

- Meeting:** Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee
- Members:** Councillors Alyson Baker, Caroline Dickinson, Kevin Foster, Bryn Griffiths, David Hugill, Tom Jones, Carl Les, Heather Moorhouse, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock, Karin Sedgwick, Angus Thompson, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Annabel Wilkinson and Peter Wilkinson; together with Co-opted Member, Malcolm Warne.
- Date:** Monday, 17th June, 2024
- Time:** 10.00 am
- Venue:** The Grand, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AD

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

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## **Business**

**1. Election of Chair**

To elect a Chair of the Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee for the 2024/25 municipal year.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th March 2024 (Pages 5 - 14)**

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 as a correct record.

**3. Election of a Vice Chair**

To elect a Vice Chair of the Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee for the 2024/25 municipal year.

Enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Stephen Loach, Principal Democratic Services Officer (Tel: 01609 532216) Email: [stephen.loach@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.loach@northyorks.gov.uk) Tel:

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

#### **4. 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.

#### **5. Public Participation**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice to Stephen Loach of Democratic Services and supplied the text (contact details below) by midday on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024, three working days before the day of the meeting. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:-

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

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

#### **6. Any Updates from the Previous Meeting**

#### **7. Appointment to Outside Body**

Appointment to Atkinson and Clarke Educational Foundation – Category 3 appointment to a vacancy on the Trust as nominated by the local Member, Councillor Tom Jones.

Nomination: Valerie Margaret Nelson

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|---|--------------------------|
| <b>8. Schools, Educational Achievement and Finance - Follow up from previous meeting</b>  | <b>(Pages 15 - 36)</b>   |
| <b>9. Stronger Communities Update 2023/24</b>   | <b>(Pages 37 - 44)</b>   |
| <b>10. Let's Talk Food - Feedback Session</b>   | <b>(Pages 45 - 78)</b>   |
| <b>11. Richmond Leisure Trust - Presentation</b>  | <b>(Pages 79 - 92)</b>   |
| <b>12. Update on Local Bus Services in the Stokesley Area</b>   | <b>(Pages 93 - 96)</b>   |
| <b>13. Yorkshire Ambulance Service - Response Times (for information only)</b>  | <b>(Pages 97 - 100)</b>  |
| <b>14. Highways Works Programme &amp; Delivery, including the A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding</b>                     | <b>(Pages 101 - 114)</b> |
| <b>15. £50k ACC Seed Funding - Verbal Update</b>  |                          |
| <b>16. Work Programme</b>   | <b>(Pages 115 - 118)</b> |
| <b>17. Any other items which the Chair agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.</b> |                          |
| <b>18. Date of Next Meeting</b>   |                          |

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 10am – venue to be confirmed

**19. Any Other Items**

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

**20. Date of Next Meeting**

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

**Contact Details**

Enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Melanie Carr Tel: 01609 533849 or e-mail:

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

Friday, 7 June 2024

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## North Yorkshire Council

### Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 18th March, 2024 commencing at 10.00 am at Mercury House, Station Road, Richmond.

Councillor Yvonne Peacock in the Chair. plus Councillors Caroline Dickinson, Kevin Foster, Bryn Griffiths, Carl Les, Stuart Parsons, Karin Sedgwick, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Lisa Pope – Deputy Place Director, North Yorkshire, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Board.

Officers present: Sarah Holbird, Democratic Services Officer.

Other Attendees: 7 members of the public.

Apologies: Councillors David Hugill, Heather Moorhouse, Angus Thompson and Peter Wilkinson.

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

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#### **73 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies noted (see above).

#### **74 Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 18 December 2023**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 18 December 2023 having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

#### **75 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **76 Public Participation**

Richmond Town Council submitted the following public question/statement:-

In September 2023 I tabled a question, regarding the Public Space Protection Order put in place by Richmondshire District Council in April 2021 to combat anti-social behaviour at Richmond Falls and the Batts area of Richmond.

The current order lapses at the end of March 2024 and it is with concern that we have received a briefing note from a Richmondshire Police Inspector that there is no intention by North Yorkshire Council to undertake a consultation for variation or extension in relation to the PSPO.

The question I submitted in September 2023 specifically detailed the need for the PSPO to be renewed as it gives Police and council officers powers to move groups on, fine them for unruly behaviour and prevent certain activities such as littering, lighting a fire or barbecue

so it is vital that this PSPO is renewed in April 2024.

Failure to renew the PSPO will take away from the Police a vital tool to act to control behaviour and will be greeted with dismay by residents of the town, in particular those involved in the tourism industry who received many negative comments about the disgraceful gatherings fuelled by social media comments to treat the Falls area as the 'Ibiza of the north'. Damage to the grass area at the Batts, wilful depositing of litter, faeces and the associated products of anti-social nitrous oxide inhalation had a profound negative impact on this beautiful area of Richmond during Bank Holiday and warm weather events. Indeed, the impacts spread into the town centre itself with assaults on shopkeepers and dangerous driving in the Market area of the town.

Richmond Town Council would ask that North Yorkshire Council renews the PSPO in order that the Police can have the powers and the confidence to uphold public order in the designated area and that this is done in time to ensure no lapse in the protection afforded by this legal instrument. This request has the full support of North Yorkshire Police Richmondshire Division as can be seen from this statement:

'The PSPO is an excellent tool to prevent issues occurring and without it, there will be little Police Officers can do until it is too late – because entering the Falls and river is dangerous. Without the PSPO power available, I am convinced there will be an increase in issues in the area during the Summer months which, at its worst, could lead to serious injury or fatality when people are under the influence of alcohol and we are unable to prevent them from congregating there.'

Odette Robson, Head of Community Safety and CCTV provided the following response which was read out at the meeting:

We have had a couple of meetings with North Yorkshire Police on this matter. Only one this week (w/c 11 March), where we met with other services within NYC and Fire and Rescue to ensure there is a robust, sustainable plan in place. With regards to the PSPO, no decision has been made and we have a meeting next week (w/c 18 March) with NYC legal advisor and Assistant Chief Executive, Rachel Joyce to consider the different options and agree the next course of action.

From the meeting this week there continues to be a continuing commitment to community safety within the local area. An update will be provided following our next meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> March.

Save our Swale Community Group submitted the following public question/statement:-

As a community group of volunteers, Save our Swale (SOS) was founded in July 2023 with the aim of ensuring the River Swale is clean and healthy for wildlife and recreation; to hold polluters to account and to influence policy and legislation to protect our river.

For the last 35 years Yorkshire Water (YW) has failed to invest in the infrastructure needed to keep untreated sewerage and harmful chemicals out of our rivers. Over that same period, YW has taken out billions of pounds in loans to pay excessive dividends to its shareholders, the repayments of which account for around 20% of the cost of our water and sewerage bills. In the last 10 years, YW's corporate shareholders received £1.2 billion in dividends. The payment of these dividends has massively reduced available money to fund much needed investment in infrastructure. As of 2022/23 YW carried a debt of £6.1 billion. At privatisation in 1989, there was no debt.

Save our Swale want to know how North Yorkshire Council intend to hold YW to account and ensure that profiting from pollution ends?

Callum McKeon, Assistant Director of **Page 6** Services, Registration, Bereavement,

Coroners Services provided the following response which was read out at the meeting:

The responsibility for management and regulation of river water quality and the performance of private water companies sits with the Environment Agency and Ofwat. Whilst we do not have direct responsibility for the regulation of river water or water companies North Yorkshire Council will always take a proactive approach in seeking to address issues relating to the quality of our natural environment and a good example of this is the task force which NYC pulled together to discuss the poor water quality in Scarborough South Bay. NYC will continue to work closely with key partners such as the Environment Agency and as the concerns regarding investment and ensuring water quality fall directly within their remit we will ensure that the issues that have been raised by Save our Swale will be passed through to them for their consideration and further comment.

Mr Richard Lewis of Low Row submitted the following public question/statement:-

#### Concerns relating to the BT Digital Phone line roll out in Upper Dales Areas

My name is Rik Lewis and I am a resident in the village of Low Row, Upper Swaledale. I have been involved in the area as a past Parish Councillor, and I am currently one of the area leads for the Melbecks Civil Emergency plan and volunteer group. As a resident, and also as a spokesperson for the area, I can say we have great concerns in relation to the BT/Openreach Digital Changeover. We realise that the Digital rollout is coming, and we fully understand the practical and financial reasons that BT wishes to pursue it. We also realise that we cannot stop it.

However, we feel, both as residents and as the Melbecks Civil Emergency Group amongst others, that the Upper Yorkshire Dales are being adversely affected by the rollout. This is due to a lack of suitable information from BT/Openreach, their understanding of the topography of the dales, the situation relating to mobile phone coverage in the area, and general guidance and lack of practical support from them.

Those who know the areas of the upper dales will know that many residents live in remote locations, and access to a reliable form of instant communication is as basic an essential requirement today as electricity and water. The area has an above average population of people in the upper age brackets, and the issues of health, isolation and rural loneliness play an increasing problem in everyday life. Properties can be hard to find and hard to reach, and they are easily cut off in adverse weather.

The telephone plays a critical part in maintaining everyday life and protecting our vulnerable people. The upper dales are not towns and cities, where help can be obtained simply by knocking on a neighbour's door if the phone lines are down. For example, my nearest neighbour is a quarter of a mile away and is an extremely vulnerable person. Currently, BT/Openreach tell us that when the digital system fails, just use your mobile phone.

Many people in the upper dales don't even possess mobile phones, and many of those that do, do little else than make a simple phone call if they can find a mobile coverage spot. So, when the digital network goes down, mobiles are certainly not 'Smart' phones to many people in the upper dales area. Age, vulnerability and remoteness should not exclude people from being able to utilise and benefit from digital technology, simply because BT/Openreach are not doing enough to support and equip rural and remote areas.

So, what's the difference between a phone connected to the current 'copper wired' system and the new digital phone network?

Quite simply, in the event of a power cut the digital network phones stop working immediately. The old copper wired or 'hard wired' phones carry on working. This is because a digital phone operates in conjunction with your wireless router, and as soon as power to the router is lost, your internet and phone connection go with it.

So, imagine this; Currently, if power is lost people can call neighbours and friends to find out if this is a local issue and to gain help or offer assistance. This is simply because the power supply to the phone network is largely independent of the main electricity networks; People can also contact their power company to report a failure, or gain information as to how long a power outage is likely to last; and vitally, the Emergency Volunteer Group has time to activate the civil emergency plan. Medical emergency devices such as lanyards continue to work, and we can easily check on our vulnerable people.

If the digital phone network goes down due to a power outage, none of what I've just said is immediately possible. People are in the dark. They are confused as they have no idea if what has happened is just at their property, whether the situation is widespread, or how to obtain information or help. No one has any idea how long the situation will last for.

During Storm Arwen, many parts of the upper dales were without power for a week in deep snow, ice and the most bitter of weather conditions. No heating, or cooking facilities, no lighting, no water, and in some cases no sewerage facilities. Without significant input from BT/Openreach to ensure basic communication lines, this situation could be even worse in the future.

BT/Openreach tell us that this situation is not critical at all, as it will not affect mobile phones or mobile signal, and for most areas of the country they are correct, but not in the dales. In many dales areas mobile phone signal does not exist, or is at the least, sporadic and may rely on batteries or generator back-ups at a mobile phone mast to continue operation for a short period. As I have already stated, many of our elderly or vulnerable residents do not possess mobile phones, or if they do there is no mobile coverage in many areas, or it is erratic to say the least. Many people still do not understand the technology. Many people do not know how they can be helped.

Our Emergency Volunteer Group now have 2-way radios and satellite hubs for use in the field (our thanks to Cllr Peacock & Callum McKeon for this) which can be utilised in the event of emergency. But if power is suddenly lost, they will not know that an emergency has been declared until some time had passed, and the Community Emergency plan kicks in by its defaults. Many of the properties in the dales are holiday homes, and visitors to the area will have no knowledge of how to contact anyone, or where to seek help or assistance.

BT/Openreach say help is available to vulnerable and at-risk residents but this is only partially accurate. They say that UPS back-up systems are available to at risk groups, but they have made this a 'chicken and egg' situation. For information, a UPS (Uninterruptable Power Source or Battery Back-Up System), (which incidentally are not expensive) immediately restore power to the digital router at times of a power cut and therefore telephone and internet facilities will continue to work for an additional period of time. This can be for between 1 and 24hrs. Long enough to get help or assistance.

In a recent call to BT/Openreach Technical, (which was the only department I could get through to), the conversation went like this; I asked about getting the UPS backup. "No problem," came the reply, "When the power goes off, call us and if you are at risk or vulnerable, we'll get a UPS out to you". "How can I call you when my digital phone won't work?" "Simple, call us on your mobile!" "But I don't get a mobile signal where I live" "Hmm, well in that case we can't help you" was the reply.

This is simply not good enough. BT/Openreach have a duty to help protect their vulnerable and at-risk customers. The information they give out in their public emails is either too small in print to read, so far down the paraphernalia to reach that most people don't ever see it, or so technical in its format that people just don't understand it. Even if you are able to comprehend what is available, it is nearly impossible to discuss it with anyone at BT/Openreach Customer Services or management during normal times, let alone in an emergency situation.



## What do we as rural and isolated communities need??

We need our councillors to liaise with BT/Openreach in order to bring about a practical and technical resolution for residents in the upper Yorkshire Dales areas. We need BT representatives to come to the area and explain to people how the system works and how they can be helped. We need UPS battery backup systems for all of our Emergency Volunteers and our vulnerable and at-risk persons BEFORE they are changed over to the digital system, not after.

Upper dales residents general safety, welfare, and potentially their lives are at risk here, and we need urgent clarification and assistance on these matters as soon as possible. We also need local representation at these meetings as well. We urge Council to pursue this as a matter of urgency, and I thank Council for taking the time to listen to these important issues.

Cath Ritchie, Business Relationship Manager, Transformation provided the following response which was read out at the meeting:-

### Background

BT has taken the decision to retire its Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) by December 2025 and this means other providers that use BT's network must follow the same timescale. Other companies with their own networks such as Virgin Media plan to follow a similar timescale.

This means that in the future, landline calls will be delivered over digital technology called Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) which uses a broadband connection. The change will affect all devices that rely on a phone line. This includes critical equipment like telecare and fire alarms.

The migration is underway, and customers are being switched. The responsibility for communicating with residents is with the communications providers. There are many different communication providers, and they are required to work with people to keep them safe and there is an expectation that they have provision for people who could be made vulnerable by the switch. This can be anyone who is reliant on their landline, for example, telecare users, those without a mobile signal or without a mobile phone, those who are at risk of power cuts (as the new digital lines do not carry power).

This is an industry led process which is backed by the government but there has been no national guidance of communications to date. As the telecommunications sector regulator, OfCom, is responsible for ensuring that service providers meet their obligations to consumers. This includes ensuring that customers are not subject to 'undue disruption' and are protected from harm during the migration process. More information is available here [Moving landline phones to digital technology: what you need to know - Ofcom](#)

### PTSN Charter

Due to concerns raised about early migrations of customers, in December 2023, the PTSN Charter was agreed. The Public Switched Telephone Network charter sets out a voluntary agreement between the government and communication providers to protect vulnerable people when they are moved onto digital services.

For the vast majority of consumers, this change will cause little if any disruption. However, for some, particularly those more vulnerable and with additional needs, sufficient support needs to be in place to support their migration. This charter sets out further steps which industry will take to protect vulnerable consumers through the transition. [Public Switched Telephone Network charter - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) This was updated in February 2024.

The Communications Providers that have signed up have committed to the following:

1. We will **not undertake any non-voluntary migrations** to digital landlines, until we have full confidence that we are taking all possible steps to protect vulnerable people through the migration process.
2. **No telecare users will be migrated to digital landline services without us**, the customer, or the telecare company confirming that they have **a compatible and functioning telecare solution in place**.
3. Where battery back-up solutions are provided, we will **work to provide solutions that go beyond the Ofcom minimum of 1 hour of continued, uninterrupted access to emergency services** in the event of a power outage.
4. We will collectively work with Ofcom and Government to create a **shared definition of 'vulnerable' customer groups that require greater support**, specific to the digital landline migration.
5. **We will conduct additional checks on customers who have already been non-voluntarily migrated to ensure they do not have telecare devices we were unaware of**, and if they do, ensure suitable support is provided.

List of signatories to date

- BT
- Virgin Media O2
- Sky
- TalkTalk
- Vodafone
- Shell Energy
- KCOM
- Zen Interne

#### North Yorkshire Council

North Yorkshire Council are working to manage their own switch impact including our in house and commissioned telecare services. NYC also understand that the switch is causing anxiety and confusion for people and that there is no national communications on this to date. Therefore, NYC will be communicating the key messages out to residents starting April 2024.

Key messages

- Services that rely on an old landline system such as home phones and healthcare devices will be switched to upgraded digital landline services as part of a national switchover led by the UK Telecomms industry. This includes:
  - Home phone landlines
  - Amplified phones (for those with hearing loss)
  - Personal telecare products
  - Fall and motion detectors
  - Portable healthcare devices such as ECG or oxygen monitors
- Your telephone provider will contact you to give you a switchover date and should work with you to make sure your service isn't affected. Please read the letter when it comes and contact them if you have any questions or concerns.
- If you have a telecare safety device, or know someone who depends on their landline and/or use a telecare device connected to a phone line such as fall monitor, lifeline or personal alarm, please contact the provider of the service to find out how this device will be affected.
- The digital switchover is free of charge and you should not be asked for your bank details, be aware of scams and if unsure contact your provider directly.
- If you have any concerns or have no other way of making emergency calls, contact

your telephone provider directly (Virgin, BT, Sky, Talk Talk etc)

The ORBTA, the Richmond Business and Tourism Association submitted the following public question/statement:-

I am approaching the Richmond Area Constituency Committee on behalf of ORBTA, the Richmond Business and Tourism Association, which represents around 90 businesses in the Richmond area. Last September, I contacted Cllr Parsons about issues relating to business deliveries and collections in Richmond Market Place, and I am grateful to him for following up, but there seems to have been little further action taken and so I am now sharing this with the Area Committee in the hope that you will be able to press for some action.

#### The problem

There is no delivery bay for the central island of the Market Place but there is a long taxi rank which covers two of the four sides of the central island and is significantly underused.

The need for deliveries and collections has increased significantly in the last couple of years, as Johnsons Dry Cleaners is a delivery and collection point for DPD, UPS and DX, but also Day Lewis Pharmacy has moved into this part of the Market Place with several deliveries as days. This is addition to the needs of the other businesses with further deliveries from DHL, Royal Mail and Parcelforce.

Some delivery vans have tried to use the taxi rank for drop-off or collection but have been ticketed for so doing, including one delivering dangerous chemicals to the Dry Cleaners. The nearest loading bay is on the other side of the Market Place. This means that the deliveries and collections have to be dragged across the cobbles and take far longer than they need to. With chemicals there is also a Health and Safety issue.

In practice some drivers are double parking, rather than collect a ticket for parking in the taxi rank. This causes congestion.

Disabled customers also have a problem accessing the chemists and sometimes park in the taxi rank, risking a ticket, or double park, as there is only one disabled space in this part of the Market Place.

#### The solution

Change the taxi rank spaces at the bottom of the island into a loading bay, or a loading bay and a joint loading bay/time limited disabled parking space.

The cost would be minimal but the benefits significant.

I am sure you don't need to be told that businesses are facing significant pressures at the moment and this is a further stress that can easily be avoided. One of the weaknesses in our economy is poor productivity. Having to spend 25 minutes on a task that could only take 4-5 minutes is a classic example of poor productivity, and making this small change would be both cost effective and demonstrate that the Council is both listening to and supporting businesses rather than creating barriers.

There are other issues related to parking, and, in the longer term ORBTA would like the Council to conduct a review, but this is an immediate issue with a simple solution.

I hope that you will show support in this matter.

Barrie Mason, Assistant Director – Highways and Transportation, Parking Services, Street Scene, Parks and Grounds provided the following response which was read out at the

meeting:-

There are approximately 11 disabled parking bays and seven loading bays currently within the market place and whilst it is acknowledged that none of these are directly outside the dry cleaners or pharmacy, there is a stretch of double yellow line approximately 35m to the west where those with a blue badge are permitted to park for three hours providing they are not causing an obstruction and delivery vehicles can stop to load/unload. Taking all of this into account officers consider that the needs of loading and blue badge holders are relatively well served.

