

**CITY OF YORK COUNCIL
SUMMONS**

All Councillors, relevant Council Officers and other interested parties and residents are formally invited to attend a meeting of the **City of York Council** at **The Guildhall, York**, to consider the business contained in this agenda on the following date and time

Thursday, 23 March 2023 at 6.30 pm

AGENDA

1. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or other registerable interest they might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests.

2. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 20)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Budget Council meeting held on 23 February 2023.

3. **Civic Announcements**

To consider any announcements made by the Lord Mayor in respect of Civic business.

4. **Public Participation**

At this point in the meeting, any member of the public who has registered to address the Council, or to ask a Member of the Council a question, on a matter directly relevant to the business of the Council or the City, may do so. The deadline for registering is **5:00pm on Tuesday, 21 March 2023**.

To register to speak please visit

www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings to fill in an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting please contact Democratic Services. Contact details can be found at the foot of this agenda.

Webcasting of Public Meetings

Please note that, subject to available resources, this public meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The remote public meeting can be viewed live and on demand at

www.york.gov.uk/webcasts.

During coronavirus, we made some changes to how we're running council meetings. See our updates at www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy for more information on meetings and decisions.

5. Petitions

To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order B5. Notice has been received of four petitions, to be presented by:

- (i) Cllr Doughty, on behalf of residents of Strensall and Earswick, calling for the City of York Council to prioritise the creation of an off-road cycle path connecting Strensall with Huntington and Earswick.
 - (ii) Cllr Doughty, on behalf of residents of Strensall calling for the council to prioritise re-surfacing of Haxby Moor Road, the link road from Strensall to Haxby, by adding it to the Highways Department work plans list.
 - (iii) Cllr Doughty, on behalf of residents of Stockton-on-the-Forest asking the council to prioritise the resurfacing of Stone Riggs, Sandy Lane, Kingsmoor Road and the cul-de-sacs off including Chaumont Way, Marmian Drive, Gay Meadows and The Limes by adding them to the Highways Department work plans list.
 - (iv) Cllr Smalley, from residents calling on the council to adopt the roads and infrastructure on the Granary (RedRow) Estate in Clifton Without, working with Yorkshire Water, Persimmon and RedRow to resolve all outstanding issues.
- 6. Report of Executive Leader and Questions** (Pages 21 - 28)
To receive and consider a written report from the Leader, and to ask questions on the work of the Executive.
- 7. Report of Deputy Leader and Questions** (Pages 29 - 36)
To receive and consider a written report from the Deputy Leader, and to question the Deputy Leader thereon.
- 8. Motions on Notice**
To consider the following Motions on Notice under Standing Order B13:

Motions submitted for consideration directly by Council

(i) From Cllr Baker

Care Leavers Transport Costs

“Council notes:

- That care leavers over the age of 18 are currently offered:
 - 10 hours of driving lessons
 - Support with passing the Compulsory Basic Training (for motorcycles)
 - The cost of the first driving theory test
 - The cost of the first driving test.
- That all these are contributions to moving forward with travelling using a private motor vehicle (car or motorcycle) and that these do not offer support for costs relating to public transport or incentives to choose active travel.

Council believes:

- That this disparity is not consistent with our corporate 10 years strategies to reduce carbon emissions, promote healthy lifestyles and promote an inclusive economy including more affordable travel options.
- That it is important to enable care leavers to choose active travel habits in their day to day lives as they move towards independence and that as a corporate parent the Council should assist them to do so.
- That it is important to ensure that this is addressed in terms of widening the offer to Care Leavers.

Council therefore resolves to request that Executive consider what additional offer to Care Leavers could rectify this situation and to assess the feasibility of also offering care leavers the option of:

- Financial assistance with annual bus travel and discounted access to the TIER e-cycle/ e-scooter scheme up to the age of 25;
- Free urban cycle skills training if required;
- A contribution towards a bicycle and appropriate protective clothing and through working with partners, find ways to cover the full costs of a new bicycle and appropriate accessories.”

(ii) From Cllr Daubeney

Return to Community Policing

“This Council notes that:

- The number of Police Community Support Officers has fallen by 20% (50 full-time equivalent PCSOs) since 2021 across North Yorkshire.
- Despite a 4.99 per cent rise in the Police percept, which amounts to £14.03 extra for the average band D household, the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner has paused PCSO recruitment until March 2024.
- The Home Office is allocating just over £72 per head for police services in North Yorkshire, whilst Kent receives £113 and South Yorkshire Force receives £170.
- The 2023/24 budget provides £150k investment to improve community safety, tackling anti social behaviour hotspots, including through funding of extra specialist youth support workers.
- Devolved Ward funding has been used by ward councillors to support youth engagement activities, which support the work of the Safer York Partnership.
- Antisocial behaviour crime makes up 22.7% of all crimes reported in York.
- Whilst the number of ASB related incidents in York has decreased since the end of the pandemic, for certain areas, it remains a significant issue.
- Safer York Partnership provides both the strategic direction for community safety and oversees the coordinated delivery of community safety outcomes across the city of York and has representatives from key voluntary and statutory agencies including City of York Council, North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Probation, Public Health, Office of the Police and Fire Commissioner and York CVS.
- An Independent inspection of York Youth Justice Service has found it to be ‘outstanding’.

This Council believes that:

- Police Community Support Officers play a vital role in keeping our communities safe. The Government and the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner should be empowering them to do their job, not risking the slashing of their numbers, putting more pressure on stretched local council budgets to plug the gaps in community safety.

The Council consequently resolves to:

- Request that Group Leaders write to the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner calling for a reversal of the current freeze in PCSO recruitment and commitment to significantly increase the number of PCSOs in the region.
- Request that Council officers work with the North Yorkshire Police to produce a report to the Executive Member on how neighbourhood improvement plans can be developed, which review how to best holistically design out anti social behaviour in the area.
- Invite the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to a public meeting to answer councillor questions and set out plans to improve community policing in York.
- Request that the Safer York Partnership representatives engage and consult ward councillors in the development of the Community Safety Strategy 2023-2026.
- Call on Safer York Partnership chair to explore best ways to embed Community Safety Officers within the Community Safety Hub.”

(iii) From Cllr Looker

Removing Barriers to an Education and Educational Attainment

“Council notes:

- almost 1 in 4 children live in poverty in York, a figure that rises to almost 1 in 3 nationally;
- the recent proliferation of formal and informal food banks in

York and across the UK as more families become reliant on support to eat;

- the impact of the cost-of-living crisis being likely to increase those needing support in the years ahead, making free school meals (FSM) vital for an increasing proportion of York children;
- Obesity, dentistry problems, eating disorders and poor mental health in childhood all being exacerbated by lack of access to healthy food;
- the significant barriers to learning and achievement, both at school and at home, including fatigue and lack of concentration, for students that haven't eaten properly due to poverty, and the role those barriers play in widening the educational attainment gap;
- 30% of all children living in poverty in our region are not eligible for free school meals;
- Decreasing levels of attendance and increasing levels of persistent absenteeism in both FSM and non-FSM students in York, following the height of Covid;
- recognition at the council-convened Cost of Living Summit of the impact expensive and unnecessary school-branded uniform makes to families living in poverty, including some not attending school.

Council recognises the importance of ensuring that every primary age school child in our city has access to at least one hot meal every day.

Further, it recognises particular needs of SEN pupils and believes school absence management policies that demonstrate consideration of individual circumstances are more likely to result in improved attendance than standardised, rigid responses that treat all students the same.

Council is committed to supporting institutions and their policies where they don't stigmatise children living in poverty, where they adopt a culture of understanding around uniform, punctuality and difficulty concentrating due to often difficult individual circumstances.

Council resolves:

- to request the Executive commits the council to a policy of working with external organisations to provide FSM to all primary school pupils, starting with those schools most in need;
- to write to all York secondary schools, highlighting the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) ‘Cost of the School Day’ project to ask that students eligible for FSMs are able to use their allowance at any time during the school day, and to agree to the rolling over of any unspent money to be used in the future;
- to commit to a twin track approach of working through the LGA on FSM automatic enrolment as well as expanding eligibility for FSM by increasing the income threshold, and through the NEU on ensuring FSM provision becomes universal for every primary school child;
- to write, through the Corporate Director for Children’s Services, to all local authority-maintained schools and academy schools:
 - requesting information on how they are meeting Government statutory guidance on keeping school uniform affordable, and keeping branded items to a minimum, to reassure Council that schools are not excluding students based on income and are genuinely open to all;
 - inviting all schools to work with the local authority in developing a York protocol which describes ‘What should be ordinarily available’ for pupils with SEN ensuring there is a fair and consistent application of the SEND Code of Practice by schools to protect the rights of these pupils.”

(iv) From Cllr Pearson

Council Backs Haxby Station Project

“This Council notes that:

- The reopening of a station in Haxby has been a long-held ambition for the local community, after the station closed in 1930, and since then the town has expanded over decades.
- In June 2020, the City of York Council utilised funding to

submit a bid for the Department for Transport's New Stations Fund, making the case for funding to unlock the delivery of a new station in Haxby.

- To date, £1.5m of Government funding has been secured with commitments from York Outer's Conservative MP and the Prime Minister (then Chancellor) to provide the remaining funds, beyond the £4m of match funding pledged by the Council.
- A thorough evaluation from council officers and Network Rail explored options and the officers advised Executive that Towthorpe Road site presented the only realistic case for delivering the station. Considerations included the ownership of the land, deliverability within the Department for Transport's required timescales, potential connectivity, and ease of access.
- Following the acquisition of the land by the Council, further work has been carried out on the project's business case and design, with planning application expected to be submitted in May 2023, with determination at planning committee expected in August 2023.
- A public consultation undertaken in Apr/May 2022 by the Council saw 81% of 1,200 respondents support the station proposals.
- The new station would provide direct access to the rail network for thousands of local residents from Haxby, Wigginton, Strensall and surrounding communities. This means improved access to new employment, business and leisure opportunities, increasing connectivity for our part of York, and providing faster, more efficient, and sustainable travel.
- Delays in progressing with the project in the current timeline is likely to result in failing to secure sufficient government funding to deliver the station.

This Council believes that:

- It is crucial that the opportunity to secure the development of a station in Haxby is realised for the benefit of the local community and the whole city.

The Council therefore resolves to:

- Endorse and commit to the Haxby station project and its location at the only deliverable site at Towthorpe Road, and fully back it to ensure its success.
- Request that all group leaders send a joint letter to the Department for Transport and Network Rail supporting the project and urging for the remaining Government funding to be released from the Restoring Your Railway Fund to enable to proceed with the project at pace.”

9. Questions to the Leader or Executive Members

To question the Leader and/or Executive Members in respect of any matter within their portfolio responsibility, in accordance with Standing Order B11.

10. Report of Executive Member (Pages 37 - 48)

To receive a written report from the Executive Member for Economy & Strategic Planning and to question the Executive Member thereon, in accordance with Standing Orders B9 and B10.

11. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee (Pages 49 - 52)

To receive a report from Councillor Crawshaw, Chair of the Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee, on the work of the Committee.

12. Pay Policy 2023-2024 (Pages 53 - 74)

To receive for approval the council's Pay Policy Statement for 2023/2024.

