture within the new council. These included: focus groups, webinars, pulse surveys, quick video guides and health & wellbeing resources. Personal development information and support continues to be provided for all staff, with the aim to embed the values and behaviours for North Yorkshire Council across the organisation.

Topics discussed in the Q&A with Trudy that followed included:

- Issues experienced by officers, particularly those joining from the former district and borough councils, in not feeling part of one organisation following LGR
- How can success in developing a staff culture be measured?
- The new hybrid working policy and what it means for staff
- The future occupancy of council buildings

Customer Services

Margaret Wallace, Assistant Director for Customer, Revenues and Benefits and Sarah Foley, Head of Customer Services gave an overview of the agreed customer principles, emphasising the aim to act as one council with one front door from day one, so that the customer experience is as seamless as possible. The achievement of reaching 'safe and legal' for Day 1 was highlighted, given the complexities within the service area, in particular ensuring that a customer can easily reach the right information or for walk in customers that there is a person in the right office location to help. There was recognition that the situation is not perfect, with improvements to continue as the customer journeys process is transformed.

Performance metrics were shared with the committee, which showed an improvement in May stats for telephony when compared to April, such as 8% more calls handled, the abandoned calls rate has fallen by 34% and the average time to answer now 42 seconds quicker. These metrics will continue to be monitored over the summer months.

It was reported that the new 'Contact us' website form has generated 6269 cases from 1 April to 31 May, helping to provide vital customer data insight to assist with making evidence based tweaks to the system. Over 900 changes to the website have already been made to make the online customer journey easier. The new chatbot is available 24/7, with bin collection days and garden waste service proving popular requests using this channel following vesting day.

It was pleasing to note that LGR has led to an increased opportunity for customers to access services in a single contact, meaning better connected services and developing an intelligence-led approach using improved insight from data and customer feedback.

The current challenges for the service were also addressed, for example that each area office is currently using different technology and there is no centralised Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. It was noted that customers have had to go through a culture change with the new website looking and feeling different, and the initial challenges with telephony that are showing short-term improvement.

Topics discussed in the Q&A that followed included:

- The performance of the interactive voice response (IVR) software to triage phone calls to the right service

- Whether the safety net team has been required as much as expected to direct phone calls?
- Developing one CRM system would help to standardise processes and call scripts across the different locations to provide a more consistent approach

Work Programme

Following the appointment of a new Vice-Chair in Cllr Griffiths, the committee will hold our first mid-cycle briefing in early August along with political group spokespersons to consider the future work programme in more detail. At the June meeting committee members suggested topics including the delivery of the Planning service, Finance system and requested regular updates on LGR savings and the development of a single CRM system in the future.

The next formal meeting of the committee will be taking place on Monday 4 September 2023 from 10am at County Hall.

COUNCILLOR MALCOLM TAYLOR
CHAIR OF THE TRANSITION (LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION)
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 July 2023

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR OF CARE AND INDEPENDENCE AND HOUSING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Care and Independence and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutinises the needs of vulnerable adults, older people and people whose independence needs to be supported by intervention from the public or voluntary sector and housing.

Committee Meeting on 22 June 2023

The Committee last met on 22 June 2023, in person in The Brierley Room at County Hall. At that meeting, Members received detailed presentations on: Next Generation Extra Care; Digital Lives; Support for Unpaid Carers; Direct Payments and Living Well, as well as an Overview of Housing from Andrew Rowe. There were no public questions or statements at the committee meeting.

Outlined below are further details in relation to some of the areas that the committee has been looking at:

Next Generation Extra Care

This covered celebrating 20 successful years of extra care housing in North Yorkshire, what extra care is and how it is delivered across the County, how the programme works and how it varies depending on location, the team and their success, demand and financial implications, extra care providers and the commissioning model. It also explained various community schemes to add value in extra care and the next steps and priorities for the way forward. The Committee were keen to congratulate the team on their success and look forward to supporting them ongoing.

Digital Lives

The Committee were updated on the different aspects of digital enhancements in the Health and Adult Social Care Directorate and looked in detail at the digital network and the vast areas this covers including, funding and strategy, looking at success in differing forms and not simply just computer literacy, getting the basics right at ground level, proactive and preventative services and some really interesting examples of the services in use, for example brain in hand, GPS tracking, GEO fence and Oysta.

