

## Notice of a public

### Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change

**To:** Councillor Widdowson (Executive Member)

**Date:** Wednesday, 14 December 2022

**Time:** 1.30 pm

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

### AGENDA

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

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item\* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democratic Services by **4:00 pm on Friday 16 December**.

\*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.

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services by **5.00 pm on Monday 12 December**.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

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

**2. Minutes**

(Pages 1 - 2)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Decision Session held on 5 October 2022.

**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. The deadline for registering at this meeting is at **5.00pm on Monday 12 December 2022.**

To register to speak please visit [www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings](http://www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings) to fill out an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting please contact the Democracy Officer for the meeting whose details can be found at the foot of the agenda.

**Webcasting of Public Meetings**

Please note that, subject to available resources, this public meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The public meeting can be viewed on demand at [www.york.gov.uk/webcasts](http://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](http://www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy)) for more information on meetings and decisions.

4. **Annual Carbon Emissions Report 2021/22** (Pages 3 - 14)  
City of York Council has set a target to reduce carbon emissions from corporate activity to net zero by 2030. This is an Annual Carbon Emissions Report to monitor progress against this target and identify areas of improvement.
5. **York Emissions Inventory Report 2022** (Pages 15 - 42)  
This report presents the Emissions Inventory for the City of York. The data will be used to monitor progress against the council ambition to achieve net zero carbon for the city by 2030.
6. **Weed Pilot 2022 – Feedback and Options**  
This report provides an update on the results and feedback of the weed pilot in 2022 and discuss options for weed treatment in the city for 2023. *[Report to follow]*.
7. **York 5 Year Flood Plan Update** (Pages 43 - 66)  
This report contains an update on York's 5 Year Flood Plan following new funding being allocated to the Environment Agency to renew existing and provide new flood defences across the City.
8. **Urgent Business**  
Any other business which the Executive Member considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer: Margo Budreviciute  
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Email: [margo.budreviciute@york.gov.uk](mailto:margo.budreviciute@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**

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

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Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change
Date	5 October 2022
Present	Councillor Widdowson
In Attendance	Ben Grabham – Head of Environmental Services

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### **1. Declarations of Interest**

The Executive Member was 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 she might have in respect of the business on the agenda. None were declared.

### **2. Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 7 September 2022 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

### **3. Public Participation**

It was reported that there had been one registration to speak on agenda item 4 Waste Service at the session under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Andrew Mortimer supported the recommendations for the additional recycling of items such as foil and soft plastics. He also spoke about the need for a clear communication strategy for residents to make the process less confusing for residents alongside urging the Council to communicate these changes with the Universities and their students.

### **4. Waste Services**

The Executive Member considered the report on Waste Services in York, which included changes to and updates on the service. The Head of Environmental Services outlined the report and explained that there is now an ability to extend the range of recyclables to include foil and some soft plastics. The Officer explained that the Council are in the process of updating communications around these changes through their website, magazine, and social media. He also agreed to pass on these updates to

the universities and other bodies, and the Executive Member confirmed she is also in talks with university operation groups to improve recycling efforts.

An update on the extended garden waste scheme was noted and the Officer stated that starting the scheme in March has meant a more evenly distributed presentation of garden waste at the start of the season compared to previous years. He also confirmed that the scheme will run until 9 December 2022. Furthermore, the Council has replaced its waste fleet with more recycling vehicles and continues to trial two electric vehicles. The Officer explained that the Council are also evaluating their routing and rounding to improve efficiency alongside introducing the bags to bins project. The Council is also awaiting proposals around food waste and commercial waste collections to be published following the Council's response to consultations on the Government's Waste and Resource Strategy.

The Executive Member accepted the recommendations of the report. The Officer then proposed for the scheme to go live on Monday 17 October 2022 to ensure the Council has time to communicate changes, which the Executive Member welcomed.

Resolved:

- i. That the changes to the list of materials that are collected to include foil and other plastics be approved.

Reason: To ensure that materials that are currently recycled continue to be and increase recycling within the city

- ii. That the contents of the report and the progress made to date with waste services to be noted.

Reason: To keep the Executive Member updated on the Council's waste service.

Cllr Widdowson, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 3.00 pm and finished at 3.12 pm].



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**Decision Session – Executive Member  
for Environment and Climate Change****14 December 2022**

Report of the Head of Carbon Reduction

Portfolio of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change

**City of York Council: Annual Carbon Emissions Report 2021/22****Summary**

1. City of York Council (CYC) has set a target to reduce carbon emissions from corporate activity to net zero by 2030. An Annual Carbon Emissions Report will be produced every year to monitor progress against this target and identify areas of improvement.
2. The data collected covers the council's scope 1 and 2 (direct) emissions for 2021/22. The council's corporate emissions account for roughly 4% of city-wide greenhouse gas emissions (based on SCATTER data from 2019).
3. This represents the second year of reporting carbon emissions from our own buildings and operations<sup>1</sup>. In some areas we have data going back to 2015/16 which has been used for historical comparison and identifying the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic which saw significant changes in the way we work.
4. Total emissions experienced a small decrease between 2020/21 (3,658tCO<sub>2</sub>e) and 2021/22 (3.633tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This is despite an increase in staff returning to the office and increased staff and business travel.
5. Emissions associated with the council's fleet continues to reduce as a result of our electrification programme.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.york.gov.uk/climate-change-governance/ClimateChangeGovernance/2>

6. Based on the current available data, our fleet and gas consumption account for the majority (99%) of corporate emissions.
7. Since April 2020, we now purchase 100% renewable electricity, reducing our emissions by 4,652tCO<sub>2</sub>e over the last 2 years. Electricity consumption still accounts for a significant cost, and opportunities to reduce demand should still be considered for financial benefits.

### **Recommendations**

8. The Executive Member is asked to:
  - i. Approve the City of York Council Corporate Emissions Report and note the council's contribution to city-wide emissions

Reason: This report fulfils the commitment in the Council Plan to report on City of York Council's corporate emissions, using the standardised and transparent SCATTER methodology.

- ii. Approve the recommended actions in this report

Reason: Progress towards City of York Council becoming net zero carbon by 2030.



## Annual Emissions 2021/2022

Source	Unit	Total	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	Change
CYC buildings (Electricity)	kWh	5,962,141	-	→ 0%
Street lighting (Electricity)	kWh	5,557,711	-	→ 0%
CYC buildings (Gas)	kWh	9,665,792	1,764	↑ 3%
CYC buildings (Water) <sup>2</sup>	m <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-
Corporate Waste <sup>3</sup>	tonnes	343	5.9	↑ 55%
Recycling		63	1.4	
CYC Fleet				
Petrol	ltrs	13,040	30	↓ 4%
Diesel		680,785	1,797	
<u>Business travel</u>				
Flights		-	-	↑ 204%
Trains		NA	6.7	
Hotels		NA	1.5	
<u>Car Club</u>				
Diesel	miles	3,775	1	↑ 170%
Unleaded		80,682	22	
Hybrid		16,709	3	
Electric		2,404	0	
Land use	Trees	2,068		
<b>Total</b>			<b>3,633</b>	<b>→ 0%</b>

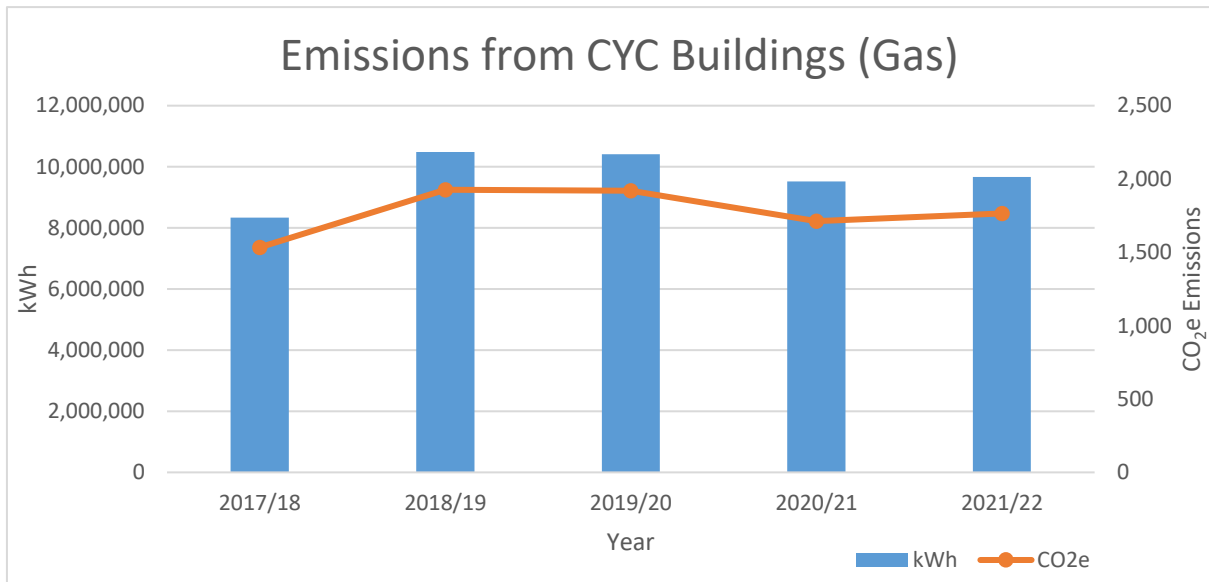
<sup>2</sup> We were unable to access water consumption data and as a result are unable to calculate emissions for 2021/22.

<sup>3</sup> Waste from the council office buildings

## Corporate Buildings

### Gas

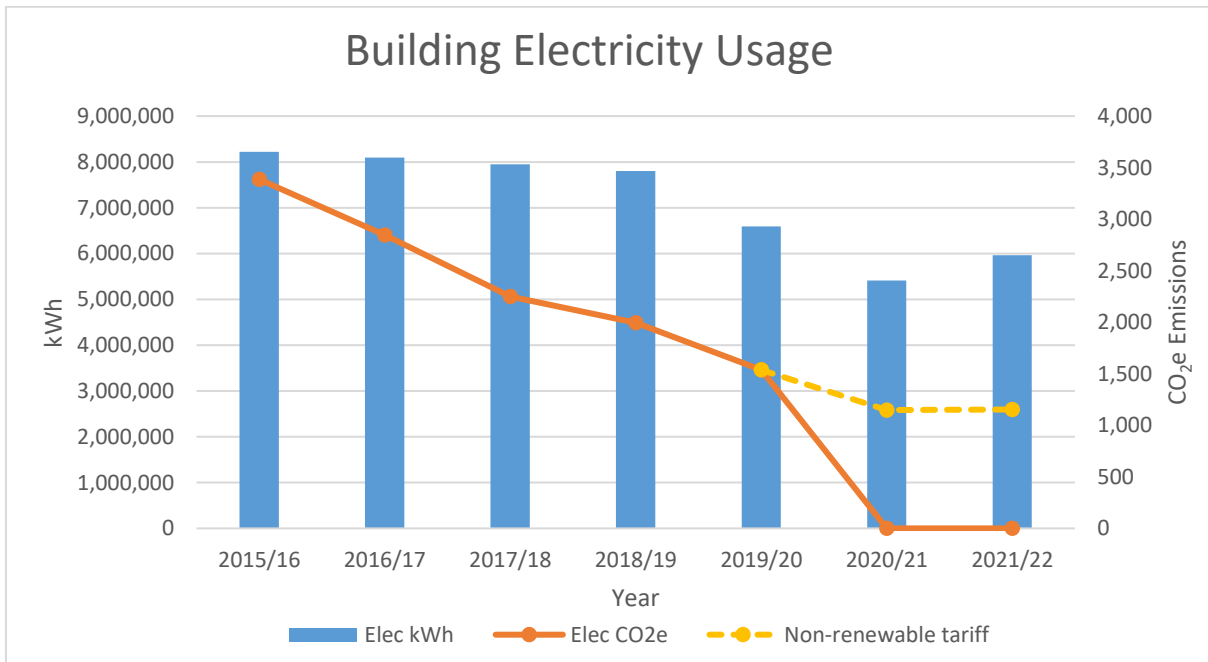
9. Gas use from corporate buildings is responsible for almost half (49%) of total CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions.



