

**Notice of a public meeting of
Executive**

To: Councillors Aspden (Chair), Ayre, Craghill, Cuthbertson, D'Agorne, Runciman, Smalley, Waller and Widdowson

Date: Thursday, 26 August 2021

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The George Hudson Board Room - 1st Floor West Offices (F045)

A G E N D A

Notice to Members – Calling In:

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in the decision/s made on any item* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group by **4:00 pm on Tuesday, 31 August 2021**.

*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 called in items will be considered by the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee.

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point, Members are asked to declare:

- any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests
- any prejudicial interests or
- any disclosable pecuniary interests

which they may have in respect of business on this agenda.

2. **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 6)
To approve and sign the minutes of the last Executive meeting, held on 20 July 2021.

3. **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 have changed to 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 Tuesday, 24 August 2021.

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 Remote 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.

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

4. **Forward Plan** (Pages 7 - 8)
To receive details of those items that are listed on the Forward Plan for the next two Executive meetings.

5. **City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - August Update** (Pages 9 - 50)
The Chief Operating Officer to present a report which provides a final update on the council's activities both directly in response to Covid-19 and to support recovery and renewal.

6. York Community Woodland Community Co-design Vision and Process for Selecting Capital Funding and Delivery Partner (Pages 51 - 122)

The Director of Governance to present a report which summarises the outcomes of engagement work to inform the final design of the York Community Woodland and sets out a recommended process for agreeing the final design plan, the external capital funding source to support the creation and management of the woodland, and the appointment of a delivery partner.

7. Updating the Council's Adopted Highway Data and Recording Processes (Pages 123 - 140)

The Director of Transport, Environment and Planning to present a report which seeks approval to implement the process required by the Local Government Ombudsman, in a decision dated 19 May 2021, to update the council's records in respect of its adopted highway data.

8. 2021/22 Finance and Performance Monitor 1 (Pages 141 - 178)

The Chief Operating Officer to present a report which provides details of the council's overall finance and performance position for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, together with an overview of any emerging issues.

9. Capital Programme - Monitor 1 2021/22 (Pages 179 - 198)

The Chief Finance Officer to present a report which sets out the projected out-turn position of the council's capital programme for the 2021/22 financial year, along with requests to re-profile budgets to or from current and future years.

10. Urgent Business

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

Democratic Services officer:

Name: Fiona Young

Contact details:

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

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

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

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

Coronavirus protocols for attending Committee Meetings at West Offices

If you are attending a meeting in West Offices, you must observe the following protocols.

Good ventilation is a key control point, therefore, all windows must remain open within the meeting room.

If you're displaying possible coronavirus symptoms (or anyone in your household is displaying symptoms), you should follow government guidance. You are advised not to attend your meeting at West Offices.

Testing

The Council encourages regular testing of all Officers and Members and also any members of the public in attendance at a Committee Meeting. Any members of the public attending a meeting are advised to take a test within 24 hours of attending a meeting, the result of the test should be negative, in order to attend. Test kits can be obtained by clicking on either link: [Find where to get rapid lateral flow tests - NHS \(test-and-trace.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/covid-19/testing/rapid-lateral-flow-tests/), or, [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests). Alternatively, if you call 119 between the hours of 7am and 11pm, you can order a testing kit over the telephone.

Guidelines for attending Meetings at West Offices

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- You may wish to wear a face covering to help protect those also attending.
- You should wear a face covering when entering West Offices.
- Visitors to enter West Offices by the customer entrance and Officers/Councillors to enter using the staff entrance only.
- Ensure your ID / visitors pass is clearly visible at all time.
- Regular handwashing is recommended.
- Use the touchless hand sanitiser units on entry and exit to the building and hand sanitiser within the Meeting room.
- Bring your own drink if required.
- Only use the designated toilets next to the Meeting room.

Developing symptoms whilst in West Offices

If you develop coronavirus symptoms during a Meeting, you should:

- Make your way home immediately
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You should also:

- Advise the Meeting organiser so they can arrange to assess and carry out additional cleaning
- Do not remain in the building any longer than necessary
- Do not visit any other areas of the building before you leave

If you receive a positive test result, or if you develop any symptoms before the meeting is due to take place, **you should not attend the meeting.**

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Executive
Date	20 July 2021
Present	Councillors Aspden (Chair), Ayre, D'Agorne, Waller and Widdowson
In Attendance	Councillor Kilbane

14. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare at this point in the meeting any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests, that they might have in the business on the agenda. No additional interests were declared.

15. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting should any discussion arise on Annex 1a to Agenda Item 9 (Outcome of the Feasibility Study into a Riverside Walkway and New Pedestrian Bridge over the Ouse) on the grounds that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons. This information is classed as exempt under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as revised by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

16. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 24 June 2021 be approved, and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

17. Public Participation

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

Max Reeves, of the Helmsley Group, spoke on Agenda Item 9 (Outcome of the Feasibility Study into a Riverside Walkway and New Pedestrian Bridge over the Ouse). He confirmed that Group's commitment to work alongside the council on this project, and welcomed the chance it provided to re-establish Coney Street's link to the river and drive positive change in the city.

18. Forward Plan

Members received and noted details of the items that were on the Forward Plan for the next two Executive meetings at the time the agenda was published.

19. City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - July Update

The Chief Operating Officer presented an update report for July 2021 on the council's activities both directly in response to Covid-19 and to support recovery and renewal.

As at 6 July, the official 7-day rate of Covid cases in York was 414 per 100k population; higher than regional and national averages. However, it was reported that regional and national rates had since increased, while the rate in York remained fairly static. Rates were lower in the over-60s, and hospitalisations remained much lower than during previous peaks, reflecting the success of the vaccination programme. 82.1% of the city's estimated adult population had now received their first dose of the vaccine and 57.5 % had received both doses. The report went on to detail the removal of legal restrictions in line with Step 4 of the government's Roadmap, and provided updates on the development of a Citizen's Panel to support broader engagement and on York's bid to the Levelling Up fund.

Members commented favourably on the 'Be Kind' campaign, aimed at making people feel at ease in the city centre once restrictions were lifted, and the proposals for wider engagement with residents via the Citizen's Panel. The Chair highlighted the need to keep working together to keep York open, and for residents to take up the vaccine if eligible and be tested where possible.

Resolved: That the contents of the report, and the further information provided at the meeting, be noted.

20. Innovative Flood Resilience Programme

The Corporate Director of Place presented a report which sought approval to develop a business case for a project to deliver catchment-scale natural flood risk management solutions, in order to access funding awarded from Defra's Innovative Flood Resilience Grant.

Following a successful bid, indicative funding of £5.8m had been allocated to deliver the six-year project, which aimed to provide increased flood resilience to North Yorkshire and York communities and reduce the impacts of flood events. The project had been developed with a range of key partners, and a number of workshops and review meetings were being set up to inform the final business case. City of York Council was the project funding lead, but project principles and outcomes would be established in conjunction with North Yorkshire County Council. Members were invited to approve the ongoing work to develop the business case or advise on alternative approaches.

In commending the proposals to Members, the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change highlighted the project's link to the ongoing work with the Environment Agency on the York Five Year Plan and thanked the teams involved.

Resolved: That the ongoing work to develop the business case to access the funding indicatively valued at £5.8m be supported.

Reason: To support the delivery of the York and North Yorkshire Natural Flood Risk Management Innovative Flood Resilience project.

21. Huntington Neighbourhood Plan – Referendum Result and Adoption

The Corporate Director of Place presented a report which set out the results of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan referendum, and asked Executive to formally 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan) and bring it into full legal force as part of the Development Plan for York. The report had been considered by the Local Plan Working Group at their meeting on 13 July 2021.

The referendum had taken place on 10 June 2021, following Executive approval on 18 March. Of the 1318 valid votes cast (a turnout of 17.1%), 1144 were in favour of accepting the Plan and 174 were against. In the absence of any unresolved legal challenges or conflicts with EU obligations or Convention rights, the council was therefore legally obliged to 'make' the Plan. The declaration of the referendum result was attached as Annex A to the report and the Regulation 19 Decision Statement, for publication following the Executive's decision, as Annex B.

Members thanked Huntington Parish Council and all those involved in producing the Plan.

Resolved: (i) That the results of the referendum be noted and that the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan be formally 'made'.

(ii) That the Decision Statement attached at Annex B to the report be published in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2021 (as amended).

Reason: To allow the Neighbourhood Plan to progress in line with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations.

22. Outcome of the Feasibility Study into a Riverside Walkway and New Pedestrian Bridge over the Ouse

The Director of Housing, Economy and Regeneration presented a report which set out initial feasibility findings in relation to potential infrastructure and regeneration proposals for the Coney Street and associated riverside area of the city centre, together with proposals for the next stage of exploratory work.

A summary of the feasibility report prepared by Building Design Partnership (BDP) was attached as Annex 1, and the full report as exempt Annex 1a. The study had examined options within four zoned areas between Lendal and Ouse Bridge, as detailed in paragraphs 12-18 of the cover report. Based on the findings, it was proposed to focus on the riverside walk from the existing boardwalk outside City Screen to Ouse Bridge. Although a pedestrian bridge was technically feasible, it would need to be considered within the wider strategy of the Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP 4). A walkway connecting the City Screen boardwalk to Lendal Bridge was considered too problematic, due to complex

land ownership and the conservation impact on the Guildhall setting. It was therefore recommended that officers continue to explore options for the route identified and work with Helmsley Group to shape the public benefits of the proposed Riverside Quarter redevelopment. To support delivery of the project, it had been included in the council's submission to the government's Levelling Up fund.

Members welcomed the report and the progress made towards developing an idea that had been under discussion for many years. In commending the proposals to Members, the Executive Member for Finance & Performance thanked York MPs for their support of the funding bid. Having noted the comments made on this item under Public Participation, it was

Resolved: (i) That the outcomes of the YNYER LEP funded feasibility work on a riverside walkway to the rear of Coney Street and options for a new pedestrian bridge over the Ouse be noted.

Reason: To note the options and opportunities for opening up the Ouse riverside and creating new walking routes from the station to the city centre.

(ii) That the inclusion of the riverside walkway in the council's Levelling Up fund bid be noted.

Reason: To be aware that the riverside walkway has formed part of the council's first round funding bid to the government's Levelling Up Fund, with the outcome due to be announced in autumn 2021.

(iii) That officers continue to work with the private sector owners of riverside properties to shape the emerging riverside walkway proposals and negotiate any necessary commercial relationships with neighbouring landowners and developers for Executive approval.

Reason: To ensure the developer proposals for a new walkway, as part of the emerging Riverside Quarter development, fit with the city's strategies and ambitions and optimise social benefits.

(iv) That approval be given to undertake any necessary early stage surveys and feasibility work on the council-owned 25-27 Coney Street as part of the wider private sector redevelopment proposals to be funded from existing city centre regeneration budgets and staff resources.

Reason: To ensure that the council can use its landholding interest to influence the Riverside Quarter development proposals and maximise the commercial return from any potential future development.

Cllr K Aspden, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.13 pm].

Forward Plan: Executive Meeting: 26 August 2021

Table 1: Items scheduled on the Forward Plan for the Executive Meeting on 30 September 2021

Title and Description	Author	Portfolio Holder
<p>York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy</p> <p>Purpose of Report To present the updated York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy which replaces the previous 95 Alive Safer Roads, Healthier Places Strategy which ran through to 2020.</p> <p>Executive will be asked to: endorse the York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy subject to final approval by all members of the partnership.</p>	Tony Clarke	Executive Member for Transport
<p>York Outer Ring Road – Phase 1 Dualling – Evaluation of Consultation and Resolution to Submit a Planning Application</p> <p>Purpose of Report To provide a summary on the outcome of the consultation process and how this has influenced the design for the Phase 1 dualling proposals. The project team will seek a resolution for submission of a planning application based on the revised proposals presented and incorporated within the report</p> <p>Executive will be asked to: note the consultation process and outcomes and approve the revised design which is now being presented as an outcome of this. Having approved the revised design, members will be asked to confirm they wish to start the planning application process.</p>	Gary Frost	Executive Member for Transport

Table 2: Items scheduled on the Forward Plan for the Executive Meeting on 14 October 2021

None currently listed.

Table 3: Items Slipped on the Forward Plan

Title & Description	Author	Portfolio Holder	Original Date	Revised Date	Reason for Slippage
York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy <i>See Table 1 for details</i>	Tony Clarke	Executive Member for Transport	20/7/21, then 26/8/21	30/9/21	To allow further time to finalise the draft strategy with other partners in advance of the decision on adoption.

Note: the following item has been brought forward on the Forward Plan:

Title & Description	Author	Portfolio Holder	Original Date	Revised Date	Reason
York Community Woodland design plan, funding and delivery options <i>(For details, see agenda)</i>	Shaun Gibbons	Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change	30/9/21	26/8/21	<i>The tree planting season runs from September to March. If the council were to wait until 30 September for an Executive decision, this would put its ambition of planting 50,000 trees by 2023 at significant risk.</i>



Executive**26 August 2021**

Report of the Chief Operating Officer
Portfolio of the Leader of the Council

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – August Update**Summary**

1. This report provides the final monthly update on activities both directly in response to Covid-19 and to support recovery and renewal. Given the ongoing significance of Covid-19 in shaping the priorities of the council, future updates will be provided to Executive through all relevant reports related to the normal business of the council.
2. This report provides a summary of some of the work undertaken over the past 19 months. It describes work around business support, financial inclusion and supporting the city centre. It then looks ahead at the challenges that Covid continues to pose for the council and the city. Recommendations are made to Executive to allow the consultation process on the future operation of the footstreets to be considered and for the use of available funding for supporting businesses.
3. It is possible that some of the information in this report will change between publication and the meeting. Updates will be given at the meeting in that event.

Recommendations

4. Executive is asked to:
 - a. Note the contents of the report
 - b. Note the use of ARG funds and the positive impact of this approach on the York economy and agree to allocate
 - i. £500k to the business voucher support scheme
 - ii. £100k to support York's music venues
 - c. Request a final allocation report to be brought back to Executive at the end of 2021.

Reason: To support the York economy in its recovery from the Covid pandemic.

- d. To request officers obtain the necessary permissions to extend the current temporary footstreet arrangements, which are due to expire in September 2021 so that the 127 of businesses currently operating street cafes can continue to operate in the interim and so that all available options are then presented to Executive in November to consider the future operation of the footstreets. This will include extending the additional blue badge parking provision that has already been provided.
- e. To note the number of mitigations (found in paragraph 40 and Annex 1) enacted since the approval of the Temporary TRO to help support Blue Badge Holder access to the city centre.

Reason: This will allow Executive to consider future arrangements of the footstreets extensions together with further improvements to accessibility in the city centre. The extension of the temporary orders will allow the current arrangements initiated in response to the Governments COVID 19 guidance and Pavement Café License legislation to continue until Executive have been able to formally consider the statutory consultation and feedback on the further mitigation options.

- f. To approve the extension of the Temporary TRO for continued one way operation of Coppergate with contraflow cycle lane until 19 December 2021 pending consultation on the potential changes to the arrangements including removal of the restrictions and to approve the removal of the current pedestrian barriers from the southern footway immediately.

Reason: This will allow Executive/Executive Member to consider the results of engagement with stakeholders prior to making a decision in line with recent directions from the Department for Transport. Pedestrian barriers are no longer considered necessary at this location with the removal of social distancing restrictions.

- g. To request officers to continue the engagement with disabled people's advocacy groups and to engage with the Human Rights and Equalities Board on the emerging ideas from the summer's strategic review of city centre access and parking and any additional suggestions for improving access in the city centre from the statutory consultation.

Reason: To ensure we work to improve access to the city centre for all.

- h. To note that reports will be brought to November 2021 Executive on the future operation of the footstreets, My City Centre, Review of

Access and Parking and the Future Funding of Dial a Ride.

Reason: This also allows the Executive to consider the decision on the future operation of the footstreets in light of the My City Centre and the Strategic Review of Access in full.

- i. To consult and engage with a scrutiny on the future operation of the footstreets, accessibility of the city centre and the surrounding constraints before November Executive meeting.

Reason: To ensure that consideration is given to all ongoing constraints and opportunities regarding the extension of city centre footstreets.

- j. To approve the implementation of additional dropped kerbs within the city centre footstreets around pavement cafes as mitigation by prioritising these locations as part of the LTP programme.

Reason: to mitigate the impact of the continued presence of café licences on mobility aid access where some premises may not now be accessible without considerable detours.

- k. To allocate £20k from the Covid Recovery contingency to support York Wheels/Dial and Ride and Shopmobility to promote their services to potential users.

Reason: In recognition of the critical role they have played and will continue to play in the recovery of the city centre.

Background

5. Executive has received monthly reports since May 2020 to provide updates on activities in response to Covid-19 and plans for recovery and renewal. Following the updates to the Council Plan 2019-2023 at May's Executive, the ongoing activities required to respond to Covid-19 are included within the council plan. For this reason, the context of Covid response is now considered to be part of our ongoing operating context. Unless there is a specific need, decisions in respect of Covid response will be made through normal decision-making routes appropriate to the relevant functions of the council.
6. It remains absolutely clear that the impact of the pandemic will continue to influence much of the council's work for years to come. The response of the city has been incredible, across all sectors and communities, and York should be proud of how it has responded so far. The challenge remains but there is every reason to be optimistic that the city will continue to respond strongly with kindness, compassion and resilience.

7. The last 19 months have seen the greatest level of disruption to people's lives since the Second World War. The need to isolate, to reduce contact and the potential for transmission, has impacted on everyone as individuals, as communities, organisations and businesses. The council has also had to adapt almost every aspect of service delivery to continue to support residents' lives. The following data relates to the position in July 2021.



8. A fundamental role of the Council is to support the Public Health response to health emergencies. Throughout the pandemic, the council's Public Health team, supported by a wide range of colleagues, have co-ordinated the city-wide pandemic response from a public health perspective. At the beginning of the pandemic, this involved sourcing and distributing PPE and sanitiser from around the world, advising on its use, arranging local testing, developing local trace and contact arrangements and advising on the safe reopening of services and city activities. Any one of these activities would be challenging, but the combination of requirements upon the team, themselves having to work in different ways to avoid infection, has been extraordinarily difficult and required a huge level of ongoing commitment

and resilience. Working closely as part of a network with NHS, police and other emergency response organisations, in liaison with the Local Resilience Forum, council teams have successfully co-ordinated activity through the multiple stages of the pandemic, supporting a cohesive city-wide response.

9. From the early stages of lockdown, it was clear that it was essential that communities were supported to ensure everyone, including the most vulnerable residents, had the essentials they needed. Our Communities teams, along with staff redeployed from other areas, established a network of hubs to ensure that people had food and medication, and had contact with people to ensure ongoing support. This was especially important for Extremely Clinically Vulnerable people needing to shield. Following an appeal for volunteers, thousands of residents came forward to support their neighbours, helping to deliver much needed support and supplies. A helpline was created to ensure people needing help could get in touch, Feedback from residents suggested that knowing there were people around who could provide assistance gave a significant sense of reassurance and reduced the feeling of isolation.
10. Supporting vulnerable adults and older people also presented a huge set of challenges. Early in the pandemic, adult social care teams worked rapidly with colleagues in the acute sector ensure people who could be moved out of hospital were found suitable support, freeing up bed space for the predicted rises in patients hospitalised with Covid. This required quickly setting up new processes and arrangements which considered the different range of risks presented within the pandemic. Because of the risks of infection, the capacity with the care sector had to be carefully managed to reduce onward transmission. The care sector itself was immediately put under extreme pressure with staff being impacted by the infection, reducing operational capacity just as demand was rising.
11. The ongoing impact across adult social care continues to be felt with increased demand across many areas of the service. Social care teams are continuing to work flat out to respond to this increase in demand, with support being provided from other council teams as far as possible.
12. Ensuring that all residents are safe from harm remains one of the key responsibilities of the council, no matter what context we're working within. The council's Children's Services have been on an improvement journey, and despite the significant challenges of the pandemic, have continued to develop practice which further supports the safety of all children. Through the necessary changes to operational activities during Covid, multiple opportunities for more flexible and agile working practices have been identified. The effective working of the safeguarding partnership has recently been described by the independent scrutineer in her contribution to the Safeguarding Partnership Annual report, providing assurance "that the Partnership is running as it should, that people remain committed to

making it work and to do so successfully”.

13. Supporting schools and Early Years settings to operate safely within the national advice has been a huge undertaking. Teams have supported getting testing set up in schools and advised on social distancing measures alongside how best to ensure educational provision is continued, whether virtually or face to face. With constantly changing national guidance, often received very late, the need to working within and between schools has been significant, helped by the strong partnership already in place within York’s educational system. The universities and colleges have faced many challenges, in keeping students safe whilst their studies continue, requiring the Education teams alongside public health colleagues to support tailored testing and vaccination programmes for the different institutions.
14. The need to get almost the entire council workforce working in a completely different way created significant challenges for all our back office functions. Providing ongoing support to front line services was essential. Many staff were redeployed to support critical functions, whilst moving to remote working processes. A huge information and data need was supported by Business Intelligence, underpinning test and trace and vaccination programmes, as well as epidemiological information to support the councils overall response. Communications officers have provided a vast array of information across multiple channels to keep residents and partner organisations as informed as possible. Democratic services colleagues set up processes to allow remote meetings to happen and continue democratic decision-making, also delivering the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Elections in May 2021.
15. Officer delivered the processing of thousands of applications for business support and individual funding, described in more detail below. Trading standards colleagues took on new responsibilities around ensuring Covid-compliance of businesses in the city, in parallel with changed requirements related to Brexit for Environmental Health functions.
16. The above provides only a brief sample of the many examples of changed working within the council. The council’s role to support wellbeing of residents has been at the fore, working alongside NHS colleagues on the frontline of treating and protecting people. The partnership working between the council and NHS has been absolutely essential. Through the necessity of Covid response, greater understanding of the pressures across all organisations has developed and will support the ongoing work to create local health and care systems which are more closely aligned.
17. Residents, volunteers, key workers, council officers and those working across all sectors of the city have all pulled together to support people in need, allowing critical functions to operate in the most challenging situations. Colleagues in the NHS have continued to go above and beyond

to save lives and support wellbeing alongside our own public health and social care teams. Our frontline officers have ensured the city has remained a safe place for people to live, visit and work, and our back office functions have faced unprecedented demands to process support for businesses and residents and keep the council operating. Of course, at the same time as these pressures, staff as individuals have faced the same challenges as everyone, supporting their own families, dealing with isolation and uncertainty, and trying to live in a different way.

18. Not only should the city be proud of its response, but it should also recognise the strength of the collective efforts and partnership working which has underpinned that response. It was a clear illustration of how different sectors and groups can work alongside each other, delivering outcomes which make the most significant differences to people's lives.
19. At the heart of all these efforts has been a focus on the wellbeing of York's residents. As the city continues to face the challenges the pandemic brings, this focus must remain, to ensure we build back better and stronger as a city, for all our residents.
20. The council is working with city partners to identify appropriate ways of thanking and recognising the work of all those across the city who have supported York's residents through the pandemic.

Latest Outbreak Update

21. The latest validated rate of new Covid cases per 100,000 of population for the period 4.8.21 to 10.8.21 in York was 327.9 (692 cases). The national and regional averages at this date were 306.1 and 381.6 respectively (using data published on Gov.uk on 15.8.21).
22. As at 15.8.21 a total of 149,922 CYC residents have had the first dose of the vaccine. This represents 84.1% of the estimated adult (16+) population of York (ONS 2020)
23. As at 15.8.21 a total of 124,465 CYC residents have had both doses of the vaccine. This represents 69.8% of the estimated adult (16+) population of York (ONS 2020). Since the last update, 16 and 17 years olds are now eligible for vaccines, so the estimated 16+ population of York is now being used as the denominator, instead of the 18+ population.

Recovery Updates

Financial Inclusion

24. Throughout the pandemic, the council's priority has been to support the wellbeing of residents. Recognising the financial pressures which have

emerged for many residents, the council has put in place a number of measures to support those most in need.

25. The council provides a broad range of welfare support to residents through the York Financial Assistance Scheme, Council Tax Support (CTS) and Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP). The breadth of this support was increased across 2020 to help residents during the Covid-19 pandemic.
26. In April 2020, emergency decisions were taken to allocate an additional £1m of support which is administered and managed through the York Financial Assistance Scheme, within which the criteria was widened to include all residents finding themselves in financial hardship during the pandemic. The widened fund saw contributions to pay for the Free School Meals (FSM) vouchers during the October 2020 half term holiday, community hubs, mobile phones and internet, and community awards for items such as white goods, furniture and carpets. £839k was spend in 2020/2021.
27. The council also supplemented the Winter Support Grant to provide £547k to support residents with food and utilities, and essential digital connections.
28. £340k of isolation grants were processed, alongside Council Tax Support for 13,078 residents during 2020/2021.
29. A full report on the council's financial inclusion work can be found here: <https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=6228>

Supporting York's businesses

30. To support residents, the Council has also taken measures to support businesses and ensure the continuity of jobs within the city as far as possible. Prior to the Covid pandemic, York's economy had been performing strongly, with steady jobs growth, productivity as measured by GVA per-hour-worked well above levels elsewhere in the region, and the prospect of further growth driven by progress on the key York Central development. There were some concerns around the global changes being seen in high street economies and their impacts on York's city centre, but vacancy levels were amongst the lowest in the country and the visitor economy was growing strongly, with a raft of new hotels and attractions in the planning.
31. As the pandemic broke, with the first UK cases seen in a York hotel, we rapidly assessed the risks to the York economy, identifying 30,700 jobs and £1.1bn GVA in high risk industries, representing 25% of jobs and 17% of GVA. In particular we considered that "*retail of non-essential items (were) at considerable risk, especially in stores rather than online... accommodation and food services (at) significant risk...arts entertainment*

and leisure like to be an early impact". Beyond the consumer economy, we identified risks for commercial landlords, disruption in the education sector and significant impacts on public transport and construction. All of these risks proved to be accurate, however the potential impacts on jobs and productivity have been mitigated by the provision of grants and other support. These are summarised below.

32. In recent years, York's economic development resource had become fragmented, with public-funded staff spread across CYC, Make it York and the Universities and Colleges, and multiple strong private sector networks such as the Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) and York BID. With such a broad range of impacts across sectors, it was clear that we needed a strong coordinated response, and early efforts were therefore focussed on drawing all of these partners together to share intelligence on the emerging impacts, increase direct communication with businesses, and work together to develop our local policy response. This partnership approach has endured, leading to a reconfiguration of the CYC/MIY resources into one team and continued joint working with Higher York partners and the business networks which is now driving our longer-term economic strategy.

33. Within a week of the first lockdown at the end of March 2020, Councillors had committed £1.14m of CYC funds to supporting small and micro businesses which were beyond the scope of Government grant support. We provided free FSB membership to over 600 businesses, giving access to a wide range of free helplines and practical support, and made available grants of up to £1,000 to small and micro businesses through our Micro Grants scheme. Independent evaluation has shown that these commitments supported 1,114 enterprises, saved around 300 businesses from failing and protected the income of over 500 households across York. The approach also provided new insight into the importance of small and micro businesses for the York economy, and the wide range of sectors and industries in which such enterprises operate. This too is now informing our future plans for the city.

34. Government provided over £100m in support to York businesses through various grant rounds, rates relief and loans. The grants and rates relief were administered locally and our Rates team worked tirelessly to channel funds as quickly as possible to over 3,500 businesses across the city. York was consistently in the top 5% of Local Authorities in terms of volume and speed of distribution of grants. As the pandemic developed and more grants were provided, our approach of passing funds on rapidly and targeting discretionary funds at those excluded from the main funds has shown to have been very effective. Many businesses across the UK are still complaining that they have had little help, however in York the majority of businesses have been assisted with grants. It is worth noting that York is the UK city that has seen the smallest rise in unemployment, as measured by Centre for Cities. This has been no accident, and reflects the

principles we have developed through the pandemic of supporting those most in need, recognising the value of small employers and self-employment, and of working with business organisations such as the FSB, Indie York and the Institute of Directors to inform delivery on the ground.

35. In July 2020, the Executive agreed a 1 year strategy to provide business support, help with skills and employment, and to make adaptations to the city centre public realm and transport arrangements to help our businesses trade. These measures have helped the city centre to provide a warm and safe welcome to residents and visitors, with the effectiveness of our support shown in measures of footfall and spending which put York among the best performing cities. We have seen both a reengagement by York's residents with our city centre and huge interest, when allowed by covid restrictions, by visitors. York is consistently named as one of the top UK staycation locations, with our hotels and attractions reporting strong performance this summer. Our independent shops, championed by Indie York, are also trading well, with a good mix of local people and visitors as their customers.
36. Beyond the city centre economy, our business engagement has helped track the progress of businesses across the full breadth of the York economy. A series of roundtables across a dozen different industrial sectors has helped channel support into financial and legal services, manufacturing, food and drink, creative and cultural businesses, the bio-economy and foundation services. These many groups have helped to develop our emerging Skills and Employment strategy and will play an important role in shaping our economic strategy. They have also helped us to maintain a broad understanding of the impacts of the pandemic lockdown beyond those most visible in our city centre. In recent months, as we have begun the final phase of grant distribution, we have been able to focus on those still impacted by the lockdown such as language schools, performance and event venues, community halls, and those dependent on international travel.
37. Through our effective use of the previous allocations of discretionary funding from the Government's Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG), we have now received an additional tranche of £1.4m of funds. This must, in part, fund £400k of existing commitments to support adaptations in Parliament Street and Exhibition Square, to provide help for events and festivals as they re-emerge from the pandemic, and to back trader-led initiatives across the city. The extension of Step 4 to 19 July added 28 days of additional restrictions for a wide range of businesses. In consultation with Executive Members, it was agreed to make further payments to businesses still impacted to provide a further 28 days of support at existing levels at a total cost of approximately £145k.
38. The Council unanimously passed a motion in support of "Protecting Live Music Space" in December 2019, recognising that a thriving, vibrant,

diverse and responsibly managed early-evening, evening and night-time offer is a crucial part of the city's economy, and calling for York Music Venues Network to be established and supported. At its March 2020 meeting, Executive recognised the importance of York's live music venues as an integral part of the city's cultural offer and agreed to a range of measures including a commitment to work closely with the York Music Venues Network to assist in supporting and developing this crucial part of the city's night-time economy.

39. Clearly, music venues have been significantly impacted by the pandemic. In discussions with the York Music Venues Network, it has become clear that, while venues have been receiving grant funds through the Arts Council, support is now diminishing and local venues are facing a very challenging financial period. They are still only able to open with restricted audience numbers and are reliant on the live music industry returning to previous touring patterns and levels over the coming year. To ensure that venues can survive, it is proposed to make a further £100k available to them to meet ongoing costs while there is a shortfall in income and to help them reopen and reengage with audiences. Applications would be sought from individual venues, looking to extend the support previously provided by the Arts Council through the Emergency Grassroots Music Venues Fund and using the same criteria (see [Arts Council website](#)), without the restrictions on infrastructure and buildings. Beyond individual venue support, some funding would also be made available to YMVN to support activities which would help venues to reengage with audiences and attract people back to live music. Allocations from this fund would be delegated to the Assistant Director (Customer and Communities), in consultation with the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Communities.
40. There remains a commitment to provide £500k for a business support scheme enabling small and micro businesses to relaunch and refresh with help from within the York business community. Our proposal would enable businesses to think through the key issues they face before accessing local specialist resource to begin implementing these changes. It is our intention that the advice and support received by micro and small businesses accessing the voucher scheme is locally-based (City of York local authority area) to encourage more business-to-business activity in York, keeping spend local and raising awareness of what professional business support services exist locally.
41. The scheme would seek to match businesses looking to further develop their products and services with local firms able to help with advice and expertise. For example, a landscaping company might need help with developing its marketing, financial planning and recruitment. The voucher scheme would help them define what help they need, put them in touch with a range of local providers, and then pay for the support they have chosen. All those involved would benefit – the landscaping firm through the advice and help it received, and the specialist advisors through the

voucher payments.

42. ARG funding must be spent by local authorities by the end of March 2022 and therefore it is important that the Council's business voucher scheme gets underway during the early autumn to ensure delivery. The scheme will be managed by the Council's Economic Growth team, however to ensure maximum take-up in the city's small business community and provide the temporary resources essential to ensure the scheme can deliver quickly, it is proposed to utilise 10% of the budget allocation to procure private sector support for process design, eligibility checks, quality assurance on each business services provider, and a diagnostic for businesses to effectively identify their support needs.
43. Delivery of a York-based business support voucher scheme continues City of York Council's innovative approach to business support, and builds upon the success of the Council's Micro Business Grants Scheme which saw grants of up to £1,000 provided to 1,114 small, micro and one-person businesses during the early stages of the pandemic. Findings from an independent evaluation of the Micro Grants Scheme demonstrated that a little investment in small enterprises can go a long way, with the pay-off for some being beyond expectation with businesses winning lucrative contracts, gaining international customers, entering a new world of technology and shifting their whole business model to deal in the virtual, rather than the physical. The evaluation also identified further areas of support required by businesses to improve their competitiveness – access to finance; sales; PR and marketing; business planning; health and wellbeing; leadership and management; skills support and digital and ICT. These support areas will be targeted through the Council's voucher scheme.
44. With eligible businesses receiving a business support voucher up to the value of £1,000 to spend on eligible support services, at least 450 businesses will be supported by the Council's voucher scheme, with many more York businesses benefitting due to the take up of their services. Project outputs will be evaluated following the completion of the voucher scheme, with an update provided back to the Council's Executive.
45. These proposals can be summarised as follows:

Additional ARG Allocation	1,405,725
Less: Existing commitments	(400,000)
Additional restart payments	<u>(145,000)</u>
Remaining funds	860,725
Voucher scheme	500,000
Music Venues	<u>100,000</u>
To allocate	<u>260,725</u>

46. The remaining £260k provides something of a buffer should there be further restrictions on the economy, or should the provision of these amounts bring forward other businesses which are facing particular challenges. It could also be used to supplement any of the existing commitments outlined above, should further funds be needed. The deadline for spend is 31 March 2022, and a final allocation will be brought to Executive at the end of 2021 to ensure that all of the ARG funds are utilised as any unspent funds will be clawed back by Government.

47. Executive is asked to agree to allocation of:

- £500k to the business voucher support scheme
- £100k to support York's music venues

City Centre Access

48. In light of the Covid 19 pandemic, it has also been necessary to make some changes to access arrangements within the city centre. When the pandemic hit, in order to allow social distancing, it was necessary to reduce access for vehicles into the city centre to allow pedestrians and people using mobility aids to use the road space as well as pavements. The city's street space has also been used to create outside space for restaurants and cafés, with the extension of café licenses, supporting local businesses and city centre economy, as part of the city's continued recovery from the pandemic. These decisions have been made in the context of the Council's duty to protect public spaces, promote the economic viability of the city centre, reduce carbon emissions and ensure accessibility under the Equalities Act.

49. A range of temporary restrictions are coming to an end and it is necessary to consider the extension of these arrangements in line with Government policy to ensure the continuity of safe city centre activities. Extensive consultation is ongoing with city centre users, particularly disabled people, to ensure that the subsequent arrangements for the longer term (beyond these temporary measures) are as accessible as possible for everyone, whilst recognising the best methods to support York's economy and ensure the city centre is safe.

50. In response to the COVID Pandemic and to support recovery on 8th June and 6th July through an officer decision, the Council established a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order to remove the blue badge exemption from Blake Street, St. Helen's Square, Lendal, Goodramgate, Deangate and College Green, Church Street, King's Square and Colliergate. Changes were also made at Castlegate and Fossgate to create space for social distancing, outdoor queuing and café licenses. Coppergate was made one way to create additional space for pedestrians.

