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Meeting: Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Members: Councillors John Cattnach, Mark Crane, Melanie Davis (Vice-Chair), Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Paul Haslam, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Mike Jordan, Steve Mason, David Staveley (Chair), Phil Trumper, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, Robert Windass and Subash Sharma.

Date: Thursday, 25th May, 2023

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Rotary Way, Northallerton DL6 2UU

Please note the venue location for this meeting.

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 at the foot of the first page of the Agenda if you would like to find out more.

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

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AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 April 2023** (Pages 3 - 8)
3. **Declarations of Interest**

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

Website: www.northyorks.gov.uk

4. Public Participation

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice (including the text of the question/statement) to Will Baines of Democratic Services and supplied the text (contact details below) by midday on Monday 22 May, three working days before the day of the meeting. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:-

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

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

5. Service Harmonisation - Waste and Recycling (Pages 9 - 12)

6. Climate Change Strategy Consultation Results (Pages 13 - 38)

7. Work Programme (Pages 39 - 40)

8. Any Other Items

Any other items which the Chair agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 10 July 2023 at 10am

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:

Will Baines, Principal Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer

Tel: 01609 533885

Email: william.baines@northyorks.gov.uk

Wednesday, 17 May 2023

North Yorkshire Council

Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 12th April, 2023 commencing at 10.00 am.

Councillor David Staveley in the Chair plus Councillors John Cattanach, Melanie Davis, Caroline Goodrick, Paul Haslam, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Mike Jordan, Phil Trumper, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson and Robert Windass.

In attendance: Councillor Carl Les

Officers present: Will Baines, Karl Battersby, Nigel Smith and David Kirkpatrick.

Other Attendees: Inspector Zoe Billings (North Yorkshire Police)

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Gostlow (substitute Cllr Murday), Cllr Crane (substitute Cllr Jabbour), Cllr Mason (substitute Cllr Aldred) and Cllr Packham (joined the meeting virtually).

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 January 2023

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2023, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Aldred declared an interest in item 6 (Financial Performance and Allocation of Civil Parking Enforcement) as he was previously employed as a Civil Enforcement Officer.

4 Public Participation

No public questions or statements were received.

5 Verbal update from Karl Battersby, Corporate Director of Environment

Corporate Director for Environment, Karl Battersby began his update by speaking about the transition to North Yorkshire Council and reported that it had been a relatively smooth process for the directorate, although some issues with HR and internal systems matters had arisen during the transition period.

He explained that the Heads of Service positions within the new Environment directorate were close to being finalised, with efficiencies and savings planned to follow as part of a transformation process. It is hoped to be in a position to set out proposals by September

2023.

On major projects, work was progressing with the Kex Gill A59 realignment after approval from the Government, with works set to commence later this year. The Transforming Cities Fund schemes in Selby, Skipton and Harrogate were continuing, with the Harrogate Station Gateway project to be considered at a special meeting of the Harrogate and Knaresborough ACC on Friday 5 May.

A new Taxi Licensing policy for North Yorkshire has been approved, to deliver a harmonised fee and fare structure across the county. An Inclusive Service Plan for the policy, to be delivered in the first 12 months of operation has been progressed using external support, with a scope for this already agreed.

Officers are currently modelling scenarios for waste collection and harmonisation, ahead of consulting with the public and partners in the autumn.

North Yorkshire has been allocated £6.5m for pothole repairs in the Spring Budget. These will be decided by the Corporate Director in conjunction with the Executive Member for Highways and Transportation following a prioritisation exercise.

It was also reported that the overall budget outturn for the directorate over the last financial year shows an underspend following the mild winter.

Following this, questions were raised from members on topics such as:

- Winter road maintenance following recent heavy rainfall
- The ways that highways related issues can be reported in to officers to ensure a prompt resolution
- Delivery update on the Active Travel schemes in the county and how these will be prioritised in the transformation proposals for the new council
- The progress of the Transforming Cities Fund scheme in Selby
- How the allocation of the pothole repair money will be prioritised across the county as some roads are desperate for repair and resurfacing

6 Preventing flooding on highways - Gully clearance and maintenance

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director – Environment to update the committee on highway gully cleansing undertaken by NY Highways, the Council's operational company for the delivery of highways services.

Nigel Smith, Interim Head of Operations at NY Highways, set out that the critical objective of highway gully cleansing works is removing water from the highway network, as this improves safety for those travelling within and through the county and reduces the risk of accidents, particularly during winter where ice is an additional hazard.

Following a successful pilot roll-out, a new KaarbonTech risk-based approach and use of Environment Agency data for highway gully cleansing has been implemented. This data is continually evolving, meaning that resource is deployed to only attend gullies that require attention, therefore saving time and costs associated with gully maintenance.

It was noted that reliability issues did arise with the new gully tankers, but these have now been resolved. Whilst the introduction and embedding of the KaarbonTech programme was

still in its infancy last year, NY Highways still managed to attend around 75% of the programmed gullies, which is comparable with the previous contractor's performance.

This year, following good progress through March 2023, which was less-impacted by adverse weather and included some weekend / longer-day working, a performance level of 92.3% is expected, a big improvement on the 75% figure reported in the previous reporting year. By April 2024, all parts of the county will have had at least twelve months of the new KaarbonTech risk-based regime and therefore any inefficiencies in attending gullies under the previous programme that would have been part of the 2022/23 year will be removed.

There followed a discussion with the key points as summarised below:

- Whether councillors could be kept up to date with the gully cleansing schedules for their individual divisions?
- How known flooding hot spots will be targeted by the new approach implemented and how will problematic gullies with historic drainage systems be tackled?
- A Member felt the highways cleansing regime was reactive and asked what measures were being taken to move this to a more proactive response approach?
- How much partnership work with Yorkshire Water is undertaken to alleviate issues with combined sewer outflows?
- Could parish and town councils assist with the clearing of gullies as part of double devolution?
- Has a highway grip (to drain rain water from the highway into the roadside ditch) been considered to tackle issues in more rural locations?
- Will LGR allow greater collaboration between streetscene and highways services to tackle highway gully cleansing more effectively?
- What are the financial savings that have been realised to date and will be delivered from the implementation of the new risk-based, empirical approach?

Resolved –

Members note the information within the report and offer comments or suggestions.

A further update will be brought to the committee in 12 months time to monitor progress.

7 Financial Performance and Allocation of Civil Parking Enforcement Surplus

Considered – Report of the Corporate Director – Environment to update the committee on the financial performance and allocation of the Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) annual surplus and use of the CPE reserve general working balance for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial year.

Inspector Zoe Billings from North Yorkshire Police (NYP) also attended the meeting to inform members of the roles and responsibilities of the police with regards to civil parking enforcement.

David Kirkpatrick, Team Leader - Traffic Engineering introduced the report, with some of the key points summarised below:

- On-street parking charges are in operation in Harrogate, Knaresborough, Scarborough, Filey, Whitby and Northallerton. As a consequence of these charges and other income received through the administration of CPE, after operational costs have been met, a surplus is generated.
- The surplus can be used for parking, or alternatively where the provision of further off-street parking accommodation is unnecessary or undesirable, the surplus can be used for public transport, highway or road improvement projects or environmental

- improvements. The surplus can be spent anywhere in North Yorkshire.
- Prior to 2016, the CPE surplus was not fully reinvested and consequently over a number of years accrued a substantial reserve. This general working balance has since been allocated to fund other projects identified in the North Yorkshire Strategic Transport Prospectus.
 - The planned expenditure in the financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24 is greater than the forecast annual CPE surplus income and use of the remaining CPE reserve. To maintain the existing level of investment and delivery of these services, approval was given to fund the remaining shortfall through the Superintendence Reserve.
 - Parking demand is influenced by a range of factors such as weather, national events, and economy. Given the national economic situation, the increase in cost of living and changes to working arrangements, it may have an impact on visitor numbers to towns. Therefore, a forecast surplus of £3m has been applied to the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years.
 - The creation of the unitary authority means responsibility for both on and off-street parking is now wholly within the remit of North Yorkshire Council replacing the previous split arrangement of on-street being the responsibility of the former County Council and Off-street local authority car parks and parking being the responsibility of the district councils. Operationally, there will be no immediate change with North Yorkshire Council ensuring the delivery of the service is 'safe and legal' from vesting day.
 - Local Government Reorganisation does provide the opportunity to review the service and strategic approach to managing both on and off-street parking and the development of an inclusive new parking strategy.

