

Notice of a public meeting of

Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee

To: Councillors Nicholls (Chair), Clarke (Vice-Chair),
Crawshaw, Cullwick, Cuthbertson, Knight, Nelson,
K Taylor, Waller, and Wilson

Date: Tuesday, 4 March 2025

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: West Offices - Station Rise, York YO1 6GA

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive and note apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest (Pages 5 - 6)

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

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

[Please see attached sheet for further guidance for Members]

- 3. Minutes** (Pages 7 - 20)
To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 3 December 2024 and 14 January 2025.

- 4. Public Participation**
At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. Members of the public may speak on agenda items or on matters within the remit of the committee.

Please note that our registration deadlines are set as 2 working days before the meeting, in order to facilitate the management of public participation at our meetings. The deadline for registering at this meeting is **5:00pm on Friday, 28 February 2025.**

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

Webcasting of Public Meetings

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

During coronavirus, we made some changes to how we ran council meetings, including facilitating remote participation by public speakers. See our updates (www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy) for more information on meetings and decisions.

- 5. Finance and Performance Q3** (Pages 21 - 46)
This report sets out the projected 2024/25 financial position and the performance position for the period covering 1 April 2024 to 31 December 2024.

- 6. Digital Inclusion Update** (Pages 47 - 62)
This report provides an update on the digital inclusion landscape in York including the work of the city's Digital Friendly York partnership.
- 7. Safer York Partnership Report** (Pages 63 - 92)
This provides the annual report for Safer York Partnership and covers the priorities contained within the Community Safety Strategy for the period 2023-2026.
- 8. Work Plan** (Pages 93 - 96)
Members are asked to consider the Committee's work plan for the 2024/25 municipal year, and future meetings.
- 9. Urgent Business**
Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democratic Services Officer

Reece Williams

Contact Details:

- Telephone – (01904) 55 4447
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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
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我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

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

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

Declarations of Interest – guidance for Members

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

Type of Interest	You must
Disclosable Pecuniary Interests	Disclose the interest, not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.
Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related) OR Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)	Disclose the interest; speak on the item <u>only if</u> the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.
Other Registrable Interests (Affects) OR Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)	Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting, participate and vote <u>unless</u> the matter affects the financial interest or well-being: (a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interest or well-being of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward; and (b) a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest. In which case, speak on the item <u>only if</u> the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise do not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.

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

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date	3 December 2024
Present	Councillors Nicholls (Chair), Clarke (Vice-Chair), Crawshaw, Cullwick, Cuthbertson, Knight, Nelson, K Taylor, Waller and Wilson
Officers in attendance	Richard Hartle – Head of Finance (Children, Education and Schools) Pauline Stuchfield – Director of Housing and Communities Andrew Laslett – Strategic Services Manager Martin Kelly – Corporate Director of Children and Education Danielle Johnson – Director of Children’s Services Safeguarding Michael Cavan – Head of Children’s Resources Niall McVicar – Head of Innovation and Children’s Champion
Executive Members in attendance	Councillor Kilbane – Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Economy and Culture Councillor Webb – Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education
External visitors in attendance	Jenny Layfield – CEO, York Explore

30. Apologies for Absence (5:32pm)

No apologies were received.

31. Declarations of Interest (5:32pm)

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

32. Minutes (5:33pm)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

33. Public Participation (5:34pm)

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

34. Finance and Performance Q2 (5:34pm)

The committee considered a report setting out the projected 2024/25 financial position and the performance position for the period covering 1 April 2024 to 30 September 2024.

In response to questions from members it was noted that:

- With reference to a predicted overspend on placement budgets, Children Looked After might be placed out-of-area for a variety of reasons including family arrangements. Where possible support and placements within the local authority area were provided, including through the city's children's home.
- A piece of work to claw back balances of direct payments had been actioned. It would have a one-off impact on the budget and the next phase was reviewing ongoing payments.
- Increases in government SEND funding for 2025/26 were expected to be between 7-10 per cent per pupil nationally; York's increase would likely be at the bottom end of this range in line with trajectory through the national funding formula for High Needs. Part of the latter was based on historic expenditure, and it was expected to take around twelve years for all local authorities to move onto the full national funding formula.
- It was anticipated that there would still be an in-year deficit on the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2025/26, and that it would take a further two or three years to meet the Safety Valve agreement target of eliminating the cumulative deficit. The submission of revised progression plans to the Department for Education should avoid the need for an enhanced monitoring process.

Resolved:

- i. To note the finance and performance information.
- ii. To note that work will continue on identifying the savings needed to fully mitigate the forecast overspend.

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

35. York Explore Annual Update (5:46pm)

The committee considered an annual update from York Explore Libraries and Archives Mutual Limited (Explore), who operate the council's libraries and archives service. The Chief Executive of Explore provided an overview, and in response to members' questions it was noted that:

- In common with similar organisations Explore currently faced a challenging funding environment, including inflationary pressures and access to grants. Energy contracts had been renegotiated, and there would be an impact from upcoming changes to National Insurance contributions. Cafés continued to make a profit despite cost of living challenges and the team were working hard to ensure that prices were appropriate for the locality.
- Work on the project to further develop Acomb Library was on course and would be reported to the Executive early in 2025.
- Family hub funding was part of the upcoming spending review; this money had always been designed as start-up funding to bring partners together. It had helped increase footfall in libraries and it was hoped that the relationship would continue.
- Work was underway to develop staff fundraising skills, with several successes to date including at Bishopthorpe and Strensall Libraries, and for the Summer Reading Challenge. Several projects with partners were in the pipeline for grant funding bids.
- A major project was underway to address legacy issues relating to the management of the archive's collections, with staff and volunteers working through a comprehensive cataloguing exercise which in time would put the service in a very strong position. To assist with conservation challenges, expert advice from professional conservators had been secured through a subscription to the National Conservation Service.

- Several projects were underway to improve the environmental efficiency of library buildings, which was a particular challenge in relation to the eighteenth-century Central Library building.
- The committee offered congratulations on ten years of Explore delivering the library and archives service, as well as on the opening of the new Clifton Library and the sixtieth anniversary of Huntington Library. The Executive Member for Economy and Culture also expressed his appreciation to Explore's staff and volunteers for the work they did for the city.

Resolved: To note the Explore update report.

Reason: To support the council's role in performance management of the library and archives service contract.

36. Placement Sufficiency (6:29pm)

Members considered a report which outlined the Council's Sufficiency Duties to ensure there were enough homes for children in the care of the local authority and presented the Sufficiency Strategy 2024-27. Officers provided an overview and in response to questions it was noted that:

- Placement stability was not always the most useful statistic in measuring outcomes, as for some young people moves might be positive, such as moving closer to York or nearer to family. A piece of work was underway on placement stability but getting a child in the right place was more important.
- In comparison to twelve neighbouring local authorities, York currently paid the second highest weekly payments to experienced carers, but the lowest to new foster carers, which presented a recruitment challenge. An ambitious target had been set to recruit a net gain of fifty new foster carers over the next five years; this was accompanied by an advertising campaign, and a new fairer fee framework was being developed; this would see payments at all levels increasing. A report on this subject would be presented to a future meeting of the committee.
- Kinship care sat at the heart of the Council's practice model, with around 45% of fostered children supported through kinship arrangements. There were concerns around the cost of external provision and the profits made by independent fostering agencies; by contrast the emphasis in York was on support in the community.

- A targeted approach was being taken to encourage residents with empty rooms to consider fostering, with further conversations with Housing colleagues due to take place.
- There had been a small increase in children being placed out-of-area; placement with family was always the first option where possible even if this was out-of-area.
- The service engaged closely with schools as part of its partnership work to support children and young people with complex needs.
- With reference to the 'Together We Can' service, the Wenlock Terrace children's home had been registered and a clinical psychologist recruited; work continued to recruit a specialist speech and language therapist.
- Provision planning was taking place for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, working with interfaith groups and Migration Yorkshire. York would miss out on the next few allocations as it had recently taken four young people, who were doing well.
- The Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education praised the work being done by foster carers, communities and officers to support children and young people in safe, stable, healthy and beneficial placements, and requested that the committee consider a report on the new fostering framework at its next meeting in January.

Resolved: To note this report and accompanying strategy document.

Reason: So that members are updated on the council's responsibilities in accordance with Section 22G of Children Act 1989

37. Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report (7:16pm)

Members considered a report presenting the 2023/24 Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board. Officers provided an overview and in response to questions from the committee it was noted that:

- In November the Council's Executive had agreed to treat care experience as if it were a protected characteristic; this decision followed engagement work with care experienced people and other local authorities. An action plan was in place, including updating member training.

- For young people entering the care system, a range of conversations had to be conducted with care and at an appropriate time. While performance in Initial Health Assessments had improved, getting timely parental consent remained a challenge and was discussed regularly by the Board.
- The voucher scheme was due for review in March 2025, but a dedicated fund to support care experienced young people with the cost of living would remain part of the local offer.
- Progress had been made in relation to employability, with several care experienced young people working for the local authority and adding value; options for next steps had been identified and the next annual report would include a more detailed update.
- The move away from a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to a more individualised offer was welcomed, as was the feedback from the National Adviser for Care Leavers.
- A reasonable proportion of the cohort participated in the most recent U Matter Survey. It could be completed in person allowing for exploration of comments and questions were similar to those asked by social workers and pathways workers. The closest comparable data for young people in general locally came from the Public Health Schools Survey.
- All Personal Education Plans were quality-assured by the Virtual School; looked after children had several different statutory plans, and options for combining these to make them work better for young people were being explored.
- The Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education drew attention to the work of Board subgroups on Health, Education and Housing. He noted that there were many care-experienced young people who took corporate parenting very seriously and paid tribute to his co-chairs Lauren and Owen.

Resolved: To note the Corporate Parenting Annual report for 2023/24.

Reason: So that members are updated on the work of the Corporate Parenting Board.

38. Work Plan (7:43pm)

Members discussed the committee's work plan, including suggested items on Fostering Sufficiency and the Locality Model, and it was

Resolved:

- i. That the suggested items on Fostering Sufficiency and the Locality Model be scheduled for the committee's 14 January 2025 meeting.
- ii. That the update on Digital Inclusion previously scheduled for that meeting be moved to the committee's 4 March 2025 meeting.

Reason: To keep the committee's work plan for the 2024/25 municipal year updated.

Cllr M Nicholls, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.32 pm and finished at 7.49 pm].

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date	14 January 2025
Present	Councillors Nicholls (Chair), Clarke (Vice-Chair), Crawshaw [from 6:01pm], Cullwick, Cuthbertson, Knight, Nelson, Waller and Melly (Substitute for Councillor Wilson)
Apologies	Councillors K Taylor, and Wilson
Officers in attendance	<p>Pauline Stuchfield – Director of Housing and Communities</p> <p>Martin Kelly – Corporate Director of Children and Education</p> <p>Danielle Johnson – Director of Children’s Services Safeguarding</p> <p>Laura Williams – Assistant Director, Customer, Communities and Inclusion</p> <p>Maxine Squire – Assistant Director, Education and Skills</p> <p>Ian Cunningham – Head of Business Intelligence Hub</p> <p>Michael Cavan – Head of Children’s Resources</p> <p>Derek Sutherland – Head of School Quality Improvement</p>

39. Apologies for Absence (5:33pm)

Apologies were received from Councillors Taylor and Wilson.

