

# Public Document Pack



**Meeting:** Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee

**Members:** Councillors Tony Randerson, Derek Bastiman, Eric Broadbent, David Chance, Liz Colling (Chair), David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson (Vice-Chair), Rich Maw, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, John Ritchie, Subash Sharma, Roberta Swiers, Phil Trumper and Neil Swannick.

**Date:** Friday, 22nd March, 2024

**Time:** 10.00 am

**Venue:** Undercroft, Whitby Pavilion, West Cliff, Whitby, YO21 3EN

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## AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2023** (Pages 3 - 16)

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. **Feedback from previous meetings - Chair's report**

5. **Public Questions & Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice and provided the text to St John Harris of Democratic Services (*contact details below*) no later than midday on Tuesday, 19 March. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:

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

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

6. **Scrutiny Task and Finish Group - Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Provision in the Scarborough and Whitby Area** (Pages 17 - 36)
7. **Whitby Maritime Hub - public consultation** (Pages 37 - 46)
8. **Long Term Plan for Towns (Scarborough)** (Pages 47 - 56)
9. **Whitby Public Realm improvements - public consultation** (Pages 57 - 64)
10. **Scarborough & Whitby Area Constituency Committee Work Programme 2023/24** (Pages 65 - 70)
11. **Any Other Items**  
Any other items which the Chair agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances
12. **Date of Next Meeting**  
7 June 2024

#### **Contact Details**

For any enquiries relating to this agenda please contact St John Harris tel: 01723 383556 or e-mail:

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13. **Reports circulated for information only**
- 13.1 **Schools, educational achievement and finance** (Pages 71 - 88)
- 13.2 **Rural connectivity** (Pages 89 - 92)
- 13.3 **Plans for Scarborough Ambulance Station - councillor visit - 15 February 2024** (Pages 93 - 94)

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive  
(Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall  
Northallerton

14 March 2024

## North Yorkshire Council

### Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 1st December, 2023 commencing at 10.00 am.

Councillor Liz Colling in the Chair. plus Councillors Tony Randerson, Eric Broadbent, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Rich Maw, Heather Phillips, John Ritchie, Subash Sharma, Roberta Swiers, Phil Trumper and Neil Swannick.

In attendance: Councillors George Jabbour.

Officers present: Lizzie Boyes, Christian Brennan, James Buckley, Faye Cossins, Lily Hamilton, St John Harris, Jenny Loggie, Dora Machaira, Sarah Robinson, Odette Robson, Paul Thompson, Louise Wallace

Apologies: Councillors Derek Bastiman, David Chance and Clive Pearson. .

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

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#### 43 Apologies for Absence

Apologies noted (see above).

#### 44 Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 September 2023

##### Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2023, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### 45 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Janet Jefferson declared an interest in item 6 (Winter preparedness on the Coast) as a trustee of the Maybush Centre.

#### 46 Feedback from previous meetings - Chair's report

In respect of the Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Profile report requested for the committee's work programme, the Chair advised that there was now an all Member Seminar planned for early March on the Local Insights data system. This would enable the demonstration of the new and improved version of LI which was due for release in February.

The Chair was pleased to report that a monthly schedule of informal briefings for the committee on Teams had now been arranged for the new year. The proposed item for the work programme of the Use of Social Value Engine Tool which would assess the impact of the Town deals projects in Scarborough & Whitby would now be on the agenda of the committee's first monthly briefing on 1 February 2024.

## **47 Public Participation**

There were 2 public questions submitted to the committee. Sarah Forsyth could not attend the committee in person and therefore this question was read out by Alison Hume. Alison Hume's question was taken with Item 10 (Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy – Update) as it was regarding the subject of this item.

### **Sarah Forsyth**

Will the Council urgently intervene to save Alpamare Water Park from receivership, bringing it under the council's stewardship with financial support? Given its crucial role in our community, offering activities like aquafit, swim tots, and swimming lessons, contributing significantly to residents' health and well-being, and serving as a vital social hub, the potential disrepair poses a risk to this essential resource. Considering the council's past investment of £9 million in public money, can the Council formulate a plan to protect Alpamare, reinvest any profits made, and ensure it continues to benefit the community?

### **Officer Response**

The council is sadly limited in what it can state due to potential legal issues associated with this matter. However, North Yorkshire Council has been in contact with the administrators through our solicitors and is considering all options available to it at this time with a view to minimising the impact to both the council and the surrounding area. The Council is committed to delivering the best outcome from a situation it has inherited from Scarborough Borough Council for the residents and businesses of Scarborough and the wider North Yorkshire communities.

In response to a supplementary question about actions the council was taking to ensure the unused facilities did not become degraded, the Chair reminded the meeting that the council did not own the water park, but any concerns would be relayed to the administrators. Councillor Phillips urged the public to be patient, noting that the council's Executive was determined to secure the best outcome for residents and visitors.

## **48 Winter Preparedness on the Coast**

Considered – a presentation by Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health, Jenny Loggie Strategic Lead for Population Health and Inequalities, and Dora Machaira, Health Improvement Manager. The presentation centred on guidance for what could be done to keep well over winter, including practical solutions such as increased ventilation and staying away from people when unwell. Vaccination programmes were also discussed, and the importance of MMR vaccines was highlighted due to an increase of cases nationally. Reference was made to the value of working with multiple services to ensure those who did not regularly access NHS facilities received information, through the Stronger Communities team, fire and rescue services, as well as adult social services etc. Following the presentation, questions from members concerned:

- Local data on trips and falls, seasonality and injuries sustained.
- Measures taken to prevent falls and what more preventative work could be done by the council e.g. increased gritting?
- The figures on MMR vaccine uptake in Scarborough and Whitby

- Recommended levels of ventilation and preventative work around winter infections.
- Dental provision for residents who had struggled to access services since a closure on Eastfield Road – steps to alleviate this?

In reply, members were advised that:

- The data requested on trips and falls would be provided. *Please see data below and supporting information which was provided following the committee:*

**Context and latest data for Scarborough (number of people):**

	North Yorkshire	Scarborough
Emergency hospital admissions due to falls 65-79	895	195
Emergency hospital admissions due to falls 80+	1,945	380
Hip fractures 65-79	230	45
Hip fractures 80+	550	105
Osteoporosis	2528 (0.9%)	224 (0.4%)

Source PHOF 21/22 data.

*Falls prevention is a complex area with over 400 risk factors, for example, polypharmacy, cognitive impairment, vision impairment, continence, foot-pain, environmental hazards, postural stability etc.*

- *One in three people aged over 65 has at least one fall each year (many go unreported)*
- *Half of those aged over 80 have at least one fall each year*
- *One in five people who have had a hip fracture will enter long-term care during the year following the injury*
- *Falls are the commonest cause of death from injury for those aged over 65*
- *Significant cost: estimated at £4.4 billion in the UK each year, of which £1.1 billion is social care costs*

*Currently 27.5% of the Scarborough population are over the age of 65 but this is expected to increase to 36% which means the number of falls will increase. Some areas of Scarborough are already higher than this e.g. Filey and Hunmanby (36.6%).*

*However, there are effective evidence based interventions that can help to reduce the risk of falls and fracture. World Falls Guidelines have been produced setting out what local areas can do to prevent falls.*

- The Director of Public Health would share a report from a recent conference on falls prevention - measures included promoting use of slippers, medication reviews, increasing strength-based exercise, and identifying trip hazards in the home. Gritting pavements was a Highways matter. Please see response below

which highlights recommendations following the falls summit:

### **Local response**

*A falls summit was held recently to look at how organisations can work together to prevent and respond to falls and the following recommendations were made:*

#### **Develop a strategic approach to falls**

- *Establish a working group to take forward a renewed focus on falls prevention and responding to falls. Explore the need to establish locality groups as well as countywide*
- *Keep stakeholders updated on developments and explore opportunities to bring partners together in future*

#### **Pathways and services**

- *Develop a clear pathway from prevention to responding to falls to ensure there is equity in provision across North Yorkshire. Needs to include risk stratification – identifying people as low, intermediate or high risk*
- *Review assessment tools in line with the world falls guidelines (WFG) with a view to have a single consistent falls assessment*
- *All health and care professionals should ask about falls history – opportunistic case finding*

#### **Training and awareness raising**

- *To explore opportunities to raise awareness of falls prevention amongst the public and professionals*
- *To identify opportunities to develop a comprehensive training programme for professionals*

#### **Physical activity**

- *Promote the importance of having a broad leisure offer to increase physical activity amongst people at low/medium/high risk of falls – feed into leisure review*
- *Include physical activity options in the falls pathway (for people at low, medium and high risk of falling)*

#### **Care settings, housing and wider environment**

- *Develop a comprehensive training programme for care settings (linked to practice such as safety huddles)*
- *Identify opportunities to gather better data on the causes of falls to inform action around links to the wider environment e.g. pavements.*

#### **Urgent falls response**

- *Crisis response services to work with YAS and community pendant alarm providers on clear pathways in each area for falls pick-ups*
- *To have in place a mapped pathway for each area that is also available digitally*

Work has already begun addressing some of these issues and an action

*plan is being drafted and a county wide working group established. Some areas have expressed an interest in setting up locality sub groups.*

- Locality level data on MMR data is not routinely reported (immunisation data is reported at North Yorkshire level), however Public Health have been working with GP practices and other partners to address areas with low uptake. In Scarborough town there is a lower uptake of vaccines. However, uptake for the MMR vaccine was trending downwards locally, regionally and nationally which was an issue which required collective action.
- Regarding ventilation levels, air quality was stressed as important, and any ventilation was better than none; it was recognised that during the winter months this was a challenge due to cold temperatures. Public Health had been raising awareness of this in schools and now care homes in North Yorkshire, with other methods of prevention including vaccinations, and hand hygiene.
- Jenny Loggie, Strategic Lead for Population Health and Inequalities would feed back the problems encountered by Eastfield residents in accessing dentistry and provide a response to the committee. The response is outlined below:

*For dentistry in Scarborough, to confirm that following the closure of the Eastfield dentist, a procurement exercise was undertaken for a new dentist in Scarborough. This was awarded to Smile on Falsgrave Road. Following a period of set-up and mobilisation, the Smile dentist opened approximately in July 2023 and patients from Eastfield were informed that they could register there.*

*Since then, a visit took place with the team at Smile in Sept 2023 to understand the new contract and how they were getting on with the delivery. Discussions were had around challenges, which are affecting all dental practices, with regards to securing permanent dentists who are willing to work in the NHS. Many dentists make the change to work in private services. Smile is very committed to offering NHS dental services and as such, struggles to retain dentists who want to move to private work. In addition, Scarborough (along with other coastal locations) does struggle to recruit healthcare professionals whether these are dentists or GPs, etc. so Smile is affected by this national trend. Smile do have a presence nationally and have good recruitment methods, where they aim to fully recruit to the practice and even have a flat available for new recruits. Workforce recruitment and retention are a challenge across the ICB, and we do have a transformation plan in place, but it will take time to train, recruit and retain dentists in our area. The ICB is developing plans to establish Centres for Dental Development which aim to train and retain the workforce within the ICB.*

*For Scarborough specifically, we are aware of pressures in the town and are working with existing providers to offer additional investment (non-recurrently) to increase the number of urgent access sessions available.*

*As with all dental providers, we do follow the nationally agreed methods for contract management and will recover any funding owed if practices are under-performing. Where this does occur, the funding is reinvested non-recurrently to boost provision where it is needed. Scarborough does feature in our reviews in terms of an area of need and where further investment is required so we do aim to reinvest in the town when possible. As an ICB, we continue to prioritise our identified areas of need. Nationally, dental provision is facing significant challenges with regards to access and workforce.*

**Resolved** – That the presentation be noted.

**49 Annual Report of Performance against the Safety Plan (Port Marine Safety Code)**

Considered –report of the Corporate Director – Environment in respect of the ports’ annual performance against the Safety Plan as required by the Port Marine Safety Code. Members were advised that the Port Marine Safety Code was overseen by the Maritime Coast Guard Agency, and although not mandatory there was a strong expectation that all harbour authorities would comply. Key measures of performance were set out in paragraph 4.9 of the report. There were 8 incidents to report amongst the 55,000 movements in the harbour, which showed a reduction from the previous year., None of these incidents found North Yorkshire Council to be at fault and there had been no drop in performance as a consequence of local government reorganisation The report reflected the dedication and diligence of harbour staff who ensured there was cover 24 hours a day at all times of the year.

Following the report, questions from members concerned:

- In respect of environmental pollution, the grading and frequency of incidents
- The harbour authority’s enforcement powers in regard to degraded harbour structures, buildings and craft
- The external audit of the Safety Management System in September 2023
- Adequacy of the dredging regime in Whitby harbour and the impact on harbour users

In reply members were advised that:

- Environmental pollution was monitored through the classification of tier 1 and tier 2 events. Tier 2 events were oil spills which were over 200 Litres whilst tier 1 were under 200 Litres; the responsibility to report incidents like these was with boat owners. The last tier 1 event which took place was a year ago.
- NYC Estates had enforcement powers in respect of the exterior of leased harbour buildings.
- The harbour authority had a duty to remove derelict and stricken craft under the Harbours Act 1964 and as per vessel owners’ terms and conditions to conduct visual checks on seaworthiness ensuring that vessels floated with every tide and remained in good condition.
- The result of the September external audit was Pass and the external auditors’ report would be shared with the committee.
- The Assistant Director did not envisage any delays to the dredging programme in Whitby and confirmed that there had been no incidents of grounded vessels in recent months caused by the build-up of silt in Whitby harbour



**Resolved** – That the Harbour Authority's report of performance against the recommendations of the Port Marine Safety Code be noted.

## **50 Yorkshire Water - Bathing Water Quality update**

Members were advised about the Bathing Water Directive, including how bathing waters were classified annually into four categories: poor, sufficient, good, and excellent. It was highlighted that Reighton, Runswick Bay, and Scarborough North had slipped from excellent to good classifications, whilst Scarborough South Bay remained at poor. An update was also provided regarding Aquarium top which had seen a significant reduction in spills due to the redirection of sewage and surface water to the Toll House. Yorkshire Water had planned investment for 2020-2025 of £147m but had now announced this would be increased by a further £180m. Further investment was planned from 2025-2030 of £1bn which would aim to improve coastal assets., The programme for this work was under development.

Following presentation of the report, questions from members concerned:

- Disappointment that according to the latest bathing water quality classifications Scarborough South remained poor and that Runswick Bay, Reighton and Scarborough North had all dropped from excellent to good
- The problem of flash floods in Eastborough in Scarborough taking untreated sewage in a stream down to the sea
- The financial contribution of Yorkshire Water to next year's Environment Agency investigation
- How much of Yorkshire Water's additional investment planned in high discharge sites would fall to the bill payer
- How could we be sure that the works planned for Wheatcroft combined sewer overflow would be effective?
- Would this investment in storage capacity on the coast have an impact on infrastructure inland? – this was not just a coastal problem
- Were there plans to build more reservoirs in the locality?
- Impact of significant local housing allocations on Yorkshire Water's infrastructure
- Surface water flooding on Scalby Road and Moor Lane
- How to promote the retrofitting of grey water recycling systems
- The planned investment in surface water separation in the Whitby area

- Sewage discharges in Whitby Harbour

In reply members were advised that:

- Yorkshire Water would raise the Eastborough flash floods with NYC drainage engineers
- Yorkshire Water was currently in discussion with the Bathing Water Partnership in respect of partners' financial contributions to the Environment Agency's planned investigations
- The £147m originally identified for the AMP 2020-25 had been committed through Yorkshire Water's business planning process and signed off by Ofwat in accordance with government guidance. Since then public opinion had shifted prompting this additional investment. Details of the impact of this additional investment on bill payers would be provided to the committee. The following response was provided after the committee *"As our bill structure for the period 2020-2025 had already been determined there will be no additional impact to billpayers from this investment."*
- Yorkshire Water would provide further details of the £1.3m surface water separation project in the Whitby area. *The press release outlining the details of the project in Whitby is attached to these minutes with further details provided.*
- There was no statutory obligation for developers and households to retrofit grey water recycling systems. Yorkshire Water identified street improvements, for example, retrofitting of a surface water drainage system in Hull. Solutions had to be cost-effective for all partners.
- No new reservoirs were planned in the draft Water Management Plan
- The grid network in Yorkshire enabled water to be moved from one area to another to meet demand

**Resolved** – That the presentation be noted.

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### **Yorkshire Water Investment to Reduce Storm Overflows in Whitby**

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#### **51 Northern Powergrid: Enabling Regional Decarbonisation**

Considered – a presentation by Lizzie Boyes, Local System Planning Engineer Northern PowerGrid, about ongoing work to enable regional decarbonisation. Members were advised about flexible connection agreements which avoided reinforcement work and allowed access to services at an increased speed. Their support for schemes such as local electric vehicle infrastructure, social housing decarbonisation fund and public sector decarbonisation scheme were also highlighted. It was also highlighted that every applicant

was treated equally with the same wait times etc.

Following the presentation, questions from members concerned:

- The need to speed up access to the grid for renewable energy projects citing a local solar farm
- The specific challenges in delivering electricity within the Scarborough and Whitby area

In reply members were advised that:

- Grid constraints were being addressed. Ofgem recently announced that it was introducing rules to remove 'zombie' energy projects from the grid connection queue, and the Chancellor's Autumn Statement included a promise to speed up access to the national grid through a number of measures including the acceleration of upgrades to substations and power lines to connect specific developments, and proposals for community benefits such as reductions in energy bills
- The rurality of the Scarborough and Whitby area presented its own challenges with an extensive overhead line network which was vulnerable to extreme weather events. Northern Powergrid was planning to provide more information for consumers about coping with extreme weather events

**Resolved** – That the presentation be noted.

## **52 Domestic Abuse Arrangements - update**

The Chair took the second public question at this point as it was in relation to this item.

### **Alison Hume**

I welcome the announcement of a new domestic abuse strategy by North Yorkshire Council.

Here in the UK one in four women will experience domestic abuse.

Every 30 seconds the police receive a call relating to domestic violence.

On average three women every fortnight are killed in England and Wales by a partner or former partner.

A recent report by the No Woman Turned Away Project found that, despite being required by the 2021 Domestic Abuse Act to provide refuge services and safe accommodation to domestic abuse victims, local authorities in England often did not have the resources or the knowledge to fulfil their statutory duty, failing victims.

I hope that the new North Yorkshire Council will be a beacon of hope for victims.

