

# North Yorkshire Council

How the climate change strategy can help  
inform the development of the local plan

and

How the local plan can help deliver our  
climate change strategy

# North Yorkshire - A great place to...

- Live
- Work
- Thrive
- Play
- Visit

# North Yorkshire Council – A Step change in Performance

# North Yorkshire Council 2023 – 28

## Critical implementations and a Superpower

- The Local Plan
- The Local Transport plan
- The Economic growth Strategy
- Climate Change strategy and Biodiversity
  
- The Council's power to convene (Super and soft Power)

# We must all be Climate Change Champions now!

Owning and mitigating our impact on the world by measuring our carbon footprint and other actions we take on the natural world if we are to preserve this planet.

As elected representatives we must play our part not only in regulation, scrutiny and investment but in influencing and enabling others to be part of the solution.

Maintain a determined focus on regional policy development and implementation of measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change

# **As Climate Change Champion: I Champion Councillors to make a difference to climate change.**

- Making sure they have access to Climate Change Training starting with the in house program
- Encourage them to support local initiatives / Groups
- To interrogate all reports and policies through a lens of its impact on the climate and environment to ensure climate mitigation and adaptation is business as usual. To prioritise where climate change can help cut the cost of living.
- Encourage them to get their residents to respond to consultations – this is an opportunity to enable your residents to have their say!
- Talk to your parish councils
- To Support Chairs of Scrutiny in their roles from a climate change perspective.

# As Climate Change Champion: I Champion the council's "power to convene" meetings and build partnerships with key strategic providers

- Brierley Companies
- NHS - ICB – our **Health**
- The Police and Fire - food fraud, rural crime, **climate change impact response**
- The Farming Community – **food security** – engaging with GROW Yorkshire
- North Yorkshire Food Partnership **Food Security**
- Yorkshire Water – **Water Security and flood management** – The River Nidd project
- Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust
- Northern PowerGrid/ National Grid – **(Renewable) energy security**
- Further Education - green skills requirement (4 in 5 jobs relate to transition by 2050) **Resource**
- Business - through the now in house LEP promote the circular economy – working differently, minimising waste
- York City Council Liaison
- National Parks – Yorkshire Dales, North York Moors. 3 AONB.
- Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission

# *Call to Action*

- **Save** our residents money by building energy efficient houses in the right place with great infrastructure
- **Boost** their opportunities by providing the training for a skilled workforce and creating higher paid jobs by attracting key industry clusters that build on our natural assets
- **Give** people better transport options to get around and move freight efficiently
- **Protect** our **Natural assets** through creating a great local plan
- **Protect** our residents from climate change by effective management of our water, sewage and flooding propensity
- **Invest to Save** where necessary to save our residents' money or provide services to enable them to save money and the environment.
- **Make** North Yorkshire an even better place to live and more **attractive** for visitors

***All these actions can combat climate change, don't cost the earth and make life better for residents because we will build them into the plan rather than the need to retrofit***

# Our Officers have already started preparing with The Planning Policy Climate Change Day in July 23

“A great Opportunity For our team of policy planners, our climate / sustainability officers along with representatives from other service areas and organisations to come together and start sharing knowledge on climate change.”

***Nb Please Remember our officers are our trusted advisors***

Mid march: officer / councillor event

*As work progresses on the new North Yorkshire Local Plan, the Planning Policy team would like to invite you to an in-person collaborative session in formal development of the first stage of plan-making: Issues and Options.*