40. Declarations of Interest (5:34pm)

Members were asked to declare at this point in the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest or other registerable interest they might have in respect of business on the agenda if they had not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests. None were declared.

41. Public Participation (5:34pm)

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

42. York Neighbourhood Model - Update (5:34pm)

The Director of Housing and Communities presented the report and noted that the Neighbourhood Model had been approved by Executive on 12 December 2024, with the final plan expected to be approved in July 2025. The Head of the Business Intelligence Hub reported how the indicators used to split York into different areas were ever changing and updating.

In response to questions from members, the Director of Housing and Communities, Head of the Business Intelligence Hub, Assistant Director of Customer, Communities and Inclusion, and the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care confirmed that:

- Resources were not currently delivered on a ward level and this neighbourhood model proposal was understanding where resources were needed.
- There were desires for City of York Council (CYC) to work with Health on a shared outcomes framework.
- Hubs provided a good service when they were community led, but CYC did not want to force these upon communities where there was no desire. These developed successfully when organically created by communities adapting to change.
- The model would be best served by using partnerships that were already in place.

Resolved:

- i. That the Director of Housing and Communities, Head of the Business Intelligence Hub, Assistant Director of Customer, Communities and Inclusion would meet with the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Councillor Cuthbertson to discuss further plans for the Neighbourhood Model.
- ii. That the committee considered the detailed data included in Annex A of the report around the York Neighbourhood mapping model.
- iii. That the committee considered next steps regarding the implementation of the model and how the committee can be involved prior to the next report to Executive in Summer 2025.

Reason: to secure scrutiny member involvement in the development of future proposals.

43. Fostering Framework (6:09pm)

The Head of Children's Resources presented the report and noted that the proposed framework to introduce a new fostering fee framework was to be presented to Executive on 11 February 2025.

It was reported that additional costs that would be experienced through this change would be levelled out over time, and that this would be a short-term investment to see long-term savings. The Head of Children's Resources continued to highlight how 90% of York's foster carers were paid at a level 3 fee which was much higher than the national average. The aim was to build a more balanced system, and a new skills and competency framework would help in reassessing carers.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Children's Resources, and the Corporate Director of Children and Education, and Director of Children's Services Safeguarding confirmed that:

- Improvements were being made to the online presence of City of York's fostering service, and there was a new marketing campaign which was due to begin on 13 January 2025.
- The most cost effective intervention was to see children go back to family after a period of time, which would be seen more by looked after children being placed locally in York.
- Making foster carers feel more supported would lead to an increase in carer retention and recruitment.
- In the proposed new system, payments would increase in line with CPI (Consumer Prices Index).

Members discussed the proposed framework, and it was moved by Councillor Crawshaw and seconded by Councillor Clarke that the committee would recommend that officers amend the proposed framework to include wording to say that any potential communication regarding the framework should be taken to an appropriate forum for children in care, before being published.

Resolved:

- That the committee recommended to officers that the proposed framework should contain wording to suggest that any potential communication regarding the framework should be taken to an appropriate forum for children in care, before being published.

- That the committee considered the proposals to introduce a new fostering fee framework, and supported option 3 detailed within the report, which would see an increase to fees across the board, improving the fostering offer for all carers.

Reason: To ensure City of York Council was competitive and attractive to potential new carers which would support its approach to meeting its sufficiency needs.

44. Attainment Gap (6:50pm)

The Head of School Quality Improvement presented the report and reported that York saw a pronounced gap in its attainment between non-disadvantaged and disadvantaged children because it was generally a high performing city, and that a lot of work had been done in reducing the attainment gap, especially through improved working with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities).

The Head of School Quality Improvement discussed how different factors effected York's statistics and noted how the makeup of York's disadvantaged pupils differed from the makeup of the national average – it was suggested that York's attainment statistics would not appear as poor if only data on White British pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) was included as nationally, White British pupils accounted for 59.7% of those eligible for Free School Meals; in York, this number was 84.9%. 40.5% of York's White British Pupils achieved Grade 4+ English & Maths, 4.8% greater than compared to 35.7% Nationally.

The Head of School Quality Improvement continued to highlight how research conducted by the Education Endowment Trust could help CYC's understanding of disadvantaged pupils, and how Early Talk for York had helped disadvantaged groups.

The Assistant Director, Education and Skills confirmed that CYC, along with a group of 40 other Local Authorities (LA) received the least amount of government funding and therefore did not have funds for additional intervention to the extent that many other LAs had.

Members discussed the data contained in the report and reasons behind York's attainment gap, and considered means of improving. Attendance issues and poverty being driving forces behind attainment was discussed, and the Assistant Director, Education and Skills confirmed that as LAs could no longer request in-year data from schools difficulties arose in planning what was coming through the system, especially where schools used different systems to record data.

Resolved:

- That the committee considered the report's contents and considered plans for ongoing scrutiny of the issues raised within the analysis of the data and the key priorities for improvement.
- That an update on the Attainment Gap would be received by the committee in a year's time.

Reason: To ensure that the committee fully discharges its responsibilities where a local authority must exercise its education functions with a view to promoting high standards Section 13A of the Education Act 1996.

45. SACRE Annual Report (7:36pm)

The Assistant Director, Education and Skills and SACRE Education Advisor presented the report and reported how York SACRE had experienced issues with quoracy over recent years, and that a move to hybrid meetings had improved this. It was also noted that York SACRE's Committee C had co-opted a new member this year.

The Assistant Director, Education and Skills and SACRE Education Advisor also noted that SACRE members were planning on visiting a secondary school within the year 2024-25 to follow on from their visit examining Religious Education at a primary school in 2023-24, and that the SACRE annual questionnaire garnered more responses this year than last year due to amendments made following feedback which was received.

In response to questions from members, the Assistant Director, Education and Skills and SACRE Education Advisor confirmed that:

- York SACRE had always had a Humanist member which was supported by the Census showing an increasing number of those who identify as of non-faith.
- Any religion could express an interest in joining York SACRE.

Resolved: That the committee received the SACRE Annual Report and noted the work of SACRE during the academic year, 2023-24.

Reason: So that members were updated on the work of SACRE during the academic year 2023-24.

46. Work Plan (7:48pm)

Members discussed the committee's workplan and it was;

Resolved: That members would bring to future meetings items of consideration for the committee's work plan for meetings scheduled for the 1 May 2025 onwards.

Reason: To keep the committee's work plan for the 2024/25 municipal year updated.

Cllr Nicholls, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.33 pm and finished at 7.55 pm].



Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee 4 March 2025

Report of Richard Hartle, Head of Children & Education Finance and Ian Cunningham, Head of Business Intelligence

2024/25 Finance and Performance Monitor 3**Summary**

1. This report sets out the projected 2024/25 financial position and the performance position for the period covering 1 April 2024 to 31 December 2024. This is the third report of the financial year and assesses performance against budgets, including progress in delivering the Council's savings programme.
2. This report outlines the Council's continued challenging financial position with a forecast overspend for 2024/25 of £2.6m which is a huge improvement on the c£11m forecast overspend we have previously seen at this stage in the financial year. The forecast also assumes we can release some earmarked reserves to offset the overall position.
3. However, this is still a forecast overspend and therefore, whilst it is incredibly positive that the position is much improved, there is work still to do to ensure the continued financial resilience of the Council. It remains that the Council cannot afford to keep spending at this level. The general reserve is £6.9m and, whilst we have other earmarked reserves that we could call on if required, continued overspending will quickly see the Council exhaust its reserves.
4. As outlined in previous reports, the existing cost control measures remain in place, and further action is needed to bring spending down to an affordable level, both within the current financial year and over the medium term, to safeguard the Council's financial resilience and stability. The impact that this work is having can be clearly seen in this latest forecast and the Council's track record of delivering savings, along with robust financial management, provides a sound platform to continue to be able to deal with future challenges.

5. If we continue to take action and make any difficult decisions now, this will ensure the future financial stability of the Council and that we can continue to provide services for our residents. It is vital that mitigations are delivered, and the forecast overspend is reduced.
6. Local government continues to be in challenging times, with worsening performance in a number of sectors nationally. The majority of performance indicators chosen to support and monitor the Council Plan in York, continue to show a generally positive and stable trend against this difficult financial picture and shows the hard work from staff, partners and the city to tackle these challenges.
7. This set of indicators are the high-level measurable element of our performance framework, and in newly available data up to Q3 there has been positive performance in areas such as; The survival of **newly born businesses after one year** has been consistently higher in York than national and regional averages, there has been an increase in **net additional homes provided** and **housing consents approved** compared to the same period last year, we have seen a narrowing of the gap, and therefore a **reduction in health inequalities**, between the highest and lowest ward in York for the % of year 6 children recorded as overweight and the number of **households with children in temporary accommodation** continues to be lower than previous years. The % of children achieving a **Good Level of Development** at Foundation Stage continues to be high compared to benchmarks and our **building services indicators** continue to show a positive direction of travel with a high percentage of repairs completed on first visit alongside the low number of void properties.
8. Alongside the Council plan indicators there are a number of areas of positive performance from across the Council. In 2024, over 39,000 eligible households in York subscribed to the new **Garden Waste Subscription scheme**. Work is underway to prepare for the 2025 scheme which will run for the full season from March to December. **Queen Street bridge** was demolished during Q3, and other public spaces are emerging from the ground, with good progress being made on major projects. In order to help young people move around the city, the £1 **bus fare initiative** for 16 to 18 year olds has been used by more than 250,000 young people so far. The Council has recently successfully delivered a **local by-election**, ensuring it delivers on its statutory duties.

9. The Council have placed nearly 300 **migrant children** into York schools this year, highlighting their commitment to support our most vulnerable residents. **KS4 and KS5 outcomes** remain significantly above average, York has a high proportion of 5 year olds achieving a **good level of development** and the second lowest number of children who receive an '**Elective Home Education**' in the region. There has been a reduction in numbers of Children's Social Care agency staff to zero. The Council recently ran a targeted **Pension Credit campaign** using the Low Income Family Tracker (LIFT) platform to identify eligible residents and maximise their income. To date, the initiative has resulted in 100 pensioner households in York receiving over £662,700 per year in Pension Credit. This campaign has helped combat rising pensioner poverty and adult social care costs.
10. There has been a smooth transfer into the council of an external **homelessness service**. In addition, an extra £87,000 has been secured to support the expected rise in rough sleeping with up to 29 extra emergency beds and additional support this winter. The extra funding reflects the rise in rough sleeping nationally and the funds will contribute to bed and breakfast for rough sleepers with the lowest support needs, other accommodation options as well as extra staffing support.
11. To progress with the changes needed to implement the previously announced **Childcare reforms** to help parents with early years childcare and provide more children with access to high quality early years education, the council has undertaken a deep dive into sufficiency for both early years and wraparound care. Progress reports have been presented to Executive and the Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee. A report went to the Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee in November to inform on work taking place to develop a neighbourhood working model as a way of delivering improved outcomes for individuals, communities and the wider system of services in the city. The design principles for the model were approved at Executive in December.
12. In order to improve outcomes for those in need and to manage costs, the council has internally launched a **practice model framework** and assurance forum in adult social care. There has been a transformation in **Healthy Child services**, with the introduction of skill mix teams and the recruitment into specialist roles. The Health Trainer team are the best performing **stop smoking service** in the country, with an over 80% 4-week quit rate (national 57% and regional 65%).

