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MEETING	COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	17 MAY 2017
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS RICHARDSON (VICE-CHAIR), DEW, HUNTER AND KRAMM
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS FUNNELL

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#### **50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda. None were declared.

#### **51. MINUTES**

The Committee asked that further information be included in the minutes in relation to the item on Flood Risk in York – the York 5 Year Plan Update. Specifically that ‘the Project Director also confirmed that the upgraded flood defences for New Walk and Clementhorpe had been prioritised in the work plan for early delivery.’

Resolved: That approval of the minutes be deferred until the next appropriate scrutiny meeting.

Reason: In order that additional information on minute number 47 can be added before the minutes are approved.

#### **52. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council’s Public Participation Scheme.

#### **53. SIX - MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT FROM NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

Members considered a report regarding Service Delivery activity involving North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) that have occurred between the 1st April 2016 – 31st March 2017 and to

provide an update regarding other relevant issues from within the York and Selby District.

Dave Dryburgh, Group Manager, was in attendance to present the report and answer Member questions.

Members queried the reasons behind the difficulties of recruiting and retaining on-call (part-time) fire fighters and the steps being taken to address the issue, but were pleased to note it was an improving picture. They were also pleased to note that the Fire & Rescue local plan was centred around water safety as they recognised it was a key requirement for the city.

Resolved: That Members note the report.

Reason: In order that the Committee are up to date with North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service Activity.

#### **54. IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE - HOUSING REGISTRATIONS SCRUTINY REVIEW**

Members considered a report which provided them with their first formal update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed Housing Registrations Scrutiny Review.

Members were pleased to note that personal interviews had been successfully introduced (recommendation ii), and that following much negotiation a decision had been made to withdraw from the North Yorkshire Home Choice Partnership (recommendation ix).

In regard to recommendations vii & viii, Members recognised the ongoing work to address the need for additional social housing and affordable family homes in the city and accepted that forthcoming changes to legislation would further support that work.

The Assistant Director for Housing & Community Safety provided details on the expected timeframe for delivering the new IT system (recommendation i). He also confirmed a Project Manager would be in place by June 2017 and that the tendering process would start in Autumn 2017.

Members accepted that the remaining recommendations would only be achievable once the new IT system was in place, and therefore requested that a further update be provided in January 2018.

Resolved: That;

1. Members note the implementation update information detailed in Annex A
2. Recommendations (ii) & (ix) be signed off as fully implemented
3. A further update on the remaining recommendations be provided to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee in January 2018.

Reason: To conclude this review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols and inform the future work of scrutiny.

Cllr T Richardson, Vice-Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.35 pm].