Support for Unpaid Carers

The Committee received a presentation around the work that North Yorkshire Council does to support unpaid carers. This focused on the Carers assessment and Support Plan, information and guidance and the different types of support available. Likely lines of enquiry by the Care Quality Commission were discussed and the priorities identified in an improvement plan, those being:

- Leadership, Practice and Performance
- Co – Production, engagement and strategy
- Commissioned services for carers.

Direct Payments

The Committee were reminded of the benefits of direct payments and discussions around what a direct payment is, who can access these payments, how direct payments can be used took place. The Committee also looked at comparative data with regional neighbours and

England as whole, and the statistics in relation to North Yorkshire Councils position. The improvement plan to increase the uptake of direct payments was also shared with the Committee.

Living Well

This reminded the Committee of the background to living well and the teams overall aim of preventing, reducing or delaying the need for social care. Performance outcomes and key developments were discussed and the priorities for the following 12 months:

- Domestic abuse
- Falls
- Community collaboration
- Autism accreditation

Housing

As this element is completely new to the Council and to Scrutiny, the Committee had a verbal introduction from Andrew Rowe to the many aspects of housing including

- Homelessness
- Prevention and accommodation
- Regulation of landlords
- Houses of multiple occupation
- Disabled facility grants
- Retro fitting and energy efficiency
- Enforcing standards

The Committee were updated on the Council's acquisition of 8.5k council homes following the cessation of the 7 District and Borough Councils. A group discussion then looked at:

- what exactly is the Committee's remit?
- how does the Committee help the Directorate?
- and what are the requirements of the Committee in supporting ?
- does the subject matter fit over other Scrutiny Committees?
- what are the views of the Constitution Working Group?

The way forward will be discussed, and clarification sought.

Committee Workplan

Having discussed challenges facing adult healthcare across the County generally, and in particular the areas the Committee felt would be a priority in terms of Scrutiny over the next 18-24 months, the workplan has been updated to reflect this. The Committee is keen to work collaboratively and will therefore continue to link in with the Council's Area Constituency Committees (ACC's) to ensure focus is maintained at a local level. The committee will also continue to work closely with the Scrutiny of Health Committee allowing continued joint working around adult social care.

The next meeting of the committee will be at 10am on 28 September 2023.

COUNCILLOR KARIN SEDGWICK

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

STATEMENT OF THE CORPORATE AND PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Since the Chairman's last statement to Council on 17 May 2023, the Corporate and Partnership Overview and Scrutiny Committee has met once on 5 June 2023, when the following items were considered:

- Annual Review of Councillor Locality Budgets 2022/23
- Workforce Report
- North Yorkshire Refugee Resettlement Update
- Annual Update on Library Services
- Notice of Motion on PFCC to Resign – feedback on this item is shown elsewhere on the Council Agenda

At the committee meeting on 5 June 2023, members raised the following issues:

- Whether the Locality Budgets scheme could be adapted to allow roll over of remaining balances to the following year;
- The poor integration of ex district/borough staff, particularly those still based in district/borough offices;
- The increase in sickness levels (though still below national picture) particularly due to stress/depression/anxiety;
- Staff working longer hours whilst working from home;
- Concerns about the number of refugee families that may present as homeless on 16 August 2023 following closure of the Bridging Accommodation Hotel commissioned by Home Office.
- The delay in receiving reimbursement from government for the resettlement support provided to individuals resettled under the UKRS scheme (and the Afghan resettlement schemes), which includes exceptional needs expenditure for people with complex needs, typically persons with SEND.
- Heating costs in community libraries
- The drop in volunteer number post-covid

The Committee's Foodbanks Scrutiny Review is also continuing with the Task Group scheduled to meet again on 17th July 2023 improved stock management; there was increasing demand for food banks in the county.

The next meeting of the Committee is on 11 September 2023 and the following items are scheduled for scrutiny at that meeting:

- Bi-annual update on work of the Stronger Communities team and progress update on the corporate volunteering project – Marie-Ann Jackson, Head of Stronger Communities
- Update on the Operation of the Parish Portal and Parish Council engagement
- Bi-annual Update on Community Safety Plan Delivery & Partnership Working
- Youth Justice Performance Update
- Annual overview of the National Resilience Standards and NYC's current performance, together with an overview of ongoing Resilience and Emergencies work

The work of the committee will continue to evolve as scrutiny of aspects of the work of the former district and boroughs councils is taken on as well as scrutiny of some of the changes associated with the creation of the new North Yorkshire Council.