10. West Offices was responsible for 22% of total gas usage in 2021/22; a doubling of usage on 2020/21. This reflects the higher building occupancy levels following the pandemic and is a return to pre-pandemic usage.
11. Gas usage and associated emissions and cost can be reduced through building efficiency improvements and transitioning to electrical heating. Decarbonisation plans for 7 of our highest consuming sites (accounting for 44% of gas usage) have been carried out to assess low carbon solutions and identify opportunities to reduce emissions.
12. Public funding has also been secured through the Low Carbon Skills Fund to develop decarbonisation plans for 21 schools and 5 leisure centres across York. These plans will be complete by March 2023.

Electricity

13. Since 2020, electricity purchased by City of York Council is from 100% renewable sources and therefore does not contribute to our annual emissions. However, electricity usage in our buildings still contributes significant cost and opportunities to reduce consumption will have a financial benefit.

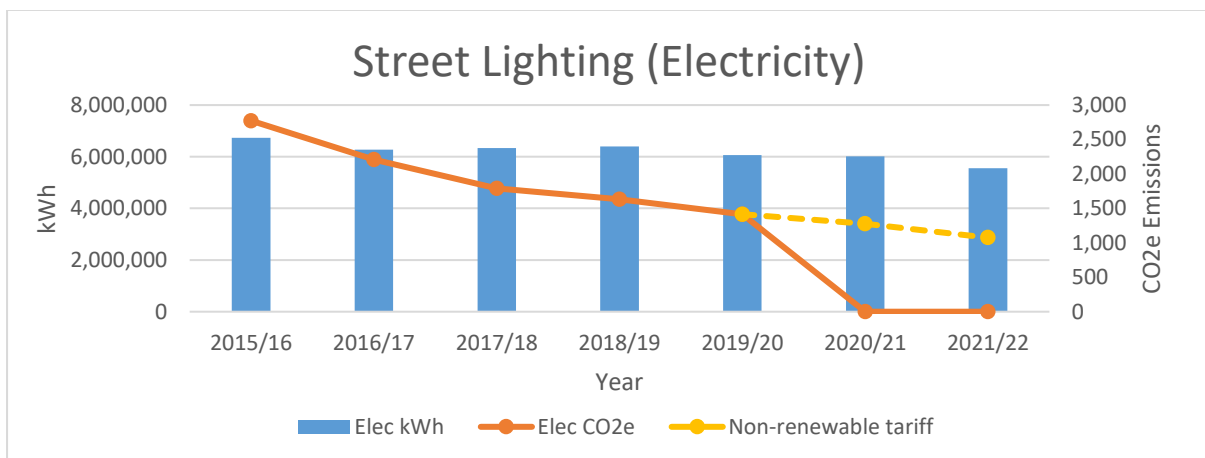


14. West Offices accounts for the highest share of our building electricity usage (26%). In 2021/22, electricity consumption at West Offices decreased by 3.2% compared to the previous year. Electricity consumption in 2021/22 is still lower than pre-pandemic levels. The overall decrease from 2015/16 to 2021/22 is 27.4%.
15. West Offices occupancy pre-pandemic was between 950 and 1,210 people daily. This declined significantly during the pandemic, but numbers are now increasing for council staff and newly rented areas.
16. Efficiency improvements to our buildings will not impact our CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for electricity; however, the potential for cost savings are significant. We will continue to investigate solutions such as LED lighting, voltage optimisation, renewable generation and efficient appliances in our largest consuming sites.

- 17. If we were not on a renewable energy tariff for electricity, CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions for our buildings would have been 1,153 tCO<sub>2</sub>e for 2021/22.
- 18. Building figures do not include schools or museums.

**Street Lighting**

- 19. Street lighting accounted for 48% of total electricity use in 2021/22. The nature of street lighting means this consumption is unmetered and is estimated by our supplier based on the total number of street-lamps in use.
- 20. Since 2015/16 estimated consumption has decreased by 17% through LED rollout.
- 21. Emissions associated with street lighting reduced to zero in 2020 when we switched our electricity supply to purchase 100% renewable. If we were still paying a non-renewable tariff street lighting would have accounted for 1,075 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2021/22.
- 22. Over the last 8 years, the council has been working on upgrading street lighting to more efficient LED lighting. 2020/21 to 2021/22 saw a 7% reduction in kWh used for street lighting.



## **Water**

23. We were unable to access water consumption data from Yorkshire Water and as a result are unable to calculate emissions for 2021/22. However, the 2020/21 emissions accounted for just 0.6% of our corporate emissions.

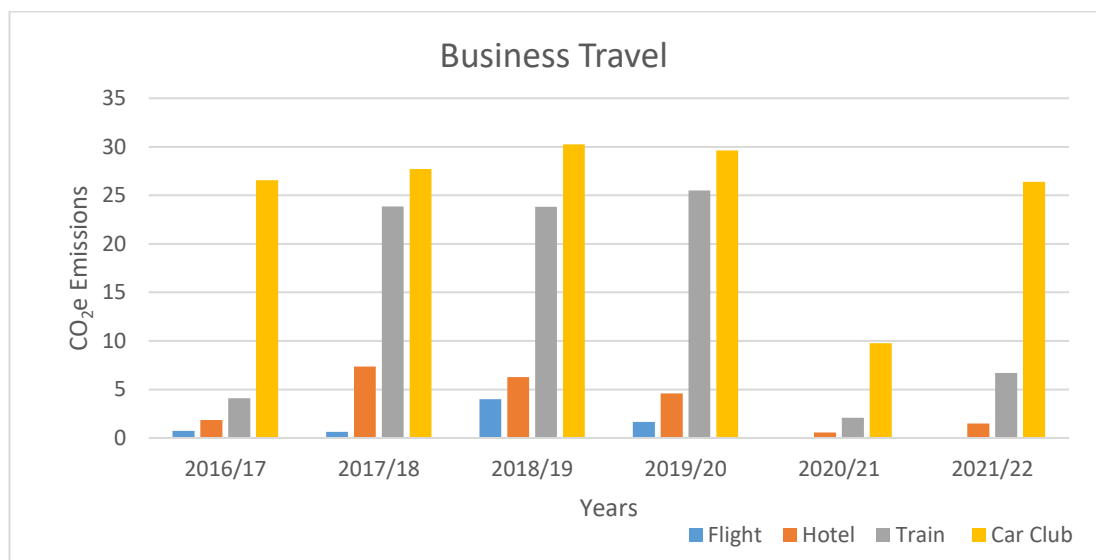
## **Fleet**

24. Emissions associated with our fleet reduced by 4% in 2021/22 and reflects the impact of the 4-year fleet replacement programme. As part of this plan, all combustion engine vehicles up to 3.5t will be replaced by electric vehicles. Currently 1.5% of the council fleet are electric vehicles. Once complete, in 2025, emissions associated with our fleet are expected to reduce by around 800tCO<sub>2e</sub>.
25. The corporate fleet accounted for half of all emissions recorded in 2021/2022. This is a slight reduction from the previous year, in which it accounted for 52% of corporate emissions.
26. As part of the replacement programme, CYC recently obtained a new fleet for waste collection, which included 2 electric vehicles and 10 vehicles with Euro 6 standard engines. Fully electric vehicles cut emissions entirely and we are piloting these solutions to increase reliability, while Euro 6 standard engines will lower emissions by around 16% a year.
27. We are also reducing emissions and fuel costs by increasing vehicle efficiency through route planning and driver training with a view to rolling these changes out in summer 2023.

## **Business Travel**

28. Business travel data measures emissions linked to the council's use of hotels, flights, and trains. Emissions associated with business travel have experienced an increase on last year (8.2 tCO<sub>2</sub>); however, 2020/21 was exceptional due to Covid restrictions.

29. The continuation of remote working and meeting attendance means that emissions from business travel in 2021/22 are 75% lower than pre-pandemic levels (32.6tCO<sub>2</sub>/yr).
30. While flights were uncommon for business travel pre-pandemic, they significantly increase corporate emissions. During the Covid-19 pandemic there were no flights recorded for business travel purposes and general business travel was extremely low. This has continued into 2021/22, although a small increase was expected.



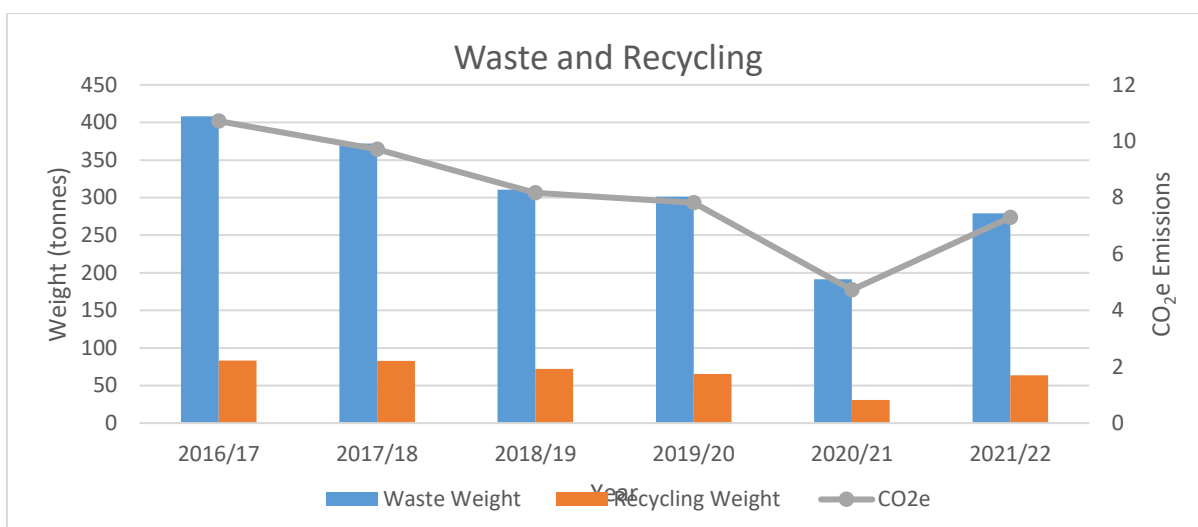
### Car Club

31. From 2017, the council began using Enterprise Car Club pool vehicles. The fleet consists of vehicles that run on unleaded petrol, diesel, hybrid electric and full electric. Currently over 50% of the vehicles run on unleaded petrol, around a quarter are hybrid electric and there are less than 10% each of diesel and full electric vehicles.
32. Short journeys that were 5 miles or less accounted for just over 2,000 miles. The council will continue to encourage shorter journeys that do not require a vehicle to be walked, cycled or commuted via public transport instead, if possible.

