

# Public Document Pack



- Meeting:** Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Members:** Councillors Philip Barrett, John Cattanach, Mark Crane, Melanie Davis (Vice-Chair), Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Paul Haslam, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Steve Mason, David Staveley (Chair), Phil Trumper, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, Robert Windass and Subash Sharma.
- Date:** Thursday, 18th January, 2024
- Time:** 10.00 am
- Venue:** Brierley Room, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AD

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting as observers for all those items taken in open session. Please contact the Democratic Services Officer, whose details are below, if you would like to find out more.

This meeting is being held as an in-person meeting.

Recording is allowed at Council, committee and sub-committee meetings which are open to the public, please give due regard to the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at public meetings. Anyone wishing to record is asked to contact, prior to the start of the meeting, the Democratic Services Officer whose details are at the foot of the first page of the Agenda. We ask that any recording is clearly visible to anyone at the meeting and that it is non-disruptive.

## AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 October 2023** (Pages 3 - 10)
- 3. Declarations of Interest**  
All Members are invited to declare at this point any interests they have in items appearing on this agenda, including the nature of those interests.
- 4. Public Participation**  
Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice (to include the text of the question/statement) to Will Baines, Principal Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer (*contact details below*) no later than midday on Monday 15 January 2024. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:-

Enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Will Baines, Principal Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer  
Tel: 01609 533885

or e-mail [william.baines@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:william.baines@northyorks.gov.uk)

Website: [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

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

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Chair who will instruct those taking a recording to cease while you speak.

5. **Question referred from Harrogate and Knaresborough ACC (1)** (Pages 11 - 14)
6. **Question referred from Harrogate and Knaresborough ACC (2)** (Pages 15 - 18)
7. **Notice of Motion on United Nations Sustainable Development Goals** (Pages 19 - 30)
8. **York & North Yorkshire LEP Capital Investment Programme and Delivery Plan Review** (Pages 31 - 36)  
Report deferred from the 19 October 2023 meeting.
9. **Work Programme** (Pages 37 - 42)  
Purpose of the report: To ask Members to consider, amend and add to the Committee's work programme.
10. **Any other items**  
Any other items which the Chair agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.
11. **Date of Next Meeting**  
Thursday 1 February 2024 at 10am at County Hall, Northallerton.

Members are reminded that in order to expedite business at the meeting and enable Officers to adapt their presentations to address areas causing difficulty, they are encouraged to contact Officers prior to the meeting with questions on technical issues in reports.

**Contact Details:**

For enquiries relating to this agenda, please contact Will Baines, Principal Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer - Tel: 01609 533885 or email: [william.baines@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:william.baines@northyorks.gov.uk)

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive  
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall  
Northallerton

Wednesday, 10 January 2024

## North Yorkshire Council

### Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 19th October, 2023 commencing at 10.00 am.

Councillor David Staveley in the Chair plus Councillors John Cattanach, Mark Crane, Melanie Davis, Hannah Gostlow, Paul Haslam, David Ireton, George Jabbour (substitute), David Jeffels, Mike Jordan, Steve Mason, Phil Trumper, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, Robert Windass and Subash Sharma.

Officers present: Lisa Cooper, Hugh Clear Hill, Peter Jeffreys, Edward Maxwell and Will Baines

Other Attendees: Rachael Balmer (virtual)

Apologies: Councillor Caroline Goodrick.

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

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#### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Caroline Goodrick, with Councillor George Jabbour attending as substitute.

#### **2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 and 26 July 2023**

A minor amendment to the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2023 meeting was suggested.

#### **Resolved –**

Subject to a minor amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on the 10 and 26 July 2023, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4 Public Participation**

There were no public questions or statements.

#### **5 Notice of Motion on improvements in water quality for improvements in health, wildlife, biodiversity and economy**

Considered – Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) presenting information to support the consideration of a motion regarding water quality for

improvements in health, wildlife, biodiversity and economy.

In introducing the item, Hugh Clear Hill, Principal Environmental Policy Officer, addressed the committee, noting:

- Water quality is a national issue of serious concern.
- North Yorkshire Council is already involved in a number of projects and initiatives concerning the improvement of water quality.
- Whilst the motion has a focus on the freshwater, the Council recently brought together stakeholders and partners for a water summit to look at the specific challenges with poor water quality in South Bay, Scarborough. This is one of a number of designated bathing water sites in the county. However, there are currently no designated bathing sites for freshwater in North Yorkshire, but there is pressure to increase the number of these.
- The Leader of the Council recently wrote to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in support of a bathing water application for the River Nidd in Knaresborough.
- There is a lot of positive activity ongoing, some of it already involving the water companies, such as at the River Foss and the River Leven to improve water quality by reducing the impact of sewage works.
- A piece of work is ongoing to see what can be done about private sewage treatment, such as the use of septic tanks.
- On the west of the county, work is taking place with partners to improve the River Ribble.
- The position of North Yorkshire Council in complementing the ongoing activity to improve water quality and leading in areas where it can is key.
- Although water policy is currently in a state of flux, there are potentially some very important steps coming forward, such as the 'Plan for Water' announced by the Government in April 2023, which promoted the use of a catchment approach to managing the water system and proposes unlimited fines for water companies, that would be earmarked specifically for a river restoration fund. Things are uncertain but are beginning to take shape.
- As part of the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy, North Yorkshire Council, as the responsible authority, is working with seven other adjoining authorities. The existing river catchment partnerships are an important part of this.
- A duty is coming in from January 2024 to report on all areas of council services to show we are at least protecting if not enhancing biodiversity.

Rachael Balmer, Planning Policy Team Leader (Ryedale), added:

- As part of the ongoing local plan making process for North Yorkshire, there will be robust engagement with water companies on how we can properly address the impact of new development allocations on watercourses.
- There is the concept of betterment, where a development is only required to mitigate the impact that it generates. When dealing with allocations, it is important to properly deal with all of the potential impacts regarding water usage, responding to climate change, public health and general resource issues.
- The Government is clear that it wishes to see more robust engagement between the planning system and private sector water companies. As part of its plans to improve the plan making process, there may be a requirement to engage placed on utility companies, as currently water companies are not a statutory consultee on planning applications.

Councillor Arnold Warneken, as the proposer of the motion, then set out the rationale behind it as follows:

- A number of minor proposed amendments to the original motion text were set out that he hoped the committee would support as recommendation to Council.
- The motion was brought forward because of a huge concern about water quality and how important it is to us not just for survival but for the environment, aquatic life and wildlife.
- It was good to see the work the Council is already doing on water quality issues, but felt the current approach was more reactive than proactive.
- The work around the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy as the Responsible Authority was encouraging and we should be leading the way on this.
- It was felt that was a role as an authority with tenant farmers, by restricting the amount of chemical sprays they use and ties into the proposed addition of 'rural diffuse pollution' in numbered point 2 (Recommendation 2).
- There was concern with the statement in the report that "large scale agricultural buildings do not have building control approval and so their drainage consideration do need to be addressed at the planning stage".

The Chair commented that this was an important issue and the Council needs to play its part in that. It was proposed to go through each numbered point of the motion in turn, to seek views on the wording and any suggested changes, in order to form recommendations back to Full Council when it considers the motion in November.

Following this and some general comments made by members, The committee debated each numbered point in turn, agreeing to the following recommendations (added wording in bold, deletions have been struck through) to be considered by Council:

1. Recognise it has a role **and agrees to define its 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.

#### **Recommendation 1**

That the wording 'and agrees to define its role' be inserted in numbered point 1 of the Notice of Motion.

Point 1 of the Notice of Motion was widely supported by committee members, with a recommendation passed to add the wording 'and agrees to define its role'. This was following concern that the Council has to be focussed on what it is trying to achieve on water quality and whilst recognising our role, the motion should seek to define it as well.

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, **waste and minerals** activities, **rural diffuse pollution** and multiple sewage discharge events from diffuse and point source pollution including private and statutory waste treatment systems **to monitor, measure** and seek to better understand the impact on our local rivers, wildlife and the health of our residents.

#### **Recommendation 2**

That 'rural diffuse pollution' be inserted as above in numbered point 2 of the Notice of Motion.

### **Recommendation 3**

That 'waste and minerals' be inserted as above in numbered point 2 of the Notice of Motion.

### **Recommendation 4**

That 'to monitor, measure' be inserted as above in numbered point 2 of the Notice of Motion.

