



**Notice of a public meeting of  
Decision Session - Combined Executive Member Decision Session**

**To:** Councillor Lomas (Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion) and Councillor Kilbane (Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Economy and Culture)

**Date:** Tuesday, 5 August 2025

**Time:** 10.00 am

**Venue:** West Offices, York

**AGENDA**

**Notice to Members – Post Decision Calling In:**

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item\* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democratic Services by **4:00pm on 12 August 2025**.

\*With the exception of matters that have been the subject of a previous call in, require Full Council approval or are urgent which are not subject to the call-in provisions. Any items that are called in will be considered by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

**1. Appointing a Chair**

To confirm arrangements for chairing the meeting as follows:  
Councillor Lomas (Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion) – all standard agenda items 1-5.

Councillor Lomas – Agenda item 6 – Application for Community Right to Bid under the Localism Act 2011

Councillor Kilbane (Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive

Member for Economy and Culture) - Agenda item 7 – York  
Economic Inactivity Trailblazer  
Councillor Kilbane – Agenda item 8 – Urgent Business

## 2. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive and note apologies for absence.

## 3. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, Members and co-opted 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. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

(1) Members must consider their interests, and act according to the following:

<b>Type of Interest</b>	<b>You Must</b>
<i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i>	<i>Disclose the interest, not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting unless you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i> <b>OR</b> <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; speak on the item only if the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting unless you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Affects)</i> <b>OR</b> <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting, participate and vote unless the matter affects the financial interest or well-being:</i> <i>(a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interest or well-being of a majority of</i>

	<p><i>inhabitants of the affected ward; and</i></p> <p><i>(b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest. In which case, speak on the item only if the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise do not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting unless you have a dispensation.</i></p>
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(2) Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.

(3) Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

#### 4. **Minutes** (Pages 9 - 20)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Environment and Climate Emergency Executive Member Decision Session held on 20 May 2025 and the Combined Executive Member Decision Session held on 1 July 2025.

#### 5. **Public Participation**

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. Members of the public may speak on agenda items or on matters within the remit of the committee. Please note that our registration deadlines are set as 2 working days before the meeting, in order to facilitate the management of public participation at our meetings. The deadline for registering at this meeting is 5:00pm on Friday 1 August 2025.

To register to speak please visit [www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings](http://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 meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The meeting can be viewed live and on demand at [www.york.gov.uk/webcasts](http://www.york.gov.uk/webcasts).

### **6. Application for Community Right to Bid under the Localism Act 2011** (Pages 21 - 50)

This report details an application to list The Fox Inn, 90 The Village, Stockton on the Forest, York, as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) for consideration by the Council. The application has been received for a decision by the Executive Member in the Council's statutory capacity as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) listing authority. To be considered by Councillor Lomas (Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion).

### **7. York Economic Inactivity Trailblazer** (Pages 51 - 62)

This Decision Report requests that members accept the York-specific funding agreed as part of the £10m Economic Inactivity Trailblazer, awarded to York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority as part of the government's Get Britain Working programme. This is worth £1,038,250 to York and comes alongside other funding streams and programmes delivered across the whole region which will benefit York residents. To be considered by Cllr Kilbane (Deputy Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Economy and Culture).

### **8. Urgent Business**

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

Democracy Officer

Angela Bielby

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For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports.

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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 میا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

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## City of York Council

Committee Minutes

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Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency
Date	20 May 2025
Present	Councillors Kent
Officers in attendance	James Gilchrist - Director of Environment, Transport and Planning Guy Hanson - Design and Conservation Manager

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**28. Apologies for Absence**

No apologies for absence were received.

**29. Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare if he had any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests that they might have had in relation to the business on the agenda. None were declared.

**30. Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 29 April 2025 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

**31. Public Participation**

It was reported that there had been one registration to speak at the session under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Councillor Baxter spoke in relation to matters regarding the remit of the portfolio of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency and discussed the positive work of the Public Realm Team and the effects that this had had on Hull Road Ward. Councillor Baxter commended recent upgrades to the ward including the installation of new tennis nets which had benefitted the residents and area, increasing access to sport. She concluded by thanking volunteer groups such as Friends of Hull Road Park, and thanked officers in the Public Realm Team, and the Executive Member.

The Executive Member confirmed that she had also received a written representation by Councillor Warters in relation to matters regarding the remit of the portfolio of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency, of which had been published alongside the agenda.

### **32. North Yorkshire & York, Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) consultation draft**

The Director of Environment, Transport and Planning, and the Design and Conservation Manager, Planning and Development Services, presented the report, and it was resolved that:

- The Executive Member:
  - i. Noted the work that had been undertaken in relation to the North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
  - ii. Agreed to delegate authority to the Head of Strategic Planning Policy to:
    - a. Provide written consent to a public consultation on the draft North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
    - b. Confirm to North Yorkshire Council the Council's position. This would occur before the expiry of a 28-day statutory consultation period.



Reason: To clarify the Council's position to North Yorkshire Council, in respect to the Council's duties and powers as set out by LNRS Regulations 2023. The current position is that council officers have worked closely with North Yorkshire Council on the emerging draft Strategy and give support to the overall format of the Strategy and process of its development and so have no objections to a public consultation. However, officers have not seen complete draft strategy documentation before the publication of this report, so require complete documentation and further time to confirm this position.

- iii. To delegate authority to the Head of Strategic Planning Policy to make any comments on behalf of the Council in response to the draft North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Reason: For the efficient delivery of the Strategy.

Cllr Kent, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.13 am].

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## City of York Council

## Committee Minutes

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Meeting	Decision Session - Combined Executive Member Decision Session
Date	1 July 2025
Present	Councillors Pavlovic (Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities) [to 10.44 am], Douglas (Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Policy, Strategy and Partnerships) [10.13-10.44 am] and Kent (Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency)
Apologies	Councillor Steels-Walshaw (Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care)
In Attendance	Sara Storey – Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Integration Pauline Stuchfield – Director of Housing and Communities Michael Melvin – Director of Adults Safeguarding Jane Mowat – Head of Community Safety (remote) Tanya Lyon – Community Safety Manager Kate Helme – Community Mental Health Programme Manager Paul McCabe – Strategy and Policy Manager, Carbon Reduction Team

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## 9. Appointing a Chair (10.05 am)

The Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities opened the Decision Session, and explained that each Executive Member would Chair the Decision Session for their respective items. This would be himself for Agenda items 6 (Merger of Safer York Business Partnership with York BID including transfer of Reserves) and 7 (Re-procurement of the Stray Dog Contract). The Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Policy, Strategy and Partnerships would take over as Chair for Agenda item 8 (Use of Acomb Garth for the 24/7 Neighbourhood Mental Health Centre Pilot). The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency would then take over as Chair for Agenda item 9 (Strategic Partner Endorsement of the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan 2025-50).

## **10. Apologies for Absence (10.06 am)**

Apologies were received from Cllr Steels-Walshaw, Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care. In Cllr Steels-Walshaw's absence, it was noted that Cllr Douglas, Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Policy, Strategy and Partnerships, would make the decision in respect of Agenda item 8 (Use of Acomb Garth for the 24/7 Neighbourhood Mental Health Centre Pilot).

## **11. Declarations of Interest (10.06 am)**

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

## **12. Minutes (10.06 am)**

Resolved: That the minutes of the Combined Executive Member Decision Session held on 3 June 2025 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

## **13. Public Participation (10.07 am)**

It was noted that there had been one registration to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Speaking in relation to Agenda item 8 (Use of Acomb Garth for the 24/7 Neighbourhood Mental Health Centre Pilot), Cllr Carol Runciman welcomed the report, but raised concerns over continuity of services given that the NHS grant covered only two years, the impact on existing services based in Acomb Garth, provision for a place of safety under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act, the potential for outstanding legal issues to prove an impediment, and the need for consultation with local Councillors.

## **14. Merger of Safer York Business Partnership with York BID including transfer of Reserves (10.12 am)**

The Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities considered a report proposing approving the transfer of reserve funding held by Safer York Business Crime Partnership to York BID. The Head of

Community Safety provided an overview, noting that following the transfer of the partnership's functions to the BID in March 2025, a decision was now required to approval of the transfer of the partnership's reserves, which were held on behalf of the partnership in a separate account within the Council's Community Safety budget.

