

North Yorkshire Council

Environment Executive Members

25 July 2025

York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Community Fund 2025 – Application for Public Conveniences

Report of the Assistant Director – Environment and Transport

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the submission of an application to York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority for funding of £20,000 from the Corporate Director Environment in consultation with the Assistant Director- Resources to purchase steel doors for the public conveniences of Harrogate to increase safety and reduce anti-social behaviour.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Launched in May 2013, The Community Fund is specifically for local organisations, groups or individuals who need money to help fund a new community safety project or scheme.
- 2.2 The money will be used on the public conveniences in Harrogate to replace all external access doors and install automatic opening and closing mechanisms, alongside reinforced security steel doors at each site, alongside improved lighting and signage.
- 2.3 Officers have prepared an application for submission and the closing date for applications is midday on 31 July 2025.

3.0 DETAILED PRESENTATION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE

- 3.1 The York and North Yorkshire Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (OPFCC), part of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, has been committed to providing a Community Fund since 2013.
- 3.2 The fund enables local groups and organisations to apply for grants of up to £20,000, for new or innovative projects that support local communities within North Yorkshire or City of York to feel safe and be safe.
- 3.3 The Community Fund aims to invest in one-off projects at a local level which can achieve positive outcomes for individuals and communities across three key areas; To support key or priority community locations to be or feel safe(r), to provide services or deliver projects which aim to prevent people from becoming victims of crime or anti-social behaviour (ASB), to provide services or deliver projects which aim to prevent people from becoming perpetrators or decrease the chance of people re-offending.
- 3.4 North Yorkshire's Police and Crime Plan 2025 - 29, is an evidence-based plan, informed by the public's identified priorities, following extensive consultation across York and North Yorkshire. The subsequent plan aims to respond to the concerns raised, while setting expectations for North Yorkshire Police to achieve.

3.5 Evidence collected shows that whilst the sites in Harrogate represent 4% of the network they account for 15% of the vandalism and crime. Damage has included broken locks, graffiti, and misuse of the space for non-sanitary purposes, leading to temporary closures, increased repair costs, and public complaints.

4.0 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

4.1 Reports have been received and formal complaints from residents and local businesses expressing concerns over safety, cleanliness, and reliability of access.

4.2 There is strong local demand for safe, accessible, and consistently available public conveniences, especially for elderly residents, families with young children, and people with disabilities. We have also consulted with community support officers, who support the proposed improvements as a way to deter crime and reduce their callouts to these facilities.

5.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

5.1 The scheme contributes to the Council Plan Safe, Healthy and Living Well priorities as follows:

- i. Working with the Police to protect adults and children from harm as part of our Safeguarding Partnerships.
- ii. Prioritising early intervention, preventing crises before they arise.
- iii. North Yorkshire Council is committed to ensuring our communities are and feel safe. We will engage with residents, gathering local knowledge and fostering open conversations, while working closely with North Yorkshire Police.

6.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6.1 Applying for a grant towards steel doors on the public conveniences in Harrogate is considered an opportunity for NYC to tackle ASB and create safer environments alongside North Yorkshire Police, helping to meet our council priorities.

6.2 If the application is unsuccessful alternative funding will be provided from existing service budgets.

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 If the grant application is successful the NYC will receive funding of up to £20,000 which will be used in conjunction with budget from existing service budgets to fund the cost of steel doors, the total amount required for this project is £83,000.

7.2 There are no ongoing costs for the Council over and above current revenue budgets for public conveniences.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no legal implications arising from the submission of the grant application. Grant terms are not available at the present time but will be reviewed by Legal Services when released. If any of the grant terms present unacceptable risk for the Council, then the grant offer would be declined. In the event that the bid is successful, any contracts entered in respect of the grant funding will be in accordance with the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules, and if relevant the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and/or the Procurement Act 2023.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report, see Appendix A for screening.

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report, see Appendix B for screening.

11.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Installing automatic open/close steel doors in public toilets enhances accessibility and safety—particularly for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, people with disabilities, and women and girls.