51. Simplified Pavement Café licenses were introduced by the Government to support the economic recovery of hospitality industry in response to Covid and were due to expire on 30/09/2021.
52. The Government recently announced that the Simplified Pavement Café Licences will continue for another year until 30/09/2022 to continue to aid the economic recovery and any future COVID restrictions that may be required. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jenrick-confirms-extension-of-pavement-licences-to-help-high-streets-recover>
53. The Council also extended the hours of operation of the footstreets to 8pm to further facilitate these café licenses and support local businesses.
54. Our approach to creating new spaces for businesses to trade, whilst maintaining social distancing has been crucial to ensuring that York's city centre food and drink sector remains as profitable as possible in light of the various Covid-19 restrictions imposed by Government to limit infection rates. By providing a safe and welcoming environment for residents and visitors to enjoy York's nationally-renowned hospitality offer, in addition to the Council's direct economic response, we have supported city centre businesses to survive the pandemic and ensure that the local economy and in turn local service delivery is protected. Businesses are now able to enjoy the benefits of an increase in city centre footfall and visitor spend above pre-pandemic levels according to data provided by Centre for Cities' High Streets Recovery Tracker.
55. The introduction of the Temporary TRO has been well received by the local business community, due to the difficulties posed by the pandemic, particularly in creating new space for businesses to trade, whilst maintaining social distancing. The move was supported by the Retail Forum, York BID and other organisations in the city, and a total of 129 pavement licences have been awarded, of which 113 licences are located within the footstreets area (including Castlegate) and in Fossgate.
56. Recognising the impact on city centre access, the temporary TRO was accompanied by a number of mitigations to help support blue badge holders affected by the TRO. These included:
 - a. The restriction for blue badge holders on the section of Goodramgate from Monk Bar up to and including Deangate and College Green was terminated by Executive in November 2020 as this was one of the primary issues raised by those affected. This was advertised and promoted to blue badge holders who would once again be able to park here and promote the space on St Andrewgate.

- b. 16 new dedicated parking spaces for Blue Badge Holders created as close as possible to the footstreet area, with capacity for seven vehicles on Duncombe Place, two on St Saviourgate, five on Dundas Street, and two on Carmelite Street.
- c. 40 Disabled parking spaces were created at Monk Bar along with a free taxi shuttle for Blue Badge Holders. Following feedback the taxi was removed and the number of additional spaces reduced by 30.
- d. 4 additional Blue Badge Spaces were created at Bootham Row Car Park.

57. Our understanding of the impact of the footstreets changes, potential mitigation measures and the wider issues of accessibility in York city centre has been built through extensive engagement with blue badge holders, disabled people and advocacy groups, as well as other stakeholder groups like cyclists, delivery drivers/riders, taxi drivers, and city centre businesses. 3 citywide surveys have been issued, online and via the Our City publication. A survey aimed specifically at disabled residents was completed by 427 residents last summer. 169 disabled residents have completed the access questions in this summer's My City Centre survey, whilst the Our Big Conversation survey has been completed by 165 disabled residents.

58. Each stage of the consultation process has been complemented by online workshops, with 30 disabled residents and allies or advocates attending workshops in the run up to last November's decision. A similar number have attended facilitated workshops and insight meetings this summer, with two workshops covering cycling groups, two specific to accessible streets, one about the Shopmobility services, one for taxi associations and one for delivery drivers and couriers. In addition, consultants Martin Higgett Associates hosted accessible routes audit workshops, one on site in the city centre and another online.

59. In November 2020 the Executive gave approval to start the statutory consultation process for considering the future operation of the footstreets. In this further mitigations were considered. Through this further mitigations to improve the level of Blue Badge Parking amenity were considered in the following locations:

- a. Junction of Blake Street/Duncombe Place
- b. Duncombe Place Horse Drawn Carriage Bay
- c. St Andrewgate
- d. St Andrew's Place
- e. Deangate
- f. Stonebow, outside Calvert's Carpets
- g. St Denys Road

- h. Cumberland Street, adjacent to the Grand Opera House
- i. Lord Mayor's Walk
- j. St Leonard's Place, outside De Grey Rooms

60. This list was approved for consultation with the exception of St Andrew's Place recognising the objections received.
61. A map contained at Annex A shows the footstreets, the changes already made and those that have been consulted upon.
62. Business which are granted café licenses are often located between dropped crossings, so in order to enable disabled access in such streets a recommendation is included to increase the number of dropped crossings based on a footstreets tour with the Thomas Pocklington Trust and members of the Highway regulations team. Funding for additional dropped crossings can be accommodated within the Transport Capital Programme budget. The existing Local Transport Plan budget includes an allocation for minor pedestrian schemes including dropped crossings. It is proposed to increase the allocation to allow the provision of additional dropped crossings in the footstreets to improve accessibility. The LTP programme is delivered on an over-programmed basis to account of the complexity of the delivery of some transport schemes and the multi-year funding stream. The impact on the delivery of other schemes in the Capital Programme will be reviewed to take account of the additional funding for improving accessible access in the city centre and the delivery programme adjusted where necessary in the next monitoring report. The Access Fund also includes an allocation for improvements for walking routes in the city centre.
63. The consultation has a planned second phase to explore how access to the city centre can be further improved for the disabled residents. However, a clear issue that has emerged through the consultation so far is that some of the disability residents are not aware of the services offered by Shopmobility and Dial a Ride. Further promotion of Shopmobility and Dial a Ride. Therefore we propose to work with the organisations to promote these services and improve the service offer. It is recommended that a sum of £20k from the Covid contingency is set aside to support this work which may be direct provision to the services or the council undertaking direct promotion.
64. The November Executive will further consider other possible mitigations and access improvements, such as, changes to the footstreet hours of operation, potential improvements to bus stops, improvements to pavements on routes to and from key car parks, rest stops and other measures.

65. The Government are reviewing the duties placed on local authorities for the prevention of terrorism. The Council has a city wide partnership, with permanent hostile vehicle mitigation measures as one of their key projects. Following advice from the Police's Counter Terrorism Command Unit, this year's Christmas Markets would see the Hostile Vehicle Mitigation Measures placed at the end of the footstreets. Each Christmas the Footstreet hours are extended for the Christmas Market period to 8pm on Thursday to Saturday under a TRO. The decision in November to determine the future operation of the footstreets will allow the project team to develop proposals for the location of permanent hostile vehicle mitigation measures for future years once work is completed.
66. The statutory consultation on the future operation of the footstreets, which includes the consultation on further additional mitigations as detailed above has just closed. However, there is not sufficient time for the results of the consultation to be properly considered and decisions made before the temporary traffic regulation orders expire in September.
67. Due to the above and the recent announcement from Government on café license extensions, a decision is required to temporarily extend the existing traffic regulation orders to continue the facilitation of the pavement cafes to continue and allow a decision on the future operation of the footstreets to be made in November.
68. Officers are also recommending a further series of workshops with disabled community advocacy groups to additionally include the Human Rights Equality Board to explore the issues that arose during the formal consultation before a recommendation is made Executive on the future operation of the footstreets and the necessary improvements to accessing the city centre.
69. Following a request from the Executive before the future operation of the footstreets are considered in full, a Commissioned Scrutiny by Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee on the future operation of the footstreets and accessibility is recommended.

Outlook for the future

70. As outlined above, the city's response to Covid has been strong. There is growing confidence that the city can recover strongly, however, this does not mean that there are not challenges ahead.
71. Recent epidemiological reports highlight the possibility of further levels of infection. A report to the Outbreak Management Advisory Board provides further detail.

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s150961/4.%20COVID%20modelling%20paper%20for%20OMAB%20july%2021.pdf>

72. Whilst the link between infection and serious illness is decreasing with the rollout of vaccines, there will remain a proportion of the population who remain vulnerable. By the targeted end of the vaccination programme, a significant proportion of the population will have more protection. However:
- a. some will still not be eligible (under 16)
 - b. some will be eligible but not taking up their vaccine (Cabinet Office assumptions are for 95% uptake in over 50s, and 90% uptake in over 18-50s)
 - c. some may not have full protection from second doses against the Delta variant (PHE data suggests Pfizer is 96% effective and AZ 92% effective against hospitalisation and death from the Delta variant)
73. This leaves potentially up to a third of our population still not fully protected. The harms to this population are mitigated by the fact that they are likely to be younger and less vulnerable to consequences of COVID infection, and vaccine effectiveness against severe illness and death is likely to be higher than it is against infection. However, Long COVID / post-COVID syndrome can be a severe debilitating health condition, not always related to strength/effects of symptoms during the acute phase, and is reported to have affected up to 2 million people in England. In CYC so far, 18 members of staff have taken an average of 50 days off work due to Long COVID.
74. Additionally, this does not take into account the role immunity due to past infection plays in this, with an rate of past infection in the UK estimated at 15.6% and evidence that immunity due to infection could last as long as a year.
75. It is entirely plausible, however, that a surge in cases in the remaining at-risk population may occur similar to the size and scale of previous waves, although higher levels of immunity may produce a 'herd' effect that would slow down the speed at which this moves through the population.
76. Other risks also apply, beside the infection rate:
- a. The impacts of Long-Covid
 - b. The impacts on Mental Health Services, with demand significantly increased.
 - c. The additional demand for social care services for both children and adults.
 - d. Significantly increased attendance at A&E
 - e. High demand for primary care services

- f. Influenza and winter planning - rates of flu were very low in the last winter; this puts us at risk of a higher number of cases this coming winter due to lack of residual immunity (passive and active).

77. It is clear that pressures upon services will continue for some time, and as a city it is important that there is collective working to manage demand as much as possible.

78. From an economic point of view, there is cautious optimism about the longer term recovery in York. The city centre has recovered strongly, with footfall back up at pre-pandemic levels and spend also high. This is also reflected in out of town retail settings, and the hotel sector and visitor economy are also reporting strong performance and forward bookings.

79. Interest in York as place to do business remains high with several indigenous businesses looking to expand in the city and a number of enquiries received from businesses keen to establish a presence locally. There is also strong demand for industrial space outside the city centre, with speculative builds coming onto the market quickly snapped up.

80. Key challenges are being reported in recruiting staff at a range of levels, with the most significant short term shortages being seen in skilled and semi-skilled roles, particularly in customer-facing sectors such as hospitality, retail and social care. Further information on the council's response can be found here: https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s151322/Quarterly%20Economic%20Update%20July%202021_ver.2%20Final.pdf

Council Plan

81. Covid-19 will continue to have an impact across the delivery of all Council Plan outcomes. The updated Council Plan recognises these impacts and identifies the actions required to achieve the outcomes of the plan in light of a revised operating context for the council.

Implications

- **Financial** – The allocations from the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) of £600k can be funded from within the overall ARG allocation provided to CYC.

The additional support to Dial and Ride and Shopmobility Services totalling £20k is proposed to be funded from the Covid 19 recovery fund. Budget Council approved a £2.5m revenue budget as a Covid 19 recovery fund to support the council deal with challenges that arise from the Covid 19 pandemic. In the report there were identified projects totalling £650k leaving £1,850k available. Releasing £20k for this support reduced funding available to £1,810k. Members will be aware that as part

of the Performance and Finance Monitoring Report elsewhere on the Agenda the council is facing a significant overspend and therefore future releases from this fund need to be carefully considered.

The cost of additional dropped crossings will be accommodated within the council's Local Transport Plan allocation.

- **Human Resources** – No specific impacts identified.
- **One Planet Council / Equalities** – A principle of recovery is to ensure climate change is considered in decisions taken. The economic recovery plans recognise and respond to the unequal impact of coronavirus and the risk of increasing levels of inequality as a result. Annex B is the Equalities Impact Assessment that covers the Transport & Place response to COVID and covered the extension of the pedestrianised footstreets to include Lendal, Blake Street, St Helen's Square, Goodramgate (between Deangate and Low Petergate), Church Street and Colliergate to provide additional pedestrian capacity. Annex C is the Equalities Impact Assessment and relates to the ongoing extension of the city centre footstreets in response to Covid-19 that were initially introduced through Economic recovery strategy (COVID-19): Transport and Place Strategy. The Equalities Impact Assessments will need to be reviewed for November's decision on the future operation of the footstreets.
- **Legal** – The Council has powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to make Traffic Regulation Orders and Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders ("TTRO"). A TTRO can remain in force for up to 18 months and therefore extending the TTRO to 19 December 2021 is permitted under the legislation. In making the decision to extend the duration of the TTRO the Council has considered the criteria within Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and in particular the duty to make decisions to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians)

The Public Sector Equality Duty

Under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 a public authority must in the exercise of its functions have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. This is known as the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED).

Statutory guidance issued in May 2020 reiterates that the Public Sector Equality Duty continues to apply as Councils make changes (permanent

and temporary) to their road networks in response to Covid-19, and the needs of disabled people and those with other protected characteristics must be considered. A fair and proportionate balance has to be found between the needs of people with protected characteristics and the interests of the community as a whole. Case law has held that achieving such a balance is not a breach of the PSED and that there is no prescriptive way to evidence due regard. The measures taken by the Council by making and extending a TTRO are those considered necessary to achieve the objective of helping to limit the spread of Coronavirus and are therefore considered to be a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.

The report details how the Council is considering and mitigating, where possible, any disproportionate impacts of the highway changes on people with protected characteristics and meeting its Public Sector Equality Duty, particularly in relation to disabled people.

- **Crime and Disorder** – No specific impacts identified.
- **Information Technology** – No specific impacts identified.

Risk Management

82. There remain significant areas of risk in responding to this crisis across all areas of recovery. The highest priority continues to be the health and wellbeing of residents and all planning and decisions will be taken with this in mind.

Contact Details

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Report

Approved

Date 17/08/21

Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A - Map of the footstreets and mitigations

Annex B – Equalities Impact Assessment for the Covid-19

Economic Recovery - Transport and Place Strategy

Annex C - Equalities Impact Assessment ongoing extension of the city centre footstreets

Background Reports

Update on Coronavirus Response – 7 May 2020

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s139955/Coronavirus%20Executive%20Report.pdf>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - June

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=59688&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI55501>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy Update – July

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=59899>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy update - August

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=60167&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI55914>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy update – September

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s142400/Recovery%20and%20Renewal%20Update%20Report.pdf>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy update – October

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=60724&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI56530>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - November Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s144127/Recovery%20and%20Renewal%20Update%20-%20November%202020%20v0.3.pdf>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – December update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=61412&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI57153>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –January Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=61755&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A157489>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –February Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s146708/Recovery%20and%20Renewal%20Update%20-%20February%202021.pdf>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –March Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=61990&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A157770>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –April Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=62864&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A158384>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – May Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=62866&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A158386>

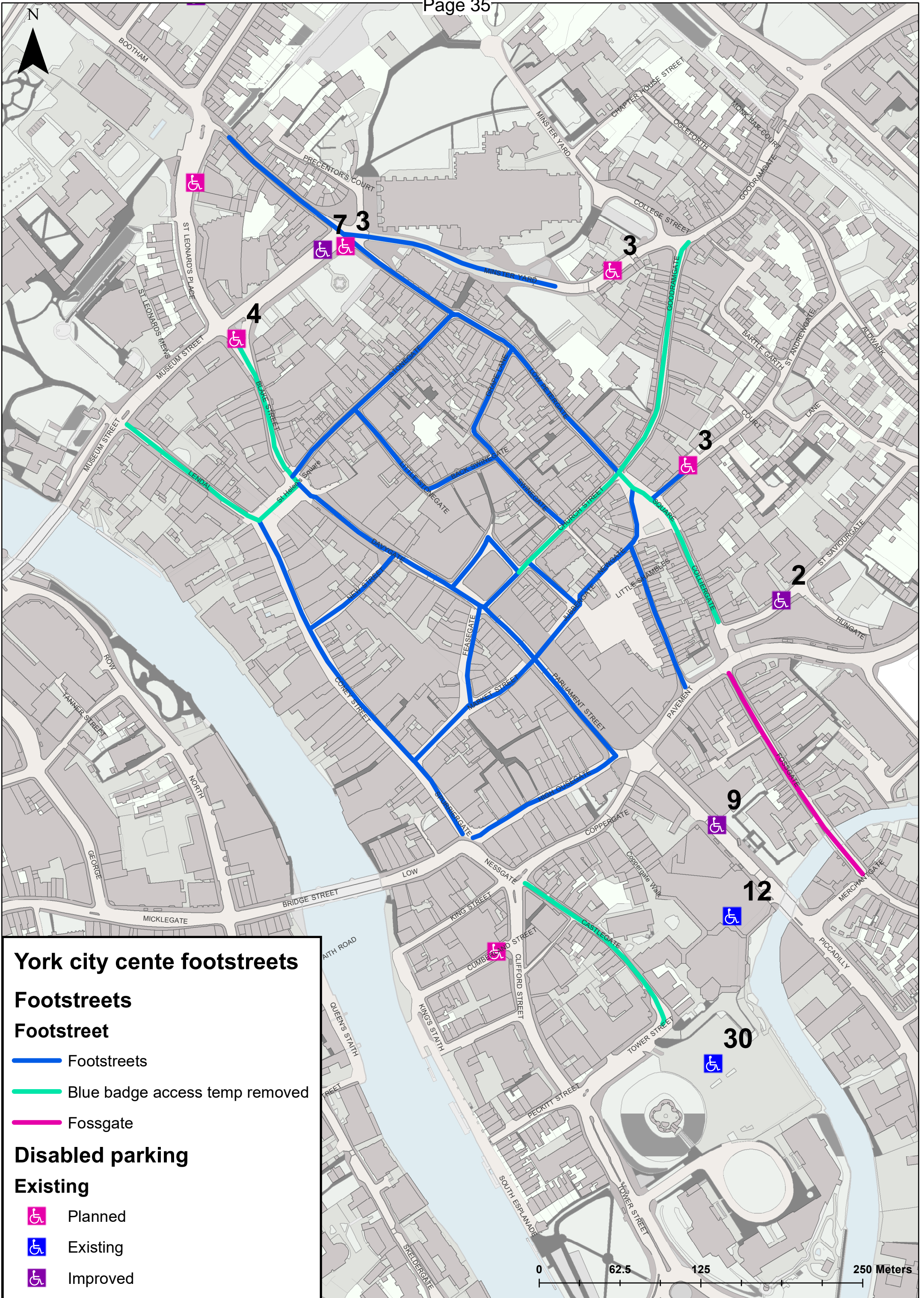
City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – June Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=63229&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A158774>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – July Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=63231&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A158776>

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The 'Better Decision Making' tool has been designed to help you consider the impact of your proposal on the health and wellbeing of communities, the environment, and local economy. It draws upon the priorities set out in our Council Plan and will help us to provide inclusive and discrimination-free services by considering the equalities and human rights implications of the decisions we make. The purpose of this tool is to avoid decisions being made in isolation, and to encourage evidence-based decision making that carefully balances social, economic and environmental factors, helping us to become a more responsive and resilient organisation.

The Better Decision Making tool should be used when proposing new projects, services, policies or strategies, or significant amendments to them. The tool should be completed at the earliest opportunity, ideally when you are just beginning to develop a proposal. However, it can be completed at any stage of the decision-making process. If the tool is completed just prior to the Executive, it can still help to guide future courses of action as the proposal is implemented.

The Better Decision Making tool must be attached as an annex to Executive reports. A brief summary of your findings should be reported in the One Planet Council / Equalities section of the report itself.

Guidance to help you complete the assessment can be obtained by hovering over the relevant question.

Please complete all fields. If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

Introduction

Service submitting the proposal:	Regeneration and Major Projects
Name of person completing the assessment:	Lucy Atkinson
Job title:	Sustainability Project Manager
Directorate:	Economy and Place
Date Completed:	09/06/20
Date Approved (form to be checked by head of service):	Andy Kerr 15/6/20

Section 1: What is the proposal?

1.1	Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed? Economic recovery strategy (COVID-19): Transport and Place - Priority Implementation Measures
1.2	What are the main aims of the proposal? An economic recovery plan is being prepared in response to the covid 19 pandemic, comprised of three strands - 1 Business Support, 2 Transport & Place, 3 Skills & Training. Part of the second stream 'transport and place' has been accelerated to support the reopening of non essential retail from 15th June 2020, and in the context of social distancing and health and safety requirements. The main aims of the priority proposal are:
1.3	What are the key outcomes? Key outcomes include: - pedestrians enabled to safely move through York's streets whilst maintaining social distancing measures. - implemented measures enable safe reopening of York for non-essential retail, in line with government advice. - measures allow for businesses to reopen safely, reducing long-term economic impacts on businesses in the city centre.

Section 2: Evidence

2.1	What data / evidence is available to support the proposal and understand its likely impact? (e.g. hate crime figures, obesity levels, recycling statistics) Current government guidance around social distancing, and positive health/ pandemic management impacts is widely available, and updated regularly. The UK is currently being managed daily through an alert management system, in order to balance the social and economic impacts of the approach with health/ pandemic management imperatives
2.2	What public / stakeholder consultation has been undertaken and what were the findings? The priority measures have been developed at pace in response to an imminent reopening of the City Centre and retail, with the ability to consult constrained by this. The emerging proposals were publicised through press communications, and direct dialogues established with individuals and organisations as a consequence. In addition a bespoke workshop was held with an extended 'My City Centre Stakeholder Group' with representatives from business sectors, police, city stakeholders. community safety, CVS, BID, Make it York and

	Are there any other initiatives that may produce a combined impact with this proposal? (e.g. will the same individuals / communities of identity also be impacted by a different project or policy?)
2.3	Parking measures within the city centre. The impacts of this initiative are considered within this assessment.



Section 3: Impact on One Planet principles

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on residents or staff.
 This section relates to the impact of your proposal on the ten One Planet principles.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.
 If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

Equity and Local Economy

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.1	Impact positively on the business community in York?	Positive	The proposals will enable the safe reopening of businesses in York city centre. There may be mixed impact on businesses depending on the type of street they are located on and social distancing measures
3.2	Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Neutral	As the proposals relate to reopening of existing businesses within the city centre, it is unlikely that proposals will result in additional employment or training opportunities. Though they will allow the
3.3	Help improve the lives of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups?	Mixed	Whilst the proposals as a whole are designed to support the economic robustness and social function of the City Centre- optimising benefits to all, changes to street access in terms of managing pedestrian circulation, could negatively impact on those with

Health & Happiness

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.4	Improve the physical health or emotional wellbeing of residents or staff?	Positive	The proposed measures are likely to have a positive impact on emotional wellbeing of residents and visitors to the city centre. For example, -> enabling adherence of social distancing which will
3.5	Help reduce health inequalities?	Positive	These measures will allow most individuals to move safely around the city centre, enabling access to public spaces whilst managing the pandemic and its health impacts
3.6	Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	Positive	Measures enable individuals to take responsibility for their own health (and that of others) by adhering to social distancing measures, reinforced by appropriate signage from the local authority
3.7	Reduce crime or fear of crime?	Neutral	Proposals do not specifically address crime or fear of crime, though reopening the City Centre safely will repopulate these areas, improving natural surveillance.
3.8	Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Neutral	Proposals do not specifically target children or young people.

Culture & Community

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9	Help bring communities together?	Neutral	The proposal will allow the reopening of the city centre area; markets, shops, services and public spaces. This may help to bring the local community together in terms of being able to support city centre businesses
3.10	Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?	Mixed	Reopening the city centre will allow businesses to reopen, which is likely to improve access to services for many residents. Displacement of parking for blue-badge holders may
3.11	Improve the cultural offerings of York?	Positive	Alternative uses of public spaces, such as Castle Car park, may provide opportunities to expand York's cultural offerings given the lockdown measures, whilst ensuring the safety of residents and visitors
3.12	Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?	Unsure	Proposals are not expected to impact on residents social responsibility.

Zero Carbon and Sustainable Water

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
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3.13	Minimise the amount of energy we use and / or reduce the amount of energy we pay for? E.g. through the use of low or zero carbon sources of energy?	Mixed	Parking proposals (through displacement of blue badge holders to Monk Bar) will lead to an additional taxi shuttle service from Monk Bar car park into the city centre. This would use additional energy, though depending on journey of blue badge holders, may lead to reduced travel for individual vehicles.
3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use and/or reduce the amount of water we pay for?	Neutral	These proposals have no direct impact on water use.

Zero Waste

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.15	Reduce waste and the amount of money we pay to dispose of waste by maximising reuse and/or recycling of materials?	Unsure	Signage produced may create waste, especially if guidelines change and signage needs to be updated. Signage has been designed to minimise this

Sustainable Transport

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.16	Encourage the use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and public transport?	Positive	Extension of the footstreets is likely to affect how people travel to the city centre positively and the priority measures are aligned with a broader transport and place strategy designed to lock in sustainable transport benefits accruing over the COVID lockdown.
3.17	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?	Positive	Extending footstreets will likely have a positive impact on local air quality to those streets, as restricting traffic movement within the city centre. Enabling a greater area of the city centre to be opened for pedestrian

Sustainable Materials

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.18	Minimise the environmental impact of the goods and services used?	Negative	Signage will not be able to be reused or recycled, though is small scale in terms of consumption

Local and Sustainable Food

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.19	Maximise opportunities to support local and sustainable food initiatives?	Positive	The safe commercial reopening of the centre will support those local and sustainable food initiatives which form part of the centres overall commercial makeup

Land Use and Wildlife

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.20	Maximise opportunities to conserve or enhance the natural environment?	Mixed	As previously stated, likely to have a positive impact on local air quality due to extension of footstreets. Re-opening of the city centre businesses may encourage more people to travel to the city centre.
3.21	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Mixed	Proposed new signage and social distancing measures are likely to have a minor and temporary negative impact on the quality of the built environment. Signage may clutter streets and restricted pedestrian
3.22	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Mixed	Proposed new signage and social distancing measures are likely to negatively impact on the character and setting of York due to signage cluttering streets this is likely to be a minor and temporary impact. Reopening
3.23	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Positive	Enables safe reopening of York city centre and associated public spaces for residents to enjoy (e.g. Museum Gardens).

3.40	Additional space to comment on the impacts		
There are a number of negative or mixed impacts outlined within this assessment. These measures should be considered within the broader context of national legislation around enabling the opening of non-essential retail whilst ensuring public safety through social distancing measures.			

Section 4: Impact on Equalities and Human Rights

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on staff or residents. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on **advancing equalities and human rights** and should build on the impacts you identified in the previous section.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.
If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'

Equalities

Will the proposal **adversely impact** upon 'communities of identity'?
Will it **help advance equality** or **foster good relations** between people in 'communities of identity'?

		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
4.1	Age	Mixed	The proposals may negatively impact on the elderly. The elderly have a greater likelihood of physical mobility issues, therefore one-way systems and limits to pedestrian travel around the city centre may impact on their ability to move around. These
4.2	Disability	Negative	Reallocation of blue badge holders to Monks Bar car park will likely extend distance for these users to city centre services. Provision of a mobility taxi shuttle will provide some mitigation for this.
4.3	Gender	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact.
4.4	Gender Reassignment	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.6	Pregnancy and maternity	Mixed	Similarly to the elderly, pregnant women may have limited mobility, therefore rearrangement of footstreets may cause additional difficulties in accessing shops and services due to one-way system along certain streets. This is however limited to just
4.7	Race	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.8	Religion or belief	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.9	Sexual orientation	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.10	Carer	Negative	Proposals may negatively impact on carers. Those caring for blue badge holders may find additional difficulty in having to park further from the city centre, and being able to safely walk from Monk Bar car park to the city centre. Provision of a bus service
4.11	Lowest income groups	Positive	Those on low incomes may benefit from the reopening of free public space, such as Museum Gardens, deriving both physical and mental health benefits from green space.
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact.

Human Rights

Consider how a human rights approach is evident in the proposal

	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
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4.13	Right to education	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.17	Freedom of expression	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.19	Other Rights	Neutral	These proposals impact on the ability of people to move freely around the city centre. However this is required to ensure social distancing can be maintained.

4.20	Additional space to comment on the impacts		
<p>In all cases, appropriate social distancing measures implemented are likely to have a positive impact on the overall health of the population by enabling people to adhere to social distancing, and therefore reducing the potential to spread / exposure to COVID-19.</p>			



Section 5: Planning for Improvement

5.1	What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on the One Planet principles? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
	The proposal considers the safety of residents and visitors to the city centre given the current social distancing measures. The proposal set out enables changes to be made and adaptations to take place in the city centre as any changes to social distancing measures are made.

5.2	What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on equalities and human rights? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
	The proposal has identified the potential negative impact to a number of groups. Continued engagement with representatives (such as charities) will ensure that proposals minimise the impact on these groups. The design of signage and circulation systems has been undertaken with a view to minimising negative impacts.

5.3	Going forward, what further evidence or consultation is needed to ensure the proposal delivers its intended benefits? e.g. consultation with specific vulnerable groups, additional data)
	Continued engagement with businesses to ensure they are able to open and work within the measures outlined.

5.4	Please record any outstanding actions needed to maximise benefits or minimise negative impacts in relation to this proposal? (Expand / insert more rows if needed)
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Action	Person(s)	Due date
Ongoing Business Community Engagement	Andy Kerr/Gareth Wilce	Ongoing
Ongoing consultation and liaison with communities of interest	Andy Kerr/Gareth Wilce	Ongoing
Ongoing liason with blue badge holders	Graham Titchener	Ongoing
Continuous review of the impact of highway measures, changes to government guidance, and compliance with	Tony Clarke	Ongoing

In the One Planet / Equalities section of your Executive report, please briefly summarise the changes you have made (or intend to make) in order to improve the social, economic and environmental impact of your proposal.

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Guidance to help you complete the assessment can be obtained by hovering over the relevant question.

Please complete all fields. If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

Introduction

Service submitting the proposal:	Regeneration and Major Projects and Transport
Name of person completing the assessment:	Andy Kerr
Job title:	Head of Regeneration Programmes
Directorate:	Economy and Place
Date Completed:	11/11/20
Date Approved (form to be checked by head of service):	Andy Kerr 11/11/20

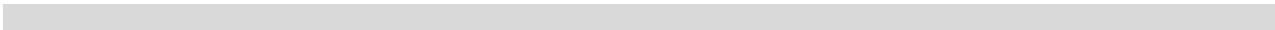
Section 1: What is the proposal?

1.1	<p>Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed?</p> <p>The ongoing extension of the city centre footstreets in response to Covid-19 that were initially introduced through Economic recovery strategy (COVID-19): Transport and Place Strategy</p>
1.2	<p>What are the main aims of the proposal?</p> <p>Under the city's economic recovery plan and government's Safer Public Place guidance in response to the covid 19 pandemic, a Transport and Place Strategy was introduced, with an accompanying EIA. Within this strategy a number of the city centre footstreets were extended to allow social distancing and to allow businesses to continue to operate during the pandemic. The footstreet hours were also extended from 5pm to 8pm. These measures were for an initial 6 month period and are due to expire on 14 December. It is proposed to extend a number of these measures until September 2021 in response to the ongoing pandemic, but to improve the mitigations in place for those who have been adversely affected by their introduction. It is also proposed that some of the temporary extensions may become permanent, but this will require a separate formal statutory process in the future. This will require further EIAs to assess the impact in making decisions at that point.</p>
1.3	<p>What are the key outcomes?</p> <p>Key outcomes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the temporary extension of the city centre footstreets until 8pm that were implemented in Summer 2020 in response to Covid-19 will continue until September 2021, except for Monk Bar to Deangate and College Green which will be removed from the footstreet area to increase blue badge car parking capacity on the edge of the footstreet area - based on feedback and discussions with groups of disabled people a number of revised mitigations are to be put in place including removing the taxi shuttle service from Monk Bar car park to be replaced by increased blue badge parking on the edge of the footstreets; creation of a single information point on disabled parking, quality of access, benches, disabled toilets and other relevant information; the council to undertake a full strategic review of city centre parking and disabled access to include a review of shopmobility, identifying gold standard disabled parking options, a city centre shuttle service, and delivery hubs. - proposals that some of the temporary footstreets may become permanent, but with a formal future process required with further EIAs and consideration of the impact on all.

Section 2: Evidence

What data / evidence is available to support the proposal and understand its likely impact? (e.g. hate crime figures, obesity levels, recycling statistics)

2.1	<p>Current government guidance around social distancing, and positive health/ pandemic management impacts is widely available, and updated regularly. The UK is currently being managed daily through an alert management system, in order to balance the social and economic impacts of the approach with health/ pandemic management imperatives</p> <p>Since the footstreets were extended under the emergency covid measures there has been ongoing monitoring of the situation, and a major engagement exercise with those affected by the footstreet extensions, which is set out below.</p>
2.2	<p>What public / stakeholder consultation has been undertaken and what were the findings?</p> <p>We have engaged c450 individuals as well as advocacy groups representing thousands of disabled people across the city. The open community brief details the main themes and challenges which these proposals seek to address, and the summary of conversations with the city's businesses and representative groups.</p> <p>The principles of the footstreets extension is broadly supported by a majority of respondents to the citywide survey, which is also reflected in the support from residents identifying as disabled. There are tangible benefits for many, in particular blind and partially sighted and older people. However, the desire from many for footstreets and spaces to be vehicle free, while other Blue Badge holders request access to the otherwise pedestrianised roads, appear incompatible. These objections are articulated in a petition signed by 1093 people, including 501 York residents, calling for the reversal of the extensions.</p>
2.3	<p>Are there any other initiatives that may produce a combined impact with this proposal? (e.g. will the same individuals / communities of identity also be impacted by a different project or policy?)</p> <p>Parking measures within the city centre. The impacts of this initiative are considered within this assessment.</p>



Section 3: Impact on One Planet principles

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on residents or staff. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on the ten One Planet principles.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu. If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

Equity and Local Economy

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.1	Impact positively on the business community in York?	Positive	The proposals will enable the continued operation of businesses in York city centre that the extended footstreets have facilitated. There is unanimous support for the continuation of the temporary footstreets in response to COVID-19 from business representative groups, although some individual businesses have objected due to the impact on deliveries. Whilst this can be an inconvenience to those affected, the space created for pavement cafe licences by the footstreets have been fundamental to the ability of those businesses to open and operate. On balance the impact is therefore viewed as positive.
3.2	Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Positive	Whilst the proposals have not created additional employment opportunities they have been vital to allow businesses to reopen which in turn has safeguarded jobs and employment.
3.3	Help improve the lives of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups?	Mixed	The proposals as a whole are designed to support the economic robustness and social function of the City Centre, particularly saving jobs in the service sector which has general low wages. The footstreets have also been well received by many groups with mental health and physical disabilities, improving the environment and reducing the conflict with vehicles, particularly those with visual impairments.

Health & Happiness

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.4	Improve the physical health or emotional wellbeing of residents or staff?	Positive	The proposed measures are likely to have a positive impact on emotional wellbeing of residents and visitors to the city centre. For example, -> enabling adherence of social distancing which will positively impact on health physically, and may ease concerns of those worried about being able to distance within the city centre -> business owners concerned about their long-term viability and wanting to remain open, and their employees concerned about their income -> business owners wanting to open safely.
3.5	Help reduce health inequalities?	Positive	These measures allow most individuals to move safely around the city centre, enabling access to public spaces whilst managing the pandemic and its health impacts.
3.6	Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	Positive	Measures enable individuals to take responsibility for their own health (and that of others) by adhering to social distancing measures, reinforced by appropriate signage from the local authority.
3.7	Reduce crime or fear of crime?	Positive	The extended footstreets are enabling businesses to remain open, reducing the number of closed shops and vacant premises that could lead to anti-social behaviour and vandalism, and the perception of an unsafe city centre
3.8	Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Neutral	Proposals do not specifically target children or young people.

Culture & Community

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9	Help bring communities together?	Positive	The proposals have allowed the reopening and continued operation of the city centre area; markets, shops, services and public spaces. This has helped to bring the local community together in terms of being able to support city centre businesses safely. Open public areas have provided space for individuals and groups within the community to meet safely, whilst adhering to social distancing.
3.10	Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?	Mixed	Reopening the city centre has allowed businesses to reopen, which is likely to improve access to services for many residents. Displacement of parking for blue-badge holders has made accessing services more difficult, and some of the initial mitigations were deemed to be unsuitable by some blue badge holders. The revised mitigations however are based on feedback from those affected and will improve the availability of blue badge parking in close proximity to the city centre. However, those with mobility issues who do not use a mobility aid will have further to walk to access the heart of the footstreet area.
3.11	Improve the cultural offerings of York?	Positive	The temporary footstreets has allowed and will continue to allow the animation of the footstreet area with events such as the College Green, managed outdoor seating space in the summer, and the York Food Festival, and for these events to be spread more widely across the city centre.