Here in Scarborough, domestic abuse survivors are being forced to return to live with

perpetrators, or face homelessness, because they are unable to get a place in a refuge.

While dispersed accommodation in the community is often suitable, many women and children require the stable community environment offered by a refuge where services and support can be delivered more effectively.

Both IDAS and Beyond Housing have been progressing a refuge in Scarborough, which was first approved nearly ten years ago and finally received planning consent in June 2022.

As the "Our Vision" statement states that you are placing the "voice of the victim at the heart" of your response please could the Council confirm that this desperately needed refuge will be supported by the new strategy as women are literally crying out for this specialist provision.

Officer Response:

In reply, the Head of Community Safety and CCTV, Odette Robson explained that her presentation would provide further context but the proposed women's refuge in Scarborough was a key element of the Safe Accommodation Strategy which included dispersed self-contained properties and Safe Haven, and reflected a holistic approach to meet victims' needs and ensure they were kept safe from perpetrators.

Considered - a presentation by Odette Robson on domestic abuse arrangements in North Yorkshire Council. Members were advised about the local context across North Yorkshire and York and in Scarborough, the work done to provide safe accommodation and protect victims from perpetrators, the embedded multi-agency approach and use of commissioned services, the new governance model and development of the new Domestic Abuse Strategy 2024-28. Peaks in domestic abuse cases were referenced with attention drawn to sporting events and increased demand on services during the Covid pandemic. The types of safe accommodation, included but were not limited to refuges which were women only, and Safe Haven projects. Safe Haven was a national scheme. Most individuals who accessed this service were from outside of North Yorkshire, as they were leaving areas where they may be vulnerable. There was also ongoing work with perpetrators including a foundation which had been commissioned to develop a behavioural change programme. The HALO programme was also highlighted as a service which looked at illegal cultural harms and marginalised communities.

Following the presentation questions from members concerned:

- Working with schools to promote a culture of prevention
- The duration of the impact of COVID on domestic abuse
- Concerns surrounding a well-known building in Scarborough being used as a refuge for victims.
- Were 32 commitments too many to fulfil?
- Absence of domestic violence as a category in police crime data
- The delay in the 10 units which IDAS had been working on and concern surrounding the length of time this has taken.
- Availability of temporary emergency accommodation for victims

In reply members were advised that:

- Educational work in schools remained very important which was delivered locally by North Yorkshire Police school liaison officers and voluntary organisations.
- One of the most significant impacts of the COVID pandemic was victims' reduced access to services. It took a long time to achieve that drop in recorded crimes after lockdown which reflected the complexity of domestic abuse and the multi-agency response required. A multi-agency strategy was developed with schemes within vaccination sites to raise awareness and aim to help victims.
- The location of the proposed refuge in Scarborough had raised issues but this facility was just one element of a multi-faceted approach to support victims
- The 32 commitments remained ambitious but there was a strong multi-agency approach behind the strategy
- The council was working with North Yorkshire Police to overlay their data with domestic abuse incidents
- A women's refuge needed to be safe for victims, and communal living may not be appropriate for all.
- The Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Accreditation Process (DAHA) model was key to the provision of temporary emergency accommodation. This was the benchmark for how Local Authority Housing Providers should respond to domestic abuse in the UK. There was a DAHA Coordinator in place and a multi faceted Delivery Plan was under development to achieve accreditation

**Resolved** – That the presentation be noted.

### **53 Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies**

Considered - A report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) which invited the committee to make appointments to the Development Plan Committee.

**Resolved** –

That the following members be appointed to the Development Plan Committee:

Cllr Liz Colling	Labour
Cllr Janet Jefferson	North Yorkshire Independent
Cllr Phil Trumper	Conservative

### **54 Scarborough & Whitby Area Constituency Committee Work Programme 2023/24**

Considered -

The report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) asking Members to review the Work Programme, taking into account the outcome of discussions

on previous agenda items and any other developments taking place across the area. Following the introduction of monthly briefings for the committee, members decided to review the work plan for 24-25 at the briefing in March. Potential items to be considered for the work programme included falls prevention and footpath gritting; dentistry provision; the McCain sewage outfall; major infrastructure renewal projects; and resilience in response to extreme weather events.

**Resolved** - That the Democracy Officer update the work programme to reflect the decisions made during the meeting.

**55 Any Other Items**

There was no urgent business.

**56 Date of Next Meeting**

Friday 22 March 2024

**57 Reports circulated for information only**

These were noted by the committee.

**57a Rural Crime Report Scarborough and Whitby Autumn 2023**

The meeting concluded at 1.00 pm.

## **£1.3m investment to reduce storm overflows in Whitby**

Yorkshire Water is planning to invest £1.3m to reduce discharges from a storm overflow on Whitby's Esplanade.

The scheme, which will begin in the new year, is expected to reduce discharges from the overflow by 25%, further enhancing the water quality off the coast. The investment is part of a two-year, £180m project across Yorkshire to reduce discharges from storm overflows by 2025.

Yorkshire Water and its contract partners Morrison Water Services will separate surface water from wastewater in the area. This will remove highway drainage and key domestic surface water drainage from the combined sewer and connect to a new surface water system, reducing the need for discharges via the storm overflow in times of heavy or prolonged rainfall.

Work will take place on Esplanade, North Terrace, White Point Road, North Promenade and Argyle Road to install new surface water sewers, manholes and reroute highway drainage. While work is taking place some roads will be closed temporarily and diversions will be in place. The project is expected to take 12 weeks to complete.

Once completed, the surface water drainage system will be able to take rainwater from highways and surface water from properties directly to the sea, rather than combining with wastewater.

Omar Khan, project manager at Yorkshire Water, said: "We are committed to playing our part to improve water quality at Yorkshire's beaches. We recently committed to investing £180m to reduce discharges from storm overflows in the next two years and this is one of the first projects to be delivered as part of that investment.

"The separation of rainwater and wastewater is one way to reduce discharges and once this work is completed, it will dramatically reduce discharges from the overflow on Esplanade.

"Tackling storm overflows is a priority for us and this project is just a small part of our wider plans, which have been submitted to Ofwat for approval, to invest a further £1.4bn to reduce discharges into rivers and seas by 2030.

"We know there is more to do on our coast to improve water quality. We continue to work with North Yorkshire Council and the Environment Agency to identify further opportunities to bring forward investment as quickly as possible."

Richard Flinton, chief executive at North Yorkshire Council, said: "Investment to reduce overflows into the sea off Whitby is very much welcomed. We hope that it will be beneficial to improving water quality through the year, helping Whitby's tourist credentials and the marine environment."

**ENDS**

For more information contact Andy Robinson on [andy.j.robinson@yorkshirewater.co.uk](mailto:andy.j.robinson@yorkshirewater.co.uk)

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**Notes to editors:**

**Yorkshire Water** manages the collection, treatment and distribution of water in the region, supplying around 1.24 billion litres of drinking water to over 5 million people every day. We have 2,500 colleagues and rely on a huge network of more than 700 treatment works, 130 reservoirs and 62,000 miles of mains to transport water around the whole county using our unique grid system.

To keep such a complex system working effectively we've got to constantly invest in it, that's why between 2015 and 2020 we'll be putting £3.8 billion back into the local economy.

But we're more than just a water company, we're also the second largest landowner in Yorkshire with 80,000 acres of land, and we welcome thousands of visitors to some of the most scenic spots that you'll find anywhere in Yorkshire every year. Our company vision is "taking care of the water environment for good"



## North Yorkshire Council

### Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee

22 March 2024

#### Scrutiny Task and Finish Group – Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Provision in the Scarborough and Whitby Area

##### Report of the Task and Finish Group

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the report of the Task and Finish Group concerning SEND provision in Scarborough and Whitby.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At full Council on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023, Councillor John Ritchie proposed the establishment of a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to look at SEND Provision in the Scarborough Area. The Chair of this Committee accepted his proposal.
- 2.2 The Terms of Reference for the Task and Finish Group were approved at the meeting of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 and are enclosed at **Appendix 1**. That Committee agreed to extend the scope of the review, set out below, to include Whitby:-

The Task and Finish Group will examine the following questions:-

- a) *How are parents/carers of children and young people with SEND being supported in their children's education? (essentially, their "journey")*  
and, following the engagement process referred to in paragraph 3 of these Terms of Reference ...
- b) *Are there any areas where more could be done to improve access to information, advice and support for families in the Scarborough and Whitby area?*
- c) *Are there any recommendations for action as a result of this process.*

**NOTE:** Members are aware that SEND provision is working well for many families will be interested to hear examples of this as well.

- 2.3 A Working Group does not have to be politically proportionate. The Task and Finish Group was made up of a range of political groups and comprised:-

- Councillor Liz Colling, Chair (Labour)
- Councillor David Jeffels (Conservative)
- Councillor Janet Jefferson (North Yorkshire Independent)
- Councillor Heather Phillips (Conservative)
- Councillor John Ritchie (Labour)

### 3. THE CONTEXT

- 3.1 The Working Party understands the challenging financial situation faced by the Council and its partners. The Children and Young People's Service Directorate (the Directorate) face a High Needs Block accumulated deficit of £10.3m (reported in Schools Forum March 2023).
- 3.2 The rise in new Education Health Care Plans (EHCP) is a consequence of the increasing demand for assessments. The total of 1,123 requests for EHCPs in 2022/2023 represented a 40% increase on the number from the previous year. On current data, this increase is expected to be a sustained trend.
- 3.3 Over the course of the 2022/23 academic year to date, a total of 6,509 suspensions have been received by pupils in North Yorkshire Primary and Secondary Schools, an increase from 4,608 seen in the same period of 2021/22. A total of 92 pupils have been permanently excluded this academic year to date, an increase from 47 seen in the same period last year. This high number of exclusions includes 17 children permanently excluded from Primary Schools, the highest number seen in the past five years.
- 3.4 North Yorkshire is impacted by the difficulties there are nationally, in terms of the availability of key professionals, including Educational Psychologists.

Source: Paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4, above are based on published information contained in the Executive Performance Report Quarter 1 for 2023/2024.

- 3.5 All Schools and education settings in the Scarborough and Whitby area have legal duties regarding identifying and meeting Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. At this point in time there are currently no Schools in Scarborough that host Targeted Mainstream Provision (TMPs). There are three TMPs in Whitby, two in Primary Schools and one in a Secondary School.
- 3.6 Scarborough Councillors had received feedback from constituents that there is variability in SEND information, advice and provision.

### 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The Working Party adopted a three staged approach as follows:-
- Firstly, we familiarised ourselves with key information concerning SEND in North Yorkshire – the Information Pack we considered, prepared by the Directorate, is enclosed at **Appendix 2**.
  - Secondly, we had a face-to-face engagement session at Scarborough Town Hall, on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The event, which lasted for three hours, was attended by approximately 20 parents and carers of children with SEND in Scarborough and Whitby, together with three school governors, four charities and one commercial provider.
  - Thirdly, we received a summary of the data for Scarborough and Whitby, which was part of a countywide Survey of SEND undertaken in September 2023. There were 17 respondents for this area. We also had feedback from two focus group sessions organised by Parent Carer Voice in the Scarborough and Whitby area where 12 families participated.

## 5. WHAT DID THE INFORMATION FROM THE PROCESS TELL US?

- 5.1 The first thing to say is how much the Task and Finish Group appreciated parents, carers, charities, providers and school governors' contributions to the face-to-face session, and participation in the questionnaire and focus groups for sharing their stories and experiences. These were immensely powerful and it was emotional for us to hear first-hand about the day to day lived experiences for families as they support their children/the children in their care.
- 5.2 What also came across was the desire to work together and with the Local Authority to improve the situation – to learn about what is valued and to address the challenges that can be faced for the benefit of all families.
- 5.3 To provide some structure to the session parents and carers were asked to consider the following key questions:-
- What has been helpful, and what were the helpful bits?
  - How did you find out about support?
  - What has been difficult in terms of educational information, advice and support?
  - What else might have been helpful, (more of, less of, different?)
- 5.4 Views were expressed both verbally and via written responses. In this report we have attempted to represent the key points made and acknowledge that some points were made by many respondents, whilst others were specific to a smaller group or an individual.
- 5.5 A summary, in respect of each of the questions asked, is provided below:-

a) What has been helpful, and what were the helpful bits?	
Points frequently made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good support from my School (examples given from Early Years and Nurseries, Mainstream and Special Schools)</li> <li>- SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service)</li> <li>- MPAT meetings, bringing professionals together to discuss options</li> <li>- Joined up help from professionals</li> <li>- Primary School emotional support sessions</li> <li>- SENCOS (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) who are understanding and caring</li> <li>- Understanding my child's needs e.g. autism</li> <li>- Autism training in School</li> <li>- Peer support</li> <li>- SEND charities provide good support</li> <li>- A culture of inclusion in the School led by the Headteacher</li> <li>- A professional who really listened</li> <li>- Early help</li> <li>- A diagnosis</li> <li>- Portage</li> <li>- Support (either 1:1 or in a small group)</li> <li>- Understanding and valuing what my child can do (and not just what they find hard)</li> </ul>
Points less frequently made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Adapted curriculum materials</li> <li>- School staff and other professionals willing to try</li> <li>- Health staff training School staff on managing medical needs</li> </ul>

b) How did you find out about support?	
Points frequently made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contact with parents in similar situations, online Forums</li> <li>- Social Media</li> <li>- Local Charities</li> <li>- Sharing information from School that comes from outside organisations</li> <li>- Parent organisations, such as Parent Carer Voice, Yorkshire Coast Families and Carers Plus</li> </ul>
Points less frequently made	There was general consistency in this section

c) What has been difficult in terms of educational information, advice and support?	
Points frequently made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Poor communication from professionals including the Local Authority and Health</li> <li>- Responsivity/timeliness of communication from professionals</li> <li>- Not knowing where to access accurate information</li> <li>- Concern that there have been cuts to some services</li> <li>- Professionals not working and talking together</li> <li>- Lack of provision</li> <li>- Schools excluding children for behaviours linked to their disability e.g. not making eye contact</li> <li>- Lack of understanding and support from some Schools for parents/carers</li> <li>- Lack of key professionals and delays e.g. Educational Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists</li> <li>- The process can feel difficult – many hoops to jump through to obtain help within the School environment</li> <li>- Schools lack of knowledge about SEND</li> <li>- It feels like a constant battle</li> <li>- Having to source information yourself</li> <li>- No support is available in the School Holidays for working parents/carers</li> <li>- Lack of play facilities in parks, etc., for children with disabilities</li> <li>- Long waits for autism diagnoses</li> <li>- Timescales generally are too long, including EHCP Process</li> <li>- School not welcoming</li> <li>- My child not receiving full time education/part time timetable</li> <li>- Lack of transition support from School</li> </ul>
Points less frequently made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of SENCO in School</li> <li>- Professionals not available due to ill health</li> <li>- Provision for children and young people who are anxious</li> <li>- School budget not allowing for support</li> <li>- No play therapy</li> <li>- Specialist technology support</li> </ul>

d) What else might have been helpful (more of, less of, different?)	
Points frequently made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Easier access to services</li> <li>- More information/support from Schools and the Local Authority</li> <li>- A key contact at the Local Authority</li> <li>- Respectful and positive communication</li> <li>- Families and professionals talking together</li> <li>- Greater support for the transition to Secondary School</li> <li>- Staff trained on Autism</li> <li>- Greater support for parents and carers as well as the child</li> <li>- A School Place – all Special Schools are full</li> <li>- The EHCP process not being so slow</li> <li>- The availability of specialist professional support e.g. Educational Psychologists and Speech and Language Therapists</li> <li>- Greater transparency from professionals (the Local Authority and Health) with parents and carers</li> <li>- Higher pupil to staff ratio</li> <li>- More small group support</li> <li>- More parent/carer support</li> <li>- Interventions in Schools/settings that support well being and mental health, speech and language (some specific examples given)</li> </ul>
Points less frequently made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More opportunities to work in class</li> <li>- Cover for staff in Schools and the Local Authority who are off work</li> <li>- Better technology support e.g. eye gaze</li> </ul>

## 6. IMPORTANT KEY THEMES

6.1 From the face-to-face session and the survey results, a number of key themes have emerged:-

- The experiences of children and young people and their families is variable
- Parents and carers report considerable variation in practice in mainstream Schools
- The importance of School Leadership in, among other things, setting the right, supportive framework is crucial.
- Information is not always clear and accessible relating to the responsibilities of different parts of the system including Schools, the Local Authority and Health
- Positive and timely communication is important to supporting parent and carer confidence and reducing the sense of 'battle' for families. The quality of communication is variable and timeliness can be an issue, including between the Directorate, Schools and parents/carers
- Knowing how to access timely and accurate advice, support and information can be challenging for families
- The School culture and how rules are applied is important in being and feeling included, and also in being and feeling excluded
- The importance of improving access to more inclusive social and leisure opportunities for children with additional needs, particularly during School holidays
- For some families the 'system' can feel arduous and slow
- Connections and support from other parents and carers is highly valued

## **7. WHAT WE ARE SUGGESTING IN LIGHT OF OUR DISCUSSIONS - WAYS IN WHICH THE SITUATION CAN BE IMPROVED**

7.1 We feel that there are a number of actions by the Directorate that would lead to further improvements. We have grouped these into four headings - Schools; external communications; internal processes and liaison with partners; and wider working with the third sector i.e. voluntary and community organisations. We would also like to note that a cross cutting theme of positive and responsive communication with families and young people runs throughout all of the recommendations.