There followed a discussion with the key points as summarised below:

- The consultation with the borough councils in Harrogate and Scarborough over the use of the CPE surplus, as required by the terms of the CPE Service Level Agreement, has meant that other areas of the county have been overlooked and not consulted on suggestions for spending the CPE surplus. It was asked if this will be considered in future years. An assurance was received that a county wide view will be taken in the future.
- Recognition of the work of civil parking enforcement officers on the frontline
- The timing of the potential parking strategy review and how members will be able to provide input into this
- The difficult parking situation in several rural villages and tourist areas was highlighted and the different tools available to combat unreasonable parking were discussed.
- The level of assistance NYP can provide through neighbourhood policing and problem solving teams if a situation escalates into a traffic policing offence due to a vehicle causing a hazard or obstruction.
- The installation of EV chargers in car parks was discussed and situations where supply is currently overestimating the demand and reducing the amount of standard car parking spaces available for ICE vehicles.

As part of the discussion on this item, Councillor Jabbour highlighted the car park situation at Malton railway station and the confusion it continues to cause residents due to the unclear signage and layout to distinguish between the two car parks owned by different operators. He gave an example of a local resident who recently received a £50 parking fine despite buying a ticket, albeit for the incorrect car park area. After appealing, the fine amount increased to £90. He asked whether the strategic review of on and off-street parking management and CPE services in North Yorkshire could seek to exert any influence to tackle the hard line approach and practices of some private car park operators.

The officers and Inspector Billings were thanked for their attendance.

Resolved – That:

- i. The TEEE O&S Committee notes the allocation of the CPE Surplus as set out in Table 2 of this report and the use of the Superintendence Reserve.
- ii. Note the opportunity for strategic review of on and off-street parking management and CPE services post Local Government Re-organisation.

8 Work Programme

Considered -

The report of the Principal Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer asking the Committee to confirm, amend or add to the areas of the work listed in the Work Programme.

Suggestions for future items included details of active travel schemes that are progressing around the county, the service transformation of the Environment directorate as it develops and an update on peat and moorland conservation work.

Resolved -

That the work programme be noted.

9 Any Other Items

There were no other items of business.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 pm.

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North Yorkshire Council

Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

25 May 2023

Service Harmonisation – Waste and Recycling

Report of the Corporate Director of Environment.

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the work to date of the Central Waste Management Team in relation to the future harmonisation of waste and recycling services across North Yorkshire, and to receive Member's views thereon.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The new North Yorkshire Council as a Unitary Authority has a duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange for both the collection and disposal of household waste. Under the previous two tiers of local government these duties were split between the seven District and Borough Councils as Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs), and North Yorkshire County Council as the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA).
- 2.2 A piece of work has commenced to plan how collections can be harmonised to provide quality, efficient and effective services to resident.

3.0 REPORT

- 3.1 In North Yorkshire, Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) has brought together seven waste collection services that all provide collections differently. Good progress has been made on integrating and rationalising services to achieve service consistency, for example, it has already been agreed to bring the Selby Urbaser service provision in house and to adopt a consistent approach to garden waste charging.
- 3.2 LGR provides an opportunity to harmonise waste recycling and disposal services into a single model. The WCAs and WDA have been working with WRAP and environmental consultancy Eunomia to evaluate the existing approaches and how best to integrate food waste collections.
- 3.3 A presentation on some of the work to date was made at a Members Seminar on 10 May and officers are now seeking further feedback from this committee.

4.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 4.1 The Council has declared a Climate Emergency and pledged to play its part in tackling the causes and impacts of climate change.

- 4.2 Service harmonisation delivers the following specific Council Plan ambitions:
- Place and Environment:
 - A clean, environmentally sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit
 - Communities are supported and work together to improve their local area
 - Health and Wellbeing
 - People are supported to have a good quality of life and enjoy active and healthy lifestyles
 - Organisation
 - A carbon neutral council

5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 No alternative options were considered. This report is for information only.

6.0 IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICES/ORGANISATIONS

6.1 Service harmonisation will have impact on a wide range of services, but this report is for information only.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Service harmonisation will have financial implications which will be included in reports at the appropriate time. As this report is for information only at this stage, there are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 North Yorkshire Council as a Unitary Authority has a duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange for the collection and disposal of household waste, and to comply with the waste provisions contained within the Environment Act 2021 and future secondary legislation and statutory guidance.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening will be undertaken as the project develops.

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 A Climate Change Impact Assessment screening will be undertaken as the project develops.

11.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Service harmonisation will require the development of a range of new policies, but this report is for information only.

12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 For Members to note the work to date and provide their views on future service harmonisation.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION

- i) Members note the feedback and provide views for which will be fed into the project plan.

APPENDICES:

None – presentation to be provided on the day.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

Karl Battersby
Corporate Director – Environment
County Hall
Northallerton
05.05.23

Report Authors – Peter Jeffreys, Head of Service – Waste
Aimi Brookes, Service Development Manager - Waste

Presenters of Report: Peter Jeffreys, Head of Service – Waste
Aimi Brookes, Service Development Manager - Waste

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

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North Yorkshire Council

Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny

25 May 2023

Climate Change Strategy Consultation Results

Report of the Corporate Director of Environment

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the feedback from the Draft North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy public consultation exercise and to receive Member's views thereon.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Draft North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030 (NY CCS) was approved, by Executive, for public consultation on 17 January 2023. (Minute 155 refers.)
- 2.2 The consultation period from 13 February to 31 March involved a range of engagement activity, outlined in Appendix A. The young people's survey remained open until 15 May.

3.0 REPORT

- 3.1 The public consultation exercise received over 1500 responses.
- 1530 through the *Let's Talk Climate* online platform.
 - 38 more detailed written responses from organisations, local councils and individuals.
- 3.2 The responses have been analysed over the past month to ascertain the key themes. These are outlined in Appendix A.
- 3.3 The *Let's Talk Climate* Young People's survey was co designed with young people from Harrogate. This survey is still open at the time of writing. Feedback will be included in a verbal update.

4.0 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

- 4.1 These are outlined in Appendix A

5.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 5.1 The Council has declared a Climate Emergency and pledged to play its part in tackling the causes and impacts of climate change.
- 5.2 The NYC CCS delivers the following specific Council Plan ambitions:
- Place and Environment:
 - 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

- Economy
 - 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
- Health and Wellbeing
 - People are supported to have a good quality of life and enjoy active and healthy lifestyles
 - Reduced variations in health through tackling the root causes of inequality
- People
 - In times of hardship, support is provided to those that need it most
- Organisation
 - A carbon neutral council

6.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6.1 No alternative options were considered. This report is for information only.

7.0 IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICES/ORGANISATIONS

7.1 The Climate Change Strategy will have impact on a wide range of services. However, this report is for information only.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 As this report is for information only, there are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no legal implications.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken and there is no requirement for a full EIA.

11.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

11.1 A Climate Change Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken and there is no requirement for a full CCIA.

12.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 The report will support the development of the NYC CCS for adoption.

13.0 CONCLUSIONS

13.1 The NYC CCS has been through a successful consultation process whereby all residents and businesses have had the opportunity to review and comment on the draft document.

13.2 The consultation feedback will be subject of a further report to Executive for the adoption of the Strategy.

14.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1 For Members to note the consultation process and provide their views on the consultation feedback.