It was confirmed that the partnership had accrued reserves through commission paid by its radio contractor which were held by the Council at the request of the partnership to facilitate transactions. This was not the Council's money but sat as a separate budget with its own annual report; there were no outstanding transactions since 31 March 2025 as the BID was now responsible for all contracts held by the partnership.

**Resolved:** That the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities approves the transfer of reserve funding held by Safer York Business Crime Partnership to York BID.

**Reason:** To preserve the valuable services provided by the scheme in assisting the police with tackling crime and anti-social behaviour impacting on the business community.

## **15. Re-procurement of the Stray Dog Contract (10.20 am)**

The Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities considered a report seeking approval for officers to tender and award the 3-year Stray Dog Service contract. The Community Safety Manager provided an overview, noting that this was a statutory service. The Council was one of many local authorities that contracted out the service, and delegated authority was being sought to tender and award the contract to ensure compliance with procurement rules, as pre-market assessment had identified that the contract could be over £250k in value. The intention was to stay below this threshold, but increases in National Insurance, energy and feeding costs had the potential to push the value higher.

In response to the Executive Member's questions it was confirmed that the Stray Dog Service, which worked closely with the Neighbourhood Enforcement team, was well-run with the vast majority of dogs either reunited with their owners or re-homed. Income from reclaim fees and daily and part-daily kennelling costs was transferred back to the Council. It was noted that a separate Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) covered dog fouling and dog control. The Executive Member noted that as a statutory service, there must be no break in provision when the current contract expired, and that as a well-run service over the last three years, it was appropriate to continue using an external contractor.

Resolved: That the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities gives approval for officers to tender and award the 3-year Stray Dog Service contract which pre-tender market testing has assessed could increase to be over £250k in value.

Reason: To ensure compliance with the council's statutory responsibilities and Contract Procurement Rules.

[The Leader of the Council then took the chair for the next item].

## **16. Use of Acomb Garth for the 24/7 Neighbourhood Mental Health Centre Pilot (10.26 am)**

The Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Policy, Strategy and Partnerships considered a report setting out the technical and legal steps required to secure the delivery of the 24/7 Neighbourhood Mental Health Centre Pilot at Acomb Garth Community Centre. The Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Integration and the Community Mental Health Programme Manager introduced the report, thanking colleagues and partners for their support, and noting that £2.4m in NHS England funding had been made available over two years to support the project as part of a national pilot. This was an innovative and complex partnership piece of work, and following work with Legal colleagues to mitigate risks, approval was sought for the signing of an Agreement for Licence to Occupy (AFL) and a Licence to Occupy (LTO), with Nimbuscare Ltd, who leased part of Acomb Garth, together with obtaining a Side Letter from NHS Property Services Limited, who owned the freehold.

In response to the issues raised during the Public Participation item, cross-party support was welcomed and it was confirmed that:

- Longer-term work on community mental health support was ongoing to avoid any lapse in services;
- Services would co-exist with many of those already provided at Acomb Garth;
- The partnership could consider the suggestion of a place of safety although this would need to align with the agreed ethos and values of the partnership; that
- While there was no way to mitigate all possible risk, work was not being held up by the outstanding legal issues;
- Engagement with local councillors and citizens would continue to be important.

The Leader of the Council noted this was an important part of reforming the delivery of mental health services in the city and highlighted the success of the existing Clarence Street Hub. She noted that York had been selected to take the pilot forward, and that the Chief Medical Officer for England was visiting the Council today to see the city's innovative co-produced services. She emphasised the York Place Board's longer-term commitment to services beyond the two years, and thanked officers and partners for their work on the project. She noted that of the other options outlined, doing nothing would be detrimental while delaying in order to resolve outstanding issues would not help get services in place within the timeline. As such, it was

Resolved: That the Leader of the Council and Executive Member for Policy, Strategy and Partnerships approves the option for City of York Council to enter into the AFL, Licence to Occupy and a Side Letter relating to the property at Acomb Garth, once they are agreed, as the holder of the funds for the pilot, and to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Adult Services and Integration ("DASS") in consultation with the Director of Governance and the Chief Finance Officer to take such steps as are necessary to draft, negotiate, and conclude the proposed Agreement for Licence to Occupy, Licence to Occupy and side letter.

Reason: To allow the City of York Council and the partner organisations within the hub to occupy and make necessary alterations to Acomb Garth as part of a pilot project. By securing occupancy and making modifications, the Council can ensure that the site becomes operational without undue delay, in line with NHSE expectations. The Agreement for Licence to Occupy, Licence to Occupy and side letter confirms the Council's right to use the site and mitigates some key risks from a property law perspective (to extent possible in the circumstances and given the position taken by NHSPS and Nimbuscare) and ensures alignment with Council policies. As host to the Project Team and budget holder, CYC is best placed to manage these arrangements and ensure best outcomes for the residents of York.

[The Leader of the Council and the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities both left the Decision Session at 10.44 am, and the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency then took the chair for the remainder of the meeting].

## **17. Strategic Partner Endorsement of the White Rose Forest Strategic Plan 2025-50 (10.44 am)**

The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency considered a report noting the new Strategic Plan developed and approved by the White Rose Forest (WRF) partnership, and seeking City of York Council's endorsement as a strategic partner. The Strategy and Policy Manager (Carbon Reduction Team) provided an overview, noting that the WRF, which was the Community Forest for North and West Yorkshire, was not a single forest but the network of all trees, woods and forests across the region. Endorsement for the Strategic Plan 2025-50, which expressed the partnership's long-term direction, ambition and strategic objectives, was sought from WRF partners, including all local authorities within the region.

It was noted that the Strategic Plan aligned closely with York's Local Plan, Climate Change Strategy, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Economic Strategy and emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy. It was a Council ambition to increase York's tree canopy cover from 10.8% to 13% by 2050, and tree planting had broad public support. Successes to date included the 79-hectare York Community Woodland and the 5,300 trees planted in urban areas through the York Green Streets initiative. The Council was also seeking to protect and restore existing trees and woodland as well as working with upstream partners to enhance flood resilience.

The Executive Member expressed her support for the work of the WRF, noting news that the broader Northern Forest, of which the WRF formed part, had now planted 10m trees to date against a target of 50m by 2050. She thanked the officer for his work on Green Streets, and noted that the 13% target could not be achieved on Council land alone, highlighting work with partners to encourage tree planting on their land. She noted that every tree in every garden was part of the WRF, calling on all to work together to meet the target.

Resolved: That the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency:

- a) Notes that a new WRF Strategic Plan 2025-50 has been developed and approved by the WRF partnership and formally endorses it, demonstrating City of York Council's support.
- b) Notes how the Council can play its part in successful delivery of the Strategic Plan with reference to the priorities and targets for York.
- c) Notes the progress made to date towards York's priorities and targets.



Reason: To demonstrate City of York Council's support for the WRF partnership and the long-term direction and level of ambition of its Strategic Plan.

Cllr M Pavlovic, Chair

[The meeting started at 10.05 am and finished at 10.55 am].

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<b>Meeting:</b>	Combined Executive Member Decision Session
<b>Meeting date:</b>	05/08/2025
<b>Report of:</b>	Director of Finance
<b>Portfolio of:</b>	Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects and Equalities

## **Decision Report: Application for Community Right to Bid under the Localism Act 2011**

### **Subject of Report**

1. This report details an application to list the following property as Asset of Community Value (ACV) for consideration by the Council.
  - A. The Fox Inn 90 The Village, Stockton on the Forest, York, YO32 9UW. An application has been received by Campaign for Real Ale (York Branch).
2. The application has been received, for a decision by the Executive Member in the Council's statutory capacity as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) listing authority.

### **Benefits and Challenges**

3. This process is a statutory requirement. The process and the effects through the listing of an asset is set out in detail in this paper.

### **Policy Basis for Decision**

4. The process is a statutory requirement.

### **Financial Strategy Implications**

5. There are no financial strategy implications to this decision.

## Recommendation and Reasons

6. The Executive Member is asked to consider the officer recommendation(s) to:

Approve the listing of:

- (i) The Fox Inn 90 The Village, Stockton on Forest, York, YO32 9UW, as Assets of Community Value (ACV) for the reasons outlined within this report.

Reason:

To ensure the Council meets its legislative obligations (pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 and the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012) and promotes community access to community facilities.