13. Urgent Business

Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democratic Services officer

Fiona Young

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552030
- Email fiona.young@york.gov.uk

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我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 **(01904) 551550**

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Jamaila Hussein,
Corporate Director
of Adult Social
Care & Integration

Dawn Steel,
Head of Civic
& Democratic
Services

Bryn Roberts,
Monitoring
Officer

Neil Ferris,
Corporate
Director of
Place

Neil Ferris,
Chief Finance
Officer

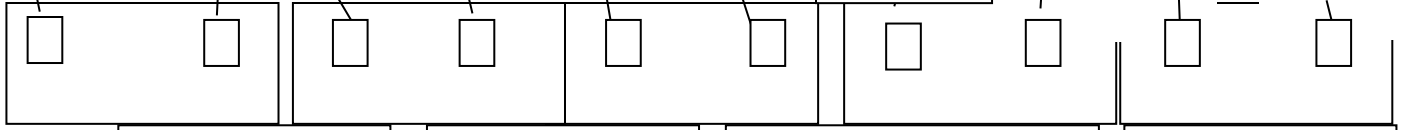
Pauline
Stuchfield,
Director of
Customer &
Communities

Martin Kelly,
Corporate
Director of
Children &
Education

Democracy
Officer

Cllr D Carr
Lord Mayor

Ian Floyd,
Chief
Operating
Officer



Cllr D Smalley

Cllr C
Runciman

Cllr D
Craghill

Cllr A
D'Agorne

Cllr K
Aspden

Cllr
Ayre

Cllr
Waller

Cllr P
Widdowson

Cllr A
Mason

Cllr
Fenton

Cllr
Cuthbertson

Cllr
Hollyer

Cllr
Fisher

Cllr
Pearson

Cllr Baker

Cllr
Vassie

Cllr D
Taylor

Cllr
Galvin

Cllr
Hook

Cllr
Wann

Cllr
Cullwick

Cllr
Barker

Cllr
Waudby

Cllr
Hunter

Cllr
Orrell

Cllr
Daubney

Cllr
Doughty

Cllr M
Warters

Cllr
Rowley

Cllr K
Taylor

Cllr F
Fitzpatrick

Cllr R
Webb

Cllr P
Kilbane

Cllr C
Douglas

Cllr R
Melly

Cllr M
Pavlovic

Cllr J
Looker

Cllr D
Myers

Cllr A
Musson

Cllr A
Perrett

Cllr S
Barnes

Cllr K
Lomas

Cllr J
Crawshaw

Cllr D
Heaton

Cllr G
Norman

Cllr M
Wells

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City of York Council

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held at The Guildhall, York, on Thursday, 23 February 2023, starting at 6.30 pm.

Present: The Lord Mayor (Cllr David Carr) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

Acomb Ward	Bishopthorpe Ward
Lomas	Galvin
Clifton Ward	Copmanthorpe Ward
Myers Wells	
Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward	Fishergate Ward
Fenton Mason Widdowson	D'Agorne D Taylor
Fulford and Heslington Ward	Guildhall Ward
Aspden	Craghill Fitzpatrick Looker
Haxby & Wigginton Ward	Heworth Ward
Cuthbertson Hollyer Pearson	Douglas Perrett Webb
Heworth Without Ward	Holgate Ward
Ayre	Heaton Melly K Taylor

Hull Road Ward

Huntington and New Earswick
Ward

Musson
Norman
Pavlovic

Cullwick
Orrell
Runciman

Micklegate Ward

Osbaldwick and Derwent Ward

Baker
Crawshaw
Kilbane

Warters

Rawcliffe and Clifton Without Ward

Rural West York Ward

Smalley

Barker
Hook

Strensall Ward

Westfield Ward

Doughty

Daubeney
Hunter
Waller

Wheldrake Ward

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barnes, Fisher and Waudby.

44. Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in the business on the agenda.

The Monitoring Officer had confirmed that government guidance stated Members did not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in the business of setting the council tax and that the Council's code of conduct also stated that Members did not have a prejudicial interest in that business.

No interests were declared.

45. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 15 December 2022 be approved, and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

46. Civic Announcements

The Lord Mayor announced that he and the Lady Mayoress would be attending a vigil at York Minster on Friday, the 24th of February, to mark the first anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

47. Public Participation

It was reported that 7 members of the public had registered to speak at the meeting under Public Participation. The Lord Mayor confirmed that, on the advice of the Monitoring Officer, public participation would be allowed on the additional item relating to Devolution (Agenda Item 5) as well as on the business associated with setting the council's budget for the coming financial year.

Flick Williams raised concerns about the amount spent on anti-terror measures and the proportion of funding for changing places toilets allocated to Haxby as opposed to the city centre.

Diane Roworth also queried the amount paid for barriers in the city centre, in the context of difficult budget decisions and the impact of service cuts on children, older adults and disabled people.

Peter Richardson queried the effects of the social care precept on the council tax bill and highlighted the increased burden on York Hospital services caused by expanding development in the city.

Gwen Swinburn raised concerns about the consultation on Devolution and various aspects of the budget proposals, and called for further information to be published on savings.

Emily Knight spoke in favour of the budget proposals, and in particular the investment in communities and council action to save bus services.

Prof. Charlie Jeffery, on behalf of the University of York, spoke in favour of the Devolution deal, stating that it offered opportunities for the economy and individuals and provided a platform for collective action.

Jason Rose, a resident of Acomb, raised concerns about the consultation on Devolution and urged Members to ensure that York, including areas outside the city centre, received its fair share of funding.

48. Recommendations of Executive on York and North Yorkshire Devolution - Outcome of Consultation

Cllr Aspden moved, and Cllr D'Agorne seconded, the following recommendations made by the Executive at their meeting on 14 February 2023, as contained in the report at page 25 of the Council papers:

“Recommended: (i) That Council approve the submission of a Consultation Summary Report to the Government.

Reason: To inform the Secretary of State of the consultation outcome, allowing him to consider the next stages of the statutory process facilitating the creation of a York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

(ii) That Council approve Amendments to the Scheme and proposals for the operating model of the Combined Authority outlined in paragraph 92 of the report, for submission to Government.

Reason: To utilise the information received during the consultation to improve the proposed governance arrangements.

(iii) That Council delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to undertake any action necessary to submit the Consultation Summary Report and Scheme to Government, in line with recommendations (i) and (ii) above.

Reason: To facilitate the submission of the required documents to Government within the required timescales.

(iv) That Council approve Amendments to the Terms of Reference for the York and North Yorkshire Joint Devolution Committee outlined in paragraphs 103-107 of the report and attached at Annex 2.

Reason: To ensure appropriate, robust and transparent decision-making.

(v) That Council delegate authority to the Chief Operating Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to undertake any action necessary to provide consent to the Order facilitating the creation of the Combined Authority in line with the scheme submitted to Government, as outlined in paragraph 115 of the report.

Reason: To allow the progress of the statutory process facilitating the creation of the Combined Authority.”

After debate, a named vote was taken on the recommendations, with the following result:

For	Against	Abstained
Cllr Aspden	Cllr Warters	Cllr D Taylor
Cllr Ayre		
Cllr Baker		
Cllr Barker		

Cllr Craghill		
Cllr Crawshaw		
Cllr Cullwick		
Cllr Cuthbertson		
Cllr D'Agorne		
Cllr Daubeney		
Cllr Douglas		
Cllr Fenton		
Cllr Fitzpatrick		
Cllr Galvin		
Cllr Heaton		
Cllr Hollyer		
Cllr Hook		
Cllr Hunter		
Cllr Kilbane		
Cllr Lomas		
Cllr Looker		
Cllr Mason		
Cllr Melly		
Cllr Musson		
Cllr Myers		
Cllr Norman		
Cllr Orrell		
Cllr Pavlovic		
Cllr Pearson		
Cllr Perrett		
Cllr Rowley		
Cllr Runciman		
Cllr Smalley		
Cllr K Taylor		
Cllr Vassie		
Cllr Waller		
Cllr Wann		
Cllr Webb		
Cllr Wells		
Cllr Widdowson		
Cllr Carr (Lord Mayor)		
42	1	1

The recommendations were therefore declared CARRIED, and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendations be approved.

49. Recommendations of the Executive in respect of the Capital Programme Monitor 3 2022/23

Cllr Aspden moved, and Cllr D’Agorne seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 85 of the Executive meeting held on 9 February 2023:

“Recommended: That Council approve the adjustments resulting in a decrease in the 2022/23 budget of £27.164m, as detailed in the report and contained in Annex A.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the Council’s capital programme.”

A named vote was then taken, with the following result:

For	Against	Abstained
Cllr Aspden		Cllr Doughty
Cllr Ayre		Cllr Rowley
Cllr Baker		Cllr Warters
Cllr Barker		
Cllr Craghill		
Cllr Crawshaw		
Cllr Cullwick		
Cllr Cuthbertson		
Cllr D’Agorne		
Cllr Daubeney		
Cllr Douglas		
Cllr Fenton		
Cllr Fitzpatrick		
Cllr Galvin		
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Cllr Hunter		
Cllr Kilbane		
Cllr Lomas		
Cllr Looker		
Cllr Mason		
Cllr Melly		

Cllr Musson		
Cllr Myers		
Cllr Norman		
Cllr Orrell		
Cllr Pavlovic		
Cllr Pearson		
Cllr Perrett		
Cllr Runciman		
Cllr Smalley		
Cllr D Taylor		
Cllr K Taylor		
Cllr Vassie		
Cllr Waller		
Cllr Wann		
Cllr Webb		
Cllr Wells		
Cllr Widdowson		
Cllr Carr (Lord Mayor)		
41	0	3

The recommendation was therefore declared CARRIED, and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendation be approved.

50. Recommendations of Executive on the Council's Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28, Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28, Capital Financing and Investment Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2023/24 to 2027/28

Cllr Aspden moved, and Cllr D'Agorne seconded, the following recommendations made by Executive at its meeting on 9 February 2023 in relation to:

- i) The Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/28
- ii) The Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28
- iii) The Capital Financing and Investment Strategy
- iv) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators 2023/24 to 2027/28.

as set out in paragraphs 43 to 46 of the report at Item 7 on the Council agenda:

“Revenue Budget

Executive recommends that Council:

- (i) Approve the budget proposals outlined in the Financial Strategy report and in particular:
 - a. The net revenue expenditure requirement of £141.624m;
 - b. A council tax requirement of £107.783m;
 - c. The revenue growth proposals as outlined in the body of the report;
 - d. The 2023/24 revenue savings proposals as outlined in Annex 2;
 - e. The fees and charges proposals as outlined in Annex 3;
 - f. The consultation feedback as set out in Annex 4;
 - g. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) savings proposals set out in Annex 6 and the HRA 2023/24 budget set out in Annex 7;
 - h. The dedicated schools grant proposals outlined from paragraph 186, including option 1 for allocating 3 & 4 year old early years funding to providers;
 - i. The use of £1m from reserves to fund one off investment, as outlined in paragraph 87.
- (ii) Note that the effect of approving the income and expenditure proposals included in the recommendations would result in a 4.99% increase in the City of York Council element of the council tax, 2% of which would relate to the social care precept.
- (iii) Approve the 100% increase in council tax on second homes with effect from 1st April 2024 subject to the Levelling Up bill receive Royal Assent by 31st March 2023, as set out in paragraphs 119 to 121.

Reason: To ensure a legally balanced budget is set

Capital Budget 2023/24 to 2027/28

Executive recommends that Council:

- (i) Agree to the revised capital programme of **£481.980m** that reflects a net overall increase of **£51.158m** (as set out in table 2 and in Annex A). Key elements of this include:
 - a) New schemes funded by prudential borrowing totalling £1.229m as set out in tables 3;
 - b) Extension of prudential borrowing funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £22.286m as set out in table 4;
 - c) Extension of externally funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £8.998m as set out in table 6;
 - d) An increase in HRA funded schemes totalling £18.645m funded from a combination HRA balances/Right to Buy receipts as set out in table 7.

- (ii) Note that the total increase in Council borrowing as a result of new schemes being recommended for approval is £23.515m, the details of which are considered within this report and the financial strategy report

- (iii) Approve the full restated programme as summarised in Annex B totalling **£481.980m** covering financial years 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in table 11 and Annex B

Reason: In accordance with the statutory requirement to set a capital budget for the forthcoming financial year.

Capital and Investment Strategy

Executive recommends that Council approve the Capital and Investment Strategy at Annex A.

Reason: To meet the statutory obligation to comply with the Prudential Code 2017.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators

Executive recommends that Council approve:

- a. The proposed treasury management strategy for 2023/24 including the annual investment strategy and the minimum revenue provision policy statement;

- b. The prudential indicators for 2023/24 to 2027/28 in the main body of the report;
- c. The specified and non-specified investments schedule (Annex B);
- d. The scheme of delegation and the role of the section 151 officer (Annex D).

Reason: To enable the continued effective operation of the treasury management function and ensure that all council borrowing is prudent, affordable and sustainable.”