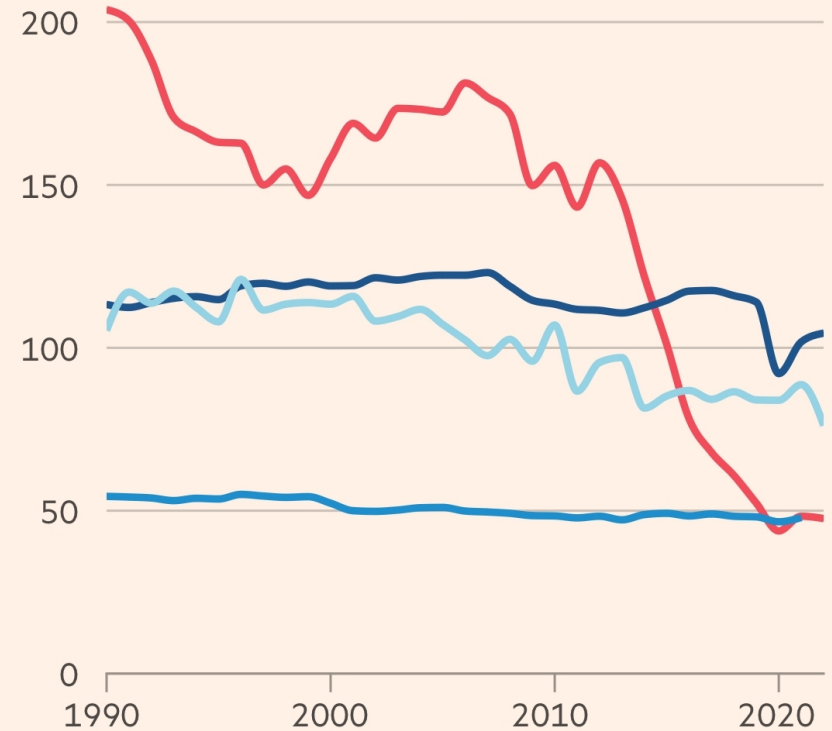
# The local plan and climate change

- **The development of the new Local plan represents superb opportunities for both mitigation and adaptation of climate change and to really make a difference to the health and wellbeing of our residents.**
- **The local plan will, by law, need to contain climate change measures that are both Climate mitigation and Climate adaptation.**
- **Mitigation**: Action to reduce the impact of human activity on the climate system, primarily through reducing greenhouse gas emissions; Mitigation can mean using new technologies and renewable energy, making buildings more energy efficient, or changing travel behaviour. It will also mean working with nature and the natural world.
- **Adaptation**: Adjustments to natural or human systems in response to the actual or anticipated impacts of climate change, to mitigate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. Adaptation can mean changes to make development resilient to flooding and extreme weather

So, what's happened to date on CO2 emissions

UK historical emissions (MtCO2e)

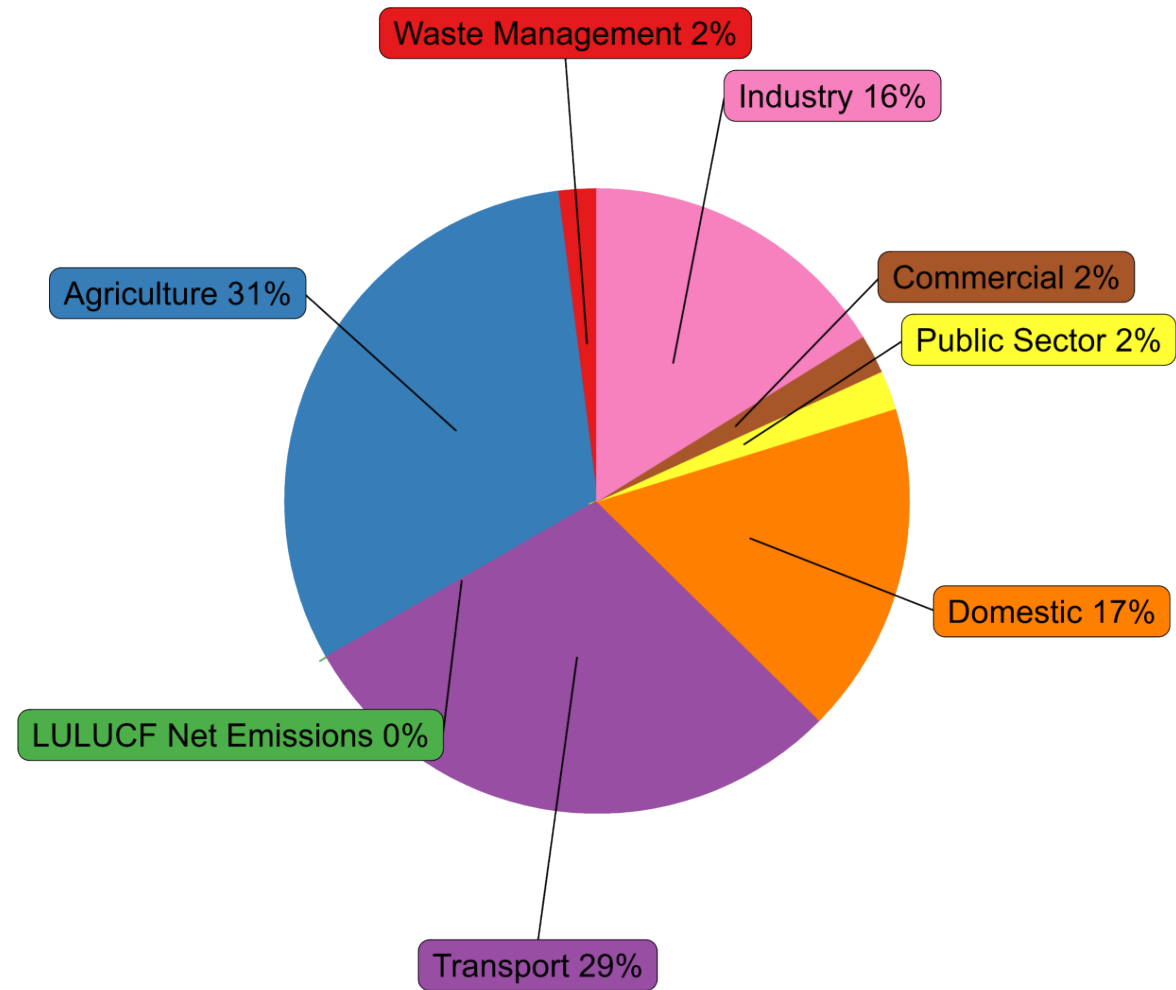
Electricity supply Surface transport  
Buildings Agriculture