## Background

7. The purpose behind the provisions regarding Assets of Community Value (ACV) in the Localism Act 2011 is to ensure that property (land and building) assets which are currently used for principal/non-ancillary use(s) which benefit the local communities are not disposed of without the local community being given an opportunity to bid for these assets when the owner wishes to dispose of the asset. This right is not simply to accommodate 'public assets' but also private assets, the test is whether such assets are viewed as 'assets of community value'. These assets therefore could be currently owned by the public, private or voluntary sector.
8. Section 89(1)(a) sets out that land in the local authority's area may be listed on the ACV list only in response to a community nomination. Section 89(2)(b)(iii) of the Localism Act 2011 requires that the organisation nominating an asset to be an ACV is a person that is a voluntary or community body with a local connection to the asset nominated. Further, the legislation requires that the nominating organisation must include in the nomination form information about the asset nominated, in accordance with part 6 of the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012.

9. The definition of 'land of community value' is set out in section 88 of the Localism Act 2011. To be considered as an asset of community value the land or property must satisfy either of the following criteria:
- a. s88(1) an actual current non-ancillary use of the building or other land furthers the well-being or social interests of the community and whether it is realistic to think that there can continue to be non-ancillary use of the building or other land which will further (whether or not in the same way) the social well-being or social interests of the local community.
- OR
- b. s88(2) there is a time in the recent past when an actual non-ancillary use of the building or other land furthered the social well-being or social interests of the local community and it is realistic to think that there is a time within the next 5 years when there could be non-ancillary use (whether or not the same use as before) that would further the social well-being or social interests of the local community.
10. There is no exhaustive list of what is considered to be an asset of community value, but cultural, recreational and sporting interests are included. Excluded specifically are residential type properties (such as hotels, housing in multiple occupation and residential caravan sites) and operational land of statutory undertakers.

## The Process

11. The regulations set out how potential assets can be listed which in brief are as follows:
- **Nomination** – this can be by a voluntary or community body with a local connection. This includes parish councils, neighbourhood forums, charities, community interest groups but excludes public or local authorities (except parish councils).
  - **Consideration** – the local authority has 8 weeks to make the decision. Under the Council's procedures the Executive Member is the decision maker. If the nomination is successful, the asset details are entered onto the 'Community Value list' – see further details in the report – and also the local land charges register. If unsuccessful, then the details are entered onto an 'unsuccessful nominations' list for a period of 5 years to prevent repeat nominations. The owner can request a review of the decision which must be completed within 8 weeks and the owner can further appeal within 28 days of the review outcome to a Tribunal.

Neither the Localism Act nor the ACV Regulations give the nominating organisation any right to appeal a decision of the local authority that the nominated property is not an asset of community value/does not satisfy the necessary S.88 criteria referred to above.

- **Disposal of assets on the ACV list** – if a building or piece of land which is on the list is going to be disposed of (by way of either a freehold sale or granting of a lease for a Term of 25 years or more) with vacant possession, then the owner of the asset needs to give notice to the local authority. There is then a 6-week moratorium period for any community group to express interest in writing. If they do, then a 6-month period (commencing from the date on which the Council had received notice of the owner's intention to dispose of the asset) is provided for that group to prepare its bid. After that period the owner can market the property and any bid from the community group will be considered with bids from other interested parties. There is no guarantee that the offer from the community group will be successful as the owner of the asset will dispose of the property in accordance with its own criteria for disposal. There are a number of exceptions contained within the legislation that mean that this moratorium period does not apply and the owner does not need to give notice of its intention to sell. This includes when there is a legally enforceable requirement, which pre-dates the listing, to sell to a specific party.
- **Compensation** – the presence of the land or building asset on the community value list may result in additional expenditure or a loss to the owner and therefore the owner can apply for compensation from the local authority. The figure is limited to costs or losses incurred only whilst the asset is on the list and could include such items as legal expenses for appeals, costs relating to the delay in the sale (such as maintenance, security, utility costs, loss of value).

#### **A. The eligibility of the nominating organisation and the nominated asset to be an ACV.**

12. The application nominating the nomination land ("The Fox Inn") was made by The Campaign for Real Ale – York Branch on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025. When making the application, the applicant seeks to assert its status as a community body under section 89(2)(b)(iii) of the Localism Act 2011 ("The Act").

13. The Campaign for Real Ale – York Branch are an eligible body, as they are an incorporated body, whose activities are concerned with the Council's local area. They do not distribute any surplus/profits to their members and have at least 21 members who live in the local area. The application meets the qualifying test set out in section 89(1)(a) of the Act as an application made by way of a community nomination.

The application sets out that the freehold of The Fox Inn is owned by Fox & Forest Ltd, who purchased The Fox Inn on 16 June 2025. In accordance with the regulations, the freehold owners of the property, have been informed in writing that the application has been made. The freeholders have been invited to make representations regarding the nomination. The Council has also written to the previous owner, whose name is still on the title register pending registration of the new owner's details by the Land Registry.

14. The application provides a clear description and postcode of the land nominated on the first page of the form and has attached to it a map setting out the extent of the land. The nominated land does not come within the categories of land which may not be ACVs.
15. The applicant has provided their reasons for thinking that the Council should conclude that the land is of community value, at section 3 and in the Supplement section of the nomination form.
16. Legal Services have confirmed that a nomination must be considered by the Council, if the nominator is someone who meets the eligibility criteria specified in the relevant legislation, and if the nomination form includes the information specified in regulation 6 of the ACV Regulations 2012.

**B. Is the current or recent usage of the nominated land an actual and non-ancillary use, does the usage further social wellbeing or social interest, and is it realistic to think that there can continue to be non-ancillary use of the building which will further (whether or not in the same way) the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community.**

17. This application concerns the listing of The Fox Inn on the Council's ACV list. The past and current usage of the pub as a venue for community activities/events is set out below and indicates that the current and recent usage of the nominated land

is an actual and non-ancillary use pursuant to section 88(1) and section 88(2) of the Act.

18. CAMRA state in their application that The Fox Inn is currently closed but that negotiations were at an advanced stage with a local resident who intended to open the pub again for the benefit of the village.
19. The Fox Inn does now have a new owner Fox & Forest Ltd and they have advised that they fully support the ACV application and have no objections to The Fox being listed as an ACV.
20. A public meeting was arranged by the local community in April 2025 to discuss the future of the pub and community ownership with over 100 residents attending. CAMRA were invited to speak at the meeting and discussed the protection of an ACV. A number of residents backed the proposal and signed up as nominees.
21. When The Fox Inn was previously open CAMRA advise that it was a fully inclusive venue encouraging families and was dog friendly. The pub served food 5 days a week, with discounted meals for older diners and also offered a take-away service.
22. The Fox Inn hosted a weekly quiz attended by regulars and non-regulars and also put on occasional music events for villagers. The venue was a meeting place for Parent/Teacher Committee, the Village Hall Committee, the Women's Institute, fishing and cycling groups, a pétanque club and a venue for the Stockton Players Amateur Dramatic Society. There was a regular darts team and also regular dominoes evenings, Sky Sports to enable locals to gather and watch major sporting events.
23. It is advised that the pub had 3 letting rooms, bringing visitors into the village and using other local facilities.
24. Full details are provided in the nomination form in Annex 1, Reasons Why The Fox, Stockton on Forest is as Asset of Community Value in Annex 2, Register of Interested Members in



Annex 3, CAMRA York Branch Constitution in Annex 4, Comments from Fox & Forest Ltd in Annex 5.

25. The Fox Inn has developed a community focus and, for the reasons set out above and further in the nomination form, the pub appears to have been using the land in a way which engages and strengthens community bonds, adding to the social value of the community. It is also the case that the users of The Fox Inn were predominantly.
26. It is realistic to think that in light of the past activities and social events that the pub offered to the community, there can continue to be non-ancillary use of the building or other land and that the club's usage of the land will further (whether or not in the same way the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community in the future; therefore the application meets the criteria of the legislation.
27. The application meets the criteria for listing. It is therefore recommended that The Fox Inn should be listed on the ACV register.

## **Consultation Analysis**

As required by the Assets of Community Value Regulations, the owners of the property have been consulted regarding the application and have been invited to make representations. No representations have been received from the registered owner regarding the listing. The new owners had confirmed that they supported the application to list The Fox Inn as an ACV (see Appendix 5).