15.0 RECOMMENDATION

15.1 Members note the NYC CCS consultation feedback.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Report outlining North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy Draft Consultation Feedback

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy Draft for consultation. [Climate Change Strategy draft for consultation \(northyorks.gov.uk\)](http://northyorks.gov.uk)

Karl Battersby
Corporate Director of Environment
County Hall
Northallerton
05.05.23

Report Author – Jos Holmes, North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Policy Officer

Presenters of Report:

- Jos Holmes, North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Policy Officer
- Adam Vaughan, Climate Change and Environmental Project Officer

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

North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy Draft Consultation Response Summary.

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1 Introduction

The North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy Draft for Consultation was approved 17.01.23. It was commissioned following the Climate Emergency declaration in July 2022. Officers from County and District Local Authorities worked collaboratively to engage with local environmental groups, the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership and with all council officers (across the whole range of services) and Members (Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee 20.10.22) to develop the Strategy themes, ambitions and general content throughout Autumn and Winter 2022.

As a reminder, the draft may be found here: https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/87680_Climate%20Change%20Strategy%20for%20web%20-%20accessible_0.pdf

The report that follows provides a summary of the feedback. It does not propose a response to the comments at this time. This will be subject of a further report to Executive. However in reviewing the comments at this time, it is worth noting that

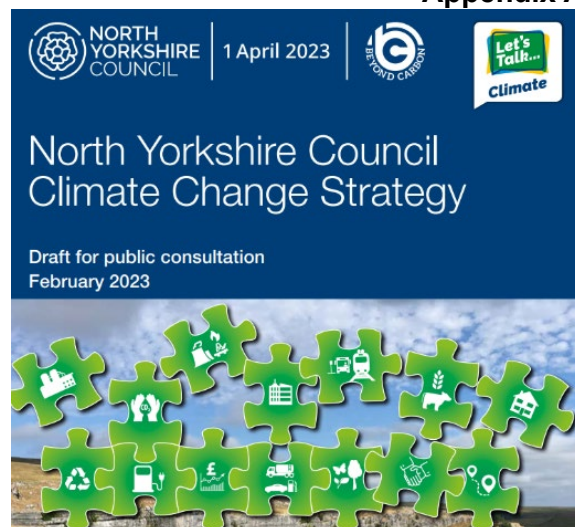
- Some reference suggested or geographically specific 'actions', which will be picked up in the development of the Climate Change Action Plan.
- Some suggest inclusion of points that are already in the Strategy. This may indicate that emphasis or clarity is required rather than specific changes.
- There were relatively few comments around the 'adaptation' theme and 'marine' within the 'supporting nature' section, indicating that this is an area of knowledge gap / growth for all.

2 Consultation Process

The consultation commenced 17.02.23 and concluded 10.04.23. There were three feedback methods;

- Let's Talk Climate online survey: Our ambition for Let's Talk North Yorkshire is for it to be our biggest ever countywide conversation, to help understand how the public are feeling, and use that intelligence to inform decision making and the council's policy development process.

This was a short survey that could be taken on a phone or other device. A copy of the survey can be found at the end of this report. It was also printed for people that preferred that option. Over 1500 responses were received. There were 5 questions on the Likert scale where people had a binary choice of 5 responses. A summary of those outcomes is in section 3. In addition, free text boxes enabled people to give more detailed views. A process called Natural Language Processing (NLP) has been utilised to identify the most common themes expressed and the words associated with those themes. A detailed review of 10% of the surveys was used to provide a 'sense check'. This found that the NLP process has correctly identified the most commonly used phrases and



words and the context in which they were used such as in a positive or negative way. The results are outlined below in section 3.10.

- ii. Written responses were invited via the NYCC consultation website and library service. This enabled more detailed responses for those that wanted to provide in depth feedback. 39 responses were received. The results are outlined below in section 4.
- iii. A 'young people's on online survey' which was co-designed with Harrogate Youth Council was prepared. The survey closed on 15.05.23 and the results will be outlined at the TEEOSC meeting.

These 3 approaches were outlined in webinars for Town and Parish Council, the Voluntary and Community Sector and for the general public. There were also 19 'face to face' engagement sessions at colleges, markets and community centres across North Yorkshire, staffed by colleagues from climate change and communications services. At these events, the officers talked with local people (including the Prime Minister at one event) giving background to the Strategy, handing out bookmarks with the QR code to link to the on line survey and paper copies if this was the preferred option.



Responses have been reviewed by a team of climate change officers with support from the Communications team.

3 Let's Talk Climate

3.1 The survey was hosted on 'Commonplace', our digital engagement platform, and was supported by a marketing campaign to direct people to the platform.

Overall, 1,531 responses to the Let's Talk Climate Change survey were received, and this report presents the results of the survey.

As usual with self-completion questionnaires, some participants did not complete all questions. This may be because they did not have an opinion on the question asked, but we cannot make this assumption in full confidence. Such 'missing data' is excluded from the results unless otherwise stated. All charts indicate the number of responses received for each question.

The survey results are reported as whole numbers for percentages. As a result of this 'rounding' process there may be occasions when the figures do not add up to 100.

3.2 Reliability of the results

The number of responses received as part of the Let's Talk Climate Change survey indicates we can be confident that the survey results provide reliable estimates of the views of the North Yorkshire population as a whole. As with any estimates they include a degree of uncertainty. We have calculated confidence intervals to provide a measure for this uncertainty.

The 95% confidence intervals for overall survey results are generally calculated to be within +/- 3%, and this indicates a high level of certainty in the results.¹

While the sample of responses in the survey is broadly representative of the population in North Yorkshire in many respects, the over-representation of people from some sub-groups such as districts and age groups may have an impact on the survey results if people from these groups have different views on issues. This report highlights where groups have very different views. Demographic group information was not provided by many people taking part in the survey, and this also limits the ability to determine how truly representative the sample of responses is.

We acknowledge that there is likely to be some survey error in the results, due to the over-representation of certain sub-groups in the sample. Although the survey is not truly representative, we always assume that there will be some sampling error and/or response bias in every survey, and this does not invalidate the survey findings.

The results of the survey also appear to be consistent with a number of surveys undertaken, including the Office for National Statistics (ONS), including the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey.

Detailed analysis of each question is available for review. It is possible to interrogate the information based on age, geographic location etc in great detail. The information below from section 3.3 to 3.9 provides a summary.

¹ See note on survey methodology at the end of the report.



Visit northyorks.gov.uk/LetsTalkNY
or scan the QR code
to take part online



If you'd like a paper copy
of the survey please call
01609 780 780

Free text response questions were analysed to look for patterns and themes in the responses. The result of these are outlined below in 3.10

3.3 Overall Summary

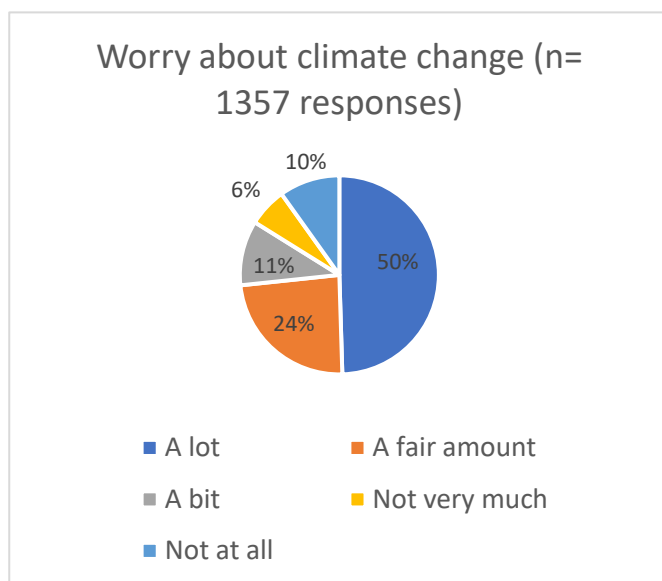
- A total of 1,531 responses were received for Let’s Talk Climate Change, and the number of responses means we can be confident that the survey results reflect the view of people in North Yorkshire.
- Responses were received from people who live and work within all districts across North Yorkshire, although people from Harrogate are over represented and those from Scarborough and Selby are under represented in the responses.
- Older people are also over represented and younger people under represented in the responses. A separate survey aimed at younger people, aged under 25, was also run and the results of this survey will be reported separately.