COUNCILLOR DAVID IRETON
7 July 2023

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 JULY 2023

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny of Health Committee has a responsibility to review any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services within the County, including Ambulance Trusts and the policies of the Strategic Health Authority. A key part of that responsibility is requiring NHS bodies to consult health scrutiny on proposals for substantial developments or variations to local health service provision. The Committee contributes to annual health checks by providing commentaries to the Health Care Commission on the performance of NHS Trusts serving North Yorkshire and on the experiences that the Committee has had with those Trusts.

Committee Meeting on 16 June 2023

The Committee last met on 16 June 2023, in person in The Council Chamber at County Hall. At that meeting, Members received detailed presentations on: Response to Workforce Pressures Within Health and Social Care; Update on Yorkshire Ambulance Service and Primary Care in North Yorkshire. There were no public questions or statements at the committee meeting.

Outlined below are further details in relation to some of the areas that the committee has been looking at.

Response to Workforce Pressures Within Health and Social Care

The Committee was updated on the current situation within Adult Social Care, the information having previously being presented in detail at the Care and Independence and Housing Committee.

Areas of note for the Committee were OPEL level weekly and daily position, hospital discharge activity, availability of intermediate care beds, current staffing vacancies, overseas recruitment, risks and opportunities.

The Committee were informed that recruitment from South Africa and Zimbabwe is working well and other areas being utilised to improve recruitment were University open days and placements.

The Committee suggested NVQ equivalent qualifications could perhaps be offered to help recruit and retain staff ongoing as well as Apprenticeship opportunities. College and University relationships could be used to help to identify and highlight the rewards the industry can provide as job satisfaction is a key reward in this area.

Update on Yorkshire Ambulance Service

The Committee received a welcome and informative update from Yorkshire Ambulance Service having already had a more informal discussion at the previous mid cycle briefing around the areas they would like further detail on. This included information on recruitment, response times, hear and treat, alternative approaches and support, control room recruitment, patient transport services, reducing delays, transport solutions, rotating paramedics, ambulance fleet increase, specific mental health vehicles, new facilities in Scarborough and refurbishment of the York control room.

Whilst improvements were evident there is still work to be done around patient transfer times particularly in Scarborough and York.

Primary Care in North Yorkshire

The Committee was pleased to welcome Wendy Balmain, North Yorkshire Place Director, Andrew Dangerfield, Head of Primary Care Transformation and Dr Bruce Willoughby, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board to its meeting to receive an presentation on Primary Care. This covered details on the primary care networks (PCN's) within the County, this consists of 65 practices in 14 PCN's, the collaborative priorities of the Integrated Care Board, capacity and access planning and details on the workforce.

The Committee then discussed the continuing struggle with appointments and access to GP's generally although the higher take up of digital alternatives such as the NHS app and alternative pathways is beginning to help alleviate this problem.

The Committee was pleased to receive news of the successful admittance of Airedale Hospital onto the new hospitals programme. The Committee had previously supported Airedale 's bid with a letter to the Secretary of State and a subsequent press release.

Committee Workplan

Having previously discussed at length the challenges facing healthcare across the County generally and in particular the areas the Committee felt would be a priority in terms of Scrutiny over the next 18-24 months, the workplan has been updated to reflect this.

The Committee is keen to work collaboratively and will therefore continue to link in with the Council's Area Constituency Committees (ACC's) to ensure focus is maintained at a local level. The committee will also continue to work closely with the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee allowing continued joint working around social care.

The next meeting of the committee will be at 10am on 8 September 2023.

COUNCILLOR ANDREW LEE

5 July 2023

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

STATEMENT OF CHAIR OF THE TRANSPORT, ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a remit that includes the following:

- Transport and communications infrastructure of all kinds, however owned or provided, and how the transport needs of the community are met;
- Supporting business, economic development and regeneration, the work of the Local Enterprise Partnership and helping people develop their skills, including lifelong learning;
- Sustainable development, climate change strategy, countryside management, waste management, environmental conservation and enhancement flooding and cultural issues.

The Committee last met on 25 May 2023 in the Council Chamber of the Civic Centre at Stone Cross.