33. To reduce emissions from the Car Club, we are looking into the proportion of hybrid and electric vehicles and will encourage staff to use electric and hybrid vehicles rather than petrol or diesel. Enterprise use a preventative maintenance scheme which may help to keep vehicles running more efficiently.

## Waste/Recycling

34. Waste generated from council office buildings accounted for 7.3tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2021/22. This is a 65% increase on 2020/21 due to more people being in the office. However, levels of waste are still lower than pre-pandemic levels.



35. Pre-pandemic, recycling rates averaged 18%, reaching its lowest level of 14% in 2020/21. In 2021/22, the recycling rate has returned to pre-pandemic levels at 18.5%. The latest figures show waste and recycling weights continue to reduce.
36. Additional recyclable materials and food waste may be removed from the general waste during processing at Allerton Waste Recovery Park. Electricity is created from the general waste through burning it rather than being deposited in landfill.
37. In the short term, promoting recycling is important but auditing the type of waste that is produced over the long term can help the council reduce waste and emissions associated with waste.

## Procurement

38. Emissions associated with procured goods and services are not included in this report. However, we are working with the York & North Yorkshire LEP to calculate our Scope 3 emissions.
39. As part of this work, a template sustainable procurement policy has been produced. This template will be considered in the next review of our procurement policy.

## Actions

40. The City of York Council: Annual Carbon Emissions Report 2020/21 provided several actions for reducing our corporate emissions. Since then, the Carbon Reduction team has worked across the council and with other service areas to:
  - Produce decarbonisation plans for our largest emitting sites to identify improvements in heat generation, building fabric and energy efficiency and renewable generation – these are currently being finalised for 7 council buildings.
  - Adopt a policy to consider low carbon heating solutions for all system replacements – a Low Carbon Assessment Tool has been created.
  - Develop and promote a behaviour change campaign to reduce emissions associated with staff activity – A Carbon Literacy training module has been created for staff.
  - Promote remote event attendance where possible – IT allows this through the devices it provides to staff.
41. Other actions identified to reduce corporate emissions include:
  - Increase the proportion of hybrid and electric vehicles in the car club fleet and encourage staff to use electric and hybrid vehicles



- Update the Business Travel Policy with more information about carbon reduction, including prioritising sustainable travel including trains over flights, wherever possible
- Incorporate sustainable procurement and circular economy principles into our purchasing decisions
- Work with YNY LEP to develop a methodology to calculate Scope 3 emissions associated with council activity
- Review the corporate waste contract and undertake a waste audit

## Council Plan

42. This report satisfies the commitment within The Council Plan to record data on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from council buildings and operations as part of the “greener and cleaner city” priority outcome.

## Implications

- **Financial** – The report identifies a number of actions that the carbon reduction team propose to undertake over the coming year. The majority require officer time and can be contained within agreed budgets. There may be occasions where there may need to be a trade-off between cost and emissions. For example the cost of low carbon heating systems tend to be more expensive than traditional systems. It will be important to consider whole life costing to ensure that savings in running costs are included in the evaluation but it is likely that initial capital costs will be higher. This would need to be incorporated into capital budget setting
- **Human Resources (HR)** - no HR implications have been identified
- **Equalities** – no equalities implications have been identified
- **Legal** – no Legal implications have been identified
- **Crime and Disorder** - no crime and disorder implications have been identified

- **Information Technology (IT)** - our server estate is subject the impacts of rationalisation where possible. Our move, like most, to use cloud based services where we can, will reduce our local rates of consumption
- **Property** - reduction of carbon emissions will have significant implications for the Council's property portfolio. Some of them are outlined in this report. Consideration of carbon emission data will be a significant factor when it comes to future rationalisation of property assets. Carbon reduction is already in the process of being considered where items of plant and machinery are coming up for replacement in our operational and commercial properties, particularly in respect of gas fired boilers, where consideration is being given to their replacement with, biomass, electric or heat source pumps where it is practical to do so.
- **Other** - none

## Contact Details

### Author:

Shaun Gibbons  
Head of Carbon Reduction  
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### Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Claire Foale  
Assistant Director Policy & Strategy

Report Approved  Date 05/12/2022

### Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

## Background papers

Corporate Emissions Report 2020/21

[https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s153499/EMDS\\_Corporate%20Emissions%20Report\\_2021.pdf](https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s153499/EMDS_Corporate%20Emissions%20Report_2021.pdf)



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## **Decision Session – Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change**

**14 December 2022**

Report of the Head of Carbon Reduction

Portfolio of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change

### **York Emissions Inventory Report 2022**

#### **Summary**

1. This report presents the Emissions Inventory for the City of York. The data will be used to monitor progress against the council ambition to achieve net zero carbon for the city by 2030.
2. The emissions inventory was compiled using SCATTER<sup>1</sup>; a tool designed for, and widely used by, local authorities to report emissions.
3. Emissions across the city for 2019 (the latest reporting year) were 912kilotonnes Carbon Dioxide equivalent (ktCO<sub>2</sub>e). This covers Scope 1 and 2 (direct) emissions, representing a reduction of 2.6% from 2018.
4. The built environment and transport sector account for over 90% of our direct local emissions. The council is responsible for around 4% of city-wide emissions.
5. While the focus of our inventory reporting is Scope 1 and 2 emissions, as these fall directly under the control of actors within the city, we are exploring improved carbon accounting and management options to include scope 3 (indirect) emissions in the future.

#### **Recommendations**

6. The Executive Member is asked to:
  - i. Approve the York Emissions Inventory Report

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<sup>1</sup> <https://scattercities.com/>

Reason: This report fulfils the commitment in the Council Plan to report on city-wide carbon emissions and monitor progress towards the net zero ambition

## **Background**

7. SCATTER (Setting City Area Targets and Trajectories for Emissions Reduction) is a local authority focussed emissions tool developed by Anthesis, Nottingham City Council and The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research using funding from The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
8. SCATTER standardises greenhouse gas reporting and aligns to international frameworks, including the setting of targets in line with the Paris Climate Agreement. It is also compliant with the reporting standards of The Global Covenant of Mayors' Common Reporting Framework (CRF) and Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP).
9. The methodology<sup>2</sup> is based on the Accounting and Reporting Standard developed by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories. Greenhouse Gas Protocol Guidance.
10. This report presents the latest York Emissions Report Inventory (2022) for the reporting year 2019. Previous reports are available from the council website<sup>3</sup>.

## **York's City-Wide Emissions**

11. Scope 1 and 2 emissions in York for 2019 were 912ktCO<sub>2</sub>e; a reduction from 936ktCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2018 (2.6%).

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<sup>2</sup> <https://scatter-staging.anthesis.systems/pages/methodology/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.york.gov.uk/climate-change-governance/ClimateChangeGovernance/2>

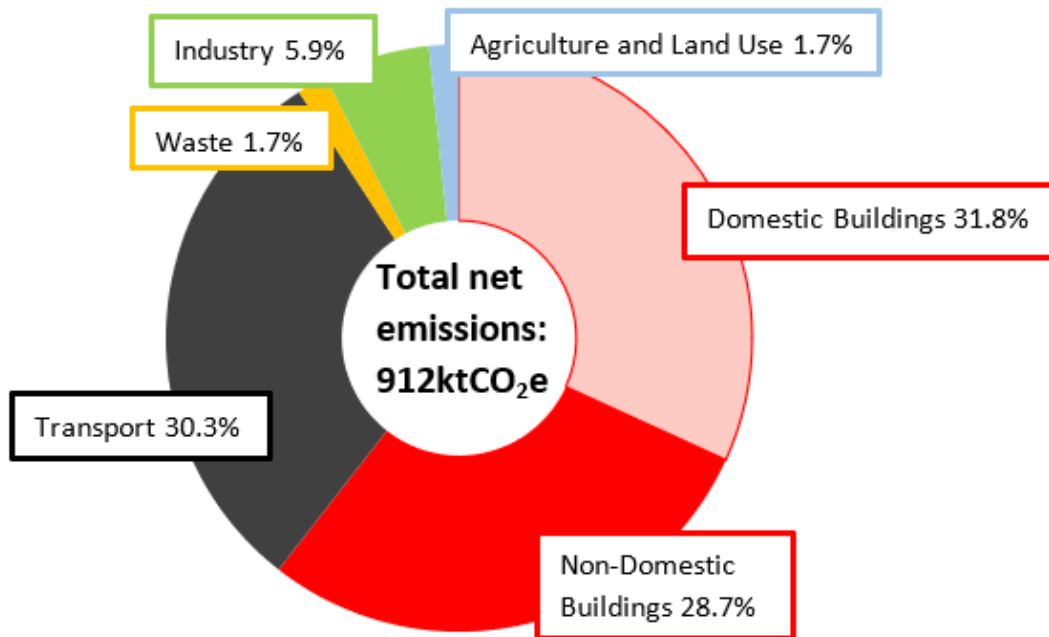


Fig 1: York's city-wide emissions profile in 2019 as modelled by SCATTER inventory tool.

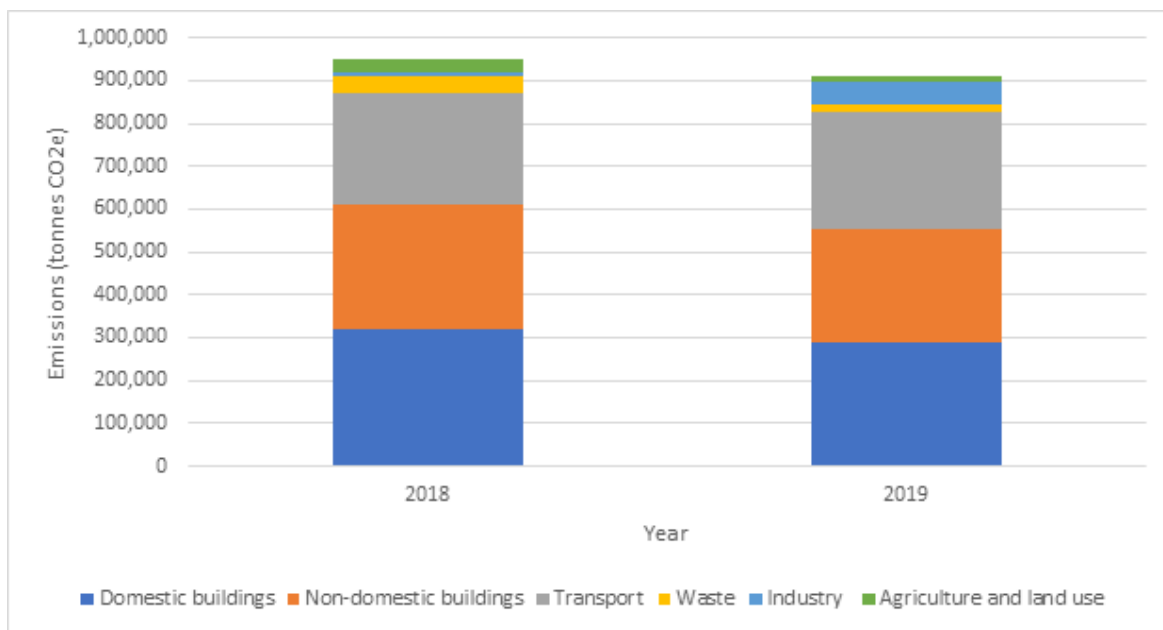


Fig 2: Comparison of York's city-wide emissions profile 2018 and 2019

- The built environment accounts for just over 60% of emissions in York across both domestic and non-domestic. The proportion of emissions from homes has increased since 2018 to, while the share of emissions from other buildings has seen a slight reduction. Most emissions from buildings are associated with gas consumption used for space heating and hot water.