FINANCIAL TIMES

Source: Climate Change Committee

And in NY -  
our CO2  
emissions!  
How can we  
help?



# Planning and Climate Change - the Law

- Section 19(1A) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 makes clear ***that reducing emissions, tackling climate change and specifically carbon reduction are legal and policy priorities for the planning system.***
- Paragraphs 152-154 of the NPPF, read in conjunction with footnote 53, ***set out the need for 'radical reductions' in carbon emissions and for plans to take a 'proactive approach' to mitigating and adapting to climate change, 'in line with' the objectives and provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008.***
- ***Local Authorities can lawfully set local buildings energy efficiency requirements that go above Building Regs, so long as they have the evidence to back this up and can prove whole plan viability.***
- ***Key statutory document is: - The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2021 onwards) (England)***

# Environment Act New Duties

1. All planning permissions granted in England (with a few exemptions) will have to deliver at least 10% Biodiversity Net Gain from Nov 2023 (S98-101). - Climate and biodiversity crises – UK is bottom 10% globally and worst G7 nation for biodiversity loss. Nature is key to mitigating and adapting to climate change, and supporting health and wellbeing
2. Enhanced duty for LAs to conserve and enhance biodiversity (S102) and report on their actions (S103). LPAs will need to comply with the above duty and have regard to the Local Nature Recovery Strategy in local planning policy and decisions (S102).
3. Responsible authorities appointed by the Secretary of State (S105) to lead the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), working with a broad range of stakeholders.

# Building Regulations and code for sustainable homes (CFSH)

- **Building Regs** are (and were always meant to be) **the bare minimum** that homes should be built to.
- Volume developers will treat them as a benchmark and insist that exceeding them is a viability challenge.
- Relevant parts for building energy - Part L (conservation of fuel and power), and Part F (ventilation).
- Building Regs is a 'performance based' system; outcomes rather than prescriptive rules. Industry decides how to meet the standards. 'Approved Documents' provide certainty that BR has been met.
- 2006 – Code for Sustainable Homes introduced. CFSH1= slightly above BR. CFSH6 = 'zero carbon home (regulated)'. • Ratchet system – from CFSH1 in 2007, to CFSH6 in 2016
- ***Although CSFH has been scrapped is CSFH4 is not maximum threshold!***

# The fundamental considerations of any Local plan

- **Place:** climate impacts play out very differently across the diverse geography of the North Yorkshire. Urban and rural areas, upland and coastal all require different and bespoke responses.
- **Space:** Building resilience requires interlocking measures from big spatial scale coastal realignment to the detail of the way buildings are wired to ensure they are flood resilient.
- **People:** Climate impacts affect people in different ways and particularly affect those social groups least equipped to be resilient. Adaptation has direct and lasting impacts on everyday lives so taking action means working with communities and communicating an effective narrative for change. We need to ensure costs and savings are fair and just as possible.
- **Time:** Building resilience requires thinking about the very long term and at least 100-year planning horizons. This implies new ways of thinking and working. What will a house of 2043 need to be like?
- ***What will our required services be especially to homes? For example, weekly food waste collection; health care provision; public transport access; active travel options etc***

# Place/ Land Management: Trees/ Peat bogs / SSSI

***The UK is one the world's most nature denuded countries.***

We must to protect our assets. Relocating is virtually the same as destroying them. We must work with and around our Natural assets

According to the WWF one hectare of mature trees sequester 100 tonnes of carbon, whilst one hectare of newly planted trees only 3 tonnes.