Point 2 of the Notice of Motion was the subject of several recommended additions to include missing cumulative impact actions, and the addition of wording to clarify 'to monitor and measure' as part of understanding the impact of the activities detailed in the motion text.

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 site specific** level of future development.

### **Recommendation 5**

To delete 'overall' and replace with 'site specific' in numbered point 3 of the Notice of Motion.

This recommendation was put forward to address a concern that it would be difficult to use water quality as a reason to adjust future housing development requirements across the whole Local Plan.

The emerging new Local Plan would be established based on factors such as housing needs, population and household projections and other evidence. Environmental constraints and tolerances would be second order considerations as part of the assessment process and would usually take place on a more site specific level of the impact of new developments on water quality rather than at an overall level.

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, **the National Farmers' Union** 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.

### **Recommendation 6**

To add 'the National Farmers' Union' to the list of invited representatives.

The addition of the NFU was a proposal put forward by Councillor Warneken that the committee supported. There were other suggestions made in the course of the deliberations on this fourth point of the Notice of Motion around the format of any future meeting (if the motion is carried), such as inviting all interested Councillors to attend, holding it in a suitably sized room and order of business. These would be taken into account if a meeting was to be arranged.

5. Ask **all relevant water companies** ~~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).

### **Recommendation 7**

To delete 'Yorkshire Water' and replace with 'all relevant water companies' under point 5 of the Notice of Motion.

This is to take into account that whilst Yorkshire Water do account for the vast majority of water service in Yorkshire, parts of the local authority are served by United Utilities to the west and Northumbrian Water to the North. In regard to Yorkshire Water's (or any Water Utility company) role in the consultation of planning applications, they are not currently a statutory consultee but have been a long standing consultee on planning applications.

~~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~~

### **Recommendation 8**

That numbered point 6 of the Notice of Motion be removed.

This recommendation for removal from the Notice of Motion was put forward on the basis that whilst understanding the sentiment behind it, the request for future planning assessments to provide appropriate coverage of the impact on watercourses was felt could be legally challenged and prove financially expensive for the council.

6. 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.

This point of the Notice of Motion was left as per the original submission.

7. This Council plays its part in **supporting communities who wish to attain** securing bathing water status ~~for the Lido on the River Nidd in Knaresborough and any other applications in North Yorkshire~~

### **Recommendation 9**

That the words 'securing' and 'for the Lido on the River Nidd in Knaresborough and any other applications in North Yorkshire' be deleted, and the phrase 'supporting communities who wish to attain' be inserted as above.

8. Planning policy should give specific weight and consideration to the potential impacts on watercourses and river waterbodies both in terms of potential contamination and health.

**Recommendation 10:** That the text above be inserted as numbered motion point 8.

9. To ask the Leader of Council, if the motion is carried, to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to request that the policy issues raised in the Notice of Motion be included as part of the National Planning Policy Framework.

**Recommendation 11:** That the text above be inserted as numbered motion point 9.

It was also advised during the meeting that the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust endorsed the motion and it should be added to the organisations listed at the end of the Notice of Motion.

It is important to note that there was support amongst all committee members present that water quality is a very important issue and the Council has to play its part as improve the current situation. The recommendations made to Council attempt to bring the motion into an effective form of words, by adding further nuance to the Notice of Motion text submitted and

refine it where possible, to achieve the improvements in water quality that every member wishes to see.

**Resolved -**

That Council considers the following recommendations of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee relating to the motion regarding water quality for improvements in health, wildlife, biodiversity and economy:

**Recommendation 1**

That the wording 'and agrees to define its role' of the Notice of Motion be inserted as described in numbered point 1 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 2**

That 'rural diffuse pollution' be inserted as described in numbered point 2 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 3**

That 'waste and minerals' be inserted as described in numbered point 2 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 4**

That 'to monitor, measure' be inserted as described in numbered point 2 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 5**

To delete 'overall' and replace with 'site specific' in numbered point 3 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 6**

To add 'the National Farmers' Union' to the list of invited representatives in numbered point 4 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 7**

To delete 'Yorkshire Water' and replace with 'all relevant water companies' under numbered point 5 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 8**

That numbered point 6 of the Notice of Motion be removed.

**Recommendation 9**

That the words 'securing' and 'for the Lido on the River Nidd in Knaresborough and any other applications in North Yorkshire' be deleted, and the phrase 'supporting communities who wish to attain' be inserted at numbered point 7 of the Notice of Motion.

**Recommendation 10**

That the following text be inserted as numbered motion point 8:  
'Planning policy should give specific weight and consideration to the potential impacts on watercourses and river waterbodies both in terms of potential contamination and health.'

**Recommendation 11**

That the following text be inserted as numbered motion point 9:  
'To ask the Leader of Council, if the motion is carried, to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to request that the policy issues raised in the Notice of Motion be included as part of the National Planning Policy Framework.'



## 6 Rural Connectivity Report

This item was deferred.

## 7 York & North Yorkshire LEP Capital Investment Programme and Delivery Plan Review

This item was deferred.

## 8 Allerton Waste Recovery Park Performance Update

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director – Environment with an update on Allerton Waste Recovery Park (AWRP) contractual performance since services commenced in 2018 and options for future decarbonisation.

Some of the key points highlighted in the report and presentation are as summarised below:

- AWRP has been operational since 1 March 2018 and consists of a Mechanical Treatment (MT) plant, an Anaerobic Digester (AD) and Energy from Waste (EfW) facility to receive and treat residual waste from across York and North Yorkshire. Offices and a visitor centre is also on site. The facility can process up to 320,000 tonnes of waste per annum as per the planning permission.
- At the end of 2022, HMT published draft legislation on the Electricity Generator Levy relating to a tax on exceptional profits. The EfW sector has been included as an industry that would be in scope.
- Following a consultation exercise in March 2022, on 3 July 2023, the UK Government released a consultation response which looks to include Energy from Waste facilities in the UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS) from 2028. It is proposed there will be a 2 year lead in period from 2026. Further consultation is expected later in 2023.
- The annual contract target is to recycle or compost a minimum of 5% of Contract Waste and to divert a minimum of 70% Contract Waste away from landfill.
- The diversion of contract waste from landfill in 2022-23 was 92.64%. AWRP has performed well since services commenced and improved landfill diversion performance year on year. Currently two planned maintenance outages take place each year but AWRP is looking to move to annual maintenance shutdowns from 2025.
- 2022-23 recycling performance is the best since service commencement, although at 2.02% is still short of the 5% authority requirements. It is felt that Covid-19 and the energy crisis have resulted in difficult market conditions.
- The recycling/composting performance for NYC for 2022-23 was 43.6% which is slightly above the mean derived from 26 other Waste Disposal Authorities.
- Since operations commenced, AWRP has been operating just below forecast levels by circa 400 tonnes by working to ensure maximising inputs. Thalia/Yorwaste are working to secure more treatment capacity rather than sending to landfill when AWRP is not available.
- Incineration of waste emits 25 times less greenhouse gasses than landfill, however as with a number of other industrial processes, does emit CO2 when treating waste. Since operations commenced, AWRP has treated over 1.5m tonnes of waste and saved over 330,000 tonnes of carbon emissions.
- The waste team undertook a soft market testing exercise at the end of 2022 and had a number of responses from companies interested in responding to a tender to

produce a feasibility study looking at options to decarbonise AWRP in the future.

Following this, comments and questions raised by the committee included:

- How long do the scheduled closedown periods at Allerton Waste Recovery Park last and what happens to the waste delivered to the site during this period?
- What arrangements are in place with other local authorities for processing waste disposal on their behalf at AWRP?
- Is there expected to be a requirement to recycle more plastics in the future?
- Will the separate food waste collection form part of the harmonisation process for waste collection and disposal?
- Is the AWRP site receptive to respond to future advances in technology given the very quick pace of change in this area.
- What opportunities are there to further influence public behaviour around improving the recycling rate in future years?
- What are the next steps for the options to decarbonise AWRP in the future?
- There was an appetite for a risk profile to be included with the future annual reports

**Resolved -**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**9 Work Programme**

Considered -

Report setting out the Committee Work Programme.

**Resolved -**

- i) That the current work programme be noted.
- ii) That updates on recycling harmonisation and PROWs be noted on the work programme as items for a future meeting.

**10 Any other items**

There were no urgent items to be considered.

The meeting concluded at 2.45 pm.

## North Yorkshire Council

### Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

18 January 2024

#### Question referred from Harrogate & Knaresborough ACC (1)

##### 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To detail the referral of a public statement from the Harrogate & Knaresborough ACC on 23 November 2023 for the matter to be considered.