13. We are listening to residents within **Our Big Budget Conversation**, a consultation on budget priorities taking place over 4 stages during 2024-25. The final stage of the consultation closed at the end of Q3 and asked people to provide thoughts on proposals to help the council balance its budget based on feedback from the previous two stages. York remains committed to improving stock condition and tenant experiences, and results from the 2023-24 Regulator for Social Housing return were published for residents with the current consultation underway.
14. Council Plan Progress Reports, providing an update of activity against each of the plan's seven priorities, will be published on an annual basis and sit alongside a six-monthly snapshot of progress available on the Council's website (<https://www.york.gov.uk/council-plan-1/snapshot-progress-council-plan/5>). The reports complement the Finance and Performance Monitor, providing a narrative for the steps that the Council is taking to meet its ambitions.

Background

Financial Summary and Mitigation Strategy

15. The current forecast is that there will be an overspend of £2.6m. This is despite the additional budget allocated through the 2024/25 budget process and ongoing action being taken by managers across the Council to try and reduce expenditure. Adult Social Care remains an area of concern, however action is being taken within the directorate to mitigate against this forecast overspend.
16. If the Council continues to spend at the current level, and no action is taken, then we will continue to overspend and will exhaust our reserves and any other available funding. The current level of expenditure is unaffordable and therefore we must continue the work started in the previous financial year to identify and take the necessary actions to reduce expenditure.
17. As outlined in previous reports to Executive, we have continued to see recurring overspends across both Adult and Children's Social Care. However, the underspends and mitigations that have allowed us to balance the budget at year end have generally been one off. Whilst the use of reserves to fund an overspend is appropriate as a one-off measure, it does not remove the need to identify ongoing savings to ensure the overall position is balanced.

The budget report considered by Executive in February 2024 also included an assessment of risks associated with the budget, which included the need to secure further savings and effectively manage cost pressures.

18. Members will be aware that the financial position of local government is a national challenge and that the pressures being seen across both Adult and Children's Social Care are not something that is unique to York. Many Councils are experiencing significant financial pressures and struggling to balance their budgets now, so it is vital that we continue the work started last year to reduce our expenditure down to a sustainable level both within the current financial year and over the medium term.
19. Given the scale of the financial challenge, and the expected impact on budgets in future years, it is vital that every effort is made to balance the overall position. It is recognised that this will require difficult decisions to be made to protect services for vulnerable residents. The Financial Strategy report elsewhere on this agenda outlines proposals for balancing the budget in 2025/26.
20. Corporate control measures are in place, but it is possible that they will not deliver the scale of reduction needed within the year. Other savings proposals, including service reductions, may also be needed. Officers will continue to carefully monitor spend, identify further mitigation, and review reserves and other funding to make every effort to reduce this forecast position. However, it is possible that it will not be reduced to the point that the outturn will be within the approved budget. The Council has £6.9m of general reserves that would need to be called on if this were the case. As outlined in previous reports, any use of the general reserve would require additional savings to be made in the following year to replenish the reserve and ensure it remains at the recommended minimum level.
21. The delivery of savings plans continues to be a clear priority for all officers during the year. Corporate Directors and Directors will keep Executive Members informed of progress on a regular basis.

Financial Analysis

22. The Council's net budget is £149m. Following on from previous years, the challenge of delivering savings continues with c£14m to be achieved to reach a balanced budget. The latest forecasts indicate the Council is facing net financial pressures of £2.6m and an overview of this forecast, on a directorate by directorate basis, is outlined in Table 1 below.

Service area	Net budget £'000	2024/25 M2 Forecast Variation £'000	2024/25 M3 Forecast Variation £'000
Children & Education	28,659	1,111	994
Adult Social Care & Integration	46,807	3,286	3,608
Transport, Environment & Planning	23,464	-610	-859
Housing & Communities	6,779	790	711
Corporate & Central Services	42,983	-132	-149
Sub Total	148,692	4,445	4,305
Contingency	576	-576	-576
Use of earmarked reserves		-1,089	-1,089
Total including contingency	149,268	2,780	2,640

Table 1: Finance overview

Detailed Analysis

Children, Culture & Communities

23. The forecast outturn position for the services covered by this committee is an overspend totalling £1,202k, an improvement of £230k from the monitor 2 position. The table below summarises the latest forecasts by service area.

2024/25 Monitor 2 Variation		2024/25 Latest Approved Budget			2024/25 Projected Outturn Variation	
		Gross Spend £000	Income £000	Net Spend £000	£000	%
	Children & Education					
+1,033	Children's Safeguarding	25,739	1,149	24,590	+979	+4.0%
+135	Education & Skills	19,073	5,026	14,047	+86	+0.6%
-35	School Funding & Assets	176,104	181,836	-5,732	-49	-0.9%
-22	Director of C&E & Central Budgets	1,880	6,126	-4,246	-22	-0.5%
+1,111	C&E Directorate Total	222,796	194,137	28,659	+994	+3.5%
+321	Culture & Communities	13,262	6,479	6,783	+208	+3.1%
+1,432	CC&C Scrutiny Total	236,058	200,616	35,442	+1,202	+3.4%

24. For Children & Education the projected overspend is now less than £1m and, whilst still a concern, this represents a significant and continuing improvement in the financial position of the directorate. At the same stage in 2022/23 the projected unmitigated overspend stood at £8.7m, reducing to £4.6m in 2023/24. This reflects the considerable progress that has been made within the directorate to manage spend in a number of key areas, particularly; agency staffing, high cost placements and home to school transport.
25. As previously reported, the number of Children Looked After (CLA) in York has consistently been at a higher level than the budget was built to accommodate. The number at the beginning of the financial year was 243, at the end of October it was still 238. Placement budgets are predicted to overspend by a total of £1,104k. The pressure on this budget is partly due to the limited market for children's placements and the statutory requirements placed on local authorities to meet children's needs, coupled with inflationary pressures which could continue to

worsen the position. Total growth of £1,772k has been allocated to the placement budgets in 2024/25.

26. Safeguarding Interventions is predicted to underspend by £164k due to staffing vacancies. In addition, legal fees are predicted to overspend by £142k.
27. There is a projected underspend of £95k in the MASH and Targeted Intervention teams due to vacant posts and increased income.
28. An overspend in Disabled Children's Services of £473k is mainly overspends on direct payments. A specific project for direct payments is being carried out, and this is predicted to clawback some of previous payments made and reduce ongoing costs.
29. Innovation and Children's Champion is predicted to underspend by - £160k. This is due to the ability to fund some expenditure from the Family Hubs grant & Family Seeing Grant.
30. The Home to School Transport budget, which has been in an overspend position for a number of years, has been allocated £730k of growth for demographic pressures and contract inflation.
31. At this point in the financial year, an overspend of £82k is predicted. This is a change from the start of the year due to an amendment to the projected taxi expenditure to take account of the increased number of days in the 2024/25 financial year when transport will be required. This is due to the Easter break for 2025 being wholly in the financial year 2025/26. The impact of this is an extra five days of transport in 2024/25 at an estimated cost of £65k. This increase has been offset by a lower than assumed taxi cost by £15k in July 2024.
32. The projected outturn includes contractual inflation from 1st September 2024, for buses this is 1.7% and for taxis 2.3%.
33. Staff resourcing issues and turnover in the SEND Statutory Services Team, and the need to resource work to progress the Safety Valve targets have continued and resulted in the need to appoint a number of agency staff and also increase supporting resources, resulting in a predicted overspend of £33k based on current staffing assumptions.






34. The Educational Psychologists Service is now predicted to overspend by £31k. This is because of the need to commission external agency support to clear a backlog of assessments.
35. The Effectiveness and Achievement Service and the Skills Service are both predicted to outturn at or very close to budget.
36. An overall underspend of £46k is now predicted within the Virtual School and Inclusion service, due to a vacancy, one-off savings in non-staffing expenditure and additional grant funding supporting already committed expenditure.
37. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is currently ahead of the target position set out in the Safety Valve recovery plan agreed with the DfE. The local authority is now in the third year of this four year agreement and has exceeded the financial targets for the first two years, with the brought forward balance on the DSG as at 1 April 2024 at a deficit of £291k.
38. However, the year end projection for 2024/25 is for a cumulative deficit of approximately £780k. This increased deficit is despite the LA expecting to receive almost £1.5m of further Safety Valve funding during the year and is indicative of the increasing pressures and demands being placed on LAs to provide for High Needs pupils.
39. In common with the national picture, York is continuing to experience an increase in High Needs pupils together with an increasing complexity of need, often requiring expensive provision, especially in Post 16 and Post 19 provision and the education element of Out of Authority placements. In particular York is facing a significant increase in demand for special school places, often exacerbated by tribunal decisions.
40. In addition, due to the significant pressures on mainstream school budgets, it is becoming increasingly difficult for High needs pupils to be supported in these settings. This situation is particularly difficult in York due to the low level of school funding which has a significant impact on these schools' ability to adequately meet the needs of High Needs pupils.

41. The Safety Valve agreement commits the local authority to bring the DSG into an in-year balanced position by 2025/26. Further payments are conditional on the local authority meeting the targets set out in the Management Plan, and reporting quarterly to the DfE on progress, with the eventual aim of eliminating the in-year deficit by the target date, with additional payments by the DfE eliminating the historic deficit at that point.
42. As a result of the above, this third year of the Safety Valve agreement is proving to be the most difficult to date, with an increasing risk of the LA being unable to meet the target of eliminating the cumulative deficit by the end of 2025/26 as set out in the original agreement. Officers are working hard to avoid this position, but it is becoming increasingly challenging to achieve.
43. As previously reported the main pressure in Communities relates to a £300k library saving. The council is undertaking due process to work with Explore to consider options that will deliver a saving. Although some saving is expected this year the process requires time to review provision levels as well as consultation and agreement from the partners. There remains an aspiration to gain a full saving from the process but the timeline is in question.

Performance – Service Delivery

44. This performance report is based upon the city outcome and council delivery indicators included in the Performance Framework for the Council Plan (2023-2027) which was launched in September 2023. Wider or historic strategic and operational performance information is published quarterly on the Council's open data platform; www.yorkopendata.org.uk
45. The Executive for the Council Plan (2023-2027) agreed a core set of indicators to help monitor the Council priorities and these provide the structure for performance updates in this report. Some indicators are not measured on a quarterly basis and the DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three results whether they are annual or quarterly.

46. A summary of the city outcome and council delivery indicators by council plan theme are shown in the paragraphs below along with the latest data for the core indicator set.