3.4 Climate change awareness

- The responses show a high level of awareness of climate change, with 91% saying their awareness level is a lot or a fair amount. Only 2% of responses are from those who describe their awareness as not very much or not at all.
- There is little difference in awareness levels by gender with responses from males and females showing similar levels of awareness about climate change.
- There are some differences in the levels of awareness for different age groups. People in the youngest age group, 16 to 29 years, are least likely to describe their level of awareness as a lot or a fair amount, and also less likely to say they are not very or not at all aware of climate change.
- People who said they are a member of a group engaged in environmental activities are more likely to be aware of climate change (96% describe their awareness as a lot or a fair amount), compared to those who are not part of a group (87%).

3.5 Worry about climate change

- Nearly three-quarters (73%) of responses are from people who say they worry a lot or a fair amount about climate change, while one in six (16%) are from those who do not worry at all or very much about climate change.
- This finding is consistent with data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Opinions and Lifestyle Survey which shows 74% reported feeling (very or somewhat) worried about climate change in 2022.
- Responses from females show they are more likely to worry about climate change than males: 87% of female responses say their level of worry is a lot or a fair amount, compared to 68% of males. Only 5% of female responses are not very much or at all worried about climate change, compared to 20% of males.
- The ONS Opinions and Lifestyle Survey also found women are most likely to report feeling worried about climate change (77%, compared with 71% of men).



- There are also some differences in the level of worry for different age groups in North Yorkshire but the pattern is not straightforward.
- People who said they are a member of a group engaged in environmental activities are more likely to worry about climate change (89% say they worry a lot or a fair amount), compared to those who are not part of a group (60%).

When asked what concerns are about climate change, the most popular responses are:

- Deforestation (78% of responses)
- Landfills (65%)
- Emissions (64%)
- Fossils fuels (62%)
- Plastics (60%).

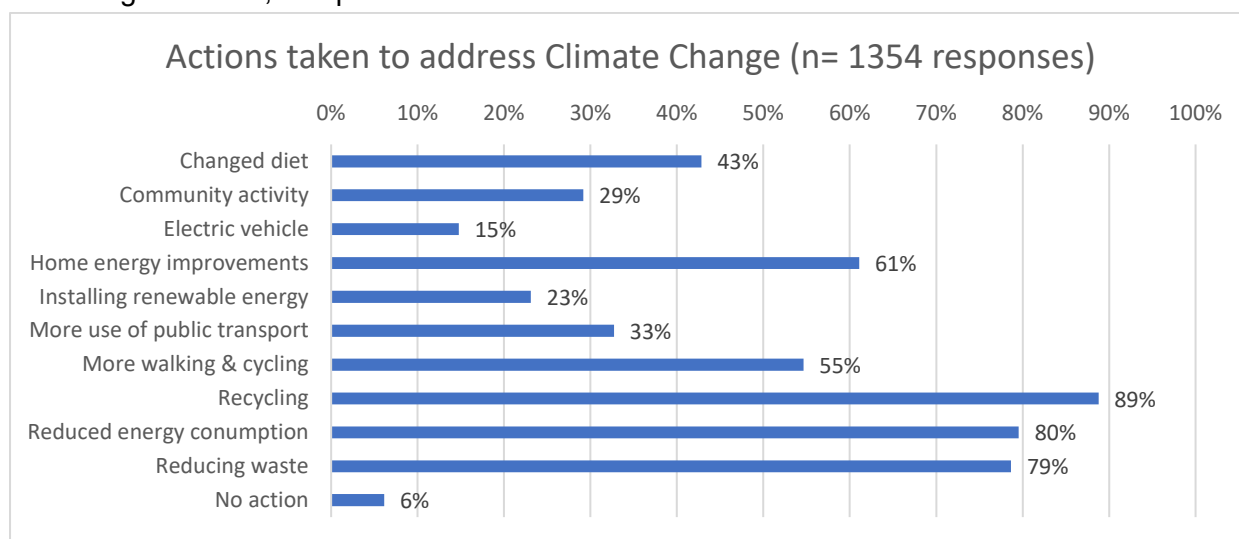
3.6 Actions to tackle climate change

The most popular actions taken to address climate change are reported as:

- Recycling (undertaken by 89% of people)
- Reduced energy consumption (80%)
- Reducing waste (79%)
- Home energy improvements (61%)
- More walking and cycling (55%).

Only 6% of response said that no action had been taken.

Responses show females are more likely to have taken action than males. Only 1% of females reported taking no action, compared to 7% of males.



3.7 Confidence in Climate Change Strategy approaches

The survey asked people how confident they are about how the approaches set out in the Strategy will help. It is worth noting that the ‘confidence’ question responses appear to relate not to the specifics of this climate change strategy, but to the subject of climate change as a whole. This is evidenced by reading the free text comments associated with the ‘tick box’ responses.

- Overall half (50%) of the responses to the survey are from people who say they are very confident, confident or somewhat confident **the approach will help slow down a changing climate in North Yorkshire.**
- Slightly more than half (52%) of the responses are from people who say they are very confident, confident or somewhat confident **the approach will prepare for a changing climate in North Yorkshire.**

- Some 60% of the responses are very confident, confident or somewhat confident **the approach will help nature help us in North Yorkshire.**

People who are confident that one of the approaches will help are also generally confident that the other approaches will help. For example, nearly three quarters (73%) of those who are very confident the approach will help to prepare for a changing climate are also very confident the approach will help to slow down a changing climate and also help nature to help us in North Yorkshire.

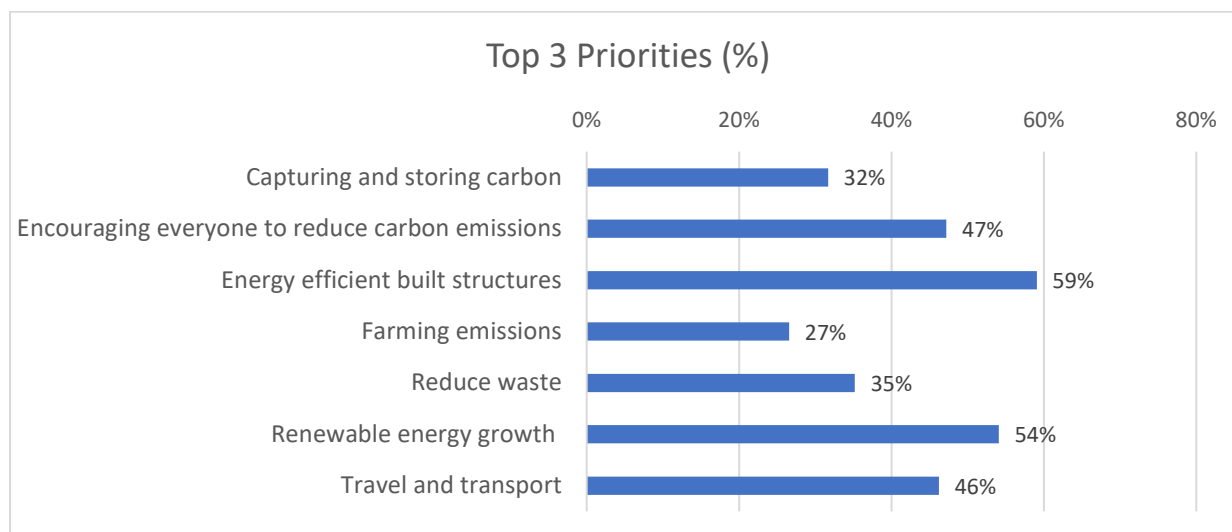
Responses from people who said they are a member of a group engaged in environmental activities show they are slightly more likely to be confident across the three themes.