## **Options Analysis and Evidential Basis**

28. The application to list The Fox Inn as an Asset of Community Value, can either be accepted or rejected. There are no other options, as it is considered that sufficient information has been provided for a decision to be made.
29. If the decision is to approve the ACV nomination application, then the owner of the property has a statutory right to request a review of that decision by submitting a review request to the Council within 8 weeks

of the decision date. (If the decision is to reject the ACV nomination application, the legislation does not give the nominating group any right to appeal that request, though they could potentially seek a Judicial Review of the decision by submitting a claim to the High Court.)

## Organisational Impact and Implications

30.

- **Financial** – Compensation may be payable by the Council to the owner of any property which is listed. The figure is limited to costs or losses incurred only whilst the asset is on the list and could include such items as legal expenses for appeals, costs relating to the delay in the sale (such as maintenance, security, utility costs, loss of value).
- **Human Resources (HR)** – None
- **Legal** – Advice and comments have been sought from Legal Services and incorporated in this report.
- **Procurement** – None
- **Health and Wellbeing** – The added protection of an ACV around a physical activity facility which caters for some of our more vulnerable and poorer residents has health and wellbeing benefits which should be considered in decision making.
- **Environment and Climate action** – No direct environmental impacts but buildings of community value are key and underpin a sense of place
- **Affordability** – None
- **Equalities and Human Rights** – None
- **Data Protection and Privacy** – Data protection impact assessments (DPIAs) are an essential part of our accountability obligations and is a legal requirement for any type of processing under UK data protection and privacy legislation. Failure to carry out a DPIA when required may leave the council open to enforcement action, including monetary penalties or fines.
  - DPIAs helps us to assess and demonstrate how we comply with all our data protection obligations. It does not have to eradicate all risks but should help to minimise and determine whether the level of risk is acceptable in the circumstances, considering the benefits of what the council wants to achieve.
  - The DPIA screening questions identified that whilst there is processing of personal, it is not likely to result in a high risk

to the rights and freedoms of individuals. Therefore, a simple DPIA was completed which identified the data protections risks as well as the mitigations either in place or that need to be put in place, to minimise these identified risks such as redacting or withholding personal identifiable information from the public report where we do not have a lawful basis to publish it

- **Communications** – This is a routine statutory process. However, given the high level of community use and support for the venue, there may be public or stakeholder interest. Should this arise, communications will be able to support. Proactive messaging opportunities also exist to highlight the value of Assets of Community Value in sustaining vibrant neighbourhoods.
- **Economy** – None
- **Specialist Implications Officers** – None

## Risk Management

31. The freeholder may appeal against the Council's decision to list their property as an asset of community value. In the first instance the property owner should ask the council to review its decision. If the Council upholds its decision to list the owner may appeal to the First-Tier Tribunal. If the decision is to reject the ACV nomination application, the nominating organisation may seek a Judicial Review of the decision by submitting a claim to the High Court. In both cases this can be a long and costly procedure.

## Wards Impacted

32. Strensall

## Contact Details

For further information please contact the authors of this Decision Report.

### Author

<b>Name:</b>	Graham Hogben
<b>Job Title:</b>	Asset Manager
<b>Service Area:</b>	Asset and Property Management

<b>Telephone:</b>	01905 554463
<b>Report approved:</b>	Yes
<b>Date:</b>	22 July 2025

## Co-authors

<b>Name:</b>	Debbie Mitchell	Nick Collins
<b>Job Title:</b>	Director of Finance	Head of Property Services
<b>Service Area:</b>	Corporate Finance	Property Services
<b>Telephone:</b>	01904 554161	01904 552167
<b>Report approved:</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Date:</b>	23 July 2025	23 July 2025

## Annexes

- Annex 1 – The Fox. 90 The Village, Stockton on Forest, York, YO32 9UW – Application to add to the list of assets of community value.
- Annex 2 – Reasons Why The Fox, Stockton on Forest is as Asset of Community Value
- Annex 3 – Register of Interested Members
- Annex 4 - CAMRA York Branch Constitution
- Annex 5 - Comments from Fox & Forest Ltd
- Annex 6- Current list of Assets of Community Value

Abbreviations used in the used in the report.

- ACV – Assets of Community Value
- DPIA – Data Protection Impact Assessment
- CAMRA – Campaign for Real Ale



# ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE NOMINATION FORM

If you need assistance completing this form, then please refer to the guidance document which can be downloaded from the website [www.york.gov.uk/assetsofcommunityvalue](http://www.york.gov.uk/assetsofcommunityvalue) or alternatively call 01904 553360.

## Section 1

### About the property to be nominated

Name of Property:	The Fox
Address of Property:	[REDACTED]
Postcode:	[REDACTED]

Property Owner's Name:	Fox & Forest Ltd
Address:	[REDACTED]
Postcode:	[REDACTED]
Telephone Number:	[REDACTED]
Current Occupier's Name:	See above – contact name is [REDACTED] (one of the Directors)

## Section 2

### About your community organisation

Name of Organisation:	Campaign for Real Ale York Branch
Title:	Mr
First Name:	[REDACTED]
Surname:	[REDACTED]
Position in Organisation:	Pub Protection Officer
Email Address:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED]
Postcode:	[REDACTED]
Telephone Number:	[REDACTED]

### Organisation type:

*Click in field for options*

Company Limited by Guarantee

### Organisation size

How many members do you have? 1168

**Section 3****Supporting information for nomination##**

Any information entered in this section only may be copied and passed onto the owner of the property you are nominating. Definition of an asset of community value can be found in the guidance document.

Why do you feel the property is an asset of community value? Please give as much information as possible.

See accompanying document

**Section 4****Boundary of Property**

What do you consider to be the boundary of the property? Please give as much detail/be as descriptive as possible. Please include a plan.

See accompanying document plus sales brochure that details the floor plan of the property

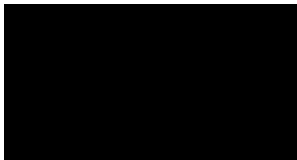
**Section 5****Attachment checklist**

- ☒ Copy of group constitution (if you are a constituted group)
- ☒ Name and home address of 21 members registered to vote in nomination area (if group is not constituted)
- ☒ Site boundary plan (if possible)

**Section 6****Declaration**

I can confirm that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this nomination form is complete and accurate.

Signed



Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025

.....  
Please e-mail your completed form to [property.services@york.gov.uk](mailto:property.services@york.gov.uk) or post to:

**Asset and Property Management**  
**City of York Council**  
**West Offices**  
**Station Rise**  
**York**  
**YO1 6GA**

## **York Campaign for Real Ale**

### Why The Fox PH in Stockton on the Forest is an Asset of Community Value

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The Fox public house is currently shut, but negotiations are in an advanced stage for the purchase of the property by a local resident who has stated that they intend to open the pub again for the benefit of the village and they also have indicated that they welcome it being listed as an Asset of Community Value.

There was a public meeting in Stockton Village Hall in April to discuss making an application for an ACV listing at which over 100 residents attended and overwhelmingly backed the proposal and signed up as nominees – accompanying documentation for this application will evidence this.

There is overwhelming evidence plus testimony from local residents that the pub in the recent past furthered the social wellbeing and social interests of the local community and will continue to do so once open again later this year.


When it was open:

1. The Fox Inn had an inclusive policy and was openly family and dog friendly to encourage the widest number of people to use it.
2. The pub served food five days a week, with regular specials board and discounted meals for older diners. In addition, food could be ordered to takeaway.
3. The pub hosted a weekly quiz night incorporating a weekly card bingo session. These events attract a range of regular and not so regular customers. On average there were 30-50 attendees.
4. The pub put on music gigs from time to time which helped nurture local talent and provide entertainment for villagers rather than having to go into York.
5. The pub was used by various local organisations as the venue for meetings, including the Parent/Teachers Committee, Village Hall Committee, Women's Institute, walking groups, fishing groups, cycling groups, pétanque club, Stockton Players Amateur

Dramatic Society as well as other ad-hoc bookings by local people

6. The pub had a darts team and also hosted dominoes evenings.
8. The pub had Sky Sports TV enabling sports fans to socialise with other like minded people when watching football; rugby and other high profile sports.
9. The pub has three letting bedrooms which will attract visitors to the village and enhance the growth of other local services such as the village shop and garden centre.