##### 2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Constituency Committee on 23 November 2023, it was resolved that a public statement be referred to the next meeting of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This provision is outlined in Council Procedure Rules section 9.10 (page 210) of the North Yorkshire Council Constitution.

- 2.2 The public statement submitted was:

Thank you chair. I am Hazel Peacock from the Oatlands & Pannal Ash Road Safety & Active Travel Campaign and I am here today to ask for your help.

The final sign off of the 20mph zone for Oatlands and Pannal Ash presented to you in September is shortly to be made.

There are important additions to this which without only 5 of the 9 schools in the zone will be fully covered with 20mph roads immediately surrounding them; leaving 4 schools (with over 3,000 pupils) without; and 30mph at St John Fishers and Willow Tree Primary Schools and a mixture of 30mph and 20mph in the case of Harrogate Grammar School and Oatlands Infant School.

With 16 children killed or seriously injured in road crashes every week on their way to or from school, we are all acutely aware of the case for 20mph around schools and across communities (especially in urban areas) and sadly the death of two pedestrians (aged 70 and 90) involved in separate collisions in Harrogate in the last 2 weeks, is a very sad reminder of the catastrophic outcomes of road accidents.

The NY 20mph policy and the DfT Guidance (from which the NYC policy is developed) has been repeatedly cited as the barrier to implementing 20mph on these roads, and was also cited to you here in September. The NYC policy states "Officers will check...The Road is not a network hierarchy Category 2 road".

However, the DfT Guidance 01/2013 actually includes two clauses allowing for 20mph on "main streets", which could be and are not currently included in the NYC policy. It states: "Traffic authorities can, over time, introduce 20mph speed limits or zones on major streets where there

are - or could be - significant numbers of journeys on foot where pedal cycle movements are an important consideration, and this outweighs the disadvantage of longer journey times on the motorist”.

This is in addition to residential streets, in cities, towns and villages, particularly where the streets are being used by people on foot and on bicycles, there is community support and the characteristics of the street are suitable.”

At Full Council last week, Cllr Duncan replied to our request for this amendment stating: “ our current 20mph speed limit and zone policy does in fact already allow for the implementation of 20mph on major streets as defined by DfT guidance, therefore no amendment to that policy is required”.

This reassurance is welcomed, but it is not stated, nor explicit the NYC policy. So this is where we need your help; for the purposes of openness, transparency and clarity, and to deliver the best outcomes for the Oatlands and Pannal Ash scheme and other future ones, we are urging you to:

support a motion at the next Full Council meeting on the inclusion of the DfT clauses in the NYC 20mph policy

and secondly to ask NY to supply the categories of the roads mentioned, as outlined in the NYC Carriageway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan.

With your support, we hope we can get the best possible scheme for the schoolchildren and community in Oatlands and Pannal Ash and future ones.

Thank you.

### 2.3 The officer response to the question at the meeting was as follows:

Officers would like to thank Hazel Peacock for the submitted statement.

The 20mph review has considered and applied the guidance within North Yorkshire Council 20mph Speed Limit and Zone Policy and the Department for Transport’s (DfT) Circular 01/2013. It has been acknowledged that the existing NYC 20mph speed limit policy does already allow for the implementation of 20mph on major streets, but the policy is also clear that this should be considered in line with the appropriate function and place, with suitable characteristics and highway environment. Both NYC’s policy and the DfT guidance also recognises the need to ensure that any 20mph implementation is self-enforcing, this is achieved by ensuring the correct sites are taken forward.

Officers would also like to remind members and the road safety campaign group that these proposals will be subject to further consultation with the public before implementation.

The report to be submitted to the Environment Executive Members meeting for consideration 18th December will detail the roads considered and provide the rationale to support the final recommendation. This report will be publicly available a week before the meeting date and there will be an opportunity for both members and the public to offer comments at this point should they wish.

**3.0 Recommendation**

3.1 The Committee is asked to consider the matter and agree any next steps.

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## North Yorkshire Council

### Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

18 January 2024

#### Question referred from Harrogate & Knaresborough ACC (2)

##### 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To detail the referral of a public statement from the Harrogate & Knaresborough ACC on 23 November 2023 for the matter to be considered.

##### 2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Constituency Committee on 23 November 2023, it was resolved that a public statement be referred to the next meeting of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This provision is outlined in Council Procedure Rules section 9.10 (page 210) of the North Yorkshire Council Constitution.
- 2.2 The public statement submitted by Gia Margolis from Harrogate District Cycle Action Group was:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

I am here to ask you to scrutinize the council's lack of delivery of Active Travel schemes.

Consultants over many years have written reports which have all come to the same conclusion. Most short journeys are less than 1.6 miles and too many are made by car. We have yet to see any implementation of recommendations to increase use of public transport, to walk and cycle.

The proposed Active Travel team is not due to start until at least next year and will have no budget. Officers tell us that no schemes can be delivered without getting funding bids. Yet despite receiving millions of pounds of funding no schemes of any value have been delivered. Schemes have repeatedly been abandoned, consultations completed, reports written but not made public. NYC's Active Travel England rating is only 1 and unlikely to get raised any time soon.

We are asking you to stop talking, give us false hope that things will change, and look at why the council has failed to deliver any significant active travel scheme over the last nine years.

Planners and Highways between them failed several years ago in allowing a local plan and developers to build large housing estates on the edges of Harrogate with no safe cycle or walking routes or frequent bus services in to the town centre and most of the estates served by rural country lanes which have become rat runs. The local parish councils, HAPARA and ourselves have all tried to work with officers and councillors to come up with solutions. The latest round of solutions for the "Western Arc" proposed by the developers together with officers have come up with a raft of junction improvements to get traffic through. Any cycling or walking elements are entirely within the developments themselves.

We believe that as councillors and officers our town has lost what were great opportunities to make changes to the way we get around. The council introduced a great scheme on Beech Grove which worked for 18 months but was withdrawn. Every other scheme has been abandoned and you will be told the same things, that schemes are being worked on and conversations held with Active travel England.

No doubt you will be told the next set of delays will be because next year the appointment of a Mayor and changes to more direct funding will be the solution. And so it goes on.

Until there is a change of policy and officers are given the directive to design and deliver effective sustainable transport schemes we will not see any delivery in our lifetime.

Harrogate could by now have had a first class cycle and walking network which would make such a difference to all our lives but we are bound by the focus on people in their cars and to keep them moving.

We have failed our children and grandchildren in not considering their future.

Councillors, please learn more about the failure of delivery of any meaningful scheme for safe cycle infrastructure, the failure to spend funding bids and to fall back time and again on allocating more space at junctions to cars. Investigate what is going on and stop accepting a litany of excuses why not.

### 2.3 The officer response to the public statement at the meeting was as follows:

North Yorkshire Council Highways Officers would like to thank the Harrogate District Cycle Action group for their submitted statement regarding their concerns with Active travel scheme progress in Harrogate. The groups disappointment in Active Travel project delivery has been noted and previously acknowledged via emails and detailed meetings with Senior managers.

The West of Harrogate Promoters have given consideration towards active travel as part of the West of Harrogate Parameters plan with a proposed bus route extension to service the new housing sites together with funding for the “pump-priming” of the service. In addition, walking and cycling schemes have been put forward which include Otley Road Phase 3 (Windmill Farm Housing Site to Harlow Moor Road) plus an active travel scheme encompassing Whinney Lane and Pannal Ash Road.

Planning applications will include a ‘Cumulative Transport Assessment’ which will have appendices to the indicative layouts for all proposed off-site highway schemes and active travel proposals, allowing those with an interest to offer their comments through the planning process.

North Yorkshire Council are committed to delivering successful active travel projects and the highways team will continue to submit bids that they are eligible for, to enable active travel across the county. The team have had a successful year engaging positively with local user groups such as HAPARA, the Road Safety Campaign group and local school communities. Such positive partnerships will prove to support successful delivery going forward.

It should also be recognised that at the request of members from a previous Area constituency committee meeting quarterly update reports regarding Active Travel progress will be submitted to the Harrogate and Knaresborough ACC.



**3.0 Recommendation**

3.1 The Committee is asked to consider the matter and agree any next steps.

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## North Yorkshire Council

### Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

18 January 2024

#### Notice of Motion on United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Report of the Assistant Director – Environmental Services

#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present information on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) in response to a Notice of Motion submitted to Full Council on 15 November 2023. This information has been provided to enable the Committee to consider the proposal made in the motion and agree a response for Full Council's consideration on 21 February 2024.