3.8 Priorities for key actions

Survey responses show the highest priority key actions, with following actions most commonly ranked in the top three priorities:

1. Energy efficient built structures (ranked as a top three priority in 59% of responses)
2. Renewable energy growth (54%)
3. Encouraging everyone to reduce carbon emissions (47%)
4. Travel and transport (46%)
5. Reduce waste (35%).

The chart below shows the proportion of responses placing each action in the top three priorities for the council.



3.9 Survey response characteristics

What is your age group?

| | Responses | % sample | % population |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 16-29 | 44 | 4% | 17% |
| 30-39 | 48 | 4% | 13% |
| 40-49 | 116 | 10% | 14% |
| 50-64 | 412 | 37% | 27% |
| 65-74 | 329 | 30% | 16% |
| 75+ | 151 | 14% | 14% |
| Prefer not to say | 11 | 1% | |
| Total response | 1111 | 100% | |
| No response | 420 | | |

Are you? (Gender)

| | Responses | % sample |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Female | 468 | 47% |
| Male | 499 | 50% |
| I describe myself in another way | 12 | 1% |
| Prefer not to say | 23 | 2% |
| Total response | 1002 | 100% |
| No response | 529 | |

ACC area (based on postcode) after enhancement

| | Responses | % sample | % population |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Harrogate & Knaresborough | 218 | 21% | 17% |
| Thirsk & Malton | 201 | 19% | 17% |
| Skipton & Ripon | 192 | 18% | 16% |
| Richmond | 178 | 17% | 18% |
| Scarborough & Whitby | 122 | 11% | 16% |
| Selby & Ainsty | 102 | 10% | 17% |
| Outside North Yorkshire | 50 | 5% | |
| Total response | 1063 | 100% | |
| No response | 468 | | |

District (based on postcode) after enhancement

| | Responses | % sample | % population |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Harrogate | 335 | 32% | 26% |
| Hambleton | 173 | 16% | 15% |
| Scarborough | 128 | 12% | 18% |
| Ryedale | 116 | 11% | 9% |
| Craven | 97 | 9% | 9% |
| Richmondshire | 84 | 8% | 8% |
| Selby | 80 | 8% | 15% |
| Outside North Yorkshire | 50 | 5% | |
| Total response | 1063 | 100% | |
| No response | 468 | | |

3.10 Free-text feedback on climate change mitigation, adaption, and nature recovery

In addition to utilising the Likert scale (a choice from 1-5 results outlined above) when asking residents how they felt regarding the Council's approach to climate change mitigation, adaption, and nature recovery, a free text box was also provided to allow residents to stipulate more detailed information regarding why they had chosen to give that response and highlight any feedback areas they viewed as important.

From the 1531 individual responses received on Commonplace, 1093 individual free text comments were received for slowing down climate change (mitigation), 822 for helping prepare for climate change (adaptation) and 773 individual comments for helping nature to help us in North Yorkshire (nature).

Keyword collocation was used to identify repeating keyphrase themes across the data set for the three climate change areas. Each individual feedback response was assessed for these common key phrases, which occurred across the entire dataset. The higher the value of (n), the tally term, the more times a keyphrase has been mentioned across all the feedback received.

All the feedback received contains vitally important information as a whole, with this approach used to highlight the most common themes initially. A minimum frequency of ≥ 3 occurrences were chosen for this initial evaluation. A further review of all the responses will be made as we move into the Action Planning phase. This will also identify geographically relevant comments as part of action plan development. We will commit to reading all the comments in full.

3.11 Slowing down climate change (mitigation)

Table 1 below shows the five most frequent keyphrases for helping to slow down climate change, broken down by the number of times each keyphrase was mentioned per distinct survey contribution. Example common feedback has also been provided for each key phrase; however, it should be noted that the entire range of comments is not limited to these bullet points alone.

| Slowing down climate change in NY (mitigation) | Consultation Response | |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| | Individual contributions (n) | Example common feedback |
| Public transport | 107 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improvements to public transport infrastructure and connectivity to rural locations. ▪ Promote public transport use over private car usage. ▪ More cost-effective and frequency public transport services. ▪ Decarbonisation of public transport services. |
| Rooftop solar pv | 65 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Solar PV on new developments. ▪ Installing Solar PV and other technologies, such as battery storage, on available rooftops such as Council buildings. ▪ Barriers to Solar PV such as upfront costs & local constraints. |
| Electric vehicles | 48 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requirement for good supporting infrastructure such as charging points. ▪ Promote public transport use over just transitioning to private electric vehicles. ▪ Barriers such as high cost and rural areas. Environmental impacts. |
| Renewable energy | 46 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locality-based renewable energy generation where possible. ▪ Implement a range of different renewable energy technologies which are best suited to the location/area. ▪ New developments built to include renewable energy generation. |

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|--|
| New housing | 41 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High energy efficiency new build properties that incorporate solar PV, air and ground source heat pump and other measures such as insulation/rain-water collection/double-glazing. ▪ Link new developments to support infrastructure such as public transport. <p>New Development supporting nature and biodiversity.</p> |
| Climate change | 185 | |
| North Yorkshire | 97 | |

Table 1. The top 5 identified climate change mitigation keyphrases, tallied by the number of times each keyphrase was mentioned per distinct survey contribution. As Climate Change and North Yorkshire feature across a significant majority of answers, they have been separated from the other keyphrases.

3.12 Helping prepare for climate change in North Yorkshire (adaptation)

Table 2 below shows the five most frequent keyphrases for helping to prepare for climate change in North Yorkshire, broken down by the number of times each keyphrase was mentioned per distinct survey contribution. Example common feedback has also been provided for each keyphrase; however, it should be noted that the entire range of comments is not limited to these bullet points alone.

| Helping prepare for climate change in NY (adaptation) | Consultation Response | |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| | Individual contributions (n) | Example common feedback |
| New housing | 20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need for high energy-efficient build standards as standard. ▪ Climate adaptation considerations being considered as standard for new developments, such as drainage. ▪ The utilisation of green heating technologies such as ground and air-source heating systems. |
| Public transport | 20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improvements and electrification to North Yorkshire's public transport system. ▪ Current barriers to accessing public transport such as frequency and rural locations. |
| Council buildings | 17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decarbonising council buildings. ▪ The funding approach and overall cost for decarbonising public sector buildings. |
| Rooftop solar pv | 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage new developments to have solar PV type systems installed as standard. ▪ Barriers to installing Solar PV systems such as cost. ▪ Installing Solar PV on public buildings. |
| Climate adaptation | 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fast and effective implementation of a climate adaptation action plan as soon as possible. |
| Climate change | 78 | |
| North Yorkshire | 39 | |

Table 2. The top 5 identified climate change adaptation keyphrase themes, tallied by the number of times each keyphrase was mentioned per distinct survey contribution. As Climate Change and North Yorkshire feature across a significant majority of answers, they have been separated from the other keyphrases.