13. Emissions from transport is another significant contributor, with on-road transport responsible for most of these emissions. The percentage of emissions from transport has increased since 2018.
14. Emissions from all sectors has reduced since 2018, with the exception being industrial based emissions.
15. A more detailed breakdown of emissions by sub-sector is presented in the Inventory Summary Report (Annex A).
16. The York Emissions Inventory and SCATTER Pathway Tool is used to support the evidence base for the York Climate Change Strategy.
17. The council published an Action Update of measures to reduce city-wide carbon emissions in May 2022.<sup>4</sup>

## Council Plan

18. The recommendation from this paper fulfils one of the commitments from the Council Plan: Providing data of carbon emissions across the city. This monitors progress against the Greener and Cleaner Council Plan priority.

## Implications

- **Financial** – no financial implications have been identified
- **Human Resources (HR)** – no HR implications have been identified
- **Equalities** – no equalities implications have been identified
- **Legal** – no legal implications have been identified
- **Crime and Disorder** – no crime and disorder implications have been identified
- **Information Technology (IT)** – the majority of information being recorded is already captured in some format. Some of this information is reported through the York Open Data Platform. Consolidating this data into one place will make it easier for the public to access, increase transparency and collaborative working.
- **Property** – no property implications have been identified

## Risk Management

The following risks have been identified:

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<sup>4</sup>[https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s158862/EMDS\\_Climate%20Change%20Action%20Update\\_May%202022.pdf](https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s158862/EMDS_Climate%20Change%20Action%20Update_May%202022.pdf)

- **Transparency:** Wider emissions reporting refers in the main to city partner activity. Partners will use their own methodology to measure their own impact and there might be occasions when data is not aligned. City partners will work together to present a shared narrative about data as it is published.
- **Time:** with a 2.5 year time lag for the data, it will be some time before the impact of policies is really understood. This brings a risk that inadvertent and negative impacts are not acted on quickly enough. To mitigate this risk the council will work with city partners, and draw on available evidence to better understand impact until the accurate data is available

## Contact Details

### Author:

**Shaun Gibbons**

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and Communications  
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### Officer Responsible for the report:

Claire Foale  
Assistant Director Policy & Strategy

Report Approved  Date 05/12/2022

### Wards Affected:

All

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

### Background Papers:

York Emissions Inventory Report 2021

[https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s153498/EMDS\\_York%20Emissions%20Inventory%20Report\\_2021.pdf](https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s153498/EMDS_York%20Emissions%20Inventory%20Report_2021.pdf)

Climate Change Action Update

[https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s158862/EMDS\\_Climate%20Change%20Action%20Update\\_May%202022.pdf](https://modgov.york.gov.uk/documents/s158862/EMDS_Climate%20Change%20Action%20Update_May%202022.pdf)

### Annexes

Annex A: York Emissions Inventory Summary

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## Summary Greenhouse Gas emissions (tonnes CO2e)

Sector	Sub-sector	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Total tCO2e
		Total tCO2e DIRECT	Total tCO2e INDIRECT	Total tCO2e OTHER	
Stationary energy	Residential buildings	212,651.16	77,529.00	41,036.81	331,216.97
	Commercial buildings & facilities	28,234.75	45,291.24	10,574.02	84,100.01
	Institutional buildings & facilities	22,993.83	9,833.94	4,485.55	37,313.32
	Industrial buildings & facilities	67,109.94	55,173.08	19,071.89	141,354.92
	Agriculture	3,721.53	0.86	885.87	4,608.27
	Fugitive emissions	29,796.45	-	NE	29,796.45
Transportation	On-road	265,421.10	IE	IE	265,421.10
	Rail	6,206.94	IE	1,477.26	7,684.21
	Waterborne navigation	1,751.97	IE	IE	1,751.97
	Aviation	NO	IE	116,461.82	116,461.82
	Off-road	2,649.69	IE	NE	2,649.69
Waste	Solid waste disposal	10,488.04	-	IE	10,488.04
	Biological treatment	NO	-	IE	-
	Incineration and open burning	801.19	-	IE	801.19
	Wastewater treatment and discharge	3,828.26	-	NO	3,828.26
IPPU	Industrial process	53,681.45	-	NE	53,681.45
	Industrial product use	0.00	-	NE	0.00
AFOLU	Livestock	23,735.22	-	NE	23,735.22
	Land use	- 8,629.42	-	NE	- 8,629.42
	Other AFOLU	NE	-	NE	-
Generation of grid-supplied energy	Electricity-only generation	NO	-	NO	-
	CHP generation	2,707.67	-	430.68	3,138.35
	Heat/cold generation	NO	-	NO	-
	Local renewable generation	6.82	NO	NO	6.82

Notation keys:
Not Occurring
Integrated Elsewhere
Not Estimated
Confidential
Combination of notation keys
N/A
Required
Optional

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**City of York Council**  
**Equalities Impact Assessment**

**Who is submitting the proposal?**

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Policy and Strategy		
<b>Service Area:</b>	Carbon Reduction Team		
<b>Name of the proposal :</b>	Emissions reporting		
<b>Lead officer:</b>	Shaun Gibbons / Issy Burkitt		
<b>Date assessment completed:</b>			
<b>Names of those who contributed to the assessment :</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Job title</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Area of expertise</b>
Shaun Gibbons	Head of Carbon Reduction	CYC	Carbon Reduction
Issy Burkitt	Carbon Reduction Project Officer	CYC	Carbon Reduction

**Step 1 – Aims and intended outcomes**

<p><b>1.1</b></p>	<p><b>What is the purpose of the proposal?</b> Please explain your proposal in Plain English avoiding acronyms and jargon.</p>
	<p>In 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published a special report on Global Warming, describing the devastating impact a global temperature rise of 2°C would have on our planet and the importance of limiting warming to 1.5°C. In response, the UK has committed to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.</p> <p>In York, the Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and set an ambition for York to be net zero carbon by 2030. York recognises its place as a leader on climate action. Since 2005, we have reduced our emissions by 39%, but there is still more that we can do.</p> <p>Creating annual emissions reports for both CYC activities and for the rest of the city will help to track the change in emissions year on year to monitor how actions are making a difference towards the 2030 target.</p>

<b>1.2</b>	<b>Are there any external considerations?</b> (Legislation/government directive/codes of practice etc.)
	<p>The UK government is legally bound to achieving net zero by 2050. The 2021 Net Zero Strategy sets an interim target to reduce emissions by 78% by 2035 and sets the trajectory for phasing out the sale of gas boilers and fully decarbonising the power system.</p> <p>The York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership aims for the region to be carbon neutral by 2034 and carbon negative by 2040. The Partnership provides support for businesses, assessments of local skillsets and a routemap for York and North Yorkshire becoming England’s first carbon negative region.</p> <p>Within CYC, the economic, health and wellbeing and climate change strategies provide a framework for 10 years of activity. The Local Plan also includes climate considerations.</p>

1.3	<p><b>Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?</b></p>
	<p><b>City of York Council</b>  The council is taking a leading role in tackling climate change and will reduce corporate emissions to net zero by 2030; however, the council is directly responsible for less than 4% of the total emissions in York. While the council’s wider influence can extend beyond this, through purchasing decisions and local policy, every aspect of our society will need to contribute towards achieving our city-wide ambition.</p> <p><b>Businesses</b>  With over 7,000 businesses and a Gross Value Added (GVA) of £6.5bn, York is a major driver of growth across the region and beyond. The city is home to a diverse range of enterprising and innovative businesses, many of which are already taking proactive steps to reduce their carbon emissions.  Almost 80% of businesses who responded to the Council’s Our Big Conversation agree with the ambition for York to be a net zero by 2030, and 20% of firms have considered diversifying into goods and services that are part of the green economy over the next year.  Businesses can take actions that not only reduce carbon emissions but also reduce costs and have a positive impact on society. Steps to reduce energy consumption, influence behaviour change (among employees, customers and networks), and engage local supply chains, supports our net zero ambition, ensures businesses are resilient to climate change and provides opportunities for new local jobs.  The Local Government Association estimates that 3,090 green jobs will be required in York by 2030 in the low-carbon and renewable energy sector, with the majority of these in bioenergy, low-carbon heat pumps and building insulation. By 2050, this number is expected to be at least 4,902.</p> <p><b>Residents</b>  York is home to 210,000 people. We can all make positive changes to how we live and travel around the city, which can help reduce emissions. Making improvements to our homes reduces emissions but also lowers energy bills. Our residents can shape and create neighbourhoods that meet our daily needs close to home and make consumer choices that demonstrates demand for more sustainable products. Encouragingly, 69% of respondents to Our Big Conversation have made changes to their purchasing habits and a similar proportion, 65%, have made changes to their personal travel</p>

80% of respondents to Our Big Conversation agree with the ambition for York to be net zero carbon by 2030. Residents have a powerful voice to call for change from their employers, companies, local and national governments. By talking about climate change with others, residents in York can help encourage others to act.

York residents equipped with the right skillset have the potential to benefit from new green jobs. In 2021, 14% of residents believed they would have to retrain to continue working in York. Helping residents to develop the knowledge and skills suitable for green jobs can reduce the city's carbon emissions alongside helping residents to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and support our inclusive growth ambitions.

### **Visitors**

York has been a tourist destination for almost 2,000 years, since being founded by the Romans in 71 AD. These days, York welcomes 8.4 million visitors every year, with the sector contributing £909 million to York's economy. One in five of York's visitors stay overnight in one of over 20,000 bed-spaces and the visitor economy supports 25,000 jobs in the city. We also welcome close to 900,000 conference and event delegates every year.

Despite reduced visitor numbers through the pandemic, York remains an attractive visitor destination with a strong regional market. The city's new tourism strategy will take a leap into the future with a bold new plan to rebuild the visitor economy in a more sustainable and integrated way. We want to see York develop as a liveable city, as well as a thriving visitor destination.

### **Investors**

Delivering net zero and adapting to climate change will require significant investment. The city will need to work with the financial sector and attract external investment to help deliver new infrastructure, financial mechanisms and funding for climate projects. Emissions from buildings account for over 60% of our emissions, investing in retrofit and renewable energy will strengthen the local economy, create new employment opportunities and help meet our climate ambitions.

Our commitment to net zero and climate resilience will make York a more attractive prospect for external investment. Organisations are increasingly incorporating environmental and sustainability considerations into their decision making process.

**Academic institutions**

York has 63 schools, 2 further education colleges and 2 internationally renowned universities. Around 25,000 school-aged children live in York and a sixth of our population are under 18 years of age.

Our academic institutions are crucial for providing new ways of thinking, innovative solutions, research, funding and talent to help develop new ideas and create a more sustainable York. By educating students on the importance of climate change, we can ensure the next generation lead the way in climate action, viewing every job as a green job.

**York Climate Commission**

City of York Climate Change Commission is a body representing and reflecting public and private sector representatives from across the City of York to deliver action, strategic oversight and accountability for the progression of city's climate change agenda.

**Regional ambition and working outside of York**

**The Yorkshire & Humber Climate Commission** represents members of local councils, businesses and third sectors. The Commission aims to reduce the carbon emissions of the region as quickly as possible by enabling engagement, providing evidence and promoting best practice.