## **77 Updates from the Previous Meeting**

The Democratic Services Officer provided an update on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project advising that on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024, the Secretary of State for Transport approved the Development Consent Order (DCO) for the project.

There is now a six-week period in which parties can lodge an intention to legally challenge the DCO decision, via the Planning Inspectorate.

The Committee were advised that there is no update available on progress in relation to the assessments being carried out into the viability of the suggested projects for the Economic, Regeneration, Tourism and Transport Project Development Fund.

## **78 Development of the Catterick Integrated Care Campus**

Considered – A verbal update from the Deputy Place Director, North Yorkshire for the NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board on the latest position on the Catterick Integrated Care Campus which covered the following main points:

- The vision of the project, being to deliver a purpose-built, state-of-the-art, health and wellbeing campus which provides high-quality, safe and sustainable primary and community care for the population of Catterick and the surrounding area.
- The groundworks are now complete. Phase two commenced in January 2024.
- Stakeholder and community engagement events are planned for Summer 2024.
- The build is due to be completed in 2026.
- The scope of services that will be provided at the facility.
- The benefits of an integrated model on the population, workforce and systems.
- The four purposes of an integrated care system:
  - improve outcomes in health and healthcare
  - tackle inequalities in outcome, experience and access
  - enhance productivity and value for money
  - help the NHS support broader social and economic development
- A video walk through is available for anyone that would like to view it.

In the subsequent discussion, the following questions and points were raised:

- Has there been any change in relation to the dentistry provision? Will there be civilian dentistry on the site?  
There will be a significant number of MOD dental chairs at the facility to ensure that deployment needs can be met. A dentistry needs assessment is being carried out which will include the requirements of Catterick Garrison. The position in relation to NHS Dentistry is very complex across the whole country. At the current time there is no NHS dentistry incorporated within the facility, but conversations are still continuing around its inclusion.

## **Resolved –**

The Chairman thanked Lisa for the presentation

## **79 Appointments to Outside Bodies**

Considered – A report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) which invited the committee to appoint the Council's representative to the Richmond School Trust.

### **Resolved -**

That Councillor Stuart Parsons be appointed as the Council's representative on the Richmond School Trust and to serve until a replacement is appointed.

## **80 Annual Schools Educational Achievement & Finance Report - Report for Information Only**

Considered – A report which informed the Committee of the local educational landscape, educational achievement and the financial challenges which affect schools in the Richmond (Yorks) constituency committee area.

The report included details of:

- The number of schools across the area and their status;
- School standards and attainment;
- Suspension incidents and exclusions;
- Special educational needs and disabilities;
- Elective home education;
- School Finance; and
- Local school place planning issues.

During debate Members discussed:

- The provisional key stage 4 data, specifically the Attainment 8 score, which measures achievement of a pupil across eight qualifications. The score for pupils across the constituency area has been consistently below both the North Yorkshire and national average for a number of years. Clarification on what steps were being taken to address the situation was requested.
- The issue of school funding and budget management.
- The marked increase in suspensions and in particular the significant increase in 2022/23 with clarification sought on the reasons behind the increase and the measures being taken to bring about a reduction in the numbers. Separate figures showing the length of suspensions was also requested.

### **Resolved –**

That the report be deferred for consideration at a future meeting.

## **81 Draft Work Programme 2024-25**

Considered – A report presenting the committee's draft work programme for the municipal year 2024-25.

The Chair, Councillor Yvonne Peacock introduced the work programme and asked that Members review the committee's draft work programme, taking into account the outcome of discussions on previous agenda items and any other developments taking place across the area.

Members suggested the following items for the work programme:

- An update from Richmondshire Leisure Trust
- A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding

**Resolved –**

That the work programme be noted, and the agreed additions explored for inclusion on the work programme.

**82 Any Other Items**

There were no other items of business.

The meeting concluded at 11.25 am.

## North Yorkshire Council

### Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee

17<sup>th</sup> June 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 Richmond constituency committee area.

#### 1.2 Richmond AC education achievements report deferred.

In March the Richmond Area Committee deferred the Schools, Educational Achievement and Finance report until their next meeting in June. This followed concern by Members of the Area Committee on aspects of the report on Key Stage 4 standards and on exclusions in schools in the Richmond (Yorks) AC area.

*Standards:* The Committee asked to be provided with additional information relating to the Attainment 8 scores for schools and academies within the Richmond Area Constituency and for clarification on the steps that are being taken to close the gap with North Yorkshire and national figures.

*Suspensions:* The Committee asked to be provided for further information on the increase in suspensions in 2022/23 in the constituency. Clarification was sought on whether the same children were being repeatedly suspended; on the length of their suspensions; and on the measures being taken.

Two Appendices have now been added to the Schools Educational Achievements and Finance Report (the Report is based on data from 31<sup>st</sup> August) addressing these further details requested by the Committee.

#### 2.0 LOCAL EDUCATIONAL LANDSCAPE

2.1 There are now 19 primary academies and 4 secondary academies within the Richmond (Yorks) constituency area. The academy conversion rate for primary schools is lower within the constituency area when compared to the county as a whole (30.6% compared to 39.1% in North Yorkshire.) The academy conversion rate for secondary schools is similar to the whole county (57.1% compared to 67.4% in North Yorkshire).

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

	Schools in North Yorkshire		Schools in Richmond ACC	
Primary Maintained	181	60.9%	43	69.4%
Primary Academy & Free School	116	39.1%	19	30.6%
Total	297		62	
Secondary Maintained	14	32.6%	3	42.9%
Secondary Academy	29	67.4%	4	57.1%
Total	43		7	
Special Maintained	6	60%	2	100%

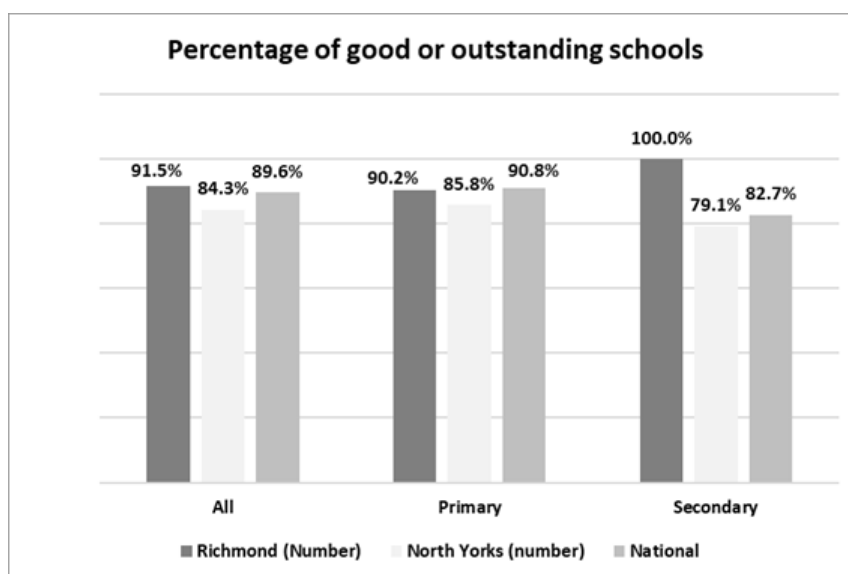
Special Academy	4	40%	0	0%
Total	10		2	
PRU Maintained	4	80%	1	100%
PRU Academy	1	20%	0	0%
Total	5		1	
Total maintained	205	57.7%	49	68.1%
Total Academy	150	42.3%	23	31.9%
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>355</b>		<b>72</b>	

### 3.0 SCHOOL STANDARDS

#### 3.1 School Ofsted judgements

In the constituency area, as of January 2024, 90.2% of primary schools were judged Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, which is above the North Yorkshire rate and similar to the national rates. In terms of secondary schools, 100% were judged Good or Outstanding this is higher than the North Yorkshire and national averages. Overall there are four schools judged 'requires improvement', two are '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, The Dales Special School was graded as 'Good' and Mowbray Special School was graded as 'Good'. Hambleton and Richmondshire Pupil Referral Service (AP) was graded as 'Good' at its most recent Ofsted Alternative Provision inspection.



In 2023, 97% (33 of 34) 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.

#### 3.2 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.

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

In 2023, 71.2% 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 this reflects a higher proportion than national.

<b>Early Years Foundation Stage Profile – percentage achieving a good level of development</b>			
	<b>Richmond</b>	<b>North Yorks</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	73.00%	72.50%	71.60%
<b>2019</b>	73.30%	72.80%	71.80%
<b>2022</b>	70.40%	68.30%	65.20%
<b>2023</b>	71.20%	79.30%	67.20%

### 3.4 Key Stage 2

In 2023, 53.1% 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 lower than the national average. 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>Richmond</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	60.50%	62.10%	64.40%
<b>2019</b>	60.30%	63.40%	64.90%
<b>2022</b>	52.20%	56.60%	58.70%
<b>2023</b>	53.10%	56.10%	59.60%

### 3.5 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 42.8 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>Richmond</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	45.1	48.5	48.5
<b>2019</b>	44.8	48.7	48.7
<b>2022</b>	48.1	50.3	48.8
<b>2023</b>	42.8	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 and national average in 2023. A comparison of the Progress 8 scores for schools within the Richmond constituency area against county-wide is shown below.

<b>KS4 – Average Progress 8 Score</b>			
	<b>Richmond</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	-0.02	0.13	-0.02
<b>2019</b>	-0.11	0.10	-0.03
<b>2022</b>	-0.09	0.03	-0.03
<b>2023</b>	-0.09	0.01	-0.03

The percentage achieving a grade 5 or above (grading is 9-1) in English and Maths (Basics measure) was 39.1% 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>Richmond</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>2018</b>	40.6%	48.0%	43.3%
<b>2019</b>	38.0%	47.4%	43.2%
<b>2022</b>	47.9%	53.8%	49.8%
<b>2023</b>	39.1%	45.7%	45.0%

### 3.6 Not in education, employment or training

There were 924 young people recorded in Year 11 living in this constituency in May 2023 and of this cohort only 14 (1.5%) 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. 532 of these children were on roll of mainstream schools in the Richmond constituency area.

In 2021/22, there were 5197 suspensions for a total of 2046 individual children, 363 of these children were on roll of mainstream schools in the Richmond constituency area.

<b>Suspension Incidents</b>						
	<b>Pupils suspended</b>		<b>Total Suspensions</b>			
<b>Academic year</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>Richmond (mainstream)</b>	<b>North Yorkshire</b>	<b>Richmond (mainstream)</b>	<b>Percentage of North Yorkshire total (incidents)</b>	<b>Most common reason (Richmond)</b>
<b>2018/19</b>	2149	314	5970	824	13.80%	Persistent disruptive behaviour (53.4%)
<b>2019/20</b>	1578	250	4365	674	15.44%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (43.0%)
<b>2020/21</b>	1578	276	3553	588	16.55%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (32.0%)
<b>2021/22</b>	2046	363	5197	897	17.26%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (40%)
<b>2022/23</b>	2753	532	7639	1559	20%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour (55.8%)

In 2022/23, schools in the constituency area had a 16% share of the total schools' population in North Yorkshire and had a 20% 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, 23 of which were for children in Richmond mainstream schools. In the same period of 2021/22, there were 55 permanent exclusions, 13 of which were from the Richmond area.

Academic year	Richmond	North Yorkshire	Percentage of North Yorkshire total
2018/19	15	87	17%
2019/20	15	51	29.4%
2020/21	3	26	11.5%
2021/22	13	55	23.6%
2022/23	23	96	24%

## 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

794 in constituency children with a North Yorkshire funded EHC plan (January 2024) 16.5% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs are:

- Autism (45%)
- Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH, 17%)
- Moderate Learning Disabilities (MLD, 12%)

1827 in constituency with SEN Support in North Yorkshire schools, 2023 School Census (January) 17.9% of the North Yorkshire total. The most common needs are:

- Speech, Language and Communication (SLCN, 20%)
- Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH, 18%)
- 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. 251 (19.7%) were for children or young people living in the constituency in 2023, a circa. 28% increase on the 196 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, 111 of which were formerly from a

mainstream school in Richmond ACC. At the same point last year, there were 813 children EHE in North Yorkshire, 104 formerly from a mainstream school in Richmond constituency area. This represents a 7% increase in Richmond.

In the 2022/23 academic year, 482 children became EHE in North Yorkshire, 68 of which were formerly educated in a mainstream school in the Richmond constituency area. This figure in the previous academic year (2021/22) was 60 from Richmond 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>	<i><b>-£2,281k</b></i>

(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>  163 schools	<b>Secondary</b>  14 schools	<b>Special</b>  6 schools	<b>Pupil Referral Unit</b> 4 schools	<b>Total</b>  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 – Richmond

<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
<p>35 schools projecting to be in budget surplus as at 31 March 2023            4 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2023; 10% of schools in Richmond            (1 primary, 2 secondary, 1 special)</p> <p>Projected average primary surplus = £114k            Projected average secondary surplus = £204k            Projected average special surplus = £1,084k            Projected average PRU surplus = £297k</p> <p>Projected average primary deficit = -£58k            Projected average secondary deficit = -£785k            Projected average special deficit = -£394k            Projected average PRU deficit = N/A</p> <p>(Data Source – 2023/24 Revised Budgets)</p>	<p>34 schools projecting to be in budget surplus as at 31 March 2024            5 schools projecting to be in deficit by March 2024; 13% of schools in Richmond            (2 primary, 2 secondary, 1 special)</p> <p>Projected average primary surplus = £102k            Projected average secondary surplus = £297k            Projected average special surplus = £1,005k            Projected average PRU surplus = £209k</p> <p>Projected average primary deficit = -£63k            Projected average secondary deficit = -£863k            Projected average special deficit = -£194k            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 but none within the constituency area.

## 8.2 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

- 8.3 The Council is carefully monitoring pupil numbers across the Richmond constituency area, which is one of some growth in urban areas, such as Catterick and Northallerton, contrasting with declining numbers in rural locations, such as Swaledale and Wensleydale. Economic reasons for this include the availability of housing and employment factors.

A falling birth rate combined with changing demographics exacerbates the already challenging nature of school funding particularly for village schools and several rural schools are facing financial challenges associated with low numbers on roll.

In terms of projected growth in the constituency's Local Plans, most of the housing in the Richmondshire Local Plan has been allocated to Catterick Garrison, while Northallerton is the 'principal development area' in the Hambleton Local Plan.

The key points to note within LA planning areas across the constituency area are:

- 8.4 Northallerton Area – The existing primary schools are concentrated in south Northallerton, while north Northallerton is the strategic site for development in Hambleton's Local Plan. A new one form entry (210) places primary school is currently being built in north Northallerton. Oakbridge Church of England Primary School is due to open in September 2024, under a phased opening plan.

The town's two secondary schools amalgamated and moved onto a single larger site. The Department for Education have agreed in principle to build a new Special School for children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs on the former Northallerton College site.

- 8.5 *Swaledale Area* - A falling birth rate, the availability of housing and employment factors have all caused the fall in numbers in Swaledale's schools and the demographic trend in Swaledale's rural areas led to the closure of Arkengarthdale Primary School. However, popular schools such as Middleton Tyas and St Francis Xavier primary and secondary schools have relatively high numbers on roll and the proposed housing development on Gatherley Road will have an impact on Brompton on Swale Primary School.

- 8.6 *Stokesley Area* – The appended figures illustrate how, despite housing developments for Stokesley in the Hambleton Local Plan, both the primary and secondary school are forecast to have surplus spaces and the housing is not forecast to generate a shortfall in either school. The closure of two schools sitting along the corridor running from Stokesley to

Osmotherley has eroded some of the surplus spaces in the remaining primary schools along the corridor. However, despite the consequent enlargement of catchment areas, there are still surplus places in those remaining primary schools sitting along the Stokesley corridor.

- 8.7 *Catterick Area* – Catterick Garrison is the main area of projected housing growth in the Richmondshire Local Plan. Over 300 service family houses have received planning approval and the Richmondshire Local Plan proposes significant open market housing, making the provision of school places a key issue. However, the government’s integrated review of defence and foreign policy cancelled ‘STRIKE’, with its proposed significant net gain in MoD personnel, and led to the proposed army reorganisation revealed in ‘Future Soldier’. The current assessment is that no additional school place capacity is likely to be required in the period of the ‘Future Soldier’ reorganisation programme, but this will be kept under review.

School organisation processes have been followed to amalgamate Catterick Garrison, Wavell Community Infant School and Wavell Community Junior School resulting in the technical closure of Wavell Community Junior School as a separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of Catterick Garrison, Wavell Community Infant School. The single school (to be known as Wavell Community Primary School), will open from 8 April 2024.

- 8.8 *Wensleydale Area* – This area of the Richmond constituency is characterised by schools serving sparsely populated - and even super-sparsely populated - very extensive areas. The catchment area for Wensleydale School and Sixth Form covers an area which in a city would be populated by perhaps c.80 schools yet has half the pupils of a single urban secondary. Wensleydale’s geography, combined with its low pupil numbers, has led to financial and organisational challenges for these schools affected. Wensleydale School and Sixth Form has suspended its sixth form provision.

- 8.9 *Bedale Area* – Bedale High School’s surplus spaces can absorb the anticipated secondary pupil yield from housing in Hambleton’s Local Plan. Additional classrooms constructed at Bedale Primary, through a combination of basic need funding and Section 106 developer contributions, mean the primary school can also respond to Local Plan housing.