3.13 Helping nature to help us in North Yorkshire (nature)

Table 3 below shows the five most frequent keyphrase themes for helping nature to help us in North Yorkshire, broken down by the number of times each keyphrase was mentioned per distinct survey contribution. Example common feedback has also been provided for each keyphrase; however, it should be noted that the entire range of comments is not limited to these bullet points alone.

| Helping nature to help us in NY (nature) | Consultation Response | |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| | Individual contributions (n) | Example common feedback |
| Tree planting | 45 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase tree planting and hedgerow conservation. ▪ Need for diversity in the tree species planted. ▪ Finding the right balance between land used for tree planting and other applications such as agriculture. |
| Green space | 32 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prioritise the environment and green spaces. ▪ The planning system, new housing developments and green spaces. ▪ Allocation of non-green land for new developments. |
| New housing | 31 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New housing takes climate change adaptation effects into account. ▪ The planning system and development allocations in relation to green spaces. ▪ New developments with nature at its focus. |
| Help nature | 18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rewilding of grass verges and other areas to support pollinators. ▪ Improvements in agriculture and education to support nature. ▪ Nature-based solutions to adapt to flooding and other climate change effects. |
| Economic growth | 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effect of economic growth on the environment. ▪ More detail on how sustainable economic growth would operate and benefit the natural environment. |
| North Yorkshire | 45 | |
| Climate change | 36 | |

Table 3. The top 5 identified nature restoration keyphrase themes, tallied by the number of individual occurrences and individual contributions received. As Climate Change and North Yorkshire feature across most answers, they have been separated from the other keyphrases.

4 Written comments.

39 written responses were received from a range of organisations and individuals. The analysis below summarises the comments which are not in any order of magnitude. They may have been made by an individual or an organisation representing many views. The summary of comments is collated to reflect the structure of the document.

4.1 General Feedback

- Welcome the opportunity to comment. (Universal comment, generally pleased that NYC have commissioned the strategy.)
- Support for
 - the three key pillars of mitigation, adaptation and supporting nature.
 - Support for the breadth and content. Some very positive comments.
 - Like Climate Responsible Actions concept.
- Concern raised
 - Lacks ambition to match the scale and urgency of the challenge – frequent references to the IPCC report.
 - NYC should take a national lead on climate change. Need greater commitment.
 - Contains few specific actions and targets.
 - Don't delay implementation.

- Skills not sufficiently reflected in the plan – skilled labour required for housing retrofit for eg.
 - Lack of clarity around the ‘External’ and ‘Internal’ objectives of the strategy. Clarity sought on the ‘Routemap’, Local Area Energy Plan and the NYC activity.
 - How do the various strategies of the new Council knit together to support climate change?
 - Improve the definitions; Clarify scope 1/2/3 emissions, net zero, eco-design.
- Three specific ‘new’ issues were raised not included elsewhere in the document:
 - Fracking (in energy section)
 - Role of NYC in improving the electrical grid capacity (in energy section)
 - Divestment of fossil fuels (in finance section)
 - Some respondents do not believe climate change is caused by human activity and / or that it is a global issue that NY cannot do anything to resolve.
 - The changes that are needed will not be achieved without changing the way things are done. This will need a combination of incentives, support and encouragement along with guidance, regulation and restriction

4.2 Risks

- Risk of losing existing stored carbon such as peat and existing mature tree cover should be included.
- Risks are higher from more potent gases such as Sulphurous Dioxides, than Carbon Dioxide.

4.3 Impacts

- There were a very few responses that there would be no impact from climate change.
- Many referenced the IPCC reports citing the impacts from temperature rise.

4.4 Targets

- Several respondents wanted to see more ‘target setting’. This included setting a target date for North Yorkshire to become net zero.
- Where targets or ambitions are indicated, several commented that these were not sufficiently ambitious.
- Lack of ‘milestones’ and baseline benchmarking, carbon budget setting to be able to assess progress.
- Some areas of activity are overstated, downplaying how much there is still to do.
- Define scope 3 emissions.

4.5 Principles & Co Benefits

- Community based projects have long term, sustainable change – for example community energy. Recognise that a long term approach is required. Change takes time.
- Good Value – need to ensure that potential future costs due to inaction are taken into account.
- Reference to Sustainable Development Goals should be made.
- Welcome and hope they can be realised.
- Environmental benefits also include improved water resources, air quality and biodiversity.
- Misses the benefits of regenerative agriculture for supporting nature.
- Make the cost of living more visible – this will help nudge behaviour.
- Need to ensure activities don’t cause a negative benefit elsewhere and how the co benefits are all joined up together.

4.6 Activities

- Must not just wait for Government progress and action.
- Use lobbying power to respond to Government.
- All the solutions in the document are already known – now we need implementation.
- Climate change responses should be presented as an opportunity for clean growth, not a barrier.

4.7 Delivery / Governance

- Lack of clarity on who is leading this? Each sector should have an owner to drive the plan forward.
- Prefer to have a joint governance process with the Routemap (to ensure both strategies are aligned). Collaboration between NYC and CoY is vital.
- Working with and supporting community groups, town and parish councils is key – frequent comment. The NYC Libraries are a great example of where North Yorkshire’s residents were asked to support.
- NYC should step in to fill a gap and responded accordingly.
- Some support for setting up an ‘external reference group’. Also for North Yorkshire Citizen’s assembly.
- Working in partnerships – including Colleges of Further Education. Also NPAs.
- Use of expert specialists.
- Single officer / Member should be responsible for delivery.
- Who owns and is responsible for the Routemap?
- Consider ‘Doughnut economic’ decision making model.
- Stakeholder map beneficial.
- Need for an action / implementation plan. What actions will the LA be taking to enable delivery of the strategy?
- Small scale, local actions are the more pragmatic approach to engage residents.

4.8 Monitoring

- Performance monitoring at highest level required.

4.9 Communications – see also behaviour change below.

- Need to fully engage the community in the area.

4.10 Finance

- NYC should review pension fund and investments and divest from fossil fuels.
- Use of cost / benefit analysis and impact measures to make informed decisions.
- Include use of private sector finance and community bonds not just Government Grants.

4.11 Mitigation

Built Environment / Planning

- Planning: Many references to the importance and role of Planning to impact climate change; far more proactive, 2028 revision is not ambitious or urgent enough, use of design codes and SPDs. Prioritise brownfield land. Support renewable energy applications. Applicants must commit to replace and maintain in perpetuity lost trees. Planning must support retrofit including quick decisions on Air Source Heat Pumps.
- New Buildings: Need to collaborate to influence Government policy on new building regulations and building control to enforce. Biobased and low carbon building materials should be used – including market development for local timber. Ensure new buildings are energy efficient.
- Existing buildings: Include reference to community buildings, schools infrastructure towards meeting the targets. Support fabric first and energy efficiency across NY. Rainwater harvesting promotion. Targets for EPC C are unambitious. Strong support for better advice for retrofit of listed / conservation area buildings. Provide better access to energy efficiency information. Improve reference to housing and commercial property retrofit plans, not just council owned property. Others welcomed the emphasis on these issues in the document.
- Include reference to light pollution

Travel

- Local Travel Planning and Local Plan must be fully integrated to reduce travel emissions.
- Create self sustaining neighbourhoods. Local Plan / Developers must build in low carbon travel into all new employment and housing developments.
- Needs of rural areas – use car clubs,
- Last mile delivery consolidation hubs
- More ambitious targets required. (As in Routemap)
- Active Travel: Planning must promote active travel (improve the targets) , including safe pathways and cycleways. Cycling safety on roads frequently mentioned. Maintenance of routes including ice clearance from pavements and cycle paths not just motorised traffic routes. Inner town cycling should be promoted like in European cities. Reduce speed limits (ref to 20s Plenty) also has impact on braking / acceleration emissions
- Public transport: Improve availability – learn from national best practice. Use EV buses Create Public Transport Forum (like York Bus Forum). Free. Lobby Government for improved concessionary fares. Commit to Bus Back Better national bus strategy. Employers should contribute financially to low carbon travel for employees.
- Ref air pollution
- New road funding should be diverted to carbon reduction projects.
- Inadequate EV Charging infrastructure. Link to grid capacity issue.
- Recognise benefits and investigate use of green hydrogen.

Waste

- Wasted energy, such as leaving lights on (including traffic lights and streetlights) , should be included.
- Concern over carbon emissions from incineration of waste. Waste incineration contracts should be included with national carbon reduction contracts.
- Emphasis food waste and support for household food waste collections.