#### 2.0 Background

- 2.1 At Full Council on 15 November 2023, the Chair, Councillor Ireton, decided that a Notice of Motion on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals should be passed to both the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit Committee for consideration, with the intention of it being considered and responses brought back to the 21 February 2024 meeting of Full Council.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion (Appendix A) proposed by Councillor Steve Mason and seconded by Councillor Peter Lacey proposed that the council should:
- a. Adopt the UN SDGs as a framework for informing our local authority's policies, work programs, and initiatives.
  - b. Contribute to the achievement of the UN SDGs through the council strategies and developing plans.
  - c. Actively engage and collaborates with other local authorities, organisations, and community groups to share best practices, experiences, and lessons learned in advancing the UN SDGs.
  - d. Receive an annual report setting out the Council's contributions to the global agenda for sustainable development
- 2.3 The Audit Committee have also considered this motion and resolved at its meeting on 11 December 2023 to submit a response to the motion which:
- 1) notes that the Council is already working towards delivering some of the objectives that the UN SDGs outline; and;
  - 2) recommends that the Executive review this motion with a view to ensuring that its quarterly monitoring reports incorporate the Council's progress with respect to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

### **3.0 The Sustainable Development Goals**

3.1 The UN SDGs also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.<sup>1</sup>

3.2 The 17 goals covering social, economic and environmental sustainability are:

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-Being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships

3.3 These 17 goals are underpinned by 167 targets, some of which are applicable to the function of the council, for example reducing waste generation, integrating climate change measures into policies and plans or ensuring sustainable procurement; however, many are not, for example reducing the illicit arms trade, ending poaching, or combatting desertification.

3.4 The Local Government Association support the UN SDGs and listed the following reasons why councils should investigate and implement them<sup>2</sup>:

- a. Making progress towards these comprehensive and universal global goals by 2030 will depend on action at the local level, and councils are key actors at that level.
- b. The SDGs can help focus efforts on the health and wellbeing of people that are the furthest behind.
- c. Engagement with the SDGs supports and complements the declaration of a climate emergency.
- d. The SDGs can provide councils with a framework for strategic planning, policy review and action for sustainable development – for economic progress, social justice and inclusion, protection of the climate, environment and biodiversity, and ensuring no one is left behind.
- e. The SDGs can help councils to foster strategic partnerships, framing joint actions and shared priorities in terms of the goals.
- f. The resource burden for initial engagement with the SDGs is low.

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<sup>1</sup> UN Development Programme Website, [Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme \(undp.org\)](https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals)

<sup>2</sup> LGA website, [UN Sustainable Development Goals: A Guide for Councils | Local Government Association](https://www.local.gov.uk/sustainable-development-goals)

3.5 In 2023, the mid-way point for the 15-year plan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations noted a lack of progress towards the goals.<sup>3</sup>

#### 4.0 The Motion

4.1 In response to the four parts of the motion, it is noted that:

Motion		Comment
1	Adopt the UN SDGs as a framework for informing our local authority's policies, work programs, and initiatives.	<p>The Council Plan 2023-27 is the performance framework for North Yorkshire Council, setting out the vision, ambition and priorities for the next four years, and the approach that will be taken to achieve them.</p> <p>The UN SDGs provide a useful check that enables us to assess if a new policy or plan covers the breadth that we would want. It is particularly useful when reviewing overarching strategies such as the Council Plan.</p> <p>The goals provide a comprehensive framework for the stated aim (to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity), however many of the targets are beyond the remit of the council, and others are aimed at those countries that are furthest behind, for example the targets around mortality rates or reducing poverty.</p>
2	Contribute to the achievement of the UN SDGs through the council strategies and developing plans.	<p>Mapping the UN SDGs against the objectives of the council plan (Appendix B) shows that the authority is already contributing to all 17 goals and acting where the targets are applicable.</p> <p>Each of the objectives in the council plan contribute to at least 2 of the UN SDGs with many contributing to far more, as can be seen in the table at Appendix B.</p> <p>Likewise, each of the UN SDGs is covered by at least 2 of the council plan objectives, demonstrating comprehensive coverage.</p> <p>Although all 17 goals are covered to varying degrees by the council plan objectives, many of the 167 targets associated to the UN SDGs are not. This is because those targets are not applicable to, or within the sphere of influence of the Council.</p> <p>Appendix C lists examples of how the authority is contributing to the UN SDGs.</p>

<sup>3</sup> UN website, [The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2023.pdf \(un.org\)](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dest/2023-report)

3	Actively engage and collaborates with other local authorities, organisations, and community groups to share best practices, experiences, and lessons learned in advancing the UN SDGs.	The LGA report referenced above provides useful guidance regarding the UN SDGs for local authorities. Initially an exercise has been undertaken to map the goals against the council plan as mentioned above, a similar approach has been taken by the City of York Council. This mapping will also enable the authority to articulate how it is advancing the UN SDGs.
4	Receive an annual report setting out the Council's contributions to the global agenda for sustainable development	The Council's performance and therefore its contribution to the UN SDGs is already monitored through quarterly reports. The mapping at appendix B plus some narrative could be added to these reports, so that those that want to follow the contribution to the UN SDGs can easily do so.

## 5.0 Issues to Consider

### Equalities

- 5.1 With goals and targets specifically around gender equality and reducing inequalities plus integrated goals and targets in related areas, a focus on the UN SDGs would have a positive impact on equalities.

### Climate Change

- 5.2 Environmental sustainability plays a large part within the UN SDGs. There are specific targets and goals focussed on affordable and clean energy, responsible consumption and production and climate action, as well as integrated goals and targets in other areas; therefore, a focus on the UN SDGs would also have a positive impact on climate change.

### Financial Implications

- 5.3 There are no significant financial issues associated with the motion text proposed. The Local Government Association listed one of the benefits of engaging with the UN SDGs as the resource burden for initial engagement being low.

### Legal Implications

- 5.4 There are no significant legal implications associated with the motion text proposed.

## 6.0 Way Forward

- 6.1 In considering the Notice of Motion put to Full Council in November 2023 and the information provided in this report, Members have the opportunity to consider the issues raised and make a recommendation to the meeting of Full Council on 21 February 2024.

## 7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 Committee members are asked to consider the information provided within the report and agree a way forward.
- 7.2 Leadership Teams to be made aware of the importance of and the commitment to the UN SDGs.

Michael Leah  
Assistant Director – Environmental Services  
County Hall,

Northallerton  
January 2024

Report Contributors:

Simon Moss Strategy and Performance Team Leader

Will Baines Principal Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

Appendices:

A: Notice of Motion

B: Mapping: NYC Council Plan Objectives / UN Sustainable Development Goals

C: Examples of NYCs contribution to the UN SDGs

Background documents:

Constitution of North Yorkshire Council - [New Council Constitutions \(northyorks.gov.uk\)](https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/new-council-constitutions)

Full Council Meeting 15 November 2023 – [Agenda](#)

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

## Appendix A:

### Notice of Motion

Background - the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(UNSDGs\)](#) are a set of 17 goals that aim to address global challenges and foster sustainable development worldwide. These goals cover a range of issues, including strong economic growth, strong institutions, poverty eradication, equality, clean energy, climate action, and nature protections, among others.

#### Motion to Council - A more equitable, sustainable, and resilient North Yorkshire

This Council notes with concern the recent Special Report from the United Nations Secretary General – [“Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: towards a rescue plan for people and planet”](#)- published in July 2023 to mark the midpoint between 2015 and the delivery date of 2030.

The Secretary General finds that “... *many of the Goals are moderately to severely off track and puts forward five major recommendations to rescue the Goals and accelerate implementation between now and 2030.*”

This Council notes the third of those recommendations, calling upon Governments to “... strengthen national and subnational capacity, accountability and public institutions to deliver accelerated progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.” Furthermore, this council recognises the main reasons of the Local Government Association as to why councils should investigate and implement the UNSDGs:

- Making progress towards these comprehensive and universal global goals by 2030 will depend on action at the local level, and councils are key actors at that level.
- The SDGs can help focus efforts on the health and wellbeing of people that are the furthest behind.
- Engagement with the SDGs supports and complements the declaration of a climate emergency.
- The SDGs can provide councils with a framework for strategic planning, policy review and action for sustainable development – for economic progress, social justice and inclusion, protection of the climate, environment and biodiversity, and ensuring no one is left behind.
- The SDGs can help councils to foster strategic partnerships, framing joint actions and shared priorities in terms of the goals.
- The resource burden for initial engagement with the SDGs is low.