Cllr Douglas then moved, and Cllr Kilbane seconded, the following amendment on behalf of the Labour Group:

“Revenue Budget

In relation to the Executive’s recommendations on the revenue budget (paragraph 43 of page 42 of Council papers refers):

“In sub paragraph (c) add at the end of the sentence ‘subject to the following amendments;

- £40k recurring investment in Youth Services across the City, funding additional youth outreach sessions in areas of greatest need, due to prevalence of anti-social behaviour;
- £100k one-off investment for seed funding of commitment to deliver free school meals to every primary school child across our communities in response to the cost-of-living crisis;
- £30k one-off investment to undertake a consultation on altering current access restrictions for Blue Badge holders in the city centre;
- £20k one-off investment in work to develop a new staffing and service model across all wards to include new ‘Neighbourhood Caretaker’ roles that respond to local community priorities;
- Part reversal of one-off growth £150k – part reversal of the one- off growth of £250k ‘to allow wards to invest directly in improvements to local communities, from installing new benches to repairing local roads’.

In sub paragraph (d) add at the end of the sentence ‘*subject to the following amendment:*

- *A reduction of two Executive Members - £40k’.*”

After debate, a named vote was taken on the **amendment**, with the following result:

For	Against	Abstained
Cllr Crawshaw	Cllr Aspden	Cllr Doughty
Cllr Douglas	Cllr Ayre	Cllr Rowley
Cllr Fitzpatrick	Cllr Baker	Cllr Warters
Cllr Galvin	Cllr Barker	
Cllr Heaton	Cllr Craghill	
Cllr Kilbane	Cllr Cullwick	
Cllr Lomas	Cllr Cuthbertson	
Cllr Looker	Cllr D’Agorne	
Cllr Melly	Cllr Daubeney	
Cllr Musson	Cllr Fenton	
Cllr Myers	Cllr Hollyer	
Cllr Norman	Cllr Hook	
Cllr Pavlovic	Cllr Hunter	
Cllr Perrett	Cllr Mason	
Cllr K Taylor	Cllr Orrell	
Cllr Webb	Cllr Pearson	
Cllr Wells	Cllr Runciman	
	Cllr Smalley	
	Cllr D Taylor	
	Cllr Vassie	
	Cllr Waller	
	Cllr Wann	
	Cllr Widdowson	
	Cllr Carr (Lord Mayor)	
17	24	3

The amendment was therefore declared LOST.

After debate, a named vote was then taken on the **original recommendations**, with the following result:

For	Against	Abstained
Cllr Aspden	Cllr Doughty	Cllr Crawshaw
Cllr Ayre	Cllr Rowley	Cllr Douglas
Cllr Baker		Cllr Fitzpatrick
Cllr Barker		Cllr Galvin

Cllr Craghill		Cllr Heaton
Cllr Cullwick		Cllr Kilbane
Cllr Cuthbertson		Cllr Lomas
Cllr D'Agorne		Cllr Looker
Cllr Daubeney		Cllr Melly
Cllr Fenton		Cllr Musson
Cllr Hollyer		Cllr Myers
Cllr Hook		Cllr Norman
Cllr Hunter		Cllr Pavlovic
Cllr Mason		Cllr Perrett
Cllr Orrell		Cllr K Taylor
Cllr Pearson		Cllr Wartors
Cllr Runciman		Cllr Webb
Cllr Smalley		Cllr Wells
Cllr D Taylor		
Cllr Vassie		
Cllr Waller		
Cllr Wann		
Cllr Widdowson		
Cllr Carr (Lord Mayor)		
24	2	18

The original recommendations were therefore declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the Executive's recommendations to Council be approved.

51. Council Tax Resolution 2023/24

Finally, and in light of the setting of the budget for 2023/24 under minute 50 above, Councillor Aspden moved, and Councillor D'Agorne seconded, the Council Tax resolution for 2023/24, as set out in the report and schedules at pages 47-51 of the Council agenda.

After debate, the required named vote was taken on the Council Tax Resolution, with the following result:

For	Against	Abstained
Cllr Aspden	Cllr Doughty	
Cllr Ayre	Cllr Rowley	

Cllr Baker	Cllr Warters	
Cllr Barker		
Cllr Craghill		
Cllr Crawshaw		
Cllr Cullwick		
Cllr Cuthbertson		
Cllr D'Agorne		
Cllr Daubeney		
Cllr Douglas		
Cllr Fenton		
Cllr Fitzpatrick		
Cllr Galvin		
Cllr Heaton		
Cllr Hollyer		
Cllr Hook		
Cllr Hunter		
Cllr Kilbane		
Cllr Lomas		
Cllr Looker		
Cllr Mason		
Cllr Melly		
Cllr Musson		
Cllr Myers		
Cllr Norman		
Cllr Orrell		
Cllr Pavlovic		
Cllr Pearson		
Cllr Perrett		
Cllr Runciman		
Cllr Smalley		
Cllr D Taylor		
Cllr K Taylor		
Cllr Vassie		
Cllr Waller		
Cllr Wann		
Cllr Webb		
Cllr Wells		
Cllr Widdowson		
Cllr Carr (Lord Mayor)		
41	3	0

The motion was accordingly declared CARRIED, and it was

- Resolved: (i) That it be noted that on 13 December 2022 the Chief Finance Officer, under her delegated authority, calculated the council tax base for the year 2023/24:
- (a) for the **whole Council area** as 68,633.10 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)]; and
 - (b) for those dwellings in those parts of its area to which a **Parish** precept relates as in column 1 in the attached Schedule A.
- (ii) That the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2023/24 (excluding Parish precepts) be calculated as £107,782,790.
- (iii) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2023/24 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
- (a) £549,488,952 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
 - (b) £440,748,027 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £108,740,925 being the amount by which the aggregate at 16(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 16(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. [Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act].
 - (d) £1,584.38 being the amount at 16(c) above [Item R], all divided by Item T (14(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
 - (e) £958,135 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in

Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Schedule A).

- (f) £1,570.42 being the amount at 16(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 16(e) above by Item T (14(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

(iv) That it be noted that the Fire and Crime Commissioner for the North Yorkshire Police Authority and the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority has issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the tables below.

(v) That the Council, in accordance with sections 30 and 36 of the Act, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below, and at Schedule B for Parished areas, as the amounts of council tax for 2023/24 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

City of York Council

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,046.95	1,221.44	1,395.93	1,570.42	1,919.40	2,268.38	2,617.37	3,140.84

North Yorkshire Police Authority

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
196.73	229.51	262.30	295.09	360.67	426.24	491.82	590.18

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
53.74	62.70	71.65	80.61	98.52	116.44	134.35	161.22

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements (excluding Parished Areas)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,297.42	1,513.65	1,729.88	1,946.12	2,378.59	2,811.06	3,243.54	3,892.24

(vi) That it be determined that the Council's basic amount of council tax for 2023/24 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under section 52ZB of the Act. As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2023/24 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Cllr D Carr

LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.31 pm and concluded at 9.01 pm]

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Council

23 March 2023

Report of the Executive Leader

For the Council, the beginning of 2023 has continued much in the same vein as the end of 2022, with significant national events continuing to have their impact on the city, whether that be the continued Cost of Living Crisis, or the ongoing war in Ukraine. As a city, we continue to face these challenges head on, whether that be supporting our financially vulnerable residents, to welcoming Ukrainian refugees.

As colleagues and residents will know, this will be my last Leader's Report to Full Council, and reflecting on the past four years, there is a great deal that has been achieved. Whether that be our collective response to the pandemic, progressing York Central, Devolution and the Local Plan to their furthest ever stages, or devolving millions in council funding to empower local communities.

Of course, York is well known for its demanding political environment, somewhat highlighted by the fact that I am now the longest serving Council Leader since 2008. However, it was never the politics that motivated me to stand for council elections back in 2003, but the opportunity to deliver real positive change and help my community. I am grateful for this opportunity and the trust my colleagues and residents have placed in me over the last two decades.

I have the utmost confidence that York is well placed to continue playing a leading role as a historic city at the forefront of innovation. I have full confidence that my colleagues will make the most of these opportunities and I know that York will continue to go from strength to strength in the years ahead.

It has been a privilege to serve this city as Leader of the Council, and I would like to thank councillors of all parties, Council Staff, city partners, local residents and businesses for all contributing to the success of York. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank councillors from all parties who are not seeking re-election in May – I know that the past four years has thrown up its challenges, but your dedication and public service for our communities has been an invaluable contribution to the city.

2023/24 Council Budget:

Following the debate and vote at February's Budget Council meeting, I am pleased that this administration's budget proposals have been approved for the 2023/24 financial year. We all recognise that the past five years have not been kind to Local

Government, with successive government cuts to funding, a pandemic, war in Europe and unprecedented economic turmoil.

Unfortunately, that gloomy picture does not look set to change anytime soon, with inflation and energy prices still at record levels, and a Government that is failing to tackle the issues by delaying much needed reforms to the fairer funding of councils, adult social care and more.

The services we provide as a Council have never been more important, and that is why the 2023/24 Council Budget will ensure the council's finances are on a stable footing, avoiding situations that have been seen elsewhere in Croydon, Northamptonshire, and Thurrock. An additional £19 million will now be added to the revenue budget to protect and support those vital services, maintaining the excellent progress that has been achieved against the council plan. This funding will be used to help residents remain in their homes for longer, support the critical work of our social workers, and continue momentum on key infrastructure projects, such as York Central and dualling of the York Outer Ring Road.

The budget also launches a range of new measures to support local communities, including additional support for the financially vulnerable during the cost-of-living crisis, funding to tackle anti-social behaviour, funding for a new specialist Youth Support Worker, £100K to promote better mental health and support those residents with autism, and further funding to incentivise the use of local public transport.

The capital programme will see significant levels of investment maintained in our city, including £38 million to progress York Central, £57 million to dual the York Outer Ring Road and £17 million to help deliver the station frontage scheme. Beyond these hugely important projects, the capital programme will also see over £100 million worth of investment to deliver new housing in the city and £45 million spent on improving our existing infrastructure, including our roads and flood defences.

Colleagues will know that here in York, sadly, we remain one of the 20 lowest funded authorities in the country, despite continued calls to address this injustice. Nonetheless, our teams achieve so much for the city, whether that be planting 50,000 new trees, or delivering a new centre of excellence for disabled young people in the city. I am proud of the work that we do as a Council, but with the ever-growing financial instability of the public sector, we must all collectively lobby the Government to address this issue and provide the funding local government so desperately needs.

Devolution:

Similarly, following the vote at Budget Council a few weeks back, the next steps in the devolution process will now be taken by submitting the Scheme and consultation feedback to the Government. This in turn will enable the Government to proceed with the draft order needed to create the Combined Authority for later this year.

As I have mentioned on previous occasions, devolution could help strengthen our city's local economy at a time when it is needed most, from skills development and supporting small businesses, to the £22 million investment package to build new homes on brownfield land and deliver affordable homes.

Given the importance of the matter, considerable effort was put into undertaking the consultation on the proposed governance arrangements which underpin the deal. In total, an impressive 300 information and advocacy sessions were hosted across a range of meetings and engagement events, including several drop-in sessions held at our Explore Centres across the city.

We can see from the consultation feedback that over half of respondents support the proposed governance arrangements needed to unlock the deal, with many highlighting the importance of additional funding as a reason for their support. At the same time, I sympathise with those who have raised concern about the power concentrated in the mayoral role. Nonetheless, we must be pragmatic to achieve the best for local communities and quite simply, to secure that needed investment in our city, devolution is the only game in town.

This is undoubtedly a historic moment for our city. This deal could unlock 30 years of vital investment needed to improve economic prosperity and long-term opportunities for all our residents and businesses, and I am pleased that we are one step closer to achieving those goals.

The Local Plan:

Following years of hard work, we have reached the last significant step before we can adopt a Local Plan for the first time in 60 years.

A consultation on the final modifications of the Local Plan is now underway before the final plan is then submitted to the inspectorate for their approval in the coming months. The 6-week Local Plan Proposed Main Modifications Consultation outlines the minor modifications to the Local Plan requested by the inspector, to allow it to be adopted.

This consultation concludes on the 27th of March and provides the opportunity for people to have their say on whether the proposed modifications make the Local Plan 'Legally Compliant' and 'Sound'.

As we have previously stated, we feel strongly that this is a robust and sound plan, which will ensure York is able to deliver the housing, jobs, growth, and facilities our city needs, whilst also protecting the city's unique character, green belt and natural beauty. An incredible amount of work has been undertaken to reach this point, so I would like to thank the inspectors for their work and feedback, as well as all planning experts, officers and residents who have invested their time in developing the plan to this stage.