3.12	Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?	Positive	The temporary footstreets have created the space and capacity to allow residents and visitors to comply with social distancing guidance.
Zero Carbon and Sustainable Water			
Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.13	Minimise the amount of energy we use and / or reduce the amount of energy we pay for? E.g. through the use of low or zero carbon sources of energy?	Neutral	Whilst the extended footstreets displace vehicles from that area they do not necessarily reduce journeys.
3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use and/or reduce the amount of water we pay for?	Neutral	These proposals have no direct impact on water use.
Zero Waste			
Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.15	Reduce waste and the amount of money we pay to dispose of waste by maximising reuse and/or recycling of materials?	Neutral	No impact
Sustainable Transport			
Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.16	Encourage the use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and public transport?	Positive	Extension of the footstreets is likely to affect how people travel to the city centre positively and the priority measures are aligned with a broader transport and place strategy designed to lock in sustainable transport benefits accruing over the COVID lockdown period.
3.17	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?	Positive	Extending footstreets will likely have a positive impact on local air quality to those streets, as restricting traffic movement within the city centre. Enabling a greater area of the city centre to be opened for pedestrian access may also encourage more sustainable travel methods to be taken to reach the city centre. Likely to cause displaced emissions for blue badge holders parking further from the city centre.
Sustainable Materials			
Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.18	Minimise the environmental impact of the goods and services used?	Neutral	No impact
Local and Sustainable Food			
Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.19	Maximise opportunities to support local and sustainable food initiatives?	Neutral	No impact
Land Use and Wildlife			
Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.20	Maximise opportunities to conserve or enhance the natural environment?	Mixed	As previously stated, likely to have an ongoing positive impact on local air quality due to extension of footstreets. Open city centre businesses may encourage more people to travel to the city centre. Wider social distancing measures may mean that this travel is undertaken through unsustainable means (e.g. car). reopening the Centre will draw people away from less urban environments which they may have been frequenting more often than usual during lockdown, reducing pressure on the natural environment. There are unlikely to be more direct impacts on the natural environment given the urban built up nature
3.21	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Positive	The removal of vehicles from key heritage areas such as King's Square helps to improve the visual amenity of the space and setting. Ensuring the economic viability of the city centre will enable future investment in the built environment from freeholders and stakeholders
3.22	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Positive	As above, the removal of cars from the heritage environment does enable the character of York's history to be better enjoyed and understood. Reopening and reanimating the centre supports its economic viability, allowing investment from freeholders and stakeholders to be maintained.
3.23	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Positive	The extended footstreets include two public squares which allows more space of the public to enjoy without competing with vehicles.
3.40	Additional space to comment on the impacts		
There are a number of negative or mixed impacts outlined within this assessment. These measures should be considered within the broader context of national legislation around enabling the opening of non-essential retail whilst ensuring public safety through social distancing measures.			

Section 4: Impact on Equalities and Human Rights

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on staff or residents. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on **advancing equalities and human rights** and should build on the impacts you identified in the previous section.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.
If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'

Equalities

Will the proposal **adversely impact** upon 'communities of identity'?
Will it **help advance equality** or **foster good relations** between people in 'communities of identity'?

		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
4.1	Age	Mixed	<p>The proposals have a mixed impact. Many older people have benefited due to the removal of conflict with vehicles in footstreet areas, which means that those who are slower or unsure on their feet have a safer environment. However, older people may also be more likely to have a blue badge and may have previously parked in the extended footstreets and now have further to walk.</p> <p>People of all ages have on the whole been positively affected by the footstreets, which have enabled social distancing, an enhanced environment and have protect businesses and jobs. 70% of respondents to the Our Big Conversation are in favour of the footstreets.</p>
4.2	Disability	Mixed	<p>The majority of people who identify as disabled that responded to Our Big Conversation are in favour of the extension of the footstreets (60%), and more respondents agree with the safety principles behind the footstreets than disagree. The in depth discussions with disabled people and advocacy groups have reflected that many disabled people have benefited from the footstreet extensions. This is particularly the case for those with visual impairments and mobility issues that do not rely on a car and blue badge parking due to the reduction in conflict with vehicles and cyclists.</p> <p>However, a large number of those responding to our engagement do not believe the existing mitigation measures offer an adequate replacement for the loss of on-street parking for approximately 40 vehicles within the now pedestrianised area. In some cases the impact has been manageable, with other modes of transport, the taxi shuttle, or a longer walk from car to destination being achievable.</p> <p>However, for some who the above are not alternative solutions the removal of the ability to park in those areas has had a significant impact, and reduced the prospects of them visiting the city centre. They remain strongly of the view that the footstreet extensions should end immediately. Whilst the removal of College Green from the footstreets will help by reinstating a considerable number of spaces much closer to all city centre services, the journey for those with the most limited mobility who do not use a mobility aid may find it too far to walk. The proposed mitigations acknowledge this, reinstating closer parking in several locations alongside a mix of responses to meet diverse needs. These include improved information, reviews of existing parking and mobility aid provision as well as longer term developments of gold standard car parks and routes to city centres, and a feasibility study for city centre shuttle service to explore options to continue to address and improve York's access offer.</p>
4.3	Gender	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact.
4.4	Gender Reassignment	Neutral	
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact

4.6	Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.7	Race	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.8	Religion or belief	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.9	Sexual orientation	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact
4.10	Carer	Mixed	The impact on carers reflects the impact on those with disabilities, in that some groups who require care have benefited from the extended footstreets, whereas blue badge holders who wish to park in the footstreet areas have not.
4.11	Lowest income groups	Positive	The extended footstreets have helped businesses to reopen, particularly in sectors that have traditionally low pay.
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to have an impact.

Human Rights	
Consider how a human rights approach is evident in the proposal	

		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
4.13	Right to education	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.17	Freedom of expression	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination	Neutral	Proposals are not expected to impact.
4.19	Other Rights	Neutral	These proposals impact on the ability of people to move freely around the city centre. However this is required to ensure social distancing can be maintained.

4.20	Additional space to comment on the impacts
<p>In all cases, appropriate social distancing measures implemented are likely to have a positive impact on the overall health of the population by enabling people to adhere to social distancing, and therefore reducing the potential to spread / exposure to COVID-19.</p>	



Section 5: Planning for Improvement

5.1	What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on the One Planet principles? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
	The proposal considers the safety of residents and visitors to the city centre given the current and ongoing social distancing measures. The proposals enable changes to be made and adaptations to take place in the city centre as any changes to social distancing measures are made.

5.2	What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on equalities and human rights? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
	The initial extension of the footstreets in response to Covid-19 were brought in at pace under emergency powers in response to the pandemic. They were accompanied by a number of mitigations to offset the impact on anyone who may be negatively affected. During the summer and autumn an in-depth engagement exercise has been undertaken with those individuals and groups to understand the personal impact on them and how any mitigations and measures can be revised and improved. This has resulted in a number of new actions that will accompany the continuation of the extended footstreets, and the commissioning of a strategic review of car parking and access for disabled people.

5.3	Going forward, what further evidence or consultation is needed to ensure the proposal delivers its intended benefits? e.g. consultation with specific vulnerable groups, additional data)
	The engagement undertaken to date is based on the "My" principles that have been developed in York as an open conversation approach, where the debate remains ongoing to make change together. The mitigations developed to date will continue to be considered and refined, whilst the strategic review of parking and access to the city will remain embedded in the engagement approach. Working collaboratively we can continue to improve York's accessibility offer.

5.4	Please record any outstanding actions needed to maximise benefits or minimise negative impacts in relation to this proposal? (Expand / insert more rows if needed)
-----	---

Action	Person(s)	Due date
Ongoing Business Community Engagement	Andy Kerr/Gareth Wilce	Ongoing
Ongoing consultation and liaison with communities of interest	Andy Kerr/Gareth Wilce	Ongoing
Ongoing liaison with blue badge holders	Andy Kerr/Gareth Wilce	Ongoing
Continuous review of the impact of highway measures, changes to government guidance, and compliance with equalities guidance, and implement the mitigations set out in the report	Tony Clarke	Ongoing
Begin the formal process to make some of the temporary footstreets permanent, with full EIAs	Tony Clarke	Spring 2021
Undertake a strategic review of York's parking and access offer	James Gilchrist	Summer 2021

In the One Planet / Equalities section of your Executive report, please briefly summarise the changes you have made (or intend to make) in order to improve the social, economic and environmental impact of your proposal.

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Executive**26 August 2021**

Report of the Assistant Director of Policy and Strategy
Portfolio of the Executive Member for the Environment and Climate
Change

**York Community Woodland community co-design vision and
process for selecting capital funding and delivery partner****Summary**

1. The report summarises the outcomes of the community co-design and stakeholder engagement work to inform final woodland design
2. It also sets out a recommended process for agreeing the final woodland design plan, the external capital funding source to support woodland creation and management and appointment of a woodland creation delivery partner.
3. Extremely ambitious project timescales were established at the outset, with significant milestones to achieve before planting could commence. All milestones have been met to date and the project is running on time and within budget. The success of securing capital grant funding will reduce the council's call-off from the Northern Forest budget by almost £1m.

Recommendations

4. Executive is asked to:
 - i. Note the views of residents and stakeholders gained through community consultation and approve the community woodland vision and woodland name

Reason: To ensure the York Community Woodland project fully reflects the views and priorities of local residents and stakeholders

- ii. Delegate Authority to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change to approve the final woodland design, select the source of external capital funding to support woodland creation and approve the carrying out of a procurement process to appoint a woodland creation delivery partner

Reason: To ensure a timely decision regarding woodland design in order to meet the 2021/22 tree planting season (Oct-Mar).

- iii. Delegate Authority for the Director of Governance to take such steps as are necessary to enter into the funding agreement and to procure, award and enter in the resulting contracts for the appointment of a woodland creation delivery partner should the Executive member for Environment and Climate Change select the White Rose Forest Trees for Climate fund as the external capital funding source to support York Community Woodland delivery.

Reason: To ensure timely entry into the lease to meet project deadlines.

- iv. Delegate Authority to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change to approve the publication of any necessary 'open space' disposal Notice under S. 123 of the Local Government Act 1992 and to consider any comments received from the public in response to such Notice should the Executive member for Environment and Climate Change select Forestry England as the external capital funding source to support York Community Woodland delivery in return for the council granting Forestry England a long term lease of the land.

Reason: To ensure timely entry into the lease to meet project deadlines.

- v. Delegate Authority for the Director of Governance to take such steps as are necessary to enter into the resulting lease with Secretary of State for Environment Food and Rural Affairs for the York Community Woodland site at Knapton should the Executive member for Environment and Climate Change select Forestry England as the external capital funding source to support York Community Woodland delivery.

Reason: To ensure timely selection and appointment of a woodland creation delivery partner to meet project deadlines.

Background

5. Executive considered a report in August 2020 setting out the council's vision and objectives for York Community Woodland in pursuit of its ambition to reduce carbon emissions and plant 50,000 trees by 2023. The report paved the way for a significant land purchase to the west of York near Knapton village using c£1.61m capital funding from the council's £3m Northern Forest (NF) budget.
6. Project objectives include a nature based solution to climate change mitigation, a new amenity woodland connecting more people with nature to improve peoples' health and wellbeing, more diverse habitats to support wildlife and the recovery of threatened species and new green employment, volunteering and nature based learning opportunities.
7. Executive called on officers to minimise further call on the NF budget by securing as much external revenue and capital grants as possible to cover woodland design, woodland creation and ongoing management.
8. Officers have successfully secured £110,000 revenue grant from White Rose Forest (WRF) in return for agreeing to deliver 70 ha of new woodland. The grant covers the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years and is being used to support project management, site assessment (incl. related survey work), woodland concept design and community engagement. The council has also benefitted from expert advice and guidance from woodland professionals directly funded by WRF.
9. Officers have also secured £1,000 revenue grant from the Forestry Commission's Woodland Creation Planning Grant (WCPG) Stage 1 fund. This has been used to support follow-up site survey and concept design work. Forestry Commission has invited the council to submit a further WCPG Stage 2 application later this year, opening up a further £10,700 to support final woodland design and master planning work.
10. As part of the woodland community co-design process, a public consultation ran from 14th April – 26th May 2021. The goal of this

phase was to receive feedback on the vision, objectives and concept plans, and to guide the final stage of woodland design.

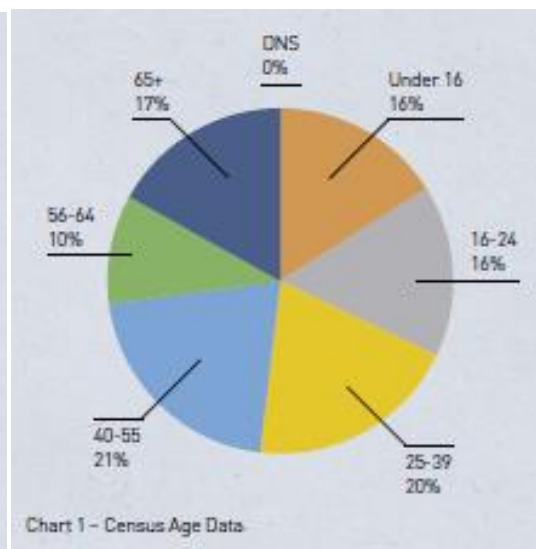
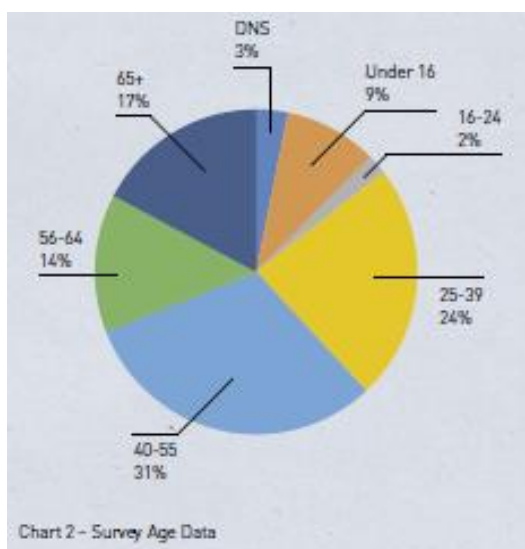
11. The consultation aimed to reach a wide and diverse audience from across the City of York. Access points were provided through an online survey, online meeting/webinars, postal surveys, school surveys and direct contact with a wide range of community & local interest groups, including parish councils, local ward councillors, local businesses, schools, colleges and universities.
12. The project's Stakeholder Advisory Group held its first meeting in March 2021. Made up of woodland experts, interest groups, local businesses, landowners and local members, the group provides advice and support for the co-design and overall project. An internal council officer group representing a wide range of service areas has also met regularly to help steer the project forward and ensure shared objectives are maximised.
13. Responses gathered through the co-design process have been analysed by the design team appointed to produce the final woodland design and is presented in the attached 'Community & Stakeholder Engagement Response Report' (see Annex 1).
14. Additional engagement activity in this period included:
 - Hosting local primary school children on site to help sow a wood meadow
 - Installation of a public noticeboard on site
 - Hosted the National Executive board of the Forestry Commission on a visit and tour of the woodland site
15. Woodland engagement now moves to phase 3 and will include:
 - Walking tours as part of York Environment Week
 - Tree planting opportunities to support delivery
 - Workshops and site specific events

Consultation

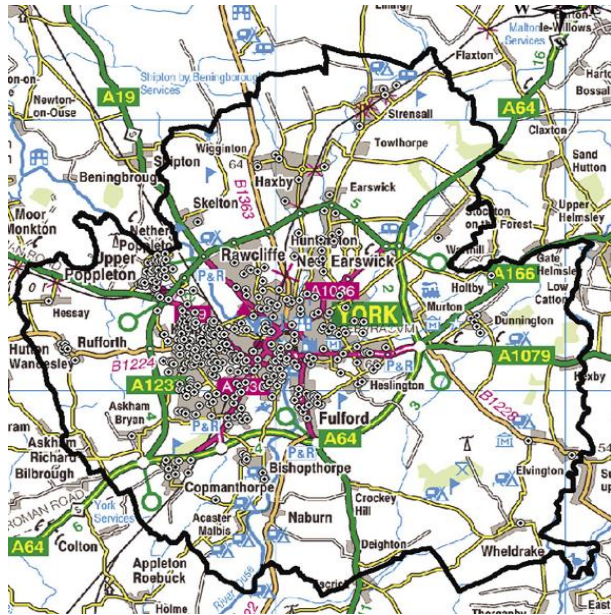
16. This report has been developed in consultation with partners from within the WRF and Community Forest Trust. Colleagues in the council's Legal, Property, Finance, Planning, Carbon Reduction and Procurement teams have also been consulted during the drafting of this report.

Community Co-design Process

17. Feedback from the co-design process is summarised in the 'Community & Stakeholder Engagement Response Report'. The report:
- Sets out the engagement process undertaken including who responded;
 - Summarises the key themes and messages emerging from the 6-week community and stakeholder engagement process;
 - Identifies woodland design features to be carried forward into the final woodland design masterplan;
 - Identifies the key issues and concerns raised by the public and suggests suitable council responses and mitigations.
18. Over 780 responses were received. The breakdown of respondents by age is shown below and compared to census data. These charts show that young people were less well represented within the main survey, and the 40-55 year olds group slightly over represented. It should be noted that these charts do not include the school survey respondents, all 54 of whom were under 16. With this in mind, the overall engagement exercise did reach groups of all ages.



19. Geographically, responses to the consultation were well distributed across the city. A concentration of responses were received from residents close to the site, which is to be expected.



20. Overall the consultation programme is considered to have been wide reaching and successful in engaging people from all walks of life, including harder to reach groups. The variety of feedback methods was appropriate for the scale of the scheme and there was plenty of time for respondents to provide their feedback.

Woodland vision

21. The current woodland vision (as set out in Section 1 of the report) is supported by 78% of those responding to the survey. Analysis of the detailed responses suggested that an additional reference to carbon capture/environmental benefits be added to reflect what members of the public consider the key objectives. Subsequently it is proposed the Woodland Vision be revised to:

*"The new woodland will be a well-designed, bio-diverse, green space providing a place for peaceful contemplation and leisure for the people of York. This will create a new stray for the city, **support the climate change ambition**, enhance the setting of the city and make York an even greater place to live, work and visit."*

Project objectives

22. Respondents were asked to identify which of the five objectives were most important to them. The results were:

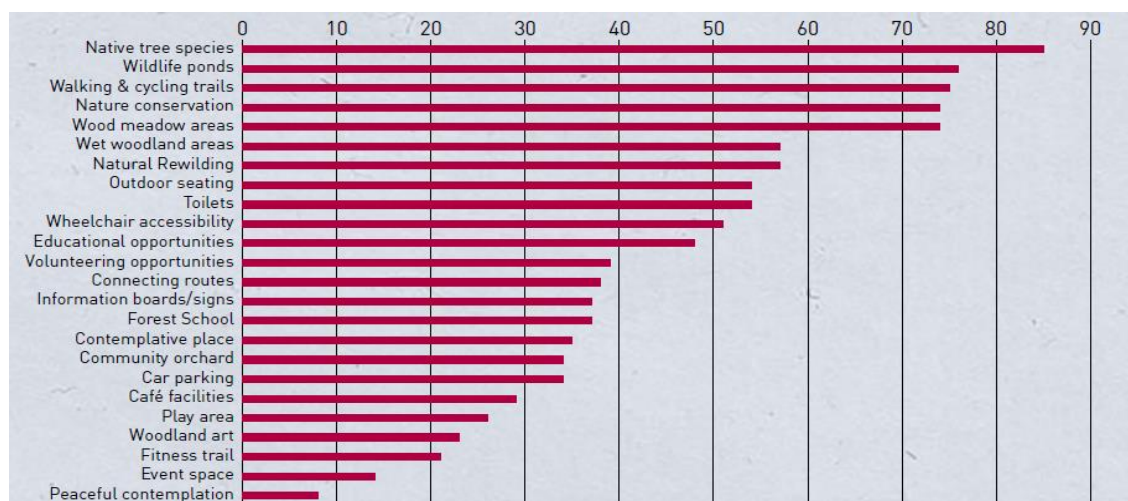
- 96% see increasing biodiversity and creating habitats as an important function of the woodland.
- 91% see carbon capture as an important function of the woodland.
- 91% see access to green space for health and wellbeing as an important function of the woodland.
- 76% want to see York’s active travel network enhanced to include new walking and cycling routes as part of YCW.
- 74% see the creation of new green jobs and the development of skills/volunteering opportunities as an important function of the woodland.

23. It is clear that the biodiversity and ecological value of the woodland, along with its environmental function are key for respondents. The space should be useable, but trees, habitats and wildlife should take priority. The project design will be sensitive to the importance of the plants and wildlife, whilst maintaining useable areas for leisure and mindfulness.

24. Overall, the public responses aligned well with the original project objectives. These will be retained to drive the project forward.

Woodland features

25. Respondents were asked to rank woodland features in order of importance, providing feedback on what elements they would like to see included in the final design. The results were as follows (a larger version of this table is attached at Annex 2:



26. It is clear that respondents valued natural features above built forms and hardstanding areas. Planting, ponds and trails should be included in the design, alongside areas of different habitat types to support a variety of wildlife.
27. Educational and volunteering opportunities should be provided; a forest school and informal space for community events will be included. While the consultation has shown little demand for formal events space, visitor centre or café on site at this stage. There is anecdotal evidence that these features are wanted and provision will be made for them to be incorporated in the future as the woodland matures and becomes a more established space.
28. The majority of respondents intended to walk or cycle to the woodland. The site is already well served by footpaths, cycle routes and bridle ways and these will be retained through the proposals to encourage sustainable travel. An accessible network of paths is planned for the site for all user groups as is cycle parking.
29. Some visitors will drive; therefore, to maximise accessibility for all users, provision will be made for some car parking, disabled parking, minibus parking and a drop-off area. These will be carefully planned to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum.

Community involvement

30. Respondents are very keen to be involved in the creation and long-term use of the Woodland. Provision should be made for volunteers and educational pursuits within the woodland design, as well as informal community space.
31. Respondents consider the long-term management of the woodland to be an important element in its success. Funding and provision for this must be secured through the proposal's development and accommodated within the detailed design.
32. We will ensure that opportunities for ongoing community engagement (phase 2) are hardwired into the design through the inclusion of coppice areas, orchards and other community areas.

Naming options

33. The co-design consultation asked the public to suggest a name for the woodland receiving 322 answers and comments across all platforms (online survey, primary school survey and public comment). Support was mostly shown for:
- York Community Woodland
 - York Wood
 - Knapton Wood
34. The working title of York Community Woodland is well-received and gained recognition through the engagement process. The concept of a 'Community' woodland represents a contemporary view of woodland creation and clearly differentiates it from ancient woodlands in the area. It is therefore recommended that this name be retained.

Technical responses

35. In addition to the survey, we also received official responses to the co-design from: The Woodland Trust, Natural England, Forestry Commission, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Forestry England.
36. Responses are summarised in the attached report and show overwhelming support for the project, with Forestry England commenting that they, "*strongly support the feedback received at consultation 'for the simple enjoyment of woodland'*"

Final Woodland Design Brief

37. CYC appointed the services of an expert woodland design consultant following a competitive procurement exercise in May/June 2021. Pegasus Planning Ltd won the contract and commenced the process of drawing up a proposed final woodland design masterplan on 14 June 2021 working to the following brief:

The final woodland design will:

- deliver the community woodland vision and show how the design meets project objectives following community and stakeholder consultation

- be Forestry Commission (FC) UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) compliant and meet FC Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements
 - remain within White Rose Forest (Trees for Climate), Forestry Commission (English Woodland Creation Offer) and Forestry England (Woodland Partnership Offer) funding criteria
 - enable achievement of agreed project success measures (See attached as Annex 3)
38. An internal council officer group has met regularly to help steer woodland design and project delivery with representatives from the council's planning, transport, health and wellbeing, ecology, archaeology, Public Rights of Way, finance, procurement, communities and carbon reduction teams.
39. Pegasus Planning Ltd will submit the final draft woodland design and master plan to CYC by 16 August. This will include a schedule of indicative capital costs and an indicative implementation schedule showing suggested key phases of woodland creation.
40. Executive is recommended to delegate Authority to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Place, the Chief Finance Officer and Director of Governance (or her delegated officers) to approve the final woodland design
41. Once approved officers will submit the woodland design to Forestry England for woodland approval as part of a Forestry England Woodland Creation Planning Grant Stage 2 application.

Capital funding Options for woodland creation and management

42. There are a number of capital funding streams available to support woodland creation and ongoing management. In May 2021, officers sent a request for information questionnaire to all known funding bodies and received a good response (See Annex 4 for a summary of these responses).
43. Analysis of the responses enabled officers to evaluate the various funding sources against project objectives and timescales. Two sources in particular were considered to offer

the best alignment and package of benefits - the White Rose Forest Trees for Climate (TfC) grant fund and the Forestry England Woodland Partnership (WP) 'offer' (see Annex 5 for a summary of the evaluation exercise).

44. These capital funding opportunities represent two very different propositions:
 - The TfC opportunity is essentially a straightforward capital grant funding 100% of woodland creation and 15 years woodland management costs. It involves CYC retaining full responsibility for procuring and managing the services of a woodland creation delivery partner to physically create and then maintain the woodland on its behalf.
 - The WP offer involves Forestry England taking full responsibility for woodland creation and ongoing management/maintenance in return for a long-term lease (60-120 years) for which CYC would receive an annual rental income.
45. Officers have actively pursued these grant funding opportunities over several months and, as of 30 July 2021, can confirm that CYC has been successful in securing formal offers from both the WRF (TfC) and Forestry England (WP), subject to final woodland design and negotiated funding agreements. Officers are currently exploring and negotiating the finer terms of these offers and will conduct a further options appraisal with recommendation for Executive member consideration once this process is finalised towards the end of August.
46. It is recommended that Executive delegates Authority for the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change to consider this options appraisal and approve the recommended capital funding stream for woodland creation and management at a future Executive Member Decision session.

Woodland Creation Delivery Partner

47. The route City of York Council (CYC) takes regarding woodland creation and ongoing management will be determined by the funding route:

- White Rose Forest TfC funding – CYC will conduct a procurement process to appoint an external woodland creation delivery partner to undertake woodland creation and ongoing (15yrs) management and maintenance
 - Forestry England WP funding – Forestry England will take full responsibility for woodland creation and ongoing woodland management through a 60-120 year lease agreement with CYC.
48. Should the WRF funding be the preferred funding route officers will commence the procurement of a woodland creation delivery partner to physically deliver the woodland masterplan. Executive is recommended to delegate Authority to the Director of Governance to take such steps as are necessary to enter into the funding agreement and to procure, award and enter into the resulting contracts for the appointment of this delivery partner.
49. Should the Forestry England offer be the preferred funding route Executive is recommended to delegate Authority for the Director of Governance to take such steps as are necessary to negotiate and enter into the resulting lease with Secretary of State for Environment Food and Rural Affairs for the York Community Woodland site at Knapton.

Council Plan

50. The project accords with the Council Plan 2019-2023 in regard to the following core outcomes of the Plan:
- A greener and cleaner city – Carbon sequestration and amenity green space
 - Getting around sustainably – New pedestrian and cycle routes
 - Good health and wellbeing – Creation of new open spaces to support healthy lifestyles for residents, businesses and visitors.
 - Safe communities and culture for all – A range of leisure opportunities for residents
 - Well paid jobs and an inclusive economy – Green skills development

Implications

- **Financial** – The council funded the land purchase cost of £1.61m in 2020/21. Accessing external grant to fully fund the capital costs of woodland creation and ongoing woodland management will meet the council’s objective to minimise call on the CYC capital budgets. The two funding offers being considered for woodland creation and management means the project can continue without council subsidy.
- **Human Resources** – None directly associated with this report
- **Equalities** – A full Equalities Impact Assessment will be carried out for the Final Woodland Design and accompany the report at the EMDS. The Impact Assessment will be continuously monitored as the project progresses.

- **Legal** –

- White Rose Forest Trees for Climate (TfC) grant fund

In the event the TfC grant fund is the selected grant funding route, the procurement process to select the delivery partner shall be undertaken in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council’s Contract Procedure Rules.

The grant funding proposal will be reviewed to ensure it is in compliance with the Subsidy Control regime (previously State Aid).

- Forestry England Woodland Partnership (WP) offer

Any land owned by the Council is classed as ‘open space’ under S.336 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 if it is (or arguably has recently been) “used for the purposes of public recreation”). It is understood that following invitation by the Council, a small number of the public (approximately 10 – 15 people per day) have accessed a small part of the proposed woodland site (known as “Bell Field”) between 4th August 2021 and 15th August 2021 between the hours of 10am – 4pm (outside of which hours the gate providing access to the land was kept locked). In case access for recreation by invitation during that limited period was sufficient for the land to be classed as “open space” (for the purposes of S.336 T CPA1990), it is recommended that before the Council potentially grants a lease of the land to Forestry England (or any other third party) it would

be prudent to publish a Notice in a local newspaper advising of such proposed disposal and then consider any comments/objections received in response to such Notice in accordance with S.123(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Legal services will continue to be consulted at appropriate points in time or as and when need arises at various stages of the project. Full legal implications of the funding and delivery partner decisions will accompany the report at the next EMDS.

- **Crime and Disorder** – None directly associated with this report
- **Information Technology** – None associated directly with this report
- **Property** – Property services will be consulted at appropriate points in time or as and when need arises at various stages of the project.
- **Other** – None associated directly with this report

Risk Management

51. The various funding streams featured in this report involve different levels of project risk with the Forestry England offer currently assessed as delivering the lowest woodland creation and ongoing management risks.
52. In-principle offers from WRF and Forestry England significantly reduces the risks around project funding.

Contact Details

Authors' names

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Chief Officer's name: Janie Berry
Title: Director of Governance

Report Approved ✓

Date 12/08/2021

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Name:
Title
Tel No.

Wards Affected: All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

- Executive report 27 August 2020: Creating a new woodland/Stray for York

Annexes

- Annex 1: YCW Community and stakeholder consultation report
- Annex 2: Summary of community responses re. woodland features
- Annex 3. Project success measures
- Annex 4. Summary of responses to the CYC funders' questionnaire
- Annex 5. Evaluation of funding sources against project objectives and timescales

YORK COMMUNITY WOODLAND

COMMUNITY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT RESPONSE REPORT

OUR SERVICES



DESIGN



ENVIRONMENT



PLANNING



ECONOMICS



HERITAGE



Nether Poppleton

Hessay

Roman Road

A1237

Knapton

Rufforth

Wetherby Road

Beckfield Lane

Bradley Lane

A1237

Askham Lane

Contents



Pavilion Court, Green Lane,
Garforth, Leeds LS25 2AF

Prepared by **Pegasus Design**
Pegasus Design is part of Pegasus Group Ltd.

Prepared on behalf of **City of York Council**
July 2021 | Project code P21-1688

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1.0

Introduction

1.1 City of York Council is creating an extensive community woodland on 194-acres of land to the West of York with the ambition to plant 50,000 trees by 2023. The project is currently known as York Community Woodland (YCW), with a new name to be decided as part of the engagement process.

1.2 The Council's high-level vision for the woodland is as follows:

"The new woodland will be a well-designed, bio-diverse, green space providing a place for peaceful contemplation and leisure for the people of York. This will create a new stray for the city, enhance the setting of the city and make York an even greater place to live, work and visit."

1.3 150 acres / 61 hectares of land have been purchased in the west of York for the creation of York Community Woodland and an additional 30 acres of land next to the A1237 is being considered for additional tree planting.

1.4 Together with adjoining land already owned by the council this has the potential to create around 194 acres / 78 hectares of new amenity woodland for York.

1.5 The land was purchased using part of a £3m Northern Forest budget, agreed at Budget Council in February 2020. In July the council joined the government's Northern Forest initiative which aims to plant 50 million new trees across the north of England. The initiative is a partnership between the Woodland Trust, Forestry Commission and other organisations committed to tree-planting across the North of England including the White Rose Forest which covers the Leeds City Region and York.

Purpose of Report

1.6 This report will summarise the recently completed phase of public engagement, known as the “co-design” phase. The purpose of the report is to:

- Set out the engagement process undertaken including who responded;
- Summarise the key themes and messages emerging from the 6-week community and stakeholder engagement process;
- Identify woodland design features to be carried forward into the final woodland design masterplan;
- Identify the key issues and concerns raised by the public and to suggest suitable council responses and mitigations.

1.7 The findings of this report will play a key role in the next steps of the design process.

2.0

Consultation Programme

2.1 The co-design phase of public engagement ran for 6 weeks, from 14th April to 26th May 2021. This phase is expected to be the key phase of engagement during the wider design process and the main goals were as follows:

- To provide the public with a series of platforms to express opinion on the concept designs of the YCW, with a focus to reach all audiences across the city of York;
- To provide the public accessible and simple channels to express opinion and feedback;
- To deliver a communication plan that promotes this engagement phase with a clear, holistic, co-design approach;
- To evidence all consultation feedback in a clear, streamlined way.

2.2 Ensuring that the consultation was accessible to all was key to its success, particularly as the exercise was undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic. The main form of feedback was through an online survey, online webinars were also undertaken, and various community groups were targeted directly. A postal option for the survey was also made available.

2.3 The consultation was promoted through a number of channels, providing details of how to access the survey or to join the webinars, these included:

- York City Council website & social media channels;
- The YCW newsletter and social media channels;
- Local media pieces (newspapers, etc);
- Community groups (including online forums, social media, etc);
- Ward and Parish Councillors;
- Local Schools, Colleges and Universities;
- Sports clubs;
- Charity groups (including those representing older and disabled people).

Survey

2.4 An online survey was hosted on the YCW website, alongside details of 3 Concept Designs to encourage feedback. The full survey is provided at **Appendix 1**. A mix of quantitative and qualitative questions were used to encourage wide ranging feedback.

Webinars

2.5 Members of the public were invited to attend online webinars where members of the project team were available to discuss the project and respond to questions. Feedback from these sessions was recorded and is included in the analysis in Section 4 of this report.

School Surveys

2.6 Alongside the full survey, a small survey was put together for school children and completed by classes at Rufforth Primary School and St Paul's Primary School. The survey is provided at **Appendix 2** and the feedback is included in Section 3.

Email Responses & Stakeholder Engagement

2.7 Additional community groups and stakeholders were contacted directly by the project team for feedback. A full list is provided in **Appendix 3**.

2.8 As part of the stakeholder engagement members of the project team attended the Knapton with Rufford Parish Council meeting on 4th May 2021 to present the project and answer questions.

2.9 Team members also attended a York Environment Forum meeting (Attendees list provided at **Appendix 4**) and hosted a Stakeholder Advisory Group meeting (Attendees list provided at **Appendix 5**). Feedback from all of these meeting was recorded and is included within the analysis in Section 4.

Responses

2.10 Full details of the responses received are provided below. The numbers received through the different engagement methods were as follows:

Survey	710
School survey	54
Webinars	8
Other events	2
Additional responses	9
Total	783

2.11 Overall the consultation programme is considered to have been wide reaching and successful in engaging people from all walks of life, including harder to reach groups. The variety of feedback methods was appropriate for the scale of the scheme and there was plenty of time for respondents to provide their feedback.

3.0

Statistical Analysis

3.1 The figures presented in this chapter come solely from the questionnaire responses. Other responses submitted by email, in the webinar, etc are covered in section 4 and section 5 of this report.

3.2 It is clear from the amount of responses that the engagement exercise was thorough and worthwhile. Members of the public have shown a great level of support and interest in the project and the majority of the responses align closely with the vision and objectives set out by the Council.

Headlines

- Over 780 responses.
- Over 550 people confirmed they had considered the three proposed concept designs.
- 98% support the creation of a new community woodland.
- 78% agree with the council's high-level vision for the woodland.

Monitoring

3.3 Respondents completing the survey were asked to provide their age (within a range of options) and postcode so that the reach and representation of the engagement exercise could be monitored.

Age

3.4 In terms of age, the responses given have been shown on the pie chart below, alongside a chart showing the age distribution of York (taken from the 2011 Census). These charts show that young people were less well represented within the main survey, and the 40-55 year olds group slightly over represented. It should be noted that these charts do not include the school survey respondents, all 54 of whom were under 16. With this in mind it is considered that the overall engagement exercise did reach groups of all ages, but that some younger people did not feel so strongly about the proposals that they felt the need to comment. This is not uncommon for a consultation of this type.