Therefore the suggested sequence when choosing places are:

1. Don't cut trees/ forests down, drain peat bogs or destroy SSSI
2. Protect, Manage and maintain these areas
3. Restore woodland where it once existed by regeneration or replanting.



# Houses - ideas

- Highest insulation standards - saving residents money
- Developments with true equal choices of movement – active travel, public transport as well as car
- Developments to have default 20mph for cars to allow multi transport users
- Clean air by using clean fuelled transport/ heating/ cooking
- Powered by renewable energy
- Close to work, amenities and transport hubs
- Easy access for refuse collection
- Easy access for home healthcare

# Houses - ideas

- Homes cost to retrofit = £20k each (whereas developers could have built to net zero for £5k each
  - could we incentivise developers to do the retrofit by offering £5K on completion of each house
    - could we suggest that if regulations are updated within the ten year guarantee that they must do the retrofit as part of their warranty.
- Planning Policy viability testing by larger councils such as Reading and Bristol, possibly York to force greater reductions in CO2 emissions
- Previous confusion has forced small councils to shrink from the arguments and settle for lower standards – but we are now a bigger council!!!
- The best ideas are stolen, and we need to look at best climate practice across local plans including our neighbours York and Leeds.

# Social housing

- How much are we going to provide?
- What standard will it be?
- How will it be maintained?
- **Energy efficient social housing development completed in Harrogate and Skipton**
- ***This is only a small part of the local plan but it does show leadership!***

## New Derby council houses generate more energy than they use

Derby Homes has completed the construction of four carbon negative council houses in Derby, which have been praised as a "monumental achievement". They utilise solar panels, insulation and an air source heat pump to reduce bills and emissions. The homes have an A rating for energy efficiency and produce -0.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide, surpassing the net-zero standard. Derby City Council aims to construct all future buildings to the same specification.

[BBC News](#)

# References

- [Passivhaus News \(passivhaustrust.org.uk\)](https://passivhaustrust.org.uk) York
- [York Council invites public to see Passivhaus development | York Press](#)
- [Spatial planning for climate resilience and Net Zero \(CSE & TCPA\) - Climate Change Committee \(theccc.org.uk\)](#)
- [The Climate Crisis – a guide for local authorities on planning for climate change - Town and Country Planning Association \(tcpa.org.uk\)](#)
- [And an update: https://www.tcpa.org.uk/resources/the-climate-crisis-a-guide-for-local-authorities-on-planning-for-climate-change/](https://www.tcpa.org.uk/resources/the-climate-crisis-a-guide-for-local-authorities-on-planning-for-climate-change/)
- [rtpi-net-zero-transport-january-2021.pdf](#)
- [Climate Emergency Design Guide | LETI](#)
- [Climate Emergency Retrofit Guide | LETI](#)
- [RTPI | Cracking the Code](#)
- [How to achieve net zero carbon homes - Cotswold District Council](#)
- <https://www.bucksherald.co.uk/news/environment/solar-panels-to-be-installed-on-at-least-six-council-buildings-in-bucks-4164273>
- <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/cost-of-living-support/household-energy/solar-together-kent>
- <https://sharedfuturecic.org.uk/kendal-climate-change-jury-whats-happened-2-years-on/>

# Growth strategy - Use our Natural assets

## Food Security is crucial

- Farming – Leading the way in regenerative farming
- Farming the Sea
- Agri tech
- Controlled Environment Agriculture
- Vertical Farms
- Further education Farming training
- University research into farming
- Food Production
- Food Processing
- Food waste and circular economy

# References

- [Jones Food Company](#)
- [Fischer Farms – The Future of Farming](#)
- [Indoor Vertical Farming | Plenty](#)
- [Strawberries - Dyson Farming](#)
- [Meet the team - Poole Harbour Nutrient Management Scheme \(pooleharbournitrates.org.uk\)](#)
- [The Cornish Seaweed Company - organic edible seaweed](#)
- [SeaGrown - Wild Ocean Seaweed Farming](#)
- [Algapelago](#)
- [North Norfolk Coastal Group – improving the biodiversity of the managed environment \(nncg.org.uk\)](#)