Circular Economy

- Support the mention of circular economy in business sectors, but would like also in reference to community actions to promote and scale up.
- Create a Circular Business Champions network

Renewable Energy / Energy infrastructure

- Missing the role of NYC should play regarding grid capacity as a barrier to renewable energy projects – frequent mention
- Ensure EV and heating decarbonisation (heat pumps) plans are joined up in terms of grid capacity.
- Encourage more battery storage solutions to even out demand / supply
- Welcome emphasis on community energy support – frequent mention – and locally owned and distributed to maximise grid capacity.
- Support for wind turbines and solar farms to respond to the climate emergency – frequent comment. Comments regarding appropriate locations for large scale including NOT on quality agricultural land. Support for reuse of closed landfill sites.
- Missing a reference to NYC position on fracking.
- Support for green hydrogen. Conversely, some comments indicated not a priority (but comment linked to heating rather than transport)
- Reduce use of wood burning stoves – poor air quality.

Agricultural

- Increased reference to sustainable agriculture and use of low carbon farm practices – frequent mention.

- Support increased production to reduce emissions
- NYC has a critical role through the planning system and working with partners and land owners on ELMS, to reduce emissions and improve biodiversity.
- Food related comments; seasonal, secure food production, reduced food waste. awareness of increasing temperature / water shortage impact on food production. Conversely, atmospheric carbon and higher temperatures could increase plant growth.

Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)

- Only use CCS where emissions cannot be avoided – frequent mention.
- Scepticism regarding the role of Drax biomass burning and CCS
- Concern over loss of existing carbon stores such as peat reserves, agricultural soils and mature trees and the improved use of felled timber (which will ‘lock up’ carbon).
- New treeplanting not sufficient or timely response.

Behaviour Change

- Emphasis should be on what NYC can do, not individual’s actions. Conversely, NYC should lead and galvanise residents to take action. (see also Governance and delivery section.)
- Require public campaigns to increase awareness and knowledge about climate change.

4.12 Adaptation

- Welcome this section/ Plan by 2025 not very ambitious.
- Clarity on the balance between mitigation and adaptation – focus on mitigation so less adaptation is necessary.

Communities

- Support required for resilience and adaptation
- Encourage use of water saving and grey water.

Extreme events

- Take a long term time horizon to plan for.
- Increase water storage capacity
- Response cannot be provincial
- Must prepare built environment for extreme storms.
- Agricultural production will be impacted by drought / temperatures

Built

- All new buildings should be future proof design

4.13 Nature

- Support for including of this section related to climate change – frequent comment.

Supporting Nature

- Nature should be linked to agriculture
- Water quality should be highlighted - issue linked to storm sewage discharges and intensive agriculture
- Protection of nature outside protected sites is important. Linking up sites

Prioritise nature based solutions

- This approach welcomed – frequent comment.
- Improve baseline data
- Conflict between greenhouse gas emissions reduction and biodiversity.
- Support for nature based adaptation: Make space for rewilding. Trees for cooling (choose adaptable species.)

LNRS / BNG / Local Plan / NCIP

- Plans must be supported with enforcement to ensure implementation.
- Reference the 30 by 30 plan
- Measures must be improved and increased.
- Village / parish plans should also be supported
- Appreciate nature for its own beauty, not for economic gain. Cost benefit analysis doesn't reflect the multiple unquantifiable benefits of nature.
- Natural capital and carbon pricing should be introduced.

Skills – see also general feedback

- Skills shortages in land management techniques and timber engineers.

Sustainable Tourism

- Support tourism to promote natural resources, not to exploit it.

Land use / green spaces

- Must involve land owners / managers and other stakeholders to implement.
- Use all our greenspaces such as parks, play areas, county farms and verges to support nature, including peat free compost. More open spaces in housing developments.
- Moorland grouse land management prevents natural reforestation

Treplanting

- After planting care and use of timber is critical to ensure carbon is stored permanently. Eg timber construction.
- Mixed planting schemes to encourage biodiversity and climate resilience.
- Street trees very important
- New trees do not replace mature trees that have been felled. It takes many years to develop the carbon store.
- Link with England Tree Action Plan
- Respond to Larch Sudden Death as well as Ash Die Back.
- Woodland creation is very important but there are many barriers, including long term management.

Marine

- Pollution responsible for crustacean deaths along NY coast.

4.14 North Yorkshire Council

Measure

- Seek expert advice which is evidence based / use nationally agreed methodologies.
- Should set carbon budgets for each department.

Departmental Action Plans

- Support for this approach to ensure delivery. Concerned about timelines.
- Action plans from each of the previous District Authorities should be referenced.
- Reduce emissions prior to CCS
- Climate literacy training mandatory for Members and staff. Culture change
- Apply interventions with most carbon savings.
- Lead by example

Fleet

- Investigate options to replace fossil fuels for fleet.

Property

- Support NYC leading by example and set ambitious targets.
- Use greenspaces to improve biodiversity
- Put renewable PV on all property.

Procurement

- Ensure procurement strategy reflects environmental sustainability and circular economy. VfM must include carbon emissions reduction. Use LGA sustainable procurement toolkit.
- Support SME suppliers to decarbonise.

5 Let's Talk Climate paper survey

**Your answers will be uploaded anonymously to <https://letstalkny.commonplace.is/>* In July 2022 a Climate Emergency was announced for North Yorkshire. With existing plans in place to reach Net Zero by 2030, the climate team created a draft Climate Change Strategy to enable North Yorkshire to reach that goal and be the first Carbon Negative region by 2040. This ties in with the UK Government's aim for the UK to be Net Zero by 2050.

During the first round of Let's Talk surveys, residents told us Climate Change should be in the top three priorities for North Yorkshire Council over the next 3 years.

Let's Talk Climate is all about gathering your views and feedback on the draft Climate Change Strategy. By answering the following questions, the information you give us will then feed back into the strategy to create a final Climate Change Strategy for the new authority – North Yorkshire Council.

If you require any of our surveys in another format or language, then please call our survey line on 01609 536400.

How aware are you of Climate Change?

Please circle one of the following choices...

- Not at all
- Not very much
- A bit
- A fair amount
- A lot

How worried are you about Climate Change?












Please circle one of the following choices...

- Not at all
- Not very much
- A bit
- A fair amount

- A lot

What actions have you taken to tackle Climate Change?

Please circle one or more of the following choices

| | | |
|---|--|--|
|  |  |  |
| Home energy improvements | More use of public transport | Electric Vehicle |
|  |  |  |
| Reduced energy consumption | Recycling | Reducing waste |
|  |  |  |
| Changed diet | Installing renewable energy | Community activity |
|  |  | |
| More walking or cycling | No action | |

Our Climate Change Plan sets out how North Yorkshire Council will respond to the climate emergency. We will work with partners to achieve the ambition to be a carbon negative region by 2040 and encourage residents, businesses, and visitors to take climate responsible actions. The plan has three approaches:

- How we plan to slow it down**
- How we are preparing for a changing climate**
- Helping nature to help us**






How we plan to slow it down

This means reducing our impact on the climate by decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. This is done by:

- Decreasing production of the greenhouse gases by reducing energy demand and waste.
- Generating and using low carbon energy such as solar power as an alternative to fossil fuels.
- Capturing greenhouse gas emissions and storing them in organic sinks such as trees, hedgerows, grasslands, peat, and seaweed (kelp), and capturing carbon from industrial processes.

How confident do you feel that this approach will help slow down a changing climate in North Yorkshire?

Please circle the option that best applies to you...

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Very confident | Confident | Somewhat confident | Not very confident | Not confident |

Very confident Not confident

Why do you feel this way?

How we are preparing for a changing climate

This means preparing for the changes we will see in our climate. To adapt to climate change at the Council, we need to:

- Ensure the retrofit of Council buildings makes our assets less vulnerable to climate change by including adaptation in building improvement plans
- Deliver climate adaptation work within and at the same time as decarbonisation measures
- Embed climate risk into the Council’s service delivery and risk management procedures
- Assess climate risk in each of the Council’s services
- Keep up-to-date data on climate impacts and responses faced by each service
- Develop a North Yorkshire Council Climate Adaptation Plan by 2025

How confident do you feel that this approach will help prepare for a changing climate in North Yorkshire?