Service Harmonisation - Waste and Recycling Collections

The committee were joined by members of the Transition (LGR) O&S Committee to receive a presentation that looked at future options for harmonising the waste and recycling collection service and the choices for the introduction of food waste collections. Following LGR, there is now the opportunity to look at the whole service and harmonise the process across North Yorkshire into a single model.

An overview of the current waste collection services was given of the three current approaches across the county: fully comingled, twin-stream and full kerbside sort, followed by summary of the various options for future service harmonisation:

- Co-mingled with no food waste
- Multi stream with no food waste
- Twin stream with no food waste
- Twin stream with food waste
- Twin stream with food waste and revised frequencies

All of the options set out the expected frequency of collection, recycling rate, carbon (tonnes of CO₂e) and the expected financial cost.

It was noted that whichever option is proceeded with, adaptations such as smaller wheeled bins and bag collections could be implemented to assist residents if special circumstances are required. It was felt that targeted stakeholder engagement was key to the successful implementation of major service changes in hard to reach areas.

Topics discussed in the Q&A that followed included:

- The bins currently used are partially made of recycled plastic and are recyclable. Members wanted this to be publicised more. Members also questioned whether other materials had been looked into and officers reported that the procurement process

would look into alternative options.

- To improve the aesthetics of an area, could communal, rather than individual household bins be used?
- Issues concerning the lane end collection policy were discussed. It was reported that these would be looked at on a case-by-case basis and that a balance between providing a service for residents and protecting the waste management crews needs to be found.
- Allerton Waste Recovery Park has the capability to recover garden waste that has been put into the household waste bin. However, it is still better to use a garden waste bin as the organic waste can then be recycled more efficiently.
- Volunteer networks are introducing community composting schemes which benefit those households that don't have garden waste bins.
- The current fleet of waste collection vehicles cannot be retrofitted with the food waste collection pods and so a new fleet would be required. This would coincide with the waste vehicle replacement programme.
- The vehicles used in the options presented to Members would most likely be internal combustion engines (ICE) as the electric technology is not yet suitable for the geography of the area. Electric, hybrid and hydrogen alternatives have been investigated and will continue to be considered.

The points made by members were taken onboard by officers in developing next steps with the waste and recycling service harmonisation. Before any decision is made, a public consultation will take place and this is estimated to be in 2025, so the committee will be closely involved in following this area of work along with LGR Transition O&S Committee as the process develops.

Climate Change Strategy Consultation Results

A report on the public consultation of the North Yorkshire Council climate change strategy was given by Jos Holmes, Climate Change Policy Officer and Adam Vaughan, Climate and Environmental Projects Officer. It was reported that the public consultation exercise received over 1500 responses, with 1530 through the 'Let's Talk Climate' online platform and 38 more detailed written responses from organisations, local councils and individuals. It was noted that alongside the strategy document, a climate change action plan is also being developed to focus on the delivery of the key priorities within the climate change strategy.

Topics discussed in the Q&A that followed the presentation included:

- The methodology of the strategy and the consultation exercise was commended.
- Members suggested that the strategy could be improved by ensuring that the definition of net zero is made clearer and that the climate change programmes of the former borough, county and district councils are integrated into the new strategy.
- Members raised a number of areas around public transport that could be improved, in order to incentivise it as an alternative to using the car, for example lobbying to extend the £2 cap for bus fares, introducing bus lanes and lobbying for contactless tap-in for buses.
- It is proposed that the climate change strategy, once approved, will be reviewed every 6

months by the committee and will be refreshed every 2 years.

Following the questions to officers and debate, it was proposed that the report be noted but the at the strategy once revised be circulated to members of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide comments on the document before going to the Executive in July. This informal meeting took place on 28 June via Teams and was attended by 11 members of the committee, to give them the opportunity to make comments and suggestions to enhance the final strategy document.

Work Programme

Under the work programme item, a topic raised for discussion at future meetings and mid-cycle briefings included air quality, to explain (i) how we currently measure air quality and how we can measure it in the future, (ii) whether LGR is an opportunity to change the way we review air quality and (iii) how we compare to other local authorities.

The next meeting of the committee is set to take place on 10 July 2023, to consider reports on the performance of NY Highways, the improvement and maintenance activity of National Highways, the Strategic Transport Plan of Transport for the North under consultation and the draft North Yorkshire Plan for Economic Growth.