## 9.0 RECOMMENDATION

- |  |
|--|
| 9.1 That Members note the report on educational factors in the Richmond constituency area. |
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### LIST OF APPENDICES:

- Appendix 1 – School Place Planning data
- Appendix 2 – KS4 standards (Attainment 8)
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## Appendix 1 - School Place Planning data

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

School planning area	available as at 2023/ 2024	on Roll / 2020	on roll / 2024	s Capacity 23/ 2024	st pupils as at 28/ 2029	ed Pupils from rent housing missions until 2028/2029	st Surplus ity 2028/29
*School located in a neighbouring constituency area							
<b>PRIMARY</b>							
<b>Bedale</b> • Bedale CE	420	349	313	107	302	56	62
<b>Bedale Outer Area</b> • Aiskew, Leeming Bar CE • Burneston CE (VA) • Crakehall CE Primary • Hackforth and Hornby CE • Hunton and Arrathorne CP • Leeming and Londonderry CP • Leeming RAF CP • Snape CP • St. Nicholas CE Primary, West Tanfield • Thornton Watlass CE	963	598	621	342	578	52	333
<b>Total</b>	<b>1383</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>395</b>

<b>Catterick Garrison</b> • Carnagill CP • Le Cateau CP • Wavell Community Infant • Wavell Community Junior • Cambrai Primary Academy	1401	1047	938	463	873	145	383
<b>Catterick Outer Area</b> • Bolton-on-Swale St Mary's CE • Colburn CP • Hipswell CE Primary • Michael Syddall CE (Aided)	818	724	641	177	558	62	198
<b>Total</b>	<b>2219</b>	<b>1771</b>	<b>1579</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>1431</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>581</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	Projected Pupils from current housing permissions until 2028/2029	Forecast/ Surplus capacity 2028/29
*School located in a neighbouring constituency area							
<b>Northallerton</b> • Alverton CP • Applegarth Primary • Broomfield School • Mill Hill CP	1347	1185	1247	100	1174	32	141

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romanby Primary</li> <li>• Sacred Heart RC</li> </ul>							
<b>Northallerton Outer Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ainderby Steeple CE</li> <li>• Appleton Wiske CP</li> <li>• Brompton CP</li> <li>• East Cowton CE</li> <li>• Great Smeaton Academy</li> <li>• Kirkby Fleetham CE</li> <li>• Osmotherley Primary</li> <li>• South Otterington CE *</li> </ul>	813	572	566	247	514	138	161
<b>Total</b>	<b>2160</b>	<b>1757</b>	<b>1813</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>1688</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>302</b>

<b>Stokesley Primary Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stokesley Primary</li> </ul>	399	223	222	177	231	54	114
<b>Stokesley Primary Outer Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilsdale Midcable Chop Gate CE</li> <li>• Carlton &amp; Faceby CE VA</li> <li>• Hutton Rudby</li> <li>• Ingleby Greenhow CE VA</li> <li>• Kirkby &amp; Great Broughton CE VA</li> <li>• Marwood CE VC Infant</li> <li>• Roseberry Academy</li> </ul>	835	698	699	136	678	25	132
<b>Total</b>	<b>1234</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>246</b>

<b>Thirsk Outer Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alanbrooke School*</li> <li>• Carlton Miniott Primary Academy*</li> <li>• Knayton CE Academy*</li> <li>• Sessay CE VC Primary*</li> <li>• South Kilvington CE Academy*</li> <li>• Topcliffe CE Academy*</li> <li>• Dishforth CE*</li> <li>• Pickhill CE</li> </ul>	912	829	813	99	781	47	84
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<b>School planning area</b>	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	Projected Pupils from current housing permissions until 2028/2029	Forecast/ Surplus capacity 2028/29
*School located in a neighbouring constituency area							
<b>Swaledale Primary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brompton-on-Swale CE Primary</li> <li>• Middleton Tyas CE</li> <li>• Richmond Methodist</li> <li>• St Mary's RC Primary</li> <li>• Trinity Academy Richmond</li> </ul>	1196	993	875	321	820	22	354
<b>Swaledale Primary Outer Area</b>	525	339	334	191	303	39	183

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barton CE Primary</li> <li>• Croft CE Primary</li> <li>• Eppleby Forcett CE</li> <li>• Gunnerside Methodist</li> <li>• Melsonby Methodist</li> <li>• North &amp; South Cowton CP</li> <li>• Ravensworth CE Primary</li> <li>• Reeth CP</li> </ul>							
<b>Total</b>	<b>1721</b>	<b>1332</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>1123</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>537</b>

<b>Wensleydale Primary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leyburn Primary</li> </ul>	210	195	168	42	139	41	30
<b>Wensleydale Primary Outer Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Askrigg VC Primary</li> <li>• Bainbridge CE Primary &amp; Nursery</li> <li>• Hawes Primary</li> <li>• Middleham CE</li> <li>• Spennithorne CE Primary</li> <li>• West Burton CE Primary</li> </ul>	480	252	252	228	231	40	209
<b>Total</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>239</b>

<b>School planning area</b>	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	Projected Pupils from current housing permissions until 2028/2029	Forecast/ Surplus capacity 2028/29
*School located in a neighbouring constituency area							
<b>SECONDARY</b>							
<b>Bedale</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedale High School</li> </ul>	935	479	573	362	590	68	277
<b>Catterick</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risedale School</li> </ul>	925	532	572	353	550	99	276
<b>Northallerton</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northallerton School &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> F</li> </ul>	1250	1165	1075	166	1191	89	-30
<b>Stokesley</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stokesley School</li> </ul>	1269	1117	1075	194	1085	41	143
<b>Swaledale</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Richmond School</li> <li>• St Francis Xavier School</li> </ul>	2210	1845	1851	359	1779	40	391
<b>Wensleydale</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Wensleydale School &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> Form</li> </ul>	492	365	360	132	374	42	76

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

## Appendix 2 – KS4 standards (Attainment 8)

### Introduction

The purpose of this appendix is to provide additional information relating to the Attainment 8 scores for schools and academies within the Richmond Area Constituency Committee and to set out the steps that are being taken to close the gap with North Yorkshire and national figures.

### Context

- There are seven secondary schools in the Richmond Area Constituency Committee. Of these, three are LA maintained schools and four are academies, part of two multi-academy trusts.
- In 2022/23, qualifications returned to pre-pandemic standards. Performance measures that are based on qualification results reflect this and cannot be directly compared to measures from 2021/2022.
- However, for analysis purposes, a direct comparison could be made with pre-pandemic rates of attainment, specifically the 2019 data.

### School level Attainment 8 data

Table 1

School	2019		2022	2023	Maintained or improved pre-pandemic A8 score
Richmond	44.8		48.1	42.8	No
NY	48.7		50.3	46.7	No
National	48.7		48.8	46.2	No
School A	47.1	PANDEMIC	53.9	47.8	Yes
School B	39.5		42.5	34.8	No
School C	59.5		63.1	59.7	Yes
School D	39.2		42.9	42.0	Yes
School E	51.0		47.3	40.1	No
School F	47.1		45.0	40.4	No
School G	51.6		56.7	51.8	Yes

- In 2023 the Attainment 8 score for Richmond was impacted by three schools.
- Whilst the Attainment 8 score for the Richmond Constituency Committee area remains below the national figure in 2023, the gap with national is closing compared with 2019.
- In 2019 the gap between the Richmond and national figure was -3.9 points compared to -3.4 points in 2023. The 0.5-point improvement is equivalent to half a GCSE grade or equivalent.
- Whilst the overall Attainment 8 score is below both the North Yorkshire and national figures in 2023, over half (57%) of the schools maintained or improved on, their 2019 pre-pandemic Attainment 8 score in 2023 (table 1).
- The Richmond, North Yorkshire and national figures are yet to recover the pre-pandemic levels of attainment.
- The rate of recovery in Richmond is in-line with the North Yorkshire rate and is slightly better than the rate of recovery nationally.

**Steps that are being taken to improve the Attainment 8 score for schools and academies within the Richmond ACC area.**

- Multi-academy trusts have responsibility for school improvement for their academies.
- The Local Authority has strategic oversight of school improvement to LA maintained schools and provides an offer of monitoring, challenge, and support through the work of its school improvement service.
- The school improvement offer to LA maintained schools is graduated according to need and includes an allocation of monitoring challenge and support visits from a named Senior Education Adviser, focused on the school's identified improvement priorities, as well as additional advice and support from specialist early years and safeguarding advisers.
- All schools and academies have access to a wide range of support from specialist hubs including Teaching Schools Hubs, English, maths computing hubs as well as local networks.



## Appendix 3 – Suspensions and Exclusions from School - Richmond

### Introduction

The purpose of this appendix is to provide additional information relating to suspensions from schools and academies within the Richmond Area Constituency Committee and to set out the steps that are being taken to close the gap with North Yorkshire and national figures.

### Children receiving multiple suspensions from school in a year.

		2021/22	2022/23
Richmond	3 or more - Primary school	6	16
	5 or more - Secondary school	56	109
North Yorkshire	3 or more - Primary school	54	98
	5 or more - Secondary school	299	443

- A total of 6 children received 3 or more suspensions from Richmond primary schools in the course of the 2021/22 academic year, rising to 16 in 2022/23 or 28% of all children who were suspended at least once during 2022/23.
- In Secondary schools 56 children received 5 or more suspensions from Richmond secondary schools in the course of the 2021/22 academic year, rising to 109 in 2022/23 or 23% of all children suspended.
- 50% of all suspensions received by children from Richmond primary schools in the 2022/23 academic year were received by 15 children or 25% of all children suspended.
- 50% of all suspensions received by children from Richmond secondary schools in 2022/23 were received by 87 children (724 of 1447 suspensions), or 18% of all children suspended at least once.
- In Richmond 10% of all suspensions were received by 12 children.
- The average length of a suspension in 2022/23 was 2 days from Richmond primary and secondary schools, this is very similar to the North Yorkshire average.
- The longest individual suspension was 28 days from a secondary school, recorded as being due to a physical assault against an adult.

### Permanent Exclusion from school in a year

During the last academic year (22/23) there were 96 permanent exclusions in North Yorkshire 23 of which were from schools within the Richmond area. Of these 19 were secondary and 4 were primary. Within this area the most reported reasons for exclusion are as a response to 'persistent or general disruptive behaviour' and 'physical assault against a pupil or adult'.

### Reason for increase

Nationally the exclusion and suspension rate has increased. The latest National data is for 2021/22 and was at 6.91% in comparison to 4.25% in 2020/21. The data for the full year 22/23 is not yet available but indications show this will rise again.

The decision to exclude is that of the head teacher. Schools report that the increase in use of suspension and exclusions relates to increased needs of children and young people alongside reduced capacity within schools to meet the challenging behaviour that results from the child or young person's needs safely. Preventative support from the SEND hub is available but is impacted

the requirement to meet the higher demand for 6<sup>th</sup> day provision for primary aged pupils that have been permanently excluded.

**Measures taken to reduce the use of suspension and exclusion.**

- SEMH Team offer support via the SEND hub pathways to those young people whose needs schools are finding it difficult to meet.
- Suspension and exclusion monitoring by the SEMH team to identify those young people who are repeatedly suspended and to offer advice, guidance and challenge to their home school to seek alternative support.
- Employment of a 0.5 Exclusion Officer to monitor, support and where appropriate challenge schools in their decision making relating to the use of suspension and permanent exclusion.

**Top 3 reasons for suspensions 2022/23**

		Primary schools			Secondary Schools		
North Yorkshire	Reason (Top 3)	% of total	% change from 2021/22	Reason (Top 3)	% of total	% change from 2021/22	
		Physical assault against an adult	41.0%	+55%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour	51.7%	+54%
		Persistent or general disruptive behaviour	25.1%	+123%	Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult	18.9%	+52%
		Physical assault against a Pupil	16.3%	+75%	Physical assault against a Pupil	10.7%	+20%
Richmond	Reason (Top 3)	% of total	% change from 2021/22	Reason (Top 3)	% of total	% change from 2021/22	
		Physical assault against an adult	38.6%	+132%	Persistent or general disruptive behaviour	57.6%	+98%
		Persistent or general disruptive behaviour	32.5%	+61%	Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult	16.6%	+67%
		Physical assault against a Pupil	16.7%	+58%	Physical assault against a Pupil	9.9%	+27%

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## North Yorkshire Council

### Richmond Area Constituency Committee

17 June 2024

### Stronger Communities Update 2023/24

#### Report of the Assistant Chief Executive - Local Engagement

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the Stronger Communities Programme and an overview of progress made in the Richmond Constituency area in 2023/24.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Over the last year, the Stronger Communities Team have continued to build on the successful Covid-19 Community Support Organisation (CSO) infrastructure through the development of the Community Anchor model, in order to further support the health, wellbeing and prevention agenda, and wider community resilience in localities.
- 2.2 The programme has also increasingly resumed pre-pandemic projects and activities in 2023/24 and has continued to take a lead on a number of countywide programmes; this has included developing pilot Community Partnerships as one of the four Council building blocks for locality working, as well as a number of national initiatives working in partnership with others within the Council and externally.

#### 3.0 CORE STRONGER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME UPDATE

##### 3.1 Community Anchor Organisations (CAOs)

Twenty four place-based organisations from across the county have continued to work with Stronger Communities to progress a Community Anchor model for North Yorkshire: supporting the core aims of the Public Health funded Stronger Communities Programme which include:

- Prevention and reducing health inequalities
- Community resilience
- Social regeneration

Activity has largely focussed on the development and progression of organisational development action plans in 2023/24. A UK Shared Prosperity funded collaborative support programme for CAOs, delivered by Community First Yorkshire (CFY) and Better Connect has also been commissioned; this will be tailored to meet the needs of each organisation and will broadly include the development and delivery of resources and training, one to one support meetings, partnership events and networking opportunities.

For the nine localities where a suitable CAO has yet to be identified, development work continues to explore the potential for a locally rooted voluntary sector organisation to become a CAO, or to look at alternative models. Collaborative work with our key voluntary sector partners in our larger settlements of Harrogate and Scarborough to explore options for CAOs in an urban context also continues.

### 3.2 Inspire Grants

The Stronger Communities Programme has awarded £130,074 in Inspire grants supporting 137 groups and / or projects in 2023/24. This investment has allowed communities and small grass roots groups and organisations to develop locally based projects and activities, promoting social action, volunteering, and supporting health and wellbeing. A geographical breakdown of the grants awarded is outlined below.

District	No. of Grants	Total Value
Craven	3	£2,119
Hambleton	12	£11,550
Harrogate	21	£20,091
Richmondshire	16	£14,515
Ryedale	20	£19,502
Scarborough	48	£47,064
Selby	17	£15,233
Countywide	0	£0
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>£130,074</b>

### 3.3 Community Partnerships

In 2023/24, the team started to develop the ambition of supporting local partnership and multi-agency working through the establishment of local Community Partnerships, focussing on principal towns and surrounding areas, and reflecting natural communities. This is taking a phased approach, with the team working in five pilot areas: Easingwold, Leyburn and Middleham, Ripon, Sherburn in Elmet and Thornton-le-Dale and rural hinterland.

### 3.4 Capacity Building

The Stronger Communities Programme continues to strengthen local community assets and infrastructure; this has included encouraging relationships and collaborations between voluntary and community sector organisations as well as stabilising, and / or building capacity within them if required. The residual impact of the pandemic on income and capacity within the sector, together with concerns in relation to rising essential costs is resulting in concerns about their long-term viability and sustainability. Stronger Communities has continued to work with colleagues such as Community First Yorkshire, Two Ridings Community Foundation, The National Lottery and other partners to identify issues and concerns and develop joint responses.

## 4.0 BROADER STRONGER COMMUNITIES WORK

4.1 The Stronger Communities programme has been able to increasingly resume pre-pandemic work over the past twelve months, and also continues to lead on a number of large national programmes.

4.2 The range of activities the team have been leading on, or have contributed to, is broad and varied:

- Holiday Activities and Food Programme for free school meal eligible children (Department of Education funded)
- Household Support Fund - awards to low-income households (Department of Work and Pensions funded)
- Homes for Ukraine Programme (Home Office)
- Wellbeing and Prevention investment – Stay Healthy, Independent and Connected
- Digital Inclusion
- Cost of Living
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)
- Mental health programmes (NHS)

### 4.3 Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

Stronger Communities has continued to lead on the delivery of this programme, which was launched with the branding of FEAST (Food, Entertainment, Arts & Sport Together) in partnership with Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) and the voluntary and community sector. Coordination of the programme is undertaken by North Yorkshire Together who in conjunction with the Holiday Activities and Food Coordinator, colleagues in Stronger Communities, CYPS and Public Health, and a network of locally placed clubs and community organisations, deliver a range of enriching activities over holiday periods.

Focus in 2023/24 has been on developing and improving the reach in all areas of the county, building stronger relationships with schools, and encouraging additional providers to come on board in-order to support programme delivery. There has been a particular emphasis on understanding 'non-attendances' as well as looking at Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) provision uptake, and young people's engagement with the activities available. In line with the HAF food framework, NYC's Healthy Schools Programme Manager has collaborated with environmental health to develop guidelines for FEAST providers to follow, whilst ensuring that appropriate support is in place for providers to be able to implement them where needed. The HAF partnership team are also hoping to launch a Flying High SEND Kitemark in collaboration with the NYC Youth Voice and Creative Engagement Team in 2024/25.

### 4.4 Household Support Fund

A fourth phase of Household Support Fund was delivered in 2023/24. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) funded programme aimed to support those most in need with significantly rising living costs between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, with an allocation of £7,075,100.

In line with the expenditure guidelines and the agreed eligibility framework, c24,600 households across North Yorkshire received a direct award in the form of a shopping voucher

across two live windows (September 2023 and January 2024); with an average 95% redemption rate. This encompassed eligible families, pensioners and working age adult households, as well as those who missed out on other forms of national Cost of Living support. In addition to this, supplementary funding was awarded to North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund (NYLAF), the HSF Energy Support Scheme, Money and Benefits Advice Service, Care Leavers, and 18 free or low-cost food providers across the County. An HSF Exceptional Circumstances Fund was also delivered, to support those who may have missed out on support due to circumstances beyond their control. In total, 62,817 households in North Yorkshire received support through the fourth phase of HSF.

HSF will continue for a fifth phase between 1 April and 30 September 2024; work is now underway to develop the scheme, building on the learning from previous phases.

#### 4.5 North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund (NYLAF)

Stronger Communities continued to lead on the delivery of NYLAF in 2023/24, which provides practical support to those in need who are moving into or seeking to remain within the community. 13,302 applications were received by the North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund last year. 89% of these applications were approved. 41% of the 1,363 rejected applications in the year, were rejected due to maximum award entitlement being met by the applicant, a further 24% of rejections were due to items expiring and or vouchers not being redeemed by the applicant.

A total of £1,519,761.21 was spent in 2023/24, 42% of which was spent on emergency food and / or energy vouchers, and 58% on standard awards<sup>1</sup>. In keeping with previous years, the highest levels of demand are seen in Scarborough (40%), followed by Harrogate (22%), with lowest levels of demand in Richmondshire (5%).

#### 4.6 Food Insecurity

Following the 'Food Summit' in September 2023, a partnership and engagement event to launch the findings of the collaborative food insecurity insight work undertaken in conjunction with City of York Council, three online Community of Practice sessions have taken place, focussing on place based collaborative food access models, cash/income first approaches and more than food (wrap around support available for those accessing food provision). A number of dedicated key stakeholder conversations continue to take place in relation to this work, including with regional funders, and colleagues in Public Health's Healthier Lives, Community and Economy team who are looking to bring together a range of organisations in the food sector to establish a food system framework as they continue to develop the North Yorkshire Food Strategy.

#### 4.7 Broader Cost of Living Activity

In conjunction with internal and external partners and coordinated by Stronger Communities, the cost-of-living support page on the NYC website has been updated and reconfigured to provide as comprehensive a picture of support available as possible. This encompasses links to more local level sources of information, as well as detailing information on financial assistance, Warm Spaces, and support available for community and voluntary groups wishing to tackle cost of living challenges in their communities.

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<sup>1</sup> Standard awards include; clothing, whitegoods, furniture, and other household items which cost more to the Scheme overall compared to food / energy vouchers despite the emergency applications making up 80% of all applications received in 23/24. 2,137 standard awards received were for beds and bedding.



The programme has also supported the development of the NYC Cost of Living Communications Campaign for a second year utilising a variety of tools. This includes the development of a range of social media assets and an A5 leaflet that has been made available in hard copy and digitally, which will drive people to the updated cost of living page on the website, or to NYC's Customer Service Centre by telephone as an alternative.

#### 4.8 Homes for Ukraine Programme

The Stronger Communities team have continued to lead on Homes for Ukraine, and North Yorkshire's multi-agency approach to ensuring arrangements are in place for host families (sponsors) are approved (home and welfare checks) and procedures are in place to distribute the government funding for sponsors and guests. The approach also supports the many local groups who have set up across the county to help welcome and support the Ukrainian refugees with language lessons, social events, and peer support.

In total, since the start of the scheme, 1501 Ukrainian guests have moved to North Yorkshire and of those, 463 remain in sponsored accommodation at the end of 2023/34. In addition, 372 guests, who initially arrived in North Yorkshire, have either been rematched to another Local Authority area, are renting outside of the county, or have returned to Ukraine. Of the guests who have moved on from their sponsor, 604 individuals are now living in rental properties within North Yorkshire.

In 2023/24, many families moved into, or were offered social housing through Broadacres, funded by the Local Authority Housing Fund. The houses, of which there are 25 in total, are mainly new builds located in Scarborough, Boroughbridge, Ripon, Knaresborough and Harrogate. In addition to this, families are also able to apply for social housing through the standard process.

#### 4.9 UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

Stronger Communities has continued to take the lead role in the delivery of the Communities strand of the Council's UKSPF programme. An advisory group is in place made up of public and voluntary sector partners, who are overseeing the work being progressed on the year one and two allocations, as well as planning and development work taking place on year three allocations. In 2023/24, notable progress was made in the following areas:

- The Community Grants and Village Halls and Community Buildings Grants schemes were launched and continue to be delivered.
- The Physical Activity, Sport and Active Travel Fund delivered by North Yorkshire Sport on behalf of NYC was launched in autumn 2023.
- Development of the Digital Inclusion funding offer which became available in May 2024. This will be for organisations to access capital funding, development funding and training to build their capacity.

#### 4.10 Digital Inclusion

There is continued momentum on the strategic development of digital inclusion across North Yorkshire encompassing the three key strands of access, skills, and equipment.

In preparation for the Year 3 UKSPF funding, the stakeholder co-design phase which the team accessed funding for from the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care System

(ICS) was completed in 2023/24. This research and development will inform the coordination of the UKSPF Digital Inclusion investment programme in 2024/25 encompassing £200,000 capital infrastructure and £336,000 revenue for digital learning and skills. The ambition for the investment is to stimulate digital inclusion activity through learning, skills, resources, and volunteering, in a range of existing and new settings targeting digital and health inequalities.