# References

- [Welcome to NIAB | NIAB](#)
- [Home - Common Ground Film](#)
- [Home | Rothamsted Research](#)
- [Naylor Nutrition](#)
- [Home | AHDB](#)
- [Agri-Environment Schemes \(fera.co.uk\) at Sandhutton](#)
- [Food Waste Transformation | BioteCH4](#)
- [Global agrifood systems are the climate solution, new FAO report highlights | UN News](#)
- [Agri-TechE supporting agri-tech innovation - Agri-TechE \(agri-tech-e.co.uk\)](#)

# References

- [Bennamann | Delivering a Local Clean Energy Revolution](#)
- [Deliciously Yorkshire - supporting Yorkshire Food & Drink producers \(deliciouslyyorkshire.co.uk\)](#)
- [Home - Pilgrim's \(pilgrimsuk.com\)](#)
- [Transforming food systems could create multi-trillion dollars of economic benefits every year](#)
- [Home - P3P Partners](#)
- [APS Salads \(apsgroup.uk.com\)](#)
- [Vertically Urban | UK-based Horticultural LED Lighting Manufacturer](#)
- <https://www.soilassociation.org/causes-campaigns/a-ten-year-transition-to-agroecology/what-is-agroecology/>



# Tourism

- The second largest business in North Yorkshire
- They come to see nature and get away from it all
- Great Local Produce supports great restaurants
- Access to destinations by various modes of transport
- Skilled people to support the sector
- Eco tourism

# Other industries that our natural assets lend themselves to

- Renewable Energy Production including
  - Solar
  - Wind on and off shore
  - Tidal and Wave
  - Data centres - [Deep Green - Climate And Society Friendly Compute](#)
  - Minewater
  - Sewage
  - Geothermal
  - Hydro - rivers

*But we need to be cognizant of environmental challenges for example*

- [Home - Suffolk Energy Action Solutions](#)

# Other industries that our natural assets lend themselves to

- Commercial Forestry - the UK imports more than 80% of its timber

[Confor : Confederation of Forest Industries \(UK\)](#)

- Retrofitting including skills training ( $\frac{3}{4}$  of houses need this) There are few or no local businesses offering this service. There is one award winning service - [RHI information cost effective solar panels installation, heat pumps \(yorkshireenergysystems.co.uk\)](#)
- Recycling and reusing the recycling – not just collection – ***embracing the circular economy.***
- “A new multimillion-pound recycling facility in Coventry, founded by eight West Midlands councils, will use robots and AI technology to sort rubbish. The facility, called Sherbourne Recycling, is the first of its kind in the UK and will process the rubbish of 1.5m people across the region. The plant aims to turn residential mixed recycling into high-quality materials to be returned to the UK market. The facility also has the capability to adapt to changes in composition and consumer habits. The plant is "a huge investment but a great return for all councils for the next 25 years", Cllr Carolyn Watson-Merret from **Rugby BC** said.”

# The Local Transport plan

What are our transport needs of the future?  
2043?

How does it fit with the local plan and the  
economic growth strategy?

How does it fit with our climate change strategy?

# Road infrastructure that supports enjoying your journey and having options on how you wish to travel: that promotes shared use and modal shift

- To walking and cycling
- To catching the bus – that is clean, convenient and punctual
- To catching the train
- To park'n'ride
- To driving your car, knowing refuelling is nearby
- To reducing congestion
- To creating cleaner air to breathe

# Imagine: The economic case for supporting “Bike to School”

## How many car journeys could this take off the road?

Total number of School Pupils in Harrogate and Knaresborough	16880
number of pupils from outside the area	3000
primary school pupils	7234
secondary school pupils	9646
national average percentage cycle to school	4%
national average that would like to cycle to school	50%
total opportunity pupils to cycle to school in H&K (excluding pupils who live outside area)	6940
Reduction in/ impact on number of cars journeys	????
Estimated number of pupils in H&K that cycle to school	555
one percent more pupils cycling to school (probably 69 less car journeys)	69

# Infrastructure: Road that support our plans, not inhibits them

***On the basis that major investment is unlikely, how do we maximise the current infrastructure?***

- Different parts of society use transport differently for example men and women or children and adults.
- Transport hubs at key locations where transfer from one type of travel to another seamlessly
- Developments with true equal choices of movement – active travel, public transport as well as car
- Appropriate refuelling points
- Easy access for refuse (inc. food waste and recycling) collection, home healthcare and delivery
- Easy access to places of employment