Health and wellbeing: A health generating city (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)	0.12 (2022/23)	0.1 (2023/24)	 Good	5 yearly	National Rank 2023/24: 253	2024/25 data available in December 2025
Number of children in temporary accommodation - (Snapshot)	45 (2023/24)	50 (Q1 2024/25)		Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2024/25 data available in March 2025
%pt gap between disadvantaged pupils (eligible for FSM in the last 6 years, looked after and adopted from care) and their peers achieving 9-4 in English & Maths at KS4	43.60% (2022/23)	31.10% (Prov) (2023/24)		Annual	National Data 2023/24 21.70% (Prov)	2024/25 data available in December 2025
% of reception year children recorded as being overweight (incl. obese) (single year)	19.90% (2022/23)	22.80% (2023/24)		Annual	National Data 2023/24 22.10%	2024/25 data available in November 2025
% of adults (aged 16+) that are physically active (150+ moderate intensity equivalent minutes per week, excl. gardening)	70.4% (2022/23)	69.8% (2023/24)		Annual	National Data 2023/24 63.4%	2024/25 data available in April 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

47. **Number of children in temporary accommodation** – at the end of Q1 2024-25, there were 50 children in temporary accommodation in York which is an increase from 45 at the end of Q4 2023-24. Although the number of children has increased, the number of households with children has decreased from 29 to 26 which continues to be 46% of total households in temporary accommodation. The majority of these children are in stable family setups, do not show evidence of achieving worse outcomes, and York continues to report no households with children housed in Bed and Breakfast accommodation.
48. **%pt gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers achieving 9-4 in English and Maths at KS4** – Provisional data shows that the gap at age 16 has narrowed both in York (31%) and Nationally (22%) in summer 2024 compared to the previous year. However, this now shows that the gap for York is wider than National.

49. **% of reception year children recorded as being overweight (incl. obese)** – The participation rates for the National Child Measurement Programmes (NCMP) in York for 2023-24 were 96.9% for reception aged children and 94.5% for Year 6 pupils.
- The 2023-24 NCMP found that 22.8% of reception aged children in York were overweight (including obese), compared with 22.1% in England and 23.8% in the Yorkshire and Humber region. York has the fourth lowest rate of overweight (including obese) for reception aged children in the Yorkshire and Humber region. The rate in York has increased compared with 2022-23 (from 19.9% to 22.8%).
 - Of Year 6 children in York, 33.5% were overweight (including obese) in 2023-24 compared with 35.8% in England and 37.5% in the Yorkshire and Humber region. York has the second lowest rate of overweight (including obese) for Year 6 children in the Yorkshire and Humber region. The rate in York has increased compared with 2022-23 (from 32.5% to 33.5%).
50. **% of adults (aged 16+) that are physically active** – The latest data from the Adult Active Lives Survey for the period from mid-November 2022 to mid-November 2023 was published in April 2024. Data for 2024-25 will be available in April 2025. In York, 515 people aged 16 and over took part in the survey, and they reported higher levels of physical activity, and lower levels of physical inactivity, compared with the national and regional averages. Positively:
- 69.8% of people in York did more than 150 minutes of physical activity per week compared with 63.4% nationally and 61.7% regionally. There has been no significant change in the York value from that 12 months earlier.
 - 18.8% of people in York did fewer than 30 minutes per week compared with 25.7% nationally and 27.7% regionally. There has been no significant change in the York value from that 12 months earlier.

Health and wellbeing: A health generating city (Council)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Number of children in care, excluding Short Breaks - (Snapshot)	232 (Q2 2024/25)	236 (Q3 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	National Data 2023/24 70 per 10k	Q4 2024/25 data available in April 2025
Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan - (Snapshot)	138 (Q2 2024/25)	150 (Q3 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	National Data 2023/24 41.6 per 10k	Q4 2024/25 data available in April 2025

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

51. **Children and young people in care per 10k, excluding short breaks** – At the end of December 2024, 236 children and young people were in York’s care. As a rate per 10k population, this is just below the National average (2023-24) and within York’s expected range. Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), a sub-group of children in care, are expected to increase in number in York. At the end of December 2024, 21 of York’s children in care were UASC, compared to 18 in March 2024. The National Transfer Scheme now mandates that “*the Home Office will not transfer UASC to an authority that is already looking after UASC in line with, or greater than, 0.1% of their child population*”. For York, this is equivalent to approximately 34 young people based on current population.
52. **Children subject to a Child Protection Plan** – 150 children were the subject of a Child Protection Plan at the end of December 2024. As a rate per 10k population, York is just above the National average (2023-24). The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan in York is at the top of York’s expected range (133-150).


Education and Skills: High quality skills and learning for all (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
% of working age population qualified - to at least L2 and above (New methodology from 2022/23)	94.2% (2022/23)	90% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data 2023/24: 86.5%	2024/25 data available in May 2025
% of working age population qualified - to at least L4 and above (New methodology from 2022/23)	60.3% (2022/23)	53.8% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data 2023/24: 47.3%	2024/25 data available in May 2025
% of pupils achieving 9-4 or above in English & Maths at KS4 (C or above before 2016/17)	70.20% (2022/23)	70.50% (Prov) (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data 2023/24 65.40% (Prov)	2024/25 data available in December 2025

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

53. **% of working age population qualified to at least L2 and above** – In 2023-24, 90% of the working age population in York were qualified to at least L2 and above (GCSE grades 9-4), which is higher than the national and regional figures (86.5% and 85.1% respectively). This result ranks the city of York first regionally. This latest figure is a slight decrease from 2022-23 (94.2%). It should be noted that there has been a slight change in methodology from 2022-23. Data for 2024-25 will be available in May 2025.
54. **% of working age population qualified to at least L4 and above** – In 2023-24, 53.8% of the working age population in York were qualified to at least L4 and above (certificate of higher education or equivalent), which is higher than the national and regional figures (47.3% and 41.2% respectively). This result ranks the city of York fourth regionally. The 2023-24 figure is a decrease from 2022-23 (60.3%) but higher than in previous years. Data for 2024-25 will be available in May 2025.
55. **% of pupils achieving 9-4 or above in English and Maths at KS4** – Provisional DfE data shows strong performance for York pupils when compared with National averages. In 2023-24, 70.5% of York's Year 11s achieved grades 9-4 in English and Maths (considered a standard pass), compared to 65.4% Nationally.

Education and Skills: High quality skills and learning for all (Council)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
% of children who have achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) at Foundation Stage - (Snapshot)	69.70% (2022/23)	70.00% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data 2023/24 67.70%	2024/25 data available in December 2025
Number of children who are eligible for a free school meal in the primary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census snapshot)	2,197 (2022/23)	2,320 (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
% of children who are eligible for a free school meal in the primary sector (excluding Danesgate)	15.88% (2022/23)	16.99% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data 2023/24 24.29%	2024/25 data available in July 2025
Number of children who are eligible and taking a free school meal in the primary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census snapshot)	1,760 (2022/23)	1,938 (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
% of children taking a free school meal in the primary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census snapshot)	12.72% (2022/23)	14.19% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
Number of children who are eligible for a free school meal in the secondary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census snapshot)	1,621 (2022/23)	1,729 (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
% of children who are eligible for a free school meal in the secondary sector (excluding Danesgate)	14.26% (2022/23)	15.15% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data 2023/24 24.12%	2024/25 data available in July 2025
Number of children who are eligible and taking a free school meal in the secondary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census snapshot)	1,159 (2022/23)	1,299 (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
% of children taking a free school meal in the secondary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census snapshot)	10.20% (2022/23)	11.38% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
Total number of children who are eligible for a free school meal - (York LA Local Measure) - (Jan Census snapshot)	3,985 (2022/23)	4,246 (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
Total number of children who are eligible and taking a free school meal - (York LA Local Measure) - (Jan Census snapshot)	2,987 (2022/23)	3,289 (2023/24)	↑ Good	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in July 2025
Total number of active EHCPs overseen by SEND Services (Snapshot)	1,488 (Q2 2024/25)	1,502 (October 2024)	➡	Monthly	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in February 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

56. **% of children who have achieved a Good Level of Development at Foundation Stage** – In 2023-24, 70% of our 5-year-olds achieved a Good Level of Development compared to 67.7% Nationally, and 66.1% in Yorkshire and Humber.

Housing: Increasing the supply of affordable housing (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Number of homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation - (Snapshot)	29 (2023/24)	26 (Q1 2024/25)	 Good	Quarterly	Not available	Q2 2024/25 data available in March 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

57. **Number of homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation** – The overall number of households in temporary accommodation reduced during 2023-24, from 73 in Q1 to 63 at the end of Q4. This has continued into 2024-25 where there were 57 households in temporary accommodation at the end of Q1. The number of those with dependent children has fluctuated between 26 and 30 households over the past year and was 26 households at the end of Q1. This was 46% of total households in temporary accommodation which was the same as in Q4. Although the council would like these to reduce further, some progress has been made from the peaks seen at the end of 2022-23.
58. Of the 26 households with children in temporary accommodation at quarter end, 24 were recorded as accommodated in hostels and two within Local Authority or Housing Association housing stock. York continues to report no households with children housed in Bed and Breakfast accommodation at quarter end.
59. During 2023-24 and into 2024-25, an upward trend in overall numbers can be seen both nationally and regionally, however York has been moving in the opposite direction. When looking at the total number of households in temporary accommodation per households in area (000s) at the end of Q1, York continues to perform positively compared to benchmarks (0.65 in York compared to 5.08 Nationally, 1.45 Regionally and 18.85 in London). It should be noted that these figures are snapshot figures and therefore may fluctuate between the snapshot dates.

Sustainability: Cutting carbon, enhancing the environment for our future (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live	81.00% (Q1 2024/25)	80.44% (Q3 2024/25)	➡	Bi-annual	Community Life Survey 2023/24 74%	Q1 2025/26 data available in July 2025
% of Talkabout panel who give unpaid help to any group, club or organisation	64.42% (Q1 2024/25)	65.64% (Q3 2024/25)	➡	Bi-annual	Community Life Survey 2023/24 54%	Q1 2025/26 data available in July 2025

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

60. **% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live** – The second biannual resident satisfaction survey taken by the Talkabout panel took place during Q3 2024-25. Results from the Q3 2024-25 Talkabout survey showed that 80% of the panel were satisfied with York as a place to live, a five percentage point decrease from the previous survey, returning to the same level as Q3 2023-24. 80% were satisfied with their local area, consistent with results from Q3 2023-24, and consistently higher than the average from the Community Life Survey, which recorded the lowest level of satisfaction since the survey began in 2013-14, at 74%.
61. **% of Talkabout panel who give unpaid help to any group, club or organisation** – Results from the Q3 2024-25 Talkabout survey found that 66% of panellists had given unpaid help to any group, club or organisation within the last 12 months. The government's Community Life Survey 2023-24 recorded that 54% had taken part in either formal or informal volunteering at least once in the last 12 months.