York Central:

I am incredibly proud of the progress we have made in delivering York Central – a scheme talked about for longer than I have been a councillor. Following years of inaction, we now have diggers on site to unlock £700 million of investment and the opportunities of what is one of the most important brownfield sites in the country. York Central will see us transform our city, delivering world class business space, housing, and public spaces – unlocking a £1.2 billion boost to our economy.

Earlier this month, four public events were held to show how feedback received during the November engagement sessions is now being incorporated into the emerging York Central designs and shaping the ongoing plans for the new public square. The sessions were also used to gather more feedback that can be implemented in later phases of the development.

The Government's interest in locating a significant Government Hub on the York Central site is a vote of confidence in the project and these positive discussions with Government officials will help bring well-paid jobs to York and create new career pathways needed to retain talent and support our young people in their new careers. Only a few weeks ago, it was confirmed that the York Central site will see a total of 2,600 civil servants located there and I am excited to see what more the York Central scheme will achieve in the years to come.

York Station Frontage:

Linked to York Central is the York Station Frontage Scheme, which has recently had a further £10.5 million of funding released by WYCA to enable the project to move on to the next phase. Colleagues will have seen that over the past year, utility companies have been carrying out enabling works, such as essential utility diversions around Queen Street Bridge. These works are almost complete, and this funding confirmation will enable the project to move into the next stages, with a contractor set to be appointed in the coming months.

This funding will help us unlock improvements that will allow for easier and safer access to and around the station, as well as providing better public spaces and an improved gateway to our city.

Purple Flag:

This administration's objective of securing Purple Flag status for the city was an important milestone reached back in February 2022, and we want to continue building on this work to provide a safe and family friendly experience for everyone enjoying our city.

York is proud of its welcoming and vibrant evening and night-time economy. As one of the safest cities in the UK, visitors return year after year to enjoy everything that York has to offer, and this was endorsed by the Purple Flag award, which saw our

city centre's safety, cleanliness and vibrancy recognised by the independent assessors.

More recently, Purple Flag partner packs and resources have been made available for businesses across the city. The pack includes free posters, social media graphics and stickers, and is designed to help local businesses reinforce how visitors can keep the city safe and welcoming, whilst being considerate of others, including their staff. Businesses can promote the Purple Flag accreditation by using, personalising, and displaying the material provided.

Most groups are respectful to the city and the people who live and work here. However, we recognise the impact some larger groups can have on residents and families enjoying the city centre. That is why the Council continues to work with partners across the city, particularly via the York Safer Partnership and Purple Flag, to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors. Whether that be via our licensing, public health enforcement, or community safety teams, there is a great deal of work taking place to maintain progress.

Social Care Recruitment Campaign:

Nationally, local authorities up and down the country are faced with mounting workforce challenges in social care, with representatives from government, employers and professional bodies, recently committing to tackle the severe recruitment and retention pressures being faced across the country.

Here in York, we have invited experienced and newly qualified children's social workers from across the region to find out more about the benefits of working at City of York Council through a new recruitment campaign. Earlier this month, our Children's Social Work teams hosted a drop-in recruitment event to provide social workers with an opportunity to chat to team managers and social workers about working in York and the excellent opportunities available.

There Council has also been promoting the 'Step up to Social Work' programme, which provides a unique opportunity to receive support while training to start a new career in social work. The 14-month training programme provides hands-on experience of working in a real-life social work role through placements in local authorities, including York, whilst undertaking the qualification. Once individuals successfully complete the course, they'll be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work, enabling them to apply to register and practice as a social worker. Applications close at midday on the 24th March 2023.

Any new social workers coming in will be working with our passionate and exceptional social care teams, all of whom make an incredible contribution to the city and our communities.

May 2023 Elections and Voter-ID:

With the 4th May and York's local elections fast approaching, it will be the first time that residents will be required by the Government to show ID to vote.

Like many colleagues, I hold significant concerns about these changes, which I feel will disenfranchise some voters in the city. In tiresome but typical fashion, there has also been very little information or support provided by the Government, making the delivery of the upcoming local elections uniquely challenging for our staff.

It's incredibly important that everyone understands what types of ID they can use to vote, and how to apply for free ID if it is needed. Residents who do not have one of the accepted forms of ID can apply for a free voter card. This can be done online, or by requesting and completing a paper application form and sending this to our Electoral Services Team.

For anyone needing help with applying for the free voter certificate or to seek any further information on the upcoming changes, then please contact: electoral.services@york.gov.uk or call 01904 551007.

Housing Delivery Programme:

The award-winning Housing Delivery Programme continues to make great strides, with proposals approved to deliver more zero-carbon Passivhaus homes and increase the number of affordable homes at Ordnance Lane.

To date, the Housing Delivery Programme is in the process of delivering 472 homes. Of these, 363 are being delivered by the council at Lowfield Green, Burnholme Green, Duncombe Square and through the Second-Hand Shared Ownership scheme, of which 64% are affordable. A further 109 homes are being facilitated on smaller schemes, including self-build plots and community housing schemes. The next scheme at Ordnance Lane has planning permission for 85 zero-carbon homes, and grant funding of £2.43 million has been secured to prepare the site for construction.

Following initial consultations with residents in Walmgate, it has been agreed to proceed with further design work and further consultation for more zero-carbon, affordable housing on the site of the former Willow House. The plans propose the inclusion of some garaging in the nearby area to enhance the design and to increase the number of affordable homes.

Over 100 homes are now occupied on the Lowfield Green site. Plans for the 2 remaining vacant plots will be progressed to deliver more affordable and accessible homes on the site, and to deliver further homes designed for people aged over 55.

The success of the Housing Delivery Programme is owed to our residents, who have been involved at the earliest stages to understand their views and to help create a

vision that is making great strides towards to delivering new sustainable and affordable homes.

Early Years Strategic Plan:

A new Early Years Strategic Plan, created by the city's Early Years Partnership Board, will recognise the importance of how a young person's early experiences will have a profound impact on well-being, health, educational achievement and economic prosperity in the city.

The plan sets key outcomes through which the council and health, education and childcare providers can support families, including through a focus on maternal mental health, parent and child bonding and communication, speech and language.

Through projects like Look Say Sing Play and our Early Talk for York speech and language programme, we can give professionals and families the tools they need to support children in those formative years of life. The strategic plan and associated outcomes will help us to work even more closely with partners to help shape the long-term futures of children in the city.

50,000 Trees Planted:

Back in 2019, this administration committed to planting 50,000 new trees by time of the next elections, with some people in the city suggesting it could not be done. Fast forward to today and I am delighted to confirm that the 50,000th tree at the new York Community Woodland has now been planted.

Spanning 78 hectares, the York Community Woodland area is under the long-term management of Forestry England, who aim to see the number of trees planted increase to 210,000 over the next few years.

The woodland will support our city's efforts to tackle the impacts of climate change and increase biodiversity. It will also contribute to York's new goal of increasing the city's tree canopy cover from 10.8% to 13% by 2050, the equivalent of 21 hectares of new canopy cover each year.

Marking the 1-Year Anniversary of the War in Ukraine:

A year on from the dreadful events of February 2022, we continue to stand with the people of Ukraine in their fight against Putin's unjust invasion of the Ukraine. Since this illegal and atrocious war began a year ago, thousands have been killed and millions more displaced, with 114,400 Ukrainians finding refuge in the UK alone under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

As a City of Sanctuary, York has once again played its part in welcoming people fleeing the horrors of war, and we are deeply grateful to the 180 York residents who have opened their homes to over 300 Ukrainians fleeing the war. I also want to take this opportunity to thank our staff and partners for providing that all important wrap

around support to individuals and families, whether that be helping access our local schools, or accessing employment.

Celebrating the Kings Coronation:

With His Majesty King Charles III's Coronation soon approaching on the 6th May, we know that many residents across the city will want to come together to mark this occasion.

To help residents, businesses and local communities celebrate this historic event, a digital hub has been made available to provide all the guidance and information residents need for community street parties being held. The council is also waiving some of the cost for community street parties being held on the day. For any Groups wanting to plan a road closure for their community street party, further information will be available online. Information will be added to our Coronation page as more details are confirmed over the weeks.



Council

23 March 2023

Report of the Deputy Leader

2023/24 Council Budget

For many too many of our residents and small businesses the financial pressures brought about by the current Cost of Living crisis will be uppermost in their minds but it also remains a concerning time for local government, as demonstrated by the recent budget setting process.

Over a decade of Government funding cuts have left local councils short changed, especially those like York close to the bottom of the spend per head of population. Despite the rhetoric of some Ministers that baseline spending for local government has increased, this is rather the re-allocation of existing funding, potential one-off grants, and the assumption of Council Tax increases we are forced to make. Once again, our budget will move forward without a multi-year settlement and no long-term certainty around funding streams.

Despite these challenges, our 2023/24 Council Budget WILL work to protect crucial services as far as possible and maintain progress against key priority areas, such as developing our carbon reduction action plan and Transport Strategy, decarbonising our housing stock, investing in social work, and delivering new affordable homes. Beyond the £19 million added to the revenue budget, a further £1 million will be specifically targeted to support our local communities during these difficult times. This will include:

- £250,000 to support residents in the current Cost of Living Crisis;
- £100,000 to support recovery of residents facing substance misuse problems;
- £100,000 to promote better mental health and wellbeing and provide support to those residents with autism;

- £100,000 to incentivise the use of public transport locally to ensure the local bus network can recover from the effects of covid/ cost of living on local travel;
- And £50,000 to continue the existing winter maintenance of key cycle and pedestrian routes

The recently agreed Budget also continues to the £480 million Capital Programme, driving regeneration, and supporting city's economic recovery from carbon reduction schemes to school upgrades and building zero carbon affordable homes. There is much to welcome in the capital programme, and I am pleased that these proposals continue those vital schemes.

Devolution:

Following the debate and vote at Full Council, work will continue to progress the devolution deal, with the aim of creating the mayoral combined authority later in 2023 in preparation for Mayoral elections in May 2024

At a time where public sector funding is so scarce, the deal includes over half a billion for York and North Yorkshire - over the next 30 years. This funding would be transferred to us by central government and crucially, it is only available through this deal.

The metro mayor model is not the format we would have chosen but the reality is that if we want to secure that investment in our city, and really scale up our ability to support residents, tackle the climate emergency, and deliver new homes - this was clearly the only deal on the table. Now that the new combined authority is taking shape we have an opportunity to build a constructive relationship with our colleagues in North Yorkshire, to ensure York's priorities and best interests are cemented in the development of that new organisation. As we have seen recently with Active Travel England moving into West Offices, we have an excellent opportunity to host the Combined Authority in York and I would very much support this as a way to cement close working relationships with N Yorkshire colleagues.

10 Year Vision for Transport and Consultation:

As I'm sure many people will have seen, the Executive has approved the Draft Local Transport Strategy for consultation, following the work of officers and a cross-party working group of councillors. The document is very much the starting point for examining the implications and suggests a range of interventions which could be used to tackle congestion and pollution and transform York transport network over the next decade.

This work follows the Our Big Conversation consultation in 2021, which sought the views of residents, businesses, and communities on what they want York to look like in 10 years. The document has also been developing using the data analysis and modelling undertaken for the Local Plan Examination in Public in 2022, and for the Climate Change Strategy.

The draft strategy is based around 5 major challenges. These are:

- Reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2030 (with personal transport being one of the three biggest sources of emissions)
- Strengthening the economy post-COVID-19
- Improving the health and wellbeing of residents (with active travel being a key opportunity for daily exercise)
- Accommodating the housing development set out in the Local Plan
- Addressing the existing transport challenges in York, notably congestion, road danger and pollution.

This draft strategy will tie in with the more detailed strategies for walking and cycling in our emerging LCWIP, the Bus Service Improvement Plan and the Climate Change Strategy to achieve a reduction of 71% in York's transport carbon emissions.

Over the coming months, the council will embark on a citywide conversation to hear ideas and suggestions from residents, businesses, commuters, and communities on the Draft Local Transport Strategy. The 'Big Transport Conversation' will be delivered over several stages, starting with a series of webinars to discuss initial ideas which could be added to the plan. Later this year, the council will carry out a detailed consultation, including holding stakeholder roundtables to progress the strategy.