It is worth stressing the importance of public houses in rural locations which is back up by expert research.

 the University of Northumbria authored a research paper called “Community Cohesion and Village Pubs in Northern England: An Econometric Study” studied data that comprised 1,488 rural pubs operating within 715 parishes serving a population of over 400,000 individuals located across Northern England.

Their research demonstrates the importance of pubs for maintaining rural areas in these regions and they came to some key conclusions:

*“The traditional village pub is an essential feature of the rural scene, as much like the local market or parish church they act as a meeting place where inhabitants can socialize.”*

*“Findings generated from the analysis identified a positive impact exercised by pubs on the levels of social engagement within rural parishes. The SEM analysis proposed not only corroborates evidence from previous studies, but also provides evidence of a possible cause–effect relationship between the presence of pubs and higher levels of community cohesion in the rural parishes examined.”*

*“The closure of rural pubs is strongly associated with the decline of social drinking and increasing levels of alcohol consumption in private premises. It is vital the Government supports rural pubs with appropriate policies to ensure our rural way of life is maintained.”*

In conclusion, The Fox public house will be a community hub for people to meet and socialise in a safe environment, including those people who meet to relieve loneliness and



social isolation which is particularly prevalent in rural areas. Even though there are evening bus services to York, the presence of a local village pub means that local residents can walk to the pub in order to socialise, without the need to drive and can do so without having to factor bus travel time to and from the pub into their evening plans – especially if they are spontaneous.

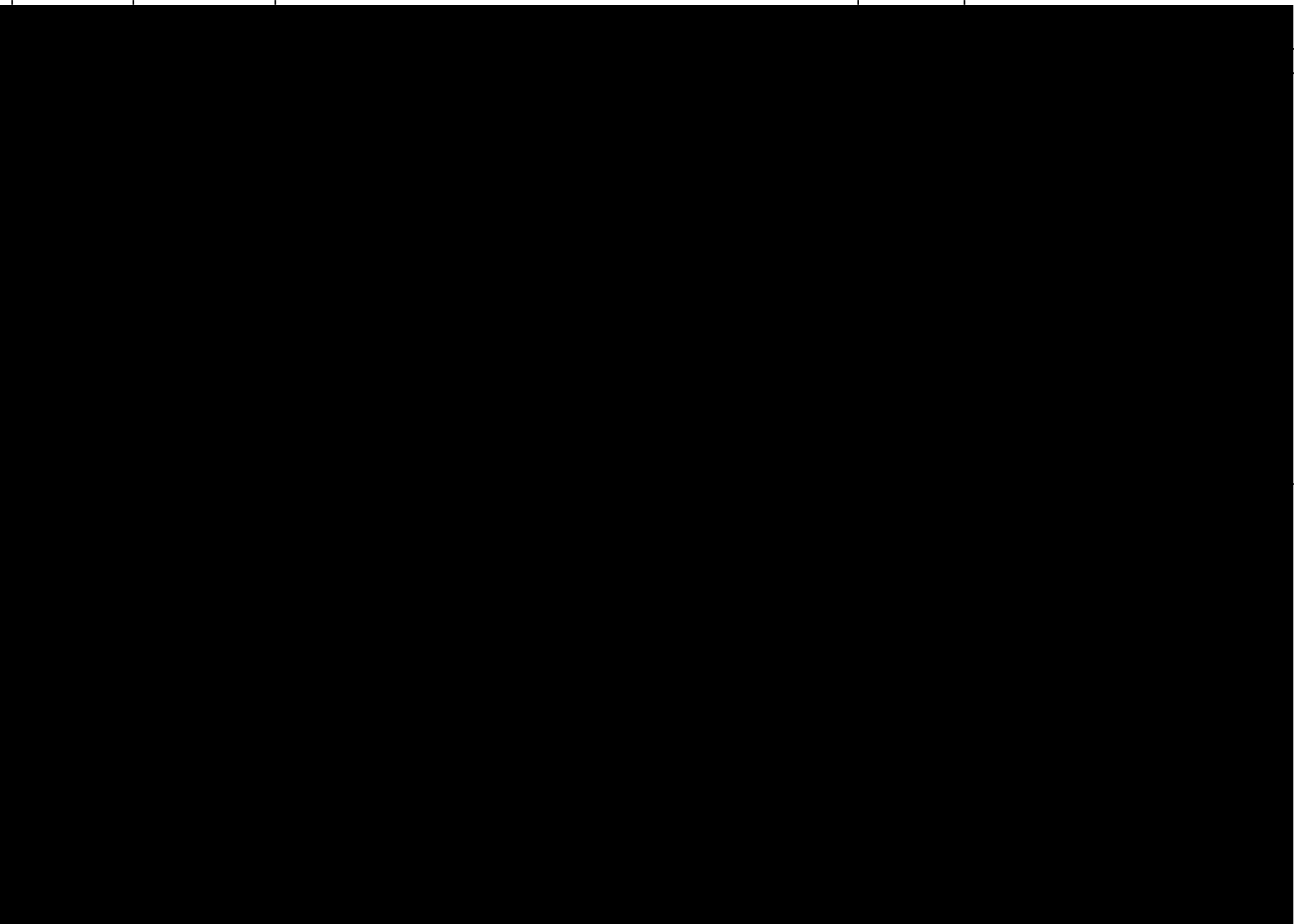


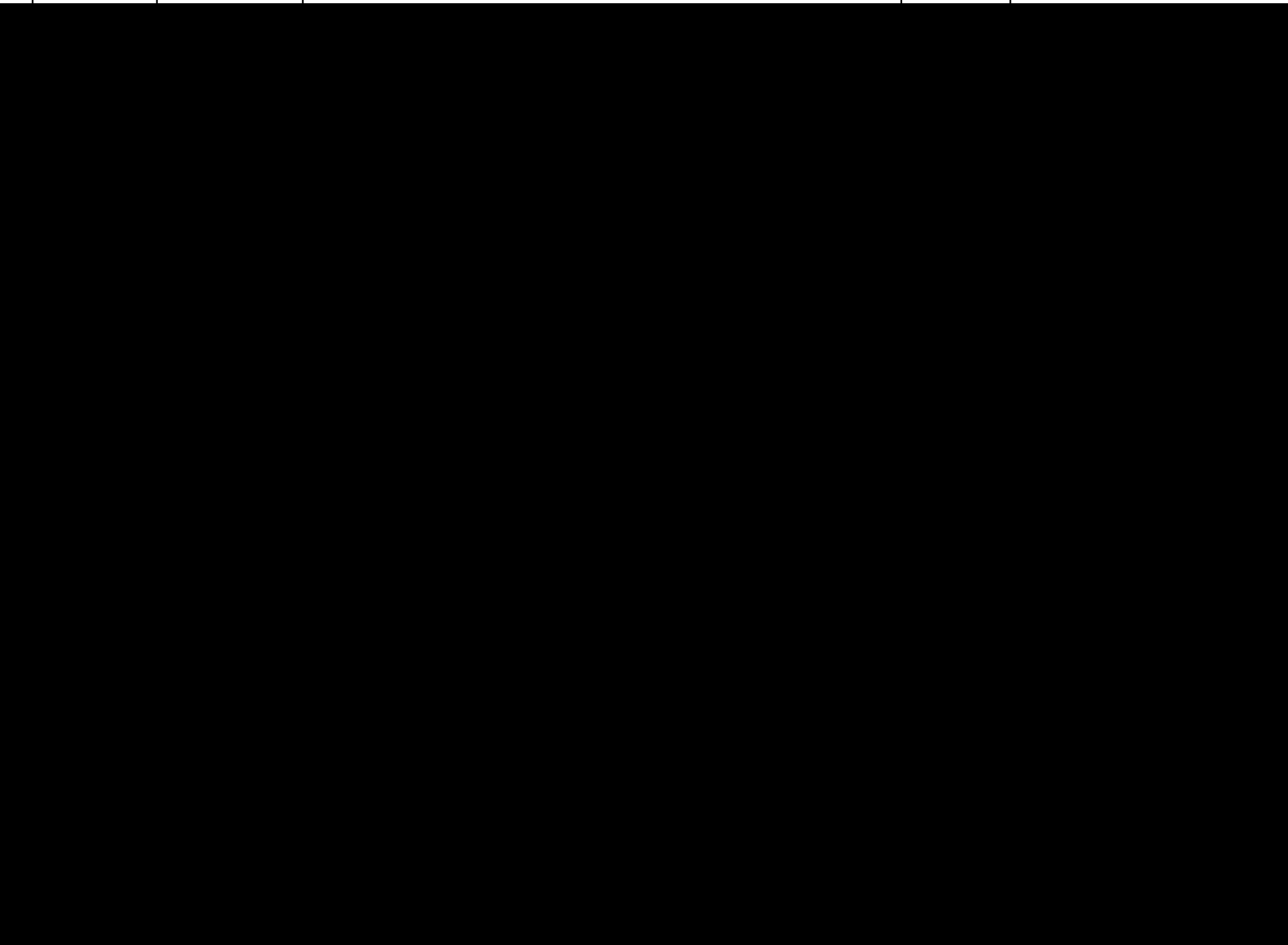
PUB PROTECTION OFFICER  
YORK CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE



First Name	Surname	Address	Postcode	email
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<b>First Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Postcode</b>	<b>email</b>

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## York Campaign for Real Ale

### **CAMRA YORK BRANCH CONSTITUTION**

1. Name: The name shall be the "York Branch" hereinafter called 'the Branch'.
2. Object: The object shall be to support the aims of the Campaign for Real Ale limited (hereinafter called 'CAMRA') within the geographical area of Yorkshire containing the towns and villages shown on the attached diagrammatic map.
3. Regulations: The Branch shall observe the Regulations for Branches laid down from time to time by the Directors of CAMRA. Decisions of a general meeting of CAMRA or its Directors shall be binding on the Branch.
4. Membership: Any member of CAMRA living within the geographical area of the Branch is entitled to be, and any other member of CAMRA may apply to become, a member subject to the approval of the Branch Committee who may refuse membership without assigning a reason.
5. If any member of the Branch shall cease to be a member of CAMRA his membership of the Branch shall automatically terminate.
6. Open Meetings: The Branch shall hold an open meeting once in every two calendar months. Any member of CAMRA shall be free to attend such open meetings and vote on any resolutions put forward at the meeting whether they are members of the Branch or not. No resolutions passed or approved at such a meeting shall be in any way binding on the Branch, Branch Committee or Branch officials.
7. Annual General Meetings: An Annual General Meeting shall be held once in every year, and not more than fifteen months shall elapse between one Annual General Meeting and the next. Only members of the Branch and the Directors of CAMRA or their duly appointed representatives shall be entitled to vote at the Branch Annual General Meeting The business to be conducted at the Annual General Meeting shall include:-
  - (i) The approval of the audited Accounts of the Branch
  - (ii) The election of officials
  - (iii) Appointment of Auditors

8. At least 28 days notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to all members of the Branch and to the Directors of CAMRA either by post or by a CAMRA publication which in the ordinary course of events will give sufficient notice. A quorum for the Branch Annual General Meeting shall be seven members present, unless otherwise previously approved by the Regional Director or the Directors of CAMRA.

9. Special General Meetings: A Special General Meeting of the Branch may be called only on the decision of the Branch Committee, on written request signed by 5 members of the Branch or by one tenth of the Branch membership (whichever is the greater), or by the Directors of CAMRA. At least 21 clear days notice of such a Special General Meeting shall be given to all the members of the Branch and the Directors of CAMRA by post or by a CAMRA publication which in the ordinary course of events will give sufficient notice. Only persons entitled to vote at a Branch Annual General Meeting shall be entitled to vote at a Special General Meeting.

10. Branch Committee: The Branch Committee shall consist of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Membership Secretary, a Pubs Officer and other members, subject to such other guidelines for membership of the Committee as shall have been laid down by the Directors of CAMRA or at a General Meeting of CAMRA. The Committee members shall be elected at and hold office from one Annual General Meeting to the next, when they shall be eligible for re-election. Any member of CAMRA who is a member of the Branch may serve on the Committee provided that they are not already on the committee of any other Branch of CAMRA.

11. The Branch Committee shall be empowered to fill by co-option from the Branch membership any casual vacancy which arises during the year. The Branch Committee shall undertake the general conduct of the affairs of the Branch. In the event of the resignation of an entire Branch Committee the Directors of CAMRA will appoint such interim officers as may be necessary to manage the affairs of the Branch until a General Meeting of the Branch can be properly convened.

12. Committee Meetings: The Branch Committee shall meet not less than once in every two calendar months and the quorum for such a Committee Meeting shall be not less than 4 members of the Branch Committee or the Committee Chair plus 2 members.

13. Elections: Nominations for posts on the Branch Committee shall be in writing, signed by a proposer and seconder, both of whom shall be members of the Branch, and accompanied by evidence of the willingness of the nominee to stand.

14. Finances: The financial year of the Branch shall commence on the first day of January in each year. The assets of the Branch shall be under the control of the Branch Committee and no payments shall be made out of the Branch monies except by the authority of the Branch Committee. The Branch Committee shall ensure that the Treasurer keeps proper books of Account and that all monies received are placed to the credit of an account in the name of the Branch at such Bank as the Committee may from time to time select.

Branch funds of any UK Branch shall not be deposited or held in Bank or other Accounts (whether interest bearing or not) located outside the United Kingdom. (e.g. not IOM or Channel Island Bank Accounts.)

Branch funds of any UK Branch, if deposited in interest paying accounts, will be made only in institutions where UK tax is deducted at source.

All cheques and other orders relating to the Bank Account shall be signed by the Treasurer and one of two other members of the Committee appointed by the Committee for that purpose.

All books relating to the finances of the Branch shall be produced to the Directors of CAMRA or their duly authorised representative on demand, on seven days clear notice to the Branch.

15. Audit: The Accounts of the Branch in each year shall be audited either by a professional auditor or by two members of CAMRA, neither of whom shall be a member of the Branch Committee nor a Director of CAMRA.

The Accounts drawn up shall include combined Profit and Loss accounts and Balance Sheets indicating all monies held by the Branch or on behalf of the Branch relating to all activities including Beer Festivals and publications run by the Branch.

Two copies of the audited Accounts shall be lodged with CAMRA at its Registered Office and with the Regional Director in whose region the Branch is situated within one month of the date of the Annual General Meeting.

16. Bye-Laws: Subject to the approval of the Regional Director the Branch Committee shall have power (unless and until overruled by the Branch in General Meeting) to adopt Bye-Laws for the better furtherance of the objects of the Branch.

17. Winding Up: The Branch may be wound up at any time by the Directors of CAMRA or by a Special General Meeting called for that purpose, the business having been notified in the notice convening the same, and upon a resolution to that effect being passed by a majority of at least two thirds of those present and entitled to vote. Upon dissolution the assets shall be used firstly to pay off all proper liabilities of the Branch and any surplus thereafter shall be paid to CAMRA. If the Branch membership falls below 25 the Branch may be wound up.

18. Alteration to Constitution: The Constitution may be altered only at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for that purpose, with the specific alteration having been stipulated in the notice convening the same and subject to the approval of at least two thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

19. Notice: The accidental omission to give notice of any meeting to any person entitled to such notice shall not invalidate any proceedings at the meeting.

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[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 02 July 2025 13:15  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** The Fox Inn  
**Attachments:** Fox Inn completion document.jpeg

This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Further to our conversation this morning, I can confirm that I am one of the four new owners of the Fox Inn, 90 The Village, Stockton On The Forest, York. YO32 9UW. We purchased the property under the company name Fox & Forest Ltd.

Speaking on behalf of the four of us, we fully support the villages application, for the ACV to be put in place and have no objection to it.