Consultation

62. Not applicable.

Options

63. Not applicable.

Analysis

64. Not applicable.

Council Plan

65. Not applicable.

Implications

66. The recommendations in the report potentially have implications across several areas. However, at this stage
- **Financial implications** are contained throughout the main body of the report. The actions and recommendations contained in this report should ensure the continued financial stability and resilience of the Council both in the current year and in future years.
 - **Human Resources (HR)**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
 - **Legal** The Council is under a statutory obligation to set a balanced budget on an annual basis. Under the Local Government Act 2003 it is required to monitor its budget during the financial year and take remedial action to address overspending and/or shortfalls of income.
 - **Procurement**, there are no specific procurement implications to this report.
 - **Health and Wellbeing**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
 - **Environment and Climate action**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
 - **Affordability**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
 - **Equalities and Human Rights**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
 - **Data Protection and Privacy**, there are no implications related to the recommendations.
 - **Communications**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
 - **Economy**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.

Risk Management

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

68. The current financial position represents a significant risk to the Council's financial viability and therefore to ongoing service delivery. It is important to ensure that the mitigations and decisions outlined in this paper are delivered and that the overspend is reduced.

Recommendations

69. The Committee is asked to:
- i. Note the finance and performance information.
 - ii. Note that work will continue on identifying the savings needed to fully mitigate the forecast overspend.

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

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Report
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Date 19 February 2025

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Report
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Date 19 February 2025

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Director of Housing & Communities

Report
Approved



Date 19 February 2025

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None.

Annexes:

Annex A: CCC Q3 24-25 Scrutiny Committee Scorecard

Scrutiny - Children, Culture and Communities 2024/2025

No of Indicators = 55 | Direction of Travel (DoT) shows the trend of how an indicator is performing against its Polarity over time.
Produced by the Business Intelligence Hub January 2025

ANNEX A

			Previous Years			2024/2025							
			Collection Frequency	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target	Polarity	DOT
117c	% of Year 12-13 (academic age 16-17) young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) - (Snapshot)	Monthly	1.10%	0.80%	1.40%	1.40%	1.20%	1.30%	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶	
	Benchmark - National Data	Quarterly	2.70%	3.00%	3.40%	3.50%	2.10%	Due 27 Jan 2025	-	-		Neutral	
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Quarterly	3.10%	3.50%	4.00%	4.30%	2.50%	Due 27 Jan 2025	-	-			
	Benchmark - Comparator Data	Quarterly	2.40%	2.90%	3.50%	3.50%	2.10%	Due 27 Jan 2025	-	-			
148	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in employment, education or training at last birthday (DFE measure) - (Snapshot)	Monthly	60.76%	69.44%	60.81%	63.01%	65.75%	61.76%	-	75%	Up is Good	◀▶	
	Benchmark - National Data	Annual	55.00%	56.00%	54.00%	-	-	-	(Avail Dec 2025)	-			
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	54.00%	54.00%	52.00%	-	-	-	(Avail Dec 2025)	-			
	Benchmark - Comparator Data	Annual	54.20%	56.50%	52.30%	-	-	-	(Avail Dec 2025)	-			
81	%pt gap between FSM and non-FSM pupils at 15, who attain a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19 - (Snapshot)	Annual	24.04%	33.78%	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-	Up is Bad	◀▶	
	Benchmark - National Data	Annual	24.93%	25.22%	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-			
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	24.88%	25.27%	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-			
	Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	9	15	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-			
82	%pt gap between FSM and non-FSM pupils at 15, who attain a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 - (Snapshot)	Annual	19.05%	23.60%	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-	Up is Bad	◀▶	
	Benchmark - National Data	Annual	21.39%	20.65%	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-			
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	24.07%	23.13%	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-			
	Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	3	9	(Avail Apr 2025)	-	-	-	(Avail Apr 2026)	-			
CJGE17	% of working age population qualified - No qualifications (New methodology from 2022/23)	Annual	3.70%	3.00%	4.90%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▲	
CJGE18	% of working age population qualified - to at least L2 and above (New methodology from 2022/23)	Annual	87.90%	94.20%	90.00%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶	
	Benchmark - National Data	Annual	78.20%	85.80%	86.50%	-	-	-	-	-			
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	76.40%	84.50%	85.10%	-	-	-	-	-			
	Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-			
CJGE20	% of working age population qualified - to at least L4 and above (New methodology from 2022/23)	Annual	59.30%	60.30%	53.80%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶	
	Benchmark - National Data	Annual	43.50%	45.70%	47.30%	-	-	-	-	-			
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	38.00%	38.90%	41.20%	-	-	-	-	-			
	Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	1	3	4	-	-	-	-	-			
EH7	% of children who have achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) at Foundation Stage - (Snapshot)	Annual	70.90%	69.70%	70.00%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶	
	Benchmark - National Data	Annual	65.20%	67.20%	67.70%	-	-	-	-	-			
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	64.40%	66.20%	66.10%	-	-	-	-	-			
ES8	% of After School Clubs achieving 'Outstanding', 'Good' or 'Met' - (Snapshot)	Annual	100.00%	100.00%	-	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶	

			Previous Years			2024/2025							
			Collection Frequency	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target	Polarity	DOT
Location	ES9	% Take up of early education places by eligible two year olds - (Snapshot)	Annual	93.10%	91.50%	91.00%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶ Neutral
	KS4a	Average Progress 8 score from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4	Annual	0.26	0.12	0.13 (Prov)	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03 (Prov)	-	-	-	-	-		
	KS4c	% of pupils achieving 9-4 or above in English & Maths at Key Stage 4 (C or above before 2016/17)	Annual	75.30%	70.20%	70.50% (Prov)	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	56.10%	65.30%	65.40% (Prov)	-	-	-	-	-		
	KS4i	%pt gap between disadvantaged pupils (eligible for FSM in the last 6 years, children in care and adopted from care) and their peers achieving 9-4 in English & Maths at Key Stage 4	Annual	32.00%	43.60%	31.10% (Prov)	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	28.20%	43.30%	21.70% (Prov)	-	-	-	-	-		
	NEET02c	% of Year 12-13 (academic age 16-17) NEET who possess less than a L2 qualification (New definition from Jan 2017) - (Snapshot)	Monthly	85.40%	87.10%	88.20%	88.50%	100.00%	100.00%	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	PriFSM	% of children who are eligible for a free school meal in the primary sector (excluding Danesgate)	Annual	15.47%	15.88%	16.99%	-	-	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	23.70%	23.99%	24.29%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	24.50%	25.86%	26.11%	-	-	-	-	-		
		% of children taking a free school meal in the primary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census Snapshot)	Annual	12.30%	12.72%	14.19%	-	-	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neut
	SecFSM	% of children who are eligible for a free school meal in the secondary sector (excluding Danesgate)	Annual	12.60%	14.26%	15.15%	-	-	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neut
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	20.90%	25.39%	24.12%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	23.70%	22.69%	26.92%	-	-	-	-	-		
		% of children taking a free school meal in the secondary sector (excluding Danesgate) - (Jan Census Snapshot)	Annual	8.70%	10.20%	11.38%	-	-	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
	SEN05Gi	Total number of active EHCPs overseen by SEND Services - (Snapshot)	Monthly	-	-	1,400	1,436	1,488	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
		Number of active EHCPs overseen by SEND Services - where subjects are aged 0-4 - (Snapshot)	Monthly	-	-	37	27	35	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
		Number of active EHCPs overseen by SEND Services - where subjects are aged 5-11 - (Snapshot)	Monthly	-	-	528	531	563	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
		Number of active EHCPs overseen by SEND Services - where subjects are aged 12-16 - (Snapshot)	Monthly	-	-	514	551	576	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
		Number of active EHCPs overseen by SEND Services - where subjects are aged 16+ - (Snapshot)	Monthly	-	-	321	327	314	-	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
64	% of children ceasing to be subject to a Child Protection Plan who had been the subject of a CPP continuously for two years or longer - (YTD)	Monthly	2.78%	0.46%	3.42%	4.26%	2.44%	5.93%	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red	
	Benchmark - National Data	Annual	3.70%	3.90%	3.80%	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-			
	Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	3.80%	3.80%	3.50%	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-			
	Benchmark - Comparator Data	Annual	4.30%	3.80%	4.60%	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-			

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			Previous Years			2024/2025							
		Collection Frequency	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target	Polarity	DOT	
02. Childrens Social Care	65	% of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time - (YTD)	Monthly	29.11%	37.06%	28.57%	45.83%	41.46%	38.76%	-	23%	Up is Bad	◄► Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	23.30%	23.60%	24.70%	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	28.00%	23.30%	24.00%	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-		
		Benchmark - Comparator Data	Annual	22.00%	24.10%	21.70%	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-		
	DOD08	Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)	Five Years	0.13 (2010)	0.12 (2015)	0.1 (2019)	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▼ Green
		National Rank (1 is Bad) (Rank out of 317)	Five Years	211 (2010)	238 (2015)	253 (2019)	-	-	-	-	-		
	EFL1	Children in care per 10k, excluding Short Breaks - (Snapshot)	Monthly	74.59	74.86	69.43	69.43	66.29	67.43	-	60-70	Neutral	◄► Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	70	71	70	-	-	-	(Avail Dec 2025)	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	81	81	80	-	-	-	(Avail Dec 2025)	-		
		Benchmark - Comparator Data	Annual	63.6	67.2	66	-	-	-	(Avail Dec 2025)	-		
		Number of children in care, excluding Short Breaks - (Snapshot)	Monthly	276	262	243	243	232	236	-	222-260	Neutral	◄► Neutral
	EFL2	Children subject to a Child Protection Plan per 10k - (Snapshot)	Monthly	34.05	30	40.57	40.29	39.43	42.86	-	38-43	Neutral	◄► Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	42.1	43.2	41.6	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	48.5	50.8	48.6	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-		
		Benchmark - Comparator Data	Annual	39.3	38.3	36.6	-	-	-	(Avail Nov 2025)	-		
		Number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan - (Snapshot)	Monthly	126	105	142	141	138	150	-	133-150	Neutral	◄► Neutral
	HOU102	Number of homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation - (Snapshot)	Quarterly	28	35	29	26	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▼ Green
		Number of children in temporary accommodation - (Snapshot)	Quarterly	51	63	45	50	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◄► Neutral
	MIPack1	Number of Referrals to Children's Social Care - (YTD)	Monthly	1,588	1,700	1,574	399	797	1,294	-	1480-1700	Neutral	◄► Neutral
03. Public Protection	CSP01	All Crime	Monthly	14,235	14,759	14,208	3,759	3,725	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◄► Neutral
	CSP13	NYP Recorded ASB Calls for Service	Monthly	6,394	4,741	4,644	1,197	1,308	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◄► Neutral
	CSP15	Overall Violence (Violence Against Person Def.)	Monthly	5,675	5,746	5,226	1,252	1,279	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▼ Green
		IQUANTA Family Grouping (1 is good) (Rank out of 15)	Monthly	10	7	5	2	4	-	-	-		
	CSP23	Hate Crimes as Recorded by NYP	Monthly	233	168	199	55	79	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
		IQUANTA Family Grouping (1 is good) (Rank out of 15)	Monthly	15	12	8	5	7	-	-	-		
	CSP28	Number of Incidents of ASB within the city centre ARZ	Monthly	1,276	994	1,149	336	435	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
	CSP29a	Number of Incidents of ASB within the CIZ	Monthly	656	423	625	181	221	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
	EH36	Number of CYC-led initial Early Help Assessments completed	Monthly	-	-	-	99	70	123	-	-	Neutral	◄► Neutral