**The York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership****The UK government**



<b>1.4</b>	<b>What results/outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom?</b> This section should explain what outcomes you want to achieve for service users, staff and/or the wider community. Demonstrate how the proposal links to the Council Plan (2019- 2023) and other corporate strategies and plans.
	<p>Reporting emissions annually will show how the council and the city are performing against targets to reach our net zero ambition. It will highlight how actions are contributing towards reducing or increasing emissions in all areas of the council and the wider city. As we move towards 2030, we hope to see emissions reducing rapidly through actions of the council, businesses, residents and other city users, seeing a decline in emissions will encourage more action to reach the ambition.</p> <p>The net zero 2030 ambition is set out in the Climate Change Strategy along with 32 objectives. The Economic and Health and Wellbeing strategies align with the Climate Change Strategy, so some actions to reduce emissions will also impact these areas.</p>

## Step 2 – Gathering the information and feedback

<b>2.1</b>	<b>What sources of data, evidence and consultation feedback do we have to help us understand the impact of the proposal on equality rights and human rights?</b> Please consider a range of sources, including: consultation exercises, surveys, feedback from staff, stakeholders, participants, research reports, the views of equality groups, as well your own experience of working in this area etc.	
	<b>Source of data/supporting evidence</b>	<b>Reason for using</b>
Council internal data from gas and electric use in buildings and street-lights, fleet, business travel (including car club), waste and water.		This is the only way to work out council corporate emissions

SCATTER	Provides city-wide emissions data
Internal officer conversations and actions	Provide context and understanding to working towards lowering emissions
Our Big Conversation Surveys	(A wider context beyond emissions reporting) To provide a snapshot of residents/businesses/other City users thoughts and priorities on climate change

### Step 3 – Gaps in data and knowledge

3.1	What are the main gaps in information and understanding of the impact of your proposal? Please indicate how any gaps will be dealt with.		
<b>Gaps in data or knowledge</b>		<b>Action to deal with this</b>	
How accurate the SCATTER data is (this is a top-down approach to emissions reporting)		Discussions with other organisations to get a bottom-up city-wide emissions survey	

### Step 4 – Analysing the impacts or effects.

4.1	Please consider what the evidence tells you about the likely impact (positive or negative) on people sharing a protected characteristic, i.e. how significant could the impacts be if we did not make any adjustments? Remember the duty is also positive – so please identify where the proposal offers opportunities to promote equality and/or foster good relations.		
<b>Equality Groups and Human Rights.</b>	<b>Key Findings/Impacts</b>	<b>Positive (+) Negative (-) Neutral (0)</b>	<b>High (H) Medium (M) Low (L)</b>
<b>Age</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics  For this demographic some negative impacts have been identified that we aim to mitigate	<b>+</b>  <b>-</b>	<b>H</b>  <b>L</b>

	<p><b>Engagement</b> – elderly people without access to internet/a computer and may not be able to access information, public engagement surveys or focus sessions</p> <p><b>Buildings</b> – retrofit may be harder and longer with more disruption for elderly people with special home modifications</p> <p><b>Transport</b> – active travel can become harder as people get older meaning they still need to use cars and/or need home deliveries (freight)</p> <p><b>Waste</b> – some waste streams such as clinical and medical waste that elderly people can be unavoidable and there may not be a more sustainable or reusable option available</p> <p><b>Commercial/Industrial</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Natural Environment</b> – accessibility may be reduced in some areas where more greenery/trees are planted</p> <p><b>Energy Supply</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Governance</b> – elderly people without access to internet/a computer may not be able to access information</p>		
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>H</p>

	<p>For this demographic some negative impacts have been identified that we aim to mitigate</p> <p><b>Engagement</b> – may not have access to internet/a computer and may not be able to access information, public engagement surveys or focus sessions</p> <p><b>Buildings</b> - retrofit may be harder and longer with more disruption for people with special home modifications</p> <p><b>Transport</b> – active travel can be harder for some types of disability meaning they still need to use cars and/or need home deliveries (freight)</p> <p><b>Waste</b> – some waste streams such as clinical and medical waste that people with certain disabilities can be unavoidable and there may not be a more sustainable or reusable option available</p> <p><b>Commercial/Industrial</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Natural Environment</b> – accessibility may be reduced in some areas where more greenery/trees are planted</p> <p><b>Energy Supply</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Governance</b> - people without access to internet/a computer may not be able to access information</p>	-	L
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<b>Gender</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics	+	H
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics	+	H
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics	+	H
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics	+	H
	<p>For this demographic some negative impacts have been identified that we aim to mitigate</p> <p><b>Engagement</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Buildings</b> - retrofit disruption will not work for pregnant people or people with very young babies/children</p> <p><b>Transport</b> – active travel can become harder for pregnant people or those with very young babies/children meaning they still need to use cars and/or need home deliveries (freight)</p> <p><b>Waste</b> – some waste streams that babies need can be difficult to stop using or move to a reusable option</p>	-	L

	<b>Commercial/Industrial</b> – N/A  <b>Natural Environment</b> – N/A  <b>Energy Supply</b> – N/A  <b>Governance</b> – N/A		
<b>Race</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics	+	H
<b>Religion and belief</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics	+	H
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics	+	H
<b>Other Socio-economic groups including :</b>	<b>Could other socio-economic groups be affected e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes?</b>		
<b>Carer</b>	Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics  For this demographic some negative impacts have been identified that we aim to mitigate  <b>Engagement</b> – N/A  <b>Buildings</b> - retrofit may be harder and longer with more disruption for people with special home modifications	+  -	H  L

	<p><b>Transport</b> – some carers will need a car for their job even over short distances</p> <p><b>Waste</b> – some waste streams such as clinical and medical waste that elderly people, people with certain disabilities or babies can be unavoidable and there may not be a more sustainable or reusable option available</p> <p><b>Commercial/Industrial</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Natural Environment</b> – accessibility may be reduced in some areas where more greenery/trees are planted</p> <p><b>Energy Supply</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Governance</b> - N/A</p>		
<p><b>Low income groups</b></p>	<p>Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics</p> <p>For this demographic some negative impacts have been identified that we aim to mitigate</p> <p><b>Engagement</b> - may not have access to internet/a computer and may not be able to access information, public engagement surveys or focus sessions</p>	<p>+</p> <p>-</p>	<p>H</p> <p>L</p>



	<p><b>Buildings</b> – retrofit can be cost a lot of money where funding is not available. Retrofitted houses or those built to a higher energy standard may also increase house prices and/or energy costs can increase in the move away from gas boilers.</p> <p><b>Transport</b> – electric vehicles are often more expensive to buy and install charging infrastructure at home.</p> <p><b>Waste</b> – reusable, higher quality (for longer use) items to move to a circular economy can cost more than disposable items</p> <p><b>Commercial/Industrial</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Natural Environment</b> – N/A</p> <p><b>Energy Supply</b> – energy costs may increase dependant on the price of renewable energy (although they will hopefully be less than fossil fuels)</p> <p><b>Governance</b> - people without access to internet/a computer may not be able to access information</p>		
<p><b>Veterans, Armed Forces Community</b></p>	<p>Overall positive impact, working to reduce the impact of climate change for all demographics</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>H</p>

<b>Other</b>	For people working in industries that are based on fossil fuels/high carbon there is risk of unemployment as all systems become less carbon intensive	-	<b>M</b>
<b>Impact on human rights:</b>			
List any human rights impacted.	<b>None</b>		

**Use the following guidance to inform your responses:**

Indicate:

- Where you think that the proposal could have a **POSITIVE** impact on any of the equality groups like promoting equality and equal opportunities or improving relations within equality groups
- Where you think that the proposal could have a **NEGATIVE** impact on any of the equality groups, i.e. it could disadvantage them
- Where you think that this proposal has a **NEUTRAL** effect on any of the equality groups listed below i.e. it has no effect currently on equality groups.

It is important to remember that a proposal may be highly relevant to one aspect of equality and not relevant to another.

<p><b>High impact</b> (The proposal or process is very equality relevant)</p>	<p>There is significant potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or public facing The proposal has consequences for or affects significant numbers of people The proposal has the potential to make a significant contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights.</p>
<p><b>Medium impact</b> (The proposal or process is somewhat equality relevant)</p>	<p>There is some evidence to suggest potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or across services, but mainly internal The proposal has consequences for or affects some people The proposal has the potential to make a contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights</p>
<p><b>Low impact</b> (The proposal or process might be equality relevant)</p>	<p>There is little evidence to suggest that the proposal could result in adverse impact The proposal operates in a limited way The proposal has consequences for or affects few people The proposal may have the potential to contribute to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights</p>

**Step 5 - Mitigating adverse impacts and maximising positive impacts**

<p><b>5.1</b></p>	<p><b>Based on your findings, explain ways you plan to mitigate any unlawful prohibited conduct or unwanted adverse impact. Where positive impacts have been identified, what is been done to optimise opportunities to advance equality or foster good relations?</b></p>
<p>Not having unrealistic expectations of actions to reduce emissions e.g. increased active travel and reduced car use – this is not suitable for all demographics so we do not expect all people to take part in active travel or 100% reduction in car use</p> <p>Retain freedom to choose fossil fuels. For some individuals and businesses this may be their only option of fuel.</p> <p>Work to engage with all demographics included those with protected characteristics that may be harder to reach.</p>	

**Step 6 – Recommendations and conclusions of the assessment**

<p><b>6.1</b></p>	<p><b>Having considered the potential or actual impacts you should be in a position to make an informed judgement on what should be done. In all cases, document your reasoning that justifies your decision. There are four main options you can take:</b></p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No major change to the proposal</b> – the EIA demonstrates the proposal is robust. There is no potential for unlawful discrimination or adverse impact and you have taken all opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations, subject to continuing monitor and review.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Adjust the proposal</b> – the EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. This involves taking steps to remove any barriers, to better advance quality or to foster good relations.</li> <li>- <b>Continue with the proposal</b> (despite the potential for adverse impact) – you should clearly set out the justifications for doing this and how you believe the decision is compatible with our obligations under the duty</li> <li>- <b>Stop and remove the proposal</b> – if there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, you should consider stopping the proposal altogether. If a proposal leads to unlawful discrimination it should be removed or changed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Important:</b> If there are any adverse impacts you cannot mitigate, please provide a compelling reason in the justification column.</p>	
<b>Option selected</b>	<b>Conclusions/justification</b>
Continue with the proposal	There is an overall positive impact from the strategy and there are mitigations for any potential negative impacts.

