

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

5 MAY 2021

STATEMENT OF THE OPEN TO BUSINESS PORTFOLIO HOLDER COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANDREW LEE (INCLUDING GROWTH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, WASTE MANAGEMENT, TRADING STANDARDS AND BUSINESS RELATIONS)

Economic Development

The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has successfully delivered the £145m Growth Deal it agreed with government. In addition it has delivered £7.7m of the £15.4m Get Building Fund award. Both programmes have fully achieved their MHCLG targets.

In addition the Business Growth Hub engaged with over 13,000 businesses throughout the year, exceeding all its BEIS targets. Against this success, government is undertaking a review of the role of LEPs nationally and is due to report before the summer recess.

Waste Management

Covid restrictions and national lockdown provisions have had a significant impact on the volume and type of waste generated in North Yorkshire. The Council has received 8,800 tonnes more municipal waste (+3%) in 20/21 compared to 19/20. Behind this headline, there have been big changes in waste flows reflecting how society has responded to the global pandemic. For example, Household Waste Recycling Centres reopened following their temporary closure in April and May 2020 with new site rules to maintain social distancing to keep people safe. Despite such restrictions, residents made an additional 61,000 visits.

Planning Services

Although work has been somewhat more limited over the past year due to COVID-19, work towards the adoption of our Minerals and Waste Joint Plan with the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority has continued. The production of an updated Schedule of Main Modifications has been finalised and the statutory assessments to accompany the Plan have been completed. The Authorities are duty bound to consult with interested parties on the Schedule of Main Modifications to the Plan and this public consultation will likely be in the coming months with the expectation of adoption of the Plan later this year.

Growth and Heritage Services

Officers continue to support recovery from Covid through the work of the internal local economy workstream including Buy Local and communication on Government initiatives.

Government Funding: The Community Renewal Fund, announced in March's budget, is being administered by the Economic Growth team with a potential £3 million largely revenue funding per District. A call for projects was opened on 01 April 2021 and closes on 13 May. All information is on the NYCC website including FAQ and live webinar sessions www.northyorks.gov.uk/CommunityRenewalFund. Both Scarborough Borough and Richmondshire Districts have been identified as 'priority places' which will increase their chances of receiving funding.

There has been national publicity including national daily newspapers on a high status Roman villa and bath-house never before seen in Britain discovered beneath a building site in Scarborough. An excavation was carried out at the Keepmoat Homes site in Eastfield after Historic England suggested there was the potential for Roman or Iron Age remains to be found there, but the extent and significance of the discovery has surprised experts.

A large complex of buildings was revealed, including a circular central room with a number of other rooms and a bath-house leading from it. Experts believe they are the foundations of a 'high-status' Roman villa, some sort of religious community or perhaps a combination of both.

[Remains of 'high-status' Roman villa and bath-house never seen before in Britain discovered beneath building site in Scarborough | Yorkshire Post](#)

[Remains of a 'high-status' Roman villa discovered in Scarborough | Daily Mail Online](#)

NSIPs

The Council is engaged with four Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) all in the early stages of the pre application process. The basic timelines are as follows:

	Basic Description	Expected DCO Submission
Drax – BioEnergy Carbon Capture	Creation of Carbon Capture Storage facility at the Drax Power Station site to service the Bio-energy generators. Full details are not known yet but this will effectively be new buildings on the site. Drax have applied for this type of work in the past.	Nov / Dec 2021
Highways England – A66 Improvements	This entails 10 separate highway improvement schemes. 2 are within the North Yorkshire boundary: Stephen Bank to Carkin Moor and a second scheme proposed at Scotch Corner.	Spring 2022
Power Grid – Yorkshire Green Energy Project	Increasing capacity of overhead lines between York and Selby – Some but limited on the ground infrastructure. The exact route is not yet known.	Autumn 2022
Power Grid – Humber Low Carbon Pipelines Projects	The project is to install a Carbon Capture pipeline to carry to the carbon away from Drax and other facilities in the area and store it underground in the North Sea. This is linked to the Drax application and is brought forward by a consortium of energy providers and carbon producers. This is an unusual and exciting project for the area, use this link to the site Home Zero Carbon Humber	Spring 2023

Timescales: expected DCO submission dates are included as an indication of timescales but also to show that the applications are staggered with longer lead in times for some. This should allow for staff resourcing.

NYCC expects to enter into a Planning Performance Agreement with all 4 applications allowing the County and District Councils to recoup funds for some or all of our staff resource in these cases.

ANDREW LEE