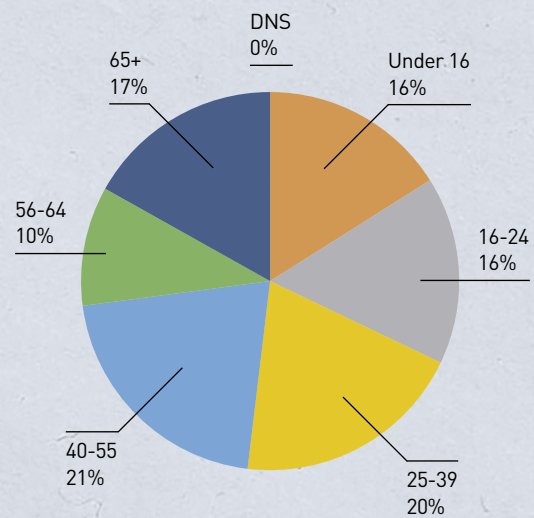


Chart 1 – Census Age Data

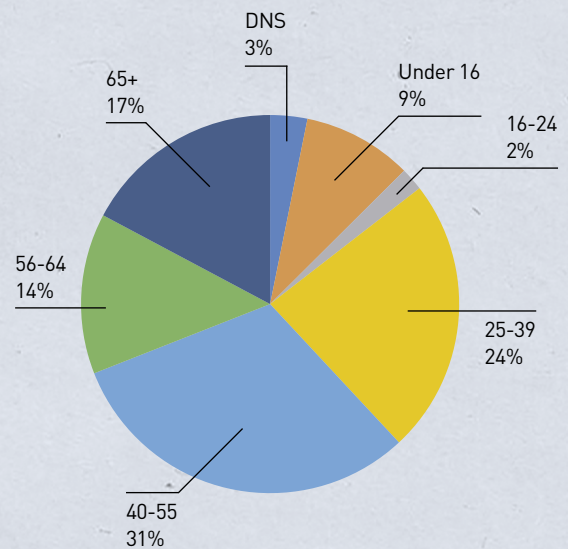


Chart 2 – Survey Age Data

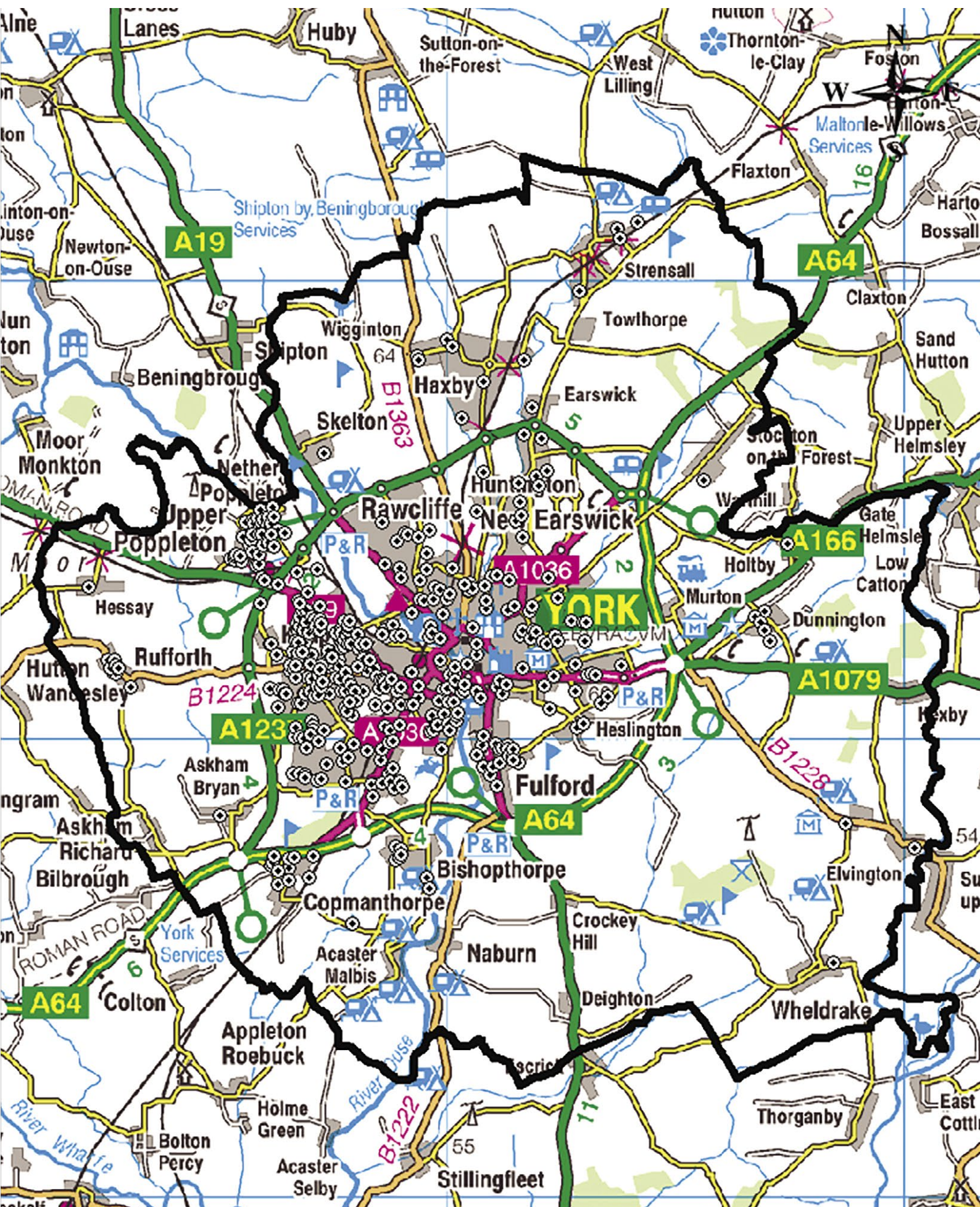
Geographical Reach

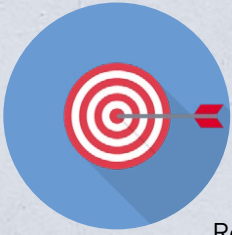
3.5 In terms of geographic reach, the below map shows the postcodes of those who responded. The map shows that members of the public from across the City of York engaged in the consultation, with some up to 15km away from the site, as well as a higher density of responses coming from the area nearest the woodland.

3.6 It was key that the consultation reached all areas of the City as the Woodland will be used by all, not just those closest to it. Engagement with those nearest the site was also key, to ensure a good understanding was gained regarding local issues, in particular concerning access, transport and parking. These issues are detailed later in the report.

3.7 Overall, the distribution of respondents shows that the consultation exercise was effective in engaging the wider community but also had a local emphasis on those who will be most affected by the proposals.

Y026	Holgate, Upper Poppleton, Nether Poppleton, Green Hammerton, Whixley, Hutton Wandesley, Cattal, Great Ouseburn, Moor Monkton Moor, Knapton, Little Ouseburn, Kirk Hammerton, Chapel Fields, Bilton Hags.	35%
Y024	Acomb, Holgate, South Bank, Chapelfields, Knavesmire, West Field, Dringhouses, Nunthorpe, Woodthorpe.	20%
Y023	Bilbrough, Nunthorpe, Copmanthorpe, Angram, Acaster Malbis, Bolton Percy, Rufforth, Acaster Selby, Ryther, Middlethorpe, Askham Bryan, Askham Richard, Holme Green, South Bank.	12%
Y010	Laythorpe, Fulford, Heslington, Osbaldwick, Walmgate Stray.	7%
Y031	Heworth, Tang Hall, Huntington, New Earswick.	6%
Y030	Clifton Moor, Skelton, Overton, Rawcliffe, Shipton, Beningbrough, Linton-on-Ouse, Newton-on-Ouse.	6%
Y032	Stockton on the Forest, Moor End, Haxby, New Earswick, Earswick, Towthorpe, Stensall, Huntington, Wigginton.	4%
Y019	Holtby, Escrick, Crockey Hill, Warthill, Riccall, Moor End, Thorganby, Wheldrake, Grimston, Kelfield, Hall Garth, Dunnington, Stillingfleet, Naburn.	2%
Y08	Harlthorpe, Osgodby Common, Camblesforth, Newland, Hambleton, West Haddlesey, Bubwith, Barlby, Skipwith, Gateforth, Temple Hirst, Foggathorpe, Cliffe, Chapel Haddlesey, Drax and North Yorkshire in East Riding of Yorkshire.	1%





Objectives

Respondents were asked to identify which of the five objectives were most important to them. The results were:

96% see increasing biodiversity and creating habitats as an important function of the woodland.

91% see carbon capture as an important function of the woodland.

91% see access to green space for health and wellbeing as an important function of the woodland.

Over three quarters (76%) want to see York's active travel network enhanced to include new walking and cycling routes as part of YCW.

74% see the creation of new green jobs and the development of skills/volunteering opportunities as an important function of the woodland.

KEY OUTCOMES

It is clear that the biodiversity and ecological value of the woodland, along with its environmental function are key for respondents. The space should be useable, but trees, habitats and wildlife should take priority.

The project design will be sensitive to the importance of the plants and wildlife, whilst maintaining useable areas for leisure and mindfulness.

The public responses aligned well with the objectives given so these should be retained to drive the project forward.



Woodland Features

Respondents were asked to rank woodland features in order of importance, providing feedback on what elements they would like to see included in the final design. The results were as follows:

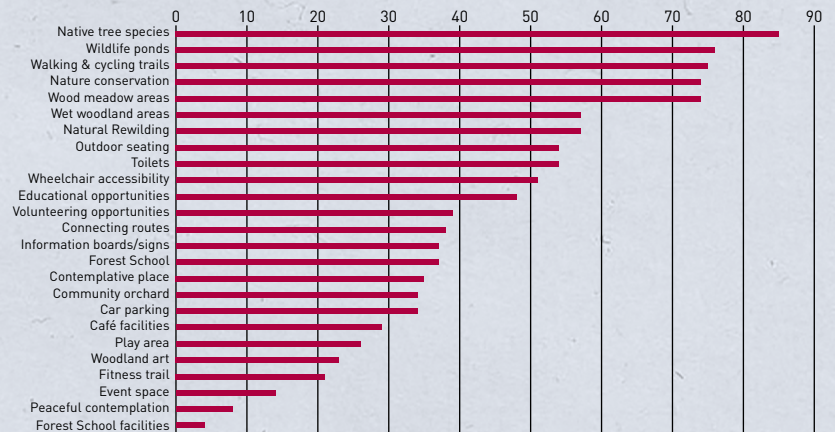
- Native tree species **85%**
- Wildlife ponds **76%**
- Walking & cycling trails **75%**
- Nature conservation **74%**
- Wood meadow areas **74%**
- Wet woodland areas **57%**
- Natural Rewilding **57%**
- Outdoor seating **54%**
- Toilets **54%**
- Wheelchair accessibility **51%**
- Educational opportunities **48%**
- Volunteering opportunities **39%**
- Connecting routes **38%**
- Information boards/signs **37%**
- Forest School **37%**
- Contemplative place **35%**
- Community orchard **34%**
- Car parking **34%**
- Café facilities **29%**
- Play area **26%**
- Woodland art **23%**
- Fitness trail **21%**
- Event space **14%**
- Peaceful contemplation **8%**
- Forest School facilities **4%**

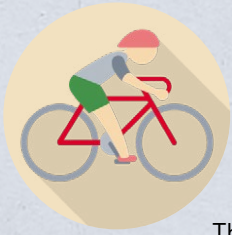
KEY OUTCOMES

It is clear that respondents valued natural features above built forms and hardstanding areas. Planting, ponds and trails will be included in the design, alongside areas of different habitat types to support a variety of wildlife.

Educational and volunteering opportunities will be provided for using low impact facilities and no formal events space, visitors centre or café will be included.

An accessible network of paths will also be included for all user groups.

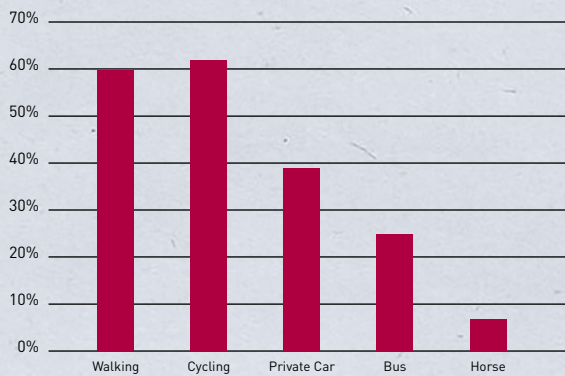




Transport

The survey asked how people were most likely to travel to the Woodland and the responses were as follows (more than one mode could be selected):

- 60%** anticipate walking to the woodland.
- 62%** anticipate cycling to the woodland.
- 39%** would travel by private car.
- 25%** would travel by bus.
- 7%** would travel by horse riding.

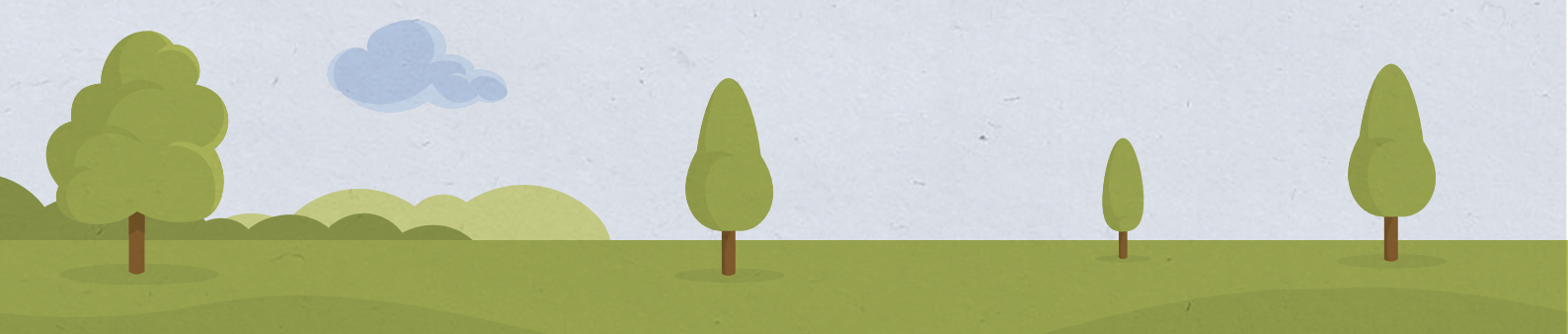


KEY OUTCOMES

The majority of respondents intended to walk or cycle to the woodland. The site is already well served by footpaths, cycle routes and bridle ways and these will be retained through the proposals to encourage sustainable travel.

Some visitors will drive, and a small amount of parking will be provided for this, away from local residents.

Provision will also be made for cycle parking, disabled parking, minibus parking and a drop-off point for visitors. All of these elements will be carefully incorporated to maximise accessibility whilst minimising the potential for disruption in the local area.





Community Involvement

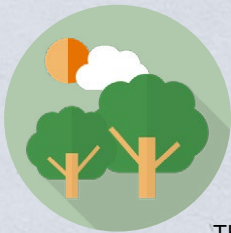
Respondents were asked if and how they would like to be involved in the creation of the Woodland, their responses were:

Over half of respondent want to be involved in tree planting.

26% want to be involved in citizens science projects.

A quarter want to help create trails.

13% would get involved in running events.



Maintenance

The survey asked how respondents thought the Woodland should be maintained, the feedback suggested:

28% thought the woodland could be maintained by the community.

22% thought a "Friends of YCW" group could maintain it.

23% thought York Council could maintain it.

13% thought a social enterprise could maintain it.

72% thought a mixture of the groups above would be best.

KEY OUTCOMES

Respondents are keen to be involved in the creation and ongoing maintenance of the woodland, fulfilling its purpose as a community facility.

The final design will include a management plan which will incorporate opportunities for volunteering and potential for on-going activities such as fruit harvests, forest schools and educational pursuits.

KEY OUTCOMES

A mixture of groups should be involved in maintaining the woodland to ensure it is well managed in perpetuity.

The final design will include a programme and funding for this, to safeguard the Woodland for generations to come.

4.0

Further Analysis

4.1 This section of the report provides an overview of the qualitative data submitted as part of the engagement exercise. This includes responses to the open-ended questions from the survey, as well as feedback from the webinars and separate email submissions made during the consultation period. It also includes responses from the following groups:

- York Civic Trust;
- Friends of Fishponds Wood and Beech Grove;
- Knapton Allotments Association;
- Residents of North Field Lane;
- York Rotary Clubs;
- Knapton with Rufford Parish Council;
- York Environment Forum;
- Stakeholder Advisory Group.

School Survey Responses

4.2 The school survey utilised different questions, as shown in **Appendix 2**, targeting the key objectives, what children want to see in the woodland and how they would use it. The responses are summarised below and align well with the feedback from the main survey. The overall emphasis being that natural features were key, alongside space for leisure and exercise.

- Approximately half saw useable green space as the main function of the woodland;
- One third thought improving biodiversity was important;
- Roughly 15% thought carbon reduction was a key function;
- The following features were most important to the children:
 - Flowers and trees 25%;
 - Somewhere to learn about nature 20%;
 - Space to run around 20%;
 - Somewhere to ride your bike 18%;
 - Somewhere to play 18%.

KEY OUTCOMES

The children's responses aligned with the vision and objectives – looking for a useable woodland space which can support a variety of wildlife, plants and trees.

Space for children's play areas should be included in the detailed design.

The Council's High-Level Vision

4.3 The Council's vision for the YCW, as stated in Section 1 of this report, was put to members of the public and stakeholders in the consultation. As set out in Section 3, 78% of those responding to the survey supported the vision as currently drafted. As part of the survey, participants were asked if they would make any changes to the vision.

4.4 Some participants took this opportunity to make more general comments on the proposed designs and those points will be considered under the relevant section of the chapter.

4.5 The list below summarises the additional elements which respondents felt should be included or given more emphasis in the vision statement. It is worth noting that most of these are included in the objectives proposed so may not need to be repeated here.

KEY OUTCOMES

The Woodland vision is widely supported and aligns with feedback from respondents.

An additional reference to carbon capture/environmental benefits should be added to reflect what members of the public consider to be the key objectives.

4.6 Proposals to add into the vision statement:

- Reference Carbon Capture / environmental sustainability / climate change;
- Well-managed into the future;
- More emphasis on biodiversity;
- Stronger direction / use of objectives;
- The goal should be to provide a place where all people can engage with the natural world;
- Balance between biodiversity and leisure use, is one a priority?
- The number of trees to be planted;
- Accessibility for all, including disabled people, horse riders and people with dogs;
- It should be accessible by sustainable modes of transport;
- More emphasis on community use;
- Use it to encourage activity / exercise and healthy lifestyles;
- Reference to educational aspects.

4.7 The majority of feedback from respondents aligned well with the vision which has been set out. Most requests for additions covered elements set out in the objectives and whilst linking these is key, it is not essential for them to be repeated in the vision.

4.8 The detailed designs will need to balance the creation and long-lasting maintenance of new habitats and biodiversity assets, whilst ensuring the YCW is a useable space for all members of the public, from dog-walkers, to disabled users, to children, horse riders and runners.

Objectives

4.9 The consultation included sharing 5 key objectives with respondents. These have been ranked by importance in Section 3, however there was also an opportunity for respondents to add other objectives which they felt were important. Again, some respondents used this opportunity to make design suggestions, these will be dealt with later. The suggested objectives submitted are summarised below:

- For the woodland to be multi-functional and appealing to all;
- Providing open space for those living in high density areas;
- Opportunity for foraging, reducing food waste;
- For the woodland to be easily accessible for all and well linked with sustainable transport opportunities;
- A way to engage with charities and other community groups;
- Accessibility for horse riders.

4.10 As shown in section 3, the key objectives for respondents were the nature and environment focused statements. This is a theme identified throughout the consultation, that respondents see the habitat creation and environmental benefits of the proposal as the most important aspect, with their use of the space coming second. Accessibility is important but respondents were clear that they do not want the woodland to be harmed by too much use.

4.11 Accessibility is clearly a key theme from these first two sections. This relates both to people travelling to the woodland without over-reliance on private cars, as well as ensuring that the woodland can be used by all members of the public. As set out in the travel section below, provision will be made to encourage sustainable transport methods as much as possible.

4.12 In terms of accessibility within the woodland, a network of different routes will be provided using a mixture of surfacing appropriate for different user groups. This will ensure there are paths for those with limited movement, families, cyclists and horse riders. This is considered further within the design feedback section below.

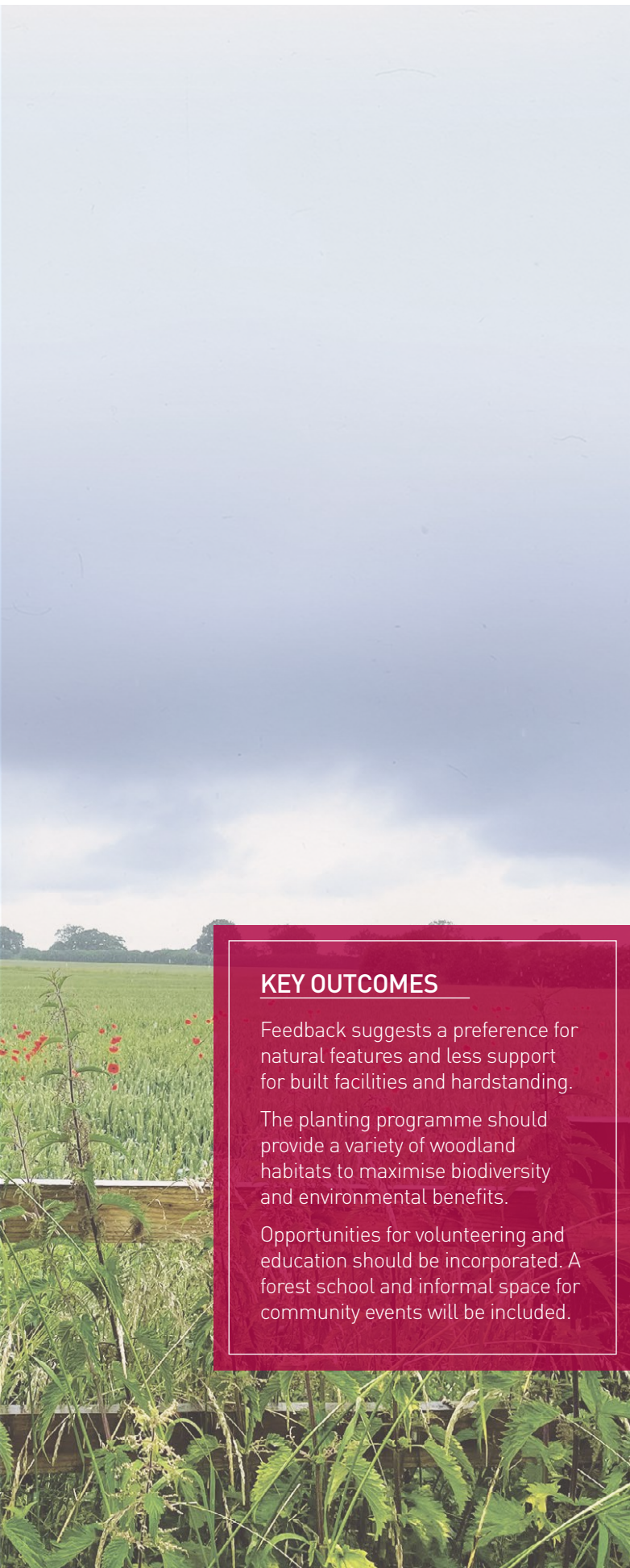
4.13 Overall, the feedback clearly showed that respondents aligned with the objectives set out by the Council and supported their implementation through the design process.

KEY OUTCOMES

The objectives reflect the public's feedback. Respondents clearly felt that nature and the environment should take precedence over humans dominating the space.

The design should include accessible routes for all users, areas of "untouched" woodland and carefully considered parking provision.





KEY OUTCOMES

Feedback suggests a preference for natural features and less support for built facilities and hardstanding.

The planting programme should provide a variety of woodland habitats to maximise biodiversity and environmental benefits.

Opportunities for volunteering and education should be incorporated. A forest school and informal space for community events will be included.

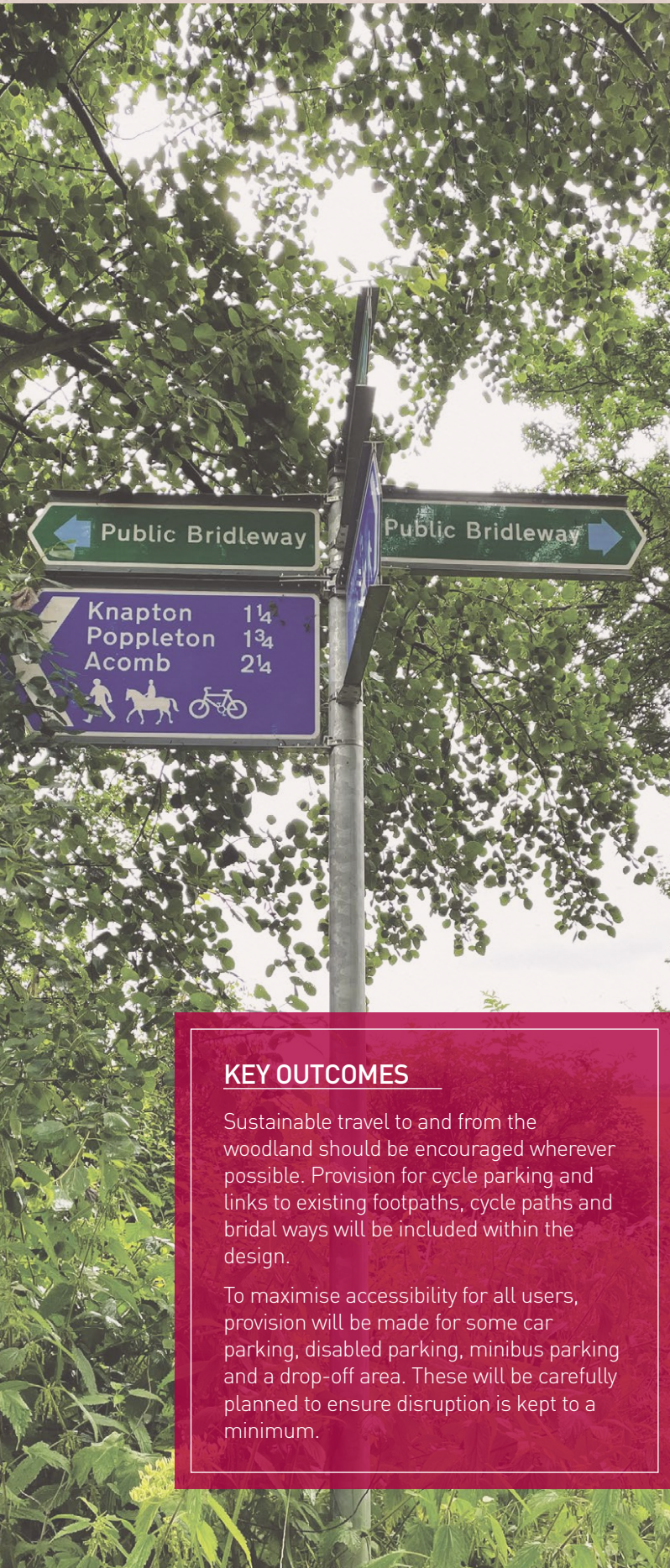
Features of the Woodland

4.14 As set out in section 3, respondents were asked to note the features of the woodland which were most important to them. The results will be carried through into the detailed design phase. Other suggested features are summarised under the Design feedback section.

4.15 It is clear from the statistics set out in Section 3 that respondents were more drawn to the natural features suggested for the woodland and were less keen for built form and hardstanding to be introduced if it could be avoided. This direction has been clear across the survey and further feedback with respondents clearly valuing the environmental benefits the woodland can provide over a visitor centre for example. This clearly aligns with the feedback received on the objectives presented.

4.16 In particular, feedback suggested that the woodland should provide a variety of habitat types and planting species to ensure the project can support the most wildlife possible. In line with the objectives, respondents also wanted to see opportunities for volunteering and education. Both of these key elements will be incorporated into the detailed designs.

4.17 Particular features which have been suggested or had concerns raised regarding them have been addressed in the design feedback section below. As the responses set out, the design will focus on a careful balance between allowing natural habitats to thrive and providing controlled accessibility to ensure members of the public can use and enjoy the space. This feedback aligns well with the vision and objectives that the proposal set out to achieve.



KEY OUTCOMES

Sustainable travel to and from the woodland should be encouraged wherever possible. Provision for cycle parking and links to existing footpaths, cycle paths and bridle ways will be included within the design.

To maximise accessibility for all users, provision will be made for some car parking, disabled parking, minibus parking and a drop-off area. These will be carefully planned to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum.

Travel

4.18 As set out above, the accessibility of the woodland has been a key theme in the responses received. As set out in Section 3, the majority of respondents intended to walk or cycle to the woodland. The site is already well served by footpaths, cycle routes and bridle ways and these will be retained through the proposals to encourage visitors to make use of sustainable transport options.

4.19 It is acknowledged that some visitors will drive to the site and a small amount of parking will be provided for this, away from local residents.

4.20 Provision will also be made for cycle parking, disabled parking, minibus parking and a drop-off point for visitors. All of these elements will be carefully incorporated to maximise accessibility whilst minimising the potential for disruption in the local area.

4.21 There was an opportunity through the consultation to provide other responses not included in the options and the results are summarised below:

- Park & Ride/Shuttle bus/Tram system;
- Extended cycle paths;
- E-scooter;
- Parking provision for blue-badge holders.

4.22 As noted above, requirements for cycle and car parking (including disabled provision) will be included within the detailed design and links to existing routes will be included wherever possible.

Community Involvement

4.23 As part of the engagement exercise, respondents were asked if they would like to be involved in creating the woodland. As set out in Section 3, members of the public are keen to be involved in a number of different aspects.

4.24 In addition to the responses set out in those statistics, various respondents offered expertise in specific areas including:

- Practical assistance (planting etc);
- Educational input;
- Wheelchair use;
- Marketing & admin tasks;
- Donations and fundraising assistance;
- Horse riders safety & bridal ways;
- Cycle trails;
- Mindfulness;
- Tree climbing;
- Natural History;
- Events;
- Ongoing maintenance & litter picking.

4.25 Local Scout leaders responded saying their groups could assist, others suggested local schools and students could get involved. Around 20 respondents expressed an interest in being involved but were concerned their age or mobility would restrict them from helping.

4.26 This feedback aligns well with the objective for the Woodland to support jobs, education and volunteering opportunities, as well as ensuring that the Woodland is a genuine community asset in the long term.

KEY OUTCOMES

Respondents are very keen to be involved in the creation and long-term use of the Woodland. Provision should be made for volunteers and educational pursuits within the woodland design, as well as informal community space.

Maintenance

4.27 Alongside the statistics provided in Section 3, other suggestions regarding maintenance were made through the engagement process. These included existing community groups like schools or young offenders in the locality. Some respondents suggested fundraising to allow for some jobs to be created.

4.28 Overall, the majority thought the groups suggested in the survey would be best placed. Long-term maintenance and management will be key to the success of the Woodland and will need to be planned as part of the final design.

KEY OUTCOMES

Respondents consider the long-term management of the woodland to be an important element in its success. Funding and provision for this must be secured through the proposal's development and accommodated within the detailed design.

5.0

Design Feedback

5.1 This section sets out the suggestions and concerns raised throughout the consultation process. It must be noted that the designs provided for comment were high-level draft options and that there is considerable research and planning to go into the more detailed design phase.

5.2 Key themes from this section included sustainable travel options, accessibility for all, consideration of the species mixes and an overall focus on the ecological benefits of the scheme. Respondents were keen to ensure a balance is achieved between allowing members of the public to enjoy the space whilst protecting the habitats and biodiversity which will be introduced. Overall, there was preference for not providing the events space as other facilities are available and nature should come first.

5.3 The most frequently mentioned concerns included vandalism, dogs, cyclists and the ongoing management of the project in perpetuity. Respondents wanted to see separate trails and paths for separate users allowing disabled visitors, families, cyclists, etc to enjoy the space without disrupting each other.

5.4 Consideration of parking provision brought conflicting opinions. Some respondents were keen to see plenty of parking to ensure local roads would not be affected, but others thought less parking would encourage people to use more sustainable modes of transport. This will need to be further examined through the detailed design process.

5.5 The below table further summarises the concerns and suggestions received. Responses have been made to the comments made showing how feedback will be incorporated as the detailed designs progress. Further surveys, including archaeological and ecological, will be carried out and the results will also feed into the developing design.

Feedback	Response
Maintenance / Management	
Concerned about potential vandalism and littering.	Robust detailing will form part of the design proposals to address potential vandalism. Provision of litter bins at the key entrance points for easy emptying will be considered.
Concerned about Dogs causing disruption and Dog mess.	A system of key routes will be laid out to guide the majority of visitors around the site. Provision of dog waste bins at the key entrance points for easy emptying will be considered.
Concerned regarding the costs of ongoing management and security provision.	Management and maintenance requirements form part of the project and are considered at all stages of the design. The final proposal will include a long-term management programme.

Design comments / Features	
The events area is not required and could cause disruption	A series of open spaces will be provided in the woodland to allow flexibility for a range of potential community events but it is envisioned that these would be low key and linked closely to the activities related to the proposed woodland. E.g. Nature days, Apple harvest etc.
The woodland should be accessible for all, including disabled people, older people and families / children of all ages. Cyclists and horse riders should be catered for.	It is proposed that there is a hierarchy of routes catering for a range of users from main surfaced routes of different distances through to less formal main routes to quieter parts of the woodland. Different features will be included to appeal to different users (e.g. play area, forest school, etc) Routes for cyclists and horse riders will tie into existing provision around the site periphery. Cycle parking will also be included.
Not too much provision for humans, nature should be the focus / The balance of accessibility vs biodiversity will be key	The concept is to be as light touch as possible in terms of infrastructure for visitors with the focus being on the planting of the woodland, habitat creation and the enjoyment of the woodland as a new community resource. The proposals are seeking a balance between public access for enjoyment and quiet areas for nature to flourish
Would like to see emphasis on mindfulness	Quieter, less formal routes will be provided off the main circulation routes including areas for quiet contemplation and woodland yoga etc.
Would like to see a picnic area	This will be included.
The pond is a nice addition but could be a hazard	This will be detailed with shallow sides and devices for safe supervised access such as dipping platforms and boardwalks.
There is no need for a café or events space.	Agreed, these are not currently proposed but could be included in future expansion if appropriate.
Concerned that the location isn't sustainable, parking will be a problem, other modes of travel should be encouraged	Links into the existing footpath and cycle networks will be provided as part of the layout to encourage sustainable transport choices and walking to the site. New dedicated parking and drop off areas will be integrated into the layout. A main parking area will be located off the main road link to the south west with a secondary parking area located off the existing road access to the north.

Feedback	Response
Planting	
The planting mix must be carefully considered and responsibly sourced. Fruit trees should be included.	There will be an emphasis on being reflective of local conditions and character and sourcing material as locally as possible. Fruiting species will form part of the proposals.
Agricultural land / is the soil right for a woodland to thrive?	The site soils and former arable use provide an excellent basis for the establishment of a woodland and associated habitats. Species will be selected to be locally appropriate and reflective of the local character.
The project should be in keeping with the existing landscape	Agreed, the planting mixes will be reflective of the local conditions/ landscape character and will include the integration of existing features such as the hedgerows.
Some part of the canopy should be open to encourage ground level biodiversity	Agreed there will be woodland glades and rides as part of the proposals

Other	
The woodland project should be protected from policy changes and future developments	Potential future expansion of the A1237 road has been fed into the constraints plan underpinning the layout and consideration given to future circulation within the woodland. Funding will be secured for the project through grants etc and this money will be ringfenced for the woodland and its long term management.
Nearby airfield to be aware of	This has been noted and will be taken into consideration during the detailed design phase.
A robust archaeological survey will be required	This has been undertaken including trenching and the results used to inform the design.
Ecological surveys should be carried out	These have been undertaken and the results used to inform the design.

KEY OUTCOMES

The additional feedback provided on the design and management of the woodland remained in line with the key themes established throughout:

- The balance between nature and human use
- Accessibility and facilities for all
- The importance of long-term management and security
- The best mix of planting to support a wide variety of wildlife
- Encouraging sustainable travel whilst accommodating all users

These themes will be considered in detail through the design process.