### Schools

- a) *Promote access to training and resources for Schools through SENCO Networks, Locality Board websites and parent carer forums.*
- b) *Ensure that Schools are aware of their legal duties in relation to part-time timetabling as part of their duties.*
- c) *Continue to promote the development of Targeted Mainstream Provision across all areas of the County to ensure an increase in this provision and equity across the localities.*

### External Communications

- d) *Review the information/resources that the Directorate make available with service users and families to make them more visible, user-friendly and accessible, including the Local Offer and the Local Area SEND Strategy.*
- e) *Review existing documents/website information setting out what children, young people and their families can expect as part of their SEND journeys, in terms of what they can expect from practitioners and Schools, as part of assessment and support planning, and in compliments, complaints and appeals processes.*
- f) *Regularly publish clear data on the timescales being achieved for SEND processes.*
- g) *Review SEND communication arrangements, so people are not left waiting for responses and follow-up actions to be made in a timely fashion.*

### Internal Processes and liaison with Partners

- h) *Share the findings of this review with relevant parts of the system in order to promote good practice and promote the benefits of hosting TMPs, including:*
  - *Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale Locality Board*
  - *Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale SENCO Network*
  - *Headteacher briefings*
  - *SEND and Alternative Provision Local Area Partnership Board*
  - *Local Authority and Parent Carer Communications and Engagement Strategic Group*
- i) *That County SENCO Networks and Locality Board Events be promoted as a vehicle for sharing good practice.*

- j) *Share findings of this review with Commissioners in the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board to understand views regarding access to and provision of Speech and Language Therapy.*

Wider working with the Third Sector

- k) *Explore with Parent Carer Voice how the work of various Parent Carer Charities is promoted and linked.*
- l) *To continue to support and promote FEAST (Food, Entertainment, Arts, Sport, Together Holiday Activities and Food Programme for North Yorkshire, funded by the Department for Education) for eligible families for children with disabilities.*

**8. CONSIDERATION BY THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

- 8.1 The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered our findings at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The report was presented by Councillor Liz Colling, Chair of the Task and Finish Group. *The report being considered today is fundamentally unchanged from that report with the exception of this Section, which briefly outlines the discussion at the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It was felt that it would be helpful for the Area Constituency Committee to be aware of that discussion.*
- 8.2 The report stated that Councillor Barbara Brodigan, as Chair of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, would be welcome to attend today's Area Constituency Committee meeting, together with any other Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee who would like to hear and contribute to the discussion.
- 8.3 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee felt that this has been a good piece of scrutiny work and a good report. Accordingly, the Committee endorsed the suggestions in Section 7, above, for onward consideration by the Area Constituency Committee and the Executive.
- 8.4 Among the points made by Members were the following:-
- It is difficult to comprehend how difficult and far reaching some parents find these issues.
  - Members need to seek to increase the budget for this area during discussions on the budget for 2024/2025.
  - There is a plan to improve the availability of places in Targeted Mainstream Provision (TMP) - where children with SEND can make progress within a mainstream environment with access to enhanced support. However, there is no TMP currently in Scarborough.
  - This has demonstrated that there is a Strategy in place. Similar issues will apply in other areas of the county and therefore any lessons learnt need to be applied wider.
  - It is vital that a spotlight is maintained on this area and that parents realise that Members are listening.

- The importance of early years provision came through.
- Members should consider getting together with the parents and carers again at some stage – albeit not in a scrutiny forum.
- It would be helpful for Members to have a better comprehension of what is involved in this area of provision.

The Corporate Director for Children and Young People’s Service thanked Members of the Task and Finish Group. He was pleased that the range of complex issues had come through. He accepted the findings, which did not contain anything that the Directorate is not aware of, and also commented as follows:-

- The Service is underfunded but he assured Members that this did not mean the Directorate is not striving to improve provision.
- In terms of the point made about raising awareness, the forthcoming Members Seminar on SEND can provide a mechanism for this. In addition, some of the issues raised will be considered as part of a Strategic Review, which he will report back on.
- There are many positive things happening too. For instance, in the last five years there have been three times as many children and young people on an EHCP and the Council is spending twice as much as it was on this provision five years ago. Provision in Special Schools has increased by 50%. The system has grown massively.

## **9. NEXT STEPS**

- 9.1 Following consideration by this Committee, the intention is to present our report to the Executive at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

## **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 It is a statutory requirement for the Local Authority to make provision for SEND. In terms, though, of the recommendations in this report, there are no direct legal implications.

## **11 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 No additional requirements.

## **12 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 12.1 There are no direct equalities implications.

## **13. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

- 13.1 An initial climate change assessment form has been completed and that indicates that there are no direct climate change implications.

## **14 CONCLUSIONS**

- 14.1 The engagement with parents and carers of children with SEND and their lived experiences has been incredibly valuable. All of us on the Task and Finish Group were



affected by their stories. The ideal would be to ensure that the good practice that is happening is consistently available to all children and their families in the area and to help overcome some of the challenges that we have heard about. We understand that this will take time to achieve and we must continue to work together across all organisations and with young people and their families.

14.2 There are, however, several actions that we could take to help make improvements. We seek your support to these suggestions.

14.3 Whilst this piece of scrutiny has looked at the situation in Scarborough and Whitby, we understand that a similar pattern of strengths and concerns identified by parents and carers are likely to be elsewhere in North Yorkshire. Therefore, it would be helpful for any learning from this scrutiny to be shared more widely.

## **15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

15.1. The suggestions reflect engagement with parents and carers and will, we feel, help as we continue to develop and improve the situation for parents and carers of children with SEND in Scarborough and Whitby.

15.2 Any learning from this scrutiny can be applied to other parts of the county.

## **15. RECOMMENDATION**

15.1. That the suggestions set out in Section 7 of the report be endorsed for onward consideration by the Executive at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

We would like to thank the parents, carers, charities, providers, governors and others who contributed to the engagement process (in writing; in person or by completing the survey); and Janet Crawford, Assistant Director, Inclusion, for her professional input.

### Authors

Councillor Liz Colling, Chair of the Task and Finish Group  
Councillor David Jeffels  
Councillor Janet Jefferson  
Councillor Heather Phillips  
Councillor John Ritchie

29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (and as updated in December 2023 to summarise the discussion at the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023)

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference of the Task and Finish Group  
Appendix 2 – Information Pack issued to the Task and Finish Group

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS** relied upon in the preparation of this report – None.

NOTE: Members are invited to contact the author(s) in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

### SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP – SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND) PROVISION IN THE SCARBOROUGH AND WHITBY AREA

#### 1. Purpose of the Task and Finish Group

To review specific aspects of SEND provision in the Scarborough and Whitby Area and to produce a report on its findings.

**NOTE:** Whilst it is intended that the review will cover the Scarborough and Whitby Constituency Area and will welcome examples of good practice in both places, it is expected that the main focus will be on Scarborough.

#### 2. Scope

The Task and Finish Group will examine the following questions:-

- a) How are parents/carers of children and young people with SEND being supported in their children's education? (essentially, their "journey")  
and, following the engagement process referred to in paragraph 3, below...
- b) Are there any areas where more could do done to improve access to information, advice and support for families in the Scarborough and Whitby area?
- c) Are there any recommendations for action as a result of this process?

**NOTE:** Members are aware that SEND provision is working well for many families and will be interested to hear examples of this as well.

#### 3. How it will go about this

Members will familiarise themselves with background information/key documents on SEND, which will be provided by the Children and Young People's Service Directorate.

Input will be received from parents/carers on their lived experience, as part of an evidence gathering day, to be held in Scarborough and via the results of a questionnaire.

This input will be mapped against current provision.

#### 4. Ensuring confidentiality

Evidence will be anonymised - to comply with GDPR - and consent forms completed.

#### 5. Membership

A small group of Members from the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CFOSC) and Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee (ACC):

- Councillor Liz Colling - Chair of Scarborough and Whitby ACC (who will Chair the Task and Finish Group)
- Councillor David Jeffels - a Member of CFOSC and Scarborough and Whitby ACC
- Councillor Heather Phillips - Vice-Chair of CFOSC and a Member of Scarborough and Whitby ACC
- Councillor Janet Jefferson - Vice-Chair of Scarborough and Whitby ACC and a Member of CFOSC
- Councillor John Ritchie - a Member of CFOSC and Scarborough and Whitby ACC (and the person who proposed the Task and Finish Group)

## Officer Support

This will primarily be provided by:-

- Janet Crawford, Assistant Director, Inclusion
- Patrick Duffy, Principal Democratic Services Scrutiny Officer

## 6. Outcome

The outcome will be the production of a report to feed into the SEND Strategy document, providing Members with greater knowledge of the situation in Scarborough and Whitby which will, in turn, help inform policy.

## 7. Target timescales and reporting arrangements

No.	Activity	Timescale
1	Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee approve Terms of Reference for Task and Finish Group	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2023
2	Background Information Pack issued to Members of Task and Finish Group	Mid-July 2023
3	Questionnaire for parents/carers drawn up and circulated	September 2023
4	Questionnaire responses analysed and summarised for Task and Finish Group	October 2023
5	Task and Finish Group hear in person from parents/carers	October 2023
6	Draft report produced and shared, for comment, with the Task and Finish Group and appropriate officers in the Children and Young People's Service Directorate	November 2023
7	Amended draft report considered by:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee</li> <li>• Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> It was subsequently agreed that it would be more appropriate for the report to be considered by Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee <u>before</u> Scarborough and Whitby ACC</p> <p>The ACC is now expected to consider this at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024</p>	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
8	Finalised report considered by Executive <p><b>NOTE:</b> This date will be moved back so that it is after both of the above Committees have met</p>	9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024



**TASK AND FINISH GROUP ON SEND PROVISION IN THE  
SCARBOROUGH AND WHITBY AREA**

**INFORMATION PACK FOR MEMBERS  
OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP:**

**Councillor Liz Colling (Chair)**  
**Councillor David Jeffels**  
**Councillor Janet Jefferson**  
**Councillor Heather Phillips**  
**Councillor John Ritchie**

## LINK TO DOCUMENTS REFERENCED

NO.	TITLE
1	<a href="#">SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a>
2	<a href="#">Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision (AP) Improvement Plan (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a>
3	<a href="#">SEND Local Offer   North Yorkshire Council</a>
4	<a href="#">Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy 2023-2026 (northyorks.gov.uk)</a>
5	<a href="#">SEND Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)   North Yorkshire Council</a>
6	<a href="#">SWR Schools and settings handbook 0.docx (live.com)</a>

### **Context**

The following information has been prepared in accordance with the Terms of Reference for this group agreed at Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023.

The scope of this Task and Finish Group is to examine the following questions:-

- a) How are parents/carers of children and young people with SEND being supported in their children's education? (Essentially, their "journey") and, following the engagement process ...
- b) Are there any areas where more could do done to improve access to information, advice and support for families in the Scarborough and Whitby area?
- c) Are there any recommendations for action as a result of this process?

The initial step of this process was to prepare an information pack for members to familiarise themselves with background information/key documents on SEND, which will be provided by the Children and Young People's Service Directorate.

## 1. Background Information: National

There are a number of key national drivers that have shaped approaches to SEND. These include:

### 1.1 Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice 2015

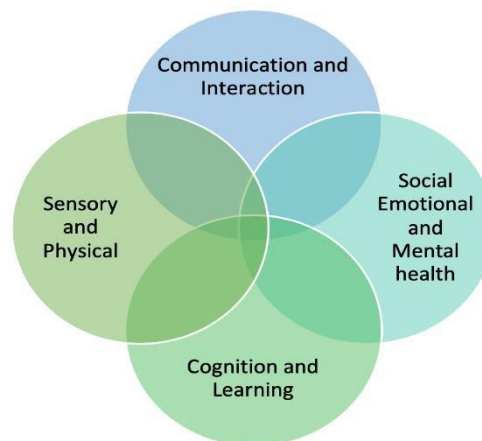
The Code of Practice (CoP) provides statutory guidance on duties, policies and procedures relating to Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014 and associated regulations and applies to England. It relates to children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and disabled children and young people, and identifies duties and responsibilities for Local Authorities, Health Organisations, as well as Early Years settings, schools and Colleges.

The CoP 2014 shifted the SEND landscape. Amongst other things it extended the age range of provision to meet SEND up to 25 years if required, and put children, young people (cyp) and their families at the heart of decision making.

Special educational needs is a term used to refer to children and young people who have a learning difficulty\*. This means that they have either:

- a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age;
- or a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in schools/education settings within the area of the local education authority

Within the Code of Practice difficulties in learning\* can relate to any, some, or all of the following areas.

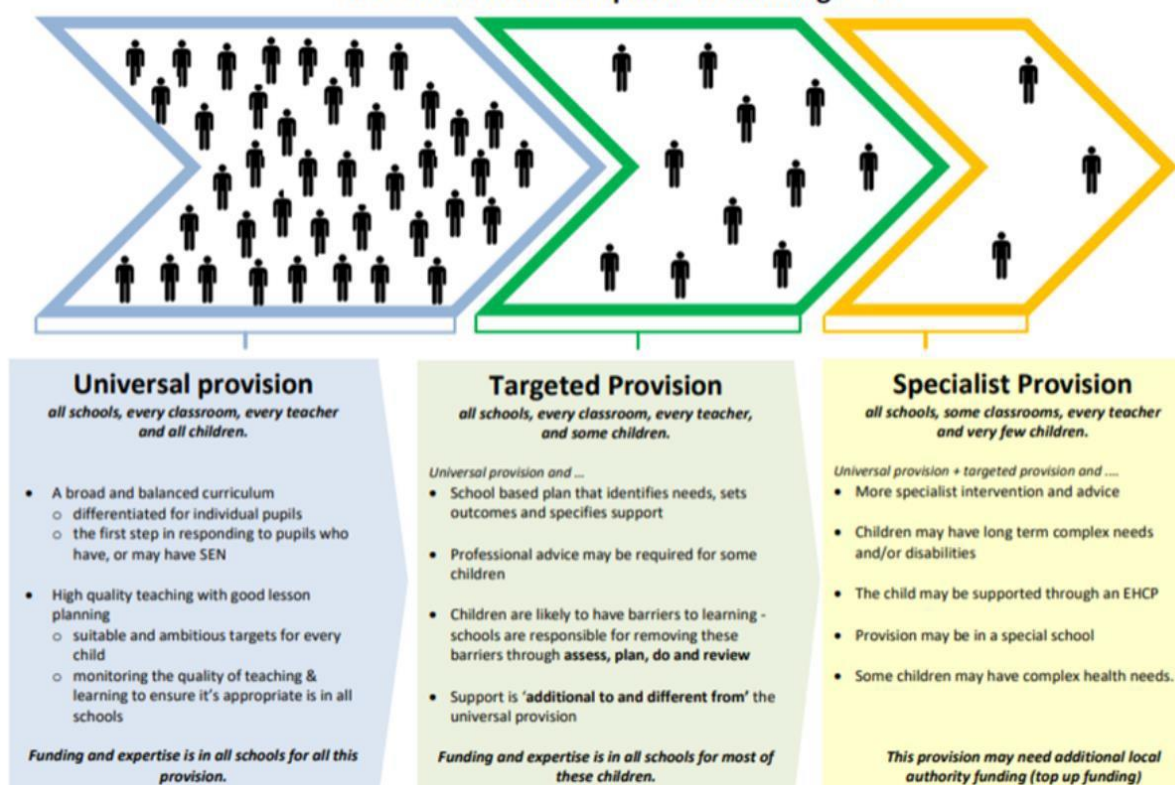


Many children and young people have needs in several areas and although the term 'primary need' is often used it can only give a general headline. In identifying and meeting need all areas should be taken into account with consideration of each individual child/young person's strengths, areas of difficulty and support requirements.

As part of their professional standards all teachers in all schools/settings are expected to have a clear understanding of the needs of all pupils, including those with special educational needs

The CoP is built on the idea of a graduated response with most children having their needs identified and met as early as possible in the system:

## SEN: A Graduated Response to meeting need



### Principles:

Some of the key principles which underpin the CoP are:

- A focus on inclusive practice and removing barriers to learning
- As part of its commitments under articles 7 and 24 of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the UK Government committed to inclusive education of disabled children and young people and the progressive removal of barriers to learning and participation in mainstream education.
- The Children and Families Act 2014 secures the general presumption in law of mainstream education in relation to decisions about where children and young people with SEN should be educated and the Equality Act 2010 provides protection from discrimination for disabled people.
- All children and young people are entitled to an appropriate education, one that is appropriate to their needs, promotes high standards and the fulfilment of potential. This should enable them to achieve their best, become confident individuals living fulfilling lives, and make a successful transition into adulthood
- Every school is required to identify and address the SEN of the pupils that they support. Mainstream schools **must**:

- Use their best endeavours to make sure that a child with SEN gets the support they need, this means doing everything they can to meet children and young people's SEN
- Ensure that children and young people with SEN engage in the activities of the school alongside pupils who do not have SEN
- Designate a teacher to be responsible for co-ordinating SEN provision (SENCO)
- Inform parents when they are making special educational provision for a child

- Prepare an SEN information report and their arrangements for the admission of disabled children, the steps being taken to prevent disabled children from being treated less favourably than others, the facilities provided to enable access to the school for disabled children and their accessibility plan showing how they plan to improve access progressively over time
- Local Authorities' have a range of duties including:
  - Having regard to the views, wishes and feelings of cyp and their parents/carers
  - Offer advice and information directly to children and young people
  - Together with health services, to make joint commissioning arrangements about the education, health and care provision of children and young people
  - Keep education and care provision under review
  - To include in the Local Offer provision which will help children and young people prepare for adulthood and independent living
  - To consider the need for EHC needs assessments, prepare EHC plans where needed, and maintain and review them, including the duty to ensure that all reviews of EHC plans from Year 9 (age 13-14) onwards include a focus on preparing for adulthood

## 1.2 SEND and Alternative provision (AP) improvement plan

In 2019 the DfE committed to undertake a review of SEND. The outputs of this review were published in a Green paper in 2022. Consultation responses were published in the SEND and AP Improvement Plan in March 23. Central to this was a desire to promote an inclusive society and promote parent/carer confidence in the mainstream offer.

Its aspirations were set out with a view of testing detailed plans over the next 2-3 years. Key points include:

- Delivering for children and families
- Establish a new national SEND and alternative provision system with the mission to:
  - fulfil children's potential
  - children and young people with SEND enjoying their childhood, achieving good outcomes and being well prepared for adulthood and employment;
  - build parents' trust
  - Provide financial sustainability:
- **The right support, in the right place, at the right time**

## 1.3 Funding

SEND funding aligns with this graduated approach.

All schools receive funding delegated to them through the National Funding Formula. It is in place to support CYP at SEN Support and schools should use it to plan their provision. Schools have the age weighted pupil allocation, plus notional funding of £6,000 to spend on SEND support if needed before High Needs Block (HNB) funding can be accessed.

HNB Funding in mainstream schools is Statutory funding allocated in line with special educational provision in an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Its allocation is reviewed at least annually as part of the statutory annual review of an EHCP

HNB funding is also used in Special Schools to fund the provision outlined within a child's EHCP. It is statutory funding and must be used to support the individual child



Some children have EHCPs specifying attendance at a college, an independent school, or exceptionally for some provision that is 'education other than at school' (EOTAS). This is also funded through the HNB.