				Previous Years			2024/2025						
			Collection Frequency	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target	Polarity	DOT
03	PEH02	Number of Partner-led initial Early Help Assessments completed	Monthly	-	-	-	-	-	79	-	-	Neutral	◄◄ Neutral
	PP08	% of births registered within 42 days	Monthly	87.00%	93.00%	98.00%	95.00%	97.00%	98.00%	-	-	Up is Good	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Monthly	74.00%	88.00%	92.00%	91.00%	93.00%	96.00%	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Monthly	65.00%	91.00%	93.00%	92.00%	95.00%	96.00%	-	-		
	PP09	% of still births registered within 42 days	Monthly	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	-	-	Up is Good	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Monthly	97.00%	97.00%	98.00%	97.00%	98.00%	98.00%	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Monthly	97.00%	97.00%	97.00%	95.00%	100.00%	98.00%	-	-		
	PP10	% of deaths registered within 5 days	Monthly	72.00%	47.00%	47.00%	35.00%	58.00%	91.00%	-	-	Up is Good	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Monthly	60.00%	47.00%	48.00%	42.00%	62.00%	90.00%	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Monthly	59.00%	48.00%	50.00%	38.00%	57.00%	87.00%	-	-		
04. Health and Wellbeing	CHP30	Hospital admissions for asthma (0-18 years), per 100,000 population	Annual	80.2	106.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	131.5	122.2	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	130.7	112.9	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	NCMP01	% of reception year children recorded as being obese (single year)	Annual	8.90%	7.80%	8.80%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	10.11%	9.15%	9.60%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	10.96%	9.90%	10.70%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-		
	NCMP02	% of children in Year 6 recorded as being obese (single year)	Annual	18.87%	18.70%	19.20%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◄◄ Neut
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	23.45%	22.65%	22.10%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	24.89%	24.10%	23.60%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-		
	NCMP03	% of reception year children recorded as being overweight (incl. obese) (single year)	Annual	22.70%	19.90%	22.80%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	22.25%	21.31%	22.10%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	23.73%	22.50%	23.80%	-	-	-	-	-		
		Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	3	2	4	-	-	-	-	-		
	PHOF01a	% of adults (aged 19+) that meet CMO recommendations for physical activity (150+ moderate intensity equivalent minutes per week)	Annual	75.20%	73.60%	-	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	67.30%	67.10%	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Annual	66.10%	65.70%	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Regional Rank (Rank out of 15)	Annual	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	PHOF06a	Under 18 conceptions (per 1,000 females aged 15-17) (Rolling 12 Months)	Quarterly	12.2	Due April 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Quarterly	13.7	Due April 25	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Benchmark - Regional Data	Quarterly	17.7	Due April 25	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	PHYS06	% of adults (aged 16+) that are physically active (150+ moderate intensity equivalent minutes per week, excl. gardening)	Annual	66.50%	70.40%	69.80%	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	◄◄ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Annual	61.40%	63.10%	63.40%	-	-	-	-	-		
	LIB01	Library Visits - All Libraries	Monthly	617,771	864,963	-	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	▲ Green

				Previous Years			2024/2025							
			Collection Frequency	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target	Polarity	DOT	
05. Tourism	LIB02	Books Borrowed - All Libraries	Monthly	942,896	1,057,839	-	-	-	-	-	-	Up is Good	▲ Green	
	TOU01	Hotels: Room Occupancy (%)	Monthly	65.13%	80.10%	83.71%	84.00%	88.00%	-	-	-	Up is Good	▲ Green	
	TOU04	Hotels: Average Room Rate (£)	Monthly	£100.11	£100.28	£105.92	£108.01	£116.34	-	-	-	Neutral	◄► Neutral	
	TOU08	Visits to Attractions: Big Attractions (Within City of York) - (New defintion from 2022/23)	Monthly	1,830,597	2,692,054	2,779,480	689,338	854,460	-	-	-	Up is Good	▲ Green	
	TOU09	Visits to Attractions: Small Attractions (Within City of York) - (New defintion from 2022/23)	Monthly	136,032	189,889	219,473	55,490	55,333	-	-	-	Up is Good	◄► Neutral	
	TOU14	Parliament Street Footfall	Monthly	6,955,548	6,869,593	7,329,462	1,765,712	2,237,888	2,311,303	-	-	Up is Good	▲ Green	
06. Resident Surveys	TAP01	% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live	Quarterly	84.38%	82.18%	79.68%	81.00%	-	80.44%	-	-	Up is Good	◄► Neutral	
		Benchmark - Community Life Survey	Annual	76.00%	N/C	74.00%	-	-	-	-	-			
		Benchmark - LG Inform	Quarterly	80.00%	79.00%	-	-	-	0.00%	-	-			
	TAP11	% of Talkabout panel who agree that they can influence decisions in their local area	Quarterly	24.26%	20.94%	21.37%	22.11%	-	20.92%	-	-	Up is Good	◄► Neutral	
		Benchmark - Community Life Survey	Annual	27.00%	N/C	23.00%	-	-	-	-	-			
	TAP13	% of Talkabout panel who give unpaid help to any group, club or organisation	Quarterly	61.35%	60.64%	60.17%	64.42%	-	65.64%	-	-	Up is Good	◄► Neutral	
		Benchmark - Community Life Survey	Annual	55.00%	N/C	54.00%	-	-	-	-	-			
	TAP37	% of the panel reporting an 'excellent' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	Quarterly	-	-	10.92%	11.07%	-	11.36%	-	-	Up is Good	◄► Neutral	
		% of the panel reporting a 'good' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	Quarterly	-	-	34.86%	29.07%	-	27.76%	-	-	Up is Good	◄► Neutral	
		% of the panel reporting a 'satisfactory' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	Quarterly	-	-	34.51%	37.02%	-	38.17%	-	-	Up is Good	◄► Neutral	
		% of the panel reporting a 'poor' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	Quarterly	-	-	19.72%	22.84%	-	22.71%	-	-	Up is Bad	◄► Neutral	
07. Large Projects	CORP10L	Large Project - Provision of School Places	Discontinued	Amber	Amber	Complete	-	-	-	-	-	Neutral	◄► Neutral	
		Large Project - Family Hubs Implementation Project	Quarterly	-	Green	Green	Green	Green	Complete	-	-	Neutral	◄► Neutral	
		Large Project - CRM Replacement	Quarterly	-	-	-	-	Amber	Green	-	-	Neutral	◄► Neutral	
08. Finance	BPI110	Forecast Budget Outturn (£000s Overspent / - Underspent) - CYC Subtotal (excluding contingency)	Quarterly	£2,638	£4,887	£3,661	£3,896	£4,445	£4,305	-	-	Up is Bad	◄► Neutral	

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Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee

4 March 2025

Report of the Director of Housing & Communities

Digital Inclusion Update**Summary**

1. This report provides an update for Scrutiny Committee members on digital inclusion landscape in the city including the work of the city's Digital Friendly York (DFY) partnership.

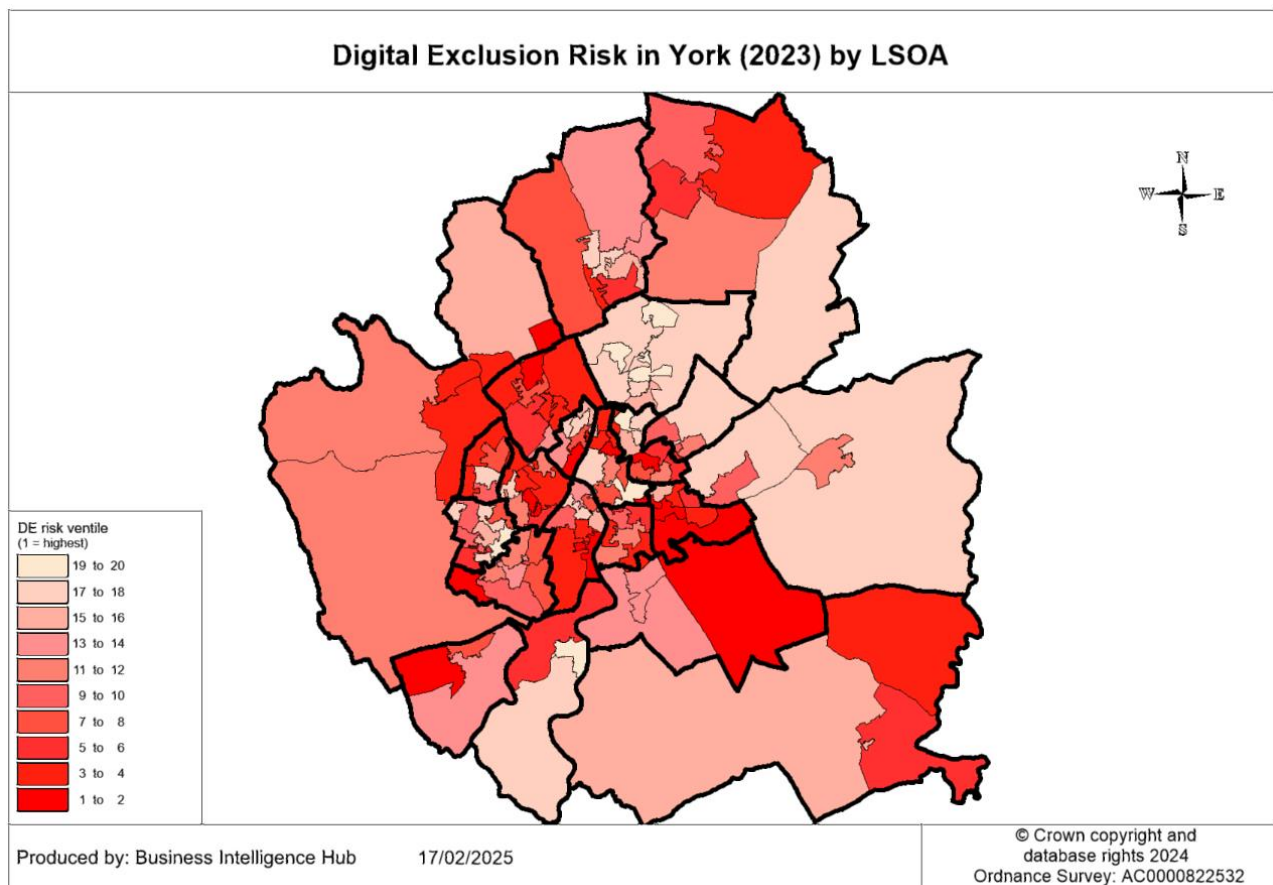
Background

2. 'One City, for all' the Council Plan 2023 to 2027, has a vision that York will be a vibrant, prosperous, welcoming and sustainable city, where everyone can share and take pride and share in its success. A city where history meets the future. It sets out 4 Core Commitments of:
 - Equality of opportunity
 - Affordability
 - Climate
 - Health and wellbeing.
3. Digital exclusion is a barrier to achieving these aims for the city's residents and businesses. Learning digital skills and confidence is vital for economic activity, employment, social participation, and accessing services, including the NHS, and keeping up with rapid societal changes. Where basic skills and lack of digital confidence is either the primary or a main barrier to opportunities, this requires an ecosystem of support which enables different people to learn the skills they need to achieve outcomes that matter most to them, and to society and the economy.
4. Access to digital infrastructure, devices, data, digital skills and confidence are vital in today's society. The people likely to be most digitally excluded are those who have other challenges that make it more difficult for them to engage, such as being disabled, in poverty, homeless, addiction, language barriers, long-term health conditions, social isolation, memory problems or other factors.