Technical Responses

5.6 Alongside responses from stakeholders and member of the public, a number of more technical responses were submitted following engagement with relevant organisations. These included:

- Yorkshire Wildlife Trust;
- The Forestry Commission;
- Natural England;
- The Woodland Trust.

5.7 Additional feedback was received from the Forestry England following the consultation to say that:

'Strongly support the feedback you received at consultation for 'the simple enjoyment of woodland'

5.8 This quote is considered to tie in well with the overall woodland vision and serves as an important reminder that, as set out by many respondents, the woodland itself provides enjoyment and interest, other extravagant facilities and attractions are not needed.

5.9 The comments and recommendations made by the above organisations were really positive and we will continue to engage with these organisations throughout the design process.

5.10 The comments submitted are summarised below and provide useful feedback to incorporate into the ongoing site assessment works and detailed design stages. The surveys recommended, including soil and ecology, have either been completed or are underway, and Landscape Architects have been brought on-board to progress the detailed stage of design works.

5.11 The majority of the points below have also been raised through the wider engagement programme and are addressed above. The organisations responding agreed with members of the public that the natural and environmental function of the woodland is key and that access for members of the public should be provided in a way that will not hamper the success of the habitat creation. They also noted that different users of the space may prefer separate routes, and this is being incorporated into the detailed design.

The Forestry Commission

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of historic landscape could lead to a historic footpath network based on boundaries and landscape features. • Categorisation of permission footpaths/public rights of way should be considered. • Soil survey should be undertaken to identify best suited species. • Permeability and drainage will need to be considered. • The location is suitable for the proposals. • The multi-functional design will need to balance public access and environmental goals. • Landscape architects should provide design input. 	<p>The suggestions made by the Forestry Commission predominantly reflect feedback set out in the rest of this report. Footpath networks and historical features/boundaries will be carefully considered during the design process and incorporated where possible. The necessary surveys are underway or completed and are feeding into the design process which is being led by qualified landscape architects.</p> <p>The balance between natural habitats and human impacts is being carefully considered.</p> <p>Support for the location is acknowledged.</p>
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Natural England

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals of this type are supported by National Planning Policy. • Comprehensive ecological surveys will be required to ensure existing assets are protected/replaced/mitigated. • A long-term management plan should be established early on. • Existing habitats on adjacent sites should also be considered. • Defra Biodiversity Net Gain metric should be considered. • Inclusion of ponds encouraged – the west/southwest area appears most suitable. • Areas of the woodland should be left undisturbed by humans, a visitor strategy should be put in place to manage this. • Native species should be used wherever possible. • Planting specimens should be of local provenance. • Potential use of plot south of Wetherby Road as an operations compound. • Butterfly species have been recorded in the area and additional advice is provided to manage this. 	<p>Support for the scheme is acknowledged.</p> <p>Agree that there are benefits of a “planned” recreational space to reduce impacts on other environmental assets.</p> <p>Local community groups and projects are being reviewed as part of the design process and it is hoped that the woodland will bring about a variety of benefits for the local community.</p> <p>Ponds will be included and their location will be carefully considered.</p>
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The Woodland Trust

- Highest potential woodland cover possible should be aimed for.
- Trees will need to be protected from wildlife in early stages.
- Feedback should be requested on transport planning requirements for parking/access etc.
- Parking location will need to be carefully considered.
- Separate routes within the woodland for different users would be beneficial.

We are aiming to achieve approximately 60% canopy coverage due to constraints such as overhead lines, existing hedgerows, etc. The protection of young trees is being carefully considered as is parking provision. A network of routes for different users will be provided.

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

- Proposals of this type are supported by National Planning Policy.
- Comprehensive ecological surveys will be required to ensure existing assets are protected/replaced/mitigated.
- A long-term management plan should be established early on.
- Existing habitats on adjacent sites should also be considered.
- Defra Biodiversity Net Gain metric should be considered.
- Inclusion of ponds encouraged – the west/southwest area appears most suitable.
- Areas of the woodland should be left undisturbed by humans, a visitor strategy should be put in place to manage this.
- Native species should be used wherever possible.
- Planting specimens should be of local provenance.
- Potential use of plot south of Wetherby Road as an operations compound.
- Butterfly species have been recorded in the area and additional advice is provided to manage this.

Support for the proposal is acknowledged. The necessary surveys are underway or completed and are feeding into the design process.

A long-term management plan will make up part of the final design.

Some natural spaces will be left undisturbed and ponds will be included in the scheme. Local, native planting will be key to the woodland's success and is being carefully considered.

6.0

Conclusion & Recommendations

6.1 Following a review of the consultation materials, it is clear that the vast majority of those involved support the York Community Woodland Project. The responses received align closely with the existing vision that the Council had agreed.

6.2 The existing vision statement reads as follows:

“The new woodland will be a well-designed, bio-diverse, green space providing a place for peaceful contemplation and leisure for the people of York. This will create a new stray for the city, enhance the setting of the city and make York an even greater place to live, work and visit.”

6.3 It is recommended that this is amended slightly to better reflect the carbon capture / environmental benefits of the proposal as one of the project’s key objectives.

6.4 The objectives of the project which were put forward in the consultation were as follows:

- Planting trees for carbon capture, as part of a wider commitment to reach net-zero carbon by 2030;
- Increase access to green space to improve health and wellbeing;
- Increase biodiversity, wildlife habitats and protect endangered species;
- Enhance York’s active travel network, including new walking and cycling routes;
- Opportunities for new green jobs, green skills development and volunteering opportunities.

6.5 Overall, these were well supported by the public and stakeholders, although some noted they could be reflected in the overall vision statement. Starting with the objectives and then running as a clear theme throughout, respondents strongly supported the creation of natural habitats and the environmental benefits that this would bring. Whilst they were keen for the space to be useable, it was made clear that the use of the woodland should not restrict or harm the trees, plants and wildlife within it.

6.6 The public have provided detailed and varied feedback to be considered during the continuing site assessment and design process. Throughout this report key outcomes have been identified relating to each theme. These have fed into the below recommendations which will lead the remaining stages of the design process:

Key themes

- The balance between public access and biodiversity, habitat and environmental benefits;
- How parking provision will be incorporated to an extent which will reduce impacts on local residents, whilst encouraging sustainable travel;
- Ensuring the woodland is accessible for all users, whilst ensuring a peaceful visitor experience (potential separation of routes for different users);
- Achieving a sustainable mix of planting species which will be robust and provide biodiversity assets;
- That the woodland will be well managed and maintained, to be enjoyed by generations to come.

Recommendations

- That access through and around the woodland is well managed through a network of paths and that built form and hardstanding is avoided where possible;
- That a small amount of parking is provided with a main parking area to the south west and a secondary (restricted) parking area located off the existing road access to the north;
- That a hierarchy of routes is provided to serve different woodland users and pockets of space will be made available for contemplation and quiet;
- That planting stock and seeds are sourced locally wherever possible and qualified experts are consulted on planting mixes;
- That the final design include a medium-long term management plan for the woodland.

6.7 Overall, the feedback from the engagement exercise was extremely positive and aligned closely with the vision and objectives in place. The recommendations above will lead the detailed design process to ensure the scheme proposed evolves to reflect the feedback received through the consultation exercise.

Appendix 1

**YORK**
COUNCIL

York Community Woodland Survey

Survey Information

Our survey asks for some personal information which you may choose not to give. We do not publish or share any information which can identify you. Please read our [privacy notice](#) to find out more about how we protect your personal information. We will ask for your consent to this at the start of the survey.

You can withdraw your consent at any time by contacting business.intelligence@york.gov.uk.

* Do you confirm that you have read and understood the privacy notice? You must select 'Yes' in order to take the survey.

Yes No



* Have you already seen the concept design images regarding the woodland on the York Community Woodland Website?

Yes

No

Appendix 1



YORK
COUNCIL

York Community Woodland Survey

The link to the York Community Woodland page is here: [York Community Woodland Concept Designs](#) . On the page you will see the concept designs and related landscape visualisations show some of the different ways we could design the woodland to meet the objectives we have set out. **Please click on the link and return to the survey afterwards.**



YORK
COUNCIL

York Community Woodland Survey

To what extent do you support the creation of a new community woodland in York?

Strongly support

Support

Do not support

Strongly do not support

Don't know

No opinion

Appendix 1



YORK
COUNCIL

York Community Woodland Survey

York Community Woodland High Level Vision

'The new woodland will be a well-designed, biodiverse, green space, providing a place for peaceful contemplation and leisure for the people of York. This will create a new Stray for the city, enhance the setting of the city and make York an even greater place to live work and visit'.

Do you agree with the council's high level vision for York Community Woodland?

Yes

No

If your answer is no, please tell us what you'd like to change or see included:



YORK
COUNCIL

York Community Woodland Survey

Which of the objectives are most important to you:
(Rank 1 - 5)

	Very important	2	3	4	Not at all important
Planting trees for carbon capture, as part of a wider commitment to reach net-zero carbon by 2030	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase access to green space to improve health and wellbeing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase biodiversity, wildlife habitats and protect endangered species	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enhance York's active travel network, including new walking and cycling routes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunities for new green jobs, green skills development and volunteering opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

Appendix 1

What do you feel is most important for a community woodland?

(Tick all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native tree species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wet woodland areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Café facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest School | <input type="checkbox"/> Community orchard | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peaceful contemplation | <input type="checkbox"/> Connecting routes | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking and cycling trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Rewilding | <input type="checkbox"/> Play area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Forest School facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheelchair accessibility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor seating | <input type="checkbox"/> Car Parking | <input type="checkbox"/> Information boards/signs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness trail | <input type="checkbox"/> Contemplative place | <input type="checkbox"/> Toilets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife ponds | <input type="checkbox"/> Event space | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood meadow areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodland art | |

Please note your top three woodland features below:

1

2

3



How would you prefer to travel to the woodland site?

(Please tick all that apply)

- Walk
- Cycle
- Car
- Public bus
- Horse
- Other (please specify)

Appendix 1



**CITY OF
YORK
COUNCIL**

York Community Woodland Survey

If you have any concerns about the new woodland, please tell us below?



Would you like to be involved in creating the woodland? Please choose from the below options to tell us how you would like to be involved:

(Tick from the options below)

- Tree planting
- Wood meadow creation i.e. seeding
- Creating paths / trails
- Running special events i.e. nature conservation, forest school activities etc
- Citizens science projects i.e. monitoring changes in wildlife and plant life
- Not interested in being actively involved
- Other (please specify)

Appendix 1



YORK
COUNCIL

York Community Woodland Survey

The woodland site will require ongoing management and maintenance. We would love to hear your thoughts as to how you think the woodland would be best maintained?

(Tick box options)

- Community based management and maintenance
- Joining a new 'Friends of' group
- City of York Council maintenance
- Social enterprise
- A combination of the above

Other (please specify)

York Community Woodland is the working title. We'd like to hear your ideas about what the woodland should be called. Please feel free to be creative! And tell us why you have suggested this name.

Have you answered this survey as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

- Individual
- Organisation (please specify)



YORK
COUNCIL

York Community Woodland Survey

About you

Please provide your postcode:

ZIP/Postal Code

Your age: (please select the appropriate range)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say | <input type="radio"/> 40-55 |
| <input type="radio"/> Under 16 | <input type="radio"/> 56-59 |
| <input type="radio"/> 16-24 | <input type="radio"/> 60-64 |
| <input type="radio"/> 25-39 | <input type="radio"/> 65+ |

Appendix 2

York Community Woodland



York City Council are creating a woodland in your city! This will have lots of trees, plants, flowers, wildlife and green spaces to play! We would love to hear what you would like to see and do in the woodland and have created some questions for you below.

Q1: You might have visited a woodland or seen one on the television.

What is your favourite thing about a woodland?

.....

Q2: Do you think that a new woodland in York would be a good idea? Please tell us why (including if you answer no):

.....

Q3: Using the ideas below, what do you think is most important to be found in a woodland? You can tick more than one box!

	✓
Open spaces with lots of space to run around	
Somewhere to ride your bike	
Lots of flowers and trees	
Somewhere to play	
Somewhere to learn about the woodland's trees, animals and plants	





Q4: What do you think is a good name for a woodland in York?

.....

Q5: What sort of animals do you think live in a woodland?

.....

Thank you very much for filling our survey in!

The York Community Woodland Team



Appendix 3

Groups & Stakeholders

- Friends of the John Lally Community Wood
- York Civic Trust
- St Nicks
- Minster Equine Vets
- Wild York
- York Rotary Clubs
- UPPC
- Ride Yorkshire
- 2nd Acomb Scout Group
- Primary Care Social Prescribers
- York Civic Trust
- Friends of Fishponds Wood and Beech Grove
- Knapton Allotments Association
- Residents of North Field Lane
- York Rotary Clubs
- Knapton with Rufford Parish Council
- York Environment Forum
- Stakeholder Advisory Group
- Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
- The Forestry Commission
- Natural England
- The Woodland Trust
- Rufforth Primary School
- St Pauls Primary School

Appendix 4

YEF Attendees

Ian Anderson

The eco group at st Michael le belfrery church

Rachel Tumman

Head of Visitor Operations for the JORVIK Group of Attractions

Phil Bixby

(YEF Treasurer) and independent member (plus part of My Future York)

Philip Birch

York Archaeological Trust, individual & YEF member

Rose Hilton

Heslington Parish Council

Caroline Lewis

The Membership Secretary.

Richard Smith

Professional ecologist & Friends of Beech Grove and Fishponds Wood

Penny Bainbridge

Rep of Edible York

Adrian Lovett

Chair of Good Food York, a Trustee of St Nicks & One Planet York

Graham Collett

Dave Merrett

Appendix 5

Stakeholder Advisory Group

Iwan Downey

White Rose Forest

Alistair Crosby

Woodland Trust

Jonathan Dent

St Nicks

Dan Carne

Woodmeadow Trust

Barry Otley

Treemendous

Marina Martignoni

Forestry Commission

Sam Cooper

Forestry Commission

Peter Rollins

Rufforth with Knapton Parish Council

Roger Rippon

Rufforth with Knapton Parish Council

Ken Groom

Sustrans

Mark Hoyle

Askham Bryan College

Alison Dyke

University of York

Caroline Ward

University of York

Olalekan Adekola

York St John Uni

Joe Bailey

York St John Uni

Richard Powley

Lowfield Farm

Steve Beckett

Landowner local

Chris Lancaster

Landowner

Keith Clarke

Knapton Allotment Association

Sheri Scruton

Nether Poppleton and Upper
Poppleton Parish Councils

Shaun Gibbons

Head of Carbon Reduction, CYC

Paul McCabe

Project Manager, YCW, CYC

Laura Redhead

Woodland Engagement Manager,
CYC

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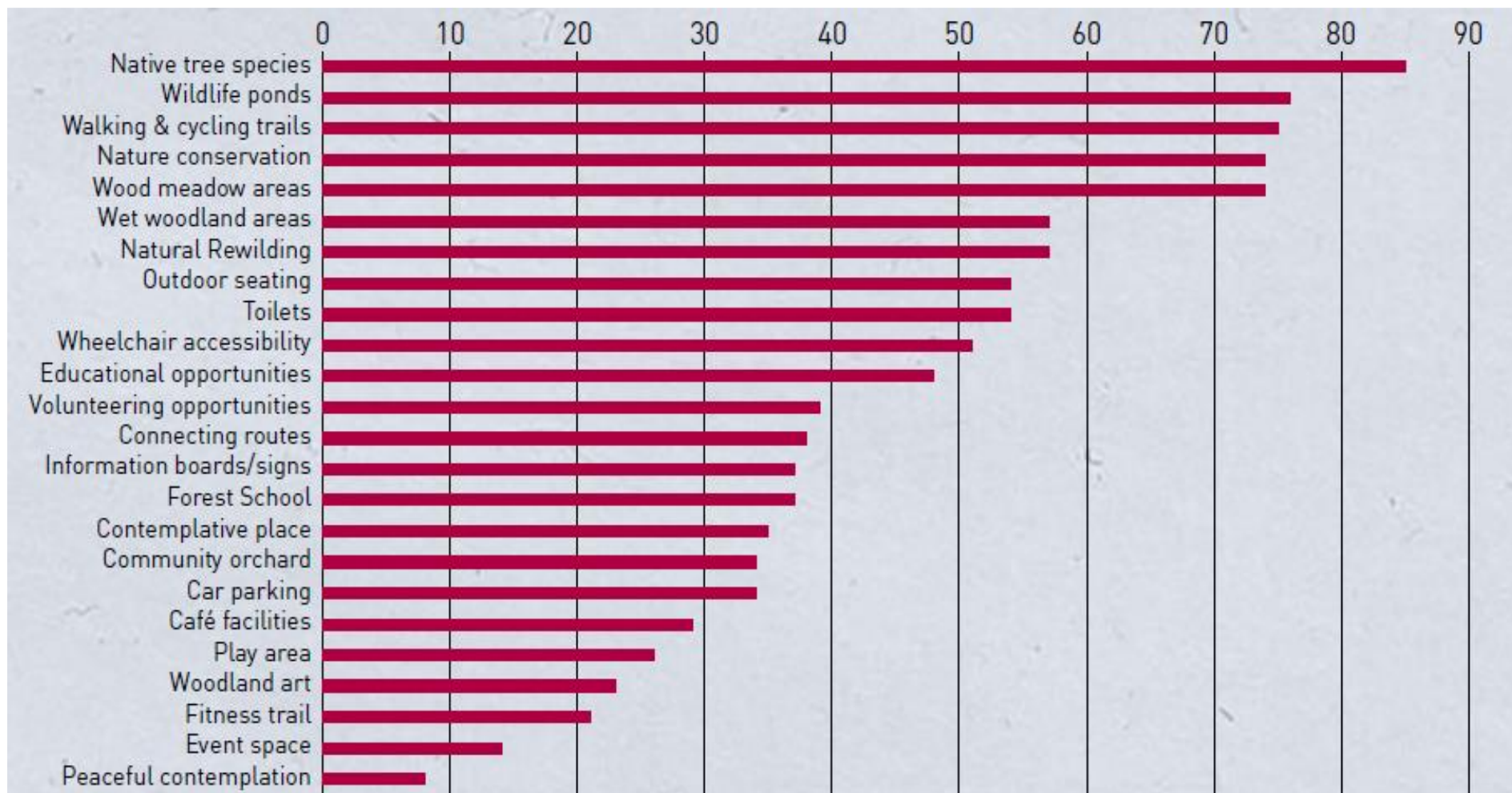


Pegasus Group



@pegasusgroup

Annex 2: Summary of community responses re. woodland features



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Annex 3. YCW Project success measures

Outcomes (up to April 2023)	Target/s	How measured 1	How measured 2	How measured 3
A nature based solution to climate change mitigation as part of a local, national and international pathway to net zero carbon	Based on a site of 78 hectares and depending upon the density of planting and species of tree, the woodland could sequester approximately 28,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent over 50 years	Modelled rate/scale of carbon sequestration (using Carbon Code methodology)	No. of trees planted (net)	Hectares of new wet woodland / wood meadow / re-wilded woodland created
A new amenity woodland connecting more people with nature via new/enhanced nature rich active travel corridors joining up the city's green infrastructure and improving peoples' health and wellbeing (More people engaged in active travel and healthy lifestyles)	% increase in the No. of people visiting the site/area from a 2021 baseline (tbc)	No. of people using bridleway (active travel incl. walking / running / cycling / riding) Baseline survey 2021 (tbc)	km of new/enhanced active travel corridors	
Increased biodiversity and wildlife habitats, enhancement and protection of threatened and endangered species	Biodiversity net gain	PEA/YEYEDC baseline data - March 2021		
New employment, volunteering and nature based learning opportunities through woodland creation and longer term woodland management as part of York's growing green economy	XX woodland creation jobs (temp) / X woodland management jobs (temp) / 1200 volunteer hours (30 people x 4 hrs x 10 days) / 1200 hrs of nature based learning (30 people x 4 hrs x 10 days)	No. of jobs created	No. of volunteer hours	No. of hours of nature based learning opportunities
Greater public involvement in nature, improving awareness of, and skills for, nature conservation	Minimum of 400 residents engaged in woodland co-design / Minimum of 400 residents engaged in woodland creation	No. of people actively engaged in woodland co-design	No. of people actively engaged in woodland creation	

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Annex 4. Summary of responses to the CYC Funders' Questionnaire

Funder	Funding rate	Eligibility criteria	Eligible features	Ownership and control	CYC income	Maintenance	Carbon Offset	Timescales	CYC Key Risks
WRF Trees for Climate (via Cheshire West)	100% of costs (up to circa £15k-£20k p/ha cap)	Min 0.1 ha / Max 40% open space / Carbon / Biodiversity / Public access and engagement	Trees and protection / Surveys and planning / Access and interpretation / Signage / Open space / Infrastructure / Project delivery / Future management	CYC retains ownership and full control	Potential on-site income generation built into woodland design (TBC)	100% funded up to 15yrs	100% retained by CYC	Competitive bids. EoI submitted Nov 2020 - Decision pending. WRF can meet 2021/22 planting season	Funding / Delivery / Procurement / Income generation / Long term management
Forestry Commission – England Woodland Creation Offer	100% (£8,500 p/ha cap)	Min 1 ha / Native broadleaf / Public access	Trees and protection / Infrastructure like roads and tracks at 40% of quoted costs / Recreational access. ¹ Separate grant process (WCPG) for surveys and planning support	CYC retains ownership and full control	Potential on-site income generation built into woodland design (TBC)	100% funded for 10yrs	100% retained by CYC	Competitive bids following WCPG Stage 2 and woodland approval – Question mark re. meeting 2021/22 planting season	Funding / Delivery / Procurement / Income generation / Long term management
Forestry Commission Countryside Stewardship	80% if 20% open space included (£6,800 p/ha cap)	3 ha / Min 80% native broadleaf / Max 20% open space / Biodiversity / Water	Trees and protection up to unit cost cap. Separate grant process (WCPG) for surveys and planning	CYC retains ownership and full control	Potential on-site income generation built into woodland design (TBC)	None for LAs	100% retained by CYC	Competitive bids following WCPG Stage 2 and woodland approval Question mark re. meeting 2021/22 planting season	Funding / Delivery / Procurement / Income generation / Short and long term management
Forestry England – Woodland Partnership Offer	100%	Min 50 ha / Min 70% native broadleaf / Carbon / Biodiversity / Public access ²	Trees and protection / Surveys and protection / Access and signage / Infrastructure Wood meadow / Open space / Wet woodland	Leased to FE for 60 - 120yrs (negotiable)	Annual FE grant paid to CYC between £200-£400 per/ha (negotiable)	Duration of lease (min 60yrs)	Negotiable up to 100% retained by CYC	Competitive bidding. EoI submitted 01.06.21 Decision pending. 'Can meet 2021/22 planting season'	Majority of risks transferred to FE

¹ There are additional contributions available for projects that deliver Nature recovery / Water quality / Flood risk / Riparian buffers / Close to settlements

² Forestry England indicate they are 'open to discussion with partners about inclusion of additional features and would be expected to be involved in ongoing community engagement and volunteering opportunities'

NB. The questionnaire was sent to Woodland Trust alongside other funders, but the Trust had not responded by the deadline so they could not be considered within this report. After speaking with industry experts, it appears Woodland Trust has yet to finalise the details of their capital grant programme and this may explain why no response was received.

CYC officers also held informal discussions with a private sector forestry consultant offering to take direct responsibility for woodland design, creation and ongoing management in return for a long term lease on the land for which CYC would receive annual rental income. The offer involved the consultant applying for one of the capital grant funding opportunities listed in this assessment on behalf of the landowner and for that reason the offer has not been included in this assessment. The offer is similar in nature to the Forestry England WCO, though with potentially higher annual rental payments (negotiable) to CYC.

Green Recovery Challenge Fund: An opportunity arose in September 2020 to apply for funding from the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund up to a total value of £250,000 and, as previously advised, a funding application was submitted by the deadline 2 October 2020. CYC was informed by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) on 3 November 2020 that this application had been unsuccessful.

A further application was made during Round 2 of the fund earlier this year, though this too was unsuccessful. Whilst the HLF don't provide formal feedback, an informal conversation with them suggested they felt the YCW project was better suited to other, more dedicated woodland creation funding streams.

Annex 5. Assessment of capital funding opportunities

	External funding rate	Eligibility criteria	Eligible features	Ownership / control	CYC income	Maintenance	Carbon offset	Timescales	CYC Key Risks
Forestry England Woodland Partnership Offer	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
WRF Trees for Climate (Cheshire West)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Forestry Commission – England Woodland Creation Offer	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
City of York Council Northern Forest budget	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
Forestry Commission Countryside Stewardship	○	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●

Key:

- Strongly aligned
- Well aligned
- Aligned
- Minimal alignment
- Not aligned

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Executive**26 August 2021**

Report of the Director of Transport, Environment and Planning
Portfolio of the Executive Member for Transport

Updating the Council's adopted highway data and recording processes

Summary

1. This report seeks approval to implement the process required by the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) in its decision dated 19 May 2021 ([available here](#) and at Annex A).
2. The LGO identified that some of the Council's online highway records (List of Streets and highway extent map) are not up to date. The LGO has therefore requested the following actions from the Council to update the records:
 - a. Complete a review of the Council's road adoption system within three months of the Ombudsman's decision (by 19th August 2021). The review should consider how it is kept up to date and accurate; and
 - b. Within one month of completing the review (by 19th September 2021), report the findings to Councillors and seek approval for changes and recommendations.
3. This report seeks approval for officers to undertake a full update of the highway extent map, List of Streets, and Definitive Map in 2021/22, updating processes to achieve this, and addressing all areas to be reviewed and updated as listed below:
 - a. New roads and streets - prospectively maintainable highways (adoption process, under S.38 of the Highways Act 1980 or equivalent);

- b. New and existing private streets/highways;
- c. Stopping up and changes in highway layout;
- d. Council land acting as a highway but not currently on the map/list;
- e. Highways which have never been included in the List of Streets but should be (such as some paths, snickets, bridge embankments, verges, etc);
- f. A64 boundaries;
- g. Additional Street Data (ASD) information provided to Geoplace to inform the National Street Gazetteer (NSG). This will also support the move to Street Works permits as some of the permit conditions, charges, and fines under the permit system vary depending on ASD characteristics;
- h. Addition of those highways maintainable at public expense recorded of the Definitive Map as a consequence of a Definitive Map Modification Order;
- i. Routes that were shown on the Definitive Map but were not maintainable at the public expense that become maintainable highways as a consequence of an Order being made under the Highways Act 1980 or the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 e.g. diversion of a public right of way.

Recommendations

4. The Executive is asked to:

- 1) Note the actions taken to comply with the LGO's requirements – Including to undertake a full update of the highway extent map, List of Streets, and Definitive Map in 2021/22 and 2022/23, addressing all areas to be reviewed and updated. Executive therefore approves the setting up a small highway recording function within the Place Directorate initially for a period of one year funded through existing resources.

Reason: To comply with the LGO's requirements and meet the Council's statutory duties within an acceptable timescale.

Background

5. In its decision dated 19 May 2021, the LGO identified that some of the Council's highway records (List of Streets and highway extent map) are not up to date. The LGO has therefore requested the following actions from the Council to update the records:
 - a. Complete a review of the Council's road adoption system within three months of the Ombudsman's decision (by 19th August 2021). The review should consider how it is kept up to date and accurate; and
 - b. Within one month of completing the review (by 19th September 2021), report the findings to Councillors and seek approval for changes and recommendations.
6. As per the LGO's requirements, officers have undertaken a review of the Council's road adoption system and processes, and considered how the data should be updated and kept up to date and accurate in the future.

What are the Council's highway records and how are they managed?

7. The Council has a duty to keep the following highway related information up to date and available to the public.
 - a. The List of Streets (or Street Register) – City of York Council has a duty to maintain a list of the streets, which are highways maintainable at public expense, under Highways Act 1980 section 36(6). This forms part of York's Local Street Gazetteer (LSG) data. Every month, the Highway Maintenance team uploads York's LSG data and Additional Street Data (ASD) to the National Street Gazetteer (NSG) hub, called Geoplace (more information available here: www.geoplace.co.uk/addresses-streets/street-data-and-services/national-street-gazetter). This process is currently managed through the Bentley Exor Asset Manager system, which is life-expired and due to be replaced. The data is provided in the form of lines so although the LSG shows the streets' adopted status, it doesn't show the extent of the adopted highway for individual streets (e.g. the boundary of the adopted highway).
 - b. Highway extent map – The map shows the extent of the adopted highway, as opposed to the name of the streets in the List of Streets or a line in the LSG. The map provides a graphical

interpretation of the List of Streets required by the Highways Act, aiming to provide more detail on adopted highway boundaries. This is currently available on the Council's ArcGIS system, with existing staff in the Highway Development Control and Business Intelligence teams being asked to update the maps on an ad hoc basis.

- c. Public Right of Way Definitive Map – The Council has a duty to maintain and keep under review the Definitive Map and Statement, which is a legal record of the public's rights of way within the authority's area (including public footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways, or byways open to all traffic). This information is managed by the Public Right of Way team and requires a significant number of updates to comply with the NSG data format requirements and the highway extent map.
 - d. Register of Common Land and Village Greens – Although not as closely related to highway data, officers will consider whether the Register of Common Land and Village Greens needs updating as well and could form part of this review.
8. The types of streets commonly included in the List of Streets and on the highway extent map are:
- a. Roads (classified and unclassified) including carriageway and footway;
 - b. Private streets (public highway maintained privately – NSG only);
 - c. Private roads (all rights and responsibilities are private – NSG only);
 - d. Prospectively maintainable highways (roads that have been constructed and are in the process of becoming adopted highways, for example under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980 and equivalently categorised roads prior to this).
9. Other types of streets/highways which should be included in the Register and on the map but are not currently always included¹:
- a. Public rights of way maintainable at public expense, regardless of whether the way is, in fact, currently maintained (such as public

¹ Section 329(1) Highways Act 1980 provides that, "except where the context otherwise requires—...street has the same meaning as in Part III of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991". Section 48(1) of the 1991 Act provides that: "a "street" means the whole or any part of any of the following, irrespective of whether it is a thoroughfare - (a) any highway, road, lane, footway, alley or passage, (b) any square or court, and (c) any land laid out as a way whether it is for the time being formed as a way or not. Where a street passes over a bridge or through a tunnel, references in this Part to the street include that bridge or tunnel."

footpaths and bridleways, many of them are publicly maintained but not all); and

- b. Urban alleyways, footways, snickets, which are maintainable at public expense.

What is this information used for?

- 10. The information included in the List of Streets and highway extent map is used:
 - a. To inform the Council's Asset Management System (AMS), plan inspections, maintenance and investment programmes, inform the claims process, etc. The new AMS (currently being procured) will rely on NSG data from Geoplace, possibly supplemented by more detailed data from the Council's highway extent map. It is therefore important that this data is kept up to date;
 - b. To inform planning decisions, land charges, CRM/customer management, and support enforcement cases (such as highway obstructions or debris/mud deposited on the highway), and respond to home buyers/owners' searches;
 - c. To support the Street Works Register. CYC has a duty to keep the Street Works Register under Section 53 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991;
 - d. To inform the National Street Gazetteer (NSG), which is then replicated in the Street Works Register. This includes significant level of detail, known as Additional Street Data (ASD):
 - i. Whether the streets are publicly maintainable, prospectively publicly maintainable, or private;
 - ii. Street reinstatement category (linked to traffic levels on the street);
 - iii. Designations of protected streets and Section 58 restrictions (restricting further works following substantial road/street works);
 - iv. Designations of streets with special engineering difficulty;
 - v. Designations of traffic-sensitive streets;

- vi. Streets on which the timing of street/road works may be limited (subject to Section 56A directions under New Roads and Street Works Act 1991); and
- vii. Where possible, other features of the street, such as structures, environmental areas, parking restrictions, priority lanes, special surfaces, standard surface, and special construction needs, etc.

What needs to be updated?

11. As identified in the LGO's decision dated 19 May 2021 (see Annex A), some of our online records (List of Streets and highway extent map) are not up to date. The LGO has therefore requested the following actions from the Council to update the records:
 - a. Complete a review of the Council's road adoption system within three months of the Ombudsman's decision (by 19th August 2021). The review should consider how it is kept up to date and accurate; and
 - b. Within one month of completing the review (by 19th September 2021), report the findings to Councillors and seek approval for changes and recommendations.
12. The information to be reviewed and updated includes the following:
 - a. New roads and streets - prospectively maintainable highways (adoption process, S38 or equivalent – 30 to 40 sites of varying sizes & sites which should have gone through a S. 38 process but didn't);
 - b. New and existing private streets/highways (NSG only);
 - c. Stopping up and changes in highway layout;
 - d. Council land acting as a highway but not currently on the map/list;
 - e. Highways which have never been included in the List of Streets but should be (such as some paths, snickets, bridge embankments, verges, etc);
 - f. A64 boundaries;
 - g. ASD information provided to Geoplace to inform the NSG. This will also support the move to Street Works permits as some of the

permit conditions, charges, and fines under the permit system vary depending on ASD characteristics;

- h. Changes to the Definitive Map as a consequence of a Definitive Map Modification Order;
- i. Routes that were shown on the Definitive Map but were not maintainable at the public expense and became maintainable highways as a consequence of an Order being made under the Highways Act 1980 or the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 e.g. diversion of a public right of way.

13. The issues which need to be resolved to enable the Council's highway information to be updated and kept up to date in the future include:

- a. Staff resource requirements (staff time and capabilities) to review the information, prepare the evidence (in some cases, legal advice and support will be required), and decision papers where required, and input the data in both systems;
- b. Revised processes to ensure that new prospective highways or changes to adopted highways are recorded adequately in the List of Streets and the Highway extent map (as well as the Public Right of Way Definitive Map where applicable);
- c. Revised processes to transfer/correlate data from the highway extent map (Arc GIS, using polygons), PRow Definitive Map (Arc GIS, using lines which are not compatible with the NSG format), and the List of Streets (Exor, using lines in NSG format), supported by streamlined processes to capture on site survey data to inform the highway extent map and to address current data format issues, which cause performance issues for web applications;
- d. Updated software to input the List of Streets data (included ASD) and upload this data to the NSG (Geoplace) monthly, as the current Exor system is unreliable and difficult to use. A separate process is in train to replace Exor with a new Asset Management System which will be based on NSG data;
- e. A system/process for cross referencing all the routes shown in each of the four primary highway records CYC holds (List of Streets, LSG/NSG, highway extent map, PRow Definitive Map), possibly using Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRN).

Consultation

14. Internal consultation was conducted to prepare this report, involving Highway teams (development control, maintenance, and highway adoptions), Public Rights of Way team, the Business Intelligence team and IT.

Options

15. The following options have been identified.
 - a. Recommended option – Undertake a full update of the highway extent map, List of Streets, and Definitive Map in 2021/22 and 2022/23, addressing all areas to be reviewed and updated (as listed above). This would require setting up a small highway recording function within the Place Directorate to meet the Council’s duties and centralise records and queries.
 - b. No additional staff resource option - Continuing with current staffing levels and deprioritising some of the tasks currently undertaken by existing staff. The teams with the relevant knowledge and skills currently deliver several statutory duties for the authority such as providing Highway Development Control input for planning applications and reviewing additional documents and details provided to discharge planning conditions once permission has been granted, and supporting the construction of new highways for development sites in York, leading to the adoption of new highways. The level of service provided for these duties would have to be reduced to prioritise the update of the adopted highway information and the update would progress at a slower pace (due to limited existing staff resources), this approach would put the new increased revenues at risk that this team are generating and proposed to be used initially to pay for option a and would take approx. 5 years to complete. This would not meet the LGO’s requirements.

Proposal and analysis

16. Prioritise a full update of the highway extent map, List of Streets, and Definitive Map in 2021/22 and 2022/23, addressing all areas to be reviewed and updated (as listed above). This would require setting up a

small highway recording function within the Place Directorate to meet the Council's duties and centralise records and queries.