One of the key elements of the SEND reforms relates to ensuring that the HNB nationally and locally is sustainable and offers value for money. This is within the context of the majority of Local authorities experiencing deficits with their HNB. Over 20 LA's with the most significant deficit have worked with the DfE to develop sustainability plans as part of the Safety Valve programme. A further 55 LA's are part of the Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme aimed at securing a sustainable approach to the HNB. North Yorkshire is part of the DBV programme and is in the early stages of this (Wave 3).

## **2. North Yorkshire**

In North Yorkshire all of our Early Years settings, Schools and Colleges have clear duties outlined in the Code of Practice. The Local Authority and Health partners also have clear direct duties. The LA also has an indirect role with education providers and partners across the area to support others in meeting their legal duties.

The information, advice, supports and services that are available across the County, including the Scarborough and Whitby area, follow a graduated approach, supporting the principle of right amount and type of support at the right time. Some of the key areas are outlined below, this is not an exhaustive list:

### **2.1 Local Offer:**

All Local Authorities are required to have a Local Offer. In North Yorkshire the Local Offer website provides useful advice and information for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families. It also provides information for professionals. It is intended to help families, individuals, groups and organisations find information, enabling more choice and control over what support is right.

### **2.2 SEND Strategy**

In the Spring of 2023 North Yorkshire Executive agreed the new, co-produced SEND Strategy 2023- 26. This was agreed by colleagues in Health in May 2023.

The Vision: North Yorkshire's ambition for children and young people is set out in "Being Young in North Yorkshire 2021-2024" as: "All children and young people are safe, happy, healthy and able to achieve in North Yorkshire". The vision for children and young people with SEND is no different. The SEND Strategy underpins the activity across North Yorkshire and the journey of children, young people and their families.

The ambitions for children and young people with SEND in North Yorkshire are:

- They have the best opportunities so that they achieve the best outcomes
- They are able to attend a school or provision close to home, where they can make friends and develop their place within their local community
- They have good social, emotional and physical health and are fully prepared for a fulfilling adult life
- They develop independence and high aspirations are a focus for all throughout their entire educational journey

- They are able to have their needs identified early and met at whatever period in their lives needs arise
- Partners share a collective responsibility for providing high quality support that builds confidence and supports smooth transitions
- Young people move confidently into adulthood where they feel equipped to thrive and enjoy life

### **2.3 Supports available to children and young people across North Yorkshire, including Scarborough and Whitby:**

All schools and settings must have in place their own arrangements for meeting the needs of cyp with SEND as outlined within the CoP and Equality Act. In addition the Local Authority offers advice, assessment, consultation, intervention, provision and training as part of the graduated response. This is available across the whole of North Yorkshire including Scarborough and Whitby.

- North Yorkshire Special Educational Needs and Disability Advice, Information and Support (SENDIASS) is available to cyp and their families. They offer independent advice and support including:
  - information, advice and support for children and young person with SEND from early years to post-16, transition planning and education and learning
  - advice and support about statutory assessments, including annual reviews
  - will listen to views and concerns and supporting to find confidence to express your views
  - work with individuals to explore options, your rights and responsibilities
  - help to prepare for meetings including direct discrimination or special educational needs appeals
  - support to resolve disagreements between parents, carers, young people, schools, the local authority or health
  - help with forms, letters and reports
  - signposts to various services and organisations, locally and nationally
  - information, advice and support about exclusions and other concerns within education setting
- Locality Hubs: there are 4 Locality Hubs in North Yorkshire including one for the Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale area. The core activity of the Hubs enable:
  - Schools and settings to be more able to identify and meet the needs of cyp with SEND
  - Schools/settings to be more confident in including cyp with SEND
  - Parents/carers to gain a better understanding of their child and have confidence that their needs will be met
  - Increased participation and achievement for cyp with SEND
  - Schools and settings to build their own expertise through wider workforce development leading to better outcomes for all
- Locality Boards: There are five Locality Boards in North Yorkshire. These are partnership arrangements between education providers and the Local Authority and take collective responsibility for maximising outcomes for children and young people and embedding a strong culture of inclusion. Funding is available to the Locality Boards from the HNB. They use data from their area to identify local needs and put plans in place for early identification and support in every setting. These plans were reviewed annually

The funded priority areas identified by Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale (SWR) Locality Board for 22/23 included:

- Early identification of pupils with SEND: To use the SNAP programme in 75 Primary schools and 12 Secondary Schools, Widgeo, funded training opportunities in the areas of sensory differences, handwriting, and de-escalation
- Improving outcomes in early years through the Early Excellence programme
- To lower the rate of exclusions taking place within Primary and secondary schools using mentoring for Y6/Y7 Pupils, for SEND pupils most at risk of exclusion, poor attendance or adverse childhood experiences (ACE's) in Y6. Mental Health Practitioner shared across the Whitby partnership of schools, play therapy, and the Nurturing Schools programme
- Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and the SEND Casework Team  
For a small group of cyp there may be a need to have more specialist and frequent support which requires an Education Health and Care needs assessment, which might then lead to an EHCP. This work in North Yorkshire is co-ordinated by the SEND Casework Team. They are also responsible for the ongoing monitoring and review of EHCPs although the annual review meeting is typically undertaken by the schools or education setting.

Children with EHCPs have their needs met in mainstream and more specialist settings. The aim of North Yorkshire SEND Strategy is for education provision to be as local as possible.

In addition to mainstream schools children and young people in North Yorkshire may have their needs met in other settings including:

- Targeted Mainstream Provision (TMP) where children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities can make progress within a mainstream environment with access to enhanced support. At the moment North Yorkshire has 10 TMPs, 3 more are about to open and there are several other schools actively working with the Local Authority. In Whitby there are currently 3 TMPs, there are none at present in Scarborough.
- Special Schools – there are 3 Special schools in Scarborough. Springhead catering for cyp with a wide range of SEND needs aged 2-19, Woodlands which also caters for cyp with a wide range of needs aged 2-16, and Brompton Hall School catering for children with a primary need in the area of social, emotional and mental health aged 7-16.

## **2.4 SEND funding in North Yorkshire**

As reported in Schools Forum March 2023 in North Yorkshire there is a projected accumulated deficit in the High Needs Budget as of 31st March 2023 of £10.0m and a projected in-year deficit in 2023- 24 of c.£3.0m which would result in an accumulated deficit as of 31st March 2024 of £13.0m. North Yorkshire's HNB settlement is in the lowest decile in the country.

### 3 National, North Yorkshire and Scarborough/Whitby Data

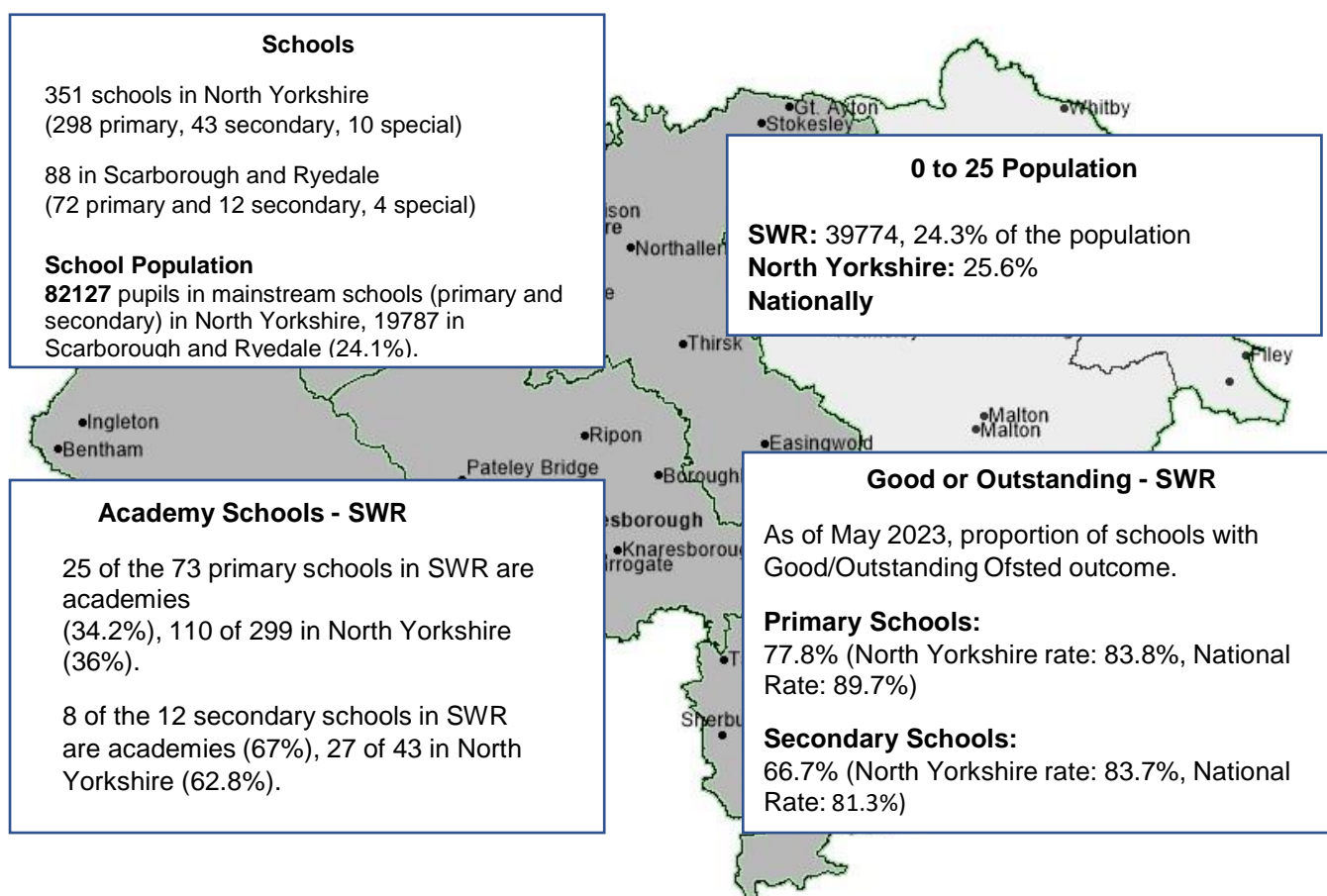
	National*	North Yorkshire*
% population with EHCP	2.9%	2.7%
% population with SEN support	13% (primary) 11.9% (secondary)	12.8% (primary) 11.6% (secondary)
% of population of cyp with EHCPs in special schools	32.5%	32.5%

\*SEN2 data published in June 23 for 2022

- In SWR the proportion of pupils with EHCPs is in line with the proportion of the population of the County.
- In SWR the proportion of pupils with EHCPs in special schools is consistent with the county data
- The most prevalent areas of primary need for SWR are autism, social emotional mental health, and moderate learning needs. This is consistent with data from across North Yorkshire.

(\*\* LA generated data for SWR June 23)

#### Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale (SWR) – June 2023 Locality Data



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# **Whitby Maritime Hub Planning Consultation**

# What We've Done

- 15<sup>th</sup> January – 9<sup>th</sup> February
- Static Exhibitions
- Questionnaires (256 returned)
- Online Presentation
- Area Committee, Whitby Town Council.
- 4 manned days (50People)
- BBC Look North interview
- Printed – BBC News, Scarborough News, Northern Echo, Gazette and Herald (Ryedale), Darlington and Stockton Times.

# Whitby Maritime Hub pre-planning consultation coverage

- **Print:** Yorkshire Post **34.5k reach per issue**
- **Digital:** BBC News, Darlington and Stockton Times, The Scarborough News, The Northern Echo, Gazette & Herald, Your North Yorkshire **>140k subscribers**
- **Social:** Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Instagram and Nextdoor **combined organic reach 15.1k** as of end January (*final figure to be updated*)
- **Broadcast:** BBC Look North Yorkshire and the Humber, BBC Look North East and Cumbria **4 million viewers**

NEWS

### Details of collapse at interchange revealed

Chris Young

The collapse of a section of the new interchange at the junction of the A166 and A166 has been investigated by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The investigation is still ongoing but it is believed that the collapse was caused by a combination of factors, including the design of the interchange and the way it was built.

**The Creation... all done in silk**

Local artist Chris Young has spent months creating a large-scale artwork for the new Whitby Maritime Hub. The artwork, which is made of silk, depicts the town's maritime history and is set to be unveiled in the new building.

**Decision looms on housing at police site**

North Yorkshire Council is set to make a decision on whether to build housing on the site of the former police station in Whitby. The council is currently consulting on the plans and will make a decision in the coming weeks.

**News from NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL**

How the council can help you meet your new year aspirations

**Open a door to your best '24**

Maritime hub plans

Sport to be key to improving health in leisure services strategy

Year North Yorkshire

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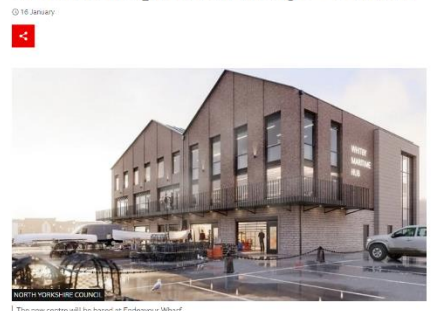
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## Whitby set for £10m maritime centre to build on 'proud' heritage - council



**North Yorkshire Council**  
16 January · 🌐

We would like your views on a new Whitby Maritime Hub.

The Maritime Hub in Endeavour Wharf will provide training and certification opportunities for the maritime, marine and offshore industries.

It will also provide accommodation for maritime businesses and service providers to further support economic growth in the Whitby area.... See more



👍 15      💬 7 comments      ➦ 3 shares

👍 Like      💬 Comment      ➦ Share

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News Sport Nostalgia BUSINESSiQ Opinion What's On Lifestyle e-Editions Ann

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## Residents urged to shape £10m Whitby Hub

23rd January

News Submit Your Story Sport What's On Lifestyle Bridlington Whitby Recommen

**BREAKING**      🚀rovers unveils alien ride      🏏 Sport superstar dies aged 68      📺 The Office star dies aged

**POITICS**

## Town Council encourages residents to help shape plans for 'rebirth' of Whitby's maritime industry

Whitby Town Council has encouraged residents to take part in a consultation over plans for a £10m marine and maritime hub in Whitby.

By **Antoni James Numminen**, Local Democracy Reporting Service  
Published 22nd Jan 2024, 15:56 GMT

📘      ✕      📧

**North Yorkshire Council** @northyorksc · Feb 3

We would like your views on a new **#Whitby Maritime Hub**.

The **Maritime Hub** in Endeavour Wharf will provide training and certification opportunities for the **maritime**, marine and offshore industries.

Find out more and have your say at [northyorks.gov.uk/news/2024/mult...](#)

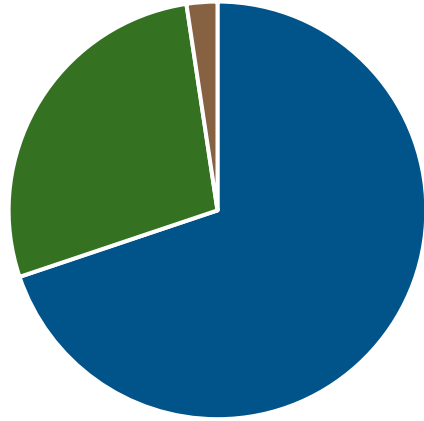
🗨️ 1      🔄 1      ❤️ 2      📊 1.1K      📌

**Multi-million pound investment in new Whitby Maritime Hub**

A £10 million investment will be made in Whitby to place it at the forefront of the expanding offshore renewable industries and boost job opportunities for the local community.