## Step 7 – Summary of agreed actions resulting from the assessment

<b>7.1 What action, by whom, will be undertaken as a result of the impact assessment.</b>			
<b>Impact/issue</b>	<b>Action to be taken</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Sources of emissions data	Look to create bottom-up reporting approach to compare with top down approach	Carbon Reduction Team	Ongoing

### **Step 8 - Monitor, review and improve**

<b>8.1</b>	<b>How will the impact of your proposal be monitored and improved upon going forward?</b> Consider how will you identify the impact of activities on protected characteristics and other marginalised groups going forward? How will any learning and enhancements be capitalised on and embedded?		
	On-going reporting, monitoring, engagement and consultation		



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**Executive Member for Environment and  
Climate Change Decision Session**

**14 December 2022**

**Report of the Director of Economy & Place**

**York 5 Year Flood Plan Update**

**Summary**

1. The flooding in late December 2015 followed an intense period of rainfall across November and December due to the impacts of Storms Desmond and Eva. Record river levels were observed in many river catchments across the north of England. More than 4,000 homes and 2,000 businesses flooded across Yorkshire with 453 properties and 174 businesses flooded in York.
2. Funding has been allocated to the Environment Agency (“**EA**”) following the floods to renew existing and provide new flood defences across the city, £38m has been allocated to the Foss Barrier improvements and a total of £64m to the wider flood defences across the City of York.
3. An update on progress has been supplied by the EA, this can be seen in **Annex 1**.
4. The City of York Council (the “**Council**”) are leading on the development of the scheme in Fulford, appraisal and design work has continued, review sessions and community meetings have been held, submission of the planning application is expected before the end of 2022.
5. The Council’s Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (“**DEFRA**”) funded Innovative Flood Resilience project is being developed further through to the full outline business case that will be submitted to DEFRA in spring 2022. All financial and governance approvals are in place and final procurement of all project partners is being finalised.
6. A motion was tabled at the 16 December 2021 Council meeting detailing a range of actions and activities that were needed to ‘Clean up York’s Rivers’ <https://democracy.york.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=60979>

7. **Annex 2** details the motion and the progress of actions that have been commenced in response. A recommendation is made in paragraph 8 for future updates to be brought to the Executive Member on this issue.

## Recommendations

8. It is recommended that the Executive Member for the Environment and Climate Change:
  - i. Note the updated report and the evidence presented by the Environment Agency in the session, feedback is sought from the Executive Member on all content; and
  - ii. Consider and endorse the progress of actions from the motion in **Annex 2**, the need to continue to work with all partners and use any opportunity to develop further studies and projects to better improve river quality and the usage of our rivers. Further updates will be brought to the Executive Member on this item.

Reason: To support the delivery of flood resilience interventions in York and across the wider River Ouse catchment.

## Background

9. Following the development and publication of the York Five Year Plan (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/york-5-year-flood-plan>), the EA have developed detailed business cases and designs for schemes in 19 flood cells across the city.
10. The EA continue to work closely with the Council on all aspects of the York Five Year Plan, an update has been provided by the EA at **Annex 1**.
11. The detailed design and appraisal of flood defences and a pumping station on Germany Beck continues. The scheme will provide protection to homes and maintain access on Fordlands Road during flooding. The scheme will also aid future flood resilience on the A19.
12. The programme for the delivery of the detailed design and all permissions is almost complete but delays have been faced due to heritage and conservation matters. Public meetings have been held regularly with the most recent on the 17 November and 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 to update residents on the project and the changes to the programme.



13. Planning application submission is now expected in late 2022. The construction phase for the project is expected to commence in late 2023.
14. The Council are developing works to increase the flood resilience of Millennium Bridge. Although physically impossible to raise the levels to prevent inundation in all future flood events the works will significantly reduce the likelihood of the east/west link across the bridge being unusable. Design work is ongoing, permissions and the delivery programme will be finalised in the new year.
15. The Defra funded Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme catchment scale natural flood risk management project has received all financial and governance approvals and the project has progressed into the delivery phase. Procurement of hydraulic and environmental modelling consultants, catchment advisors and academic partners has commenced and, in some cases, has been completed. Recruitment of the first catchment partner posts have progressed.
16. Over the next few months, the project team will be developing proposals for a grant scheme for natural flood management (NFM) measures in the river catchments upstream of York. Funding will be available for measures which will help reduce to reduce flood risk to people and property, based on current evidence about the effectiveness of a range of NFM measures. A wide range of partnerships and linkages have been formed by the project team and a number of case study demonstration sites have begun to be considered.
17. The North Yorkshire Flood Risk Partnership (co-chaired by the City of York Council Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change) provide governance over the project and will be asked to approve details about how the grant scheme will operate and the initial proposed tranche of grant recipients at their meeting in February 2023. It is anticipated that most, if not all, grants will be made for measures outside of the City of York Council area, based on current evidence on the types of areas where NFM is most effective. The modelling carried out as part of the wider project will help to show the potential cumulative benefits of such measures to downstream communities, including York, over the longer term.
18. A wide range of reports of water quality issues across England and Wales in late 2021 illustrated public and political concerns over combined sewer overflows into our rivers and the perceived environmental damage that this can cause. A motion was tabled at the 16 December 2021 Council meeting -

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=60979> – calling for a range of actions to ‘Clean up York’s Rivers’. **Annex 2** details the motion and the progress on actions to take this forward.

19. Water quality and the performance of Yorkshire Water combined sewer overflows is monitored by the Environment Agency, the Executive Member and Flood Risk Manager have met with the water company to discuss these issues. CYC are working closely with Yorkshire Water on their next funding settlement and their response to Government’s Storm Overflow Discharge Reduction Plan. Noncompliant overflows will be identified, and we will work with Yorkshire Water to target funding to resolve issues wherever possible.
20. Our work to develop catchment scale flood risk solutions presents us with an opportunity to influence water quality issues across the wider River Swale/Ure/Nidd/Ouse boundaries. Detailed hydraulic and environmental modelling will be developed for the project and will aid the identification of possible improvements.
21. The project has recently formed formal links with a University of York led project looking at water quality issues across the wider river catchments, this will also consider overflows. This ambitious project seeks to transform how we evaluate the risks of chemical mixtures to freshwater biodiversity in UK rivers, the Rivers Swale, Ure and Nidd are included as key case study areas. The project will deliver an assessment framework that accounts for the characteristics of a specific river catchment and determines the combined impacts of mixtures of chemicals on water quality. It will develop land-use based understanding of the current and future risks of multiple chemicals in our landscapes and the factors that influence them. This will be achieved by generating a better understanding of how climate and catchment changes are affecting the sources and processes by which pollutants are entering river systems.
22. This four year project aligns well with our catchment scale work and formal linkages will be made throughout to help illustrate the current and future river quality issues in our city.
23. The motion calls for holistic and wide-ranging reporting to be developed to manage and enhance flood risk, environmental, heritage, regeneration and amenity aspects of our river, this will be difficult to deliver due to the wide range of partners and the scale of the wider contributing river catchment. However, the work detailed in paragraph 21 will give us an opportunity to embed this, updates will be brought to the Executive Member to develop this further.

## Consultation

24. Public consultation on the York Five Year Plan continues through a range of flood cells, this is detailed in the update in **Annex 1** along with the programme of future consultation events.
25. Consultation on the Germany Beck Flood Alleviation Scheme continues as the design work commences.

## Options

26. The principal options open to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change are to comment on and review the work undertaken to date, the future work identified and the representations made by the EA and the Council on all detail provided in this report and its Annexes.

## Analysis

27. On-going liaison will continue between the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change and the Council's Flood Risk Manager. Future briefings to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change Decision Session will be made to ensure key outputs and decisions are supported by the Council and to provide formal opportunities for members and the public to consult. Further recommendations will be made for agreement at these sessions.

## Council Plan

28. Improved provision of flood defences supports a prosperous city for all through safer communities for residents, businesses and visitors, a wide range of consultation events will ensure this is in line with the needs and expectations of local communities.

## Implications

29. **Financial** – Funding is allocated directly to the EA. The additional funding is available to be directed towards key flood risk projects in the city in the short term. The extent of required works may require wider funding and DEFRA funding bids will be developed. There are likely to be contribution requirements as part of this wider work.
30. Although the majority of funding for Council's scheme in Fulford is secured a DEFRA Partnership Funding bid is to be developed to finalise the funding package.

31. All funding for the Innovative Flood Resilience Project is secured. The procurement strategy for the delivery phase of the project has been approved, this was endorsed by Council Executive on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022 <https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MId=13288>
32. **Property** – The Site Investigation programme will include sites under Council ownership and/or control, consultation will be carried out with Estates teams and all relevant agreements will be put in place.
33. **Legal** - The governance and cross border working arrangements needed for the delivery phase of the Innovative Flood Resilience Project were endorsed by Council Executive on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022 <https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MId=13288>
34. **Human Resources (HR)** – No implications.
35. **One Planet Council/Equalities** – No implications.
36. **Crime and Disorder** – No implications.
37. **Information Technology (IT)** – No implications.

### **Risk Management**

38. No known risks are identified at this time, detailed risk management work will be developed as the business case and detailed design works commence.

**Contact Details**

**Author:**

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**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

Neil Ferris  
Director of Economy & Place

**Report  
Approved**

**Date** 05/12/2022

**Wards Affected:** List wards or tick box to indicate all

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers: None**

**Annexes:** **Annex 1** York 5 Year Flood Plan Update Apr22  
**Annex 2** York 5 Year Flood Plan Update Apr22

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### Update for December's Executive Decision Session

This is an update of the progress made over the last 8 months on the flood alleviation work in York, as well as providing information on the programme and expected timelines for delivering the remaining work. In this update we have provided:

1. Summary of activities the Programme
2. Engagement highlights
3. Our response to Drought and preparing for Winter
4. Programme information tables
5. Map of the York Five Year Plan flood cell outlines

#### 1. Summary of activities across the Programme

In June this year we celebrated completion of several of our City centre projects and achieving our target of better protecting over 2000 properties in York.

It was in response to the devastating floods of Boxing Day 2015 when 627 properties flooded in York, that the Government committed £38 million to upgrade the Foss Barrier, as well as £45 million funding to provide better flood protection to properties along the Rivers Ouse and Foss in the city.

In York, there are 18 areas of work across the city where flood defences are being constructed, including installing property level flood protection such as flood doors, temporary barriers, pumps and valves, which reduce the chance of flood water getting into a property.

The project milestone of better protecting over 2000 properties from flooding was marked at an event by the chair of the Environment Agency, Emma Howard Boyd.

*Emma Howard Boyd, Chair of the Environment Agency (2016-2022), said:*

“York is a historic city which is no stranger to the effects of flooding. The upgraded Foss Barrier and flood defence work across the city will make people and businesses more resilient to future climate impacts. York has always managed to prosper through floods from its great rivers and as climate change makes the rest of the world more vulnerable to flooding York’s progress is a model.

“The Environment Agency’s work here continues and with further investments we are upgrading and creating new flood storage areas as well as installing bespoke property level protection to homes and businesses across the city. We are also working with partners upstream to find storage capacity and natural flood management opportunities in the Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse catchments.”

*Floods Minister (2022) Rebecca Pow said:*

“The completion of the upgrade of the Foss Barrier is an important day for the people of York. The government has provided more than £80 million for flood defences in York since the devastating flooding of Boxing Day 2015, helping to protect 2,000 homes and businesses from the impacts of climate change

“This is part of significant ongoing investment in flood schemes across Yorkshire, with over a billion pounds invested across the region since 2015 – more than any other part of the country.”

The Foss Barrier protects properties by stopping flood water from the River Ouse backing up along the River Foss after heavy rainfall, and was originally built in 1987.

The barrier continually protected the city including the floods of 1995, 2000, 2007 and 2012, but following the floods in December 2015 work started to improve it to help adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The upgrade included replacing the old gate, which was 8.5 metres wide and weighed approximately 16 tonnes, and the structure supporting the gate. A new replacement gate was air-lifted into place at the barrier in January 2021.

The mechanical and electrical equipment needed to control the barrier was also improved. Eight new high-powered pumps have now been installed, increasing the pumping capacity from 30 to 50 cubic metres per second. The Boxing Day 2015 floods saw 40 cubic metres of water a second travelling down the Foss.

The work has also included an upgrade to the pumping stations electricity supply and complex control equipment used to automate the operation of the pumping station and the permanent backup power supply from the onsite generators. The new back-up generators mean they can operate during a power failure.