Objectives and constraints	Full update
Fulfil the Council's duty to keep accurate records	Duty fully met in line with LGO requirements
Meet the requirements set out by the LGO in the decision dated 19 May 2021	Fully met
Provide accurate data to other CYC departments, customers and utilities	Fully met
Update data to support the move to the new Asset Management System (AMS) being procured	Fully met (timescales to be confirmed to meet AMS project requirements)
Update data to support the move to Street Works permits	Fully met (timescales to be confirmed to meet Permit Scheme requirements)

Objectives and constraints	Full update
Costs	<p>Short term cost, estimated at 4.5 FTEs for 12 months, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.5 FTEs in the Adoptions team / Transport/Highway team • 0.5 FTE from Business Intelligence team to provide data quality/ architecture/ publishing support • 0.5 FTE for legal advice <p>Much reduced long term costs due to publicly available data being up to date and accurate.</p> <p>Long term maintenance requirements: 1 FTE.</p> <p>All staff costs are proposed to be funded through Highway Adoptions revenue, including highway searches fees.</p>
Cost estimates	<p>First 12 months: £162,000 (over 2 FYs)</p> <p>Following years (annual cost): £40,500, with the potential to generate some revenue from searches.</p> <p>Cost can be managed within the Transport budgets in terms of income in this area.</p>

Council Plan

17. The Council Plan 2019-23 sets out the following key priorities:

- a. Good health and wellbeing – No impact identified
- b. Well paid jobs and an inclusive economy – No impact identified

- c. Getting around sustainably – No impact identified
- d. A better start for children and young people – No impact identified
- e. A greener and cleaner city – No impact identified
- f. Creating homes and world-class infrastructure – No impact identified
- g. Safe communities and culture for all – No impact identified
- h. An open and effective council – The List of Streets, highway extent map and Definitive Map provide useful information to residents and businesses. The data provided by the Council should be up to date and accurate.

Implications

18. The following implications have been considered and identified:
- a. **Financial** – The estimated cost is £162k for the first 12 month period (over 2 FYs) with a £40k annual cost in the longer term. A review of forecast income from highway adoption fees over the next two years has shown that there will be in the short term income levels greater than budget that will fund these additional one off costs. The longer term resources will be funded from within the overall Transport services budget ideally from additional income.
 - b. **Human Resources (HR)** – Recruitment of a small team would be required for the first 12 months, with one FTE required in the long term.
 - c. **One Planet Council / Equalities** – No One Planet/equality impacts have been identified for this project as this is about updating existing data (any changes to how the data is shared and made available to the public is out of scope)
 - d. **Legal** – The report identifies that the Council, as the local highway authority has a statutory duty to:
 - (i) keep a list of highways maintainable at public expense; and
 - (ii) keep the Definitive Map (and Statement) under continuous review under s.53 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as modified by s.53 Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Some Legal support will be required where updating the Highway data requires further investigation and evidence.

- e. **Crime and Disorder** – No impact identified
- f. **Information Technology (IT)** – No IT impacts identified but the costs have factored the involvement of the Business Intelligence team during the first 12 months to provide data quality/ architecture/ publishing support.
- g. **Property** – No impact identified

Risk Management

19. The following risks have been identified and will be managed by the project team:

- a. Resources allocated are not sufficient to deliver the required data updates – the team will review the required work, prioritise work and review resources if required
- b. Work required is less than anticipated – the project team will partly be resources through temporary contract so resources can be reviewed on a regular basis
- c. Delays in recruitment – early engagement with HR team for advice, liaise with WWY teams, review JDs and grades if required
- d. Highly complex highway adoptions issues identified through the data update – the team will review these issues and provide separate reports and updates where complex issues require additional staff/specialist support
- e. Data formats/ compatibility with new AMS system – The team will liaise with the Business Intelligence team to establish processes and data formats and with the AMS project team as required
- f. No action taken / Option b (no additional staff resource option) – Highway adoption online records are not updated in line with LGO requirements. Non-compliance with the LGO recommendations would be likely to result in the LGO issuing a further report. After this, if the council still does not take satisfactory action it must publish a statement in a local newspaper explaining why it has refused to follow the Ombudsman's recommendations.

Contact Details

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

James Gilchrist
Director of Transport, Environment and
Planning

Report **Date** 13 August 2021
Approved

Neil Ferris
Corporate Director of Place

Specialist Implications Officer(s) List information for all

Financial:-
Name Patrick Looker
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Tel No. 01904 551633

Legal:-
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Wards Affected: [List wards or tick box to indicate all] **All**

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

The Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) decision dated 19 May 2021 is available here: [20 008 854 - Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman](#)

Annexes

Annex A – Local Government Ombudsman’s decision dated 19 May 2021

List of Abbreviations Used in this Report

AMS - Asset Management System

ASD - Additional Street Data

CRM - Customer Relationship Management

CYC – City of York Council

FTE – Full Time Equivalent

FY – Financial Year

GIS - Geographic Information System

LGO - Local Government Ombudsman

LSG - Local Street Gazetteer

NSG - National Street Gazetteer

PRoW – Public Right of Way

UPRN - Unique Property Reference Numbers

19 May 2021

Complaint reference:
20 008 854

Complaint against:
City of York Council

The Ombudsman's final decision

Summary: Mr B complains he missed out on superfast broadband because the Council's road adoption information was not accurate. We find fault with the Council for failing to update its records. The Council agreed actions to remedy the injustice to Mr B.

The complaint

1. Mr B complains the Council failed to update records to show his road was adopted. He says because of the Council's maladministration he was unable to have cables laid for faster broadband.
2. Mr B says this means he has missed the opportunity to have access to this service. He also says he experienced frustration, time and trouble pursuing the issue with the Council.

The Ombudsman's role and powers

3. We investigate complaints about 'maladministration' and 'service failure'. In this statement, I have used the word fault to refer to these. We must also consider whether any fault has had an adverse impact on the person making the complaint. I refer to this as 'injustice'. If there has been fault which has caused an injustice, we may suggest a remedy. (*Local Government Act 1974, sections 26(1) and 26A(1), as amended*)
4. If we are satisfied with a council's actions or proposed actions, we can complete our investigation and issue a decision statement. (*Local Government Act 1974, section 30(1B) and 34H(i), as amended*)

How I considered this complaint

5. I considered the information provided by Mr B and the Council with relevant law and guidance.
6. Mr B and the Council had the opportunity to comment on my draft decision. I carefully considered all the comments I received.

What I found

Law and guidance

The Highways Act 1980

7. Section 38 of the Act provides Council's with the powers to enter into an agreement to take over (adopt) a newly constructed road.
8. The 'section 38 agreement' is made between a developer and Council.

Geoplace

9. Geoplace is the central information source for UK addresses and streets. Its database includes the National Address Gazetteer. This brings together the Council's address datasets with other datasets such as Ordnance Survey and Royal Mail.
10. Utility companies use the information from the National Address Gazetteer when carrying out work to identify adopted and unadopted roads.

What happened

11. In January 2019 Mr B received a letter from an internet provider about superfast broadband installation in his street. It asked him to sign an agreement about the installation. Mr B replied and pointed out the agreement should not be necessary because his road was not private. Mr B said the Council adopted the road in 1997.
12. In July 2019 the Council checked its systems and the road was still recorded as unadopted. The Council found the paper copy of the original adoption from 1994. The Council sent confirmation of the adoption to the internet provider. It also said this issue had previously arisen in 2017 and the adoption had also been confirmed then.
13. In August 2019 the Council updated its own system and requested the update to be sent to Geoplace.
14. In March 2020 Mr B complained to the Council. He said its failure to update the systems with the correct information about the road adoption meant he missed out on superfast broadband installation.
15. Between March and November 2020 Mr B's complaint was considered through the Council's complaint process. It provided a final response in November 2020. It said:
 - The issues were with a piece of software the Council uses. They have worked with the supplier to resolve issues, but it is old software and the Council is looking to replace it.
 - The Council was aware that because of the software issues some of the data sent to Geoplace was not always up to date.
 - The Council did share the correct information about the street adoption with the contractors. The decision not to work on Mr B's street was made with the knowledge the street was adopted.
16. Mr B remained unhappy and complained to the Ombudsman.

My findings

17. I find fault with the Council for failing to ensure its records were accurate. The Council was aware of the issues about the street adoption records before 2019 and failed to take action to correct this. On balance I find that because of this fault

the utility company did not install the broadband cables to Mr B's property in 2019.

18. The Council did attempt to resolve the issue by confirming the road adoption with the company, but it was too late, and the company had already completed the work in Mr B's area and moved on. This situation could have been avoided if the correct information was on the database.
19. This caused Mr B an injustice. He missed the opportunity to have faster broadband. He also experienced the inconvenience of pursuing the matter with the Council. I am concerned the issue appears to be ongoing and could affect other residents in the Council area.

Agreed action

20. Within one month of my final decision the Council agrees to:
 - Apologise to Mr B for the faults identified in this statement.
 - Pay Mr B £300 to acknowledge the lost opportunity and avoidable time, trouble and inconvenience it caused him.
 - Provide evidence Mr B's address information is correctly updated on both the Council's road adoption system.
 - Provide evidence it has informed Geoplace of the correct information in respect of Mr B's address.
21. Within three months of my decision the Council agrees to:
 - Complete a review of its road adoption system. The review should consider how it is kept up to date and accurate.
 - Within one month of completing the review report the findings to Councillors and seek approval for changes and recommendations.
 - Within two weeks of the Councillors decision write to Mr B and explain what action it will take and what the timeframe will be for completion.
 - Provide the Ombudsman with a copy of the review report, agreed actions and timeframe for completion.
22. The Council should provide the Ombudsman with evidence it has completed all the above actions.

Final decision

23. I intend find fault with the Council causing injustice.

Investigator's decision on behalf of the Ombudsman

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Executive**26 August 2021**

Report of the Chief Operating Officer
Portfolio of the Executive Member for Finance and Performance

2021/22 Finance and Performance Monitor 1**Summary**

- 1 To present details of the overall finance and performance position for the period covering 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, together with an overview of any emerging issues. This is the first report of the financial year and assesses performance against budgets, including progress in delivering the Council's savings programme.
- 2 This report highlights a number of known pressures that need to be carefully managed throughout the year, with mitigation strategies being in place and regularly monitored across all directorates. Through ongoing monitoring and identification of mitigation alongside a review of reserves and other funding, the Council will continue to make every effort to reduce this forecast position but it is possible that it will not be reduced to the point that the outturn will be within the approved budget. The Council has £6.9m of general reserves that would need to be called on if this were the case.
- 3 As outlined in reports to Executive throughout the previous year, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a significant impact on the Council's financial position and adversely affect performance against a number of indicators.
- 4 Despite the additional funding provided by Government in both 2020/21 and the current year, an ongoing impact is to be expected due to a range of issues, including the longer term impacts on individual residents leading to an increase in the cost of care. In addition, a potential loss of both Council Tax and Business Rates income is to be expected as some businesses struggle to recover, resulting in an increase in unemployment which in turn may leave some residents unable to pay Council Tax. However, performance in collecting income continues to be positive and schemes are in place to support those who are unable to pay.

- 5 We continue to see significant and ongoing pressure across both children's and adults social care budgets in particular and an increase in social care costs directly as a result of the pandemic.
- 6 Throughout the pandemic, all Council services have gone above and beyond what can be expected. However, a huge debt of gratitude is owed particularly to those individuals who routinely put their lives on the line to keep residents and communities safe, whilst putting themselves at great risk.
- 7 It should also be noted that the pandemic is far from over in the local health sector. At the time of writing (late July) York Hospital is experiencing unprecedented demand and GPs are seeing a spike in appointments. The increased complexity of adult social care cases and a tired workforce, combined with significant pressures in the NHS and within the community, is creating pressures in the adult social care sector that need to be addressed to prevent them impacting on City of York Council's own adult social care service. These issues are not unique to York but is a national situation that is being seen in most areas across the country.
- 8 To address these challenges, whilst accepting the impact of the pandemic is still being felt across social care services, a cross-council project has been put in place to help and support adult social care teams over the coming weeks and months. By taking a staged approach as part of a co-ordinated project this will support adult's social care services, whilst avoiding introducing additional pressures or risks. This programme of work will also balance short term costs with long term savings plans and actively look to reduce costs rather than taking the more short-term immediacy approach which can have detrimental impacts in future.
- 9 Whilst the council's overall financial health provides a strong platform upon which to meet these financial challenges and good progress has been made with the achievement of savings in the year, the forecast outlined in this report remains a matter of serious concern. The ongoing pressures within social care will need to be addressed in the 2022/23 budget setting process.
- 10 With an unprecedented level of uncertainty in both the national and local economy it is therefore prudent to continue to plan on the basis of the current financial picture and begin to put in place mitigation and cost control strategies to bring the forecast expenditure down to within the current approved budgets.

Recommendations

- 11 Executive is asked to:
- note the finance and performance information and the actions needed to manage the financial position
 - approve the write off of bad debts as outlined in paragraphs 26 to 30
 - To award the two elements of the MSA Procurement as outlined in paragraphs 28 to 33 as follows:
 - i. To award the Dark Fire contract to City Fibre for 15 (with option of plus 3 plus 2) years
 - ii. To award the Managed Services contract North for 7 (with option of plus 3 x1) years

Reason: to ensure expenditure is kept within the approved budget.

Financial Summary

- 12 The gross financial pressures facing the council are projected at £7.8m but after mitigation and further action it is considered that this can be brought down to a net position of £5m.
- 13 As previously reported, there are serious underlying budget pressures across both adult and children's social care. Both adult and children's social care is operating in an extremely challenging environment and as a result additional funding of £4.3m was allocated to the People directorate in the 2021/22 budget.
- 14 This report highlights a number of known pressures that need to be carefully managed throughout the year, with mitigation strategies being in place and regularly monitored across all directorates. Through ongoing monitoring and identification of mitigation alongside a review of reserves, the Council will continue to make every effort to reduce this forecast position but it is possible that it will not be reduced to the point that the outturn will be within the approved budget. The Council has £6.9m of general reserves that would need to be called on if this were the case.
- 15 A number of measures are being introduced to ensure that there are additional expenditure controls in place including a reduction in any non-essential expenditure.
- 16 York is maintaining both sound financial management, and delivering priority services to high standards, during a period of significant challenge for local government. Whilst the Council's track record of delivering savings and the robust financial management provides a sound platform to continue to be able to deal with these future challenges there remains a

significant risk to ongoing service delivery and achievement of Council priorities that needs to be managed effectively.

Financial Analysis

- 17 The Council's net budget is £131m. Following on from previous years, the challenge of delivering savings continues with £7.9m to be achieved in order to reach a balanced budget. Early forecasts indicate the Council is facing net financial pressures of £5m (after mitigation) and an overview of this forecast, on a directorate by directorate basis, is outlined in Table 1 below. The main variations and any mitigating actions that are proposed are summarised in Annex 1.

Service area	Net budget	2021/22 Gross Forecast Variation	Mitigation	2021/22 Net Forecast Variation
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
People	69,592	8,313		8,313
Place	21,772	277	-277	0
Customers & Communities, Public Health & Corporate Services	22,182	0	0	0
Central budgets	18,344	-800	0	-800
Sub Total		7,790	-277	7,513
Contingency	-500		-500	-500
Use of COVID grants			-2,000	-2,000
Total including contingency	131,390	7,790	2,777	5,013

Table 1: Finance overview

Reserves and Contingency

- 18 The February 2021 budget report to Full Council stated that the minimum level for the General Fund reserve should be £6.4m (equating to 5% of the net budget). At the beginning of 2021/22 the reserve stood at £6.9m and, as part of the budget report, approval was given to maintain this level of reserve in 2021/22 thus giving some headroom above the minimum level to take account of the continued risks facing the council, in particular the scale of future reductions on top of those already made.
- 19 Should the mitigation outlined in annex 1 not deliver the required level of savings in the current financial year then this reserve is available to support the year end position. However, in light of the ongoing financial

challenges being faced by all councils it is now more important than ever to ensure the Council has sufficient reserves. Therefore, should it be the case that we need to draw down a substantial amount from this general reserve in 2021/22, some growth will need to be included in the 2022/23 budget to ensure that reserves can be maintained at an appropriate level.

- 20 In addition to the general reserve of £6.9m there are a range of other earmarked reserves where funds are held for a specific purpose. These reserves are always subject to an annual review but during this year these funds will again be reviewed on a quarterly basis and where appropriate to do so will be released to support the in year position. Whilst this is a prudent approach that will ensure the financial resilience of the Council it is not a substitute for resolving the underlying overspends but instead allows time to develop future savings proposals in a planned way.
- 21 As in previous years a contingency budget of £500k is in place and this is currently assumed to be available to offset the pressures outlined in this report.

Loans

- 22 Further to a scrutiny review, it was agreed that these quarterly monitoring reports would include a review of any outstanding loans over £100k. There are 2 loans in this category. Both loans are for £1m and made to Yorwaste, a company part owned by the Council. The first was made in June 2012 with a further loan made in June 2017 as agreed by Executive in November 2016. Interest is charged on both loans at 4% plus base rate meaning currently interest of 4.1% is being charged. All repayments are up to date.

Debt Write-off over £100k per account

- 23 In line with good accounting practice and the financial regulations the council writes off irrecoverable debt on a quarterly basis. If an individual debt is in excess of £100k then it requires approval by the relevant Executive member and above £500k by Executive itself. It has been some years since any such individual debts have been brought before Executive however there are three that now need member approval, the details of which are set out below.

ATI (Incinerateurs Muller) Debtor 13260743 - £139,292

- 24 This account was raised in January 2018 to recover the additional cost of working arising from the failure to operate of the companies two cremators at York Crematorium. The debt has been pursued by Legal Services however following the failure of the UK company the French parent

company also went bankrupt and we have been advised there is no hope of recovering the debt.

Adult Social Care Debt Debtor 132621 - £139,609.32

- 25 This is a deferred payment arrangement that was defaulted. Due to DP issues only limited information can be provided. The case was investigated by the police and there were custodial sentences. There is no hope of recovering the debt.

Be Independent 13191304 - £259,200.56

- 26 Be Independent returned to being a Council service in 2018 and the above debt relates to invoices raised for reimbursement of monthly payroll/salary services provided by the Council to Be Independent whilst they were still a separate company. Upon the closure of the company the Local Government Pension Scheme carries out an exit valuation which identified there would be a surplus and it was originally anticipated that this cost would be recovered from that surplus. However, a change to the Pension Regulations in 2020 means this is no longer permitted and the surplus has been retained within the Pension Fund. However, there has been some benefit to the Council in that we have been able to ring fence this credit within the Council's share of the Pension Fund. The company was formally dissolved in November 2020.
- 27 As Be Independent no longer exists as an independent organisation there is no possibility of receiving any further payment and the debt needs to be written off.

ICT Procurement

- 28 A report to the then Executive on 7th December 2017 described and sought approval for the proposed approach to procure a technology provider to deliver the City of York Council's (CYC) and Harrogate Borough Council's essential managed network services. The report can be found here:

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50901&optionId=0>

- 29 An amendment to the scope of the procurement in November 2019 to exclude Harrogate Council was made in November 2019 as follows:

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s135899/Decision%20Session%20MSA%20Scope%20Change%20Report%20Final.pdf>

- 30 It was still proposed that the new contract was to seek to procure services that include, but are not restricted to, the design, management and support of the council's (and partners') highly resilient and robust data network services (fixed, mobile and wifi), and access to the internet, office and mobile telephone services.
- 31 There was a further change to the procurement in November 2020 from a Competitive Procedure with Negotiation (CPN) to an 'Open Procedure' given the further delay to the procurement due to the pandemic. Based on feedback from the market place the procurement itself was split into two parts – Dark Fibre infrastructure element and the Managed Service element both of which have now been completed with a combined value of around £1m per year.
- 32 A competitive tender for the provision of a dark fibre network was conducted between 5th March and 4th May 2021 – this has been conducted as a 'Further Competition under Crown Commercial Services Dynamic Purchasing System (Framework RM6095). The contract will be for a period of 15 years with an option to extend for a further 3 years, followed by an optional further extension of 2 years (total 20 years).
- 33 The Managed Services element was conducted between 9th May and 30th July as an 'Open Competition'. The contract will be for a period of 7 years with the option of 3 further 1 years extensions (total 10 years).

Performance – Service Delivery

- 34 In spite of the many challenges that the organisation and City has faced over the last year, performance across the wider organisation, not just the Council plan indicators, has continued to remain high and continues to compare favourably when benchmarked against other areas with similar characteristics to York. Whilst Covid and the actions taken to tackle the global pandemic have in places affected performance in the short-term, the general pattern for data and information monitored by the Council is that levels of resident and customer satisfaction, timeliness and responsiveness, as well as various directorate and service based indicators, have remained positive.
- 35 The Executive for the Council Plan (2019-23) agreed a core set of strategic indicators to help monitor the council priorities and these provide the structure for performance updates in this report. The indicators have been grouped around the eight outcome areas included in the Council Plan. Some indicators are not measured on a quarterly basis and the DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three results whether they are annual or quarterly. It is likely that due to impacts of COVID, a number of the Council Plan indicators will see a significant change both in terms of

their numbers and their direction of travel in future reporting periods. The majority of the performance measures within the Council Plan have a lag between the data being available, and the current reporting period and therefore impacts will not be immediately seen, and may occur over several years as new data becomes available.

36 A summary of the core indicators that have a good or poor direction of travel based on the latest available data are shown below and further details around all of the core indicator set can be seen in Annex 2. Strategic indicators that have a good or improving direction of travel based on the latest available data are:

- **% of Talkabout panel who think that the council are doing well at improving green spaces** – The Talkabout panel is a bi-annual survey of residents, whom help to give a wider view of the City’s challenges and services. 51% of respondents to the Q1 2021-22 survey agreed that the council and partners are doing well at improving green spaces, an increase from 44% in Q2 2020-21.
- **Parliament Street Footfall** – Following the easing of restrictions in the leisure and tourism sector in April 2021, footfall in Parliament Street increased from 523,519 in Q4 2020-21 to 1,506,747 in Q1 2021-22. This is still lower than the figures usually seen during Q1 (around 2 million) but the figures are heading in a more positive direction.
- **Library Visits** – Due to the global coronavirus pandemic, all libraries in York closed at the end of March 2020 and continued to be affected by national lockdowns during the rest of 2020-21. Across the whole of 2020-21, there were 183,706 visits to libraries compared to 1,023,034 during 2019-20. Libraries fully re-opened during April 2021 and figures for Q1 2021-22 show that there were 106,819 visits, which shows a positive direction of travel.
- **GVA per head** - In 2019-20 (the latest available data), the GVA per head in York was £29,913 which was the second highest figure regionally. Apart from a slight dip in 2015-16, the GVA per head has been increasing annually since 2009-10 where it was £25,581 per head. Based on predicted economic trends nationally, it is expected that there will be a negative impact on GVA values in future years.

37 Strategic indicators that have a worsening direction of travel, mainly due to direct adverse effect from COVID-19 are;

- **P&R Passenger Journeys** – In 2020-21, there were a total of 0.74 million (provisional) Park and Ride passenger journeys into and out of

the city. This is lower than in 2019-20 (3.98m) and the lowest in the previous eleven years (with a high of 4.61m in 2015-16). Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, there were three national lockdowns during 2020-21 where people were required to stay at home. This explains the large reduction in numbers of people using park and ride buses. In addition, one of the park and ride sites was used as a covid testing site during the year.

- **Local bus passenger journeys** – In 2020-21, 3.07 million (provisional) local bus passenger journeys originated in the local authority area. This is much lower than the number of journeys in 2019-20 (11.56m).

Annexes

- 38 Annex 1 shows the quarterly financial summaries for each of the Council directorates.
- 39 Annex 2 shows performance updates covering the core set of strategic indicators which are used to monitor the progress against the Council Plan.
- 40 All performance data (and approximately 1,000 further datasets) within this document is made available in machine-readable format through the Council's open data platform at www.yorkopendata.org under the "performance scorecards" section.

Consultation

- 41 Not applicable.

Options

- 42 Not applicable.

Council Plan

- 43 The information and issues included in this report demonstrate progress on achieving the priorities set out in the Council Plan.

Implications

- 44 The implications are:

- **Financial** are contained throughout the main body of the report.

- **Human Resources (HR)** There are no HR implications related to the recommendations
- **One Planet Council / Equalities** Whilst there are no specific implications within this report, services undertaken by the council make due consideration of these implications as a matter of course.
- **Legal** There are no legal implications related to the recommendations
- **Crime and Disorder** There are no crime and disorder implications related to the recommendations
- **Information Technology (IT)** There are no IT implications related to the recommendations
- **Property** There are no property implications related to the recommendations
- **Other** There are no other implications related to the recommendations

Risk Management

- 45 An assessment of risks is completed as part of the annual budget setting exercise. These risks are managed effectively through regular reporting and corrective action being taken where necessary and appropriate.

Contact Details

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Wards Affected: All			✓
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Glossary of Abbreviations used in the report:

CYC	City of York Council
GVA	Gross Value Added
NHS	National Health Service
RAY	Refugee Action York

Annex 1 – Directorate Financial Summaries

People

Children's & Education

- 1 A net overspend of £6.5m is forecast primarily due to children's social care.
- 2 Before detailing the variances to be reported it is important to highlight some of the key reasons for the current budgetary position for Children's Social Care in York.
- 3 The number of Looked After Children in York has increased significantly in the past 2 years. The Looked After Children population had been stable for a number of years, in the range 190-210 at any one time however on appointment the new Directorate Management Team identified unsafe drift and delay for some children in the system. Ofsted subsequently identified this and corrective action has led to significant recalibration in the system. Numbers of care orders and children on pre proceedings continues to be stable and those in need of child protection have now returned at or below our statistical neighbour average. This means the flow of children coming into the care system has significantly reduced. However, the complexity of needs of these children remains high and capacity in the system to meet need at this level nationally is a significant challenge which is subject to an independent care review.
- 4 At the time of this monitor the Children & Young People In Care (CYPIC) number is 272, within the next 3 years some 25% of these will leave local authority care. A Reducing Service Costs Board has been established in Specialist Services chaired by the Assistant Director which will review arrangements to reduce CYPIC numbers safely, the effectiveness and impact of the Edge of Care Service, current FGC activity and progress on foster care recruitment. In addition a Strategic Overview of Permanence Group has been established, chaired by the Assistant Director to monitor the new Permanence Strategy through tight oversight of children with a plan of permanence and ensuring rigorous use of trackers in order to prevent delay and manage demand in the system.
- 5 The placements budgets are predicted to overspend by a total of £3,528k in 2021/22. This includes variances of £1,013k on

Fostering, £111k on adoption allowances and £2,402k on Out of City Placements.

- 6 The fostering projection is based on all local foster carer positions being filled, so where a child reaches 18 or a foster placement ends, then it is assumed that this is filled. The Out of City placements overspend being reported here is a significant increase (£1.5m) on previous years due to the recalibration of the proportion of these costs between the General Fund and the Dedicated Schools Grant.
- 7 Staffing budgets within the Permanency Teams are also predicted to overspend by £521k, again due mainly to vacancies being filled by temporary staff.
- 8 Safeguarding Interventions are predicted to overspend by approximately £303k, mainly due to increases in the Court and Child Protection Teams who are dealing with the increase in cases. Legal fees are predicted to overspend by approximately £430k.
- 9 Staffing budgets with Children's Social Work Services are also predicted to overspend by approximately £172k. This is mainly due to temporary staffing across the service, which the directorate has worked hard to eliminate with permanent appointments.
- 10 Significant staffing overspends totalling £558k are predicted in the MASH and Assessment teams mainly due to vacancies being covered by temporary and agency staffing.
- 11 Within Disabled Childrens Services overspends on Short Breaks of £108k, Direct Payments of £199k and staffing of £85k are predicted
- 12 It is important to note that the staffing projections included in this monitor assume the current position will continue for the first six months of 2021/22 with the Early Help restructure implemented from the 1st October 2021. If this timescale is not achieved or there are posts that will still require temporary or agency staff after this date then the staffing overspends will worsen.
- 13 Education Psychology is predicted to overspend by £72k, due to an unbudgeted post costing £43k and unachieved vacancy factor of £29k.
- 14 The Home to School Transport budget was already in a historic overspend position of approximately £200k. The savings targets for the SEN element of home to school transport have not been

achieved because of a growth in the number of pupils/students requiring transport and the specialist requirements of that transport. The main increase in numbers have been at post 16/19 where because of the city now being able to provide more specialist education provision for this group of students more locally, subsequently we have had to provide more transport to the likes of York College, Askham Bryan, Choose 2 and Blueberry Academy. The changes in legislation to allow Education and Health Care Plans to ages 19-25, resulting in significantly more students accessing this option, has significantly increased our transport spend accordingly.

- 15 The Special Educational Needs taxi transport budgets are therefore predicted to overspend by £327k based on existing numbers and prices.
- 16 A further pressure has been created due to increased pupil numbers at both Fulford and Huntington schools. These increases have resulted in a greater number eligible for Home to School transport and therefore three additional buses have been required, one from September 2019 and two more from September 2020, resulting in an additional cost of £260k across the full financial year.
- 17 These figures are based on the existing contract costs for the 2020/21 academic year. The prices for the new academic year are not known at this point and could change depending on the effect of pupil movements in September. The effect of the new academic year provision on budgets will be reported in future reports as soon as the information is available.
- 18 Underspends are projected in both the Governance Service (£23k) due to increasing external income for services, and in Early Years (£33k) due to savings on non-staffing budgets and the effect of an increase in the 5% Early Years block contribution.
- 19 The Dedicated Schools Grant position at 1st April 2021 is a deficit of £9.940m. Detailed work is ongoing to assess the 2021/22 position taking into account the savings already agreed as part of the budget process.
- 20 A number of other more minor variations make up the overall directorate position.

Adult Social Care

- 21 The projected outturn position for Adult Social Care is an overspend of £1,729k. This assumes that £1.3m of savings will be made by the year-end and that £596k of costs relating to unachievable savings and staffing working on the Hospital Discharge Programme will be covered by Covid funding. The projection is based on customer numbers in the first two months of the year and does not build in any expectations around a further surge of coronavirus, nor does it currently have any budget set aside for winter pressures.
- 22 The effect of Riccall Carers going into administration and the subsequent decision to bring the care staff in house is not built into these projections. Initial calculations indicate that the cost to the Council in 2021/22 (net of the payments that would otherwise have been made to Riccall) could be around £180k; further work is ongoing to refine this projection.
- 23 Permanent residential care is projected to underspend by £331k in total in 2021/22. Older People residential care is under by £491k, largely due to having around 28 fewer customers than in the budget. Physical & Sensory Impairment residential care on the other hand is projected to overspend by £160k due to the current average gross placement cost per customer being £4k more than in the budget.
- 24 Permanent nursing care is projected to overspend by £259k. This is largely due to the average gross cost of an Older Person nursing placement being more than in the budget.
- 25 Physical & Sensory Impairment Supported Living schemes are projected to overspend by £550k in 2021/22. This is in line with previous years and is largely due to the cost per customer being around £10k p.a. higher than when the budget was last rebased. Placements are currently being reviewed to ensure that they are still at appropriate levels.
- 26 There is currently projected to be an overspend of £289k on the Adult Social Care Community Team. This is due to having unfunded posts, not achieving the historic vacancy factor as vacant posts in the team are being covered by agency staff.
- 27 £1m has been added to the forecast to cover the additional costs which will arise in the care budgets once the customers currently being funded by Health under the Covid related Hospital Discharge Programme move to being the Council's responsibility. This funding

has reduced from six weeks to four from July 2021 and will cease all together at the end of September.

- 28 Learning disability residential budgets are projected to underspend by £467k. This is due to a combination of increased Continuing Health Care (CHC) funding and a small reduction in both the number of customers and the placement costs.
- 29 There is projected to be an overspend of £116k on Direct Payments for Learning Disability customers. This is due to an increase in the average direct payment paid per customer offset by having seven fewer customers than when the budget was set and improved performance in the recovery of surplus payments.
- 30 Mental Health Supported Living is forecast to overspend as there are 4 more customers than assumed in the budget (£152k) and on the Social Work staffing budget due to temporary unfunded agency posts (£87k). This is offset by underspends on residential care (£109k) and direct payments (£60k).
- 31 The Mental Health budget pressures were more significant in 2020/21. The budget growth given in 2021/22 allowed us to rebase most of the external care budgets so the variances are not as marked as last year. However, spend in this area is growing faster than the budget we have to support it so we will continue to see if there are better ways of supporting individuals, particularly regarding supported living.
- 32 Be Independent is projected to overspend by £304k. There is still a budget gap of £130k relating to the financial position of the service when brought back into the Council, together with an ongoing historical overspend on recharges (£50k). In addition to this there is a projected underachievement of income on sales (£49k), a projected overspend IT systems (£48k), and other overspends across the budget. We are investigating whether some of these costs can be capitalised against existing capital budgets.
- 33 Yorkcraft is projected to overspend by £60k. This is due to a budget saving of £62k agreed in 2020/21, which has not been achieved. There is a project team currently looking at future directions for the Yorkcraft service who will also review how this saving can be made by the end of the year.
- 34 Small Day Services are projected to underspend by £138k. This is largely due to vacancies at Pine Trees, Community Base and the

Community Support Assistants as some of the services are not currently open due to Covid restrictions.

- 35 As highlighted in the body of the report, the Council is pulling together a programme of work streams to deal with the current pressures within the People Directorate. This will include a number of work streams to ensure staff and customers are supported whilst also attempting to mitigation the financial pressures outlined in this report.

Place

- 36 The Directorate is currently forecasting an overspend totalling £277k (including commercial portfolio). At this time in the year it is anticipated that these pressures are managed within the overall directorate budget. This can be achieved through a review of staff charged through to other programmes, review of the waste reserve and challenging service managers over ways to reduce expenditure.
- 37 There is a forecast overspend of £350k on waste due to the continued shortfall in commercial waste income as the service is still returning to normal operating levels. Income in the first quarter is 50% below budgeted levels. The government income compensation scheme has continued for the first quarter of 2021/22 which requires councils to fund the first 5% of shortfalls and then will split the balance 75% government funding and 25% council funded. This compensation is assumed within the forecast. Income levels will continue to be monitored, at this stage it is uncertain to what level income will recover.
- 38 There remain pressures across Waste Collection as social distancing arrangements have continued and working practices adjusted whereby staff have to follow the refuse vehicles in other vehicles. It is assumed these costs (£50k) are funded from the general Covid Grant.
- 39 Whilst Transport is forecast to outturn broadly in line with budget there are a number of pressures across the service. These include staffing costs within highway regulation and IT costs relating to the implementation of the permitting system (£+200k) along with higher CCTV monitoring and maintenance costs (£+100k). There are forecast savings as Concessionary Fares payments are lower than budget as passenger numbers remain lower than budget assumptions.

- 40 There is a gross shortfall of £340k from quarter 1 on revenues from car parking. Income in April was 37% below budget as lockdown measures continued through the month. Reduced income continued until the lockdown eased mid month with hospitality business reopening. The second half of May and early June has seen income ahead of budget particularly during half term week. The government income compensation scheme remains in place for quarter 1 and once compensation is considered the net cost to the council will be £159k. It is proposed that this is funded from the council covid grant.
- 41 For the remainder of the year whilst income from off street parking is assumed to be broadly in line with budget there are anticipated shortfalls from season ticket revenues and penalty charge notices. Preliminary forecasts are a shortfall of £300k assuming that off street parking remains in line with forecast.
- 42 Within Housing, Economy and Regeneration the main forecast variance relates to commissioning design and facilities management (£+337k). The savings agreed as part of the budget are looking unlikely to be delivered and there remain pressures across the trading account. There is a forecast saving of £79k from staff vacancies across the rest of the directorate.
- 43 The directorate forecast assumes funding from the General Covid Grant totalling £1,095k. This funds the income shortfalls in quarter 1 that the council has to fund alongside SFC compensation (£227k), projected income shortfalls across parking, commercial waste, commercial property, planning and licensing for the remainder of the year (£843k) and loss of Make it York dividend £25k.

Housing Revenue Account

- 44 The Housing Revenue Account budget for 2021/22 was set as a net surplus of £741k. There were carry forwards of £2,819k agreed as part of the outturn report meaning the revised budget stands as a £1,599k deficit. Overall, the account continues to be financially strong and is forecasting a nil variance against this revised budget.
- 45 There is a forecast shortfall in dwelling rental income of £318k due to the number of void properties and the work required to bring the properties to a lettable standard. The backlog of repairs which built up during covid has combined with an increased number of council house residents moving home. This has created significant pressures within the repairs and voids team. In response an external

contractor is being deployed to help reduce the number of void properties to a more sustainable number. Housing Operations & Building Services are working together to improve the turnaround of void properties. This shortfall in rental income also impacts the service charges income, which has a shortfall of £40k. These pressures will be offset by the interest rate on debt being lower than that forecast in the business plan and land for the Housing Delivery Programme has not been appropriated as planned resulting in a lower level of debt.