The first four 4 webinars, with speakers from the council, York Civic Trust, other local authorities and city transport and travel partners will take place shortly. These webinars are the start of this important citywide conversation. These are helping to frame some key themes that offer 'quick wins' by boosting alternatives to car travel and acknowledging the fact that just 20% reduction in the number of journeys by car would deliver a significant benefit for all road users.

Together, we can rise to the challenge of achieving carbon net zero by 2030, encourage more active travel by making it a safer and more attractive option and deliver a transport plan which sets out a range of measures to reduce the city's carbon footprint and make sure our environment is protected for future generations to enjoy. Whilst York was recently announced as being amongst only 122 cities across the world to be awarded an A rating for climate action leadership by the Carbon Disclosure Project, we know we have a lot of work to do across the city to achieve our ambitions.

Of course, such a big challenge requires the city to work together, sharing ideas and solutions that can help people move around the city more easily whether walking, scooting, cycling, travelling by bus or in a car or van. We will provide a wide range of options over the coming months to give everyone the opportunity to have a say, starting with these webinars, so I would encourage everyone to get involved in this important conversation.

Bus services

Important work has been progressing with the establishment of the Enhanced Partnership to take forward our Bus Service Improvement plan, despite the challenges of driver shortages, reduced patronage and difficulties securing parts that is facing all bus operators around the country. The stakeholder forum has now had two meetings and agreed a process for regular interaction with the Partnership Board members.

In response to notification intended termination of services from operators, short term bus service contracts have been let for the services 412, 12 and 13 services and the network thereby maintained until the end of this month. Longer term contracts for these services have been tendered and submissions received for all services for

commencement on 31 March 2023. As per the delegation officers have reviewed those tenders made decisions.

Separate from this work, City of York Council has been successful in securing funding to develop and enhance our local bus provision. Zero emissions bus grants of £11.3m have been awarded in the last 12 months. The council was also successful in attracting £17.5m funding through central government's National Bus Strategy, which has enabled the services mentioned about to be retained. Though the Local Plan process a series of network enhancements have been identified to support new developments in York. We have also begun the process of supporting York's Dial a Ride service, operated by York Wheels promoting the door to door offer using new minibuses funded by City of York Council. A successful engagement event in January has been undertaken as part of a study to introduce a city centre shuttle. 14. Improvements to York's bus network are also important elements of a number of major projects in York, particularly York Station Frontage, Castle Gateway and York Central. As reported to Executive last week in the project plan, we have identified £10.66m of capital projects and £6.7m of revenue spending to help upgrade our local bus network and offer.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan:

York's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP), which will identify the city's key walking and cycling networks to prioritise how improvements are delivered, will proceed to the next phase of consultation, following the local elections.

The LCWIP will be used to help identify and prioritise strategic network improvements for cyclists and pedestrians and will sit alongside the Bus Service Improvement Plan and the Local Transport Strategy – all of which will feed into the emerging LTP4.

The improvements outlined in the LCWIP will help encourage people to consider active travel as an alternative to driving for many short journeys in the city. This in turn will help to reduce congestion and improve air quality.

Two public consultation stages were planned as part of the LCWIP process. The first stage, on the proposed priority list for sections of cycle route and walking zones, was undertaken in mid-February with a range

of stakeholders, including councillors, parish councils and other groups in the city.

The second stage will be on the high-level concept proposals for each of the ten priority cycle links and the four key walking zones, and this will take place with a wider range of stakeholders following local elections, alongside the Local Transport Strategy consultation.

The consultants developing the LCWIP identified the list of some of the top priority cycle links and core walking zones for further high-level design work and to enable costings to be calculated, which can then be used in funding bids.

The list includes links north and south of the A1237 Outer Ring Road between Strensall and Huntington, a link between the large development sites at York Central and British Sugar, areas around the University of York and routes linking to the city centre and a route between the station and hospital. Walking zones will include enhancements to the Station Gateway and Castle Gateway proposals, better access to York Hospital and the two Universities.

Local Plan and CIL Consultation:

A consultation on the final modifications of the Local Plan is now taking place, ahead of when the final plan is then submitted to the inspectorate for approval. The 6-week Local Plan Proposed Main Modifications Consultation will outline the minor modifications to the Local Plan requested by the inspector.

At the same time, key stakeholders, neighbouring authorities, residents, and businesses are being asked for their views on proposals to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy.

This will result in significant investment in local communities where new developments are built in York. Schemes on which the money can be spent include transport infrastructure, flood defences, schools, hospitals and other health and social care facilities, open spaces, cultural and sports facilities, district heating schemes and other community safety facilities.

The Levy should allow greater flexibility and certainty than existing Section 106 agreements, because it is non-negotiable, meaning development costs can be more readily calculated.

With the Local Plan now entering its final stage, it's essential that we set the right approach to delivering the homes and business spaces set out in the plan. The Community Infrastructure Levy will enable us to deliver the right infrastructure for our local communities, alongside the new homes York needs to support the city's sustainable growth.

Further Funding for Net-Zero Projects:

York has been awarded £65,000 to spend on building projects designed to help reduce carbon emissions and reach net-zero.

York was one of only 30 places in the country to receive the new funding, which is being awarded for innovative approaches to delivering net-zero. It is anticipated that the funding will be used this spring and summer on measures tailored to the specific needs and characteristics of buildings across the city, in partnership with Brightsparks, Energy Systems Catapult, University of York, and Abundance Investment.

The funding has come from Phase One of Innovate UK's Net Zero Living programme. Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation, which will invest up to £2 million in innovation projects.

This is an exciting opportunity and further evidence that York is at the forefront of net-zero innovation and progress. I would like to thank our staff and partners who have brought this Net-Zero Living programme funding to York and I would encourage property owners in the newly identified action zones to work with us to take advantage of this boost to our net-zero ambitions.

Apprenticeships continue to increase:

I would like to welcome the increased number of apprenticeships in York, which continues to increase following the pandemic, according to data for the 21/22 academic year.

This data shows that more than 1150 residents entered apprenticeships in 2021/2022, an increase of 15% on the previous year. Though the figure remains lower than pre-pandemic, the increasing uptake is

something to be welcomed, with the largest increase seen amongst 16–18-year-olds - 31% up on the previous year.

Apprenticeships, alongside other training and development schemes, continue to play an significant role in supporting the city's economic recovery, providing opportunities for those entering the workforce or those who need to reskill or upskill.

To date, York has a wide range of apprenticeships available in a variety of key sectors and levels, including early years, professional services, IT and digital, rail engineering and life sciences, and of course, at the Council. At the end of 2022, the council had 81 active apprentices working at the authority or in maintained schools.

These figures are a testament to the work that has been done by our teams, local businesses, and partners to strengthen the number of apprenticeships locally. This is incredibly important in helping the city's economic recovery and providing better employment chances for our residents.



Council

23 March 2023

Report of the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning

Partnerships, networking and business connections

The Business Growth Managers (GMs) currently have over 150 active business support connections in train, with the Inward Investment Officer (IIO) fielding numerous queries for potential landings in York, including direct foreign investment.

Regular meetings are held with key intermediaries, including Ad:venture, Mercia, IUK Edge, British Business Bank, Department for International Trade, Enterprise Works at the University of York, FSB, WNY Chamber, York Science Park, the Guildhall, Y&NY Growth Hub, York St John University, StreetLife, York College, York Creatives, University of York, Barclays Eagle Labs, Scale-Up Programme and Lloyds Bank.

The Economic Growth Team lead on developing key sector opportunities within the city, including professional services, retail, creative tech and media arts, hospitality, tourism, bioeconomy and health and life sciences. Already the GMs and IIO have pulled together sector resources and initiated key working relationships which will reap future benefits.

The GMs have a seat on variety of boards and groups within the city providing a key Council presence to help guide and influence decision making. Partners now include York Tourism Advisory Board, York High St Forum steering group, York St John University Business School Advisory Board, Skills Support for the Workforce and WNY Chamber Property Steering Group.

Networking events, sessions hosted and attended by the GMs and funding opportunities continue to yield important new business introductions and drive business investment. Work includes:

- Co-ordination of the *York Digital Focus* event, part of Leeds Digital Festival
- Delivery of the third in a series of successful *Women in Business* events in partnership with NatWest Bank
- Delivery of four *Connect Over Coffee* events for businesses

- Funding provided to WNY Chamber by CYC has led to 20% increase in York membership numbers. GMs now have these details as leads for potential support
- Funding provided by CYC to FSB has led to numerous masterclasses and podcast recordings (including website creation, customer retention strategy, social media strategy and how to win awards) have led to 120 positive business interactions. Again, details have been obtained to generate leads and potential support
- Generation of 156 interactions with businesses via partnership working with YNY Growth Hub, including attending the Courageous Females course, Your Small Business Board (Peer to Peer), Strive Live (for start-ups) and sessions on marketing, staffing and digital skills, access to finance and more
- Planned delivery of three webinars and one in-person event with Google Digital Garage in 2023
- Working with Enterprise Nation to plan delivery of a start up event, and with The CPD unit at University of York to plan an Employment and Skills conference in the next quarter.

Promotion of the City, especially with international partners, is a key aspect of the team's remit and as such:

- A promotional city developments film to showcase York has been made, led by the BID. Designed for use by city-wide partners for multiple purposes, including attracting direct foreign investment. This will be launched in January 2023
- Attendance at York Property Forum focussed on *Making Heritage Modern, Relevant and Attraction*, leading to a working relationship with the Minster, including support to highlight the York Minster Precinct
- Linking York Vikings Rotary and York Nebraska Rotary through a third parties to discuss opportunities to connect
- Initial exploratory meetings with Dijon, aiming to build on the civic engagement between our city and theirs, as well as identifying commercial opportunities.

Two new business have now located in York through the efforts of the team - one from the tech sector, the other working in green energy solutions - several other potential companies are exploring the local area as a base, including large international businesses:

- An international business looking to expand close to east coast of UK (near ports) with a manufacturing facility totalling up to 500,000 ft² to produce aluminium bottles/cans for beverage industry
- US-owned business, developing a medical device, looking for manufacturing facility and cleanroom and storage
- Eastern European company looking for land on which to develop a battery recycling facility to provide feedstock for locally based Gigafactory

Recovery

We have seen continued recovery and strengthening of the York economy:

- York still the UK city with the lowest increase in unemployment through Covid and beyond – currently 1.8% of the working age population is claiming out of work benefits (Centre for Cities using ONS data)
- Average weekly workplace earnings in York are the highest of all cities in Yorkshire and the North East (Centre for Cities)
- High productivity by regional standards - GVA per hour worked in York above everywhere in the North except Sunderland (Nissan plant)
- Employment rate of 81.6% for York is higher than all other northern cities
- More highly-qualified people than anywhere else in the north (NVQ level 4+ %age highest of all northern cities)
- 19 inward investments have brought £55m of investment and 240+ new jobs to York in the last 12 months
- Vacancy rate on the high street remains below average, despite challenges of covid, and office/industrial vacancy levels are very low across the city

York Business Festival

York Business Festival was delivered through the business support partnership in November 2022, based on the five key themes of the Economic Strategy:

- An economy driven by good business
- Thriving businesses supported by sustainable growth

- A greener economy
- A thriving workforce, and;
- York as a global City

Over 1,000 businesses attended the Festival, with a programme of 30 events – webinars, seminars, workshops and networking - covering a broad range of issues such as green jobs, business start ups and entrepreneurs, innovation, sector sessions focussing on rail and hospitality, importing/exporting, apprenticeships, sustainability, and employees, skills and the talent pipeline on offer.

Partners supporting delivery of the event include the University of York, the Institute of Directors, York and North Yorkshire LEP, York St. John University, Chamber of Commerce, Warwick University, Chamber of Commerce, the Department for International Trade, and numerous individual speakers.

Economic Strategy

The City's *Economic Strategy* was agreed by the Council's Executive on 22nd November as part of the 10 Year Strategy and Policy framework, which also includes Climate Health and Wellbeing 10 year strategies, and the emerging 10 year City Plan.

Full Council ratified the Economic Strategy – which will be driven by the Economic Partnership Board - on 15th December 2022.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

City of York Council's UKSPF Investment Plan received formal Government approval in early December 2022.