To that end, North Yorkshire Council resolves to adopt the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) as a framework for informing our local authority's policies, work programs, functions, and initiatives. By doing so, we commit to aligning our strategies with the national and global agenda for sustainable development and working towards achieving these goals within our sphere of influence; thus recognising the significance of the UN SDGs as a comprehensive framework for sustainable development at the global level. We shall seek to apply the UN SDGs at the local level for the wellbeing of our residents.

The Council believes that:

1. Adopting the UN SDGs will provide a clear direction for our local authority's policies, work programs, and initiatives, ensuring their alignment with the national and global agenda for sustainable development.
2. Emphasising the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships will help in implementing the UN SDGs effectively.
3. Committing to regular monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of our progress towards achieving the UN SDGs is vital to engage our community in the process.



4. Encouraging cooperation and knowledge-sharing with other local authorities across the UK and world that have already adopted the UN SDGs, will help in promoting collective action and learning both locally and globally.

The Council therefore agrees to:

- A. Adopt the UN SDGs as a framework for informing our local authority's policies, work programs, and initiatives.
- B. Contribute to the achievement of the UN SDGs through the council strategies and developing plans.
- C. Actively engage and collaborates with other local authorities, organisations, and community groups to share best practices, experiences, and lessons learned in advancing the UN SDGs.
- D. Receive an annual report setting out the Council's contributions to the global agenda for sustainable development.

By taking this step, we can also demonstrate our commitment to act at a local level whilst contributing to the global effort to achieve a more equitable, sustainable, and resilient world for future generations.

**Appendix B:**

Mapping: NYC Council Plan Objectives / UN Sustainable Development Goals

Council Plan Objectives	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals																
	No Poverty	Zero Hunger	Good Health and Well-Being	Quality Education	Gender Equality	Clean Water and Sanitation	Affordable and Clean Energy	Decent Work and Economic Growth	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Reduced Inequalities	Sustainable Cities and Communities	Responsible Consumption and	Climate Action	Life Below Water	Life on Land	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Partnerships for the Goals
<b>Place and Environment</b>																	
A clean, environmentally sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit						√					√	√	√	√	√		
A well connected and planned place with good transport links and digital connectivity									√		√						
Communities are supported and work together to improve their local area						√					√	√	√	√	√		√
Good quality, affordable and sustainable housing that meets the needs of our communities	√										√		√		√		
<b>Economy</b>																	
Economically sustainable growth that enables people and places to prosper	√	√	√				√	√	√	√	√				√		
Culture, heritage, arts and sustainable tourism all play their part in the economic growth of the county								√	√		√	√					
New and existing businesses can thrive and grow	√							√	√		√						
North Yorkshire has a high profile, is influential nationally and receives its fair share of resources	√	√	√	√			√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√
<b>Health and Well-Being</b>																	
People are supported to have a good quality of life and enjoy active and healthy lifestyles		√	√							√	√					√	

Council Plan Objectives	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals																
	No Poverty	Zero Hunger	Good Health and Well-Being	Quality Education	Gender Equality	Clean Water and Sanitation	Affordable and Clean Energy	Decent Work and Economic Growth	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Reduced Inequalities	Sustainable Cities and Communities	Responsible Consumption and	Climate Action	Life Below Water	Life on Land	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Partnerships for the Goals
Reduced variations in health through tackling the root causes of inequality			√							√							
People can access good public health services and social care across our different communities			√							√							
People have control and choice in relation to their independence and social care support			√							√							
<b>People</b>																	
People are free from harm and feel safe and protected			√		√						√					√	
People can achieve their full potential through lifelong education and learning	√		√	√				√		√							
People are better supported, by strengthening families or other appropriate networks										√	√					√	
In times of hardship, support is provided to those that need it most	√	√								√	√					√	
<b>Organisation</b>																	
Good quality, value for money services that are customer focused and accessible to all												√				√	
A carbon neutral council							√					√	√		√		
A well-led and managed, financially sustainable and forward- thinking council											√	√				√	√
A diverse and inclusive council, where employees are supported and valued					√			√		√							

## Appendix C:

### Examples of NYCs contribution to the UN SDGs

UN SDG	Examples of NYC Activity / Services	Example NYC Strategies <sup>4</sup>
1. No Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits processing</li> <li>• Household Support Fund (HSF)</li> <li>• North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund</li> <li>• Refugee resettlement (Afghan ARAP/UKRS)</li> <li>• Asylum seeker dispersal and contingency hotel accommodation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and Young People Plan</li> <li>• Plan for Economic Growth 2021-24</li> </ul>
2. Zero Hunger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision and promotion of Free School Meals</li> <li>• Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme</li> <li>• North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund</li> <li>• Refugee resettlement (Afghan ARAP/UKRS)</li> <li>• Asylum seeker dispersal and contingency hotel accommodation</li> <li>• Homes for Ukraine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and Young People Plan</li> <li>• Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</li> </ul>
3. Good Health and Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Health Service</li> <li>• Living Well Service</li> <li>• Leisure Services</li> <li>• Refugee resettlement (Afghan ARAP/UKRS)</li> <li>• Asylum seeker dispersal and contingency hotel accommodation</li> <li>• Homes for Ukraine</li> <li>• Outdoor Education Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</li> <li>• Children and Young People Plan</li> <li>• Health and Adult Services 2025 Plan</li> </ul>
4. Quality Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Improvement</li> <li>• Outdoor Education Service</li> <li>• Adult Education Service</li> <li>• Library Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and Young People Plan</li> <li>• Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision</li> <li>• Strategy for School Improvement</li> </ul>
5. Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equality Impact Assessments</li> <li>• Monitoring Gender Pay Gap within the authority and the county</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People Strategy</li> <li>• Corporate Equality Policy Statement</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> In addition to the Council Plan that covers all 17 goals

UN SDG	Examples of NYC Activity / Services	Example NYC Strategies <sup>4</sup>
6. Clean Water and Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Environmental Agency to reduce water pollution</li> <li>• Climate Change Impact Assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Strategy</li> </ul>
7. Affordable and Clean Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Impact Assessments</li> <li>• Green Energy procurement</li> <li>• Electric Vehicle Charging Points</li> <li>• Household Support Fund (HSF)</li> <li>• North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Strategy</li> </ul>
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic development</li> <li>• Regulatory Services</li> <li>• Adult Education Service</li> <li>• Refugee resettlement (Afghan ARAP/UKRS)</li> <li>• Asylum seeker dispersal and contingency hotel accommodation</li> <li>• Homes for Ukraine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for Economic Growth 2021-24</li> <li>• Local Plan</li> <li>• People Strategy</li> </ul>
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic development</li> <li>• Highway's development and maintenance</li> <li>• Integrated Passenger Transport</li> <li>• Regulatory Services</li> <li>• Transformation service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for Economic Growth 2021-24</li> <li>• Spatial Framework</li> <li>• Mobile Communications Strategy</li> <li>• Local Plan</li> <li>• Local Transport plan</li> <li>• Digital Strategy</li> </ul>
10. Reduced Inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equality Impact Assessments</li> <li>• Inclusion Service (CYPS)</li> <li>• HR Monitoring</li> <li>• Demographic profiling</li> <li>• Work towards the Councils' Equality Objectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for Economic Growth 2021-24</li> <li>• Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</li> <li>• Children and Young People Plan</li> <li>• Health and Adult Services 2025 Plan</li> <li>• Plan for Economic Growth 2021-24</li> <li>• People Strategy</li> <li>• Corporate Equality Policy Statement</li> <li>• Modern Slavery Statement</li> </ul>
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stronger Communities Team</li> <li>• Economic Development</li> <li>• Tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for Economic Growth 2021-24</li> <li>• Spatial Framework</li> <li>• Climate Change Strategy</li> </ul>