COUNCILLOR DAVID STAVELEY
CHAIR, TRANSPORT, ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30 June 2023

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL
19 July 2023

The Report of the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the Notice of Motion seeking the resignation of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner that was referred to the committee at the meeting of the Council on 17 May 2023

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

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Council with a summary of the deliberations and recommendations of the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee concerning a Notice of Motion seeking the resignation of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner that was referred to the committee at the meeting of the Council on 17 May 2023.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At Full Council on 17 May 2023, the Chairman decided that a Notice of Motion seeking the resignation of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner should be passed to the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration, with the intention of it being considered and recommendations brought back to the 19 July 2023 meeting of the Council.

- 2.2 The Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Bryn Griffiths and seconded by Councillor Mike Schofield stated:

'His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) has recently published two reports on the performance on North Yorkshire's Police. The first was published on 17th March regarding the Police Effectiveness, Efficiency, Legitimacy: PEEL 2021/22 – An inspection of North Yorkshire Police (NYP). It graded North Yorkshire Police's performance across eight areas of policing and found the force was 'inadequate' in one area, 'requires improvement' in four areas, 'adequate' in two areas and 'good' in one area. The strapline was "North Yorkshire must make improvements to help keep people safe and reduce crime".

The second report was published on 3rd May, entitled "North Yorkshire – National child protection inspection post-inspection review". This inspection reviewed the progress made by North Yorkshire Police since the publication of the last report for North Yorkshire in 2021. HMICFR had audited 33 child protection cases - 11 cases were found to be good, 8 required improvement and 14 were inadequate. For so many cases to be found inadequate is a damning indictment not only on the Police, but also on the overall management of the force by the Police & Fire Commissioner.

The police, fire and crime commissioner (PFCC) is elected to be responsible for generally overseeing both the police force and fire service. Clearly the PFCC has failed in this duty and is continuing to fail to hold the North Yorkshire Police force to account and therefore to keep the public and in particular children safe. Urgent action is therefore needed to remove the existing Commissioner immediately and install a far more effective manager.'

- 2.3 The Notice of Motion was considered by the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 5 June 2023.

- 2.4 The Council's Constitution (Council Procedure Rules, section 11, page 223) states:

(h) If a motion is referred to the Executive or one committee only, the Executive or that committee shall report to the Council upon that motion together with its recommendation. If a motion is referred to more than one committee, the Executive shall report to the Council upon that motion together with its recommendations. The report of the Executive or any committee to which a motion has been referred shall contain a statement of that motion.

(i) When the Executive or a committee reports back on a motion, the motion, as originally moved and seconded at the earlier meeting, will be the matter before the Council. Any recommendation of the Executive or committee to amend the motion will therefore be an amendment to the motion and any recommendation to support or oppose the motion will be only an expression of views.

3.0 CORPORATE AND PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING ON 5 JUNE 2023

3.1 The papers for the meeting of the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 5 June 2023 can be accessed via the following link (Item 9) – [Agenda for Corporate & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee on Monday, 5th June, 2023, 10.30 am | North Yorkshire Council](#)

3.2 The extract from the minutes of the meeting is as below:

Councillor Bryn Griffiths introduced the report as the proposer of the motion and drew attention to the options in the report at paragraph 6.1. He confirmed his Motion was not political but rather a reaction to the poor performance identified in the recently published reports of His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS). He also expressed disappointment at the initial response of the PFCC when she had expressed surprise at the findings of those reports and suggested her monitoring of performance must have been lacking given her level of awareness of the issues.

Councillor Malcolm Taylor suggested the Motion was fundamentally flawed as it was not the role of the Council to hold the PFCC to account, but rather that responsibility laid with the Police Fire and Crime Panel (PFCP). Other Members agreed the PFCC's performance was the responsibility of the PFCP, including calling for the resignation of the PFCC should they deem that an appropriate response.

With that in mind and noting the planned special PFCP meeting on 21 June 2023 at which the Panel would focus on the PFCC's performance in relation to the HMI inspection outcomes, and the progress being made, the Committee agreed no further action was required in relation to the Motion.

However, given their remit of scrutinising crime and disorder, members of the Committee agreed they would like to invite the PFCC, the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer individually to attend future meetings of the Committee, and agreed to add their attendance to the Committee's work programme.