Please circle the option that best applies to you...



Very confident



Confident



Somewhat
confident



Not very confident



Not confident

Very confident

Not confident

Why do you feel this way?

Helping nature to help us

This means helping the natural world, on which we depend, to thrive. To support nature, we need to:

- Work in partnership: To ensure a joint approach between the many organisations working to support nature.
- Prioritise nature-based solutions in climate change activity – understanding how the interventions that we will take in response to climate change can also support nature through increased protection, restoration, or management.
- Statutory requirements – we can ensure that legislative requirements are used to support nature.
- Supporting nature through economic growth – There are opportunities presented to grow the economy in a sustainable way. Much of North Yorkshire's economy is based on our landscape and the natural ecosystems.
- Sustainable land use and green spaces: We must ensure that we manage our land holdings to support nature. This includes public open spaces such as parks and play areas, highway verges, coastal areas, and the county farm estate.
- Extensive Tree Planting.
- Explore new opportunities in the marine environment.

How confident do you feel that this approach will help nature to help us in North Yorkshire?

Please circle the option that best applies to you...



Very confident



Confident

Somewhat
confident

Not very confident



Not confident

Very confident

Not confident

Why do you feel this way?

Key actions in our plan:

Energy efficient built structures – where people live, work and relax in places like houses, offices shops and industrial sites, town centres, sports centres and community buildings. 19% of North Yorkshire Carbon Emissions.

Travel and Transport – how we travel around in our daily lives; to work, to visit, to shop and to enjoy ourselves. 28% of North Yorkshire Carbon Emissions.

Reduce waste by reusing and recycling– Reduce waste and reduce the need to create new resources. By sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible, the life cycle of a product is extended. Watch this short video to learn more about the 'circular economy'.

Renewable energy growth – increasing the amount of energy we generate and store from renewable sources such as sun and light power, water and wind power, and heat and emerging technology and markets for green hydrogen.

Farming emissions – supporting North Yorkshire's farming system to decarbonise. North Yorkshire has a strong farming system. With both food security, many businesses are dependent upon land-based industries both directly and indirectly, such as food manufacturing. However, emissions from agriculture are 33% of the North Yorkshire total.

Capturing and storing carbon – where we cannot decrease emissions, we need to capture and store them to become carbon neutral. Carbon dioxide that is released from fossil fuels can be removed from the atmosphere by natural processes such as growing new trees and protecting carbon stores like peat bogs. It can also be done through industrial technology processes termed 'carbon capture and storage' (CCS). The carbon must be locked away permanently to ensure this process is effective.

Encouraging everyone to reduce carbon emissions – we need everyone to think about their daily choices and to take climate responsible actions. People may make travel or housing choices for a range of reasons and for co benefits such as saving money or improving their health.

Renewable energy growth – increasing the amount of energy we generate and store from renewable sources such as sun and light power, water and wind power, and heat and emerging technology and markets for green hydrogen.

Farming emissions – supporting North Yorkshire's farming system to decarbonise. North Yorkshire has a strong farming system. With both food security, many businesses are dependent upon land-based

industries both directly and indirectly, such as food manufacturing. However, emissions from agriculture are 33% of the North Yorkshire total.

Capturing and storing carbon – where we cannot decrease emissions, we need to capture and store them to become carbon neutral. Carbon dioxide that is released from fossil fuels can be removed from the atmosphere by natural processes such as growing new trees and protecting carbon stores like peat bogs. It can also be done through industrial technology processes termed ‘carbon capture and storage’ (CCS). The carbon must be locked away permanently to ensure this process is effective.

Encouraging everyone to reduce carbon emissions – we need everyone to think about their daily choices and to take climate responsible actions. People may make travel or housing choices for a range of reasons and for co benefits such as saving money or improving their health.

How would you prioritise our key actions?

Please rank from ‘1’ (highest priority) to ‘7’ (lowest priority), indicating the number next to the text

- Capturing and storing carbon
- Encouraging everyone to reduce carbon emissions
- Energy efficient built structures
- Farming emissions
- Renewable energy growth
- Travel and transport
- Reduce waste by reusing and recycling

How do you think we can best work with our partners and the community to tackle Climate Change?

What we mean by being involved in environmentally friendly groups and activities

It means any number of people that hold a set of opinions that link to an interest in the protection of our environment and identify with a named group or take action as a community.

This could be a national organisation like the WWF, National Trust or Green Peace, but could also be a local tidy or circular economy group.

Are you a member of a group involved in any environmentally friendly activities?

Select one option

Yes

No

Unsure

Additional information:

What other suggestions do you have to help us manage a changing climate?

Personal Information – a range of demographic information was collected.

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

Meeting dates

Scheduled future Committee Meetings (all 10am) - Monday 10 July 2023, Thursday 19 October 2023, Thursday 18 January 2024, Wednesday 10 April 2024

| Meeting | Subject | Aims/Terms of Reference |
|---|---|---|
| Thurs 25 May 2023 (additional meeting) | Waste and recycling collections harmonisation | Seeking views ahead of carrying out a public consultation on future waste and recycling collection options – Peter Jeffreys, Head of Service Waste and Aimi Brookes, Service Development Manager, Waste Management (Environment) |
| | Climate Change Strategy consultation results | Pre-decision scrutiny of the public consultation responses received for the draft North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy – Jos Holmes, Climate Change Policy Officer (Environment) |
| Mon 10 July 2023 | North Yorkshire - Plan for Economic Growth | To receive an update on progress with the Economic Strategy and the Emerging Strategic Framework – Dave Caulfield, Assistant Director – Economic Development, Regeneration, Tourism & Skills (Community Development) |
| | NY Highways performance and progress | To receive an annual report on the progress and performance of the second year of NY Highways – Barrie Mason, Assistant Director – Highways & Transportation, Parking Services, Street Scene, Parks and Grounds (Environment) and Jamie Crumwell, MD NY Highways. |
| | National Highways Annual Report on Maintenance and Improvement Activity | Update on the maintenance and improvement activity carried out by National Highways in 2022 – Louise McCaul, Highways England (deferred from January 2023 meeting) |
| | Transport for the North (TBC) | To receive an update on the work of Transport for the North and their Strategic Transport Plan consultation – Owen Wilson – Transport for the North |

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|--|---|---|
| Thurs 19 October 2023 | NYC Environment Directorate – Transformation Update | To update members on the transformation proposals for the Environment directorate as part of the new unitary council – Karl Battersby, Corporate Director of Environment. (Ongoing standing item) |
| | Allerton Waste Recovery Park | To receive an annual update on the performance of Allerton Waste Recovery Park - Michael Leah, Assistant Director – Environmental Services and Climate Change (Environment) and Peter Jeffreys, Head of Service – Waste (Environment) |
| | 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 |
| | Local Enterprise Partnership Delivery Plan Review | To update members on the progress of the York & North Yorkshire LEP against its Delivery Plan – James Farrar, COO YNY LEP |
| | Local Enterprise Partnership Capital Projects | To update members on the progress of capital projects by the York & North Yorkshire LEP – James Farrar, COO YNY LEP |
| | 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 |
| Thurs 18 January 2024 | Local Transport Plan | Consideration of the refresh of the Local Transport Plan, the Council’s key transport policy document – Allan McVeigh, Head of Network Strategy |
| Items suggested for future meetings | DNOs and Off-grid energy | |
| | Tree Planting (briefing note expected June 2023) | |
| | Active Travel Schemes progress (briefing note expected June 2023) | |
| | Jackson’s Lane (and Oliver’s Mount), Scarborough | |
| | Development of Parking Strategy | |
| | Peat and moorland conservation | |