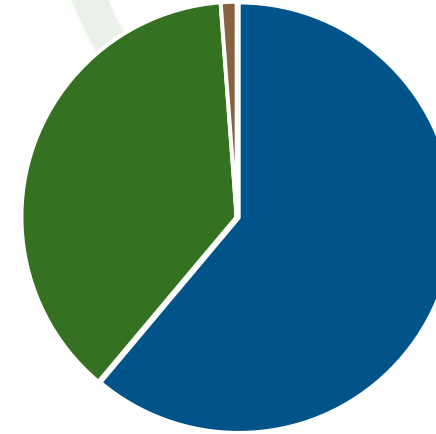


## Supporting the Investment in Maritime Industry



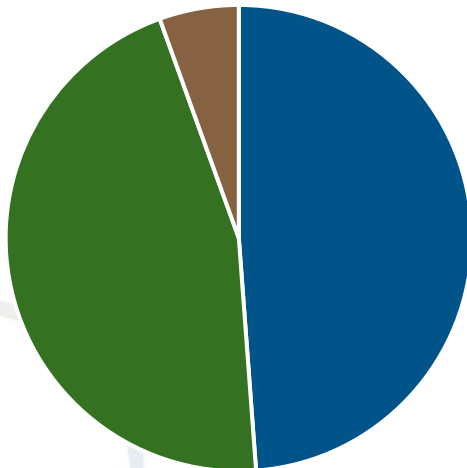
■ Yes ■ No ■ I don't have an opinion ■

## Quayside Location is the Best Site for the Hub



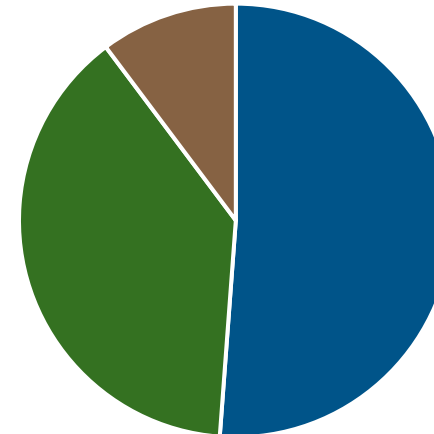
■ Yes ■ No ■ I don't have an opinion

## Design Reflects Scale of the Buildings in Whitby



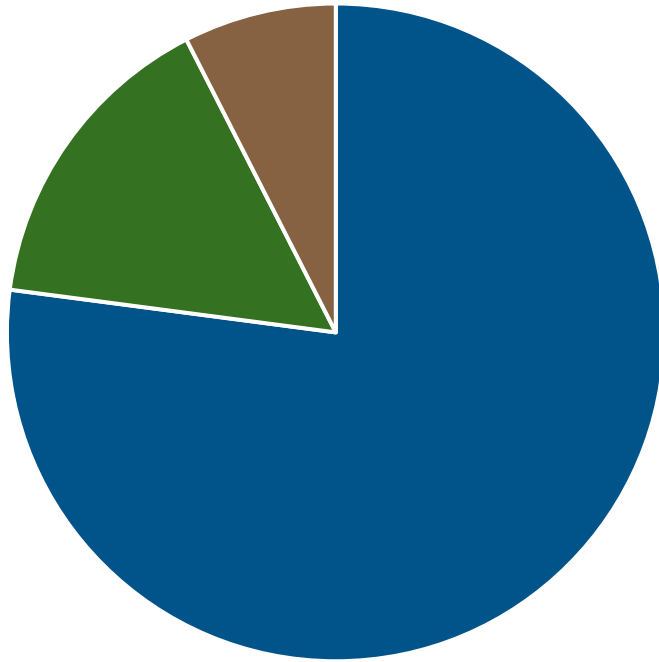
■ Yes ■ No ■ I don't have an opinion

## The Material Choice Fits with Surrounding Area



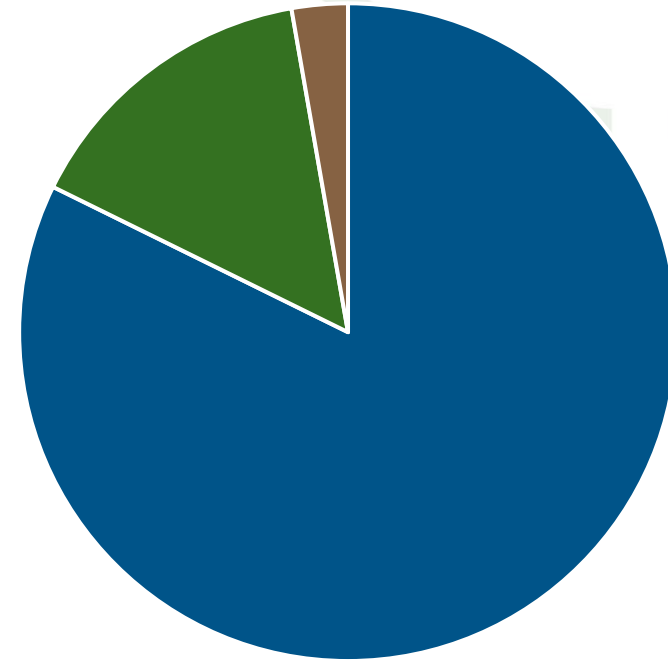
■ Yes ■ No ■ I don't have an opinion

### Creating a Sustainable Building, a Key Priority



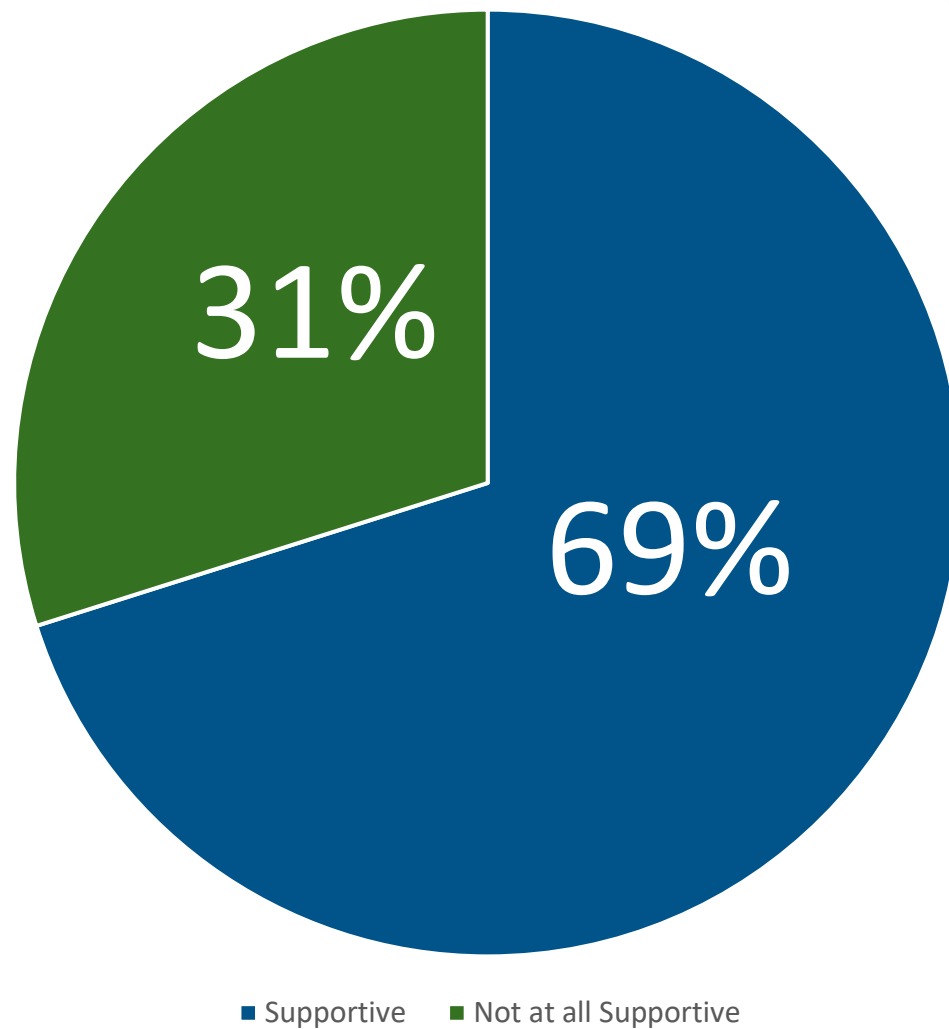
■ Yes ■ No ■ I don't have an opinion

### Better Management of Alternative Parking Provision



■ Yes ■ No ■ I don't have an opinion ■

### How Supportive of the Scheme are you?



# Key Issues raised

- Height of the building
- Building on a flood plain
- Carparking
- Eskdale School Site

# Key Dates

- Submit Planning – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- Planning Approval - June 2024
- Start on Site – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- Completion - October 2025

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# **Long Term Plan for Towns**

Introduction and plan forming

# What is it?

- Awarded to 55 towns (including Scarborough)  
£20 million (25% Resource, 75% Capital split)  
Securing match funding is strongly encouraged
- 10 year Long-Term Plan.

## Themes:

- safety and security,
- high streets, heritage and regeneration, and
- transport and connectivity.





# The Board - requirements

Where there is an existing TDB this should be used for LTPT but may be expanded.  
Members should be:

Page 49

Interdependent Chair invited by the Local Authority

MP

Local councillors

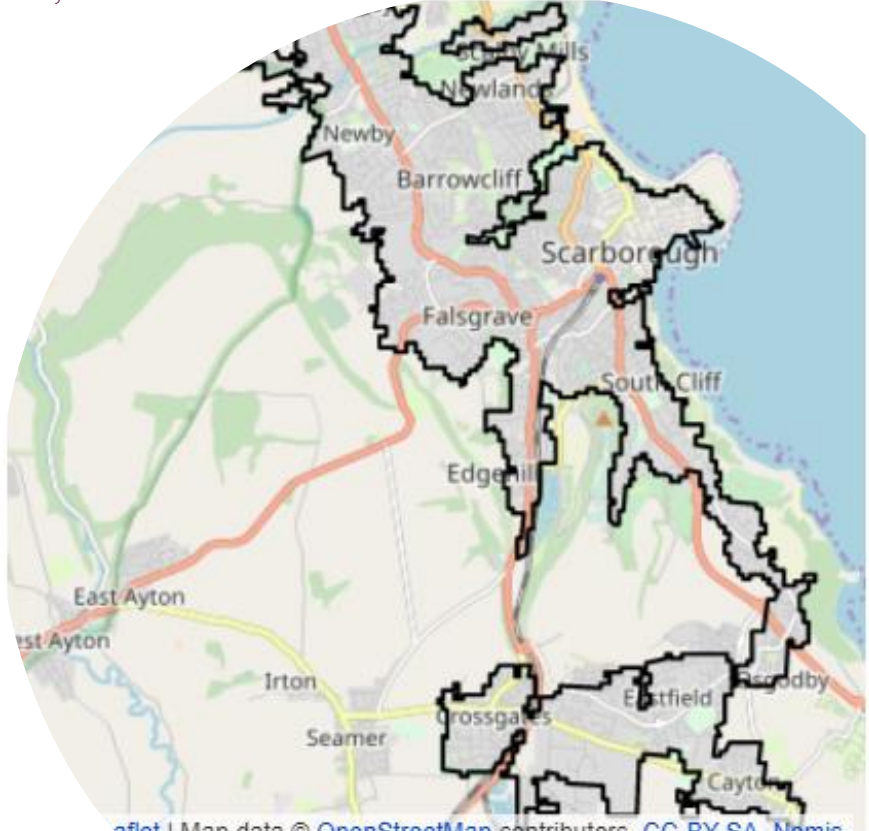
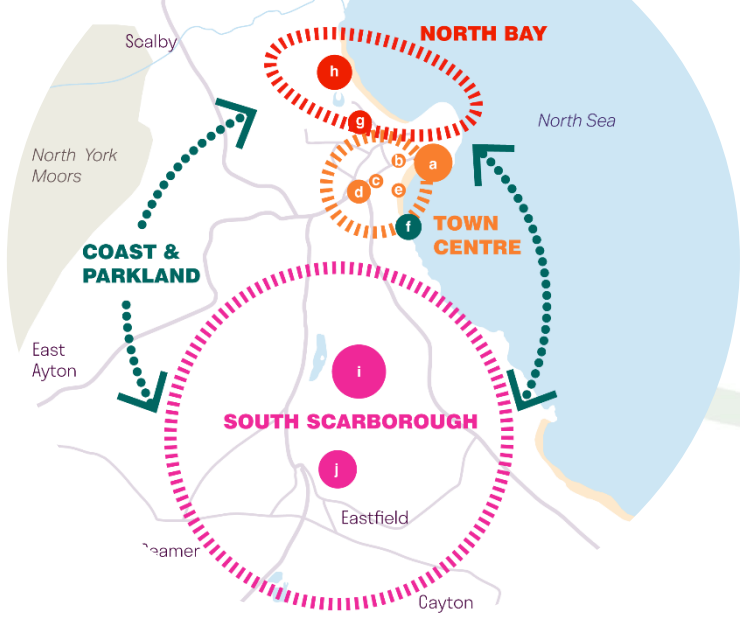
- Senior representative from the police
- Community partners
- Local businesses and social enterprises
- Cultural, arts, heritage and sporting organisations
- Public agencies and anchor institutions

STDB are reviewing their membership in January and are likely to recruit new members before the end of March 2023.

# Geography

## LTPT Guidance

Must be continuous,  
Guided to use Output Area as  
first preference



# The Long Term Plan for Scarborough

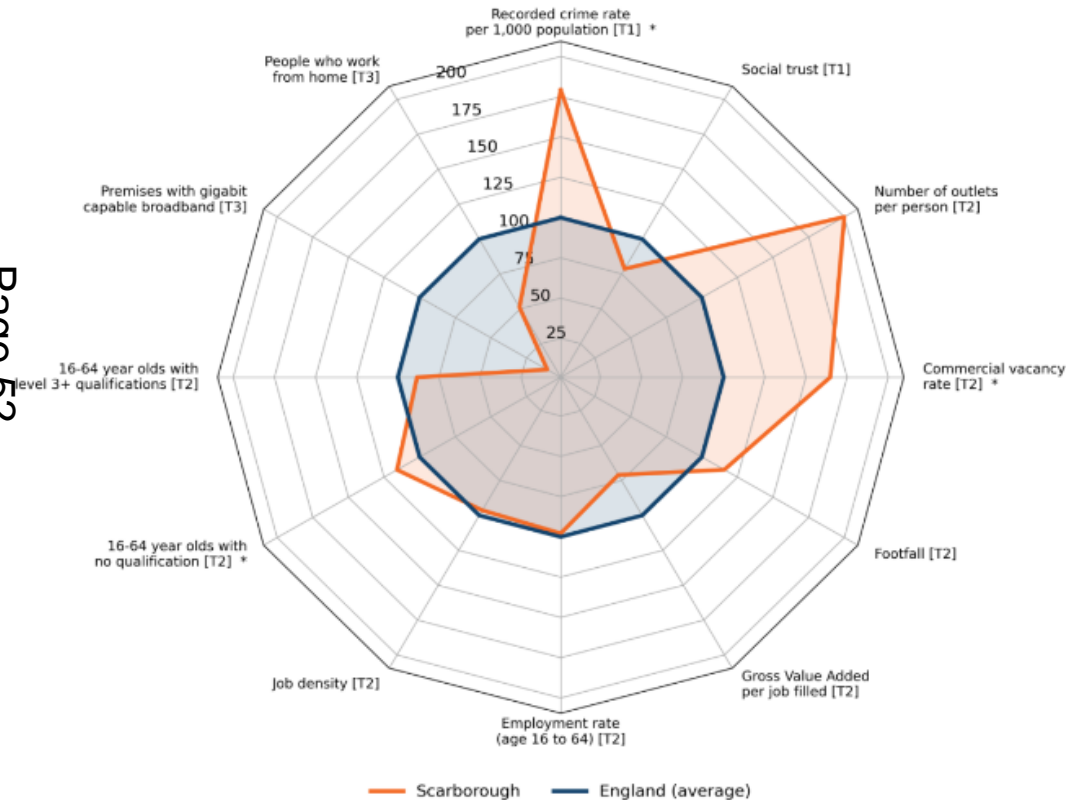
- 10-year vision and 3-year investment plan submitted before 1 August 2024
- The Plan will set out how funding will be allocated and spent. Securing match funding is strongly encouraged
- HM Gov. have supplied a 'pick list' of interventions but STDB could choose 'off menu' activities
- STDB will work in partnership and collaboration with the local authority as the accountable body
- Strong community engagement is essential



# Evidence Base

This page provides an overview of how the town's indicators (listed in Annex B) for policy investment themes fare against national averages.

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The chart on the left shows how Scarborough town's indicators (orange) fare against national averages (dark blue). Town values have been scaled relative to the national averages which were set to 100.

The policy investment themes are listed below:

- [T1] Safety and Security
- [T2] High Streets, Heritage and Regeneration
- [T3] Transport and Connectivity

### How to read the chart:

1. Compare the overall shape of the town data points to the national average shape.
2. The closer a town marker is to value 100 on the chart, the closer it is to the national average.
3. A town marker higher than 100 indicates better performance than the national average, except for the three indicators marked with an asterisk (\*), where the opposite is true.

# Vision for Scarborough

Common shared goals?

What is your vision for the Town?

Page 53

## Strategic review

Quality of Place

Connections

Economy

Sustainability and

Quality of life

## LTPT Themes

- safety and security,
- high streets, heritage and regeneration, and
- transport and connectivity.



# Investment Plan

## Investment Objectives?

What are we trying to achieve?

Page 54



### LTPT Themes

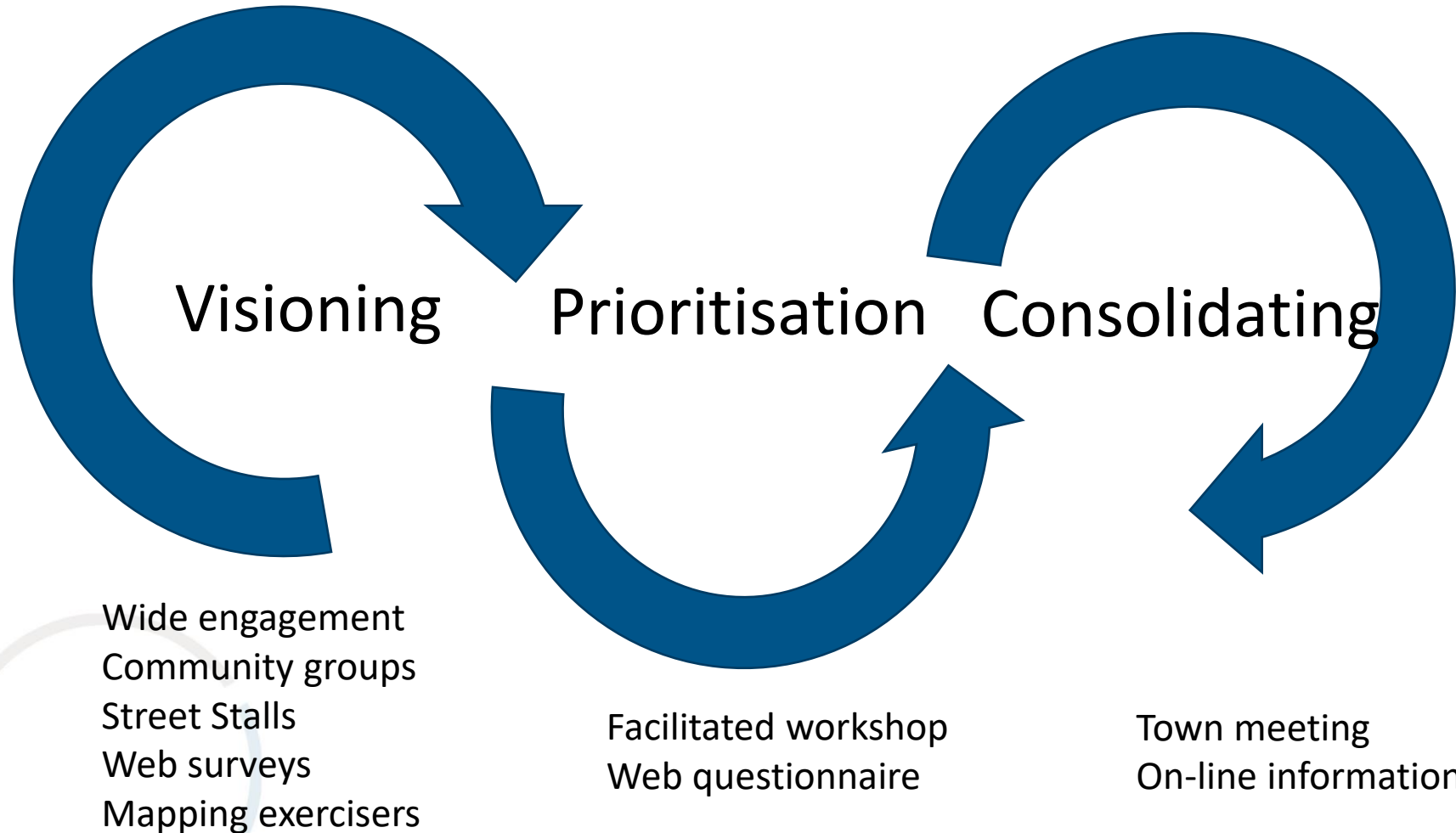
- safety and security,
- high streets, heritage and regeneration, and
- transport and connectivity.