# Infrastructure – Transport Freight

- 90+% of goods / freight in North Yorkshire travel by road
- How does our transport plan facilitate the movement of freight by road?
- Day freight, overnight freight, part shipments, drop and swap to smaller vehicles for access to towns after being trunked long distance.
- Some thoughts:
  1. Suitable sized, conveniently placed laybys for drivers to rest, take a break, sort their tachographs, plan and programme sat nav for next delivery etc
  2. Refuelling – in day deliveries probably back at their base, but overnight. Electric and hydrogen.
  3. Access to quality food
  4. Access to toilet facilities
  5. Return loads



# Infrastructure: Rail that support our plans, not inhibits them

***On the basis that major investment is unlikely how do we maximise the current infrastructure.***

- Create frictionless access and payment options
- Ensure all have access and support - inclusive
- Add small stations such as Claro road in Harrogate that would take thousands of cars off road whilst making transport to place of work easier
- Modify Train crossings to maximise safe transport flows eg Starbeck crossing in Harrogate
- In the south of the county tap into Leeds Mass transit plans including access to Leeds Bradford airport

# Infrastructure: Public Transport (buses) that support our plans, not inhibits them

- Create equality and safe options - inclusive
- How does it serve us?
- Do we have transport hubs that support the different options?
- Should hospitals / Leisure centres be transport hubs as well as town centres?
- How do we serve our schools?
- How would public transport serve the tourism sector which is huge in North Yorkshire?
- Consider “buses” that carries small freight - “bus provided by Amazon?” and bill board advertising on the side

# Transport - where is it hurting us

People can't get around on their choice of transport at ***a price the can afford or when its convenient and even when its inconvenient! It must be safe for all.***

**It causes congestion as well as putting toxins in the air**

**And Carbon emissions: by vehicle type**

- Cars 56%
- Lorries 21%
- Busses 18%
- Other 5%
- But let's consider this - ***2/3rds of vehicle CO2 emissions come from journeys over ten miles - this means that effective public transport could be a major winner for interurban travel.***

# Transport (Public) references

- Leicester City Council have used the enhanced partnership approach to their buses. [Leicester Enhanced Bus Partnership Scheme 2022-2025](#)
- Work place parking Levy to fund public transport – see Nottingham council [Ten years on: Nottingham’s Workplace Parking Levy keeps the city moving ahead – Transport Nottingham](#)
- [How Britain’s bus services have drastically declined | Policy and insight \(friendsoftheearth.uk\)](#)
- [https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/staff/tyfield/NZIP-DePoLARiZE-Road\\_freight\\_decarbonization\\_options.pdf](https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/staff/tyfield/NZIP-DePoLARiZE-Road_freight_decarbonization_options.pdf)

# Infrastructure – water security that can support our plans without polluting our county

## Water Management to domestic, business and agriculture

- Supply – where are pipes good enough to support the increased volumes
- Sewage - where are pipes good enough to support the increased volumes, where do they need replacing?
- Flood – should all new houses have water butts as part of their surface water attenuation package as well as providing water in periods of drought?

## Rivers (flood management, cleanliness)

***Increasingly Heavy Rain in the winter is a consequence of climate change and we need to be able to adapt***

- They are too straight – we need to put their wiggle back and not take any more wiggle out
- Combined sewage outflow
- Farmers field run off
- Other pollutants such as Old mining

# Water Security - Sewage

- How do we ensure sewage doesn't overflow in peak water weather events?
- Please watch the testimony from an environment agency official on Thursday at the Harrogate and Knaresborough ACC and see if you come to same conclusions .
- [Live meetings | North Yorkshire Council](#) From about 1hour 13 mins
- We should probably treat sewage infrastructure like the road infrastructure, running simulation models to see if the pipes can cope with the extra excrement!

# *Call to Action*

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- **Boost** their opportunities by providing the training for a skilled workforce and creating higher paid jobs by attracting key industry clusters that build on our natural assets
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***All these actions can combat climate change, don't cost the earth and make life better for residents because we will build them into the plan rather than the need to retrofit***

4/2/2024

# Thoughts and Questions

Its helpful if you can contact me in advance but not essential on [cll.paul.Haslam@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:cll.paul.Haslam@northyorks.gov.uk) - climate change champion