Please find attached the completion document, for the purchase of the Fox.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

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**Annex 6 - Current list of Assets of Community Value**

1. The Golden Ball Public House, 2 Cromwell Road, York, YO16 6DU - approved 6<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Renewed on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
2. New Earswick and District Bowls Club, Huntington Road, York, YO32 9PX – approved 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Renewed on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020, renewed 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025
3. Holgate Allotments, Ashton Lane, Holgate, York, YO24 4LX – approved 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Renewed on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022.
4. The Derwent Arms, 29 Osbaldwick Village, Osbaldwick, YO10 3NP – approved 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Renewed on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022.
5. The Jubilee Hotel Public House, Balfour Street, York, YO26 4YU – approved 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016. Renewed 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
6. The Blacksmiths Arms, Naburn York, YO19 4PN – approved 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Renewed on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
7. Holgate Community Garden and Play Park, Upper St Paul's Terrace, York, YO24 4BS. – approved 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016
8. The Grey Horse Public House, Main Street, Elvington, York, YO41 4AA – approved 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
9. The Deramore Arms Public House, Main Street, Heslington, York, YO10 5EA. – approved 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Renewed on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
10. The Carlton Tavern Public House, 104 Acomb Road, York, YO24 4HA – approved 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017.
11. The Royal Oak Public House, 1 Main Street, Copmanthorpe, York, YO23 3ST. – approved 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
12. The Blue Bell Public House, 53 Fossgate, York, YO1 9TF. – approved 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Renewed on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
13. New Earswick Swimming Pool, Hawthorne Terrace, New Earswick, YO32 4TZ. - approved 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018, renewed 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024
14. Strensall Library, 19 The Village, Strensall, York, YO32 5XS. – approved 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Renewed 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
15. The Garrison Church of St Wilfrid, St Wilfrid's Road, Strensall, York, YO32 5SJ. – approved 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Renewed 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

16. Hurst Hall Community Centre, Border Road, Strensall Camp, York, B757RL. – approved 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Renewed 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
17. The Lord Nelson Public House, 9 Main Street. Nether Poppleton , York, YO26 6HS. – approved 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
18. The Blacksmiths Arms Public House, Shipton Road, Skelton, York, YO30 1YJ. – approved 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
19. The car park at rear of the former Murton Arms Public House, Main Street, Murton, York, YO19 5UQ. – approved 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020.
20. The Ship Inn Public House, Hauling Lane, Acaster Malbis, York, YO23 2UH. – approved 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
21. The Rose and Crown Public House, Main Street, Askham Richard, York, YO23 3PT. – approved 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
22. Vernon House, Vernon Close, Bishopthorpe, York, YO23 2RH. – approved 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.
23. The Victoria Vaults – 47-49 Nunnery Lane, York, YO23 1AB, approved 12 December 2024





<b>Meeting:</b>	Combined Executive Member Decision Session
<b>Meeting date:</b>	5 August 2025
<b>Report of:</b>	Director of Public Health
<b>Portfolio of:</b>	Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care / Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Economy & Culture

## **Decision Report: York and North Yorkshire Economic Inactivity Trailblazer: Grant Acceptance**

### **Subject of Report**

1. This Decision Report requests that members accept the York-specific funding agreed as part of the £10m Economic Inactivity Trailblazer, awarded to York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority as part of the government's Get Britain Working programme. This is worth £1,038,250 to York and comes alongside other funding streams and programmes delivered across the whole region which will benefit York residents.
2. The paper details the purpose of the funding, the intended outcomes, the process for allocating the resource, and specific details of the schemes in York which will benefit, along with impacts.

### **Benefits and Challenges**

3. The benefits of this resource include investment in local services which will support residents to engage with employers, access key work, volunteering and employment opportunities, and increase the number of people in York in work.
4. The limited time window of delivery of the Trailblazers programme – within this financial year – alongside the fact that tackling long-term economic inactivity is often complex and requires a multi-

component approach, constitute the key challenges within this project.

## Policy Basis for Decision

5. The acceptance of this resource aligns with the Economic Strategy 2022-2032 for York, specifically around good jobs and increasing productivity, and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2032, where good jobs are seen as a fundamental 'building block' for health.
6. Reducing the number of people in York economically inactive due to ill health will help meet the core commitments in the Council plan, specifically affordability, Equalities and Human Rights, and Health Inequalities.

## Financial Strategy Implications

7. Members are being asked to accept £1,038,250 under a grant agreement to fund new and existing projects delivered by CYC and partners in 2025/26. The grant will also cover any management and administration costs incurred by the Council and therefore there will be no additional cost to CYC in accepting this funding.

## Recommendation and Reasons

8. Members are recommended to:

Accept funding worth £1,038,250 from York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority to deliver and /or commission the individual projects and schemes set out in this paper as part of the economic Inactivity Trailblazer programme.

*Reason: this will increase the number of people in York in good jobs, and support individuals currently economically inactive to benefit from key work, volunteering and employability opportunities.*

## Background

9. The Get Britain Working Trailblazer was announced by the Government in November 2024, alongside the Get Britain Working White Paper. York and North Yorkshire is one of eight sites in

England and Wales chosen to focus on improving the support available to people who are economically inactive due to ill health and help them return to work.

10. The purpose of the Get Britain Working Trailblazer Fund is to mobilise local work, health and skills support – so everyone who wants to work can get the joined-up support they need. The learning from the Trailblazers will support development of national policy and the design of how locally joined-up support will work in practice across England and Wales.
11. Currently in York, the data shows that we have not been unaffected by nationally rising trends around economic inactivity, although in general the picture is more positive than the national average:
  - 19.8% of the working age (16-64) York population are economically inactive, vs an England average of 21.1%
  - 5,900 people 16-64 who are inactive due to long term health issues
  - 29.9% of disabled people are economically inactive vs and England average of 39.8% nationally
  - 77.3% of people with a physical or long-term health condition are in work vs and England average of 65.3%
12. York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA) are the accountable body and lead on the programme. £10m has been made available by the Government to be spent in entirety within the 25/26 financial year.
13. YNYCA requested project proposals in March 2025. City of York Council (CYC) convened a group of officers from the Council and partner organisations to work up projects that aligned with the following priorities, identified based on the profile of need across York and North Yorkshire:
  - Engaging and supporting individual
  - Good Work
  - Joining Up Services and Support
14. Following invitation from the Combined Authority for applicants to submit business cases, projects were submitted by CYC for

consideration by YNYCA. YNYCA received additional proposals from North Yorkshire Council and the Integrated Care Board, with the total cost of proposals significantly in excess of available funding.

15. YNYCA then reviewed proposals against the DWP-approved Trailblazer Delivery Plan and led further discussion to refine and restructure proposals in line with available funding and the strategic priorities of the programme. In particular, YNYCA wished to see consistent delivery across York and North Yorkshire, requiring the two Councils to join up or align approaches in some areas.
16. CYCs proposals have been developed at pace, given the short period of time in which to deliver these programmes, and aim to enhance engagement and support given to key groups in the city such as young people (where rates of economic inactivity are rising fastest), people with mental health problems, neurodivergent individuals, disabled people, unpaid carers and veterans.
17. We also sought to maximise existing assets in the city to deliver the outcomes that the YNYCA programme requires, including our emerging Mental Health Hub model and the high take-up of the Good Business Charter.
18. The suite of proposals looks to provide comprehensive wrap-around support to local businesses and employers by scaling-up best practice, as well as piloting new approaches for new innovative interventions.
19. The proposals broadly utilise existing mechanisms for funding, through existing contracts or arrangements to minimise additional procurement periods. Where thresholds may not allow this, proposals have been scaled to meet requirements. Given the need for funding to be spent within a single year, the approach needed to be pragmatic.
20. The CYC projects approved by YNYCA are as follows:
  - Carers programme
  - Citizens Advice services in Primary Care
  - Employer Engagement

- Good Business Charter
  - Inspiring Potential 50+
  - Mental health hubs
  - NEET re engagement
  - Opportunity broker
  - PLC+
  - School transition
  - Supported pathways / Archaeology on Prescription
  - Veterans programme
  - Workplace health checks
  - Youth mentoring
21. As part of the wider Trailblazers programme, York residents will also benefit from programmes delivered across the YNYCA geography including a Wage Subsidy Scheme, primary care interventions, and the Trailblazer Interchange.
22. YNYCA have confirmed that payment will be monthly in arrears, aligned to agreed payment schedules and that this is not payment by results. The council and providers must comply with the terms of the agreement, including the return of monitoring data, in order to receive scheduled funding, although it is recognised that this is about testing approaches and learning from them so there may be challenges in collecting some data.

## **Consultation Analysis**

23. The discussion around the proposals involved officers from across a wide range of council services, working alongside NHS colleagues from the ICB and VCSE organisations. As a DWP programme, the Trailblazer's parameters and ambitions are defined nationally.