5. Digital exclusion and the inequalities faced by those without access to skills, knowledge, IT equipment and/or internet access makes all aspects of modern life more difficult:

- Accessing education, training, and employment;
- Children accessing schoolwork and other learning;
- Managing household and day to day tasks – banking, shopping, engaging with services, paying bills;
- Accessing online discounts for essential household costs, fuel, insurance, phones, for example;
- Accessing health-related support such as GP services;
- Accessing other help and support from organisations;
- Making new or managing benefits claims for vital support;
- Connecting with family and friends;
- Taking part in social and leisure activities.

6. The landscape of poverty and digital exclusion can be seen below in York:



York's Digital Inclusion Partnership

7. The city's digital inclusion partnership was set up in 2020 and was led by Explore York alongside the council. A joint action plan was developed by the partnership to help identify and tackle areas of digital and social exclusion. The partnership named 100% Digital York acted as an 'umbrella' brand to bring all the work happening across the city together.
8. Through the provision of grants City of York Council (CYC) has funded a part time post (to March 2025) to support the partnership and co-ordinate its work. Using the experience and learning from Leeds digital inclusion work, the Digital Inclusion Co-ordinator has prioritised work on a community-based approach. This approach has focussed on work with community organisations to support staff and volunteers with digital confidence who in turn can work with the community. In this way digital support is provided improving skills and confidence in local trusted spaces with local trusted people.
9. In December 2023 York Explore after three years of leading the partnership handed the reins over to a new steering group of members led by York Learning, alongside the continuing wider partnership network group.
10. In summer 2024 it was agreed by partner votes to change the partnership name to Digital Friendly York to reflect the views of some of the partnership that 100% Digital was not inclusive and did not take into account choice and the recognition that support should be available for those who cannot access services through digital routes. An updated Terms of Reference and new action plan were agreed. Leads for each action have been identified and have started to report progress at each partnership meeting. The Action Plan is included in Annex A.
11. The Digital Inclusion Co-ordinator, working now under the leadership and direction of York Learning on a part time basis, has accomplished the following:
 - Worked with community partners to identify residents or community groups where access to digital services is compromised by lack of access to data, providing that data for free in the form of SIM cards supplied by mobile suppliers and Good Things Foundation which is a charity focussing on digital inclusion. Whilst bids for continuation of this partnership with Good Things Foundation for SIM cards

have not been successful, links have been made with mobile data suppliers and other DFY partners in order to continue the supply of SIM cards via other pathways.

- In partnership with local communities - researching, establishing and running two 'Coder Dojo' clubs, one in Acomb and one working with the Travellers Trust. These are clubs delivering free coding sessions to young people aged 7-13 years who attend with their families and are affiliated with the Coder Dojo brand which is a national charitable organisation. The aim is threefold:
 - i. To stimulate awareness of coding in young people which in turn can lead to a current skills gap being filled in the future both locally and nationally;
 - ii. To promote digital access in a positive way and make digital learning free – because the children are taking part with their parents, the parents are also learning digital skills/gaining digital confidence; and
 - iii. Using these sessions as a platform to promote organisations within York and the DFY partnership who promote digital inclusion to the parents who are attending and make them aware of what they can access – eg free training courses/free equipment through IT ReUse (see below) who can help them if they are struggling to engage with something digitally for example.

There has also been further research and investigations into additional clubs being established in other areas of York and this work continues.

- Set up and managed the onboarding of volunteers who will staff the Coder DoJo clubs in order to ensure project sustainability long term so the volunteers can have ownership of their own clubs and to embed these groups into their own communities.
- Organised and hosted various digital drop ins and free digital support courses using Explore libraries as a base to allow people to access basic digital skills/support for free.

- Conducted ongoing research to identify what the current barriers to digital inclusion are locally including speaking to local community leaders/workers/groups to create both case studies and generate data to generate evidence for bids that have been put in for funding for continued DFY work.
 - Worked within York communities, signposting groups/individual residents to organisations within the DFY partnership to suit their specific need. For example, some people have been referred to York Learning/York Explore for digital skills courses including free accredited courses, there have also been supported referrals for some people to their banks so that they can discover how to use their banking apps. This is an ongoing piece of work across the areas of the city which are digitally excluded and is about making people aware of what is available and, in most cases, supporting them to access those organisations.
 - Currently working with partners in Joseph Rowntree Trust to draw up the basis for a Digital Inclusion Charter (see Action Plan) which would be used as a driver for local businesses to sign up to as a demonstration/marker for how they are supporting residents of the city to be digitally inclusive. This is an ongoing piece of work and is still in its infancy however this has already involved research of existing national charters and meeting with their organisations to look at how to carry out such a piece of work as well as the draft which is currently under review by the DFY steering group. This work originated from recommendations from a small sub group of Community Commissioners from the York Poverty Truth Commission.
 - Currently researching the practical aspects of setting up a tablet loan scheme to allow residents to borrow a tablet for free for a period of time to allow them to gain digital confidence without a financial cost that they may not be able to afford. This process has included discussions with existing tablet schemes in other parts of the United Kingdom.
12. Funding has been secured via the next round of Household Support Fund, to provide a further year's funding for the Digital Inclusion Coordinator post for 18.5 hours per week until March 2026. York Learning will continue to manage the post to deliver digital inclusion support services across York as part of Digital Friendly York.

This will build on the above earlier work to enable people of York to get information, advice, and guidance to access services they need via digital solutions and focus on digital inclusivity needs for the City of York, to identify areas of digital exclusion and to collectively work to provide possible solutions to support digital inclusivity, particularly in relation to financial inclusion.

13. As part of ongoing developments, it was agreed by the partnership to explore the viability of establishing a separate independent charitable organisation to develop and promote digital inclusion in the city. At present no one partner organisation has the single responsibility for or capacity to drive these key priorities for digital inclusion in York forward. Discussions had taken place across the partnership to see if this role could be taken on by one of the partners, however this was not seen as a viable option.
14. A separate organisation will be able to apply for independent funding to develop new areas of work and work with partners to support ongoing work. It will be able to solely focus on and champion digital inclusion in York, whilst coordinating and building on the individual areas of focus and expertise, including skills, community support, equipment and infrastructure.
15. Pending this development the existing agreed plans and priorities have enabled applications for funding to be submitted, one of which was a successful application to the University of York Cost of Living Fund. This has enabled the partnership to engage an adviser to work with DFY to develop proposals for, for example, a Community Interest Company or other structure to take the work forward.

Other Digital Inclusion Activity by Digital Friendly York Partners

16. IT Reuse (<https://itreuse.org.uk/>) is a partnership project led by York Community Furniture Store and is part of the digital inclusion partnership. IT Reuse supports residents offering free refurbished computer equipment, mobile phones, wi-fi hubs and data sim cards and funding for this work has been provided through the council from the Financial Inclusion Steering Group and Household Support Fund grant schemes. The project provided a vital service to residents during the pandemic when connectivity was so vital for people having to isolate in their homes, particularly those on low incomes and with complex needs.

17. Live Well York Digital Friendly York page provides a centre information point for a range of activities across the city
<https://www.livewellyork.co.uk/information-and-advice/learning-training-employment/digital-inclusion-digital-friendly-york/>
18. Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust employs a Digital Inclusion Officer to support their residents with ongoing community activities available
<https://www.jrht.org.uk/support-for-residents/grow-your-digital-skills> .

Digital infrastructure in York

19. The Digital City Team within the council's ICT Service are continuing to engage and work with several broadband infrastructure providers as part of their work programme to retain interest and investment into York's digital connectivity landscape. They also work with central government teams with Department for Culture, Media, and Sport and Building Digital UK to identify areas of intervention to maximise their funded programmes and projects to help provide access to improved levels of digital connectivity for residents and businesses to broadband services.
20. The current level of access to future proof and high-speed broadband services across the city is around 76% and some of the more recent expansions include:
 - Elvington, Wheldrake and Stockton on the Forest now have access to full fibre broadband, this serves approximately 2000 premises across the 3x villages within the city's rural areas.
 - 5000 premises now have access to full fibre broadband within the city centre, rising to 8000 premises by the end of 2025.
21. The team is working hard to target remaining areas where intervention is required for investment and digital infrastructure build programmes or expansion particularly into areas where connectivity is less available and/or poor such within rural areas and York city centre. Whilst this work is related to ensuring that residents and businesses have access to future proof and affordable infrastructure, members may wish to consider whether this falls within the remit of digital inclusion and whether this detail should be included in any requested future updates if so.

Access to Free Wi-Fi and affordable broadband services

22. For several years, City of York Council has been undertaking extensive public free Wi-Fi implementation within council-owned buildings including its libraries, sports centres, sheltered housing schemes, community centres and hubs and council offices. In York City Centre, there is a free Wi-Fi concession in operation for all visitors and residents to use with free Wi-Fi also available on the city's local and regional bus services whose routes include York.
23. Within affordable housing developments free Wi-Fi does not offer the bandwidth for home-based requirements and so the Digital City Team as part of their work programme, actively work with the digital network companies and their broadband service providers to establish a choice of service and help address the broadband affordability challenge.
24. The arrival and possible expansion of 5g networks within York will also help provide access to broadband services and add to the choice of solutions and providers, as well as other opportunities as they arise (for example working with suppliers on offering affordable broadband within multi dwelling housing stock).

Consultation

25. The Digital Friendly York partnership meets quarterly and has consulted members from the following services/organisations on the Terms of Reference and action plans.

Digital City Officer, CYC
 York Learning
 YHREN/York University
 Yor Explore
 York CVS
 Lived Insights
 Local Area Coordinator CYC
 MySight
 Digital Inclusion
 Accessibility Officer,
 Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust
 I am reusable
 University of York
 Angie Padfield, York Learning
 Age Friendly York
 Digital City Executive, CYC

Welfare Benefits Strategic
 Partnership Manager, CYC
 Keeping it Digital
 York Disability Rights Forum
 Make It York
 Aviva
 Livewell York Lead, CYC
 Good Organisation
 Citizens Advice York
 IT Reuse, Community
 Furniture Stores
 Director, Customer &
 Communities, CYC
 Blueberry Academy
 Age UK York
 Purpose Partners

Options & Analysis

26. As this report is for information, there are no options and related analysis to consider.

Council Plan

27. The City of York Council's Council Plan (2023-2027) includes the 4 core commitments which are relevant for this report and the work of the digital inclusion partnership. Digital inclusion activity meets all four of the commitments, including recycling of equipment which meets the council priority around climate change and impacts positively on affordability and health.

Implications

28. There are no implications for members to consider as there are no decisions to make as it is a report for information.

Risk Management

29. Without the work of this partnership there would be no co-ordinated digital inclusion activity in the city. This work seeks to mitigate the impact of a lack of digital skills, data and equipment where people are facing financial hardship in the city and to improve their access on online support, information and services.