UN SDG	Examples of NYC Activity / Services	Example NYC Strategies <sup>4</sup>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Impact Assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement and Contract Management Strategy</li> </ul>
12. Responsible Consumption and Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Impact Assessments</li> <li>• Use of green energy</li> <li>• Use of electric vehicles where practical</li> <li>• Monitoring use of resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for Economic Growth 2021-24</li> <li>• Climate Change Strategy</li> <li>• Procurement and Contract Management Strategy</li> <li>• Waste Strategy</li> </ul>
13. Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beyond Carbon action plan</li> <li>• Climate Change Impact Assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Strategy</li> </ul>
14. Life Below Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harbours</li> <li>• Climate Change Impact Assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Strategy</li> </ul>
15. Life on Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with protected landscapes</li> <li>• Planning regulations</li> <li>• Climate Change Impact Assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change Strategy</li> </ul>
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refugee resettlement (Afghan ARAP/UKRS)</li> <li>• Homes for Ukraine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Governance Policy</li> <li>• Procurement and Contract Management Strategy</li> </ul>
17. Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Community Anchor Organisations</li> <li>• Health and Wellbeing Board</li> <li>• Drugs and Alcohol Partnership Group</li> <li>• Healthwatch</li> <li>• Safeguarding Boards</li> <li>• Disability Forum</li> <li>• Learning Disabilities Partnership Board</li> <li>• North Yorkshire Carers' Forum</li> <li>• Local Nature Partnership</li> <li>• Local Enterprise Partnership</li> <li>• Strategic Housing Partnership</li> <li>• Community Safety Partnership</li> <li>• Police and Crime Panel</li> <li>• Armed Forces Community Covenant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Governance Policy</li> <li>• Procurement and Contract Management Strategy</li> </ul>

## North Yorkshire Council

### Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

18 January 2024

### York & North Yorkshire LEP Capital Investment Programme and Delivery Plan Review

### Report of the Corporate Director of Community Development

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of Capital Investment Funding programmes delivered by York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
- 1.2 A summary update of current progress against the 2023/2024 York & North Yorkshire LEP Delivery Plan is also provided.
- 1.3 It should be noted that from January 2024, the LEP is scheduled to transition into the proposed York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority therefore this report will be the final report of the York and North Yorkshire LEP.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This report sets out details of the Capital Investment Funding Programmes that have been delivered by YNY LEP :
  - Local Growth Fund
  - Getting Building Fund
  - Growing Places Fund
- 2.2 Details are also provided of the current YNY LEP Delivery Plan with particular focus on strategic and contracted programmes.

#### 3.0 LOCAL GROWTH FUND PROGRAMME

- 3.1 This was launched in 2014 with four rounds of funding via Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and ended in March 2021. Projects across York North Yorkshire and East Riding utilised the Local Growth Fund (LGF) Programme grant award of £83,213,138 in full, and a further £2,178,390, was invested into the programme from the LEP Growing Places Fund. A schedule of all projects supported and the programme evaluation report can be viewed here : [Local Growth Fund | Projects and Funding | York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership \(ynylep.com\)](https://ynylep.com/Local-Growth-Fund-Projects-and-Funding-York-North-Yorkshire-Local-Enterprise-Partnership)

#### 4.0 GETTING BUILDING FUND PROGRAMME

- 4.1 Ten projects were approved for receipt of Getting Building Fund (GBF) Programme grant which was also received via BEIS to support investment in local, shovel-ready infrastructure projects to stimulate jobs and post-pandemic economic recovery through a range of economic outputs. The target of £7.7m was achieved during 2020/21, with a further £7.7m of grant invested in 2021/22. In addition, over-commitment of £300,000 was approved from the Y&NY LEP Growing Places Fund to deliver on time and on budget. A schedule of all projects

supported can be viewed here : [Getting Building Fund | Projects and Funding | York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership \(ynylep.com\)](#)

## 5.0 GROWING PLACES FUND PROGRAMME

5.1 Approval from Government was given in 2012, for £8.8million to remove barriers to growth, and support delivery of actions from Strategic Economic Plans alongside the Local Growth Fund. The Fund was required to operate as a revolving loan fund in the first instance, and once “re-cycled” could be used by LEPs to manage, invest and utilise to meet local economic growth priorities. Five specific development projects were provided with a re-payable loan to infrastructure, which has enabled subsequent economic growth, and a further £3.25million of grant was approved to projects, including approx. £2.5million of over-commitment to the LGF programme and £300,000 over-commitment to the GBF programme, as referred to above. A schedule of all projects supported can be viewed here : [Growing Places Fund | Projects and Funding | York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership \(ynylep.com\)](#)

## 6.0 CAPITAL INVESTMENTS OUTPUT REPORTING

6.1 Reporting of project outputs to the Department of Business and Trade (DBT) continues to be carried out twice each year and is required until March 2025. Programme level outputs are currently on track to exceed the targets set for the programmes. The impact of these programmes is highlighted by the continuing monitoring of the programmes, for example, up to March 2023, the Local Growth Fund programme has levered over £700 million of capital investment from public and private sources, in addition to the £83.2m grant funding provided by BEIS. Housing and employment targets continue to be reported, with significant job outputs forecast to be delivered as part of the York Central developments.

6.2 Appendix 1 shows a summary of project images for the Local Growth Fund and Getting Building Fund programmes.

## 7.0 2023/24 YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE LEP DELIVERY PLAN

7.1 **York and North Yorkshire Growth Hub Business Support Service** – This nationally funded programme delivers advice, support and training to businesses within the grow across the region. New performance targets were agreed last year with the Department of Business and Trade (DBT) which have enabled qualitative reporting to be improved significantly. This approach is being continued and developed in 2023/2024 and has enables new service developments shown in the table below.

North Yorkshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)	Sessional business support from Sept 23 to March 24 for approx. 300 businesses at average cost £850 per business – many of these are already fully booked with waiting lists (additional SPF to be requested to meet demand)
	New specialist business support roles : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Start/Start-Up</li> <li>• Energy/cost reduction and decarbonisation</li> <li>• Skills for Business/Workforce Development</li> </ul>
	Small business capital grants (up to £10,000) to be launched November 2023; Decarbonisation business and community capital grants (up to £20,000) to be launched later in October 2023 – both grant programmes to be managed by North Yorkshire Council in partnership with YNY LEP



Made Smarter Business Support and Grant Programme	Specialist support for manufacturing businesses including opportunity for eligible businesses to apply for up to £20,000 innovation/productivity grants
Application to the Dept Culture Media and Sport “Create Growth Programme”	Bespoke business support package (approx. £500,000) aimed at high-growth potential creative businesses and build investor networks comprising three complementary strands for the period October 23 to March 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• business support targeted at the creative industries</li> <li>• access to finance; and</li> <li>• investor capacity building activities</li> </ul> Decision due in October
Overhaul of the existing Growth Hub website	to improve the interface for businesses and prioritise the main topics that businesses seek help with, based on website analytics to be completed by November 2023 – these were : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Starting a business - 46% of enquiries</li> <li>• Finance for business start-up – 12% of enquiries</li> <li>• Legal advice – 12% of enquiries</li> </ul>

7.2 **York and North Yorkshire Trade and Investment Programme** – this has been developed to improve the pro-active approach to attracting Inward Investment as well as maintaining the reactive response service where opportunities arise. Invest in York and North Yorkshire is a brand which was developed in collaboration with both Local Authorities and enables a collaborative approach. Developments in 2023/24 include:

New Sector Growth Managers (from May 2023 – funded by NY UK SPF )	High growth opportunities in development to establish sector propositions for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agri-tech &amp; Industrial Biotechnology</li> <li>• Healthy Ageing</li> <li>• Manufacturing</li> <li>• Creative &amp; Digital</li> <li>• Rail</li> </ul> (NB Rail is already in place via City of York Council)
Key Account Management (KAM) Service	Department of Business and Trade (formerly Dept of International Trade) funding to March 2025 to support Foreign Owned Companies
Active Investment Enquiries being supported	60 (39 this time last year) of which : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 28 projects (47%) North Yorkshire</li> <li>• 8 projects (13%) in York</li> <li>• York &amp; NY - 7 projects (12%)</li> <li>• Yorkshire &amp; Humber - 7 projects (12%)</li> </ul> Aiming to be more proactive and less reliant on DBT referrals (which are sent to most areas of England) current year 27% projects came to us directly with 73% via DBT (20:80% this time last year)
UK Real Estate and Inward Investment Forum event in Leeds (May 2023)	Exhibiting with NYC and CYC partners to promote “Invest in York and North Yorkshire”, where developer interest was clearly heightened as a result of the timetable for transition to Mayoral Combined Authority

- 7.3 **York and North Yorkshire Careers Hub Network** – provider careers and enterprise advice to every school in the region. Schools are benchmarked against the 8 National Gatsby Benchmarks. The programme is delivering on target and performance is reported to the YNY LEP Skills & Employability Board (SEB).