*Reboot North Yorkshire* has continued to support digital inclusion with regular referrals into the scheme from a broad range of organisations, including from health partners, and NYC services. There has also been interest from several larger organisations who wish to donate their corporate devices to Reboot.

#### 4.11 Health & Wellbeing

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

The Stronger Communities team has continued to work with colleagues in Targeted Prevention (Health and Adult Services) to evolve the Stay Healthy, Independent and Connected Grants scheme which commenced on 1 April 2023.

## 5.0 **PROGRESS IN RICHMOND CONSTITUENCY AREA**

5.1 Eight placed based organisations have been identified in the constituency area to progress the Community Anchor organisation model, these are;

- Colburn Hub (Colburn)
- Hambleton Community Action (Northallerton)
- Hudson House (Reeth)
- Leyburn Arts (Leyburn & Middleham)
- Richmond CIC (Richmond)
- The Bridge (Catterick)
- Upper Dales Community Partnership (Hawes)
- Stokesley & District Community Care Association (Stokesley)

These organisations have actively focused on developing a range of characteristics and services that enable them to work with the council as system partners. In areas where a CAO has not been initially identified (for example Bedale), development work continues to explore the potential for a local voluntary sector organisation to become a CAO, or to look at alternative models.

5.2 Leyburn & Middleham was identified as one of the five pilot areas across North Yorkshire for the development of a Community Partnership. Stronger Communities have been in liaison with the local Elected Member and an emerging Steering Group of local stakeholders to

shape the initial stages of the Partnership development. Progress and evaluation of the various pilot schemes is ongoing.

5.3 Stronger Communities have continued to work with the community and voluntary sector to build their capacity and resilience, and to contribute to the wellbeing and social connectedness of residents across the area. Inspire Grants have contributed to this with some examples of organisations supported outlined below:

- Wensleydale Pickeball Club
- Richmond Business and Tourism Association
- British Gurkha Nepalese Community Catterick
- Northallerton Refugee Support Group
- St Mary's Church, Arkengarthdale
- Bedale & Villages Community Forum
- Leyburn Arts & Community Centre
- Northallerton Mens Shed
- Clervaux Trust
- Richmondshire Leisure Trust
- Hawes Quoits Club
- Reeth & District Community Transport
- Magar Association UK Catterick
- Catterick Breastfeeding and Babyweaning Support
- Creative Frame CIC - Stokesley
- Richmond MayFest
- Richmondshire Building Preservation Trust
- Hawes Youth Club

## **6.0 FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS - LOCALITIES RESTRUCTURE**

6.1 As part of the Council wider service restructures, the work to establish the new Localities Service structure has now completed. The new Localities Service went live on 1 May 2024 and is made up of three service teams:

- Communities (incorporating the work of the Stronger Communities Programme, voluntary and community sector funding, local partnerships, prevention, social regeneration and community resilience);
- Parish Liaison and Local Devolution (incorporating projects such as parish charter, parish liaison and engagement, service devolution pilots, community right to challenge and assets of community value); and
- Migrant Programmes (bringing together a number of existing refugee and asylum seeker programmes, Homes for Ukraine programme and other community-based support initiatives into a single team).

6.2 In addition, the programmes outlined in 4.2 above have been picked up by the new Localities Service teams and will continue to be delivered by the new service.

## **7.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

7.1 As this is an update report, no alternative options were considered.

## **8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 No financial implications to note.

## **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 No legal implications to note.

## **10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 No equalities implications to note.

## **11.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 No climate change implications to note.

## **12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

12.1 As part of annual reporting arrangements to Area Constituency Committees, Members are asked to review and note progress made by the Stronger Communities Programme in 2023/24. In light of structural changes outlined in Section 6.1, it is recommended that in future, an update on this programme of work is encompassed within a broader annual update on Localities service activity.

## **13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- i) It is recommended that Members note the content of this report, outlining progress of the Stronger Communities Programme in 2023/24.
- ii) That Members agree to an annual update on the activity of the Localities service.

*Rachel Joyce*  
Assistant Chief Executive – Local Engagement  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
7 June 2024

Marie-Ann Jackson – Head of Localities  
Lucy Moss-Blundell – Migrant Programmes Manager  
Adele Wilson-Hope – Communities Area Manager (East)  
Presenter of Report – *LUCY MOSS-BLUNDELL, MIGRANT PROGRAMMES MANAGER*

## North Yorkshire Council

### Richmond Area Constituency Committee

17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### Let's Talk Food – Survey Feedback

#### Report of the Corporate Director Health and Adult Services.

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is for information only. It is to present the feedback from the latest 'Let's Talk' campaign - 'Let's Talk Food'.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 North Yorkshire Council Public Health team are working with a range of service areas and wider organisations to develop a greater insight into the health and sustainability of our food system: from 'farm to fork'.
- 2.2 The attached presentation outlines the findings of the Let's Talk Food survey, which took place over 8 weeks, from February to April 2024. The survey is part of a wider conversation about food in North Yorkshire, and it was focused on two specific topics - resident experiences around accessing healthy food and food waste. These topics were chosen to help understand the behaviours and motivations of residents when it comes to food.

#### 3.0 DETAILED PRESENTATION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE

- 3.1 The attached presentation outlines the findings from the survey, both through quantitative survey responses and analysis of key themes from free text commentary. Findings are broken down by ACC area, gender, age and where able, response from those with disability or long-term limiting condition.

#### 4.0 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

- 4.1 The survey ran from 5<sup>th</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 with 2,053 respondents. A presentation is attached showing the key findings from the survey.

#### 5.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 5.1 The survey provides insight that helps our understanding of how we can support an accessible, affordable and sustainable food system in North Yorkshire. The work contributes to the council ambitions:

##### Economy

- Economically sustainable growth that enables people and places to prosper

##### Health

- People are supported to have a good quality of life and enjoy active and healthy lifestyles
- Reduced variations in health through tackling the root causes of inequality

People

- In times of hardship, support is provided to those that need it most

## **6.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

6.1 Not applicable, this is an information only item.

## **7.0 IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICES/ORGANISATIONS**

7.1 Not applicable

## **8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 Not applicable

## **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Not applicable

## **10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The survey was also conducted using easy read version and hard copies were provided in local offices and libraries and community venues. Further engagement work will include reaching wider community impact (i.e. lived experience).

## **11.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There is no requirement for a climate impact assessment at this stage. The work will contribute to the understanding of food waste behaviours.

## **12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

12.1 This report is for information only.

## **13.0 RECOMMENDATION**

i) Members note the Let's Talk Food survey feedback.

### **APPENDICES:**

Appendix A – Presentation outlining the key findings from the 'Let's Talk Food' survey

Richard Webb  
Corporate Director – Health and Adult Social Care  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
30<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Report Author – Angela Crossland, Head of Healthier, Lives, Community & Economy – Public Health

Presenter of Report – Angela Crossland  
Ruth Everson, Public Health Manager

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



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# Let's Talk Food Richmond ACC

## Feedback Session 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

# Let's Talk- campaign background

- Let's Talk North Yorkshire is our **biggest ever countywide conversation**
- It started back in September 2022 before vesting day with a programme of ongoing citizen engagement and consultation
- We are committed to listening to and engaging with our residents to hear their views on key strategic decisions and empowering them to have a say
- Surveys are hosted on Commonplace, a safe and easy-to-use online tool used by over 250 organisations including neighbouring councils
- **Paper surveys** and other accessible formats are available in **libraries, main offices and leisure centres**, at **events** and **on request**.



# Let's Talk- campaign background

- Let's Talk North Yorkshire has helped us to **reach into groups and communities** that we don't hear from, giving us a broader understanding of how residents feel about their local areas and their future priorities
- While we are the **largest council by geography** in England, we aspire to build 'local' into how services are designed and delivered
- The information provided via our Let's Talk engagement programme will be used to **inform** the council's **decisions, policies** and **services** moving forward

# Let's Talk- campaign background

From Sept 2022 to now, we have asked residents for their views on wide range of topics, including:

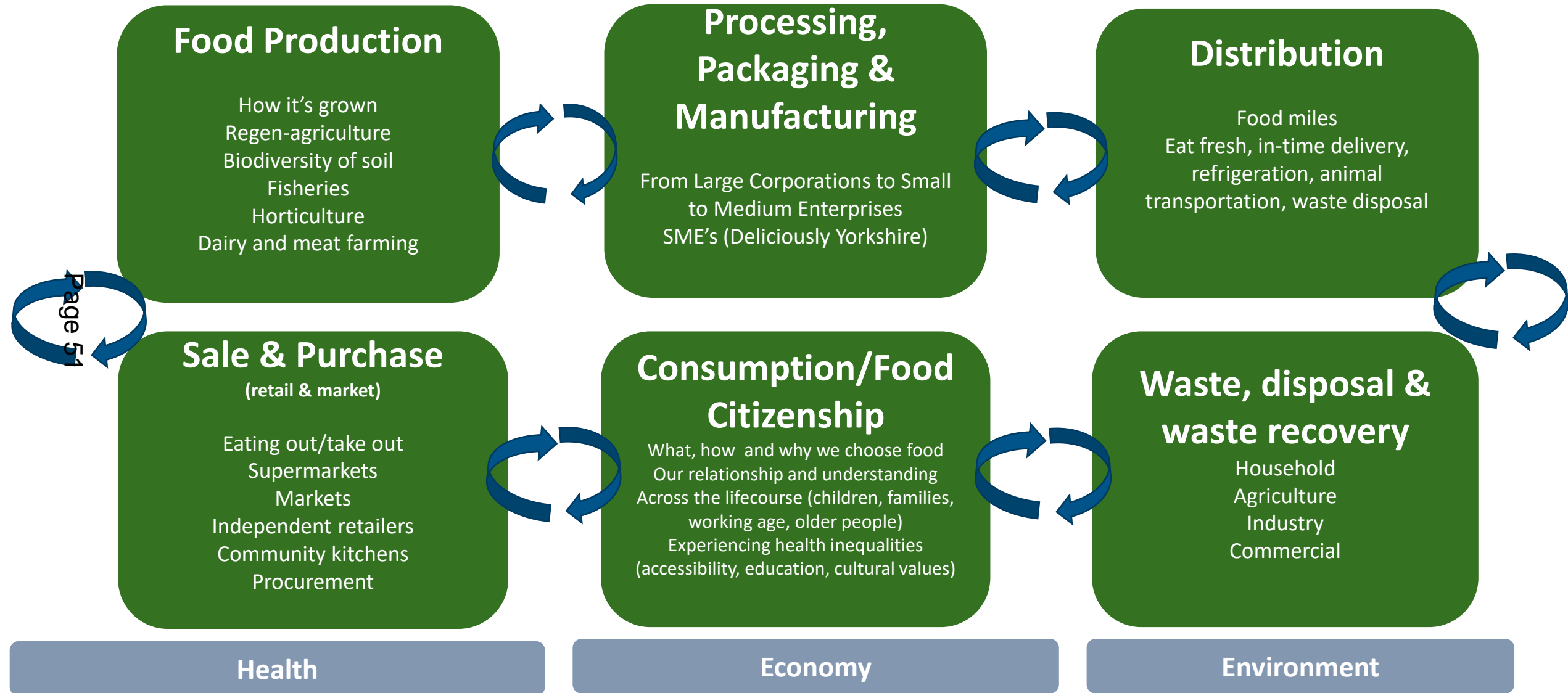
- Their local area
- Devolution for York and North Yorkshire
- The council plan and budget for 2023 to 2024
- Our climate change strategy
- Their experiences of transport in North Yorkshire
- The council plan and budget for 2024 to 2025
- Their experiences of accessing healthy food and food waste

A total of **18,430** surveys have been completed so far.

Reports on the above can be found at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/letstalkny](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/letstalkny)

# 'Food for the Future North Yorkshire' – a whole system approach

*Making sure everyone has nutritious, affordable and sustainable food in North Yorkshire, for North Yorkshire*



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# Our Place Shaping Role in the Food System

## Statutory functions



**Local plan** – food environment design and land use policies



**Contract and Procurement** practices – food buying standards; supply chains



**Nature recovery strategy** – supporting regenerative practices

## Convenors



**Trading Standards and Environmental Health** policy and regulations



**Children & Young People** – Healthy Start, Healthy Schools; free school meals, education



**Climate Change Strategy** – commitment to sustainable change

## Catalysts



**Economic development** – education & skills; Growth Strategy



**Public Health** – health protection population health, reducing inequalities



**Local Engagement** – enabling food citizens, stimulating action, advocacy



# Let's Talk Food Survey Summary

- North Yorks wide population survey ran from 5<sup>th</sup> Feb – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024
- **2,053 responses** to the Let's Talk Food Survey
- 259 responses from the Richmond ACC area

High level focus on having a **healthy, balanced diet**, the ease of **accessing healthy food**, and **food waste** behaviours

- Devised through COM-B Behavioural Science techniques and analysis of qualitative response using natural language processing
- Findings analysed by age, gender, disability/life limiting illness and Area Constituency location

# Let's Talk Food Survey Summary

- Some analysis is supported through wider national research to offer context and validity of responses (i.e. food foundation, public health profiles, WRAP)

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**One part of a wider engagement piece** for representatives from across the 'food system' (farm to fork). Focus Groups to be completed

- Caveats:
  - one part of a wider engagement piece
  - self-selected respondents
  - acknowledged under-representation

# Key findings - demographics

ACC area	No. of responses	% Sample	% Population
Harrogate & Knaresborough	213	16%	17%
Richmond	259	19%	18%
Scarborough & Whitby	211	16%	16%
Selby & Ainsty	142	11%	17%
Skipton & Ripon	247	19%	16%
Thirsk & Malton	259	19%	17%
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1331</b>		
Outside area	92		
No Response	630		
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2053</b>		

# Key findings - demographics

- 213 respondents identified as having a disability or long-term, life limiting condition. They were more likely to have food access issues
- Limited differences by gender – but many more responses from females (65%) versus males (34%). 1% preferred not to say or identified in another way
- Selby & Ainsty were under-represented (11%) compared to overall percentage of the NY population in ACC area (17%). All other areas represented at target or slightly above. In line with other LT survey responses
- Older people (50+) are overrepresented (82%) and younger people (under 30) are underrepresented (2%) compared to overall percentage of the NY population (57% - 16%). Younger people were more likely to waste food or have issues with accessing healthy food (NB: small response numbers)



# Key findings – a healthy, balanced diet

- 86% feel they have a healthy and balanced diet. Very few people feel they do not have a healthy and balanced diet

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Most people also say they want to eat healthier food a lot (47%) or quite a bit (35%). Only 3% do not want to do this much or at all

- Factors affecting these responses relate to different opinions on **access** and **education/skills**

# Key findings – access to healthy food

- 35% find it very easy and 46% easy to access healthy food. Only 5% of people find it difficult or very difficult to access this

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Difficulty in access generally relates to poor choice in shops/restaurants, transport and some identification of cost

- People are most likely to say **lowering the cost of food (59%)**, **reducing unhealthy food advertising (53%)**, and **supporting local gardens or food projects (50%)** would make it easier to get healthy food

# Key findings – food waste

- Some 9% say they never and 46% hardly ever throw away unused food. However, around a quarter throw away unused food once a week (19%) or more often than this (7%).
- More than half the people in the survey also say they find it very easy (22%) or easy (36%) to reduce their food waste, but nearly one-in-six people find this difficult (13%) or very difficult (2%).
- The most common things making it difficult to reduce food waste are **food going off** (58% of responses) and food being **sold in larger amounts** than needed (43%).
- Having the **skills and experience** of how to repurpose food waste or manage leftovers/excess were of interest.

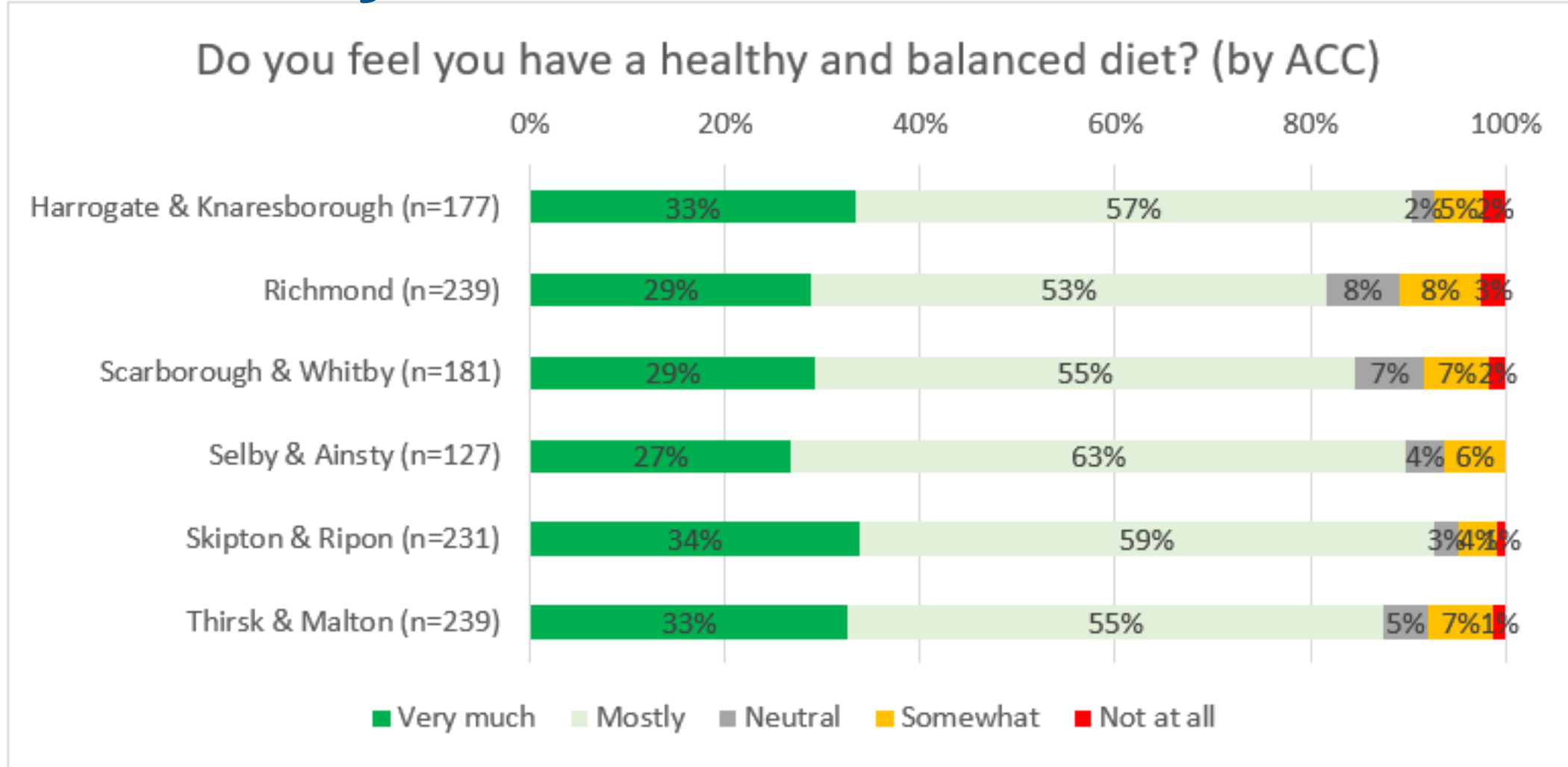
# Key findings – ACC response overview

ACC area	Very much or mostly have a healthy & balanced diet	Want to eat a healthy diet a lot or quite a bit	Very easy or easy to access food	Never/hardly ever throw away food	Regularly throw away food	Very easy or easy to reduce food waste	Difficult or very difficult to reduce food waste
Harrogate & Knaresborough	90%	82%	81%	58%	25%	59%	13%
Richmond	82%	82%	80%	55%	25%	60%	16%
Scarborough & Whitby	85%	83%	78%	58%	24%	58%	16%
Selby & Ainsty	90%	87%	80%	53%	28%	54%	20%
Skipton & Ripon	93%	82%	86%	60%	21%	61%	16%
Thirsk & Malton	87%	82%	80%	64%	21%	61%	17%
<b>Overall survey</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>15%</b>

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\*Difference of +/- 3% or more from overall survey result.