## **Options Analysis and Evidential Basis**

24. The only other option for CYC would be to not accept the funding: this was rejected as the funding scheme provides external funding which provides the opportunity for the Council to deliver on multiple objectives, as above.

## **Organisational Impact and Implications**

- ***Financial***

This is one-off funding, and any expenditure and projects will end at 31 March 2026 and when all of the funding has been used. The risk of continued pressure on the Council after this will be managed through an exit strategy and monthly budgetary control reporting to ensure this there is no recurring expenditure. The grant will also cover any management and administration costs incurred by the Council and therefore there will be no additional cost to CYC in accepting this funding.

Of the £10m allocated by Government, £1,038,250 is being granted directly to CYC. However, North Yorkshire will also benefit from schemes run by City of York Council within North Yorkshire, and York will benefit from schemes run by North Yorkshire Council within York. YNYCA's calculation of the beneficiaries shows 72% of the benefits accruing in North Yorkshire, and 28% in York. This is broadly in line with the population split and cohorts of people eligible for these projects.

- ***Human Resources (HR)***

Schemes funded through this programme are either commissioned by CYC (and may therefore involve the recruitment of staff by a voluntary sector partner) or involve in-house recruitment within CYC to deliver programmes. The one-year nature of the project, as well as the very tight timeframe for delivery, may mean there are recruitment challenges within a number of schemes. Any recruitment undertaken will follow the Council's established HR procedures, similarly any commissioned services including people resources will follow appropriate procurement processes.

- ***Legal***

In order to accept the funding, CYC will be required to enter into a formal Grant Agreement with the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. The Grant Funding Agreement is not yet available, however once issued the Agreement will be reviewed by Legal Services.

Any expenditure of the Grant will be in line with the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

- ***Procurement***

Any contracts entered into in respect of the Grant funding will be in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023.

- ***Health and Wellbeing***

There is substantial evidence that gaining and retaining a good job has a positive affect on wellbeing, and also that supporting people with health conditions into work – in whatever shape or form is possible – has health benefits.

- ***Environment and Climate action***

There are no direct climate implications of this paper

- ***Affordability***

Getting York residents who are currently inactive into good jobs is likely to lead to improve household income levels in the city, increasing affordability and decreasing financial exclusion and poverty.

- ***Equalities and Human Rights***

These sets of projects will support people with long term health conditions with skills, engagement with support and employability, so positive equalities implications are anticipated from accepting this grant. The values emphasised by this programme are around connection to opportunity, tailored support, and employer adjustment, and engagement with the schemes will be on an entirely voluntary basis on the part of residents.

North Yorkshire Council conducted an EIA screening process on their receipt of this grant and a full EIA was not deemed necessary.

- ***Data Protection and Privacy***

There are substantial Data Protection and Privacy challenges involved in delivering this set of programmes.

Draft data requirements to log and track the individuals that are engaged within the projects, as well as the businesses engaged, have been received. Consisting of around 55 pieces of information, including National Insurance Number and health information, this places a significant overhead upon projects to record this information and submit it to CYC on a month basis. CYC will then consolidate this monthly and submit to YNYCA and DWP.

Concerns have been raised about the nature of the information to be captured and how this is to be used. As a national programme, the requirements are set by DWP, and discussions are taking place between YNYCA and DWP to try to balance the programme assurance and evaluation needs with the operational realities of the projects.

A DPIA will be conducted to cover all of the CYC-specific Trailblazer schemes prior to contracts being awarded / information being collected, and commissioned services will include individual Data sharing agreements with providers. The project is being supported by Veritau, providing specialist advice on the data protection aspects of this work.

- ***Communications***

The Economic Inactivity Trailblazer schemes nationally have been extensively communicated and covered in local media. The delivery of York-specific programmes is a positive story for the city, and CYC will maintain communication as the programme develops around its impact

- ***Economy***

The economic benefits of this programme should be, in the long term, substantial, improving productivity and leading to economic growth, as well as more sustainable jobs market and making it easier to York companies to access the hidden talent within our population.

## **Risks and Mitigations**

25. Several risks have been identified within this project:



- Expectations of full in-year delivery on the proposals, in the context of a significant delay in the grant agreement from the CA
- Risks around the financial risks on providers, given payment will be in arrears
- Potential recruitment issues given all money has to be spent in year
- Data requirements including the collection of a large quantity of service-user data to satisfy DWP requirements.

26. Mitigations for these risks have been discussed with partners throughout the process and are summarised in the material above.

## Wards Impacted

27. All wards are impacted by this project

## Contact details

For further information please contact the authors of this Decision Report.

### Author

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<b>Report approved:</b>	Yes
<b>Date:</b>	23/07/25

## Background papers

## Annexes

Annex A: List of CYC Economic Inactivity Trailblazer Schemes

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## Annex A - CYC schemes as part of the YNYCA Economic Inactivity Trailblazer

Engaging & Supporting Inactives	
<p><b>Opportunity Brokerage role</b> -This project will build upon our existing work with an Opportunities Broker for children in care and care leavers. We'll recruit two new Opportunities Brokers, who will adopt a dual approach to empowering individuals and connecting them with employment.</p> <p>Through these new roles our primary focus for targeting families will be through our developing SEND Family Hub and our broader Family Hub network, known locally as Raise York. These brokers will work holistically with individuals, taking the time to understand their specific barriers to employment, their aspirations, and then providing tailored support to help them progress towards returning to work. This will not take the form of careers advice but working relationally as part of a team around a family to address the multiple and connected barriers to employment.</p>	120,000
<p><b>PLC + (preventative work with those with EHCP)</b> - Provides tailored post-EHCP support to help young people transition into work or further study, preventing economic inactivity through continued learning in familiar settings.</p>	57,500
<p><b>Supported Pathways-</b> Helping inactive individuals overcome barriers, gain skills, and progress toward employment or wellbeing through archaeology on prescription/construction skills training</p>	175,000
<p><b>School Transition programme with families and carers(yr9-11) 14-16-</b> Family workshops at school transitions educate parents on skills pathways to prevent youth becoming NEET.</p>	25,000
<p><b>Youth Mentoring</b></p>	25,000
<p><b>Young carers support</b> - tailored support for young adult carers, offering training, job-matching, and mental health resources to balance work and caregiving.</p>	18,750
<p><b>NY NEET re engagement (inactive) 16-25</b> -Learn to Thrive offers flexible, year-round wellbeing and skills pathways to support 16–25-year-olds with SEMH needs into learning, volunteering, and work.</p>	37,500

<b>Inspiring potential in 50+</b> - Inspiring potential in 50+ -targets early retirees or those considering early retirement who have underestimated living costs. The programme: explore roles in sectors where vacancies eg Council planning departments, FE tutors/career mentors and where their valuable skills can be retained and support local services; Delivers mobile roadshow-style events across YNY to help individuals assess their current work and life situation, explore aspirations, and understand the benefits of learning and employment.	62,500
<b>Carers programme</b> - This programme supports unpaid carers with job-matching, training, and backfill support, helping them stay or return to the workforce. It also offers business advice to employers, mental health resources, and promotes flexible work environments for carers.	18,750
<b>Veterans programme</b> - This programme aims to improve employment pathways for veterans across YNY by addressing barriers to work, education, and local engagement. will deliver tailored training to employers, involve local services and communities, and co-design employment routes with veterans themselves. The programme seeks to enhance understanding among employers and service providers, support veterans in accessing opportunities, and ultimately increase economic participation and community contribution from the veteran population.	18,750
<b>Mental Health Hubs/talking therapies</b> -York Mental Health Hubs will support people with severe mental illness into recovery, skills development, volunteering, and employment.	250,000
<b>CAY advice in GP surgeries</b> - Welfare advice in GP surgeries supports patients with complex needs, tackling financial stress and boosting wellbeing and employability.	42,000
<b>Good Work</b>	
<b>Workplace health check/clinics</b> - Deliver targeted workplace NHS Health Checks to support early intervention and reduce workforce ill health exits.	37,500
<b>Employer engagement</b> (levels 1-3)	50,000
<b>Amplifying and extending the Good Business charter approach</b> - Draw together existing best practice / toolkits to provide easy access to comprehensive package of support and materials. Research with existing GBC accredited organisations to understand motivations for becoming accredited and what impact it has had on their approach to inclusive employment and recruitment	100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,038,250</b>