York was allocated £5,848,801 to spend over three years to March 2025. This amount is made up of a core allocation of £5,107,510, and £741,291 that has been specifically allocated for the Department for Education's *Multiply* Adult Numeracy programme.

An expression of interest application process has been now completed by potential bidders, with an assessment process underway, with high interest resulting in a five and a half fold oversubscription to the first tranche of funding. This first phase concerns two of the three programme interventions – Communities and Place, and Local Business Investment – with year three.

People and Skills expressions of interest to be invited in Summer 2023. The value of this current tranche is around £1.48m.

Inclusive Growth Fund

The Inclusive Growth Fund supports eight projects across the City, using £300k of the £660k Leeds City Region Business Rate Pool.

The projects and their funding allocations are:

Project title	Funding
Establishing a York Poverty Commission	20k
Community hubs as drivers of economic growth	40k
Greening our retail estate	70k
Community jobs fairs	30k
14+ vocational training and work	50k
Independent retail growth fund	40k
Mental health, wellbeing and employment	25k
York Economic Strategy consultation	25k

Project updates

Establishing a York Poverty Truth Commission

£20k from the Inclusive Growth Fund has been delivered to York CVS and will help cover staff salaries, expenses for the community commissioners and venue hosting for meetings.

The community commissioners have been meeting for several months to develop their relationships of trust and sharing their personal stories. They have identified the issues they wish to focus on which will lead to them identifying civic commissioners.

The Poverty Truth Commission launched on 9th March 2023.

Greening our retail estate

£20k of the £70k fund was allocated towards procuring researchers to produce a report that examined the 'green' economy in York. The research, which delivers on an objective set out in York's 10 years Economic Strategy, maps out the types of green jobs and skills that exist and are in demand in York.

The report, produced by The Institute of Employment Research, based at the University of Warwick, will guide the council and key stakeholders in efforts to support the growth of the green economy and ambitions to become a net-zero city by 2030.

The remaining £50k of this fund remains to be allocated.

Community Job Fairs

The £30k allocated to this project has been delivered to York Learning to help run Community Job Fairs. The purpose behind this funding was to ensure that jobs fairs not only occurred in the city centre but in York's communities, to make it easier for communities to access employment opportunities. This is in addition to the twice yearly fairs held at the York Railway Institute.

York Learning will continue to run these popular community job fairs, attracting several hundred candidates and dozens of exhibitors, up to 2025.

Independent Retail Growth Fund (IRGF)

Eight traders' associations and business groups received small grants from the IRGF in July 2022 to boost local economies, promote small independent businesses and increase footfall.

Projects ranged from promotional campaigns, events, fairs and markets and each businesses or organisation has reported that much of the funding has had a far-reaching impact on the local community, visitors and the businesses themselves.

Organisation	Amount received
Indie York	2,500
Bishy Road Traders' Association	2,500
Acomb Alive!	2,500
Haxby and Wigginton Traders' Association	5,000
Goodramgate Traders' Association	3,965
Micklegate Business Initiative	3,500
York Wedding Suppliers	2,500
York Market Traders' Forum	2,500
Total	24,965

Mental health, wellbeing and employment

Three different projects have been developed and supported.

Using the recommendations of 'Building Business Resilience' report with York St John University in 2021, we have provided £5k to support York St John Communities Centre to deliver free wellbeing coaching sessions to business owners, employees and the self-employed in York.

Each client will be offered five coaching sessions, provided by either telephone, and online through Zoom or MS Teams. The sessions will be up and running in March 2023.

The second project supported is with York Mind, who have received £12.5k to offer two services to the business community. This includes free mental health training, developing mental health strategies for business, and ensuring that staff are educated and supported to take care of their mental wellbeing. They will be running both in-person and online from March to June 2023.

York Mind have also been supported to develop a knowledge hub for small businesses in York, to access resources to help implement wellbeing strategies for staff, and to support the needs of business owners themselves. This includes webinars, short videos, leaflets, posters, blog posts and links to other useful resources and will be free to access for 6 months. The knowledge hub will launch in April 2023.

The third project funded was delivered in conjunction with the Burnt Chef Project. Hospitality professionals can face long antisocial hours and tough environmental conditions on a daily basis and The Burnt Chef Project is working to tackle the work-related stress in the hospitality industry through training.

At the end of January, the Council held an event to announce all these new offers, along with the existing free resources such as the services offered by York Ending Stigma, St Nicks and the FSB. Representatives from different organisations spoke at the event, such as the Health and Safety Executive, to champion the work York is doing in this area.

Good Business Charter

York signed up to the Good Business Charter (GBC) accreditation scheme in June 2021, the first City in the UK to do so, and 72 businesses have registered to pledge their commitment. This local total is a significant contribution to the North Yorkshire overall total of 115, and national numbers of 1,185.

Along with the Council, the scheme is supported by our Universities, local business organisations and small business owners alike.

The GBC accreditation scheme measures an organisation's behaviour over 10 ethical business components which collectively cover care for:

- employees
- suppliers
- customers
- the environment

The 10 GBC components are:

- Real Living Wage
- Fairer hours and contracts
- Employee well-being
- Employee representation
- Diversity and inclusion
- Environmental responsibility
- Pay fair tax
- Commitment to customers
- Ethical sourcing
- Prompt payment to suppliers

The aim is for the GBC to change business behaviour to have a positive impact on all stakeholders including employees, customers and suppliers.

Impacts include:

- employees earning under the real Living Wage will see a salary uplift and those on zero hours will have important guarantees on stability of their hours
- businesses raising their standards in order to be GBC accredited
- creation of a fairer society by encouraging businesses to pay people a fair wage for a fair day's work, as well as pay their UK taxes
- ethical sourcing and prompt payment to suppliers ensures smaller companies are not exploited
- appropriate behaviour towards customers to make for a fairer society where everyone is well informed of the choices they are making and the contribution their custom brings.

Planning Application determination

We continue to perform well above the national targets for application determination

	National Target	CYC
Major applications	80%	98%
Minor applications	70%	90%
Other applications (householders included)	80%	96%

- 921 were householder applications which is a drop of almost 200 from 2021. 2021 saw the largest number of householder applications in recent years, this was seen nationally as people chose to extend their homes after the pandemic
- The number of major applications received was 56, this is an increase of 20 from 2021 and is the same number received in 2019 pre-pandemic. Some of these are worth noting
- Scheme at Northern House for the erection of mixed use development including 153 apartments, offices, visitor attraction, aparthotel with 88 rooms with landscaping and public realm improvements was approved at committee. The visitor attraction is to house a new Roman museum which will have significant public benefits
- Permission was given for up to 158 houses at Copmanthorpe on a local plan allocated housing site
- 85 dwellings at Ordanace Lane approved for the Council's housing programme with at least 40% of them affordable homes
- National Railway Museum, approval was given at committee for the construction of a new Central Hall, including entrance hall, exhibition space and café.
- Secretary of State gave permission following a Public Inquiry for 970 dwellings at Land to the North of Monks Cross on an allocated housing site
- Successfully defended an appeal at the Chocolate Works Residents Parking site, Bishopthorpe Road for 70 extra care apartments (McCarthy and Stone). The inspector agreed with officers that the design of the proposal was unacceptable.

Planning enforcement

- 523 new cases were received in 2022.
- 668 cases were closed
- 4 enforcement notices were served

For the first time in a number of years during 2022 the enforcement team were fully staffed, and new members of the team were trained up. Officer started to deal with the backlog of cases and progressing appropriate action.

We have reviewed the service and found the service performing well but due to a number of reasons there is a backlog of applications. In order to address the backlog for all minor applications a new way of working has now been introduced – ‘One Opportunity’ which builds on best practice from elsewhere.

One Opportunity outlines that if changes are needed to proposals officers give clear and specific advice once on the requirements, there is then the expectation that the proposals are amended, and the applications are then progressed quickly. If the concerns are not overcome the application will be refused with no further discussion. This new way of working, along with the expectations has been outlined at an Agents forum.

Building Control

- 2144 building regulation applications were received. This is a drop of almost 150 from 2021 however that year had a significant increase due to the recovery post pandemic.
- Specific submissions to the LA Building control (not including initial notices) was 1132. This is a slight drop from 2021 but the numbers remain consistently over 1000.
- Recruitment continues to be an issue in the team however we continue to keep a consistent market share of around 40%.

Environmental Health

In line with the Food Standards Agency’s requirements, we have carried out 643 food safety inspections of the city’s pubs, cafes, restaurants and other food businesses as well as issuing the food hygiene rating scores.

We have provided over 100 pre-food hygiene inspection visits (on a cost recovery basis) to businesses to help them prepare for their inspection.

Latest figures show we have found 92.5% of businesses are broadly compliant on inspection (scoring 3 or more out of 5), with 68.5% scoring the maximum of 5. Our surveys show 100% of businesses we contacted thought our visits were helpful.

Again, in accordance with Food Standards Agency’s requirements, over 1000 businesses were contacted in preparation for a new compliance regime for food standards i.e. ensuring that food is what it says it is. Furthermore, we have assisted businesses in complying with ‘Natasha’s Law’ which requires the appropriate listing of allergens on pre-packed food. There has been one successful prosecution of a food business which sold a dish containing peanuts to a customer with a peanut allergy

causing them to suffer a serious anaphylactic shock. The customer had made the business aware of their allergy beforehand. The court issued a £5000 fine and £2200 in costs.

Officers have dealt with 137 complaints about food and food businesses and undertaken 45 suspected food poisoning investigations (although we are pleased to report that none of the confirmed food poisonings linked back to a food business)

We have actively engaged with foodbanks to ensure that food supplied to those in need during this time of financial hardship is safe.

Environmental health officers investigated 33 complaints about health and safety at work, and over 80 RIDDOR accidents and injuries i.e. business reporting accidents that have occurred as required by law.

We facilitated the return in 2022 of the Tattooing Convention that included pre-event checks and inspections of tattooists at the event.

On the Environmental Protection side of our work, we are trialling a new resource of Public Protection Support Officers to help resolve complaints – including complaints out of hours - without resorting to enforcement action. It is hoped this will provide an improved response to complaints such as noisy emanating from properties on short term lets such as Air BnB's, although the number of reports to the service about such premises remains low.

Trading Standards

Trading Standards Officers have continued to advise businesses in the city about refusing the sale of age-restricted products to children. Of particular concern has been the reports of the number of children vaping.

Officers conducted test purchasing visits, using an underage volunteer, at 20 different premises attempting to buy e-cigarettes, fireworks, alcohol and a video game. Unfortunately, there was a 20% failure rate overall. Of particular concern was e-cigarettes where 5 of the 18 (62.5%) premises sold.

Using funding provided from Public Health, to develop a 'scheme' to help business develop systems to refuse to sell products under the age of 18 including face to face training for staff to help them determine a person's age. The scheme will be rolled out to businesses in the coming year. In addition, in conjunction with public health colleagues, officers are also looking for ways to increase information about cheap and illicit tobacco

being sold in the city which undermines the strategy of reducing tobacco consumption by increasing price.

National Trading Standards teams

Following their convictions for fraudulent trading in relation to the illegal re-selling of event tickets (ticket touting), two defendants were made the subject of confiscation orders at Leeds Crown Court. This is an order to recover the assets they had gained from their offending. They were found to have benefited financially from their crimes by £8,750,732 and were ordered to pay back £6,167,522.02 in assets. Should they fail to pay back that amount, they face an additional 8 years imprisonment. The case received significant national coverage.



Council

23 March 2023

Report of the Chair of Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee

As this will more than likely be my final report to Council as Chair of the Customer & Corporate Services and Scrutiny Management Committee I felt it would be appropriate to reflect on my tenure and look ahead to the next municipal year. It has certainly been an eventful four years and, having faced some unprecedented challenges, has not been entirely what I was anticipating when I took up the role in May 2019. Despite a promising start, I think it has ultimately been as frustrating as it has been fulfilling; I am proud to have helped shine a light on some hugely important issues facing the city – Devolution, Planning Reforms, Staff Recruitment & Well-being, Digital Inclusion, City Centre Access – but leave questioning how many people value, or see the potential of, Scrutiny in the same way that I have come to.