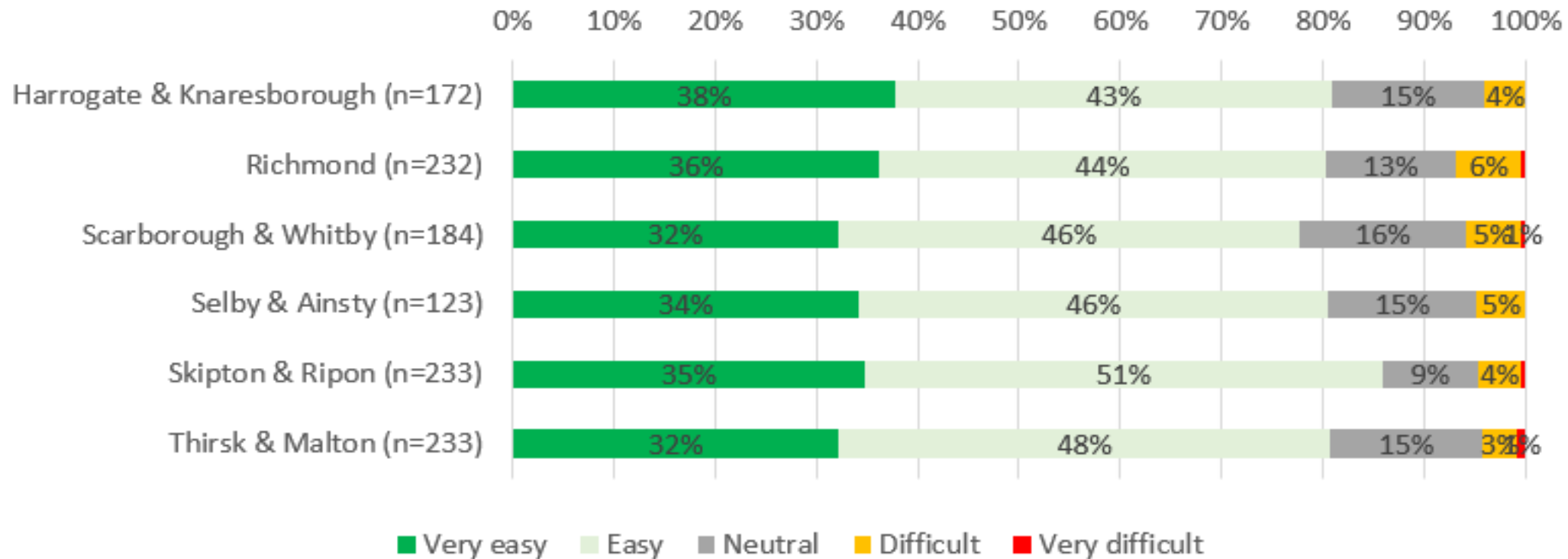
# A Healthy and Balanced Diet



**Skipton and Ripon are more likely** to feel they have a health and balanced diet (93%). **Scarborough & Whitby (85%) and Richmond (82%) are less likely** to feel this. This is a higher perception than national survey results for NY re: eating the recommended 5 portions per day at 32.5% (OHID Fingertips 2021/22)

# Accessing Healthy Food

How easy or difficult is it for you to access healthy food? (by ACC)



**Skipton & Ripon are most likely** to say it is very easy or easy to access healthy food (86%). **Scarborough & Whitby are least likely** to say this is the case (78%). Generally limited differences in responses.

# Accessing healthy food: Disability or long-term limiting condition

- Those people who consider themselves to be disabled or have a long-term, limiting condition are **less likely to say** they find it very easy or easy to access healthy food (63%),

Those people without a disability or condition (85%).

**Food insecurity<sup>^</sup> levels are widening** between households with an adult limited a lot by disability and households with an adult not limited by disability. Nationally, 38.2% of households ‘limited a lot by disability’ experience food insecurity, compared to 10.5% of households ‘not limited by disability’ (Food Foundation, December 2023).

<sup>^</sup> affordability, access, utilisation, and stability.

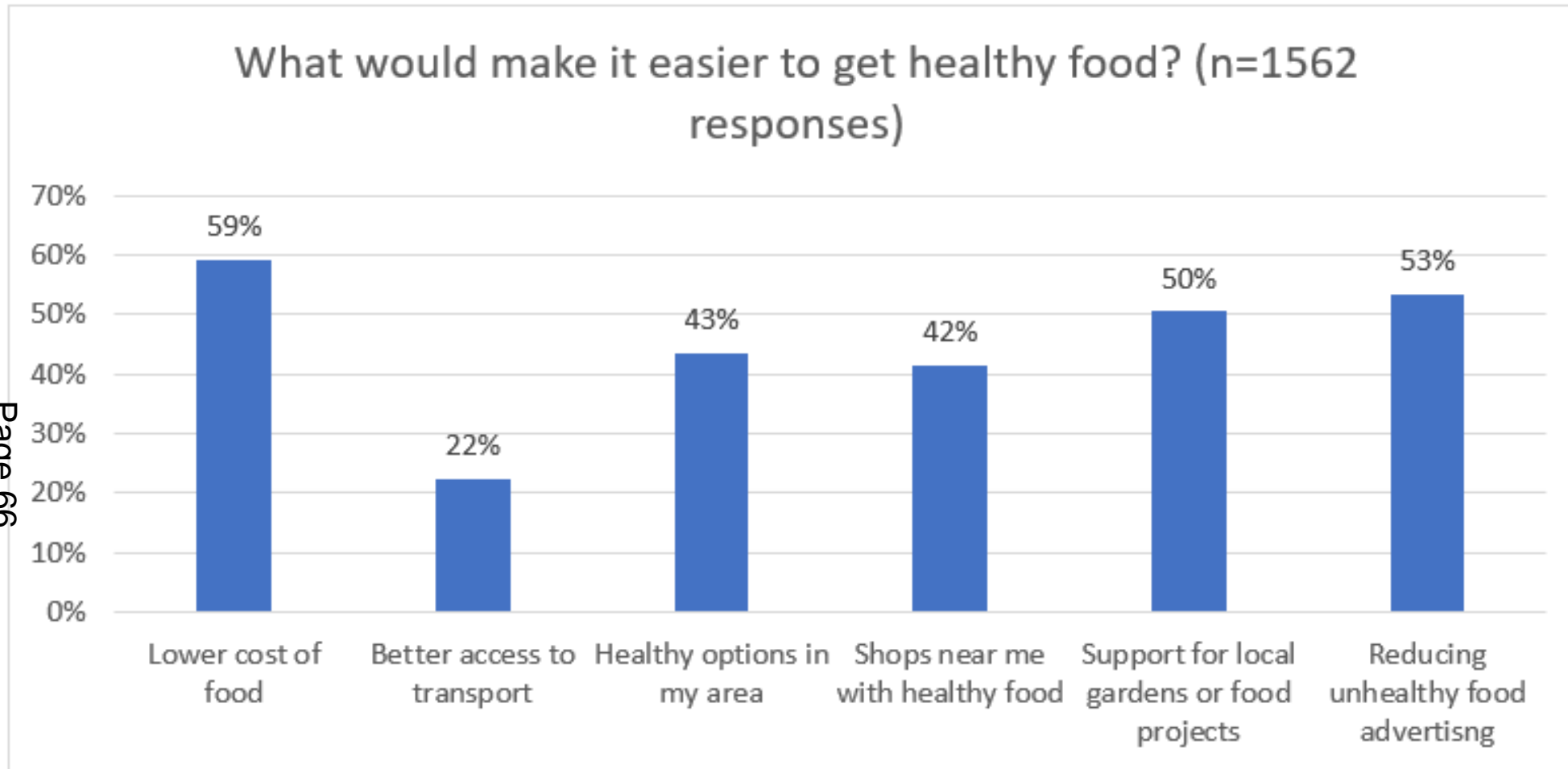
# Accessing healthy food: What people said – the free text

- **Choice of food available within shops** – the vast majority of people (828) feel they have good choice and 81 people shop online/have food delivered. 136 comments mention poor local choice and 24 a lack of organic food being available locally
- **Cost of healthy food** – healthy food was considered expensive and people cannot afford it (223), although many felt lucky they could afford it (191)
- **Skills and knowledge** – people say they have the knowledge or skills to access healthy food/eat healthily with a few people receiving dietary advice from dieticians or using an app to help them (198)
- **Location and transport** – Some people identified that access to healthy food depends on transport – having a car or relying on public transport (116)



# Accessing healthy food: What people said – the free text

- **Grow your own food** – some people identified that they are able to access healthier food because they grow it themselves (91)
- **Time to plan and prepare healthy food** – some found it difficult to find time to use healthier food due to lifestyle pressures (78)
- **Special diets** (gluten free, vegan/vegetarian or because of illness) with issues accessing food (33)
- **Food Labelling/Marketing** - some found labelling confusing about what was truly healthy when it was really, full of sugar (31)
- **Disability or long-term limiting illness** - some people identified that it was harder to access healthier food because of their health conditions (17)



Subtle difference in age range response. **Older age groups (those aged 65-74 and 75 & over) are least likely** to say lower cost of food would make it easier to get healthy food **but most likely** to say better access to transport would help.

# Making access easier: What people said – the free text

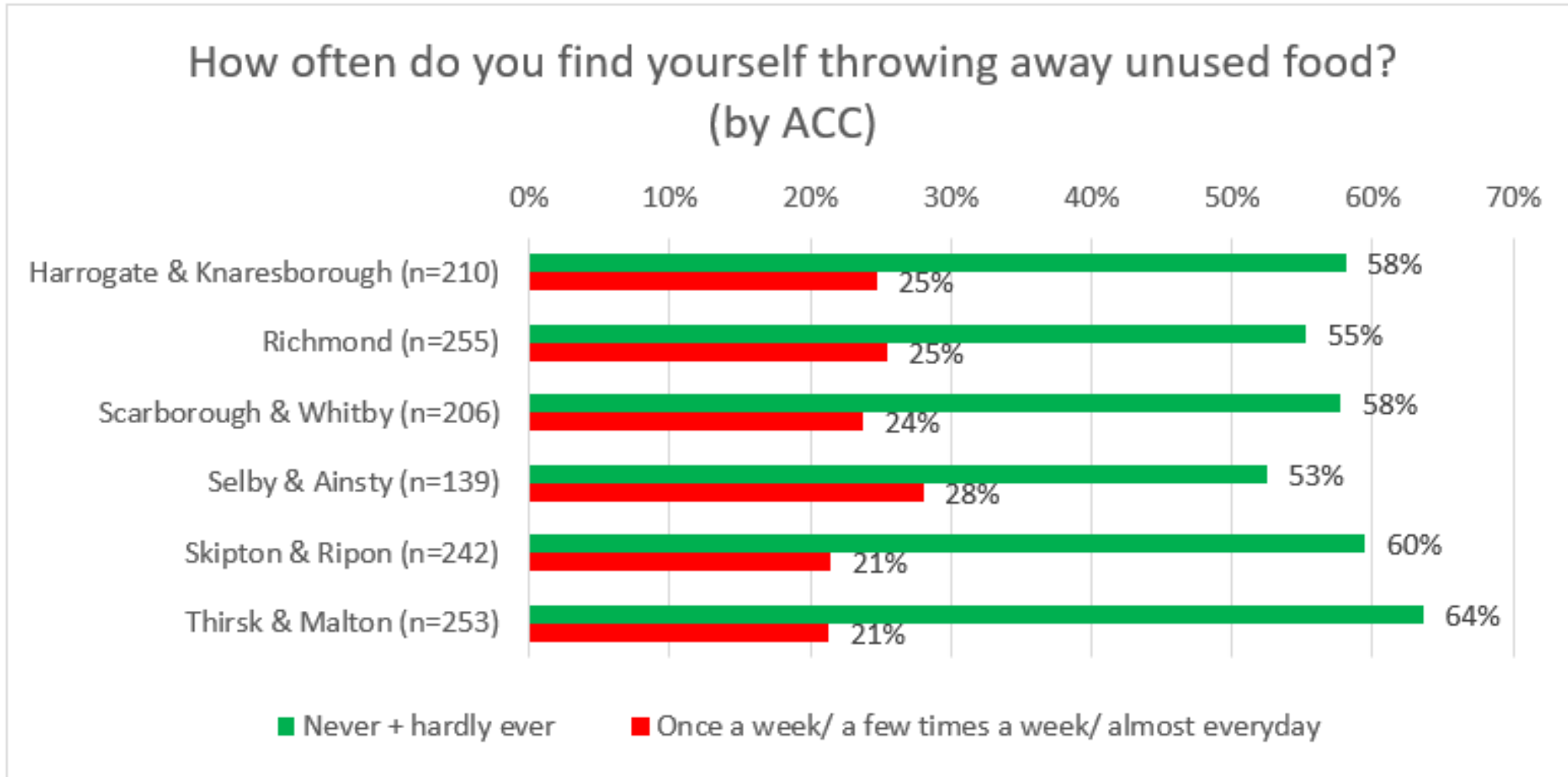
- **Cost of healthy food** – lowering the cost or general cost of living pressures (115)
- **Better education/knowledge** to understand healthy food options or develop cooking skills, and also discipline/willpower to eat healthily (behavioural) (106)
- **Better selection of food available** in shops (91), particularly in terms of food grown locally
- **Better food labelling/scientific advice about healthy food/advertising of healthy/unhealthy food options** - promotions often push unhealthy food options (85)

# Making access easier: What people said – the free text

- **Support for farmers/farming projects/food producers (57)**
- **Tighter regulation of food production/minimum food quality standards (49)**
- **Encouraging local shops (45)**
- **Takeaways/eating out** - reducing number of takeaways but also better selection/healthier options available when eating out or attending events (45)
- **Access to allotment/community gardens and ability to grow own food (42)**

# Making access easier: What people said – the free text

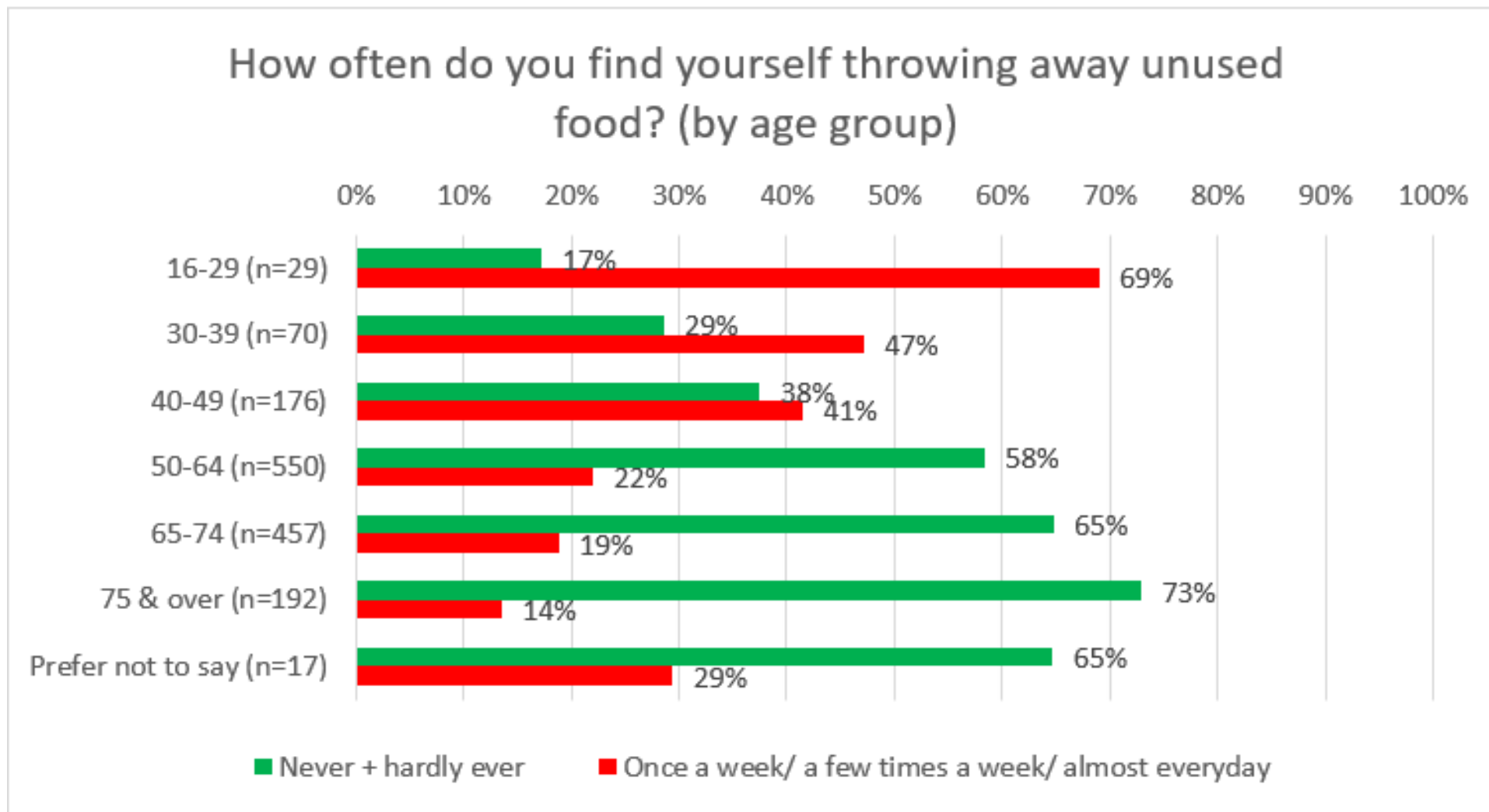
- **Better transport services** needed (39), especially in rural areas
- **Mobile shop/better or more affordable local delivery services** (33) including deliveries direct from producers such as veg boxes
- **Farmers' market/stalls/farm shop** (30) and **local markets** (27), including these being available at times when people are not working
- **Special dietary requirements catered for** (such as vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free) and availability and issues relating to illness (31)



**Thirsk & Malton (64%) are most likely to say they never or hardly ever throw away unused food. Selby & Ainsty (53%) and Richmond (55%) are least likely to say this.**

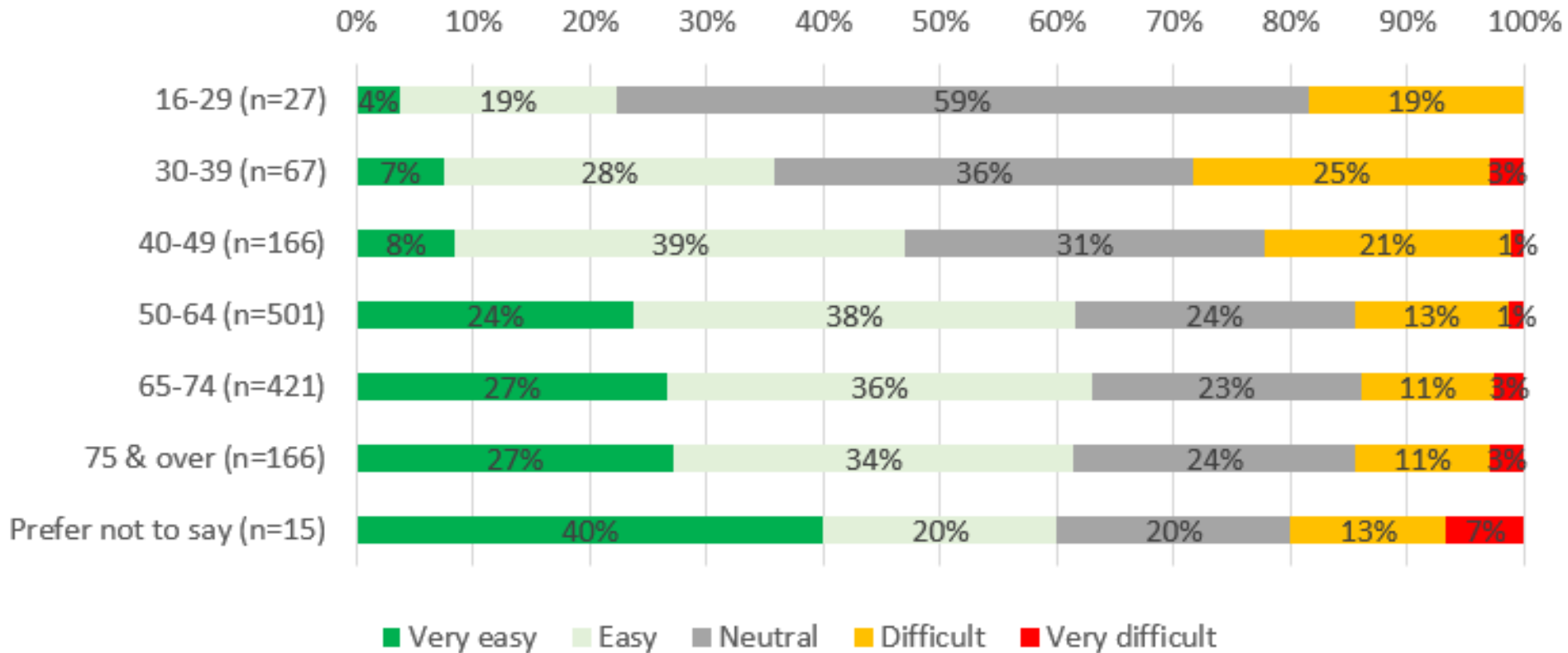
Local analysis of household refuse identifies 15.57% contains kitchen food waste (Allerton Park tests Nov 2023)





People in the older age groups are more likely to say they never or hardly ever throw away food.