- 46 The working balance as at 31 March 2021 was £28.8m. It was agreed in the outturn report that a total of £2.8m of the 2020/21 underspend would be carried forward to 2021/22 to fund capital financing, repairs backlog due to COVID delays and the financial assistance scheme. A further £0.4m was added to the working balance. Taking all these issues into account, the working balance will reduce to £27.2m at 31 March 2022. This compares to the balance forecast within the latest business plan of £26.8m.
- 47 The working balance has been increasing in order to start repaying the £121.5m debt that the HRA incurred as part of self financing in 2012. The current business plan assumes that reserves are set aside to enable to the debt to be repaid over the period 2023/24 to 2042/43.

Corporate Services, including Customers & Communities and Public Health

- 48 Overall the remaining Council services are expected to outturn within budget. There are a number of minor variations being managed and work will continue to try and identify additional savings to help the overall position.

Corporate Budgets

- 49 These budgets include Treasury Management and other corporately held funds. It is anticipated that overall a £800k underspend will be achieved, predominantly as a result of reviewing capital financing assumptions.

Annex 2 – Performance – Council Plan Outcomes

- 1 This report concentrates on the indicators that make up the Council Plan performance framework and does not cover COVID-related activity.
- 2 It is likely that due to impacts of COVID, a number of the indicators will see a significant change both in terms of their numbers and their direction of travel in future reporting periods. The majority of the performance measures within the Council Plan have a lag between the data being available, and the current reporting period and therefore impacts will not be immediately seen, and may occur over several years as new data becomes available.
- 3 Within the updates on the Council Plan indicators, are a number of indicators which show the status of economic, community or corporate recovery since the start of the pandemic.

Well paid jobs and an inclusive economy

Well paid jobs and an inclusive economy						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Business Rates - Rateable Value	£255,784,673 (Q4 2020/21)	£256,392,026 (Q1 2021/22)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
Median earnings of residents - Gross Weekly Pay (£)	£574.60 (2019/20)	£572.60 (2020/21)	➡	Annual	National Data 2020/21: £587.1 Regional Data 2020/21: £540.4	2021/22 data available in November 2021
% of working age population qualified - to at least L2 and above	83% (2019/20)	83.6% (2020/21)	➡	Annual	National Data 2020/21: 78.20%	2021/22 data available in May 2022
% of working age population qualified - to at least L4 and above	49.10% (2019/20)	46.4% (2020/21)	➡	Annual	National Data 2020/21: 43.10% Regional Data 2020/21: 37.30%	2021/22 data available in May 2022
% of vacant city centre shops	8.89% (Q4 2020/21)	9.67% (Q1 2021/22)	⬆ Bad	Monthly	National Data 2019/20 Q1 11.7%	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
GVA per head (£)	29,274 (2018/19)	29,913 (2019/20)	➡	Annual	Regional Rank 2019/20: 2	2020/21 data available in July 2022
% of working age population in employment (16-64)	78.70% (Q2 2020/21)	78.20% (Q3 2020/21)	➡	Quarterly	National Data Q3 2020/21 75.40%	Q4 2020/21 data available in October 2021

The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly.
All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform

Business Rates

- 4 The Government Core Grant Funded Support schemes for local businesses have now closed. ARG grant, however continues to be paid due to the delay in step 4. The total level of support provided since 2020, including ARG is:
 - 25,286 Business Support Grants with a value of £109.7m (Total to date)

- Approx. 1,000 Council Funded Micro Scheme payments (value of £1m in 2020-21)
- 3,192 Business Rate Reliefs 2020-21 (value of £70.228m in 2020-21)

5 There is support for qualifying businesses with their business rates through 2021-22 with numbers and values in the table below:

Business Rate Support	Number of businesses	Total value of support
100%	2179	£15,075,230
66%	1581	£10,170,453
Total	3760	£25,245, 683

6 There continues to be ongoing welfare support payments for residents into 2021-22 with a local covid support grant replacing the winter grant scheme, the extension of the isolation grant scheme to September, a further CTS hardship scheme and the YFAS fund. Support provided during 2021-22 includes:

- Over 5,800 CTS customers helped with council tax (£75) with a total value to date of £434k in 2021-22
- 239 Local Covid Support Grants totalling £71k to date in 2021-22
- 777 Isolation Grants totalling £389k (since 2020 to date)
- YFAS Payments totalling £78k to date in 2021-22
- Discretionary Housing Payments totalling £70k to date in 2021-22
- Mobile and internet access for digitally vulnerable residents totalling £2k to date in 2021-22

7 The 2021-22 collection rate for Council Tax up to the end of May 2021 was 19.85% (0.75% below the target collection rate but 0.25% above the collection rate at the same point in 2020-21).

Median earnings of residents – Gross weekly pay

8 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

% of working age population qualified – to at least L2 and above

9 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

% of working age population qualified – to at least L4 and above

10 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

GVA (Gross Value Added) per head (£)

11 In 2019-20 (the latest available data), the GVA per head in York was £29,913 which was the second highest figure regionally. Apart from a slight dip in 2015-16, the GVA per head has been increasing annually since 2009-10 where it was £25,581 per head. Based on predicted economic trends nationally, it is expected that there will be a negative impact on GVA values in future years.

% of vacant city centre shops compared to other cities

- 12 At the end of Q1 2021-22, there were 62 vacant shops in the city centre, which equates to 9.67% of all city centre shops, which is lower than the national benchmark in Q1 2019-20 of 11.7%. Properties in York are owned by different commercial parties and CYC commercial properties have very low levels of vacancies. The York figure has not fluctuated a great deal in the past 10 years, with a high of 10.3% in 2017-18 and the national benchmark figure has remained stable too, with a high of 12.3% in 2013-14.
- 13 This measure will continue to be monitored along with a number of new measures looking at vacancy rates within secondary shopping centres to broaden the economic picture of the city. At the end of Q1 2021-22, the vacancy rates within secondary shopping centres were relatively low (7% at Clifton Moor, 11% at Monks Cross, 0% in Haxby Village and 4% in Acomb High Street).
- 14 In the financial year up to the end of May 2021, there were 115 new business start-ups in the City of York Council area. This figure is slightly down on the figure at the same point in 2020 but is still showing signs of recovery.

% of working age population in employment (16-64)

- 15 No update since Q4 Monitor.
- 16 At the end of June there are 13,010 people, in York, on Universal Credit which is an increase of 103% compared with February 2020 (pre-pandemic figures). However there has been a decrease of -1% from May. This trend should continue as restrictions start to be lifted and the, nationally reported, staff vacancies in the service sector are filled.

Getting around sustainably

Getting around sustainably						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
P&R Passenger Journeys - (YTD)	3.98m (2019/20)	0.74m (Prov) (2020/21)	↓ Bad	Annual	Not available	2021/22 data available in June 2022
Local bus passenger journeys originating in the authority area (excluding P&R) - (YTD)	11.56m (2019/20)	3.07m (Prov) (2020/21)	↓ Bad	Annual	Not available	2021/22 data available in June 2022
% of road and pathway network that are grade 4 (poor) or grade 5 (very poor) - roadways	20% (2019/20)	22% (2020/21)	→	Annual	Not available	2021/22 data available in November 2021
% of road and pathway network that are grade 4 (poor) or grade 5 (very poor) - pathways	3% (2019/20)	3% (2020/21)	→	Annual	Not available	2021/22 data available in November 2021
Area Wide Traffic Levels (07:00 -19:00) (Excluding A64) from 2009/10 baseline (2.07m)	2.17m (2017/18)	2.15m (2018/19)	→	Annual	Not available	2019/20 data available in August 2021
Index of cycling activity (12 hour) from 2009 Baseline (31,587)	109.00% (2019)	91.00% (2020)	↓ Bad	Annual	Not available	2021 data available in February 2022
Index of pedestrians walking to and from the City Centre (12 hour in and out combined) from 2009/10 Baseline (37,278)	111.00% (2019/20)	103.00% (2020/21)	→	Annual	Not available	2021/22 data available in January 2022
% of customers arriving at York Station by sustainable modes of transport (cycling, walking, taxi or bus - excluding cars, Lift, Motorcycle, Train)	75.40% (2019)	Not collected due to COVID restrictions (2020)	N/a	Annual	Not available	2021 data available in December 2021

The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly.
All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform

P&R Passenger Journeys

- 17 In 2020-21, there were a total of 0.74 million (provisional) Park and Ride passenger journeys into and out of the city. This is lower than in 2019-20 (3.98m) and the lowest in the previous eleven years (with a high of 4.61m in 2015-16). Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, there were three national lockdowns during 2020-21 where people were required to stay at home. This explains the large reduction in numbers of people using park and ride buses. In addition, one of the park and ride sites was used as a covid testing site during the year.

Local bus passenger journeys

- 18 In 2020-21, 3.07 million (provisional) local bus passenger journeys originated in the local authority area. This is much lower than the number of journeys in 2019-20 (11.56m). Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, there were three national lockdowns during 2020-21 where people were required to stay at home. This explains the large reduction in numbers of people using local buses. In addition, one of the park and ride sites was used as a covid testing site during the year.

% of ROAD and pathway network that are grade 4 (poor condition) or grade 5 (very poor condition) - Roadways / Pathways

- 19 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

Area Wide Traffic Levels (07:00 -19:00) (Excluding A64)

20 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

Index of cycling activity (12 hour) / % of residents actively cycling and national comparisons

21 Cycling levels in York 2020 were 84% of 2019 levels. Historically cycling in York has been predominantly made up of “utility” cycling journeys (commuting, schools etc.) and, as much of this was heavily discouraged in lockdown (March – June 2020), such a modest fall is remarkable. If 2020 data is excluded from the dataset, progress between 2010 and 2019 is good (e.g. 2019 cycling was 8% above 2010). It is also worth noting that the percentage of adults in York who walk or cycle five times per week (50%) is higher than the regional and national averages (34.1% and 35.8%).

22 Community mobility data has been available regularly from Google since the start of the pandemic to track how visits to places such as shops and transit stations are changing. Data is sourced through phone location history where consented and changes for each day are compared to a baseline value for that day of the week taken during January and February 2020. At the end of June 2021, in York, there had been a 4% reduction in retail and recreation activity, a 12% increase in grocery and pharmacy activity, and a 33% reduction in the use of Public Transport. Overall, York has performed better than the national averages.

Index of pedestrians walking to and from the City Centre (12 hour in and out combined)

23 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

% of customers arriving at York Station by sustainable modes of transport (cycling, walking, taxi or bus – excluding cars, lift, motorcycle or train)

24 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

Good Health and Wellbeing

Good Health and Wellbeing						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Proportion of adults in contact with secondary mental health services living independently, with or without support	60.00% (Q3 2020/21)	62.00% (Q4 2020/21)	↓ Bad	Quarterly	National Data 2019/20 58.00%	Q1 2021/22 data available in September 2021
Delayed transfers of care from hospital which are attributable to adult social care, per 100,000 population (YTD Average)	6.6 (2018/19)	4.9 (2019/20)	→	Quarterly	National Data 2019/20 3.2	Data collection for March 2020 onwards has been suspended due to COVID-19
Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support	63.80% (2018/19)	68.10% (2019/20)	→	Annual	National Data 2019/20 64.20%	2020/21 data available in December 2021
% of reception year children recorded as being obese (single year)	9.50% (2018/19)	7.60% (2019/20)	→	Annual	National Data 2019/20 9.90%	2020/21 data available in December 2021
Slope index of inequality in life expectancy at birth - Female - (Three year period)	6.2 (2018/19)	6.2 (2019/20)	→	Annual	Regional Rank 2019/20: 3	2020/21 data available in May 2022
Slope index of inequality in life expectancy at birth - Male - (Three year period)	8.4 (2018/19)	8.3 (2019/20)	→	Annual	Regional Rank 2019/20: 3	2020/21 data available in May 2022
% of adults (aged 16+) that are physically active (150+ moderate intensity equivalent minutes per week, excl. gardening)	67.10% (2019/20)	66.70% (Q2 2020/21)	→	Bi-annual	National Data Q2 2020/21 61.40%	2020/21 data available in November 2021
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

- 25 There has been an increasing initial contact demand for adult social care during the past year, partly caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, although there have been variations in how likely these contacts are to receive care packages. Our Customer Contact Workers record the number of contacts received to ASC, whether made by email, telephone or other methods. During 2021-22 Q1, they received 4,327 contacts, which is 17% higher than the number received during 2020-21 Q1 (3,684). Around 21% of the contacts during 2021-22 Q1 were resolved using Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG), which is lower than the percentage that were resolved using IAG during 2021-22 Q4 (34%); this reflects the increasing complexity of issues that are dealt with by them, and a change in recording practice to record clients who 'only' received IAG; most clients will receive an element of IAG during their contact, regardless of the outcome of it.
- 26 After an initial fall in the early months in the number of individuals in residential/nursing care placements during 2020-21, mainly due to the Covid crisis, this number has remained relatively stable. At the end of 2021-22 Q1, this number was 558, compared to 566 at the end of 2020-21 Q1. CYC have been relatively successful in ensuring that the number of new admissions to residential/nursing care have been low over the last year, partly because of the policy that people should no longer be placed in residential/nursing care directly following hospital discharge, but this number is being to increase. During 2021-22 Q1 the number of new admissions of older people to residential/nursing care was 44, an increase of 63% on the 2020-21 Q1 figure of 27.

- 27 There has been a fall in recent months in the demand for home care services. At the end of 2021-22 Q1 there were 714 people in receipt of a home care service; this is 3% lower than the corresponding figure at the end of 2020-21 Q1 (736).
- 28 In the first three months of 2021-22, there were 142 clients that received a paid ASC service for the first time (“new starters”). This is a significant reduction from the number in the corresponding three months of 2020-21 (201). However, there has been an increase in the number during 2021-22 Q1 (158) that have returned to ASC for a paid service compared with the number during 2020-21 Q1 (118). This suggests that although we are doing well in keeping the number of first-time entrants low, there are still challenges involved in ensuring that those who have received a service do not return in the future; they tend to be younger than new starters, and thus spend longer in the system.

Proportion of adults in contact with secondary mental health services living independently

- 29 The percentage of all adults in contact with secondary mental health services living independently, with or without support, has fallen over the last year; during 2020-21 Q4 (the latest figures available), 68% of them were doing so, compared with 80% a year earlier. The 2019-20 ASCOF results showed that York is the 18th best performing LA in the country with a performance of 80% in this measure, compared with 61% in all unitary authorities and 63% in its statistical neighbour group.
- 30 During 2020-21 Q4 (the latest figures available), 20% of all clients in contact with secondary mental health services were in employment – a figure that has consistently been above the regional and national averages. Based on the 2019-20 ASCOF results, York is the 4th best performing LA in the country on this measure, with 22% of all those in contact with secondary mental health services in employment, compared with 10% in all unitary authorities and 9% in its statistical neighbour group. However, NHS Digital have acknowledged that there are issues with the quality of some of its statistics because of the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, so it is possible that the percentages quoted above may be subject to future revision.

Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support

- 31 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

% of reception year children recorded as being obese (single year)

- 32 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

Healthy Life expectancy at birth – Female/Male (slope index of inequality)

- 33 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

% of adults (aged 16+) that are physically active (150+ moderate intensity equivalent minutes per week, excluding gardening)

34 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

A Better Start for Children and Young People

A Better Start for Children and Young People						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Secondary school persistent absence rate (10% absence) (recorded over 6 terms) (relates to prev academic year to financial year shown)	15.50% (2017/18)	13.18% (2018/19)	➔	Annual	Not available	Data for 2019/20 will not be released due to COVID19
Voice of the Child - Service Usage and Life Opportunities	Narrative	Narrative	N/A	Quarterly	Not available	Q4 2020/21 narrative available in July 2021
% of children who have achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) at Foundation Stage - (Snapshot)	74.80% (2017/18)	75.60% (2018/19)	➔	Annual	National Data 2018/19 71.80%	Data for 2019/20 will not be released due to COVID19
Average Progress 8 score from KS2 to KS4	0.11 (2017/18)	0.22 (2018/19)	↑ Good	Annual	National Data 2018/19 0.01	Data for 2019/20 will not be released due to COVID19
% of pupils achieving 9-4 or above in English & Maths at KS4 (C or above before 2016/17)	69.60% (2017/18)	73.60% (2018/19)	➔	Annual	National Data 2018/19 65.70%	Data for 2019/20 will not be released due to COVID19
%pt gap between disadvantaged pupils (eligible for FSM in the last 6 years, looked after and adopted from care) and their peers achieving 9-4 in English & Maths at KS4	33.20% (2017/18)	29.40% (2018/19)	➔	Annual	National Data 2018/19 27.00%	Data for 2019/20 will not be released due to COVID19
% of Year 12-13 (academic age 16-17) NEET who possess less than a L2 qualification - (Snapshot)	89.40% (Q4 2020/21)	90.60% (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021

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- 35 The number of children in care has reduced slightly to 272. Whilst the number of children in our care has remained comparatively stable for more than a year, the age distribution has changed. We have seen a gradual increase in the number of school-aged children in care over the last 12 months. This has wide-ranging implications on areas such as placement sufficiency, permanence planning and the virtual school.
- 36 The number of children subject to a child protection plan increased to 140 at the end of June 2021, compared to 129 at the end of 2020-21. This is within the expected safe range for York (per 10,000 population) compared to statistical neighbours.
- 37 The number of referrals to children's social care in Q1 2021-22 was 452, which was akin to 2019-20 quarterly averages. As anticipated, referral volumes are showing a return to expected levels in comparison to the turbulent year of 2020-21. However, May and June saw lower than expected rates.
- 38 The number of contacts to Early Help continues to rise month-on-month. There were 658 in Q1 2021-22 compared to 573 in Q4 2020-21.

Voice of the Child

- 39 Advocacy casework for children and young people who are in care or leaving care, going through the child protection process or wanting to

make a complaint, has continued to be provided throughout this period. Between April and June 2021, Speak Up received a total of 17 referrals for advocacy; 6 referrals for children and young people in care, 9 referrals for care leavers and 2 referrals for young people subject to a Child Protection Plan.

- 40 The majority of our participation opportunities have continued to be delivered remotely, with our Children in Care Council (Show Me That I Matter) being engaged virtually via Zoom meetings. Our Care Leavers Forum (I Still Matter) had their first face to face meeting in June and also attended the Corporate Parenting Board in July. Young people have discussed various topics including how young people in care can have a better experience of working with health professionals, the importance of relationships and what it feels like to be loved, the experiences of some of our unaccompanied asylum seeking young people and how we celebrate the achievements of children and young people in care.
- 41 Young people have also delivered training to prospective foster carers and taken part in interviewing for the Director of Children's and Adults Safeguarding, and prospective student social workers.
- 42 York Youth Council (YYC) meetings have continued to be delivered during this period on a remote basis as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions. In Q1, fortnightly meetings have taken place via Zoom and the youth council have focussed on online campaigns and projects. During Q1, guests from York's Racial Equality Network (YREN) have spoken to YYC about Domestic Abuse. The guests from YREN and York High have initiated a partnership with YYC to form an Equalities panel. YYC also met with Jo Williams to discuss Rights of the Child and Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) and have continued their partnership.
- 43 Work has continued with University of York volunteers on the Young people's human rights project and the survey will inform the work and resources of the project. YYC has worked on producing a video on young people's human rights using their survey results. The video features our young people who attend the youth council and has been an inclusive project utilising our youth councillors connections with their peers. YYC have continued to plan their future work including re-freshing their Minding Minds award in the autumn term 2021. This scheme was created by youth council members centred around recognising schools that prioritise and invest resource in mental health of young people and their students at schools. Mental Health was also one of the top issues as voted by the UK Make Your Mark youth consultation of 185,000 young people aged 11-18 in the United Kingdom and over 100 young people who voted in York. Youth Council will look to continue their work on the top 6 Make Your

Mark results which were as follows: Support our Mental Health (25 votes); Take Action on the Climate Emergency (22 votes); Free University (20 votes); Domestic Violence (25 votes); Homelessness (18 votes) and Access to Training and Jobs (13 votes). YYC have decided to re-phrase Free University to Tackling Education; and to rephrase Domestic Violence to Domestic Abuse to be more inclusive.

- 44 YYC are looking forward to working with partners on these topics and are creating awareness resources and a 'where to go for help' information sheet. Young people in the youth council are looking forward to building a stronger working relationship with the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP).
- 45 Representatives from YYC have continued to take part in a number of virtual regional workshops, conferences and meetings, mainly facilitated by British Youth Council and the Steering Group, enabling them to communicate with different MPs from across the region about current issues, as well as other Youth Councils.

Secondary school persistent absence rate

- 46 The May 2020 pupil census was cancelled by the Department for Education due to COVID-19. National and local schools attendance data has not yet been released by DfE. It is anticipated that DfE will release a version of the standard attendance performance but the details are not known yet.

% of children who have achieved a Good level of Development (GLD) at Foundation Stage

- 47 There is no data for 2019-20 as the tests were cancelled due to the pandemic. We do not anticipate any data for 2020-21.

Education Progression (Average Progress 8 score from KS2 to KS4) and GCSE Results (% of pupils achieving 9-4 in English and Maths at KS4)

- 48 Progress 8 is a measure of the progress made by pupils between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4. A positive score represents progress above the average for all pupils and a negative score progress below the average for all pupils.
- 49 In 2020 and 2021, due to COVID-19, all GCSE, AS and A level exams were cancelled and replaced by a combination of teacher assessment, mock exam results, course work and a standardised calculation.
- 50 The Department for Education did not release data for 2019-20 due to the way in which Key Stage 4 results were calculated. We do not anticipate any data for 2020-21.

% point gap between disadvantaged pupils (eligible for FSM in the last 6 years, looked after and adopted from care) and their peers achieving 9-4 in English and Maths at KS4

51 The DfE did not release data for 2019-20 due to the way in which Key Stage 4 results were calculated due to COVID-19. We are not anticipating any data for 2020-21.

52 Reducing the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers is a key priority in all phases of education across 0-19 years.

% of 16-17 year olds who are NEET who do not have a L2 qualification

53 The proportion of 16-17 year olds in York who are NEET remains at a similar level to historical trends and there is a correlation with disadvantage, with the majority of young people that are NEET being from the wards with the highest levels of deprivation. At the end of June 2021, 90.6% of young people who were NEET did not have a Level 2 qualification.

A Greener and Cleaner City

A Greener and Cleaner City						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	48.37% (Prov) (2019/20)	44.13% (Prov) (2020/21)	➡	Quarterly	National Data 2019/20 43.50%	Q1 2021/22 data available in October 2021
Residual household waste per household (kg/household)	460.81kg (Prov) (2019/20)	496.68kg (Prov) (2020/21)	➡	Quarterly	National Data 2019/20 537.2kg	Q1 2021/22 data available in October 2021
Incidents - Flytipping /Cleansing(includes dog fouling,litter)/Graffiti - On Public/Private Land	598 (Q4 2020/21) (Flytipping)	557 (Q1 2021/22) (Flytipping)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
	574 (Q4 2020/21) Cleansing	521 (Q1 2021/22) Cleansing	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
	157 (Q4 2020/21) Graffiti	54 (Q1 2021/22) Graffiti	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
Citywide KPI on air quality (to be created during CP lifespan)	N/A	In development	N/A	TBC	Not available	Indicator to be created during Council Plan lifespan
Carbon emissions across the city (to be created during CP lifespan)	N/A	In development	N/A	TBC	Not available	Indicator to be created during Council Plan lifespan
Level of CO2 emissions from council buildings and operations (Net emissions) (to be created during CP lifespan)	N/A	In development	N/A	TBC	Not available	Indicator to be created during Council Plan lifespan
Flood Risk properties assessed at lower level than 2019 baseline (to be created during CP lifespan)	N/A	In development	N/A	TBC	Not available	Indicator to be created during Council Plan lifespan
Number of Trees Planted (CYC)	271 (2020/21)	0 (Q1 2021/22)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
% of Talkabout panel who think that the council are doing well at improving green spaces	44.31% (Q2 2020/21)	51.00% (Q1 2021/22)	⬆ Good	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2021/22 data available in January 2021
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Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting

- 54 The latest provisional data for the amount of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting was 38% during Q4 2020-21, which is an increase from 36% during the same period in 2019-20. Figures for the whole of 2020-21 show a slight decrease to 44% of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting, from 48% in 2019-20.

Residual household waste per household (kg/household)

- 55 The latest provisional residual waste (i.e. non-recyclable) per household data shows that figures have remained stable during 2020-21 with 124kg of residual household waste per household during Q4. The total residual household waste per household for the whole of 2020-21 is 497kg, which compares to 461kg in 2019-20.

Incidents - Fly tipping / Rubbish / Cleansing (includes dog fouling, litter and all other cleansing cases) / Graffiti – On Public/Private Land

- 56 The number of service calls received during Q1 2021-22 due to fly-tipping, graffiti and cleansing (including dog fouling and litter) have all decreased since Q4 2020-21 (fly-tipping from 598 to 557, graffiti from 157 to 54 and cleansing from 574 to 521).

Air Quality

- 57 York now has a fully electric taxi service as a result of our taxi incentive scheme to encourage taxi operators to switch from diesel or petrol to low emission alternatives. 11 grants worth £32k have been awarded to taxi drivers; £73k is still available to taxi drivers who want to switch to electric or hybrid vehicles before the end of March 2022.
- 58 Clean Air Day took place in June and this year's focus was on protecting children's health from air pollution at schools. Banners and other information was provided to schools to raise awareness amongst children, staff and parents of the impact of vehicle idling on the health of children. The council have worked with York hospital, retail parks and York station to encourage walking and cycling to schools and elsewhere.
- 59 The council have appointed consultants to undertake a feasibility study and subsequent pilot scheme to reduce emissions relating to deliveries in York. The information gathered will help to determine the source of traffic pollution in York to inform actions in the forthcoming Air Quality Action Plan.

Trees Planted

- 60 During 2020-21, there were 271 trees planted, including 250 whips on Bootham Stray in February and larger trees in streets and parks in March. Due to the seasonal nature of tree planting, figures for 2021-22 will be available later in the year.

% of Talkabout panel who think that the council and partners are doing well at improving green spaces

- 61 The resident satisfaction survey taken biannually by the Talkabout panel resumed in Q1 2021-22. The panel has grown throughout the last year following increased engagement from residents throughout the pandemic. 606 members responded to the Q1 survey which is the highest response rate received for this particular survey. (760 residents responded to an extract of resident satisfaction questions as part of a city wide Our Big Conversation survey in Q1 2020/21).
- 62 The results for Q1 2021-22 showed that 51% of respondents agreed the Council and its partners are doing well at improving green spaces. Agreement has been rising steadily through the last few surveys and the current percentage is the highest seen since this question was asked as part of the Big York Survey in 2012/13 with 60% agreeing. Resident engagement on the York Community Woodland may have contributed to residents' awareness of work in this area. Whilst the Council would like this percentage to be higher, the question in the survey is around improving green spaces, rather than maintaining them.
- 63 When asked about improving the quality of streets/public spaces, 41% of survey respondents thought that the Council and its partners are doing well, which is a decrease from 48% in Q2 2020/21 but higher than the 33-35% agreeing in 2019/20. 76% agreed they were doing well at conserving York's heritage which is an increase from 63% in Q2 2020/21 and an area which remains consistently high for the council.

Creating Homes and World-class infrastructure

Creating homes and World-class infrastructure						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Net Additional Homes Provided - (YTD)	560 (2019/20)	182 (at Q2 2020/21)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	2020/21 full year data available in August 2021
Net Housing Consents - (YTD)	3,466 (2019/20)	950 (at Q2 2020/21)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	2020/21 full year data available in August 2021
Number of homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation - (Snapshot)	27 (Q2 2020/21)	19 (Q3 2020/21)	⬇️ Good	Quarterly	Not available	Q4 2020/21 data available in August 2021
Average number of days to re-let empty properties (excluding temporary accommodation) - (YTD)	66.86 (Q4 2020/21)	54.05 (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
Energy efficiency - Average SAP rating for all Council Homes	70.60 (2018/19)	70.60 (2019/20)	➔	Annual	Not available	2020/21 data available in November 2021
Number of new affordable homes delivered in York	64 (Q1 2020/21)	19 (Q2 2020/21)	⬆️ Good	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2020/21 data available in August 2021
Average broadband download speed (Mb/s)	56.1 (2019/20)	147.1 (2020/21)	➔	Annual	National Data 2020/21 68.92	2021/22 data available in December 2021
Superfast broadband availability	93.81% (2019/20)	94.13% (2020/21)	➔	Annual	National Data 2020/21 94.91%	2021/22 data available in December 2021

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New Additional Homes Provided

64 No update since Q4 Monitor.

Net Housing Consents

65 No update since Q4 Monitor.

Number of homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation

66 No update since Q4 Monitor.

Average number of days to re-let empty Council properties (excluding temporary accommodation)

67 The average number of days to re-let empty Council properties (excluding temporary accommodation) decreased from 67 days at the end of March 2021 to 54 days at the end of June 2021. The increase in days previously seen during 2020-21 was mainly due to the repairs team being unable to repair vacant properties due to the COVID-19 restrictions. As restrictions have eased, it is hoped this indicator will continue to improve.

Energy efficiency – Average SAP rating for all Council Homes

68 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

Number of new affordable homes delivered in York

69 No update since Q4 Monitor.

70 The latest quarterly planning application data (Q3 2020-21) shows that:

- Major decisions within 13 weeks – York is at 100% and is ranked first regionally (out of 21) and first (out of 15) against CIPFA statistical neighbours
- Minor decisions within 8 weeks – York is at 91% and is ranked fifth regionally (out of 21) and fifth (out of 15) against CIPFA statistical neighbours
- Other decisions within 8 weeks – York is at 91% and is ranked eighth regionally (out of 21) and sixth (out of 15) against CIPFA statistical neighbours

Superfast broadband availability/Average broadband download speed (Mbs)

71 No update since Q4 Monitor as annual data.

Safe Communities and culture for all

Safe Communities and culture for all						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live	84.90% (Q2 2020/21)	84.00% (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Community Life Survey 2019/20 75.90%	Q3 2021/22 data available in January 2021
All Crime per 1000 population	11.7 (Q4 2020/21)	5.6 (May 2021)	➔	Quarterly	National Data 2020/21 75.9	Q1 2021/22 data available in August 2021
Number of Incidents of ASB within the city centre ARZ	321 (Q4 2020/21)	110 (May 2021)	↓ Good	Quarterly	Not available	Q1 2021/22 data available in August 2021
Visits - All Libraries	29,599 (Q4 2020/21)	106,819 (Q1 2021/22)	↑ Good	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
Visits - York Museums Trust (to be created during CP lifespan)	N/A	In development	N/A	TBC	Not available	Indicator to be created during Council Plan lifespan
% of Talkabout panel who agree that they can influence decisions in their local area	27.30% (Q2 2020/21)	27.00% (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Community Life Survey 2019/20 26.80%	Q3 2021/22 data available in January 2021
% of Talkabout panel who give unpaid help to any group, club or organisation	71.22% (Q2 2020/21)	56.00% (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Community Life Survey 2019/20 63.60%	Q3 2021/22 data available in January 2021
Parliament Street Footfall	523,519 (Q4 2020/21)	1,506,747 (Q1 2021/22)	↑ Good	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021

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% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live

- 72 Results from the Q1 2021-22 Talkabout survey showed that 88% of the panel were satisfied **with York** as a place to live, an increase from 86% in Q2 2020-21 and consistent with previous years. 84% were satisfied with **their local area** (a decrease from 85% in Q2 2020-21). A slight decline in satisfaction with the local area can be seen over recent years but York continues to perform well against the latest national figures of 76% (Community Life Survey 2019-20) and 80% (Local Government Association Poll Feb 2021).

All Crime per 1000 population

- 73 Overall crime levels in York have remained stable during 2020-21 with 11.7 crimes per 1,000 population during Q4 2020-21. Figures for the whole of 2020-21 show that there were 52.4 crimes per 1,000 population, compared to 66 in 2019-20. This figure for 2020-21 is the lowest recorded annual number of crimes per 1,000 population since 2015-16. Figures for May 2021 (5.6) indicate that rates are remaining fairly stable into 2021-22.

Number of Incidents of ASB within the city centre (Alcohol Restriction Zone)

- 74 Incidents of anti-social behaviour have remained stable during 2020-21 with 321 incidents during Q4 2020-21. Figures for the whole of 2020-21 (1,410) show a reduction compared to 2019-20 (1,689) and is the lowest number of reported incidents since data has been collected. Figures for May 2021 (110) indicate that incidents are remaining stable into 2021-22.

Visits - All Libraries / YMT

- 75 Due to the global coronavirus pandemic, all libraries in York closed at the end of March 2020 and continued to be affected by national lockdowns during the rest of 2020-21. Across the whole of 2020-21, there were 183,706 visits to libraries compared to 1,023,034 during 2019-20.

Libraries fully re-opened during April 2021 and figures for Q1 2021-22 show that there were 106,819 visits, which shows a positive direction of travel.

% of Talkabout panel who agree that they can influence decisions in their local area

76 Results from the Q1 2021-22 Talkabout survey found that 27% of panellists agreed that they could influence decisions in their local area which is the same as the latest national figure of 27% (Community Life Survey 2019-20). The percentage agreeing has been between 27-30% over the past three years with the highest amount agreeing in Q1 2020-21.

% of Talkabout panel who give unpaid help to any group, club or organisation

77 Results from the Q1 2021-22 Talkabout survey found that 56% of panellists had given unpaid help to any group, club or organisation within the last 12 months which is lower than in previous years. Around 71% of residents indicated yes during 2020-21 when this question was asked as part of the city wide 'Our Big Conversation' survey. Prior to the pandemic, the percentage of Talkabout panellists giving unpaid help was around 65-67%. The latest national figure taken from the government's Community Life Survey 2019-20 is 64% with new data for 2020-21 expected in August.

% of Talkabout panel satisfied with the council's response to COVID-19

78 In line with the national polling on resident satisfaction, an additional question was added to the Q1 2021-22 Talkabout survey on the council's response to COVID-19. 53% of the panel were satisfied with the way the council had supported them and their household during the pandemic which is comparable to the national poll (also 53%). 8% were dissatisfied, which is lower than the national figure of 14%.

Parliament Street Footfall & Secondary Centre Footfall

79 Due to the global coronavirus pandemic, restrictions were placed on movement during 2020-21 and leisure and the vast majority of retail businesses were closed at various points during the year due to national lockdowns. This had a severe impact on the number of visitors to the city centre which mirrored the situation countrywide. Following the easing of restrictions in the leisure and tourism sector in April 2021, footfall in Parliament Street increased from 523,519 in Q4 2020-21 to 1,506,747 in Q1 2021-22. This is still lower than the figures usually seen during Q1 (around 2 million) but the figures are heading in a more positive direction.

An open and effective Council

An open and effective Council						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Forecast Budget Outturn (£000s Overspent / -Underspent) - CYC	£1,328 (excluding contingency) (2020/21)	£7,513 (excluding contingency) (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in November 2021
Average Sickness Days per FTE - CYC (Excluding Schools) - (Rolling 12 Month)	8.81 (Q4 2020/21)	8.63 (May 2021)	➔	Quarterly	CIPD Public Sector 2020/21 8	Q1 2021/22 data available in August 2021
Customer Services Waiting Times - Phone / Footfall / Webchat	00:00:14 (Phone) (Q4 2020/21)	00:01:22 (Phone) (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
	0% (Footfall) (Q4 2020/21)	65.20% (Footfall) (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
	95.80% (Webchat) (Q4 2020/21)	94.50% (Webchat) (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
Number of days taken to process Housing Benefit new claims and change events (DWP measure)	1.98 (Q4 2020/21)	3.25 (May 2021)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q1 2020/21 data available in August 2021
% of complaints responded to within required timescales (currently 5 days)	N/C	53.60% (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
CYC Apprenticeships	14 (Q4 2020/21)	13 (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021
FOI & EIR - % In time - (YTD)	82.17% (Q4 2020/21)	78.20% (Q1 2021/22)	➔	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2021/22 data available in October 2021

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All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform

Average Sickness Days per FTE - CYC (Excluding Schools)

- 80 At the end of May 2021, the average number of sickness days per FTE (rolling 12 months) was 8.63 days compared to 11.57 at the end of May 2020. Full details of activity to tackle sickness are within the main report.