Recent changes have seen the Strategic Hub Lead transfer from the delivery contractor NYBEP, to now form part of the LEP Skills Team structure and report to the Senior Strategy Manager (Skills). This will enable broader strategic development of the Careers Hub within the context of the emerging Mayoral Combined Authority and allow closer links with both YNY Growth Hub and the Trade & Investment Team, and take advantage of existing links with business and industry across the area.

- 7.4 **York and North Yorkshire Skills Bootcamps** – Skills Bootcamps offer free flexible courses for up to 16 weeks. These short courses are bid for on an annual basis. The current year, Wave 4 2023/24 delivery is fully launched with capacity retained which also allows for additional activity to be implemented with existing providers where performance is good, and demand for extensions can be evidenced.

There is also a part of the programme that can be directed to Employer Bespoke Skills Bootcamp training programmes, to help with:

- recruitment and retention challenges for employers; and
- to respond to economic shocks for the workforce, where re-training is needed in the event of large-scale redundancies.

Some of the bespoke training packages are in the early stages of delivery with others in development. Proposals for Skills Bootcamps Wave 5 2024-25 were recently submitted to the Department for Education.

- 7.5 **York and North Yorkshire Routemap to Carbon Negative** – work continues to develop the Routemap into investable propositions with scoping of the planned task and finish group, its remit and its membership currently being developed.

Alongside this a draft action plan has been prepared to deliver programmes of “Housing Retro-fit” activity and also supply chain development – These are being developed in readiness for seeking investment.

Opportunities to develop elements of the Routemap are being progressed when relevant funding programmes are available. In addition, a programme of support and interventions is being developed with funding from the North Yorkshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund to mobilise decarbonisation in communities and businesses.

- 7.6 **York and North Yorkshire Brownfield Housing Fund (£11m) and Net Zero Fund (£7m)** – these two programmes, being run on behalf of the proposed Mayoral Combined Authority have progressed through project application and appraisal stage, with recommendations for selected projects to be considered by the York and North Yorkshire Joint Committee in November.

## 8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Financial Implications have been addressed for the projects and programmes covered by this report on an individual basis. It should be noted that funding to deliver the capital investment programmes and the activities covered by the 2023/2024 Deliver Plan are cost neutral within the financial accounting and reporting of the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership, for which North Yorkshire Council currently continues to act as the Accountable Body.

## **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Legal Implications have been addressed for the projects and programmes covered by this report on an individual basis.

## **10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Equalities Implications have been addressed for the projects and programmes covered by this report on an individual basis.

## **11.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 Climate Change Implications have been addressed for the projects and programmes covered by this report on an individual basis.

## **12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

12.1 Members are requested to consider the information set out in the report which provides an overview of the Capital Investment Funding programmes delivered by York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and also a summary update of current progress against the 2023/2024 York & North Yorkshire LEP Delivery Plan.

As detailed in 1.3. The LEP will become integrated into the Proposed Combined Authority on its creation in January, therefore this report is for noting only.

### **13.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

It is recommended that Members note that the LEP functions will become integrated into the proposed Combined Authority from January 2024 and:

- i) note the significant achievement of the delivery of the three capital investment programmes in York and North Yorkshire between 2012 and 2022, at a total value of £110 million of grant investment, enabled through the work of the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership; and
- ii) consider the current scope and scale of existing activity being undertaken by the LEP against the 2023/2024 Delivery Plan for York and North Yorkshire.

### **APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1 – summary of project images for the Local Growth Fund and Getting Building Fund programmes.

### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:**

#### **Nic Harne**

Corporate Director of Community Development  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
9 October 2023

Report Author – Liz Philpot, Head of Delivery

Presenter of Report – James Farrar, Director of Transition, York and North Yorkshire MCA

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

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# Local Growth Fund Programme



# Junction 47 A1/A59 Improvements



News Item 8 March 2022 : [Harrogate 47 : Plans approved for new junction 47 business park](#) Plans for a business park near Harrogate which developers say could support up to 2,000 jobs have been approved. Construction is due to start in summer and, once completed, it will have 600,000 sq ft (56,000 sq m) of space.

News Item 7 March 2022 : [Final phase of A1\(M\) junction improvements to begin](#)

# Harrogate York Rail Improvements



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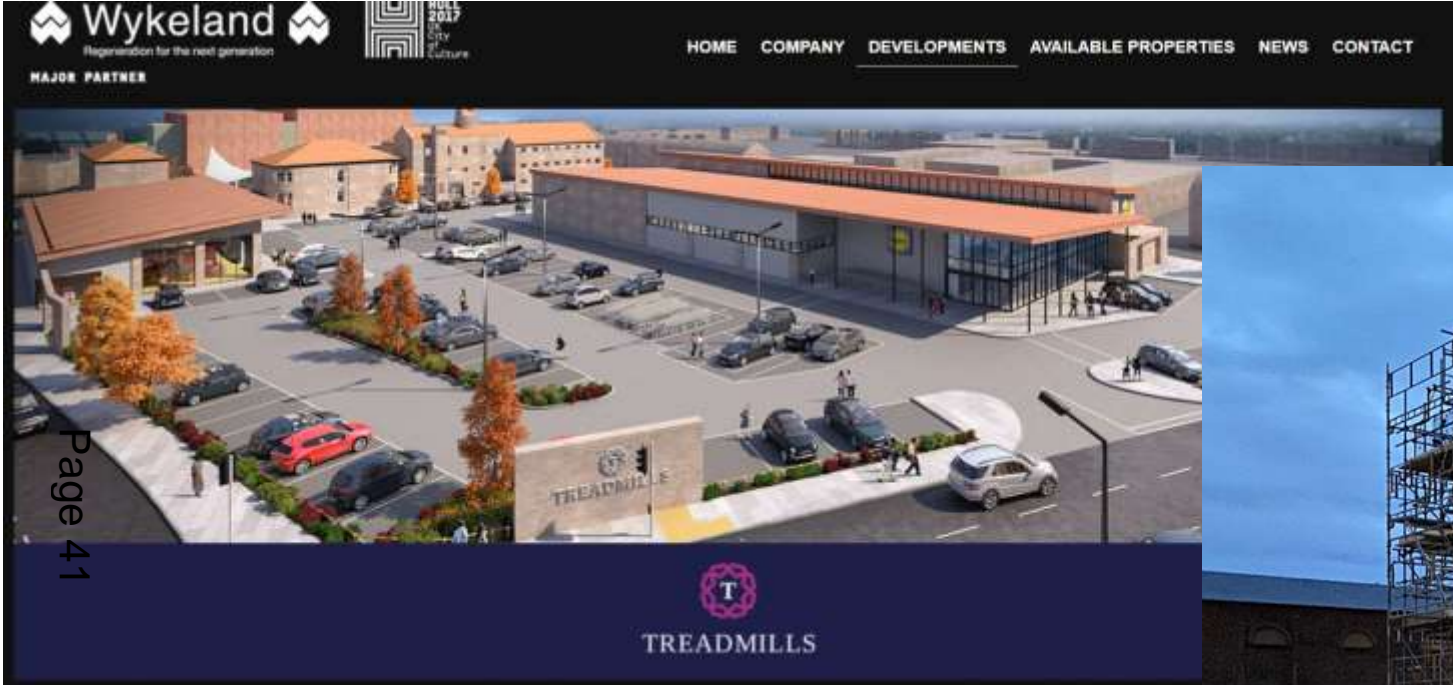
# Whitby Church Street Flood Defences



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# Central Northallerton



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# Northallerton Digital Hub C4Di

Y&NY  
LEP



# North Northallerton



# Skipton Housing and Employment



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# Langcliffe Quarry Enterprise Centre