### Suggested Framework

- Quick wins
- Big hitters
- Future focus
- Activate

# Community Engagement

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**Thank you**





# Whitby Public Realm Improvements

Consultation results

# What we did

- The Public Realm and Spital Bridge designs were made available for public comment on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Page 58

The consultation was advertised in the local press, published on NYC's website, and promoted in NYC's Social Media accounts as well as a road sign being placed in each of the proposed 6 zones.

- NYC hosted five in-person exhibitions where the public were able to see the proposed plans and speak to a member of project team with any questions they had.
- Public Consultation lasted 6 weeks; the last date for receipt of comments was 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

# Responses received

- A total of 265 comments were received from members of the public between 10 November 2023 and 22 December 2023.

Page 59 Four paper copies were delivered after the 22 December and have been included in the final report. The total number of responses was 269.

- Out of 269 responses,
  - 225 (87%) are local residents to Whitby,
  - 30 (12%) represented a local business,
  - 19 (7%) were visiting/on holiday in Whitby.
  - 5 responses (2%) categorised themselves as 'none of the above'.

# Age profile of respondents

Age Range	Responses	Percentage
75 and above	22	9%
65 - 74	68	27%
55 - 64	75	29%
45 - 54	42	16%
35 - 44	24	9%
25 - 34	10	4%
16 - 24	3	1%
15 and under	0	0%
Prefer not to say	12	5%

# What people told us

Question	Yes	No	Don't know
Do you agree with Station Square/Langbourne Road the main road, encouraging traffic towards the car parks?	44%	53%	3%
Do you agree with introducing an area that is easier for people to move around by widening pavements and adding informal raised crossing points?	56%	42%	2%
Do you agree with pavement widening and the proposed informal raised crossing places for pedestrians on New Quay Road, one near the former bank and one near the swing bridge, to create a space that is easier for pedestrians to move around?	57%	41%	2%
Would you like to see raised planting beds in this area? (New Quay Road)	51%	38%	10%
Do you support the inclusion of carefully positioned trees, that don't block views of the Harbour?	40%	53%	7%
Do you like the idea of introducing planting at Tin Ghaut?	61%	29%	10%
Do you like the idea of introducing traffic signals at Spital Bridge Junction?	67%	23%	10%

# What people told us

Q8.7 Do you think the overall design will improve your experience of Whitby?			
Response	Opinion	Visitor	Resident
Waste of money	No		30
Aimed at tourists	No		37
No specific reason	Yes	6	30
Reduces road space	No		11
Removes parking/loading areas	No		14
No specific reason	Neutral	1	5
Pedestrian areas	Yes	5	19
More road congestion	No		21
Homogenisation No heritage	No		18
Pavement bottleneck	No		12
Doesn't reduce No. of cars	No	1	20
No specific reason	No		33
Street furniture/greenery	Yes	3	16
Visual improvement	Yes	3	11
Spital junction	Yes		18

# What people told us

Q8.7 Do you think the overall design will improve your experience of Whitby?

Response	Opinion	Visitor	Resident
Needs more pedestrian focus	No	2	6
Needs maintenance plan	Maybe		15
Disabled parking/access	No		9
Reduces congestion	Yes		2
Park and ride/cycle infrastructure	No	2	17
Street furniture/greenery	No		18
Street Lighting	Yes		2
Better signage to manage congestion	Neutral		2
Reducing vehicle access at peak times	Maybe		1
More artwork	Maybe	1	1
Raised crossings	No	1	1
Pedestrian only bridge	Maybe		1

# What next?

Spital Bridge Junction – start work after Summer 2024

Page 64

Swingbridge area:

- Review of consultation and produce detailed design
- Detailed design to be subject to further consultation
- Out to tender – construct in 2025



**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL  
Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee  
22 March 2024**

**Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee  
Work Programme 2023/24**

**Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)**

**1.0 Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 Members are asked to consider, amend and add to the Committee's draft work programme (see Appendix 1), as required.

**2.0 Remit of the committee**

2.1 The Area Constituency Committees perform a wide range of functions including:

- Act as a forum for Members to bring forward issues affecting their local Electoral Divisions
- Hear and respond to questions and statements from members of the public relating to anything affecting the community within the constituency area
- Agree a Work Programme which lists items of business which the Committee wishes to consider at future meetings
- Undertake meaningful scrutiny of local health issues within their constituency area, complementing the strategic work undertaken by the Scrutiny of Health Committee
- Undertake meaningful scrutiny of local transport issues within their constituency area, complementing the strategic work undertaken by Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Act as consultees in major decisions that affect their constituency area (including responding to consultations)
- To make recommendations to the Corporate Director of Community Development in respect of 'seed funding' or match funding for projects to be allocated from any delegated Area Constituency Committee Budget the Director may have.
- Develop a working relationship with the local MP, sharing updates and information on relevant local issues.

**3.0 Financial implications**

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

**4.0 Legal implications**

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

**5.0 Climate change Implications**

5.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

**6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report.

**7.0 Recommendations**

7.1 That Members consider, amend and add to the Committee's draft work programme (see Appendix 1), as required.

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Committee Work Programme

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
14 March 2024

Report Author: St John Harris, Principal Democratic Services Officer, North Yorkshire Council.

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

## Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee

### Work Programme 2023/24

#### Friday 9 June 2023 at 10.30am

Subject	Description
Healthy Child Service	An overview of the work of the Healthy Child Service in the Scarborough and Whitby constituency from Emma Lonsdale and Gill Kelly (HAS)
Environment Agency Update	Update on the monitoring of bathing waters in the constituency area and work to improve water quality from Claire Campbell and Claire Barrow (Environment Agency)
Update on former indoor swimming pool site, Scarborough	To outline proposals for NYC to facilitate development of the former indoor Swimming Pool and obtain feedback from Alex Richards (Economic Development & Regeneration)
Appointments to Outside Bodies	To consider appointments to outside bodies which fall to the ACC in accordance with the Council's Constitution
Area Constituency Committees in the new North Yorkshire Council	An update on the ways Area Constituency Committees may work going forward from Daniel Harry (Democratic Services)
2023/24 Work Programme	Review of areas for Scrutiny

#### Friday 22 September 2023 at 10am

Subject	Description
Attendance of MP Sir Robert Goodwill	Opportunity for the Rt Hon Sir Robert Goodwill MP to share his views on main issues of local interest
Stronger Communities Update	Bi-annual update from Karen Atkinson, Stronger Communities Team
Community Resilience	To update members on the work of the Resilience and Emergencies team, and to provide details to committee members of the Elected Members Emergency Handbook - Matt Robinson (Head of Resilience and Emergencies)
Appointments to Outside Bodies	To consider further appointments to outside bodies that were not completed at the previous meeting
2023/24 Work Programme	Review of areas for Scrutiny
<i>Items to note</i>	<i>Yorkshire Coast BID Annual Report</i>
	<i>NYC Review of public conveniences – update in the Scarborough and Whitby area constituency</i>

	<i>Yorkshire Water – Bathing Water Quality Update</i>
<b>Friday 1 December 2023 at 10am</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
Bathing Water Quality update	Update on drive to improve bathing water quality in the constituency area following the summit held in Scarborough on 9 October 2023 – Faye Cossins, Coastal Delivery and Engagement Manager, Yorkshire Water
Development of the capacity of the electricity grid in North Yorkshire	Northern Powergrid
Health in Coastal Communities / Health Deprivation & Inequality	Progress Update on Chief Medical Officer Annual Report on Health in Coastal Communities - Louise Wallace (Director of Public Health), Natalie Smith (Head of HAS Population Health Planning) and Dan Atkinson (Public Health Manager).
Safer Communities Update	Provision of domestic abuse safe accommodation - Odette Robson, Head of Safer Communities
Port Marine Safety Code	Annual Report of Performance against the Safety Plan – Capt. Chris Burrows, Head of Harbours
Development Plan Committee	Appointments to this new committee – Daniel Harry, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny
2023/24 Work Programme	Review of areas for Scrutiny
<i>Items to note</i>	<i>Rural Policing Update - Annual Update from the NYP Rural Taskforce Unit</i>
<b>Monday 8 January 2024 at 10am - Remote Informal Meeting</b>	
Budget 2024/25 Proposals	Overview of Budget proposals for 2024/25 – Gary Fielding, Director of Strategic Resources
<b>22 March 2024 at 10am</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
Scrutiny review of SEND provision in the Scarborough and Whitby area	To seek the ACC's comments on the scrutiny task and finish group report on SEND provision in the Scarborough and Whitby area commissioned by the Children and Families O&S Committee
Long Term Plan for Towns (Scarborough)	Update - Helen Jackson, Regeneration Projects Manager, Economic Development
Whitby Maritime Hub	Update on consultation - Helen Jackson, Regeneration Projects Manager, Economic Development

Whitby Public Realm improvements	Update - Richard Marr, Highways Area Manager
2023/24 Work Programme	Review of areas for Scrutiny
<i>Items to note</i>	<i>Schools, educational achievement and finance - an overview of the local educational landscape, educational achievement and the financial challenges which affect schools in the Scarborough &amp; Whitby constituency area – Amanda Newbold, Assistant Director Education and Skills</i>
	<i>Rural connectivity in the area constituency - Robert Ling (Director of Transformation) &amp; Alastair Taylor (CEO NYnet)</i>
	<i>Plans for Scarborough Ambulance Station – councillor visit – 15 February 2024</i>

### Other potential topics to be allocated:

- Aging Population – provision and accessibility to locally based services
- The cost of housing and other housing related issues e.g. Cost of Living, Fuel Poverty and the future Homelessness service provision
- Reduction in Bus Services and its impact on residents' lives
- The creation of a new Town Council (pending the outcome of the Community Governance Review)
- Economic regeneration projects in the constituency
- Children's Safety
- Housing Strategy
- Pomoc – Access to Services for Eastern European Migrants – update
- Performance update for Scarborough Hospital in relation to the CQC report
- Falls prevention and footpath gritting
- Dentistry provision
- McCain sewage outfall
- Major infrastructure renewal projects
- Resilience in response to extreme weather events
- Local community safety operational update

## **2024-25**

### 7 June 2024

- Election of a Chair 2024-25
- Economic, Regeneration, Tourism and Transport Project Development Fund for the Area Constituency Committees
- North Yorks and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy – consultation (Tim Johns, Senior Policy Officer)
- Stronger Communities update including plans for 2024-25 - Karen Atkinson, Stronger Communities Team
- Let's Talk Food – Angela Crossland, Head of Healthier Lives Community and Economy, Public Health Team

### 20 September 2024

- Community resilience and emergency planning – annual report

### 29 Nov 2024

- Stronger Communities update – biannual report
- Yorkshire Water Bathing Water Quality update
- Harbours Annual Report of Performance against the Safety Plan
- Rural crime report May – October 2024 (for information)
- Health in Coastal Communities / Health Deprivation & Inequality – annual report

**North Yorkshire Council  
Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee  
22 March 2024**

**Schools, educational achievement and finance**

**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To inform Members of the local educational landscape, educational achievement and the financial challenges which affect schools in the Scarborough & Whitby constituency committee area.

**2.0 Local educational landscape**

2.1 There are now 15 primary academies and 5 secondary academies within the Scarborough & Whitby constituency area. The academy conversion rate for primary schools is similar within the constituency area when compared to the county as a whole (39.5% compared to 39.1% in North Yorkshire.) The academy conversion rate for secondary schools is also similar (71.4% compared to 67.4% in North Yorkshire).

**Summary of schools' status – 1 February 2024**

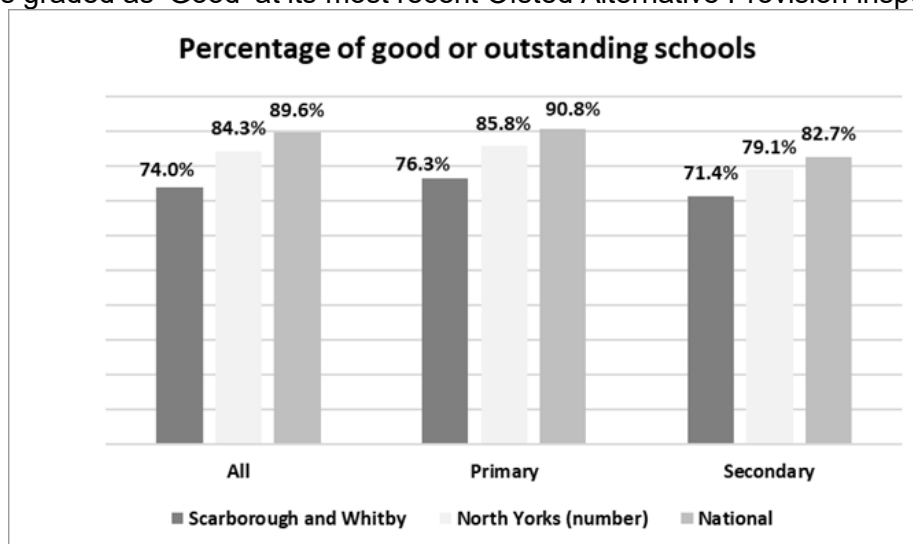
	Schools in North Yorkshire		Schools in Scarborough & Whitby ACC	
Primary Maintained	181	60.9%	23	60.5%
Primary Academy & Free School	116	39.1%	15	39.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>100%</b>
Secondary Maintained	14	32.6%	2	28.6%
Secondary Academy	29	67.4%	5	71.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>
Special Maintained	6	60%	1	33.3%
Special Academy	4	40%	2	66.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>
PRU Maintained	4	80%	1	100%
PRU Academy	1	20%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total maintained</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>57.7%</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>55.1%</b>
<b>Total Academy</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>42.3%</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>44.9%</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>

**3.0 School standards**

**3.1 School Ofsted judgements**

In the constituency area, as of January 2024, 76.3% of primary schools were judged Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, which is below the North Yorkshire and national rates. In terms of secondary schools, 71.4% were judged Good or Outstanding, lower than the North Yorkshire and national averages. Overall there are 10 schools judged 'requires improvement', 1 is 'inadequate' in the constituency area.

At the time of writing, 6 of the 10 North Yorkshire Maintained Special Schools were recorded as either 'Good' or 'Outstanding' and all of the 5 Alternative Provision schools (AP) were recorded as 'Good'. As of the most recent Ofsted inspections in the area, Springhead Special School was graded as 'Outstanding' and The Woodlands Academy Special School was graded as 'Requires Improvement' and Brompton Hall Special School was 'Requires Improvement'. Scarborough Pupil Referral Service (AP) was graded as 'Good' at its most recent Ofsted Alternative Provision inspection.



In 2023, 97% (32 of 33) of the Childcare establishments (childcare in non-domestic premises) which have had an Ofsted inspection in the constituency were 'Good' or 'Outstanding'. The rate in North Yorkshire was 94% at the same time.

### 3.3 Attainment overall

For two years, exams and assessments in schools did not take place because of the disruption to students' education caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. In 2020 GCSEs, AS and A level exams faced widespread cancellation and were replaced with a grading process involving teacher/ centre assessment. Similarly, summer 2021 assessments were awarded based on teacher or centre assessment and no statistical adjustment processes were used. Overall, final grades were significantly higher in both 2020 and 2021 than in 2019.

The Government allowed GCSEs, AS and A Level and equivalent assessments and exams to go ahead in England in summer 2022, and has made some changes to general, vocational and technical qualifications (VTQs). Additionally, school-level performance (league) tables were re-introduced for the end of the GCSE phase (key stage 4) in 2022; school-level information for secondary phase was not published during either 2020 or 2021.

It is important to emphasise that direct comparisons with outcomes from previous years need to be made with the pandemic in mind, as pupils will have had disrupted learning during this period. Apart from this factor, there have also been several changes to exams and grading. As such, the DfE have recommended that caution is exercised when making comparisons with previous years.

In primary schools, performance across North Yorkshire at Early Years (Early Years Foundation Stage Profile) has continued to be above national benchmarks and is beginning to approach attainment seen before the pandemic. Attainment of children at



Key Stage 2 however is down slightly on previous years, it is clear that national attainment is yet to recover from the impact of the pandemic.

Initial data is now available for Key Stage 4, giving us an overview of attainment of pupils leaving Year 11 in 2023. Attainment across the country at this Key Stage has fallen compared to last year. In North Yorkshire, attainment appears to have returned to pre-pandemic levels and is now very similar to National attainment levels.

### 3.4 Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP)

In 2023, 67.6% of children in the constituency area achieved a Good Level of Development. An in-year comparison of EYFSP outcomes with LA and national figures (see table below) shows that a lower proportion of pupils within the constituency area achieved a good level of development compared with all NYC pupils but rates were slightly higher than national.

<b>Early Years Foundation Stage Profile – percentage achieving a good level of development</b>			
	<b>Scarborough and Whitby</b>	<b>North Yorks</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	67.40%	72.50%	71.60%
<b>2019</b>	69.70%	72.80%	71.80%
<b>2022</b>	65.70%	68.30%	65.20%
<b>2023</b>	67.60%	79.30%	67.20%

### 3.5 Key Stage 2

In 2023, 45.5% of children in the constituency area achieved the expected level or above in reading, writing and maths combined, which is lower than the North Yorkshire and the national averages. An in-year comparison of KS2 attainment with LA and national figures is shown in the table below.

<b>Key Stage 2 - percentage achieving the expected standard or above in reading, writing and maths combined.</b>			
	<b>Scarborough and Whitby</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	56.80%	62.10%	64.40%
<b>2019</b>	54.80%	63.40%	64.90%
<b>2022</b>	45.50%	56.60%	58.70%
<b>2023</b>	48.70%	56.10%	59.60%

### 3.6 Key Stage 4

Although Key Stage 4 data has been published by the DfE it has not yet been validated at individual school level. Therefore, all data in this section of the report should be considered provisional.

The average Attainment 8 score, which measures the achievement of a pupil across eight qualifications, was 40.4 for 2023. This is below the North Yorkshire and national averages. Attainment 8 scores at Key Stage 4 have fallen nationally to 46.2 (from 48.8 in the 2021/22 academic year). We have seen a similar picture in North Yorkshire, with Attainment 8 scores falling to 46.7 (from 50.3).