Improvement work at the pumping station started in spring 2016, and now that it is complete means the Foss Barrier is now one of the most resilient flood defence assets in the country.

In addition to the upgrade of the Foss Barrier, completion of new flood defences around Memorial Gardens and North St, Lower Bootham, Marygate, the village of Bishopthorpe, Clementhorpe and the roll out of flood resilience products means that over 2,200 properties are now better protected against the risk of flooding.

With the majority of inner-city work near completion, attention will focus on completing PFR and major construction work on flood schemes at Clifton and Rawcliffe and the Foss flood storage area which will hold up to a million cubic metres of water during severe weather and together protect a further 740 properties.



## 2. Engagement highlights

On the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022, we hosted a visit in York to demonstrate and celebrate the successes we have achieved to date following the floods of Boxing Day 2015. The visit was attended by local councillors and Civic Party, MP's, EA Board Members and representatives from our partner organisations.



Environment Agency  
@EnvAgency

Today marks the official opening of the Foss Barrier in York. The improved barrier and new flood defences in the city, means 2,000 properties are better protected from the impact of #flooding.

Read more: [gov.uk/government/new...](https://gov.uk/government/new...)

@CityofYork @EnvAgencyYNE @EmmaHowardBoyd



4:13 pm · 17 Jun 2022 · Emplifi



York Lib Dems  
@yorklibdems

The upgraded Foss Barrier has been officially opened today! 🎉

The £38 million @EnvAgencyYNE project to improve the barrier, combined with completed flood defence work in York, will protect 2,000 properties and make the city more resilient to the impacts of climate change 🌍



2:36 pm · 17 Jun 2022 · Twitter Web App



City of York Council  
@CityofYork

Congratulations to all the partner organisations and everyone involved in this project 🌞

This is a positive step for York, but there will always be more to do to help protect our city, and we're ready to keep adapting our defences in the face of a changing climate.

Environment Agency - Yorkshire & North East @EnvAgencyYNE · 17 Jun

Today we officially opened the £38 million newly upgraded Foss Barrier in York, now one of the most resilient flood defences in the country, meaning 2,000 properties will be better protected from the impacts of climate change. Find out more: [gov.uk/government/new...](https://gov.uk/government/new...)



4:08 pm · 17 Jun 2022 · Twitter Web App



## 3. Our response to Drought and preparing for Winter

Drought was officially declared for Yorkshire Area on 15<sup>th</sup> August. This due to a combination of low rainfall and high temperatures across most of the country. We remain in drought, despite the wet and unsettled weather that we have experienced in September and October.

Rainfall during September and October reached or exceeded normal for the time of year. Rivers in the Pennines are normal for time of year but in the east are still low. Yorkshire Water (YW) reservoir stocks have risen overall, however, are still low, at almost 34% full, whereas this time in 2021 they were at 64%.

Unsettled wet weather occurred throughout September and monthly rainfall totals throughout Yorkshire ranged from 85% to 141% of the long term average (LTA). Just eleven days in Sept accounted for 75% to 96% of the total monthly rainfall.

Despite this increased rainfall, below normal flows were recorded on the rivers Swale, Ure, Nidd and Ouse, ranging from 30% to 64% of the LTA.

### What can you do?

Water is a precious resource and it is always helpful, in terms of future supplies and protecting the environment, for everyone to follow advice on saving water from their water company and use water wisely. The average person in England uses 140 litres per day. We all need to increase the amount of water we save to protect our natural environment and drinking water supplies.

Yorkshire Water's top tips for saving water, energy and money include the following:

1. Only wash full loads in your washing machine or dishwasher
2. Use a bucket and sponge to wash your car, rather than a hose-pipe
3. Have a four-minute shower, instead of a bath
4. Turn the tap off when brushing your teeth
5. Install a water butt to collect rainwater for watering your garden
6. Water your garden early in the morning or in the evening, when it is cooler

As always, if people see any environmental impacts due to dry weather, such as low flows, fish in distress or algae blooms, please report it to the Environment Agency incident line on [0800 80 70 60](tel:0800807060) so we can investigate and minimise any potential impacts on the environment.

It is important to note that, should we have any intense rainfall on dry or compacted ground, it can run off quickly making river levels rise fast and cause localised flooding. So it is possible to have floods during prolonged dry periods.

### Getting ready for Winter

Our Winter Seasonal Awareness campaign makes sure all duty officers are up to speed and have a shared picture of risk as we head into the colder months. In addition to national training, in York, field and duty officers have undergone familiarisation walks, test operation of assets and a check of trigger levels and operational instructions. Where we have brand new assets walk overs with our partners have also taken place. This is to ensure all are comfortable to operate new and existing assets properly and to optimal effectiveness.



### Remember that even protected properties are still at risk of flooding

The City of York is largely covered by our Flood Warning system. This is a free service which gives notice of when flooding is expected so that you can be prepared or take any necessary action. To sign up for Flood Warnings please:

Call **Floodline on 0345 988 1188** or visit [www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings](http://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings)



Find out your risk of flooding, and see what warnings are in force at any time by visiting

[www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk](http://www.gov.uk/check-flood-risk)

You can find useful tips on what to do should flooding threaten your home and valuables by visiting

<https://floodsdestroy.campaign.gov.uk>

## 4. Programme Information Table

Capital Schemes being delivered

Flood Cell / Scheme	Estimated total cost (£k)	No. of properties better protected (approx.)	Brief description	Expected completion
B4 - Scarborough Bridge to Ouse Bridge (Right Bank)	2,555	39	A new flood wall along Leeman Rd from Westgate Apartments to a new embankment in the grounds of York City Rowing Club, with demountable flood barriers across the main and second entrance to the Memorial Gardens. A new, larger flood gate under Lendal Bridge. Raised height to existing flood wall along North St with replaced flood gates, including increased width to northernmost gate to improve pedestrian flow.	Completed Feb 2022
B8 - Clementhorpe	7,717	135	A new flood wall in front of Waterfront House. Raised steps between Waterfront House and Dukes Wharf and raised road beside Dukes Wharf. A new flood wall and flood gate at Rowntree Park Caravan Site. Raised height of existing flood wall at Roomzzz Hotel. A new flood wall at the top of the steps between Postern Close and Postern House and raised wall corners at these properties. A new bi-fold floodgate on Clementhorpe Road and a 240m long, up to 6m deep underground seepage cut-off along Terry Avenue.	Completed Sep 2022
B10 - Clifton & Rawcliffe	20,600	140	Increased height of the existing barrier bank and extended at both northern and southern ends. A wider 'footprint' of the bank to reduce the angle of the slope and so reduce the risk of bank slippage in the future. A new pumping station within the barrier bank to control water levels in Blue Beck storage lagoon.	Nov 2023
B11 - Coppins Farm to Scarborough Bridge (Left Bank)	3,665	156	Raised height of the flood embankment in St Peters School fields. A new transition wall between the embankment and the development at the end of Almery Terrace. New floodgates and glass panels to increase the height of the flood defence along Almery Terrace. A new flood gate at the top of the Almery steps and piling within the Network Rail embankment.	Completed May 2022
B12 - Scarborough Bridge to Lendal Bridge (Left Bank)	2,950	57	Increased height of the existing flood wall from Scarborough bridge to Museum gardens. This includes new flood gates and glass panels along Earlsborough Terrace and Esplanade Court, a new flood gate near Scarborough Bridge and new demountable panels for the Marygate flood gate. Increased height of the embankment within Museum Gardens and also extended at southern end. This includes terracing of the embankment adjacent to the Hospitium to preserve the rare True Service tree.	Revised date TBC

C1 - Bishopthorpe	3,390	170	A 180m long flood wall along Chantry Lane with a 6m deep steel barrier underground cut off. A flood gate across the bottom of Chantry Lane. A new manhole chamber with a penstock mechanism.	Completed Apr 2022
F8 /F10/F11- Foss Storage Area	17,526	490	Construction of a new embankment with outfall control structure upstream of York, designed to hold up to 1million m <sup>3</sup> during times of extreme rainfall. Once downstream river levels recede, the stored water will be released at a controlled rate. The creation of two ponds connected to the River Foss, together with improvements to the river channel, will result in new wetland habitats to support wildlife.	Nov 2023
Foss Barrier	38,000	1600	Greatly increased pumping capacity with replacement of all 8 pumps, including new infrastructure and new power supplies. In addition to 2 independently sourced High Voltage electricity supplies the barrier has 5 new back-up generators to maintain operation of all eight pumps at maximum capacity in the event of catastrophic power failure. All vulnerable infrastructure raised to first floor height. A new taller barrier gate, lifting equipment and housing.	Completed Apr 2022

#### Capital Schemes still in the design phase or being delivered by our partners

Flood Cell / Scheme	Description	Being delivered by	Stage
B9 – Germany Beck	City of York Council (CYC) led project with multiple benefits including increased flood protection to Fordlands Road and the A19 as well as reducing flood risk to local homes and businesses. Initial design is progressing well with planning submission planned for later this year.	CYC	Design
F1 – Tower Street	We are investigating options on how to provide flood protection along Tower Street to prevent exceptionally high flood levels on the River Ouse bypassing the defences within St Georges Car Park and entering the Foss Basin which would pose increased flood risk in the lower Foss. This scheme will initially involve raising of the wall between St George’s car park and the Foss Basin tying into Skeldergate Bridge.	Environment Agency	Design
F4/F5 – Tang Hall and Osbaldwick Becks	We have supported CYC and Masters students from York University who have studied this area and prepared dissertations on possible effectiveness of Natural Flood Management methods. All capital works options have been exhausted at this time.	N/A	N/A
F12 – Westfield Beck	We have been in discussions with our partners and consultants to consider what options may be available. Our findings concluded that no further action is being taken at this time. We will continue to support partners when required.	N/A	N/A

Property Flood Resilience (PFR)

Completed PFR Flood Cells

Flood Cell	Cell Name	No. of eligible properties	Total participating	Total delivered	Percentage achieved
B16	Foss Confluence to Fulford	55	44	44	80%
B8	Clementhorpe	28	27	27	96%