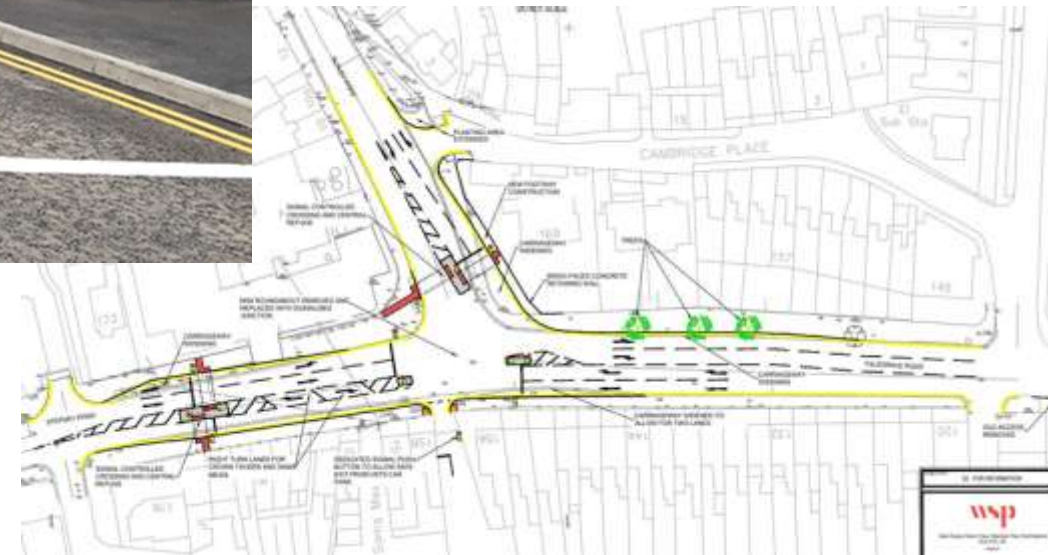


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# Scarboro' Housing and Employment Growth



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# Scarboro' Plaxton Park Industrial Estate



# Scarborough Construction Skills Village



*Green Construction: green construction techniques at the Construction Skills Village*



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# A165 Housing Roundabout Bridlington



# Bridlington Town Centre Seafront



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# Beverley Grovehill Road Widening



# Getting Building Fund Programme

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# North Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure



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<b>Town Centre WIFI – Completed Roll-Out</b>	
Boroughbridge	Ripon
Catterick Garrison	Scarborough
Easingwold	Selby
Harrogate	Settle
Knaresborough	Sherburn-in-Elmet
Leyburn	Stokesley
Malton	Skipton
Northallerton	Tadcaster
Pickering	Thirsk
Richmond	Whitby

<b>Business Park LFFN – Completed Deployment</b>	
Airedale Business Centre, Skipton	Rocliffe Business Park and Bar Lane, Boroughbridge
Cardale Park, Harrogate	Sherburn Business Park, Sherbrun-in-Elmet
Colburn Business park	Snaygill Industrial Estate, Skipton
Eastfield Business Park, Scarborough	Stokesley Business Park
Leeming Bar Estate	Thirsk Industrial Estate
Martree Business Park, Knaresborough	Thornton Road Business Park, Thornton-Le-Dale

# Harrogate West Business Park



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# Pickering Thornton Road



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An advertisement for Pickering Park. It features a large, stylized white 'U' shape over a rendering of a modern industrial building. The text includes the project name, a 'TO LET' status, unit size information, and a 'WELCOME TO PICKERING PARK' headline with a description of the project and a 'VIEW MORE' button.

Pickering Park

**TO LET**

**A New Industrial Workspace Development**

Units from 1,000 sq ft to 20,000 sq ft

**WELCOME TO PICKERING PARK**

Long-awaited work to build a new business park in Pickering, North Yorkshire is expected to begin Summer 2022.

[VIEW MORE](#)

# Whitby Business Park



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# A19 Chapel Haddlesey



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# Northallerton E-Campus



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# Askham Bryan Digital Skills Academy



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# York Guildhall



**North Yorkshire Council**  
**Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise**  
**Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**18 January 2024**  
**Work Programme 2023/2024**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 This report invites Members to consider the Committee's Work Programme for 2023/2024.
- 1.2 The Work Programme schedule is enclosed at Appendix A.

**2.0 Introduction**

2.1 The role of the Committee is to:

- Scrutinise the 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, scrutinising the work of the Local Enterprise Partnership and helping people develop their skills, including lifelong learning.
- The committee will also study sustainable development, climate change strategy, countryside management, waste management, environmental conservation and enhancement flooding and cultural issues.

**3.0 Scheduled Committee and Mid Cycle Briefing dates for 2023/2024**

3.1 Forthcoming Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise O&S Committee Meeting Dates

- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 at 10am (additional meeting)
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 10am

3.2 Mid Cycle Briefing Dates

- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 at 10am

Please note that the Mid Cycle Briefings are not public meetings and are attended by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Spokespersons from each of the other political groups represented on the committee. These meetings are used to develop the committee work programme and determine the scheduling of key items.

#### **4.0 Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to confirm, comment, or add to the areas listed in the Work Programme Schedule.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix A – Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme Schedule.

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

Report Author and Presenter - Will Baines, Principal Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer

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**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**Transport, Economy, Environment & Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Work programme**

**Meeting dates**

Scheduled future Committee Meetings (all 10am) - Thursday 1 February 2024 (additional meeting) and Wednesday 10 April 2024  
 Scheduled Mid-Cycle Briefings (all 10am) - Thursday 22 February 2024

Meeting	Subject	Aims/Terms of Reference
<b>Thurs 18 January 2024</b>	Harrogate & Knaresborough ACC Questions x 2	Questions referred to the committee from the Harrogate & Knaresborough ACC in November 2023.
	Y&NY Local Enterprise Partnership Delivery Plan Review and Capital Projects Update	To update members on the progress of the York & North Yorkshire LEP against its Delivery Plan and capital projects delivery – James Farrar, COO YNY LEP
	Motion on UN SDGs	To consider a response to the Motion regarding adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that was submitted to Full Council in November to go back to the February 2024 meeting.
	Highways Reinstatements Working Group	(If required) Report of the Highways Reinstatements Working Group setting out recommendations arising from the recent meeting.
<b>Thursday 1 February 2024 (Additional meeting)</b>	Environment Directorate Update	Verbal update from Karl Battersby – Corporate Director, Environment
	Local Transport Plan Update	Consideration of a progress update on the Local Transport Plan, the Council’s key transport policy document – Allan McVeigh, Head of Network Strategy
	Rural Bus Services	To update members on rural bus services in North Yorkshire – Paul Thompson, Assistant Director – Integrated Passenger Transport, Licensing, Public Rights of Way & Harbours
	Draft North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Action Plan	To consider the draft Climate Change Action Plan for North Yorkshire Council – Jos Holmes, Climate Change Policy Officer

	Rural Broadband and NYnet	To receive an update on the rollout of superfast broadband to North Yorkshire and the initiatives to address rural areas where fibre-based coverage is unavailable – Alastair Taylor, NYnet and Robert Ling, AD Transformation
	Highways Reinstatements Working Group	Report of the Highways Reinstatements Working Group setting out recommendations arising from the recent meeting.
<b>Weds 10 April 2024</b>	Strategic Transport Plan	Consideration of the Strategic Transport Plan, the Council's key transport policy document – Allan McVeigh, Head of Network Strategy
	National Highways – Strategic View (deferred from 18 January 2024 meeting)	To receive a National Highways update on major strategic projects, in particular the A64 Hopgrove scheme and the A66 Transpennine route. Furthermore, a focus on the Value for Money statements around how these are calculated and the factors involved. – Roger Wantling, National Highways Regional Sponsor (Yorks and NE), Development & Sponsorship
	Annual Report of the Member Champion for Climate Change – Cllr Paul Haslam	
	Air Quality	Dr Kevin Carr and Vikki Flowers
	Tree and Woodland Policy	For consideration of a proposed countywide policy for trees and woodland
	Preventing Flooding on Highways – Gully Clearance and Maintenance	Update members on the progress with gully clearance and maintenance – Nigel Smith, Head of Highway Operations (Environment).
	Scrutiny of Climate Change Strategy	Bi-annual TEEE O&S scrutiny of the Climate Change Strategy – Jos Holmes, Climate Change Policy Officer
<b>Monday 8 July 2024</b>	Review of Water Quality Motion Action Taken	To review progress against the Water Quality Motion that was approved at the Full Council meeting in November 2023.



<b>Thursday 17 October 2024</b>	North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Consideration of the final publication draft of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)
<b>Items suggested for future meetings</b>	DNOs and Off-grid energy	
	Offshore Energy	
	Recycling and Waste collections harmonisation proposals	
	Development of Parking Strategy	
	Peat and moorland conservation	
	Contaminated Land	
	Scrutiny of Climate Change Strategy (Twice a year – October and April)	
	National Highways - Major Projects (A64 Update expected Winter 2023 once Value Engineering completed)	
	Right to Grow food on Council land	
	Public Rights of Way	

**Officer suggestions – Enviro Crime Update, Shoreline Management Plan**

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