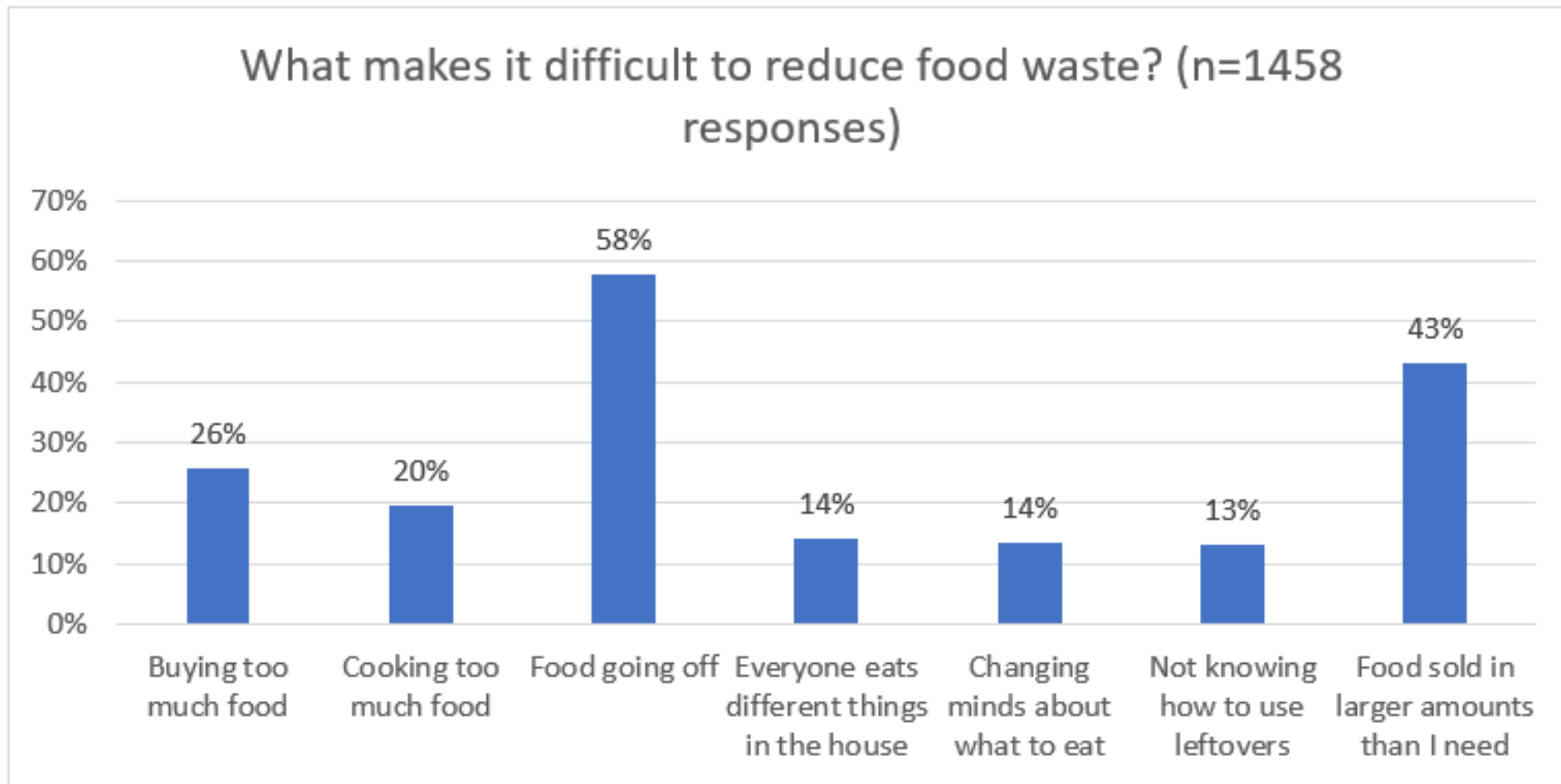
## How difficult is it to reduce your food waste? (by age group)



The older age groups are more likely to report finding it very easy or easy to reduce food waste.

Suggests a better knowledge of healthy food and ways to use fresh/potentially less convenient products or cooking practices





The most common things making it difficult to reduce food waste are **food going off** (58% of responses) and **food being sold in larger amounts** than needed (43%).

# Reducing food waste: What people said – the free text

- **Smaller amounts of food/loose food should be available** (294), especially for single people/smaller households, and must be reasonably priced. Food packaging to be reduced.
- **Meal planning** and sticking to these plans (165)
- **Longer use/sell by dates for food** and understanding these (144) and quality of food (39)
- **Freezing food/using frozen food** (87)

# Reducing food waste: What people said – the free text

- **Composting of food waste** (64) also using food waste to feed animals (11)
- **Using leftovers** (60)
- **Buying less food** (59) - some people favour buying smaller amounts, more frequently
- **Education** around using and storing food/avoiding waste (55)
- **Family members eating the same food or being picky** (38)
- **Recycling and collection of food waste** (31) including packaging

# North Yorkshire Food Action: Already happening...

## Healthy Food Access:

- **Food Insecurity Partnership** and community partnerships
- **Food Access models** evaluation and recommendations
- **Rethink Project** – Selby schools based regenerative growing and behaviour change project

## Food Waste:

- **NY Rotters** – school and community engagement
- **Love Food Hate Waste** national campaign signpost  
[Love Food Hate Waste / Preventing food waste](#)

## Systems and Partnerships:

- **Engagement with Fix Our Food** programme and newly formed FoF Commission
- **Engagement with BiteBack** – national youth advocacy

# Developing a North Yorkshire Food Plan: Next Steps

- **System wide partnership group** developing aims, objectives and actions for 'Food for the Future'
- **Local Conversations** – farmers, young people, food partnerships, lived experience, SME businesses
- **Developing actions** across farm to fork system (i.e. regen farm support, procurement feasibility, community grow, planning policy)
- **Fix Our Food** – university of York led, FoF commission for regional voice and action [Home - Fix Our Food](#)
- **Regenerative farming trials – opportunity to visit**

# Let's Talk campaign- next steps

- Sharing survey date with all ACC area committees
- Once complete, a public report will be published on the NYC website with a foreword from Cllr Les and Cllr Harrison
- Internal and public facing campaign about the engagement results
- Aiming to go live end of June 2024



# Richmondshire Leisure Trust

Area Constituency Committee –  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024



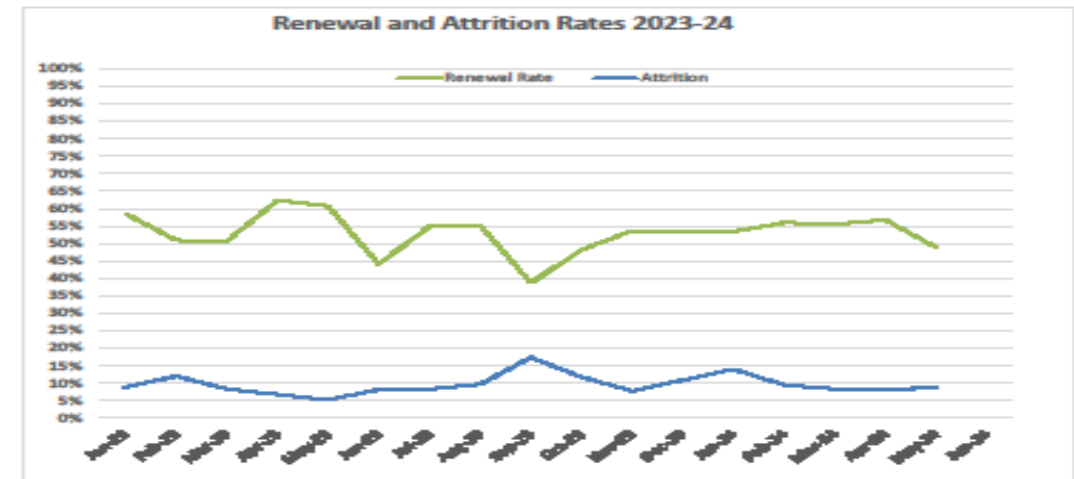
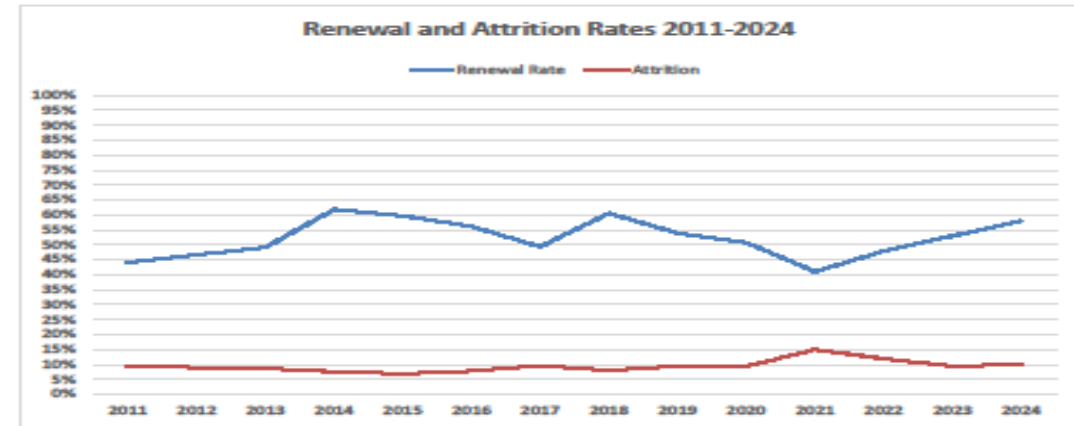
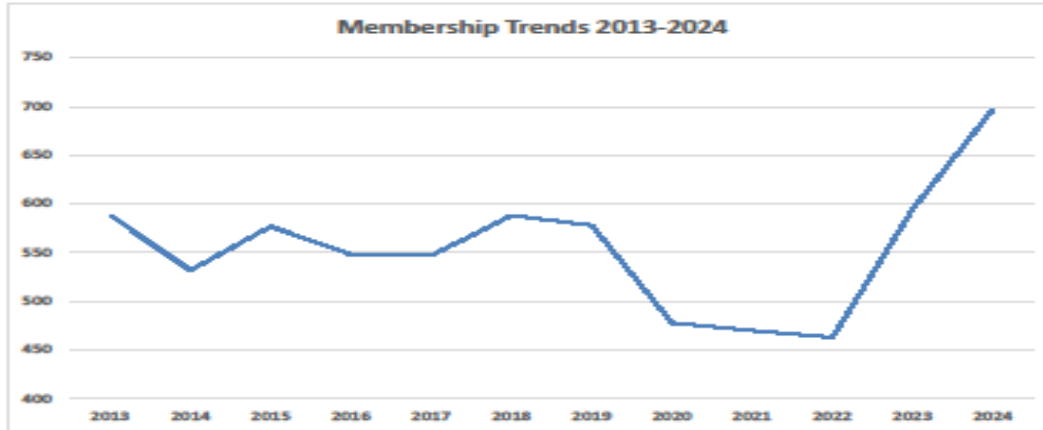
# Summary of Richmondshire Leisure service and facilities

- Total Annual Visits = 48,258 , this was for 9.5 months due to closure of the Pool in July , August and half of September 2023. Expected visits for a full year 60,000
- Total Health and Fitness Members: 659 as of 31st March 2024
- Total Swim Lesson Numbers: 275 , this number having dropped from 395 before the first closure in summer 2022
- A deficit was incurred in 2023/24 of circa £52k, this would have been a surplus position of £50k had it not been for the additional £102k on utility consumption.



# Liberty – Membership Trends

LIBERTY HEALTH CLUB - MEMBERSHIP TRENDS



# Richmond Pool – Pool Usage

Richmondshire Leisure Trust - Pool Usage Analysis 2019-20 to 2024-25

	2019/2020	2019/2020	2020/2021	2020/2021	2021/2022	2021/2022	2022/2023	2022/2023	2023/2024	2023/2024	2024/2025	2024/2025
	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative
April	4379	4379	0	0	2266	2266	4601	4601	4405	4405	5029	5029
May	4753	9132	0	0	4789	7055	6433	11034	5830	10235	5202	10231
June	5049	14181	0	0	4985	12040	5113	16147	5700	15935		
July	5473	19654	1391	1391	5430	17470	4794	20941	743	16678		
August	4076	23730	1127	2518	3824	21294	277	21218	406	17084		
September	4686	28416	3559	6077	5160	26454	0	21218	3345	20429		
October	4612	33028	4494	10571	4997	31451	0	21218	5149	25578		
November	4441	37469	597	11168	4974	36425	0	21218	5059	30647		
December	3873	41342	1995	13163	3354	39779	0	21218	3592	34239		
January	4625	45967	249	13412	5125	44904	2991	24209	4406	38645		
February	4551	50518	0	13412	4621	49525	4244	28453	4842	43487		
March	3322	53840	0	13412	5600	55125	4079	32532	4771	48258		
	53840		13412		55125		32532		48258		10231	

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Casual Swims	22837	4104	14760	9131	13222	3148
Swimming Lessons	9704	2186	13842	6672	8640	1864
Schools	13039	478	9293	5316	8730	1580
RDASC	3737	5195	12655	8384	10718	1884
Tri-Club	1271	298	1368	1282	2598	480
AquaFit	1535	347	1560	1245	1514	539
Military	609	146	755	248	374	65
Mini-Golf	1088	86	844	304	1226	250
Swaledale Outdoor Club	0	0	320	160	368	0
Waterbabies	0	0	0	0	350	234
Darlington Masters	0	0	0	0	230	0
Teesdale Tiger Sharks	0	0	0	0	288	187
	53820	12640	55397	32742	48258	10231

# Current Organisation Challenges

- Managing a deficit budget largely due to significant increase in utility consumption following the capital scheme.
- Driving income especially learn to swim following a big reduction, following two closures in 2022 & 2023.
- Managing the process of migrating the business from RLT to NYC along with winding up of RLT.
- Managing building issues – ageing facility.
- Long term future of Liberty’s gym, current lease ends in 2026.
- Future car park arrangements with nearby Station.

# Transformation

- Management at RLT were involved in the Strategic Leisure Review that shaped the new Sport and Active Wellbeing service.
- Staff are all receptive and supportive of the transformation and the approved Executive Report to bring facilities back in house, at a yet to be determined timeframe.
- The RLT management team have held an initial scoping meeting with NYC to discuss transition, ICT, HR, etc.
- Alongside the requirement of 'business as usual', the flexibility of approach from the new service has been a positive.

# Developing

- Whilst still facing operational challenges such as energy costs, recent closures (impact on delivery), the balance of revenue / recovery; the facilities still provide a quality community offer that is developing.
- RLT facilities are included in the scope for the NYC Leisure Investment Strategy.  
Positive links have been established with the NYC Sport and Active Wellbeing team, and Brimhams Active to assist with management and operational aspects.
- Continuing to develop work on energy efficiencies, decarbonisation and income generation, with the ongoing challenges to control increased energy consumption following improvement works.

# Future Plans

- Transition into the new North Yorkshire Council in house delivery model.
- Create a service link to Sport and Active Wellbeing (Development) to improve accessibility and develop outreach offer.
- Assist in the service strategic priority of the pivot to wellness.
- Continue to deliver a quality service and invest in workforce development.



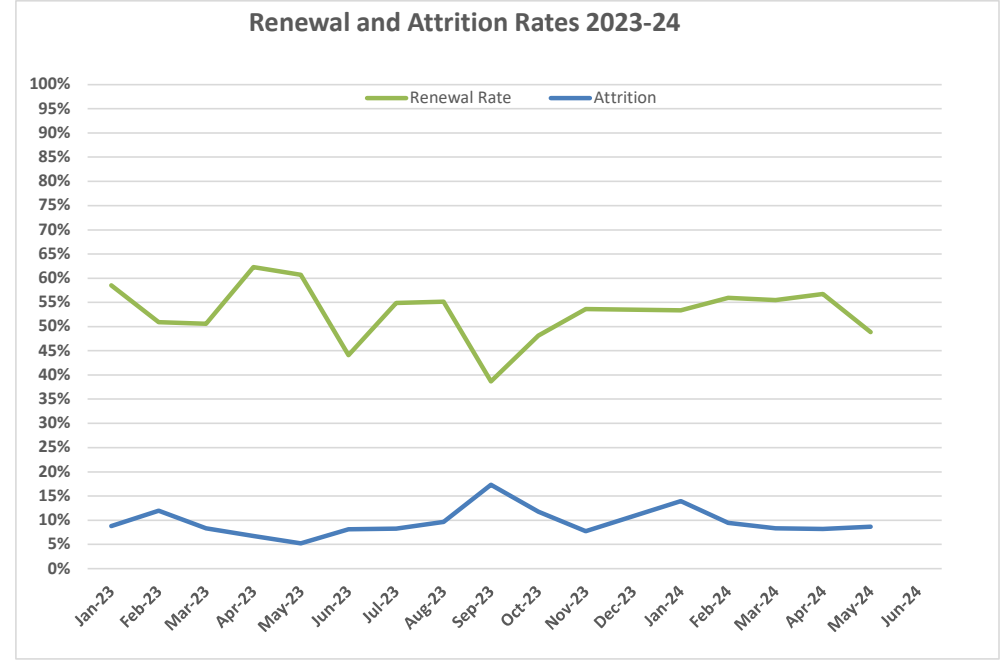
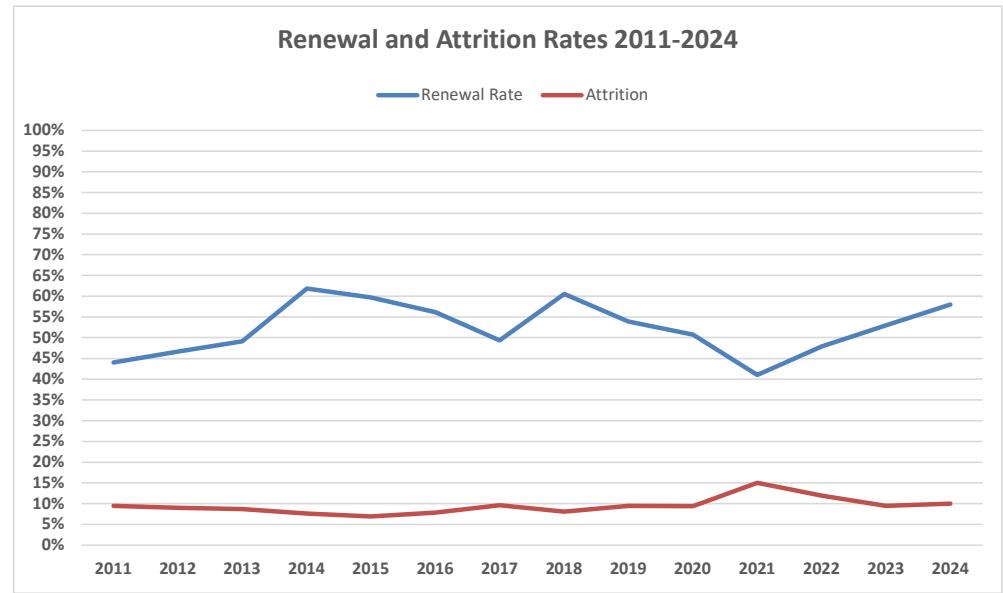
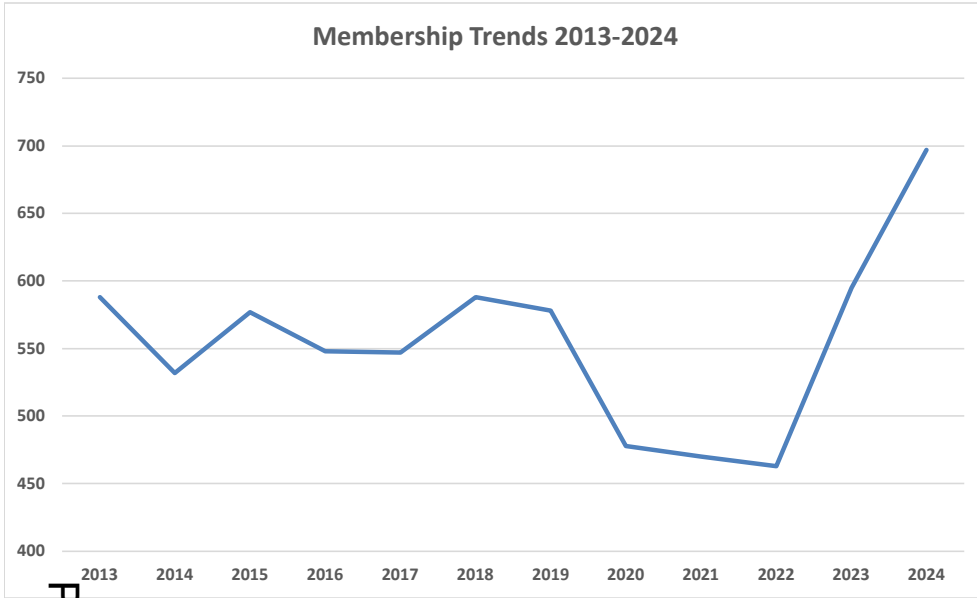


Any  
Questions?