Customer Services Waiting Times (Phone / Footfall / Webchat etc)

- 81 Customer Service is the main point of contact for residents and business visitors. During Q1 2021-22, the number of calls received increased to 52,708 (44,615 in Q4 2020-21), with 86% answered (45,390). 44% of calls were answered within 20 seconds. In addition, approximately 539 people contacted Customer Service for support due to the impact of COVID-19. The increase in demand was a result of council tax annual billing, issues with waste collection and elections. The reduction in performance during Q1 is a result of an increase in demand and staff attrition.
- 82 During Q1, 35 customers booked an appointment with Customer Service at West Offices and a further 919 'dropped by' and received support. This figure includes Probation Services, Registrars and Blue Badge assessments. The majority of people 'dropping in' can access services without having to come to West Offices. In addition to speaking to customers over the phone, the customer service team also responded to 14,371 e-mails (an increase from 12,876 in the previous quarter). Customers are now opting to access services using alternative means:

- 8,916 customers made payments using the auto payments facility
- 16,860 people used the auto operator
- 50% of street lighting and street cleansing issues were reported by customers on-line
- There were around 2 million pages of the CYC website reviewed
- Web chat is now available for Council Tax customers, with 1,747 customers using the chat service during Q1, 95% of customers waited no more than 20 seconds for their chat to be answered and 88% said they were satisfied with the service.

Number of days to process Benefit claims (currently Housing Benefit)

83 Due to improvements in digital processes, performance in this area remains consistently strong in York, with the average number of days taken to process a new Housing Benefit claim, or a change in circumstance, being just over three days during May 2021. York performance is higher than the national average of 5.1 days (2019-20).

% of complaints responded to within timescales

84 In Q1 2021/22 the council received 138 complaints that were responded to as a Level 1 (corporate – 4Cs, Stage 1 in the statutory Childrens social care complaints process, Green in the statutory complaints process for adults social care) and responded to 53.6% of them within their required timescales. This shows a decrease for the in time performance since last reporting quarter.

85 A number of factors have contributed to this e.g. some resources still being diverted due to covid 19, a Complaints Adviser vacancy in the Corporate Governance Team (which has been filled from 12th July 2021) and also the transition period from the old to new procedures for responding to corporate complaints. There is ongoing work to look at how this can be improved going forward.

CYC Apprenticeships

86 At the end of June 2021, there were 13 CYC apprenticeships (this measure excludes those within schools and looks at standalone apprenticeships only, which does not include those being completed by staff alongside an existing CYC role). The covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the recruitment of new apprentices into the organisation, however, CYC continues to actively recruit new apprentices and offer a diverse range of apprenticeship qualifications at levels 2 to 4. These range from Cyber Security Technologist and Stonemasons along with traditional standards in Social Work and Solicitors. In recent months, 7 new apprentices started in Building Services and were the first cohort of 16 planned apprentices in the Place directorate.

City wide, job vacancies for apprenticeships reached their highest level for years in July, with a weekly average of 180 adverts for 260 jobs within 15 miles of York. The 2019 and early 2020 average was around 60 jobs. Vacancies have been climbing since the end of 2020 with all sectors now represented, including hospitality and retail.

FOI & EIR - % In time

- 87 In Q1 2021/22, the council received 426 FOIs (Freedom of Information Act requests) and EIRs (Environmental Information Regulation requests) and 31 SARs (subject access to records request). We achieved a 78.2% in time compliance for FOIs and EIRs and 61.3% for SARs. This shows a drop in the timeliness of responses from the previous reporting quarter and work is underway within the team and with service areas to improve compliance with response timescales.

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Executive**26 August 2021**

Report of the Chief Finance Officer

Capital Programme – Monitor 1 2021/22**Summary**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to set out the projected outturn position for 2021/22 including any under/over spends and adjustments, along with requests to re-profile budgets to/from current and future years.
- 2 The 2021/22 capital programme approved by Council on 25 February 2021 and updated for amendments reported to Executive in the 2020/21 outturn report resulted in an approved capital budget of £220.542m.

Recommendations

- 3 Executive is asked to:
 - Recommend to Full Council the adjustments resulting in a decrease in the 2021/22 budget of £62.138m as detailed in the report and contained in Annex A.
 - Note the 2021/22 revised budget of £158.404m as set out in paragraph 6 and Table 1.
 - Note the restated capital programme for 2021/22 – 2025/26 as set Reason: to enable the effective management and monitoring of the Council's capital programme.

Consultation

- 4 The capital programme was developed under the capital budget process and agreed by Council on 25 February 2021. Whilst the capital programme as a whole is not consulted on, the individual scheme proposals and associated capital receipt sales do follow a consultation process with local Councillors and residents in the locality of the individual schemes.

Summary of Key Issues

- 5 A decrease of £62.138m is detailed in this monitor resulting in a revised capital programme for 2021/22 of £158.404m. There is a decrease of £5.164 in 2021/22 and a re-profiling of budgets to future years totalling £56.974m. The majority of this re-profiling is due to delays in schemes such as the Local Authority Homes projects and re-profiling of schemes such as WYTF Station Frontage, YORR Dualling and York Central Infrastructure to match latest expected expenditure profiles.
- 6 Table 1 outlines the variances reported against each portfolio area and a summary of the key exceptions and implications on the capital programme are highlighted in the paragraphs that follow.

Department	Current Approved Budget £m	Projected Outturn £m	Adjustment £m	Reprofile £m	Total Variance £m	Paragraph Ref
Children, Education & Communities	27.329	27.329	-	-	-	-
Health, Housing & Adult Social Care – Adult Social Care	2.297	2.297	-	-	-	-
Health, Housing & Adult Social Care – Housing & Community Safety	58.205	42.128	2.535	(18.612)	(16.077)	8 – 27
Economy & Place – Transport, Highways & Environment	88.113	60.879	(1.057)	(26.177)	(27.234)	28 – 30
Economy & Place – Regeneration & Asset Management	35.892	16.760	(7.667)	(11.465)	(19.132)	32 – 39
Community Stadium	2.066	2.066	-	-	-	40
Customer & Corporate services	3.445	4.320	1.025	(0.150)	0.875	41 – 44
IT Development Plan	3.195	2.625	-	(0.570)	(0.570)	45 - 48
Total	220.542	158.404	(5.164)	(56.974)	(62.138)	

Table 1 Capital Programme Forecast Outturn 2021/22

Analysis

Children, Education & Communities

- 7 The Education capital programme currently has no figures in the programme beyond 2022/23. This is due to the majority of Education and particularly school capital expenditure being dependent on grant allocations from the DfE which have not been announced beyond 2021/22. Although it is expected that grant allocations will continue, it is difficult to forecast the level of these allocations until the spending review results have been published

Housing & Community Safety

- 8 Amendments to this area of the capital programme have resulted in a reduction of £16.077m in 2021/22. Further details on variance schemes can be found below.

Scheme	Amendment	Amount 21/22 £m	Amount 22/23 £m	Amount 23/24 £m	Amount 25/26 £m	Further Details – Paragraph ref
Major Repairs & Modernisation of LA Homes	Re-profile	(1.152)	1.152	-	-	9-14
Major Repairs & Modernisation of LA Homes	Adjustment	0.107	-	-	-	13
LA Homes Phase 2	Re-profile	(2.400)	1.200	1.200	-	15
LA Homes Phase 2	Adjustment	0.469	-	-	-	15
LA Homes – New Build project	Re-profile	(8.250)	2.000	-	6.250	16
LA Homes – Burnholme	Re-profile	(4.000)	-	3.400	0.600	21
Lowfield Housing	Adjustment	(2.000)	1.300	0.700	-	20
Duncombe Barracks	Re-profile	(0.500)	-	0.500	-	21
Water Mains Upgrade	Re-profile	(0.060)	(0.240)	0.300	-	22
LA Homes Energy Efficiency	Adjustment	(0.107)	-	-	-	13
Home Upgrade Grant	Adjustment	2.124	-	-	-	23-24

IT Infrastructure	Adjustment	(0.470)	-	-	-	25
Shared Ownership Scheme	Adjustment	0.372	-	-	-	26
Extension to Marjorie Waite Court	Re-profile	(0.200)	0.200	-	-	27

- 9 Major Repairs & Modernisation of LA Homes – Capital works across the LA housing stock is going well with 51 kitchens, 59 bathrooms and 67 rewires completed in the Tenants Choice programme as well as 16 properties with standing water through the Damp programme and a further 8 properties fully modernised through the Void scheme.
- 10 64 properties have had a full heating system replaced and a further 120 properties have been surveyed with the target being 440 properties having new heating systems by the end of the financial year.
- 11 The new roofing contract has now been awarded with works expected to start in September 2021, in the meantime, two roofs have been replaced due to their state of repair.
- 12 Fire risk assessment works has commenced at Delwood and 16 blocks of flats have had the works completed. A tender process is being completed for a new contractor for the fire risk assessment remedial works.
- 13 The window replacement programme has commenced with 20 properties receiving new windows in the Chapelfields area. Bell Farm window replacement works will commence after Chapelfields, as such £160k budget from this programme will be slipped in to 2022/23. A further window and door replacement programme to improve energy efficiency in homes is to be moved from the Energy Efficiency capital works stream to the Building Services modernisation programme to streamline the workflow, budget of £107k relates to this piece of work.
- 14 Budget of £1,152k is to be reprofiled to future years to support the planned programmed including the £160k window programme budget.
- 15 Local Authority Homes – Phase 2. The Housing team have been successful in its capital bid for £469k from MHCLG’s Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme, as a contribution to the purchase 6 supported living move-on properties from the open market. In addition, revenue budget has been secured to appoint a support worker for these 6 tenants, with a view that

these tenants do not return to the streets. CYC's contribution to this programme is £573k from the phase 2 programme. Budget of £2.4m is to be profiled in to future.

- 16 Local Authority Homes – Phase 2. The Housing team have been successful in its capital bid for £469k from MHCLG's Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme (RSAP), as a contribution to the purchase of 6 supported living move-on properties from the open market.
- 17 The RSAP will provide additional accommodation options for those who are rough sleeping or placed in emergency and temporary accommodation. This flexibility on accommodation will allow for bespoke options, avoiding hostels where necessary. This will enable a safer managed accommodation option for those that do not meet the complexity of Housing First and are not able to engage in a hostel setting for the resettlement category process.
- 18 In terms of the support model it will provide a semi-permanent accommodation for rough sleepers who are complex, often with no credible outcome. It will provide an interim option as a step down from fully supported accommodation, offering a gradual introduction to independent living lasting 3 years. At the end of the three years we will look to permanently accommodate the person through the already established resettlement category process.
- 19 In addition, revenue budget has been secured to appoint a support worker who will intensively support these 6 tenants, working as part of the wider Resettlement Team. CYC's contribution to this programme is £573k capital from the phase 2 programme. Budget of £2.4m is to be profiled in to future.
- 20 Lowfield Green - All 31 homes in the first phase of construction completed on 17th June 2021. These homes are now occupied with the first residents providing positive feedback on their new homes. The next phase of the project comprises of 18 apartments and the large Village Green area and is expected to be ready in early September. This has been slightly delayed due to issues sourcing materials which is impacting the construction industry nationwide. The latter phases of the development are due to complete in late Autumn 2021 with the last phase completed in Summer 2022. Budget of £2m is to be reprofiled to 2022/23 to reflect the programme timings.
- 21 Duncombe & Burnholme Sites – Stage D design work, which provides design information for the procurement of a main contractor, has been completed for both sites. The project team has been developing the tender information and contracts for the design and build procurement and it is

expected that the tender will be published in the coming months, with works expected to start on site in 2022. Budget of £0.5m for Duncombe and £3m for Burnholme has been re-profiled to future years to reflect this timeline.

- 22 Water Mains Project – The proposed project to renew council owned mains pipework supplying water to 2379 tenants and residents, across 25 streets, in Tang Hall, Heworth and Clifton, will be a complex and highly disruptive piece of work. As such, significant planning and consultation with tenants and residents, and councillors will need to take place. Over the next year the Asset Management Team will development the necessary project design, project governance structures and approvals path. Given the scale of the work outlined, it is recommended that the provisional budget is re-profiled in to future years.
- 23 Home Upgrade Grant - £2.124m Green Homes Grant (LAD2) funding has been awarded to York as the lead council in a consortia (York, Harrogate, Selby and Craven) to support low-income households in the private sector to improve the energy performance of their homes, helping to reduce fuel poverty and delivering progress towards each of the council's commitment to net zero carbon. The grants take a fabric first approach by providing free insulation measures including cavity and loft insulation as well as room in roof insulation.
- 24 Within this funding that has been received there is which support for our own retrofit programme to council owned homes and to two partnering registered social providers and will contribute towards the following schemes:
 - a) To improve up to 60 council owned homes to a minimum EPC rating of a C and improve up to 50 council owned homes with solar PV panels.
 - b) To improve 10 homes owned by Yorkshire Housing which are EPC E which could be improved by the installation of external wall insulation.
 - c) Scheme to improve 6 homes occupied by fuel poor households identified by Joseph Rowntree Trust (JRHT).
- 25 Housing ICT Project continues to seek to deliver a single system replacing many legacy and outdated systems in use across housing and building services. Phase 1 of this new system is expected to go-live in autumn this year. Capital budget of £470k is to be adjusted to reflect the fact that the discovery, business change and analytical work is to be met by the revenue budget.

26 The Shared Ownership Programme is nearing completion with 60 of the 65 homes completed by quarter 1 of 2021/22. Sales of 4 further properties are in the pipeline with one final property is still to be found. Quarter 1 saw the second tenant staircasing, increasing their share of the property. The budget for this scheme is modelled on 50% of each home being funded by the HRA and resources from Homes England funding. The matched funding is received as a capital receipt when the purchaser buys an equity share of the property, as such the receipts from the sale of the 3 shared ownership homes in quarter 1 are required to be reinvested back in to the programme and will increase the budget by £372k.

27 Marjorie Waite Court is now completed with tenants starting to move in within the next two months. Positive feedback has been received regarding the design of apartments and the ability to support those living with dementia and the high quality communal areas. Budget of £200k to be reprofiled to 2022/23 following the conclusion of the 12 months defect period.

Transport, Highways & Environment

28 Amendments to this area of the capital programme have resulted in a reduction of £27.234m in 2021/22. Within this, a number of schemes have been re-profiled to future years to reflect the latest expenditure profiles including York Outer Ring Road Dualling (£18.483m) and WYTF Station Frontage (£7.694)

Scheme	Amendment	21/22 £m	22/23 £m	23/24 £m	25/26 £m	26/27 £m	Further Details – Paragraph ref
WYTF – Castle Gateway Developmet	Adjustment	0.355	-	-	-	-	29
TCF – Tadcaster Road Improvements	Adjustment	0.100	1.330	-	-	-	30
WYTF – Station Frontage	Re-profile	(7.694)	5.863	1.831	-	-	28
WYTF – Station Frontage	Adjustment	(1.512)	-	-	-	-	28

York /Outer Ring Road - Dualling	Re-profile	(18.483)	(20.633)	6.392	29.084	3.640	28
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- 29 A new scheme called WYTF Castle Gateway has been added to the capital programme. This scheme contributes to the redevelopment of the Castle Gateway area. It will support delivery of the Castle Gateway Masterplan improving accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists and increasing active mode travel. It is funded through the West Yorkshire Transport Fund
- 30 There is an allocation of £1.43m from the Transforming Cities Fund managed by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to provide improved sustainable transport links to the Rail Station along Tadcaster Road. The focus is improved facilities for cyclists and pedestrians, as well as some additional bus priorities to make it more attractive for people to park at Askham Bar park and ride and access the Rail Station using the bus. This project will be delivered alongside the Tadcaster Road highways scheme to reduce costs and minimise disruption. Further detail on the proposed works will be provided in a report to the Executive Member following consultation on the scheme over the summer.
- 31 There remains £127k within the budget to complete carriageway works at Stonegate. The carriageway scheme carried out in 2019/20 financial year included the existing York Stone to be lifted and stored for maintenance elsewhere in the City. The road was reconstructed with the finish surface being of new York Stone paving, with a granite drainage channel linking to larger capacity road gullies. The rebuilding of the carriageway plans for the impact on pedestrian movements disrupting businesses residents and visitors while considering long term maintenance demands. The project has identified the extents of the carriageway infrastructure and planned only to carry out localised repairs to the footways on Stonegate replacing York stone only where damages were beyond repair. The reasoning behind this approach was based on the available budget and lessons learned when undertaking the works to Kings Square, maintaining the footway access while segregating the works allows the service to deliver the works safely and maintain footfall into the businesses. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in the final quarter of the year to minimise impact on businesses

Regeneration & Asset Management

- 32 The York Central Infrastructure scheme has been re-profiled to reflect the latest expected expenditure profiles, with £11.414m from 21/22 and £12.562m from 22/23 being transferred into 23/24.

- 33 An adjustment has also been made to take into account decisions made by Executive in the update “York Central and York Station Gateway Update” 22nd April 2021. This report updated Members on the revised delivery arrangements for the infrastructure on the site and funding being allocated to Homes England / Network Rail. This reduced the council’s capital programme by £112.2m primarily due to the removal of Housing Infrastructure Funding £77m and West Yorkshire Transport Funding £23.5m which will go direct to the developers
- 34 Within the Castle Gateway scheme planning permission was granted for Castle Mills in December 2020 and St George's Field multi-storey car park (MSCP) in January 2021, forming the first phase of the Castle Gateway regeneration. Castle Mills will provide new apartments, a riverside park and pedestrian cycle bridge in addition to a commercial return to help cross fund the wider public benefits of the masterplan. The procurement of a contractor to undertake the RIBA stage 4 design and to provide a tender price for construction is underway, with an Executive decision to proceed based on the tender price due in November 2021. This would allow a start on site in early 2022.
- 35 A decision on whether to proceed with the St George’s Field MSCP will also take place in November 2021 based on the outcome of the ongoing strategic review of city centre access and parking which will conclude in October. St George’s Field would consolidate two large surface level car parks in to a new modern land efficient MSCP, and allow the closure of Castle Car Park to be transformed in to new public realm for the city and to enhance the historic setting of Clifford’s Tower and the Castle complex. The planning application for this new public realm will be submitted in the autumn of 2021. In addition the project formed part of the council’s round one Levelling Up Fund bid, to provide the capital budget for delivery. The outcome of this funding bid is due in the autumn.
- 36 Strong progress on the delivery of the Guildhall project has continued from Q4 20/21 into Q1 21/22. The construction contract has achieved a number of significant milestones, with re-roofing and external repairs to the historic buildings almost complete and the external envelop of the new north annex well progressed. Internal works and new building services are progressing in parallel. The new ‘Slype space’ glazed link between the Guildhall and the south range is in place and the underfloor heating to this space and the main hall linked to the Green Energy River Water Source heat pump is being installed.

- 37 The contract duration has been formally extended by a further 11.6 week period in response to the previously reported project delays which has created further budget pressure. Further value engineering options have also been instructed. The project remains on track to deliver the agreed outcomes and the lease with the University will be signed in July. The construction contract has delivered significant local business benefits and the premises will offer a high quality venue for local businesses on completion
- 38 The Climate Change Schemes including Northern Forest project totalling £2.465m across the 5 year period 21/22 – 25/26 (£965k in 21/22), has been transferred from the Regeneration and Asset Management to Customer and Corporate Services directorate. This has had a net nil effect on the overall capital programme total.
- 39 Officers have considered whether to replace the current gas boiler at 29 Castlegate. The capital costs of an air source heat pump were significant and not financially justifiable whilst the current boiler is still working efficiently. This decision will be reviewed should decarbonisation funding become available in the future.

Community Stadium

- 40 York Community Stadium, in line with COVID guidelines, is now fully open to residents. The only exception being the implementation of the approved outdoor play park and outdoor gym space under the last capital report, this is being progressed and timescales for opening to be advised in due course. A small capital budget for 21/22 remains to conclude project matters, with spend currently in line with forecasts. All capital income expected for the project has now been received, the only exception being the monies from York City Football Club which are due upon the legal sale of their existing ground Bootham Crescent, this anticipated later this financial year

Customer & Corporate Services

- 41 The CDFM team continues to work in conjunction with the Health & Safety partner, to inform a programme of asbestos removal works. At present no new schemes have been identified against this budget and therefore a request to slip £100k is made at monitor 1

- 42 Phase 2 of the refurbishment works at the Registry Office was delayed in 20/21 largely due to the pandemic. Design work is being finalised and work is expected to be completed in 21/22
- 43 Work on the Crematorium waiting room refurbishment was delayed in 20/21 due to the pandemic. A modular building solution has been identified and installation is expected to be completed before the end of March 2022.
- 44 The Climate Change Schemes including Northern Forest project totalling £2.465m across the 5 year period 21/22 – 25/26 (£965k in 21/22), has been transferred from the Regeneration and Asset Management to Customer and Corporate Services directorate. This has had a net nil effect on the overall capital programme total.

Customer & Corporate Services - IT

- 45 The ICT capital programme has a budget of £2,625k for 2021/22. At Monitor 1 there are plans to spend all of this allocation during the year and a nil variance is reported.
- 46 Work continues on the drive to support all staff working flexibly and at home due to the pandemic and this will be further developed by the cross Directorate project, Working as One, which will support new ways of working over the coming months.
- 47 The procurement process to secure a new Managed Service provider continues to progress and once the contract starts later in the year, a significant technology refresh is planned, including the phased upgrade to our WIFI platform across all sites that is essential to enable and support the Working as One programme.
- 48 Work continues to further develop and expand the cities digital connectivity landscape that is providing the city's residents, communities and businesses access to enhanced broadband services both within our more rural communities and suburban areas through the multiple programmes that the service is working within

Summary

49 As a result of the changes highlighted above the revised 5 year capital programme is summarised in Table 2.

Gross Capital Programme	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Children, Education & Communities	27.329	3.000	-	-	-	30.329
Health, Housing & Adult Social Care – Adult Social Care	2.297	0.638	0.660	0.682	0.705	4.982
Health, Housing & Adult Social Care – Housing & Community Safety	42.128	48.694	42.318	33.544	32.104	198.788
Economy & Place – Transport, Highways & Environment	60.879	33.282	35.988	37.400	14.240	181.789
Economy & Place – Regeneration & Asset Management	34.876	80.278	51.393	0.250	0.250	167.047
Community Stadium	2.066	-	-	-	-	2.066
Customer & Corporate Services	4.320	0.950	0.600	0.450	0.450	6.770
IT Development Plan	2.625	2.190	2.070	2.070	2.920	11.875
Revised Programme	158.404	89.332	120.385	74.396	10.640	493.186

**Table 2 Revised 5 Year Capital Programme
Funding the 2021/22 – 2025/26 Capital Programme**

50 The revised 2021/22 capital programme of £203.754m is funded from £76.913m of external funding and £126.841m of internal funding. Table 3 shows the projected call on resources going forward.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Gross Capital Programme	158.404	89.332	120.385	74.396	10.640	493.186
Funded by:						
External Funding	49.745	30.789	31.446	29.366	3.375	150.401
Council Controlled Resources	108.659	58.543	88.939	45.030	7.265	342.785
Total Funding	158.404	89.332	120.385	74.396	10.640	493.186

Table 3 – 2021/22 –2025/26 Capital Programme Financing

- 51 The Council controlled figure is comprised of a number of resources that the Council has ultimate control over. These include Right to Buy receipts, revenue contributions, supported (government awarded) borrowing, prudential (Council funded) borrowing, reserves (including Venture Fund) and capital receipts
- 52 In financing the overall capital programme the Chief Finance Officer will use the optimum mix of funding sources available to achieve the best financial position for the Council. Therefore an option for any new capital receipts would be to use these to replace assumed borrowing, thereby reducing the Councils' borrowing levels and associated revenue costs.

Council Plan

- 53 The information contained in this report demonstrates progress in achieving the priorities set out in the Council Plan.

Implications

- 54 This report has the following implications:
- **Financial** - are contained throughout the main body of the report
 - **Human Resources (HR)** – There are no HR implications as a result of this report
 - **One Planet Council/ Equalities** – The capital programme seeks to address key equalities issues that affect the Council and the public. Schemes that address equalities include the Disabilities Support Grant, the Schools Access Initiative, the Community Equipment Loans Store (CELS) and the Disabilities Discrimination Act (DDA) Access Improvements. All individual schemes will be subject to Equalities Impact Assessments
 - **Legal Implications** - Whilst this report itself does not have any legal implications, the schemes within the capital programme will themselves will be in receipt of legal advice where necessary
 - **Crime and Disorder** - There are no crime and disorder implications as a result of this report.
 - **Information Technology** – The information technology implications are contained within the main body of the report,
 - **Property** - The property implications of this paper are included in the main body of the report which covers the funding of the capital programme from capital receipts.
 - **Other** – There are no other implications

Risk Management

55 There are a number of risks inherent in the delivery of a large scale capital programme. To mitigate against these risks the capital programme is regularly monitored as part of the corporate monitoring process, and the project management framework. This is supplemented by internal and external audit reviews of major projects.

Contact Details

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	Report Approved	√	Date 16/8/21
Wards Affected: All			
For further information please contact the author of the report			

Specialist Implications:
Legal – Not Applicable
Property – Not Applicable
Information Technology – Not Applicable

Annexes

Annex A – Capital Programme 2021/22 to 2025/26

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total Capital Programme 2021/22- 2025/26 £000
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<u>CEC - CHILDREN, EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES</u>						
Basic Need	9,564	0	0	0	0	9,564
Fulford School Expansion 2020 Phase 1 and 2	5,303	1,000	0	0	0	6,303
Libraries as Centres of Learning and Opportunity for all: Acomb & Clifton	2,000	2,000	0	0	0	4,000
Schools Essential Building Work	2,558	0	0	0	0	2,558
Schools Essential Mechanical & Electrical Work	2,551	0	0	0	0	2,551
Children in Care Residential Commissioning Plan	1,358	0	0	0	0	1,358
Expansion and Improvement of Facilities for Pupils with SEND	839	0	0	0	0	839
DfE Maintenance	831	0	0	0	0	831
Haxby Library Reprovision	734	0	0	0	0	734
Improving School Accessibility	352	0	0	0	0	352
Southbank Expansion	311	0	0	0	0	311
Centre of Excellence for Disabled Children (Lincoln Court)	241	0	0	0	0	241
Westfield Multi Use Games Area	200	0	0	0	0	200
Family Drug & Alcohol Assess/Recovery Facility	100	0	0	0	0	100
Adaptions to Foster Carer Homes	100	0	0	0	0	100
Healthy Pupils Capital Fund	93	0	0	0	0	93
Archbishop Holgate's School Expansion	90	0	0	0	0	90
Energise Roof	58	0	0	0	0	58
Explore Central Library Urgent Roof repairs	34	0	0	0	0	34
Children & Young Peoples services & Building based provision review	12	0	0	0	0	12
<u>ADULT SOCIAL CARE & ADULT SERVICES COMMISSIONING</u>						
Telecare Equipment and Infrastructure	276	259	267	275	283	1,360
Disabled Support Grant	268	240	250	260	270	1,288
Major Items of Disability Equipment	160	139	143	147	152	741
OPA-Community Space at Marjorie WaiteCourt	557	0	0	0	0	557
OPA-Ashfield Estate Sports Pitches	393	0	0	0	0	393
Proof of Concept for robotics & AI within social care	200	0	0	0	0	200
OPA-Haxby Hall	170	0	0	0	0	170
OPA Residual Enabling Work	141	0	0	0	0	141
OPA - the Centre@Burnholme including enabling works	73	0	0	0	0	73
OPA-Burnholme Sports Facilities	59	0	0	0	0	59
<u>HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY</u>						
Local Authority Homes - New Build Project	1,000	11,900	18,343	20,000	18,829	70,072

Major Repairs & Modernisation of Local Authority Homes	10,866	9,915	8,462	8,769	8,720	46,732
LA Homes - Burnholme	3,182	11,000	7,345	600	0	22,127
Lowfield Housing	10,230	3,900	700	0	0	14,830
Disabled Facilities Grant (Gfund)	2,119	2,106	2,236	2,375	2,375	11,211
Duncombe Barracks	1,589	5,500	1,862	0	0	8,951
Local Authority Homes - Phase 2	1,679	2,303	1,200	0	0	5,182
Local Authority Homes - Project Team	683	680	830	1,000	1,370	4,563
Assistance to Older & Disabled People	728	610	620	630	640	3,228
Home Upgrade Grant (G/fund)	2,660	0	0	0	0	2,660
Shared Ownership Scheme	2,541	0	0	0	0	2,541
LA Homes Energy Efficiency Programme	1,500	250	250	0	0	2,000
Extension to Marjorie Waite Court	1,107	200	0	0	0	1,307
Housing Environmental Improvement Programme	363	170	170	170	170	1,043
IT Infrastructure	600	0	0	0	0	600
LA Homes - Hospital Fields/Ordnance Lane	592	0	0	0	0	592
Water Mains Upgrade	60	110	300	0	0	470
James House	183	0	0	0	0	183
Lincoln Court Independent Living Scheme	127	0	0	0	0	127
Willow House Housing Development	120	0	0	0	0	120
Empty Homes (Gfund)	50	50	0	0	0	100
Extension to Glen Lodge	88	0	0	0	0	88
Local Authority Homes - Phase 1	61	0	0	0	0	61
<u>ECONOMY & PLACE - TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT</u>						
York Outer Ring Road - Dualling	3,107	3,422	23,330	29,084	3,640	62,583
Highway Schemes	10,994	7,377	7,377	5,780	7,280	38,808
WYTF - Station Frontage	4,863	17,413	1,831	0	0	24,107
Local Transport Plan (LTP) *	4,399	1,570	1,570	1,570	1,570	10,679
Highways - Tadcaster Road	4,840	0	0	0	0	4,840
Drainage Investigation & Renewal	981	700	700	700	900	3,981
Waste Vehicle Replacement	3,695	0	0	0	0	3,695
Replacement Vehicles & Plant	3,513	0	0	0	0	3,513
Flood Alleviation Schemes including Germany Beck	3,300	0	0	0	0	3,300
Replacement of Unsound Lighting Columns	618	644	644	66	550	2,522
York City Walls Restoration Programme	1,292	376	336	0	300	2,304
Fleet Acquisition	2,151	0	0	0	0	2,151
Highways & Transport - Ward Committees	1,730	250	0	0	0	1,980
Electric charging Infrastructure	1,800	0	0	0	0	1,800
Smarter Travel Evolution Programme	1,500	0	0	0	0	1,500
Flood Scheme Contributions	1,500	0	0	0	0	1,500

TCF - Tadcaster Road Improvements	100	1,330	0	0	0	1,430
Built Environment Fund - Hostile Vehicle Mitigation	1,329	0	0	0	0	1,329
Hyper Hubs	1,326	0	0	0	0	1,326
Essential Bridge Maintenance	1,100	0	0	0	0	1,100
Highways Drainage Works	274	200	200	200	0	874
EV Charging Asset Replacement	524	0	0	0	0	524
Special Bridge Maintenance (Struct maint)	515	0	0	0	0	515
Fordlands Road Flood Defences	486	0	0	0	0	486
Clean Air Zone	463	0	0	0	0	463
City Fibre Network	410	0	0	0	0	410
National Cycle Network 65 Targeted Repairs	378	0	0	0	0	378
WYTF - Castle Gateway Development	355	0	0	0	0	355
Fleet & Workshop Compliance	338	0	0	0	0	338
Flood Defences	317	0	0	0	0	317
Better Bus Area Fund	312	0	0	0	0	312
Better Play Areas	272	0	0	0	0	272
Litter Bin Replacement Programme	241	0	0	0	0	241
Traffic control/ reduction and public realm improvements in Bishophill/ Mic	230	0	0	0	0	230
Knavesmire Culverts	227	0	0	0	0	227
Flood Sign Renewal and Rainfall monitoring	200	0	0	0	0	200
Scarborough Bridge	178	0	0	0	0	178
CCTV Asset Renewal	157	0	0	0	0	157
River Bank repairs	149	0	0	0	0	149
Stonegate Natural Stone Renewal	123	0	0	0	0	123
Wayfinding	122	0	0	0	0	122
Rowntree Park Lodge	121	0	0	0	0	121
Non Illuminated Structural asset renewal	116	0	0	0	0	116
Access Barrier Review	100	0	0	0	0	100
Wheeled Bins in Back Lane and Terraced Areas	61	0	0	0	0	61
Car Park Improvements	38	0	0	0	0	38
Hazel Court conversion of storage area to operational hub	17	0	0	0	0	17
Public Realm footpaths	16	0	0	0	0	16
Pothole spotter trial	1	0	0	0	0	1
<u>ECONOMY & PLACE - REGENERATION & ASSET MANAGEMENT</u>						
York Central Infrastructure	4,136	300	38,476	0	0	42,912
Guildhall	7,791	0	0	0	0	7,791
Castle Gateway (Picadilly Regeneration)	2,828	0	0	0	0	2,828
Asset Maintenance + Critical H&S Repairs	356	250	250	250	250	1,356
Holgate Park Land – York Central Land and Clearance	397	0	0	0	0	397

LCR Revolving Investment Fund	300	0	0	0	0	300
29 Castlegate	270	0	0	0	0	270
Commercial Property Acquisition incl Swinegate	196	0	0	0	0	196
Shambles Modernisation - Power	180	0	0	0	0	180
Community Asset Transfer	175	0	0	0	0	175
York Central	75	0	0	0	0	75
Air Quality Monitoring (Gfund)	23	28	23	0	0	74
Built Environment Fund - Shopping Area Improvements	17	0	0	0	0	17
Shambles Health & Safety	16	0	0	0	0	16
<u>CUSTOMER & CORPORATE SERVICES - COMMUNITY STADIUM</u>						
Community Stadium	2,066	0	0	0	0	2,066
<u>CUSTOMER & CORPORATE SERVICES</u>						
Climate Change schemes including Northern Forest	965	600	400	250	250	2,465
Project Support Fund	607	200	200	200	200	1,407
Covid Recovery Fund	1,000	0	0	0	0	1,000
Capital Contingency	802	0	0	0	0	802
Crematorium Waiting Room	242	0	0	0	0	242
Removal of Asbestos	137	100	0	0	0	237
West Offices - Major repairs	237	0	0	0	0	237
Hazel Court welfare facilities	96	0	0	0	0	96
Photovoltaic Energy Programme	94	0	0	0	0	94
Fire Safety Regulations - Adaptations	27	50	0	0	0	77
Registry office Phase 2 Refurbishment	73	0	0	0	0	73
Mansion House Restoration	24	0	0	0	0	24
Replacement of 2 Cremators	16	0	0	0	0	16
<u>CUSTOMER & CORPORATE SERVICES - IT</u>						
IT Development plan	2,625	2,070	2,070	2,070	2,920	11,755
IT Superconnected Cities	0	120	0	0	0	120
<u>GROSS EXPENDITURE BY DEPARTMENT</u>						
CEC - CHILDREN, EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES	27,329	3,000	0	0	0	30,329
HH&ASC - ADULT SOCIAL CARE & ADULT SERVICES COMMISSION	2,297	638	660	682	705	4,982
HH&ASC - HOUSING & COMMUNITY SAFETY	42,128	48,694	42,318	33,544	32,104	198,788
ECONOMY & PLACE - TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENT	60,879	33,282	35,988	37,400	14,240	181,789
ECONOMY & PLACE - REGENERATION & ASSET MANAGEMENT	16,760	578	38,749	250	250	56,587
CUSTOMER & CORPORATE SERVICES - COMMUNITY STADIUM	2,066	0	0	0	0	2,066
CUSTOMER & CORPORATE SERVICES	4,320	950	600	450	450	6,770
CUSTOMER & CORPORATE SERVICES - IT	2,625	2,190	2,070	2,070	2,920	11,875

TOTAL BY DEPARTMENT	158,404	89,332	120,385	74,396	50,669	493,186
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	158,404	89,332	120,385	74,396	50,669	493,186
TOTAL EXTERNAL FUNDING	49,745	30,789	31,446	29,366	9,055	150,401
TOTAL INTERNAL FUNDING	108,659	58,543	88,939	45,030	41,614	342,785

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