3.3 Having considered the report in full, the representations by Councillors Bryn Griffiths and Mike Schofield, the members of the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny committee who were present resolved that: 1) no further action be taken in response to the Notice of Motion and 2) the work programme be updated to include the attendance at future meetings of the PFCC, the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no specific financial implications associated with this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The legal implications arising from the motion are addressed in the report.

6.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no specific climate change implications associated with this report..

7.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no specific equality implications associated with this report.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION

8.1 That Council considers the recommendation of the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee that no further action be taken in response to the Notice of Motion.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall, Northallerton

11 July 2023

Report author:

Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager – daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk

Background documents:

Constitution of North Yorkshire Council -

<https://edemocracy.northyorks.gov.uk/documents/s19609/NYCCConstitutionVersion2May2023.pdf>

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

19 July 2023

Report on Special Urgency and Call-in Exemption decisions under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16

Report of the Leader of the Council

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Council with a report on the use of the special urgency and call-in exemption procedures under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16 in respect of decisions taken since the Council's last meeting.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council's Constitution provides that if a matter which is likely to be a key decision has not been included on the Council's Forward Plan for the requisite period, the decision may still be taken if an urgency procedure is followed.
- 2.2 The Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Constitution set out two urgency procedures, depending on the time available before the decision needs to be taken: the Rule 15 General Exception Urgency procedure and the Rule 16 Special Urgency procedure for use in more urgent cases. Use of the latter procedure is required to be reported back to full Council.
- 2.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Constitution set out a call-in exemption process, use of which is also reported back to Council.

3.0 SPECIAL URGENCY AND CALL IN EXEMPTION PROCEDURES

- 3.1 Under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16:

16.1 Where the date by which a decision must be made makes compliance with Rule 15 (general exception) impracticable, then the decision can only be made if the decision maker (if an individual) or the Chair of the body making the decision, obtains the written agreement of the Chair of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred. If there is no Chair of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee, or if the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee is unable to act, then the agreement of the Chair of the Council, or in their absence the Vice-Chair will suffice.

16.2 As soon as reasonably practicable after the decision maker has obtained agreement under Rule 16.1 above, they must make available at the Council's offices a notice setting out the reasons why the meeting is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred and publish the notice on the Council's website.

- 3.2 Access to Information Procedure Rule 17 then includes provision for the reporting back to full Council on the use of the Rule 16 special urgency procedure:

17.3 **Reports on special urgency decisions**

- 17.3.1 The Leader will submit to the next meeting of the Council, a report on any executive decisions taken in the circumstances set out in Rule 16 (special urgency). The report must include particulars of the decision, a summary of the matters in respect of which the decision was made, the reasons for it and the reasons for use of the special urgency procedure.
- 17.3.2 The Leader must submit at least one report under 17.3.1 annually to Council.

3.3 Under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16(h):

- (h) The call-in procedure set out above shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Executive is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public interest. The Chair of the Council must agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair's consent shall be required. In the absence of both, the Head of Paid Service or their nominee's consent shall be required. Decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

- 3.4 This report therefore provides the report back to full Council on the use of the special urgency and call-in exemption procedures since the last meeting of full Council on 22 and 17 May 2023. Rule 15 (General Urgency) notices have also been referenced where they also include call in exemption.

4.0 USE OF SPECIAL URGENCY AND CALL IN EXEMPTION PROCEDURES

- 4.1 At the time of writing this report, the use of special urgency and call-in exemption procedures in relation to decisions taken since the last meeting of full Council on 17 May 2023, is as summarised below. Full details of the decisions taken under the procedures and the reasons for them along with the reasons for using the special urgency and/or call in exemption procedures can be accessed via the hyperlinks.

Draft Adult learning and Skills Service Accountability Statement 2023/24

Rule 16 Special Urgency and Call in Exemption

[Decision - Draft Adult learning and Skills Service Accountability Statement 2023/24' | North Yorkshire Council](#)

On 30 May 2023, the Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills considered a report seeking approval for the draft Annual Accountability Statement for submission to the Department of Education. The deadline for submission was 31 May 2023. Due to the tight timescales involved it was not possible for details of this key decision to be published on the Forward Plan for the requisite 28 clear day period and the decision could not be subject to 'call in'.