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# LIBERTY HEALTH CLUB - MEMBERSHIP TRENDS

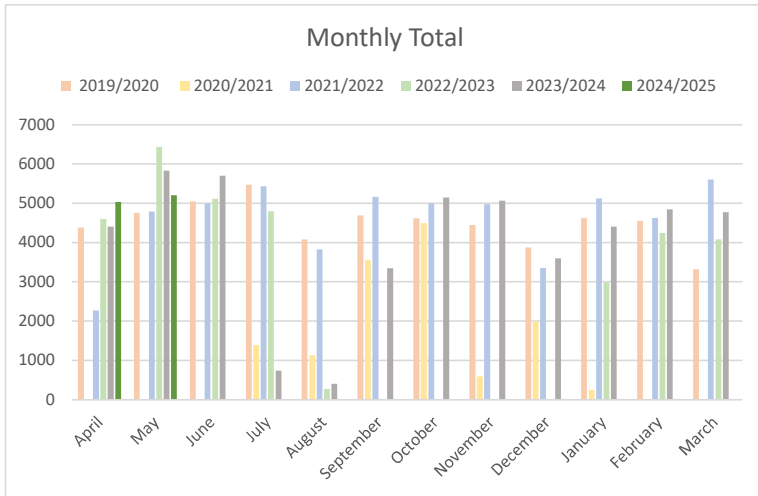


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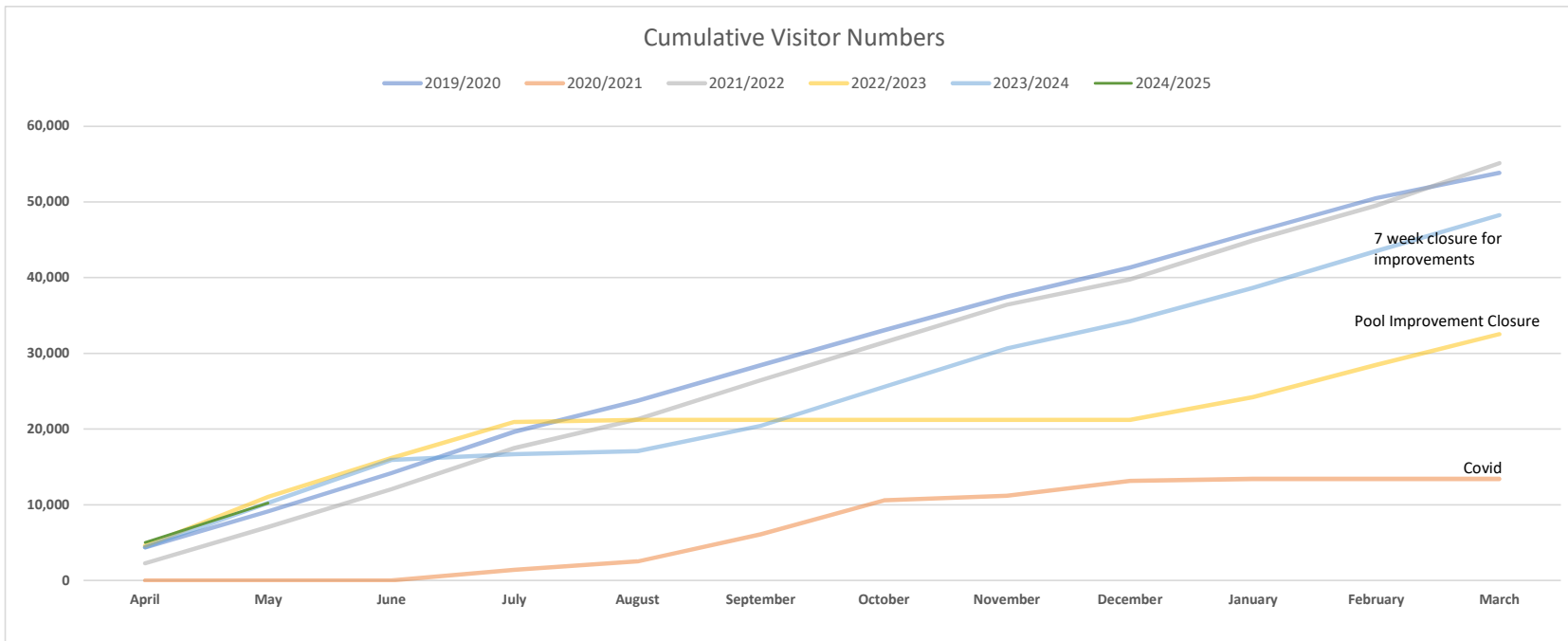
Richmondshire Leisure Trust - Pool Usage Analysis 2019-20 to 2024-25

	2019/2020	2019/2020	2020/2021	2020/2021	2021/2022	2021/2022	2022/2023	2022/2023	2023/2024	2023/2024	2024/2025	2024/2025
	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative	Monthly	Cumulative
April	4379	4379	0	0	2266	2266	4601	4601	4405	4405	5029	5029
May	4753	9132	0	0	4789	7055	6433	11034	5830	10235	5202	10231
June	5049	14181	0	0	4985	12040	5113	16147	5700	15935		
July	5473	19654	1391	1391	5430	17470	4794	20941	743	16678		
August	4076	23730	1127	2518	3824	21294	277	21218	406	17084		
September	4686	28416	3559	6077	5160	26454	0	21218	3345	20429		
October	4612	33028	4494	10571	4997	31451	0	21218	5149	25578		
November	4441	37469	597	11168	4974	36425	0	21218	5069	30647		
December	3873	41342	1995	13163	3354	39779	0	21218	3592	34239		
January	4625	45967	249	13412	5125	44904	2991	24209	4406	38645		
February	4551	50518	0	13412	4621	49525	4244	28453	4842	43487		
March	3322	53840	0	13412	5600	55125	4079	32532	4771	48258		
	53840		13412		55125		32532		48258		10231	

Page 91	Casual Swims	22837	4104	14760	9131	13222	3148
	Swimming Lessons	9704	2186	13842	6672	8640	1864
	Schools	13039	478	9293	5316	8730	1580
	RDASC	3737	5195	12655	8384	10718	1884
	Tri-Club	1271	298	1368	1282	2598	480
	Aquafit	1535	347	1560	1245	1514	539
	Military	609	146	755	248	374	65
	Mini-Golf	1088	86	844	304	1226	250
	Swaledale Outdoor Club	0	0	320	160	368	0
	Waterbabies	0	0	0	0	350	234
	Darlington Masters	0	0	0	0	230	0
	Teesdale Tiger Sharks	0	0	0	0	288	187
	53820	12840	55397	32742	48258	10231	



	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2024/25</u>
Casual Swims	42.4%	32.0%	26.6%	27.9%	27.4%	30.8%
Swimming Lessons	18.0%	17.0%	25.0%	20.4%	17.9%	18.2%
Schools	24.2%	3.7%	16.8%	16.2%	18.1%	15.4%
RDASC	6.9%	40.5%	22.8%	25.6%	22.2%	18.4%
Tri-Club	2.4%	2.3%	2.5%	3.9%	5.4%	4.7%
AquaFit	2.9%	2.7%	2.8%	3.8%	3.1%	5.3%
Military	1.1%	1.1%	1.4%	0.8%	0.8%	0.6%
Mini-Golf	2.0%	0.7%	1.5%	0.9%	2.5%	2.4%
Swaledale Outdoor Club	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	0.0%
Waterbabies	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	2.3%
Darlington Masters	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Teesdale Tiger Sharks	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.8%
	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



## North Yorkshire Council

### Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee

17 June 2024

### Update on Local Bus Services in the Stokesley Area

#### Report of the Corporate Director Environment

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on local bus services in Stokesley and the surrounding villages.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Local Bus services have been under significant pressure both locally and nationally since the Covid-19 pandemic. Passenger numbers have recovered to around 90% of pre-covid levels, although this figure is much lower for concessionary pass users at around 70%. This has particularly affected rural routes where older passengers represented a greater proportion of users.
- 2.2 There has been a significant increase in operating costs (vehicle procurement, maintenance, insurance, staffing, property rental and fuel) along with national difficulties with recruiting bus drivers, engineering staff and sourcing spare parts. As a result of these added pressures, providers are reviewing their services more than ever before, resulting in commercial service level reductions and higher prices for routes operating under contract to the council.
- 2.3 North Yorkshire Council has maintained its support for local bus routes over recent years, spending over £1.6m each year on bus services. We are also accessing grant funding from central government which is helping to keep the current bus network running. The council is now financially supporting many previously commercial bus routes that would otherwise have been withdrawn entirely in the last two years.

#### 3.0 Stokesley local bus service update

- 3.1 We have seen several service reductions and contract price increases recently as the industry struggles with higher costs. Our recent focus has been on maintaining the existing network and supporting the recovery in passenger numbers. Inevitably this has meant some routes are now operating less frequently but it is hoped that keeping a core level of service running will mean that these can be built back up again as passenger numbers improve.
- 3.2 We received notice late in 2022 that the previously commercial Service 18 between Stokesley, Great Ayton, Guisborough and Saltburn was to be withdrawn as the bus company could no longer cover the operating costs from the revenue taken. At that point North Yorkshire County Council was able to tender for replacement service to retain the link from Stokesley & Great Ayton to Guisborough and this route has been financially supported since then. Similar situations occurred across the county with the council stepping in to save bus services that would otherwise have been withdrawn. Since then, the local network has remained stable, with some revisions to Service 28/28A in July 2023.

3.3 Stokesley has regular bus links to Middlesbrough & James Cook Hospital via Arriva Services 28A, to Northallerton and Friarage Hospital via Services 80/89 and to Guisborough on Service 18. There is also a demand responsive Friday market day bus from nearby villages into Stokesley. All routes except the 28/28A are subsidised by North Yorkshire Council.

#### **4.0 National £2 fare cap scheme**

4.1 In January 2023, a national scheme was introduced to lower bus fares and encourage more people to travel by bus. Funded by the Government, the scheme means that a single bus journey on all eligible bus routes run by participating operators will cost no more than £2 (or £4 return). The majority of the local bus operators in North Yorkshire are taking part in the scheme.

4.2 The fare scheme was originally due to run for 3 months but was then extended until 30 June 2023 and more recently further extended to December 2024. Feedback from bus companies is positive, with the scheme generating more passenger journeys.

#### **5.0 Community Transport**

5.1 Community Transport passenger usage has recovered to around 70% of pre-covid usage. Some volunteer drivers did not return after the pandemic and it is an ongoing challenge for all schemes to recruit and retain volunteer drivers. North Yorkshire Council has maintained its support for community transport with journey reimbursement and grants to extend services and recruit volunteer drivers. The Stokesley Community Care Association provides a volunteer car service for shopping, leisure and health trips.

#### **6.0 Funding from central government**

6.1 NYCC and now NYC have received grants since the pandemic which help to offset the loss in fare revenue and recent cost increases. These are currently in place until late 2025 and have allowed us to keep the current bus network in place. However, there have been different funding streams, often provided for short periods of time and at very short notice, which has made longer term planning of the bus network very difficult.

6.2 In October 2023, the Government announced a further £150 million of funding for buses called 'Network North: Phase 3 Bus Service Improvement Plan funding' (BSIP3). This is to be allocated to local authorities in the Midlands and the North for 2024/25, following the decision not to proceed with the High Speed 2 rail project. North Yorkshire received a BSIP3 allocation of £3.5m for 2024/25.

6.3 BSIP3 is revenue funding and is currently for one year only (2024/25). The DfT expects us to use the funding to maintain existing service levels and also on improvements that can be delivered in this short timescale. Given the priority residents have placed on bus services in the recent Local Transport Plan engagement, this additional funding gives an opportunity to address some of the issues that were raised. With this in mind, we are focussing on some key areas of delivery:

- Strengthening bus routes through higher frequency and improvements to evening and weekend services
- Making bus travel more affordable for young people by introducing a £1.00 fare cap for a single journey for those under 19 years old.
- Improving information and customer experience through improved marketing and promotion as well as providing additional customer service support at very busy bus stations
- Providing additional journeys for rural communities

- Delivery of general maintenance improvements to bus service infrastructure such as bus stops and signage. One of the schemes planned is the introduction of a Saturday timetable for Service 18.

6.4 BSIP3 grant proposals were approved by the Executive on 19 March 2024 and will be delivered from this summer onwards. The Department for Transport have indicated that there should be future years of BSIP funding but this is now unlikely to be confirmed until after the general election on 4 July 2024.

## **7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 None this is an update.

## **8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 None this is an update.

## **9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 None this is an update.

## **10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 None this is an update.

## **11.0 RECOMMENDATION**

11.1 That members note the contents of this report.

**APPENDICES:** None

Karl Battersby  
Corporate Director – Environment  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
26 May 2024

Report Author – Andy Clarke Public & Community Transport Manager  
Presenter of Report – Andy Clarke Public & Community Transport Manager

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Steve Loach  
Principal Democratic Services Officer  
North Yorkshire Council  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
DL7 8AD

**10 June 2024**

Dear Steve

**Richmond (Yorkshire) Area Constituency Committee – ambulance call outs and response times**

Thank you for your recent request for information relating to ambulance call outs and response times within the constituency area of the Richmond area committee.

Your committee members were asking for information about responses within certain postcodes and attached is information which includes the response times for the postcodes requested, DL7 to DL10, HG4 and TS15, covering data from the most recent complete quarter, January to March for 2024 and compared to 2022 and 2023.

The information provided covers the four categories of response, with category 1 responses for patients in the most serious condition. In addition to the specific postcode data, we have provided the average response for all the postcodes requested and also the response data for the whole of Yorkshire Ambulance Service Trust.

The national targets for response times are:  
Category 1 – 7 minutes (90% within 15 minutes)  
Category 2 – 18 minutes (90% within 40 minutes)  
Category 3 – 60 minutes (90% within 120 minutes)  
Category 4 – 90% within 180 minutes

A national target has been set for 2023/24 and again for 2024/25 for all English ambulance services to achieve a category 2 mean response time of under 30 minutes (as stated above, the target was previously 18 minutes).

I hope this provides you with the information that you and your members need and if there is anything further that you need, please let us know.

Yours sincerely

**Jeevan Gill, Director of Partnerships and Operations, Humber and North Yorkshire**

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# Performance Response Times & Hospital Handover



Performance Response Times for Q1 (Jan - Mar) each year by postcode district, as an overall time for all postcode districts grouped in the table and as a time for the Trust as a whole.

Year	Postcode District/ Area	Cat1		Cat2		Cat3		Cat4	
		Mean	90th	Mean	90th	Mean	90th	Mean	90th
2022	DL10	00:10:07	00:17:45	00:21:51	00:43:43	00:48:24	01:55:46	01:13:27	01:41:14
	DL11	00:14:11	00:19:05	00:32:35	00:57:42	00:54:57	01:36:07	02:44:24	02:44:24
	DL6	00:09:04	00:19:20	00:17:14	00:40:41	00:38:08	01:43:04	00:47:35	01:11:39
	DL7	00:09:00	00:17:07	00:20:22	00:42:07	00:41:42	01:29:13	02:02:42	02:57:24
	DL8	00:12:46	00:18:19	00:25:04	00:48:30	00:49:37	01:39:10	00:27:22	00:33:08
	DL9	00:10:37	00:18:09	00:19:31	00:35:52	00:50:15	02:34:35	00:45:55	01:10:34
	HG4	00:12:46	00:22:29	00:25:07	00:46:55	00:49:37	01:52:27	01:39:52	02:31:09
	TS15	00:13:31	00:18:41	00:22:22	00:40:03	01:01:31	02:46:31		
	Selected Postcodes	00:10:38	00:19:19	00:22:02	00:44:57	00:47:00	01:48:36	01:16:00	02:44:11
YAS	00:09:10	00:16:08	00:36:41	01:22:05	01:44:11	04:20:56	02:00:15	05:08:11	
2023	DL10	00:09:10	00:19:19	00:24:09	00:50:53	00:53:46	01:30:01	01:05:57	01:21:35
	DL11	00:18:19	00:27:17	00:32:23	00:56:38	01:16:03	02:04:26		
	DL6	00:06:48	00:13:50	00:19:48	00:48:38	00:43:15	01:37:50	00:16:04	00:16:11
	DL7	00:07:14	00:14:01	00:20:53	00:41:12	00:52:17	02:08:13	00:59:16	00:59:16
	DL8	00:13:32	00:23:31	00:26:25	00:48:05	00:56:24	01:53:53	00:32:25	00:37:42
	DL9	00:10:22	00:16:46	00:23:34	00:43:28	00:40:58	01:26:27		
	HG4	00:11:17	00:24:19	00:24:37	00:48:17	00:55:34	02:03:30	01:57:26	04:17:24
	TS15	00:15:00	00:18:30	00:33:16	00:58:45	01:13:20	01:58:28		
	Selected Postcodes	00:10:04	00:19:47	00:23:33	00:48:47	00:52:27	01:51:45	01:04:02	01:48:17
YAS	00:08:38	00:14:57	00:29:22	01:06:27	01:25:03	03:14:01	01:42:30	03:44:19	
2024	DL10	00:09:15	00:16:16	00:20:39	00:45:20	00:50:24	01:41:12	00:49:21	01:37:58
	DL11	00:18:08	00:30:25	00:29:59	00:50:25	01:02:58	02:14:21	00:25:03	00:28:01
	DL6	00:06:07	00:10:51	00:17:23	00:40:36	00:46:05	01:51:01	00:37:23	01:08:52
	DL7	00:08:25	00:17:16	00:19:26	00:41:18	00:51:42	02:02:00	00:21:21	00:32:32
	DL8	00:11:24	00:20:21	00:26:53	00:48:55	01:00:22	02:15:11	01:10:39	01:21:50
	DL9	00:10:06	00:14:33	00:21:52	00:43:16	01:05:53	02:01:16	06:33:50	06:33:50
	HG4	00:09:53	00:19:23	00:26:35	00:53:36	01:02:24	02:14:12	01:00:43	01:08:06
	TS15	00:16:38	00:23:24	00:31:18	00:45:13	00:50:19	01:51:56		
	Selected Postcodes	00:09:26	00:18:32	00:22:30	00:46:02	00:55:31	02:02:50	01:00:44	01:32:10
YAS	00:08:08	00:14:05	00:31:28	01:11:00	01:39:13	03:42:54	01:50:49	04:48:06	

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## North Yorkshire Council

### Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee

17 June 2024

### Highways Works Programme & Delivery, including the A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding

#### Report of the Corporate Director – Environment

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to apprise Members of how flooding issues at Morton Flatts are being addressed alongside the current position on highways matters across the constituency committee area and how they are being addressed.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following discussion at the Member engagement session in December 2023, which was confirmed in the Overview & Scrutiny Committee ACC work request on 29 April 2024, representatives from Highway Operations have been asked to provide information on the above. This report for information to Members breaks down the information requested into a series of subsections as outlined below.