11.2 Reducing anti-social behaviour, re-offending and reducing callouts to the facilities.

12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 Applying for the grant will reduce pressure on existing service budgets and leaves room for further improvements which would not be possible without the additional funding.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION

13.1 To recommend that the Corporate Director of Environment approve the request to apply for the £20,000 grant awarded by York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, to purchase new steel doors for public conveniences to help improve community safety.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix B – Climate change

Background documents: None

Michael Leah
Assistant Director – Environment and Transport
County Hall
Northallerton
31 July 2025

Report Author – Megan Davies Environment Graduate Trainee
Presenter of Report – Megan Davies Environment Graduate Trainee

| Initial equality impact assessment screening form 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. | | | |
|---|---|----|------------------------------|
| Directorate | Environment | | |
| Service area | Waste and Streetscene | | |
| Proposal being screened | Impact of new steel doors on public conveniences | | |
| Officer(s) carrying out screening | Megan Davies | | |
| What are you proposing to do? | Purchase new piece of equipment using grant funding | | |
| Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes? | Use of money to help meet North Yorkshire Police Crime Plan and reduce anti-social behaviour to help create safer communities | | |
| Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details. | No | | |
| Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC's additional agreed characteristics As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? | | | |
| 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 directorate representative for advice if you are in any doubt. | | | |
| Protected characteristic | Potential for adverse impact | | Don't know/No info available |
| | Yes | No | |
| Age | | X | |
| Disability | | X | |
| Sex | | X | |
| Race | | X | |
| Sexual orientation | | X | |
| Gender reassignment | | X | |
| Religion or belief | | X | |
| Pregnancy or maternity | | X | |
| Marriage or civil partnership | | X | |
| People in rural areas | | X | |
| People on a low income | | X | |
| Carer (unpaid family or friend) | | X | |
| Are from the Armed Forces Community | | X | |
| Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (for | No | | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| example, disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details. | | | | |
| Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (for example, partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion. | No | | | |
| Decision (Please tick one option) | EIA not relevant or proportionate: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Continue to full EIA: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reason for decision | No impact on protected characteristics | | | |
| Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent) | Michael Leah | | | |
| Date | 11.07.2025 | | | |

Climate Change Impact Assessment

Initial Climate Change Impact Assessment (Form created August 2021)

The intention of this document is to help the council to gain an initial understanding of the impact of a project or decision on the environment. This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. Dependent on this initial assessment you may need to go on to complete a full Climate Change Impact Assessment. The final document will be published as part of the decision-making process.

If you have any additional queries, which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

| | |
|---|---|
| Title of proposal | York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Community Fund |
| Brief description of proposal | Grant to fund new steel doors on public conveniences in Harrogate to help create safer communities by reducing anti-social behaviour. |
| Directorate | Environment |
| Service area | Waste and Street scene |
| Lead officer | Megan Davies |
| Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment | Steven Goddard, Public Conveniences Manager |

The chart below contains the main environmental factors to consider in your initial assessment – choose the appropriate option from the drop-down list for each one.

Remember to think about the following.

- Travel
- Construction
- Data storage
- Use of buildings
- Change of land use
- Opportunities for recycling and reuse

| Environmental factor to consider | For the council | For the county | Overall |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Greenhouse gas emissions | No effect on emissions | No Effect on emissions | No effect on emissions |
| Waste | No effect on waste | No effect on waste | No effect on waste |
| Water use | No effect on water usage | No effect on water usage | No effect on water usage |
| Pollution (air, land, water, noise, light) | No effect on pollution | No effect on pollution | No effect on pollution |
| Resilience to adverse weather/climate events (flooding, drought etc) | No effect on resilience | No effect on resilience | No effect on resilience |
| Ecological effects (biodiversity, loss of habitat etc) | No effect on ecology | No effect on ecology | No effect on ecology |
| Heritage and landscape | No effect on heritage and landscape | No effect on heritage and landscape | No effect on heritage and landscape |

If any of these factors are likely to result in a negative or positive environmental impact then a full climate change impact assessment will be required. It is important that we capture information about both positive and negative impacts to aid the council in calculating its carbon footprint and environmental impact.

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|------------------------|--|
| Decision (Please tick one option) | Full CCIA not relevant or proportionate: | X | Continue to full CCIA: | |
| Reason for decision | Broadly no effects on environment. As public conveniences are already in place there will be no changes to existing environment. | | | |
| Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent) | Michael Leah | | | |
| Date | 11.07.2025 | | | |