<b>KS4 – Average Attainment 8 Score</b>			
	<b>Scarborough and Whitby</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	40.1	48.5	48.5
<b>2019</b>	39.6	48.7	48.7
<b>2022</b>	42.1	50.3	48.8
<b>2023</b>	40.4	46.7	46.2

The Progress 8 score, which measures a pupil's progress from the end of primary school to the end of secondary school, was lower than the North Yorkshire average in 2023. A comparison of the Progress 8 scores for schools within the Scarborough and Whitby constituency area against county-wide is shown below.

<b>KS4 – Average Progress 8 Score</b>			
	<b>Scarborough and Whitby</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	-0.22	0.13	-0.02
<b>2019</b>	-0.34	0.10	-0.03
<b>2022</b>	-0.29	0.03	-0.03
<b>2023</b>	-0.26	0.01	-0.03

The percentage achieving a grade 5 or above (grading is 9-1) in English and Maths (Basics measure) was 37.6% for 2023. This is below both the national and the North Yorkshire average in 2023.

<b>KS4 – Percentage achieving a grade 5 or above in English and Maths</b>			
	<b>Scarborough and Whitby</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	35.4%	48.0%	43.3%

<b>2019</b>	33.2%	47.4%	43.2%
<b>2022</b>	39.6%	53.8%	49.8%
<b>2023</b>	37.6%	45.7%	45.0%

### 3.7 Not in education, employment or training

There were 958 young people recorded in Year 11 living in this constituency in May 2023 and of this cohort 23 (2.4%) were not in education, employment or training after leaving school as of January 2024.

### 4.0 Suspension Incidents and Permanent Exclusions

#### 4.1 Suspension Incidents

In the 2022/23 academic year, there have been a total of 7639 suspensions for a total of 2753 individual children in North Yorkshire. 534 of these children were on roll of mainstream schools in the Scarborough and Whitby constituency area.

In 2021/22, there were 5197 Suspensions for a total of 2046 individual children, 419 of these children were on roll of mainstream schools in the Scarborough and Whitby constituency area.

Suspension Incidents						
Academic year	Pupils suspended		Total Suspensions			Most common reason (Scarborough and Whitby )
	North Yorkshire	Scarborough and Whitby (mainstream)	North Yorkshire	Scarborough and Whitby (mainstream )	Percentage of North Yorkshire total (incidents)	
<b>2018/19</b>	2149	611	5970	1995	33.42%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (52.1%)
<b>2019/20</b>	1578	348	4365	1058	24.24%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (48.1%)
<b>2020/21</b>	1578	332	3553	728	20.49%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (36.3%)
<b>2021/22</b>	2046	419	5197	958	18.43%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (42%)
<b>2022/23</b>	2753	534	7639	1659	22%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (56%)

In 2022/23, schools in the constituency area had a 14% share of the total schools population in North Yorkshire and had a 22% share of suspensions for the whole county.

**4.2 Permanent exclusions**

In 2022/23, there were 96 permanent exclusions from all schools in the county, 10 of which were for children in Scarborough and Whitby mainstream schools. In the same period of 2021/22, there were 55 permanent exclusions, 5 of which were from the Scarborough and Whitby area.

<b>Academic year</b>	<b>Scarborough and Whitby</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>Percentage of North Yorkshire total</b>
<b>2018/19</b>	20	87	23%
<b>2019/20</b>	5	51	9.80%
<b>2020/21</b>	7	26	26.92%
<b>2021/22</b>	5	55	9.09%
<b>2022/23</b>	10	96	10%

**4.3 Responding to increasing exclusion from schools**

From September 2020 a preventative model of alternative provision was commissioned to enhance support for schools in avoiding permanent exclusions and the model is continuing to be refined.

The Inclusion service is continuing to ensure that permanently excluded pupils are receiving the support they need to return to school and the curriculum offered at alternative provision is improving as part of a mainstream school model.

Training is continuing to be offered to schools for pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs, as part of a commitment to support schools in adopting more inclusive practices.

Two support pathways have also been introduced to reduce and prevent exclusions from schools. The Pupil Support Pathway is used to identify risks of multiple or permanent exclusion and professionals are becoming involve earlier to address difficulties. The School Support Pathway has been implemented to support and challenge schools which are identified as having the highest exclusion rates in the county.

The SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan was published by the government in 2023. The plan was presented as a roadmap for improving inclusion in mainstream schools within a national system but it also acknowledged the role of Alternative Provision (AP) as an intervention rather than a destination for children excluded from mainstream. It also identified preventative approaches similar to the North Yorkshire approach. We can expect the plan to be rolled out as part of a national system in the coming years.

**5.0 Special Education Needs and Disabilities**

**5.1 SEN Statistics for Constituency Area**

819 in constituency children with a North Yorkshire funded EHC plan (January 2024) 17.1% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs are:

- Autism (32%)

- Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH, 23%)
- Moderate Learning Disabilities (MLD, 16%)

1507 in constituency with SEN Support in North Yorkshire schools, 2023 School Census (January) 14.8% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs are:

- Speech, Language and Communication (SLCN, 22%)
- Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH, 21%)
- Specific Learning Difficulties (e.g. Dyslexia), 17%

## **5.2 Increasing demand for Education, Health and Care plans (EHC plans)**

The continuing rise in new EHC plans being issued by North Yorkshire Council is a consequence of an increasing demand for assessments seen during the course of previous years, a trend which reflects the national picture.

2023 saw the highest number of requests for assessment for an EHC plan since EHC plans were introduced. A total of 1275 requests were received by North Yorkshire Council in 2023, this is a circa 30% increase on the total received in 2022.

237 (18.6%) were for children or young people living in the constituency in 2023, a circa. 37% increase on the 173 in 2022.

At the time of writing, there were circa 600 requests either awaiting a decision to assess, a decision to issue an EHC plan or awaiting the finalising of a plan. At the same point last year, there were circa 300 in process. This rise in requests in process is at least partly due to the difficulty in gathering required information for decisions on EHC plan assessments, owing to an acute national shortage of Educational Psychologists (EPs) available.

North Yorkshire Council's approach to the challenge has involved the contracting of agencies in addressing a backlog in receiving advice from Educational Psychologist services. There has also been a successful recruitment drive in 2024 with the appointment of a new principal EP and a number of part-time and trainee EPs. This is expected to have a consequent effect of an upturn in overall timeliness in final plans being issued towards through the year.

## **5.3 SEND provision**

Providing appropriate provision to children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) has become an area of increasing pressure on resources in local authorities throughout the country. The government has acknowledged these delivery pressures and released the SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan in 2023 to address this and a Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme was announced as part of a best practice approach to sustainable provision for children with high needs.

North Yorkshire has participated in the DBV programme as part of a wider inclusion plan which aims to bring positive change for SEND services. The aim of the programme is to identify changes that will make the biggest difference in getting better outcomes and to help council's use their resources in the most efficient way. Progress against these aims will continue to be monitored.

## 6.0 Elective Home Education

As of the beginning of the 2023/24 academic year there were 817 children recorded as Electively Home Educated (EHE) in North Yorkshire, 133 of which were formerly from a mainstream school in Scarborough and Whitby ACC. At the same point last year, there were 813 children EHE in North Yorkshire, 137 formerly from a mainstream school in Scarborough and Whitby constituency area.

In the 2022/23 academic year, 482 children became EHE in North Yorkshire, 97 of which were formerly educated in a mainstream school in the Scarborough and Whitby constituency area. This figure in the previous academic year (2021/22) was 87 from Scarborough and Whitby out of 452 becoming EHE in North Yorkshire.

## 7.0 School Finance

### 7.1 2022/2023 School Revenue Balances

Local Authority maintained school revenue balances as at 31 March 2023 are summarised below, together with a comparison with 2022. The balances are also expressed as a percentage of school delegated budgets.

	<b>Primary &amp; Nursery</b>  170 schools	<b>Secondary</b>  15 schools	<b>Special</b>  6 schools	<b>Pupil Referral Unit</b>  4 schools	<b>Total</b>  195 schools
Total School Revenue Balances (Net) as at 31 March 2023	£15,054k	-£973k	-£887k	£753k	<b>£13,947k</b>
% of Revenue Budget	12.4%	-1.7%	-5.6%	31.4%	<b>7.1%</b>
No. Schools with an Accumulated Revenue Budget Surplus as at 31 March 2023	149	10	2	3	<b>164</b>
No. Schools with an Accumulated Revenue Budget Deficit as at 31 March 2023	21	5	4	1	<b>31</b>
<i>Comparison to total school revenue balance (net) as at 31 March 2022</i>	<i>-£1,368k</i>	<i>-£770k</i>	<i>-£75k</i>	<i>-£68k</i>	<b><i>-£2,281k</i></b>

(The number of school budgets submitted to the local authority for 2022/23 is lower than the total number of local authority maintained schools operating within North Yorkshire due to a number of school federations operating a single, amalgamated budget covering all of the schools within the federation)

31 schools (16% of LA Maintained schools) had an accumulated revenue budget deficit totalling £6.6M as at 31 March 2023. An analysis of the budget deficits by school phase is detailed in the table below:

	<b>Primary &amp; Nursery</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Special</b>	<b>Pupil Referral Unit</b>	<b>Total</b>

No. Schools with an Accumulated Revenue Budget Deficit as at 31 March 2023	21	5	4	1	<b>31</b>
Total School Revenue Deficit Balances as at 31 March 2023	-£1,078k	-£3,363k	-£2,027k	-£95k	<b>-£6,563k</b>
Average Value of Accumulated Revenue Budget Deficit as at 31 March 2023	-£51k	-£673k	-£507k	-£95k	<b>-£212k</b>
Highest Accumulated Revenue Budget Deficit as at 31 March 2023	-£216k	-£998k	-£1,587k	-£95k	<b>-£1,587k</b>
Lowest Accumulated Revenue Budget Deficit as at 31 March 2023	-£1.3k	-£141k	-£18k	-£95k	<b>-£1.3k</b>

## 7.2 School Budget Projections - Based on 2023/24 Revised budgets

The 2023/24 Revised Budgets submitted to the local authority by schools in December 2023 are summarised below:

	<b>Primary &amp; Nursery</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Special</b>	<b>Pupil Referral Unit</b>	<b>Total</b>
	163 schools	14 schools	6 schools	4 schools	187 schools
Total Forecast School Revenue Balances (Net) as at 31 March 2024	£11,820k	-£1,393k	-£888k	£593k	<b>£10,132k</b>
No. Schools with an Accumulated Forecast Revenue Budget Surplus as at 31 March 2024	138	7	3	3	<b>151</b>
Average Value of Accumulated Forecast Revenue Budget Surplus as at 31 March 2024	£96k	£307k	£381k	£204k	<b>£113k</b>
No. Schools with an Accumulated Forecast Budget Deficit as at 31 March 2024	25	7	3	1	<b>36</b>

Average Value of Accumulated Forecast Revenue Budget Deficit as at 31 March 2024	-£55k	-£506k	-£677k	-£19k	<b>-£194k</b>
<i>Comparison to total school revenue balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023</i>	<i>-£3,234k</i>	<i>-£420k</i>	<i>-£1k</i>	<i>-£160k</i>	<b><i>-£3,815k</i></b>

(The overall number of individual school budgets have reduced from 195 to 187 between the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years due to 2 schools moving to operate within a joint budget Federation, 5 schools converting to academy status and 1 school closing).

### 7.3 School Finance and Funding Issues

- The Department for Education (DfE) provided revised 2024/25 school funding information on 6 October 2023 after the identification of an error made by DfE officials during the initial calculations of the NFF and processing of forecast pupil numbers. Nationally, the overall cost of the core schools budget is 0.62% greater than allocated resulting in the funding through the mainstream schools national funding formula (NFF) increasing by 1.9% per pupil in 2024-25, compared to 2023-24; the original increase announced in July 2023 was 2.7% per pupil.
- School budgets have experienced significant cost pressures in the 2023/24 financial year. Cost pressures include:
  - Pay award cost pressures. The September 2023 teachers pay award was 6.5%, with school budgets being required to meet the initial 3.5% cost and the DfE providing additional grant funding to cover the cost in excess of 3.5%. The 2023/24 support staff pay award of £1,925 on non-teaching salary points 2 – 43 (equates to a 9.42% increase for staff on the lowest salary point) is a particularly cost pressure for schools in relation to classroom support staff.
  - Energy inflation cost pressures of 100%
  - Overall inflationary pressures of 10.1%
  - Cost pressures associated with supporting an increasing number of pupils with additional SEND support needs.
  - Below forecast inflation increases in school funding provided by Government for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years.
- North Yorkshire secondary schools are placed 141 out of 150 local authorities in terms of funding level per pupil. On average, a school in North Yorkshire will receive £5,994 per pupil in 2023-24 compared to a national average of £6,542. Comparing the funding for a 1,500 pupil secondary school this equates to a difference in funding of £0.82m. The funding for North Yorkshire primary schools is more favourable with a position 32 out of 150 local authorities in terms of the funding level per pupil. For primary schools, a North Yorkshire school will receive on average £5,125 per pupil compared to a national average of £5,014. The average funding position in relation to primary schools in North Yorkshire is



influenced by the levels of the lump sum and sparsity funding received through the DfE National Funding Formula by the relatively high number of small, rural primary schools within the local authority area.

- North Yorkshire has a number of schools that, geographically, are vital in serving their local communities. Inadequate sparsity funding and general financial pressures for smaller, rural secondary schools, continues to be a significant concern. NYC utilises the provision in the DfE National Funding Formula (NFF) to locally provide additional lump sum funding of £50k for the smallest (less than 350 pupils), most rural secondary schools. NYC continues to lobby the DfE and local MPs for higher levels of funding for the small, rural secondary schools within the LA.

#### **7.4 Local Authority Support for Schools in Financial Difficulty**

- The Local Authority adopts a number of measures to support schools facing financial difficulty:
  - the use of a financial risk rating framework to determine the level of support, challenge and intervention undertaken at individual school level,
  - the escalation path for financial intervention including the use of Notices of Financial Concern, where deemed appropriate. Currently, eight schools are subject to a Notice of Financial Concern.
  - the undertaking of School Resource Management reviews in individual schools where this has been identified as an appropriate intervention through the risk rating process. The reviews are based on the DfE School Resource Management Adviser (SRMA) model and are undertaken by LA staff, many of whom have the SRMA accreditation
  - continuing to undertake research into small school financial effectiveness to identify and share best practice
  - review of the Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) and Resource Management dashboard in financially challenged schools
  - continuing the promotion of school collaboration and the sharing of best practice in terms of effective resource management between schools
  - the provision of Headteacher and Governor finance briefings and training
  - continuing to lobby DfE for fairer funding for North Yorkshire schools, especially in relation to small, rural secondary schools.
- In July 2023, the DfE announced the provision of up to £40 million of additional funding in 2023/2024, to support individual schools which find themselves in particular financial difficulties. Of the £40 million, £20 million has been provided to local authorities which have the most significant maintained school deficits. The distribution of the £20 million is targeted and not every local authority will receive additional funding. The DfE have allocated the £20 million between local authorities who have aggregated school-level deficits as a proportion of their total maintained schools' income above 1%. At the end of October 2023, the DfE announced that North Yorkshire Council will receive a funding allocation of £972k. The DfE have

stated the funding is one-off and for the 2023-24 financial year only; there are no plans for the funding to continue for 2024-25. The local authority has developed proposed eligibility criteria and an associated funding allocation methodology for the distribution of the funding to schools in financial difficulty. These proposals will be considered by the Executive in mid-March 2024.

## 7.5 Schools Financial Position – Scarborough & Whitby

<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
<p>20 schools projecting to be in budget surplus as at 31 March 2023 5 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2023; 20% of schools in Scarborough &amp; Whitby (1 nursery, 2 primary, 1 secondary, 1 special)</p> <p>Projected average nursery surplus = N/A Projected average primary surplus = £126k Projected average secondary surplus = £45k Projected average special surplus = N/A Projected average PRU surplus = £469k</p> <p>Projected average nursery deficit = -£18k Projected average primary deficit = -£91k Projected average secondary deficit = -£141k Projected average special deficit = -£28k Projected average PRU deficit = N/A</p> <p>(Data Source – 2023/24 Revised Budgets)</p>	<p>22 schools projecting to be in budget surplus as at 31 March 2024 3 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2024; 12% of schools in Scarborough &amp; Whitby (2 primary, 1 secondary)</p> <p>Projected average nursery surplus = £4k Projected average primary surplus = £115k Projected average secondary surplus = £111k Projected average special surplus = £17k Projected average PRU surplus = £354k</p> <p>Projected average nursery deficit = N/A Projected average primary deficit = -£124k Projected average secondary deficit = -£114k Projected average special deficit = N/A Projected average PRU deficit = N/A</p> <p>(Data Source – 2023/24 Revised Budgets)</p>

## 8.0 Planning school places

### 8.1 School Sustainability

The sustainability of schools is largely influenced by three key factors which are usually related to each other:

- Falling pupil rolls
- School standards
- Financial difficulty

Where school closures have regrettably occurred in North Yorkshire these factors have been relevant. There have been seven closures in the county over the last three years with one of these occurring in the constituency area. A further closure, of Eskdale School was approved in June 2023 and will occur on 31 August 2023

### 8.2 Collaborative working

Collaborative working is two or more schools working together to the mutual benefit of their pupils with the overall aim of improving outcomes for all. This has the potential to broaden opportunities and contribute to efficiencies. There are now four collaborations or federations in the Scarborough and Whitby area. In each of the federations there are two maintained schools with a single governing body and

headteacher. In three cases the pairs of schools are small, rural schools with the same religious character where LA Officers worked with the Diocese of York to support the governing boards to come to the federation decision. The other federation is currently made up of Caedmon College and Eskdale School, the secondary schools which serve Whitby Town and its rural area. This federation and the reorganisation of secondary education in Whitby is discussed specifically in section 8.8.

There are also a number of other collaborative arrangements operating across the constituency area. Typically, these arrangements feature the shared headship but without the shared governance which would characterise federation. LA officers regularly support discussions between school leaders and governors to consider where collaborative working opportunities are available.

### 8.3 Pupil rolls – current and future

The council has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places are available for every child under the Education Act 1996. For this purpose, it groups schools together into planning areas in accordance with the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Appendix 1 shows the planning areas together with:

- Capacity in the planning area
- Current numbers on roll
- Projected future numbers
- Projected impact of approved housing developments

8.4 The council is carefully monitoring pupil numbers across the constituency area. A large proportion of the constituency is rural and served by small schools located within villages. A falling birth-rate combined with changing demographics means that a number of small schools are facing financial challenges associated with low numbers on roll. In some areas larger schools also face financial difficulty as they experience lower numbers than they are historically structured to accommodate. This is particularly the case where numbers on roll are above a round form of entry e.g. 1 or 2 forms of entry (30 or 60 pupils), but are not high enough to easily afford the structure for the next form of entry.