#### 3.0 OVERVIEW OF INFORMATION REQUESTED BY SUBJECT HEADING

##### 3.1 Flooding at Morton Flatts

- 3.1.1 Members will recall the briefing note presented to your committee of 18 March 2024 (Appendix A) which outlined current protocols and procedures relating to when A684 at Morton on Swale, specifically at Morton Flatts was flooded. By way of summary, this included:

- The strategic importance of A684 a part of the key route / critical infrastructure network
- Responsibility for management of the river Swale (a major river) resting with the Environment Agency
- Existing diversion routes (A6055, A61 & A167)
- Acknowledgement of impact of diversion routes on local communities
- The development and introduction of a communications protocol (now in place)
- An outline of the proposed short, medium and longer term proposals

- 3.1.2 By way of update on the proposals:

- Short term – review of permanent signage & barriers – this has now been concluded and resulted in proposals for new and additional signage at Romanby to Warlaby crossroads. At the time of writing this report, signs have been delivered to the area office and are expected to be installed on site during the summer of 2024. A further (verbal) update will be presented on 17 June.
- Medium term – electronic signage - following the success of the electronic road closure/flooding signage on the A684 at Wensleydale, this option is currently being explored. In addition, as part of a wider 'Internet of Things' initiative being progressed by NYC, we are also exploring this avenue regarding telemetry and electronic signage. Ultimately, the aspiration is that we are able to measure the water levels and link this to electronic signs whichever method is adopted. This will be a bespoke

system given the unique nature of how the road floods on Morton Flatts and investigation is currently underway.

- Long term - The Morton Flatts Resilience Scheme report was produced in 2020-21 and identified several options to realign and elevate a section of road. The report would need to be revisited prior to any submission re costs and any recent flooding event updates alongside any further necessary consultation. There is no change to this position at the time of writing this report.

### 3.2 How a decision is taken on which roads are to be repaired and the how priorities are determined.

- 3.2.1 In addition to undertaking Highway Safety Inspections, which are carried out by the area based local highway office teams, we have a policy of regularly surveying the structural condition of the county's roads and footways. We aim to survey the whole road network annually. Our surveys are all industry-accepted methods of highway survey, carried out either by qualified council personnel or by accredited external contractors.
- 3.2.2 Structural condition survey data collected from across the county is then processed and reviewed to identify potential future maintenance schemes. Schemes are selected based upon their position within the lifecycle of the carriageway. North Yorkshire adopts an asset management-led approach to maintaining the county's road network, meaning we look to intervene at the optimum point in the lifecycle of a carriageway with the aim to extend its useable life before more costly maintenance is required. At present, carriageways receive a mix of both preventative and corrective maintenance in order to get the most value for money and to extend their life.
- 3.2.3 Preventative maintenance includes surface treatments which are non-structural and usually less than 20mm thick. These treatments include surface dressing, re-texturing, high friction surfacing and thin micro surfacing (commonly known as slurry sealing). Corrective maintenance consists of structural work to the carriageway and comprises of reconstruction, structural overlays and structural resurfacing. The objectives in using these treatments are to restore the structural integrity and to ensure user safety by preventing further deterioration, restore skid resistance (where a preventative treatment is not feasible) and restore ride quality.
- 3.2.4 Based on the collected survey data, alongside local engineering input, preventative and corrective maintenance schemes are selected and ranked for inclusion on our Executive Member approved Forward Highways Capital Programme. Schemes are then selected from the Forward Programme based on available budgets for inclusion within an annual capital programme for delivery in a specific financial year.

### 3.3 The actual process undertaken for repairing potholes

- 3.3.1 North Yorkshire's Highway Safety Inspection Manual (HSIM) gives guidance to NYC officers regarding types of highway defects and intervention levels for what are regarded as 'actionable defects'. Depending on nature and type of defect, a range of repair options exists from 'contour' patching, to inlay patching to other techniques such as spray injection patching. By way of overview, key components of each process typically involves removing any loose material / detritus from the affected area, applying a bond coat to assist in adhesion, filling the pothole with a suitable material then compacting.
- 3.3.2 The nature and selection of repair method and material will vary. Some repairs may be immediate 'make-safe' actions and can be undertaken by highway officers as well as NY Highways; this might involve cold-lay material if the repair is an urgent safety-critical one. Other repairs might be medium to long term measures until a permanent more widespread solution, such as a resurfacing or patching & surface dressing scheme, can be implemented.

3.4 How Councillors are informed of major roadworks that will impact on their residents, including those that will impact on adjacent and nearby roads in local communities.

3.4.1 There is a multi-stage approach to this. In the first instance, the annual capital programme is considered by the Corporate Director and Executive Member and is available to Members. To supplement this, further engagement is undertaken between area offices and Members through Member engagement sessions, weekly drop-in sessions and other regular informal dialogue between the local area team and appropriate ward member.

- On a scheme-specific basis, Members will receive a copy of notification letters prior to that letter being sent to affected properties and communities. The purpose of this is to ensure Members are aware that there may be some enquiries arising, particularly (but not limited to) whether roads are to be closed. Linked to this, Members are also copied into any temporary road closure Orders for the same reason i.e. early notification / for information.
- In addition, if schemes and projects (not necessarily determined just by scale, but other factors, too) are likely to have a significant impact on local communities, the local team will engage with the Member for those communities impacted by the works. If the works are on a key strategic route or route linking a number of communities, this engagement will be widened as necessary.
- Where works are being proposed or undertaken by a third party, utility company or similar, internal discussion will initially be held between the Network Information & Compliance (Streetworks) team and the local area office(s). Following this, the local team(s) will relay that information to elected Members. Where the works are of significant impact, Members have been (and will continue to be) invited to a programme meeting with the utility company or third party. An example of this was in Hawes, when Yorkshire Water had extensive work planned for the A684 through the town. Historically we have also undertaken public engagement sessions to facilitate wider understanding of such works.

#### **4.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

4.1 This report is for information only and reflects current practice and procedure; As such, no alternatives have been proposed, however Members' comments are invited as per the Recommendations section.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report as it provides information only. Any financial implications in relation to the proposals highlighted to address the flooding at Morton Flatts would be considered as part of a review of the proposals.

#### **6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report as it provides information only.

#### **7.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 An initial equalities impact assessment form was completed and is included as Appendix B. The assessment of this report concluded that there is no impact on people with protected characteristics.

#### **8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/BENEFITS INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

8.1 See Appendix C

## 9.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The recommendations contained below are to engage with and invite comments from Members of the content of this report, which is in response to Members' request for this information.

## 10.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 10.1 Committee Members are requested to note the information within the report and offer comments.

### APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Briefing note to ACC 18 March 2024: A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding

Appendix B – Initial equality impact assessment screening form

Appendix C – Climate Change Assessment

**Background Documents:** None

KARL BATTERSBY  
Corporate Director, Environment  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
20 April 2024

Report Author and Presenters: Nigel Smith, Head of Highway Operations and Jayne Charlton Area Manager Area 1 Brompton on Swale & Area 2 Thirsk offices



**Informal Briefing Note for Members of Richmondshire Area Constituency Committee  
A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding****BACKGROUND**

During storms or periods of heavy rainfall, when the river swale breaches its banks at Morton on Swale the A684 can flood on the western side of Morton Bridge, known as Morton Flatts. When flooding takes place, the road is impassable to traffic. Inevitably due to the A684 being a key route to and from Northallerton linking to the A1M, the employment centre of Leeming Bar Bedale and many villages the closure of the road impacts on many businesses, residents and the wider travelling public.

During the 2023/24 winter period, so far there has been 11 named storms which have impacted on the Country, 5 of which have impacted on North Yorkshire resulting in floods and tree damage across the county. The rains have seen severe impacts not only on the A684 but also on Malton and Norton where continual pumping has taken place to protect the town and its residents. Selby area has also been severely hit by floods with many properties impacted.

Whilst recognise that A684 is a strategic route – thankfully does not directly affect properties.

The River Swale is a major river and therefore the responsibility of The Environment Agency.

The A684 also is impacted by flooding in Wensleydale between the village of Wensley and Hawes from the River Ure. Within the last 2 years this section of the A684 has been closed on 12 occasions.

During the same period the A684 at Morton Flatts has been closed on 5 occasions all of which have been during the 2023/24 winter season. In the last 5 years the road has been closed on 10 occasions.

**Diversion Route and road closure signage**

The signed diversion route for Morton Flatts flooding is via the A6055, A61 & A167 and return. A permanent signage scheme was implemented during 2020 which was partially funded by Councillor Wilkinson's locality budget. When the road floods 'flip type' advanced notification and road closure signs are opened as shown on plans attached.

The signage is regularly ignored by drivers who proceed up to the point of closure, some even breaching the closure. This is particularly evident in the village of Morton on Swale where drivers will turn in private driveways.

Whilst the A6055, A61 and A167 form the signed diversion route, local drivers use the local and minor road network through the villages of Scruton Kirby Fleetham and Great Langton, via the narrow bridge of Langton Bridge. This route is not encouraged and on occasions Langton Bridge has been closed at the same time as Morton Flatts in extreme conditions. Naturally there is concern of the Parish Councils and local residents of the increase in traffic through the villages and the negative impact this has. Social media posts within local groups can also encourage drivers to use the local road network. Whilst the signed diversion is a longer route comparison of travel timings using the signed diversion compared to Langton Bridge route shows that there is very little difference in time to reach destinations either side of the closure. Clearly the signed diversion utilises higher category roads which are considered to be a safer route for all road users.

**Communications**

A protocol of communications has been developed to ensure as far as possible Parish Councils, community groups and the wider travelling public are made aware that the road is closed. Officers have set up an email group to ensure key stakeholders including the NYC Media team are informed of the closure, including any updates and confirmation of the road re opening. The NYC

Website is updated based on this information including social media posts to inform the wider travelling public. Whilst this protocol works well during the normal working week and weekends, it was recognised that this level of communication during the storm over the recent Christmas period was not possible due to out of hours staffing arrangements and the extend of the flooding across the county.

**Environment Agency Engagement**

The River Swale is a major river and therefore the management of it is the responsibility of the Environment Agency. Regular liaison group meetings take place between the highway authority and the EA to discuss impacts and issues of all rivers within the county. Officers have met with EA representatives to discuss in detail the increased flooding impacts with them.

**Future Proposals - short, medium and long term**

**Short term** - The Area team are currently reviewing the permanent signage & barriers to try to discourage drivers ignoring closure and diversion route. Improvements are to be implemented in the spring/summer. This includes additional and improved signage at Romanby to Warlabby crossroads .

**Medium term** – electronic signage - following the success of the electronic road closure/flooding signage A684 at ensleydale, the feasibility of a similar system is currently being considered for Morton flatts, - we are actively looking for funding opportunities to introduce this if a system of measuring the water levels can be devised given the unique nature of how the road floods on Morton Flatts.

**Long term** - The Morton Flatts Resilience Scheme report was produced in 2020 – 21 which identified several options to realign and elevated section of road. The report would need to be revisited and costs revised in line with current prices and also taking into account the flooding events that have occurred since the report was written. The report is not a public document and will only be released following close liaison with the Environment Agency and as and when a bid is made for funding to deliver a scheme and would also form part of any public consultation that would take place in advance of any scheme being delivered. Any such scheme would be a Multi £m project and the council are actively looking for opportunities

February 2024  
Jayne Charlton  
Area Manager Areas 1 & 2  
Highways Operations  
Highways and Transportation

Initial equality impact assessment screening form			
<p>This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.</p>			
Directorate	Environment		
Service area	Highways and Transportation, Parking Services, Street Scene, Parks and Grounds – Highway Operations		
Proposal being screened	Highways Works Programme & Delivery, including the A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Nigel Smith – NYC Head of Highway Operations		
What are you proposing to do?	The purpose of this report is to apprise Members of how flooding issues at Morton Flatts are being addressed alongside the current position on highways matters across the constituency area and how they are being addressed		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	This report is an ‘information only’ report for members. There are no outcomes other than ensuring that members have received the update on topics they requested.		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No		
<p><b>Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC’s additional agreed characteristics</b></p> <p>As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics?</li> <li>Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?</li> <li>Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to?</li> </ul> <p>If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked ‘Don’t know/no info available’, then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your <a href="#">Equality rep</a> for advice if you are in any doubt.</p>			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don’t know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Sex		✓	
Race		✓	
Sexual orientation		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Religion or belief		✓	
Pregnancy or maternity		✓	

Marriage or civil partnership		✓	
<b>NYC additional characteristics</b>			
People in rural areas		✓	
People on a low income		✓	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		✓	
<b>Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts</b> (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	This is a Member information only report. There are no proposals that would impact on people with protected characteristics.		
<b>Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate?</b> (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.	No		
<b>Decision (Please tick one option)</b>	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full EIA:
Reason for decision	This is a report for information. There are no adverse impact on any of the protected characteristics.		
<b>Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)</b>	Barrie Mason		
<b>Date</b>	3 June 2024		

## Climate change impact assessment

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

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

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email [climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk)

### Version 2: amended 11 August 2021

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

Planning Permission  
Environmental Impact Assessment  
Strategic Environmental Assessment

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

Please contact [climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk) for advice.

<b>Title of proposal</b>	Highways Works Programme & Delivery, including the A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding
<b>Brief description of proposal</b>	Update to Richmondshire ACC on the above
<b>Directorate</b>	Environment
<b>Service area</b>	Highways and Transportation, Parking Services, Street Scene, Parks and Grounds – Highway Operations
<b>Lead officer</b>	Nigel Smith
<b>Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment</b>	
<b>Date impact assessment started</b>	20 May 2024

**Options appraisal**

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

This report is for information only and as such no other options were considered.

**What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?**

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

This report is for information only – as per the main body of the report, there is no impact on budgets, so is cost-neutral.

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p><b>Positive impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p><b>No impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p><b>Negative impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes over and above business as usual</li> <li>• Evidence or measurement of effect</li> <li>• Figures for CO<sub>2</sub>e</li> <li>• Links to relevant documents</li> </ul>	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>	
<p>Minimise <b>greenhouse gas emissions</b> e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.</p>	Emissions from travel		X		N/A		
	Emissions from construction		X		N/A		
	Emissions from running of buildings		X		N/A		
	Emissions from data storage		X		N/A		
	Other		X				
<p>Minimise <b>waste</b>: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>		X		N/A			
<p>Reduce <b>water</b> consumption</p>		X		N/A			

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p><b>Positive impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p><b>No impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p><b>Negative impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes over and above business as usual</li> <li>• Evidence or measurement of effect</li> <li>• Figures for CO<sub>2</sub>e</li> <li>• Links to relevant documents</li> </ul>	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Minimise <b>pollution</b> (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>		X		N/A		
<p>Ensure <b>resilience</b> to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		X		N/A		
<p>Enhance <b>conservation</b> and wildlife</p>		X		N/A		
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of <b>North Yorkshire's landscape</b></p>		X		N/A		
<p>Other (please state below)</p>		X		N/A		



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

N/A – report for info only

**Summary** Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

Report is for information only, there is a neutral impact.

**Sign off section**

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

<b>Name</b>	Nigel Smith
<b>Job title</b>	Head of Highway Operations
<b>Service area</b>	Highways and Transportation, Parking Services, Street Scene, Parks and Grounds
<b>Directorate</b>	Environment
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Completion date</b>	20 May 2024

**Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature):** Barrie Mason

**Date:** 3 June 2024

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## Richmond ACC Work Programme 2024-25

### Monday 18 March 2024 @ 10am

Development of the Catterick Integrated Care Campus	Verbal update on the development of the CICC from Lisa Pope, Deputy Place Director, North Yorkshire, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Appointments to Outside Bodies	To confirm the appointment to the Richmond School Trust – Daniel Harry
Schools Educational Achievement & Finance Report	Annual Update – Christopher Watson, Strategy and Performance Team Leader CYPS, (information only item)
Draft Work Programme 2023-24	To consider the draft Work Programme for 2023-24

### Monday 17 June 2024 @ 10am

Let's Talk Food – Survey Feedback	To present the feedback from the latest 'Let's Talk' campaign - 'Let's Talk Food'.
Schools Educational Achievement & Finance Report	Annual Update – Amanda Newbold, Assistant Director – Education and Skills, Howard Emmett, Assistant Director – Strategic Resources, Janet Crawford, Assistant Director – Inclusion (Deferred from March meeting)
Highways, including the A684, Morton Flatts, River Swale Flooding	Update on the current position in relation to the highways across the constituency area – Nigel Smith, Head of Highway Operations & Jayne Charlton, Area Manager (Areas 1 & 2)
Integrated Passenger Transport – Stokesley	Details on the Integrated Passenger Transport provision for Stokesley to be outlined
Richmondshire Leisure Trust	Update on the position and work of Richmondshire Leisure Trust
Yorkshire Ambulance Service	Details of Yorkshire Ambulance response times (information only item)

Work Programme	To consider the Committee's Work Programme
<b>Monday 16 September 2024 @ 10am</b>	
Council's Resilience & Emergency Planning procedures and response	Update on the Council's Resilience and Emergency Planning procedures and response – Matthew Robinson, Head of Resilience and Emergencies
Subsidised Educational Transport	This issue has been delayed by the pre-election period for the General Election on 4 <sup>th</sup> July.
Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Timothy Johns – Senior Policy Officer - Sustainability
Work Programme	To consider the Committee's Work Programme
<b>Monday 18 November 2024 @ 11am</b>	
Work Programme	To consider the Committee's Work Programme
<b>Monday 13 January 2025 @ 10am Informal TEAMS Meeting</b>	
Budget Proposals 2025 - 2026	Gary Fielding to present
<b>Monday 17 March 2025 @ 10am</b>	
Schools Educational Achievement & Finance	Annual Update - Andrew Dixon, Strategic Planning Manager, Education & Skills & colleagues (information item)
Draft Work Programme 2024-25	To consider the Committee's draft Work Programme for the coming municipal year

Issues identified for future work programme	
Supported Living	Update on implementation of review
Lorry Driver parking	Follow up to consider how issue is being addressed following earlier consideration
Friary and Friarage Hospitals	To consider updates on these facilities.
Provision of a Northallerton Relief Road	To consider any progress on the provision of a Relief Road.
Safety on the Constituency Area's roads	A Joint report by Highways and Public Health to consider data relating to incidents that have occurred on the Constituency Area's roads and the work being carried out to address these.
Mental Health	A report on how mental health issues are being addressed in the area.
Delayed Transfers of Care	Further review of work by Health and Social Care to reduce Delayed Transfers of Care following consultation – linked to the Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Small Schools	Review of educational outcomes at small schools – linked to the Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Healthy Child Programme	An update on the position regarding the Healthy Child Programme following the end of the current contract and the development of a new provision.
Health Issues relating to e-cigarettes	To consider further national guidance in relation to health concerns in relation to the use of e-cigarettes
Parking Charges	Overview of potential changes in light of LGR
Yorkshire Ambulance Service	Details of Yorkshire Ambulance response times (information only item)
Catterick Levelling Up Bid	A presentation on the successful Levelling Up Bid and the current position of the project

Scotch Corner	An update on the issues at Scotch Corner Roundabout
Utility Company Street Works	Information on what is required of utility companies when seeking access to their apparatus, for both planned and emergency works and what powers North Yorkshire council have.