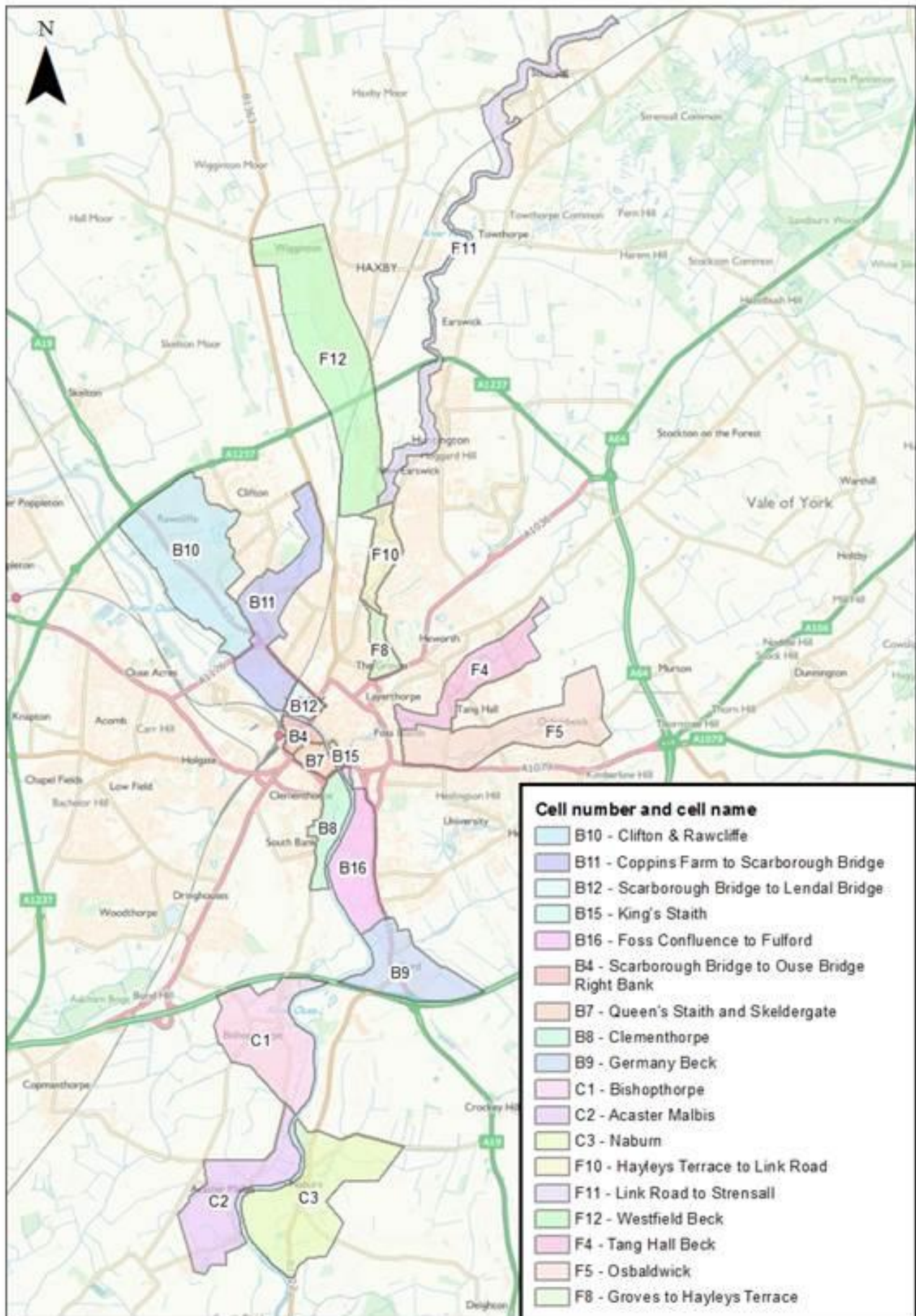
All York PFR Flood Cells

Flood Cell	B7	B8	B11	B12	B15	B16	C1	C2	C3	F8	Total
1 Participation	12	27	0	4	27	44	2	9	60	2	187
2 Getting in touch	12	27	0	4	27	44	2	9	60	2	187
3 Property Visits	4	27	0	2	18	44	2	8	58	2	165
4 Viewing Products		27	0			44					71
5 Choosing products		27	0			44					71
6 Costs reviewed		27	0			44					71
7 Signing Documents		27	0			44					71
8 Ordering Products		27	0			44					71
9 Installing Products		27	0			44					71
10 Training and handover	0	27	0	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	71

**Key**

No.	Number of properties
<span style="background-color: #c6e0b4; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span>	Stage complete
<span style="background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span>	Stage initiated/ongoing

5. Map of the York Five Year Plan Flood Cell Outlines



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## Annex 2

### Clean Up York's Rivers

"This Council notes that:

- 'York's Rivers are a vital part of the city's environment and that the confluence of The Foss and The Ouse at this location is the very reason York was established as a settlement.
- The My Castle Gateway and My City Centre consultations have made clear that York residents wish to make more of the city's rivers.
- Close and effective work is ongoing with the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water on a wide range of river management issues.
- Environment Agency data gathered to evidence the performance of England's rivers under the Water Framework Directive has indicated that only 14% of rivers were of good ecological status in 2019. According to The Rivers Trust, in 2020 water company's dumped raw sewage 2,392 times into the rivers in York, for a total of 14,838 hours.
- Government funding to the Environment Agency to monitor river quality, and regulate farms and water companies has dropped by almost two thirds in the last decade. In 2020 just 3.6% of pollution complaints made to the Agency resulted in penalties.
- In 2016 Yorkshire Water Services was fined £1.1m for discharging sewage into the River Ouse.
- The Government has failed to include any meaningful targets or a clear action plan to end the regular dumping of sewage into rivers as part of the recently approved Environment Bill, ignoring millions of people who demanded action as part of one of the boldest and more inspiring environmental campaigns in recent years.
- The MP for York Outer and other Conservative MPs failed to support amendments which would have ensured urgent action to clean up the country's rivers.
- The Liberal Democrats have proposed a "Sewage Tax", which would tax the profits of water companies. The proposal would be a 16% tax on pre-tax profits, providing a £340 million fund to fix the sewage system.

Council believes that:

- The city's rivers are a huge and under-appreciated asset to the city.
- Many York residents are not aware of the significance of the confluence of York's two rivers to the city's history and that more could be done to enhance this area of York.
- Any discussion about York's rivers must also acknowledge the importance of river-safety and recognise the unacceptable number of fatalities that have occurred in York's rivers in recent times.
- Government must urgently restore Environment Agency budgets to deliver the necessary oversight.

- Inspection regularity of water companies and farms should be increased and offenders rigorously prosecuted through the Environmental Audit Committee and Ofwat.
- Comprehensive funding must be provided to local and highways authorities to introduce systems to prevent road pollutants from entering our water courses.

Council resolves to request the Chief Operating Officer to:

- Consider what further enhancements to the city's riverside offer can be made
- Confirm that all available measures are being taken to ensure that any development which takes place in proximity to York's rivers is sympathetic to the significance and historic context of its setting, in particular ensuring that where the Council is the developer itself, all opportunities are taken to maximise enjoyment of the rivers and riverside areas.
- Consider whether through working in partnership with all relevant stakeholders more can be done to enhance river safety, including the introduction grab-chains, CCTV and other such safety measures as well as enhanced and improved ongoing river-safety advertising campaigns.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs calling for the Government to commit to granting the necessary funding, regulatory powers and policy changes to restore the health of Britain's rivers.
- Write to The Chief Executive of Yorkshire Water calling for urgent action to address the impact of waste-water discharges on our local rivers and to consider the implications of the work of the Storm Overflows Taskforce, the recently published Storm Overflow Evidence Project report and their implications in York, particularly relating to the use of real time data releases on overflow spills.
- Write to the Regional Director of the Environment Agency to request an update on the current testing regime in the Ouse and Foss to understand if improvements could be made. As well as to request that consideration is made to house the data on the CYC York Open Data platform and explore if the tests undertaken and information on their findings can be publicised on the Council website and social media channels.
- Write to the charities River Action and The Rivers Trust expressing this Council's support for their campaign to restore the health of Britain's rivers.

**Council also resolves:**

- In the light of the above, to request that Executive commission an update report on the actions that the council is able to take, along with the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water, the Canals and Rivers Trust and other local and regional partners to prevent incidents and protect the health and cleanliness of York's rivers;
- To request that this report cover current local powers that are available to control and limit fly-tipping in water courses, control other discharges and require water courses to be kept free from pollution, as well as exploring the options for producing an overarching Strategy for York's Rivers and Becks. This strategy would bring together a single overview of work on flood

management, climate change adaptation, water course related biodiversity and land management and pollution control.”

Progress on action to resolve the specific issues raised in the motion are detailed in the below table:

16/12/2021	<b>Clean Up York's Rivers</b>	<p>Council resolves to request the Chief Operating Officer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider what further enhancements to the city's riverside offer can be made</li> </ul>	<p>Clr Paula Widdowson Ian Floyd/Steve Wragg</p>	<p>The motion details have been shared widely with CYC regeneration managers to reinforce the desire to enhance the cities riverside and, where possible, incorporate this into ongoing or future projects.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm that all available measures are being taken to ensure that any development which takes place in proximity to York's rivers is sympathetic to the significance and historic context of its setting, in particular ensuring that where the Council is the developer itself, all opportunities are taken to maximise enjoyment of the rivers and riverside areas.</li> </ul>	<p>Clr Paula Widdowson Ian Floyd/Steve Wragg</p>	<p>The motion details have been shared widely with CYC regeneration managers to reinforce the desire to enhance the cities riverside and, where possible, incorporate this into ongoing or future projects.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider whether through working in partnership with all relevant stakeholders more can be done to enhance river safety, including the introduction grab-chains, CCTV and other such safety measures as well as enhanced and improved ongoing river-safety advertising campaigns.</li> </ul>	<p>Clr Paula Widdowson Ian Floyd/Steve Wragg</p>	<p>RoSPA periodically review York's River safety measures, the last review was carried out in May 2022. The review involved stakeholders and reported into the York Water safety Forum (chaired by NY Fire and Rescue).</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs calling for the Government to commit to granting the necessary funding, regulatory powers and policy changes to restore the health of Britain's rivers.</li> </ul>	<p>Clr Paula Widdowson Ian Floyd/Steve Wragg</p>	<p>Letter sent 25.01.22</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write to The Chief Executive of Yorkshire Water calling for urgent action to address the impact of waste-water discharges on our local rivers and to consider the implications of the work of the Storm Overflows Taskforce, the recently published Storm Overflow Evidence Project report and their implications in York, particularly relating to the use of real time data releases on overflow spills</li> </ul>	<p>Clr Paula Widdowson Ian Floyd/Steve Wragg</p>	<p>Letter sent 25.01.22.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write to the Regional Director of the Environment Agency to request an update on the current testing regime in the Ouse</li> </ul>	<p>Clr Paula Widdowson</p>	<p>Letter sent 25.01.22</p>

		and Foss to understand if improvements could be made. As well as to request that consideration is made to house the data on the CYC York Open Data platform and explore if the tests undertaken and information on their findings can be publicised on the Council website and social media channels.	Ian Floyd/ Steve Wragg	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write to the charities River Action and The Rivers Trust expressing this Council's support for their campaign to restore the health of Britain's rivers</li> </ul>	Cllr Paula Widdowson  Ian Floyd/ Steve Wragg	Letter sent 25.01.22
		Council also resolves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the light of the above, to request that Executive commission an update report on the actions that the council is able to take, along with the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water, the Canals and Rivers Trust and other local and regional partners to prevent incidents and protect the health and cleanliness of York's rivers;</li> </ul>	Cllr Paula Widdowson  Ian Floyd/ Steve Wragg	CYC are working formally with Yorkshire Water in the development of their next financial settlement and the development of potential improvement works to combined sewer overflows following Governments Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan. An update report will be developed following the initial reviews and planning stages.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To request that this report cover current local powers that are available to control and limit fly-tipping in water courses, control other discharges and require water courses to be kept free from pollution, as well as exploring the options for producing an overarching Strategy for York's Rivers and Becks. This strategy would bring together a single overview of work on flood management, climate change adaptation, water course related biodiversity and land management and pollution control.</li> </ul>	Cllr Paula Widdowson  Ian Floyd/ Steve Wragg	The Defra funded Innovative Flood Resilience Project is developed detailed environmental modelling to target improvements that flood risk and environmental outcomes. The project has formally linked to a University of York led Natural Environment Research Council funded project that will further review the water quality issues across the River Swale/Ure/Nidd/Ouse catchments.

				Both project will provide an opportunity for water quality issues to be considered across a wider catchment area with all partners. An update report will be developed following the initial reviews and planning stages.
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