8.5 Larger villages with proposed or committed housing developments – There a number of villages where housing allocations have been made within the Scarborough Local Plan including East and West Ayton, Seamer and Burniston. The schools that serve these areas, East Ayton Community Primary School, Seamer & Irton Community Primary School and Lindhead School respectively, are operating near to capacity. Where possible within planning regulations, developer contributions have been sought to provide additional school places should the need arise.

### 8.6 Scarborough North and Central Primary areas –

The North and Central areas cover all of the schools located within the urban area of Scarborough Town. Each area presents a different picture in terms of school capacity etc.

The schools in the North area are seeing high numbers on roll at present and significant housing developments with planning permission, plus others allocated in the Local Plan going forward. The strategy to provide these places within the North

has been to seek a site as part of the largest housing allocation and to provide a new school, should it be required, through developer contributions.

However, in the Central Area the falling birth rate in the district has caused a reduction in pupil numbers, which is a source of financial pressure in some of the schools that have previously operated at higher numbers on roll. This issue has been being monitored by the Local Authority for some years. Some schools have previously discussed reducing their Planned Admissions numbers to manage the intake of lower pupil numbers arising from the general decline in demand for places. This is an issue which officers will be revisiting over this year to consider whether this could be beneficial in the case of a growing surplus across the area.

One of the key concerns is that providing additional places too early to meet new demand for places in the North of Scarborough could further destabilise schools in central Scarborough. As present no site has been secured to deliver a further school in the North of Scarborough, should it be required, however the Local Authority has secured S106 contributions towards this provision and will continue to do so where possible.

#### 8.7 Scarborough South Area (Eastfield and Cayton) –

The Scarborough South Area is the main area of proposed housing growth within the constituency area. Significant housing developments are underway at Middle Deepdale (Eastfield) and sites are allocated in the Local Plan for North of Middle Deepdale and also in the ‘South Cayton Strategic Area’. The latter two developments are not included in the figures appended as they do not yet have planning permission but are projected to require significant educational provision. Some of this need could be met at local schools but there is likely to be a need for additional schools within the area. The LA is working to ensure that, where appropriate, developer contributions are secured.

#### 8.8 Whitby –

As demonstrated in the appended figures, there is significant surplus capacity within both the Primary and Secondary sector. Over the past year a significant reorganisation of secondary provision in Whitby has taken place. Following a statutory consultation process the amalgamation of Caedmon College Whitby (CCW) and Eskdale School from 1 September 2024 was agreed by the Council’s Executive in June 2023. As part of this process Eskdale School will close on 31 August 24, the current federation will cease and the newly amalgamated Caedmon College Whitby (new name: Whitby School) will operate from 1 September. The school will continue to serve the catchment area which is currently shared between CCW and Eskdale School. The school will operate as a single school across the Normanby and Scoresby sites. Although this process will reduce the surplus in secondary places in the Whitby area it will maintain a sufficiency of places to meet current and projected demand.

#### 8.11 Rural Primary Schools- The rural areas of the constituency are characterised by small primary schools serving villages as well as, in some cases, very extensive sparsely populated catchment areas. The geography combined with low pupil numbers lead to financial and organisational challenges for some schools. Across the constituency area the schools have worked innovatively to mitigate these challenges including forming local federations. The fluctuation of pupil numbers exacerbates the already challenging nature of school funding for smaller schools.

## **9.0 Recommendation**

**9.1** That Members note the report on educational factors in the Selby and Ainsty constituency area.

Authors: Amanda Newbold (Assistant Director – Education and Skills), Howard Emmett (Assistant Director – Strategic Resources), Janet Crawford (Assistant Director – Inclusion),

## APPENDIX 1

### Planning Areas and forecast surplus/shortfall school places

School planning area	Places available as at 2023/2024	Number on Roll 2019/2020	Number on roll 2023/2024	Surplus Capacity 2023/2024	Forecast pupils as at 2028/2029	Pupils from current housing permissions until 2028/2029	Surplus capacity 2028/2029
*School located in a neighbouring constituency area							
<b>PRIMARY</b>							
<b>Scarborough Central Primary Area</b> Barrowcliff Primary Gladstone Road Primary Friarage CP St Martin's CE CA Primary Thomas Hinderwell Academy Primary Wheatcroft CP	2371	2083	1836	535	1571	105	695
<b>Scarborough Primary North</b> • Newby & Scalby Primary • Northstead CP • St Peter's RC Primary	1257	1267	1226	31	1112	95	50
<b>Scarborough Primary Outer Area</b> • Brompton & Sawdon CP • East Ayton CP • Hackness CE VC Primary • Lindhead School • Seamer & Irton CP • Snainton CE Primary • Wykeham CE Primary	1106	1044	1041	65	938	63	105
<b>Scarborough Primary South</b> • Cayton CP • Braeburn Primary & Nursery • Overdale CP • St George's RC Primary	1262	881	896	366	823	166	273
<b>Total</b>	<b>5996</b>	<b>5275</b>	<b>4999</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>4444</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>1123</b>

School planning area	Places available as at 2023/2024	Number on Roll 2019/2020	Number on roll 2023/2024	Surplus Capacity 2023/2024	Forecast pupils as at 2028/2029	Pupils from current housing permissions until 2028/2029	Surplus capacity 2028/2029
*School located in a neighbouring constituency area							

<b>Whitby Primary Outer Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Castleton CP</li> <li>• Danby CE</li> <li>• Egton CE VA</li> <li>• Fylingdales CE</li> <li>• Glaisdale Primary</li> <li>• Goathland Primary</li> <li>• Hawsker cum Stainsacre CE VC</li> <li>• Lealholm Primary</li> <li>• Lythe CE VC Primary</li> <li>• Oakridge CP</li> <li>• Sleights CE</li> <li>• St Hedda's RC Primary</li> <li>• Staithe, Seton CP</li> </ul>	948	647	609	339	566	16	366
<b>Whitby Primary Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ruswarp CE Primary</li> <li>• West Cliff Primary</li> <li>• Whitby, Airy Hill Primary</li> <li>• Whitby, East Whitby Primary</li> <li>• Stakesby CP</li> </ul>	1050	794	750	300	673	88	289
<b>Total</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1441</b>	<b>1359</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>1239</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>655</b>

<b>SECONDARY</b>							
<b>Scarborough Secondary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• George Pindar School</li> <li>• Graham School</li> <li>• Scalby School</li> <li>• St Augustine's RC School</li> <li>• Scarborough UTC</li> </ul>	4418	3378	3542	876	3398	224	796
<b>Whitby Secondary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caedmon College Whitby</li> <li>• Eskdale School</li> </ul>	2019	1245	1130	889	1141	54	824

Note

- School planning areas are groups of schools which are used for assessing current and future pupil demand for school place provision and structured according to DfE guidelines.
- Figures above take into account outstanding housing permissions, but not undetermined planning applications or draft Local Plan proposals. Pupil yield from housing is based on 25% for primary aged pupils and 13% for secondary aged pupils.

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## North Yorkshire Council

### Scarborough and Whitby Area Constituency Committee

22 March 2024

### Rural Connectivity

#### Report of the Transformation Director Robert Ling and NYnet Alastair Taylor

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The report sets out to update the progress of digital connectivity across North Yorkshire

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 North Yorkshire Council and its predecessors have been working with the UK Government to address the lack of digital connectivity across rural areas. BDUK (Building Digital UK) the delivery arm for the Department of Science, Innovation, and Technology has the overall mandate for the delivery of national targets.

#### 4.0 Connectivity Update

4.1 NYnet the North Yorkshire owned telecoms company has delivered 4 phases of Superfast North Yorkshire contracts in conjunction with BDUK. In 2009 superfast coverage across North Yorkshire was at approx. 41%, Phase 1 was awarded in 2011/12 to BT with a contract value of £26.5m, further contracts were let to BT in 2015 and 2017 totalling circa £28m which saw coverage climb to 94% by 2020. To tackle the final 6% a wireless contract has been awarded to Quickline in 2020 with an expected increase in coverage to 97% by 2024.

4.2 North Yorkshire Council offers a free Wi-Fi service in 21 market towns across the geography, the service which started in 2021 with support from a Government grant to combat the impact of COVID. Currently the service across North Yorkshire attracts around 70k users per week, making use of both the free Wi-Fi but also access to Govroam for public sector workers and Eduroam for those in education. Ryedale District Council invested in its own wireless networks in Malton, Pickering, and Helmsley and we are currently investigating how those networks can migrate across to the North Yorkshire Council network.

4.3 Whilst the Superfast Programme was delegated to Local Bodies with overall supervision by BDUK, the new Project Gigabit is run directly by BDUK with consultation and involvement from the local body. The UK has been split into multiple lots for Project Gigabit. These have been decided based on BT exchanges and other technological reasons and therefore there are instances where small numbers of premises will be in different lots. The majority of North Yorkshire's premises are in Lots 8 and 31. Lot 8 is primarily West Yorkshire however it includes Selby District and Skipton. This was designed as they are both better built from West Yorkshire and will likely lead to a better outcome for these two areas. Lot 31 is the rest of North Yorkshire. The number of premises in each lot is detailed below:

Lot	Total No Premises	Value
8 – West Yorkshire and York	29,000	£61m
31 – North Yorkshire	33,619	£76m

Lot 8 has been awarded to Quickline Communications with work already started and Lot 31 is expected to be awarded in March 2024. Superfast North Yorkshire expects there to be approximately 11,000 premises which will not be covered by the end of Phase 4. These will be included in Lot 31. Whilst some of these will be classified as 'Very Hard to Reach' we would expect this number to be no more than 3,000 therefore the majority should be upgraded as part of Project Gigabit. Looking specifically at the Scarborough and Whitby area the table is below, we cannot give actual premises data as Phase four is still in delivery and subject to change.

	Number Premises in SCT (ie no Superfast)	Number of Premises Proposed in Phase 4	Premises without Superfast after Phase 4
Scarborough and Whitby	2771	1801	970

4.4 North Yorkshire has attracted a significant number of Alternative Network Operators (Altnets). This has been made possible through a combination of marketing the County directly to Altnets as well as the use of NYnet assets to reduce the cost of entry. NYnet works with Altnets to provide backhaul capacity across North Yorkshire to transit the internet from rural locations within North Yorkshire back to major internet hubs in Darlington and Leeds. Through the use of NYnet's network Altnets are able to access high-capacity links at the same price they would in built up areas reducing the cost of doing business in rural areas. In addition, NYnet allows Altnets to use its dark fibre and duct network to lower the cost of digging whilst reducing the inconvenience to residents. A good example of this was in Stokesley where the Altnet used NYnet's fibre to reach Great Ayton instead of undertaking 4km of roadworks.

In addition to Openreach the following Altnets have or are building network in North Yorkshire:

Provider	Areas Covered/Being Deployed
Zzoomm	Northallerton, Thirsk, Sowerby, Easingwold, Tadcaster, Sherburn-in-Elmet, South Milford, Stokesley, Great Ayton
Swish	Bedale, Sherburn-in-Elmet, South Milford, Colburn, Leyburn, Boroughbridge, Knaresborough
City Fibre	Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon
Voneus	North of Malton between Hovingham and Swinton. Bedale, Villages around and including Masham
Gigaclear	Selby
KCOM	Selby

4.5 The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) has launched trials and a consultation around Very Hard to Reach premises. These are the 0.4% of premises across the UK that are likely to not be covered by Project Gigabit. Unfortunately, it is highly likely that these 0.4% will be premises that currently do not have Superfast broadband either. It is also likely that North Yorkshire will have a disproportionate amount of VHTR premises (above the average of 0.4%) due to its geography. The solution for these premises will therefore be of the utmost importance. DSIT currently has four alpha trials using Low Earth Orbit Satellite (either Oneweb or Starlink). One of these is a Starlink solution at Rievaulx Abbey. NYnet also has two Starlink trials of its own at North York Moors visitors' centres which have delivered fantastic results. DSIT have recently released a consultation around the VHTR programme, NYC have submitted a response. Initial indications have suggested there will likely be a multitude of solutions for these premises, these could be:

- Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite schemes offering vouchers to pay for the hardware cost
- Programmes to share LEO satellites between multiple premises
- The use of Fixed Wireless Access to achieve speeds of over 100Mbps (but below gigabit)
- Targeted voucher-based interventions

The indication is that whilst it is understood that these premises will not receive gigabit broadband, the intent is for them to receive a minimum of 100Mbps rather than the current (unfunded) 10Mbps USO.

4.6 Public Phone Boxes are being removed across the country by BT if they meet certain conditions as set out by OFCOM. Public Phone boxes can be removed from the community should the area have good mobile coverage from the four major telecoms providers (Vodafone, EE, Three, O2) and they have made less than 52 calls in a twelve-month period. A consultation period is conducted for each identified phone box via the planning service, North Yorkshire currently has 30 phone boxes under consultation.

4.7 The Shared Rural Network (SRN) is a project developed by the UK's four mobile network operators (MNOs) with support from the government. The programme aims to make 4G mobile broadband available to 95% of the UK, improving 4G coverage in the areas that need it most and addressing the digital divide. The SRN is a deal with EE, O2, Three and Vodafone investing in a network of new and existing phone masts, overseen by a jointly owned company called Digital Mobile Spectrum Limited. It will provide guaranteed coverage to 280,000 premises and 16,000km of roads. The SRN is expected to increase coverage in some areas by more than a third, with the biggest coverage improvements in rural parts of Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales. It will also improve geographic coverage to 79% of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and 74% of National Parks. North Yorkshire will benefit from this Government initiative where we would expect coverage to rise from 70% currently to just over 90%, however due to the nature of the areas requiring masts, progress is slower than anticipated due to the challenges of planning in National Parks and AONBs.

## **5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 N/A

## **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 N/A

## **7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 N/A

## **8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 N/A

**9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 N/A

**10.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 Information paper to update members as to the progress of digital connectivity

**11.0 RECOMMENDATION**

i) Councillors to note progress

Robert Ling  
Director of Transformation  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
(Insert date)

Report Author – Robert Ling Director of Transformation & Alastair Taylor CEO NYnet  
Presenter of Report – Robert Ling Director of Transformation & Alastair Taylor CEO NYnet

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

***PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT IF ANY REPORTS / APPENDICES INCLUDE SIGNATURES THESE MUST BE REMOVED / DELETED PRIOR TO SENDING REPORTS / APPENDICES TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES. Appendices should include an Equality Impact Assessment and a Climate Impact Assessment where appropriate***



## Briefing – Scarborough Ambulance Station visit, North Yorkshire Council

**Visit date/time:** Thursday 15 February, 2pm until approximately 3pm

**Location:** Scarborough Ambulance Station, Queen Margaret's Road, Scarborough, YO11 2YH. There is no reserved parking but public parking is available on Queen Margaret's Road. Attendees should come to reception at the ambulance station where they will be met.

### **Attendees:**

#### **Yorkshire Ambulance Service, NHS Trust**

- Peter Reading, Chief Executive
- Glen Adams, Director of Fleet and Estates
- Paul Mudd, Head of Operations, A&E Operations, North and East Yorkshire
- Steve West, Area Operations Manager
- Helen Edwards, Head of Communications and Community Engagement

#### **North Yorkshire Council**

- Councillor Liz Colling
- Councillor Rich Maw
- Councillor Clive Pearson

### **Background**

The current station at Scarborough is leased and was built in 1998 as a standard industrial building with additional accommodation space upstairs.

Scarborough station currently has approximately 60 members staff based there for our A&E Operations service and 15 members of staff working in Patient Transport Service. In terms of fleet, there are approximately 9 double-crewed ambulances and 5 rapid response vehicles based from the station. The Patient Transport Service has 15 vehicles that are parked on the other side of the road in parking spaces separately leased.

The development of a new station for Scarborough is on a site next to Scarborough Hospital on Woodlands Drive and to replace the current two sites in Scarborough, which are no longer fit for purpose:

- The main site at Queen Margaret's Road, which holds about four double-crewed ambulances in the garage, with accommodation for staff above.
- The separate Patient Transport Service (PTS) station at Lee Rumneys, which has limited parking.

The new Scarborough station aims to bring these services together and will be configured to support Ambulance Vehicle Preparation (AVP). The AVP service is operated by teams covering 24-hours a day/seven days a week to ensure that ambulance crews can access fully equipped, re-fuelled and re-stocked ambulances. This includes checking medical devices and medical consumables.

This service would also be provided from Scarborough through a “cluster” system for the stations at Filey, Bridlington, Kirkbymoorside and Whitby. This means staff working from those stations will also benefit from AVP.

The new Scarborough station has been designed for 112 members of staff, across all our services (A&E Operations, Patient Transport Service, Ambulance Vehicle Preparation, AVP, and Fleet), with parking for 44 Trust vehicles (including cluster parking of AVP vehicles from surrounding stations) and 64 car parking spaces.

The building’s construction will use the very latest methods and technologies and is being designed to meet Net Zero carbon guidelines.

Planning permission has been granted for the development and we finalised the purchase of the site in March 2023. Detailed design for the new station was undertaken and a cost for the construction work obtained.

However, due to the significant escalation in the cost of construction and building materials since the project began two years ago, increasing from £7m to £21m, the decision has been taken by the Trust’s Board in November 2023 to pause the project, enabling us to fully review the funding requirements.

### **Operational performance**

In our A&E Operations service, we received 103,270 calls in January 2024, up from 84,801 calls in January 2023; responses were also up from 62,896 last January to 77,188 this January.

Our response to category 2 incidents was 34 minutes 30 seconds in January 2024 and the year-to-date response is 33 minutes and 2 seconds. This is an improvement on the same period in 2022/23 (which was 43 minutes 35 seconds); however, the target response time is 18 minutes, but currently set at 30 minutes by NHS England. The average time taken to hand over patients at hospital is currently 32 minutes and 50 seconds, with a target response of 15 minutes.

We work closely with York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to minimise long patient handover delays to ensure that those patients in the community receive and safe and responsive service. This remains a priority for both organisations and there is a senior executive meeting taking place on mid-February focused on this priority.

In addition to this, we work closely with local health and social care providers to ensure that patients receive the right care and treatment at the right time, first time. Not all patients that contact us require treatment in hospital and we continue to work closely with partners to ensure where care can be delivered closer to home, it is.

*14 February 2024*