The key tenets of good Scrutiny - to act as critical friends, to have independent minds, to amplify the voice of the public, to always drive improvement in public services – are easy enough to say, but have frequently felt elusive in practice. There has too often been a tendency to present everything as wonderful or the best it could possibly be, whilst genuine enquiry has at times been met with suspicion. “Pre-decision Scrutiny” has frequently come too late in the process for meaningful input beyond perhaps some minor tweaking, and has often felt as though it is more about stage management or deflecting criticism than a true exploration of how to deliver a policy goal or service improvement. Further, I have often felt that I am operating with one hand tied behind my back, forever caught up in internal political wrangles that sap energy and enthusiasm from the good work or common cause that Scrutiny can deliver.

Of course some challenges have been out-with all of our control; when I took on this role no one was anticipating that we would witness a worldwide pandemic and I certainly didn't expect to be chairing public meetings from my kitchen table! It is to Democratic Services' - and the Committee's - credit that in a relatively short period of time we were able

to get up and running online, constructively scrutinising the city's response during those early days of lockdown. I feel we genuinely helped improve communications with residents – particularly those without internet access – and I believe we were effective in assisting the cross-Council approach to an unprecedented situation. Whilst there was understandable frustration that other Committees were effectively moth-balled – and continue to have a reduced schedule of meetings - I would like to particularly thank those members of CSMC who undertook a disproportionate amount of Scrutiny work throughout this period, sometimes under quite difficult personal circumstances.

Sadly, since returning to some amount of normality following the end of lockdown, it is my view that the Scrutiny Function in York has not been enabled to reach its full potential, largely as a result of factors that *are* within our control. A lack of dedicated Scrutiny Officer support, stretched resources across the Council leading to a low prioritisation from some quarters and the ongoing toxicity of the allocation and appointments arrangements - particularly on CSMC – have been key contributing factors. These issues have been raised on multiple occasions both privately and publicly at the highest levels and there has been ample time to address them if there had been any will to do so from the current administration. It is now approaching three years since we had dedicated scrutiny officer support and almost as long since the controversial substitution arrangements - that our own flimsy legal advice suggests are contrary to the spirit and purpose of proportionality legislation - have been in place. That these situations have been allowed to persist for so long has been to all our detriment.


Robust checks and balances are an important part of any healthy democracy, but not only that; a well-resourced Scrutiny function can be so much more, offering constructive 'critical friend' support to Executive, exploring and bottoming out 'thorny' issues and providing opportunities to find common cause and all-party engagement on a wide range of policy areas.

I hope that, following May's elections and the overdue publication of updated legal advice, there will be opportunity to redress these issues and that all Members – both newly elected and returning - will engage with the Scrutiny training packages that are currently being put together in cooperation with the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny. Increasing our collective knowledge and understanding can only be a good thing.

Similarly, there will be opportunities to look again at the Scrutiny Committee structures, processes, and work plans – particularly if there are changes to the structure of any future Executive – allowing future Chairs to help ensure that the areas of Council business that can be best assisted through Scrutiny are appropriately reflected and given due attention.

I remain resolute in my belief that, when properly embraced and appropriately resourced, Scrutiny can be a robust and effective driving force for good. As a Council – Executive Members, Councillors and Officers alike - we must decide whether we want to be the best that we can be or continue to frustrate one another. I look forward to assisting in any way that I can in ensuring that the Scrutiny function in York is as effective as it can be going forwards. With that in mind, I wish the next Chair of CSMC all the patience, persistence and resilience they will require.

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 <p>CITY OF YORK COUNCIL</p>	
Council	23 March 2023
Report of the Director of Governance	

Pay Policy 2023-2024

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to present for approval the council's Pay Policy Statement for 2023-2024.
2. In addition to provide the information required under The Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015.

Background

3. Section 38 – 43 of the Localism Act 2011 introduced a requirement for the Council to produce and publish an annual policy statement that covers a number of matters concerning the pay of the Council's senior staff, principally Chief Officers, and relationships with the pay of the rest of the workforce.
4. The Pay Policy Statement has been produced following the requirements of the Act and guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Communities. It has to be published before 31 March each year.
5. The Council is continually looking at how it can improve the information it reports, and in 2022 consolidated the Pay Policy Statement with all the additional reports required by The Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015 for organisation and senior salary information. This format aims to provide improved transparency, consistency and clear presentation of data which can easily be accessed by the public.

Consultation

6. Approval of the Policy Statement for 2023-24 is by full council, consultation with other management bodies is not required.

Options

7. Option one - To endorse the Pay Policy Statement.
8. Option two - To reject / amend the Pay Policy Statement.

Analysis

9. The Localism Act 2011 sets out specific details of what should be included in the Pay Policy Statement and the requirements of this are met in the attached Statement.
10. It should also be noted that apprentices have been excluded from the calculation for the pay multiple in the statement as they are employed on training contracts and paid outside of the council's grading structure. School staff are also excluded from this statement.
11. The information included is as of 1st February 2023.
12. The Council is a Living Wage employer and follows the wage level set by the Living Wage Foundation for 'Outside London'. The council will apply the new 2023 -24 rate of £10.90 per hour from 1st April 2023. The new rate is equivalent to an annual salary of £21,029.19 per annum. For the majority of staff in the Council their basic pay will be above the Living Wage rate but the Council's Living Wage supplement is in place if needed, to bridge any gap between basic pay and the Living Wage rate.
13. The Council is required to publish its pay multiple (the ratio between the highest paid base salary in the council and the median salary) as part of the Pay Policy Statement. The ratio is based on the salary of the highest paid permanent role: that of the Chief Operating Officer. The median average has been used for calculating the pay multiple. The ratio is 5.16:1, which is slightly reduced from last year.

14. The council's Pay Policy Statements and Transparency information is published on the council's website at: <https://data.yorkopendata.org/group/transparency> This year's information will be published following approval by Full Council.
15. The main change seen in this year's Transparency Reporting is the increase in number of employees brought into the report of employees with remuneration over £50,000. The increase in numbers is predominately due to the 2022 annual pay award bringing the salary level, for the 87 employees in Grade 11, into the £50,000 to £54,999 remuneration bracket.

Council Plan

16. The council's pay policy and production of the Pay Policy Statement aligns with the core outcomes of 'an open and transparent council' and 'well paid jobs and an inclusive economy'.

Implications

(a) Financial

There are no financial implications for the report.

(b) Human Resources (HR)

There are no human resource implications for the report.

(c) Equalities (Contact – Equalities Officer)

There are no equalities implications for the report.

(d) Legal

The Pay Policy Statement meets the requirements of the Localism Act and also meets the requirements of guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to which the authority is required to have regard under Section 40 of the Act.

(e) **Crime and Disorder**

There are no implications for crime and disorder.

(f) **Information Technology (IT)**

There are no implications for IT.

(g) **Property**

There are no implications for property.

(h) **Other**

Other implications are covered in the body of the report.

Risk Management

15. There are no significant risks associated with production of the Pay Policy Statement.

Recommendations

For the Council to approve the Pay Policy Statement for 2023 - 2024

Reason: In order to fulfil the requirements of Section 38 – 43 of the Localism Act 2011 for the council to produce and publish an annual policy statement that covers a number of matters concerning the pay of the council's senior staff, principally Chief Officers and relationships with the pay of the rest of the workforce.

Contact Details

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Wards Affected: None			
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Background Papers:

None

Annexes:

Annex A - Pay Policy Statement and Transparency Information

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**Pay Policy Statement
and
Transparency Information**

1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

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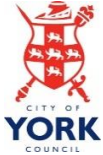
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Introduction

This document contains information about the Council's workforce, in particular the annual Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 as required by the Localism Act 2011, and other information required under the Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015.

The Council has taken the following action to ensure that this Policy Statement is easily accessible to the public:

- it is published on the council's open data website in a readily accessible place - Senior Salary information, under Governance and Transparency.
- it can also easily be found under global web searches.



Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement

The following section sets out the Council's Pay Policy in relation to the remuneration of its Chief Officers and employees - in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011.

The policy is subject to annual review and must be approved by the Council each financial year. This statement is valid from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024. The structures and pay rates quoted are correct as of 1st February 2023.

Subject to specific circumstances it may be necessary to amend the Pay Policy statement during the financial year. Any changes or amendments made will be subject to full Council approval.

The policy will be published on the Council's website as soon as reasonably practicable after Council approval or amendment.

The arrangements set out within this document do not extend to those members of staff who are employed within schools. This is because the scope of the Localism Act does not require Councils to consider individual schools.

The Council is mindful of its duty as defined in the Equality Act 2010. This Pay Policy Statement forms part of a range of pay policies to promote equality in pay practices and assists in ensuring that the Council is promoting transparency of senior managers' pay and a fair approach to pay related equalities objectives.

Definition of officers covered by the Policy Statement

This Policy Statement covers the following posts:

Statutory Chief Officers:

- Head of Paid Service & Returning Officer - Chief Operating Officer
- Monitoring Officer - Director of Governance
- Director of Children's Services – Corporate Director Children & Education
- Director of Adult Social Services - Corporate Director Adult Social Care & Integration
- Chief Finance Officer (S151) - Chief Finance Officer
- Director of Public Health - Director of Public Health

Non-statutory Chief Officers:

- Corporate Director Economy and Place
- Director Environment, Transport & Planning
- Director Economy, Regeneration & Housing
- Director Customer & Communities
- Director of Adults Safeguarding
- Director of Children's Safeguarding
- Assistant Director Policy and Strategy
- Assistant Director Education
- Assistant Director (Consultant) in Public Health
- Assistant Director Communities and Equalities
- Assistant Director Adult Services

Policy on remunerating Chief Officers

The Council has a policy for remunerating Chief Officers based on job evaluation and a grade structure. No changes are proposed to this during 2023- 2024.

The grade and salary structure for Chief Officers and the Chief Operating Officer is:

Pay rates as of 1st April 2022

Chief Operating Officer	4	£154,117
	3	£152,042
	2	£149,967
	1	£145,816
Corporate Directors	4	£115,672
	3	£112,025
	2	£108,514
	1	£105,110
Directors	4	£103,243
	3	£99,816
	2	£96,506
	1	£93,308
Assistant Directors	4	£84,793
	3	£81,803
	2	£79,163
	1	£76,515

Any annual increase to the salary scales is in accordance with awards negotiated nationally by the respective National Joint Councils and applicable from 1st April annually.

Progression through the salary scale for the Chief Operating Officer is dependent upon performance and approval by the Leader of the Council.

Progression through the salary scale for Chief Officers is dependent upon performance and achievement of objectives, approved by the line manager.

Salary on Appointment of Chief Officers

The appointments sub-committee, subject to Pay Policy and job evaluated range for the post, determines the salary level and package offered to the successful candidate.

Chief Officer pay packages over £100k in value are subject to approval by the Council's Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee.

Bonus and Performance related payments

The Council does not make any such payments.

Pension Contributions

Employer pension contributions are set by the relevant pension fund.

Benefits in Kind

There are no benefits in kind.

Travel and other expenses

Any necessary travel and expenses are reimbursed through normal Council procedures.

Election Duties undertaken by Chief Officers

Fees for election duties undertaken by Chief Officers are not included in their salaries. The Chief Operating Officer is the Returning Officer and receives payments for elections. For local elections, fees are set locally. For national elections, fees are set by the Cabinet Office.

Termination payments of Chief Officers including redundancy and pension discretion

The Council applies its normal redundancy payments arrangements to Chief Officers and does not have separate provisions for them. The Council also applies the appropriate Pensions regulations when they apply. The Council has agreed policies in place on how it will apply any discretionary powers it has under Pensions regulations. Any costs that are incurred by the Council regarding Chief Officers are published in the authority accounts as required under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015.

Approval of any pension discretions are made by the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee.

Chief Officer Severance packages over £100k in value are subject to approval by the Council's Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee.

Policy on remunerating the lowest paid in the workforce

The Council applies terms and conditions of employment that have been negotiated and agreed through appropriate collective bargaining mechanisms (national or local) or as a consequence of Council decisions. These are then incorporated into contracts of employment.

The Council operates a grading structure which runs from Grade 2 to 13 and the lowest paid employees, excluding apprentices are those in Grade 2.