Supported Internship Grant-Department for Education

Rule 16 Special Urgency and Call in Exemption

[Decision - Supported Internship Grant-Department for Education | North Yorkshire Council](#)

On 30 May 2023, the Executive Member for Education and Skills considered a report seeking approval to accept Grant funding from the Department of Education for the purposes of supporting an employment forum and development of additional Supported Internships for young people with SEND. This then allowed the Chief Financial Officer to authorise the acceptance of the grant. The deadline for submission was 5 June 2023. Due to the tight timescales involved it was not possible for details of this key decision to be published on the Forward Plan for the requisite 28 clear day period and the decision could not be subject to 'call in'.

North Yorkshire Test & Learn Pilot Programme (Health & Youth Justice)

Rule 16 Special Urgency and Call in Exemption

[Decision - North Yorkshire Test & Learn Pilot Programme \(Health & Youth Justice\) | North Yorkshire Council](#)

On 13 June 2023, the Executive Member for Children's Services considered a report seeking authorisation of an NYC agreement to accept the North Yorkshire Test and Learn Pilot Programme (Health and Youth Justice) Grant for the following financial years 2023/2024, and 2024/25. This then allowed the Chief Financial Officer to authorise the acceptance of the grant. Due to the tight timescales involved it was not possible for details of this key decision to be published on the Forward Plan for the requisite 28 clear day period and the decision could not be subject to 'call in'.

Mobile Library

Rule 16 Special Urgency and Call in Exemption

[Decision - Mobile Library | North Yorkshire Council](#)

On 19 June 2023, the Corporate Director of Community Development considered a report seeking approval to submit an expression of interest for grant funding of £150,000 for the transformation of the Mobile Library Service. The deadline for submission was 19 June 2023. Due to the tight timescales involved it was not possible for details of this key decision to be published on the Forward Plan for the requisite 28 clear day period and the decision could not be subject to 'call in'.

English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) - Procurement of Back Office Systems

Rule 16 Special Urgency and Call in Exemption

[Decision - English National Concessionary Travel Scheme \(ENCTS\) - Procurement of Back Office Systems | North Yorkshire Council](#)

On 20 June 2023, the Corporate Director of Environment considered a report seeking approval to re-procure back office systems that support the issuing of concessionary bus passes, as a statutory duty of the Council. The matter was decision was urgent as there was a need to get to the market as early as possible and allow maximum mobilisation time to integrate new software with current council systems. Due to the tight timescales involved it was not possible for details of this key decision to be published on the Forward Plan for the requisite 28 clear day period and the decision could not be subject to 'call in'.

Local Transport Fund - Grant Acceptance

Rule 15 Urgency and Call in Exemption

[Decision - Local Transport Fund - Grant Acceptance | North Yorkshire Council](#)

On 23 June 2023, the Executive Member for Highways and Transportation considered a report seeking approval for the acceptance of grant funding of £359,000 provided by the Department for Transport (DfT) to support the local bus network. The deadline for the acceptance of the grant was 30 June 2023. Due to the tight timescales involved it was not possible for details of this key decision to be published on the Forward Plan for the requisite 28 clear day period and the decision could not be subject to 'call in'.

Local Authority Housing Fund

Rule 15 Urgency and Call in Exemption

[Decision - Local Authority Housing Fund | North Yorkshire Council](#)

On 18 July 2023, the Executive will consider a report regarding an indicative allocation under Local Authority Housing Fund 2 made to North Yorkshire Council of £1,334,775 for a minimum of 11 homes of a size and location most needed in the local authority area. In order to accept the funding, the Council is required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding by 14 August 2023. Due to the tight timescales involved it was not possible for details of this key decision to be published on the Forward Plan for the requisite 28 clear day period and the decision could not be subject to 'call in'.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The financial implications are considered in the report and the linked decision records.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The legal implications are considered in the report and the linked decision records.

7.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

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

8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 Consultation has been undertaken with relevant officers and Members prior to the use of the urgency and/or call-in exemption procedures.

10.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To report back to full Council on the use of the special urgency and call-in exemption procedures in compliance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

11.0 RECOMMENDATION

11.1 That full Council receives and notes this report.

COUNCILLOR CARL LES
Leader of the Council

11 July 2023

Report Author:

Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, North Yorkshire Council
daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk

Background Documents:

The Council Constitution - [NYCConstitutionVersion2May2023.pdf \(northyorks.gov.uk\)](#)

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.