The Council is a Living Wage Foundation accredited employer which means its lowest pay point complies with its outside London Living Wage rate. From 1st April 2023 this rate of pay will be £10.90 per hour (£21,029.19 per annum). The Living Wage rate is either within basic salary, or a consolidation of basic salary with a Living Wage supplement if required.

Apprenticeship Pay

The Council's pay rates for apprentices are:

- Year 1 (the first 12 months of their training) – the equivalent of the National Minimum Wage for 18 to 20 year olds.
- Year 2 and beyond (from 12 months in training) – the equivalent of the National Minimum Wage for 21 year olds.
- Apprentices aged 23 and above in their second year (or subsequent) of their apprenticeship are paid the National Living Wage.
- Rates increase annually in April following any changes made to the National Minimum and National Living Wage rates.

Policy on the relationship between Chief Officer Remuneration and that of other staff

At the time of this report the highest salary in this Council is £152,042.00 which is paid to the Chief Operating Officer. The median salary in this council is £29,466.00. (Apprentices have been excluded from the calculation for the median.) The ratio between the two salaries, the 'pay multiple' is 5.16:1. This Council does not have a policy on maintaining or reaching a specific 'pay multiple', however the Council is conscious of the need to ensure that the salary of the highest paid employee is not excessive and is consistent with the needs of the Council as expressed in this Policy Statement.

Remuneration of other non-chief officer staff

In addition, to the separate arrangements for the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Officers, the Council has staff employed under terms and conditions set for the following groups:

- Local Government Services Employees
- Soulbury Officers
- Educational Psychologists
- Workshop for the Blind

- Teachers (non-school based)
- The council also employs staff who have separate terms and conditions subject to the Transfer of Undertaking and Protection of Employment (TUPE) Regulations.

Increases to the Council's salary scales for non-chief officer groups are in line with annual salary awards negotiated nationally by the respective National Joint Councils.

Amendments to the policy

No amendments to the Pay Policy are anticipated during the year.

Policy for future years

This Policy Statement will be reviewed each year and presented to full Council for consideration.

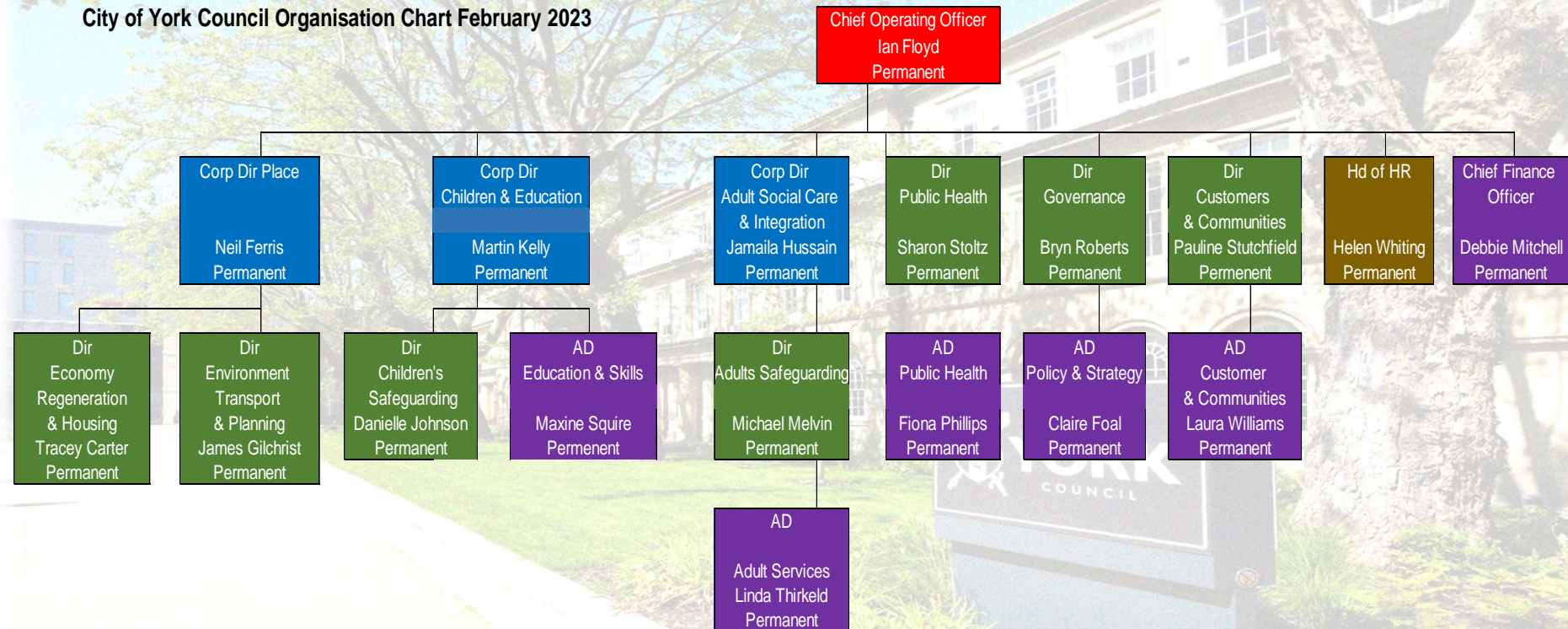


Transparency Information

The following section provides information as required under the Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015.

Organisation Chart

City of York Council Organisation Chart February 2023



Notes for the Organisation Chart

The chart shows the council's senior staff. The information shown is in the order of:


Job Title
Name of job holder
Contract status

The salary ceilings for the job roles are as follows:

COO	up to £154,117
Corp Dir	up to £115,672
Dir	up to £103,243
AD	up to £84,793
G13	up to £70,019

The senior staff can be contacted by:

 Email using: firstname.lastname@york.gov.uk

 Telephone: 01904 551550

More information on service responsibilities can be found at: [Council Management Team – City of York Council](#)

Employees with remuneration over £50,000.

The Council has 180 employees with remuneration over £50,000. These employees are covered by the national pay arrangements for Chief Executives, Chief Officers, Educational Psychologists, Soulbury Officers and Local Government Service Employees.

The following list shows the job titles of roles with remuneration over £50,000 in £50,000 brackets:

£150,000 to £154,999 - 1
Chief Operating Officer
£110,000 to £114,999 - 2
Corporate Director Children and Education
Corporate Director Economy & Place
£105,000 to £109,999 - 3
Corporate Director of Adults and Integration
Director of Childrens Safeguarding
Director of Public Health
£95,000 to £99,999 - 5
Director Customer and Communities
Director Economy, Regeneration and Housing
Director Environment, Transport and Planning
Director of Adults Safeguarding
Director of Governance
£80,000 to £84,999 - 2
Assistant Director (Consultant) in Public Health
Assistant Director Education & Skills
£80,000 to £84,999 - 2
Chief Finance Officer
Clinical Advisor
£75,000 to £79,999 - 3
Assistant Director - Adult Social Care
Assistant Director Communities and Inclusion
Assistant Director Policy & Strategy
£70,000 to £74,999 - 4
Head of Customer, Resident & Exchequer Services
Head of Regeneration and Economy
Nurse Consultant in Public Health
Shared Head of ICT York and Harrogate
£65,000 to 69,999 - 6
Head of Democratic Governance - Acting up
Head of Environmental Services
Head of Housing Delivery & Asset Management
Head of Primary School Improvement
Principal Educational Psychologist
Virtual School Head
£60,000 to 64,999 - 35
Corporate Business Partner
Court Business Partner
Finance Manager
Head of Agency - One Adoption North and Humber (Regional Adoption Agency)

Head of All Age Commissioning
Head of Assessment MASH and Targeting Interventions
Head of Building Services
Head of Business and Administrative Support Services
Head of Business Intelligence
Head of Communications and Marketing
Head of Communities
Head of Community Safety
Head of Corporate Parenting
Head of Corporate Policy and City Partnerships
Head of Economy
Head of Education Support Services
Head of Facilities Management & Property Services
Head of Highways and Transport
Head of Housing Management Services
Head of Housing Strategy and Performance
Head of Human Resources & Organisational Development
Head of ICT Support
Head of Innovation and Children's Champion
Head of Legal
Head of Planning & Development Services
Head of Property
Head of Public Protection
Head of Quality Assurance, Safeguarding and Principal Social Worker
Head of Regeneration Project Delivery
Head of Service - Finance (Deputy s151 Officer)
Head of York Learning
Major Transport Projects Manager
Regional Investigations and eCrime Manager
Service Manager - Strategic Services
Team Leader - Specialist Teaching Team
£55,000 to 59,999 - 14
Education Psychologist
Education Psychologist
Finance Manager
Head of Active and Sustainable Transport
Head of Carbon Reduction
Head of Operations and Partnerships MH P2R
Head of Provider Services All Age Care and Support
Head of Public Health (Healthy Child Service)
Head of Strategic Planning & Policy
School Improvement Adviser 0-11
School Improvement Adviser 11-19
School Inclusion Advisor
Senior Education Psychologist
Specialist Senior Educ Psychologist
£50,000 to 54,999 - 103
Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP)
Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP)
Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP)
Appvd Social Worker (Men Health)
Appvd Social Worker (Men Health)
Appvd Social Worker (Men Health)
Asset Manager
Assistant Service Manager - Mental Health

Bereavement Services Manager (Gd 11)
Business Change Manager
Category Manager G11 (Career Grade)
Category Manager G11 (Career Grade)
Community Safety Manager (Neighbourhood Safety)
Community Safety Manager Crime & Night Time Economy
Community Sports Development Manager
Consultant Social Worker - Trainee Programme
Customer & Resident Services Manager
Design and Sustainability Manager
DM Team Leader
Economy and Enterprise Manager (MIY TUPE)
Education Psychologist
Education Psychologist
Education Psychologist
Education Psychologist
Facilities Manager (TFM) West Offices
Flood Risk Manager
Guildhall Project Manager
Head of Fleet and Operations
Head of Highway Asset Management
Head of Inward Investment
Head of Operations and Partnerships
Head of Procurement
Head of Provider Services All Age Learning Disabilities and Autism
Head of Safeguarding Interventions
Healthy and Sustainable Homes Manager
Highways Capital Delivery Manager
Highways Engineering Design Manager
Housing Delivery Programme Manager
Housing ICT Programme Business Change Manager
Housing Management Services Manager
Housing Options and Support Services Manager
HR Performance and Change Manager
HR Performance and Change Manager
HR Performance and Change Manager
ICT Digital Portfolio and Change Manager
ICT Infrastructure and Security Manager
Improvement and Transformation Service Manager
Independent Reviewing Officer - Carers & Placements (G11)
Independent Reviewing Officer (G11)
Independent Reviewing Officer (G11)
Independent Reviewing Officer (G11)
Independent Reviewing Officer (G11)
Information, Governance and Feedback Team Manager
Innovative Flood Resilience Project Manager
Lead Nurse for Safeguarding
Local Authority Designated Officer - LADO
Parking Services Manager
Principal Accountant
Principal Accountant
Programme Manager
Programme Manager
Public Health Specialist Practitioner Advanced
Public Health Specialist Practitioner Advanced

Public Health Specialist Practitioner Advanced (PH003)
Public Protection Manager - Regulatory Advice
Reactive Repairs and Voids Manager
Registration Services Manager
Resourcing Manager
Resourcing Manager
Revenues and Benefits Manager
School Business Support Manager
Senior Investigator
Senior Investigator - Secondment
Senior Lawyer - Contract Commercial
Senior Lawyer - Contract Commercial
Senior Lawyer - Litigation
Senior Lawyer - Planning
Senior Lawyer - Planning
Senior Lawyer - Property
Senior Lawyer - Social
Senior Lawyer - Social
Senior Solicitor - Employment & Education
Senior Transport Project Manager
Senior Transport Project Manager
Service Manager
Service Manager
Service Manager
Service Manager - Assessing Carers
Service Manager - CiN Team 4
Service Manager - PD
Service Manager - R&A 1
Service Manager - R&A 2
Service Manager - R&A 3
Service Manager - R&A 3
Service Manager - Social Work 1
Service Manager Independent Review Service
Strategic Manager - Employability and Work Programmes
Strategy & Contract Manager
Supported Housing Service Manager
Technical Accountant
Transport Major Projects Regulatory Coordinator
Transport Systems Programme Manager
YOT Manager