Recommendations

30. Members are asked to note the information relating to the ongoing work of the Digital Friendly York Partnership alongside the other digital inclusion work going on in the city.

Reason: So that members are aware of the work undertaken by the Digital Friendly York Partnership.

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**



Date 21 February 2025

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

All

☒

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

Annex A: Digital Friendly York Partnership Action Plan

Abbreviations

CYC City of York Council
DFY Digital Friendly York
ICT Information, Communications, Technology
IT Information Technology

Digital Friendly York is a collaboration of organisations and individuals working together to maximise opportunities for all in York to access digital technology and equip them to access information, services, and support in the right way for them by recognizing individual needs as well as the needs of communities.

Background

From the workshop held in August 2020 we created the 100% Digital York network, through all our discussions since then, we have expanded our definition and talked about tackling digital exclusion and facilitating digital inclusion by providing access, connectivity, hardware, software, training, support, confidence-building, etc.

In 2021 York Community Furniture lead on develop the IT Reuse scheme for the City. Taking donated IT devices – laptops, PC's, tablets and mobile phones, cleaning and securely setting them up and for re-use to people referred by support workers across the city. Since then, the scheme has extended to provide wi-fi hubs and data sims to ensure people are connected.

We have been successful in securing funding to begin to develop and coordinate digital advice and support over the last three years, including a part-time Digital Co-Ordinator hosted by initially by York Explore and now York Learning, who has worked alongside partners to

- raise awareness, to gain access to communities and venues to promote awareness of digital offer around York, to find individuals/groups in need of support and signpost them to that support and to provide practical resolutions eg provision of SIM cards with data on for free for those who are in need and do not have financial capacity of their own.
- to establish Digital Café offer in multiple locations across York. These cafes are run by Keeping Digital Foundation volunteers, are completely free for any of the public to attend and are spaces where people can access support with any digital technology.

- on scoping out, designing and researching Coder DoJo offer which will be implemented in 24-25 to allow young people to access coding skills whilst simultaneously promoting digital confidence/pathways to qualifications/availability of digital support to the parents who are attending with their young people beginning summer 2024.

During 2024 the network has reviewed the work so far. We have developed new Terms of Reference and a strategic plan focusing on the vision of Digital Friendly York. These will enable the network to work together to target existing resources and secure additional funding and resources to deliver the shared goals for our City.

The Digital Friendly York terms of reference sets out three key objectives:

- To build a co-ordinated, connective, and collaborative approach to digital inclusion across York
- To enable people of York to get information, advice, and guidance to the services they need via digital solutions, whilst acknowledging the place and need for non-digital solutions and to promote informed choice.
- To focus on digital inclusivity needs for the City of York, to identify areas of digital exclusion and to collectively work to provide possible solutions to support digital inclusivity.

Our priorities are to reduce the barriers to accessing devices and equipment to get online, such as laptops, phones, broadband and data; and building skills, knowledge and confidence within the City for people to be able to make the best use of everyday technologies and digital services and the opportunities these provide.

We will take a test and learn approach to all aspects of the work, developing through collaboration and co-production and using ongoing monitoring and evaluation. The project is structured with a small steering group and wider partnership network from a range of organisations across the city both delivering digital services and supporting residents. This means that the project is resident wish focussed and user led.

Digital Friendly York campaign - Action plan

We want to create a vision for a Digital Friendly York where all parts of our community feel confident using and have access to essential everyday technologies. We want businesses, organisations and individuals to get involved, for their employees, customers, participants, friends and family. Working together to understand the importance technology plays in good quality of life and ensure all York residents are able to benefit from the opportunities and make informed choices about if and how they use digital within their everyday and working lives.

Objectives & activities Note: we recognise that some of these objectives/subobjectives may change their priority either because of new objectives becoming apparent as the project develops or because timescales are flexible. The priority list is not set in stone this is a working document.	Timescale/priority 1 - Short term - aiming at Year 1/2 2 - Medium term - aiming at Year 3/4 3 – Long term - aiming at Year 5 and beyond
Objective 1: To build a co-ordinated, connective, and collaborative approach to digital inclusion across York	
Explore the key barriers and issues facing residents in embracing and using everyday technologies, and the best ways to engage and support people, through conversations and utilizing the range of existing forums and community activities in the city.	1
Create Digital Friendly York campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a scheme for organisations, businesses, services, community groups, etc. to join to support being digitally friendly 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publicity campaign to promote the benefits of being digitally confident, where, and how to get support if needed. 	2

○ Digital Friendly York pledge/accreditation to promote good practice and so people know where and how they can ask for advice and support to use digital services and technology.	2
○ Digital Friendly York awards to showcase and share good practice.	3
Promote and continue to develop a range of training on using everyday technologies and building IT skills for life and work.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a central resource toolkit for supporting people to build people's access, digital skills, knowledge, and confidence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collate existing resources ➤ Create Trello buckets 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify gaps and develop new resources 	2
Collate and develop good practice and training for organisations, businesses and individuals to confidently provide advice and support to people on using digital services and technologies.	2
Objective 2: To enable people of York to get information, advice, and guidance to the services they need via digital solutions, whilst acknowledging the place and need for non-digital solutions and to promote informed choice.	
Promote and support online safety and security, to build skills and confidence to access and use online tools and access services digitally.	Ongoing throughout
Promote and expand support with using devices and practical applications, such as NHS app, GP services, online shopping, etc., including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - digital cafes, - work- place and community support. 	1
Map and promote free access to computers, wi-fi, advice and support.	1
Continue to develop and promote access to equipment and data	Ongoing throughout
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop the IT Reuse scheme 	1
○ Maintaining and increasing donations	1

○ Promoting the scheme to support workers to make applications for support	1
- Developing options for repairs, mending workshop/Phone Dr	2
- Map, and increase coordination and promotion of free data sim cards	1
- Develop IT equipment loan scheme to build confidence, highlight benefits and enable people to try before they buy	2
Objective 3: To focus on digital inclusivity needs for the City of York, to identify areas of digital exclusion and to collectively work to provide possible solutions to support digital inclusivity.	
Use feedback from consultation and conversation to understand where people are particularly affected by digital exclusion, the issues faced and how these can be combatted; and use this to	1
- support people to with access to devices and data and developing confidence and skills to actively participate in a digital world.	1
- influence policies and planning of provision in the city to reduce barriers	2
Develop and promote good practice policy for organisations to include digital inclusion assessments to consider how people will use digital options and provide support at service or project development and planning stage.	2
Share good practice and training for organisations, businesses, and individuals to confidently provide advice and support to people on using digital services and technologies.	2
- Collate and promote available resources	
- Identify gaps and source/develop resources to address these	3

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Children, Culture and Communities Scrutiny Committee 4 March 2025

Report of Director of Environment Transport and Planning

Safer York Partnership Annual Report**Summary**

1. This report is the annual report for Safer York Partnership and covers the priorities contained within the Community Safety for the period 2023-2026. The Community Safety Strategy was developed and approved by Safer York Partnership in 2023, refreshed in 2024 and reflects the community safety priorities identified through data analysis of crime patterns, the statutory duties for which the partnership has governance responsibility and community safety issues which impact most significantly on communities and quality of life.
 - i. Safer York Partnership is the Statutory Community Safety Partnership created under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 covering the City of York. It is comprised of senior representatives from City of York Council, North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue, Probation, Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board, Job Centre Plus, York CVS, Make It York and York BID. It is currently chaired by Supt Ed Haywood-Noble, Area Commander, North Yorkshire Police with City of York Council Director Pauline Stuchfield as Deputy Chair. Its role is to facilitate partnership working to deliver the priorities set out in the three year Community Safety Strategy.

- ii. The Priorities within the Community Safety Strategy refresh 2024 (attached at Appendix A) are:
 - a. Keeping the City Centre Safe
 - b. Counter Terrorism: Protect, Prepare, Prevent
 - c. Domestic Abuse
 - d. Safe and Supported Communities
 - e. Serious Organised Crime: County Lines, Modern Slavery, Exploitation
 - f. Serious Violence
- iii. The Scorecard for Safer York Partnership is attached at Annex B.

2. Keeping the City Centre Safe

- i. This Strategic priority is led by York BID. This reflects the work that the BID lead in relation to Purple Flag and their Safe and Secure work programme.
- ii. York has retained its Purple Flag status and assessors have been impressed with the partnership working that contributes to making York a safe place for its residents, businesses and visitors.
- iii. Whilst the unique layout of the city as a mix of residential and business premises within a compact area does create some tensions, these are addressed through the partnership working to create an environment that is attractive and safe for all. Examples include the family friendly days organised through the BID and the many events offered by Make It York. Community Safety is at the heart of the work of York Safety Advisory Group with safety planning a major factor in the consideration and debriefing of major events.
- iv. The BID rangers have community safety accreditation powers and work closely with the Police and City of York Council's Neighbourhood Enforcement Team to provide visible reassurance and work together to deter antisocial behaviour and aggressive begging on the streets.

- v. Partnership working takes place with the Police, City of York Council, BID Rangers and Support Services to co-ordinate support for those who are homeless and vulnerable.
- vi. Over the summer period in 2024, a new partnership campaign 'Choose Respect Not Regrets' was launched with visible branding across the city. The campaign outlines the importance of responsible behaviour in the city. Campaign themes include anti-littering, using respectful language, drinking in moderation, river safety, rail travel, public urination and street noise. The messaging can be found on shop wraps, bollards, planters, cigarette bins, adverts, buses, and toilets, starting from York Rail Station and continuing throughout the city centre.

3. **Counter Terrorism: Protect, Prepare, Prevent**

i. **Protect and Prepare**

The current National Threat Level is SUBSTANTIAL meaning that an attack is likely. York Protect and Prepare Group meets quarterly and delivers an action plan aimed at increasing awareness and vigilance including undertaking risk assessments specific to the threat of terrorism and working in partnership to mitigate identified risk.

- ii. The Government is in the final stages of legislating for a stronger response to terrorist threat through the Protect Duty (Martyn's Law). The duty includes lessons learnt from the Manchester Arena attack and a requirement for venues to be able to demonstrate that they have taken proportionate steps to protect against a terrorist attack. It will follow a tiered model linked to activity that takes place at a location and its capacity aimed to prevent undue burden on businesses.
- iii. York's work on Protect and Prepare continues to be highlighted as National Good Practice by the Home Office and by Counter Terrorism Policing. In January 2024 York Minster hosted a major live exercise with all Emergency Services based on a scenario involving a Terrorist Attack. The aim of the exercise was to test the planning and measures that the Minster have put in place to both mitigate risk but also to test the response of all partners in the event of an attack taking place. Further exercises will be carried out in the city as part of the response to the ongoing threat from Terrorism.

- iv. Over the Christmas period two attacks took place where vehicles were used as a weapon: the first on 21 December in a Christmas Market in Magdeburg Germany and the second on New Years Day in New Orleans. These attacks demonstrate that the threat continues and assessments indicate that lone offenders and small groups continue to pose the greatest threat of carrying out attacks with little to no warning.

v. **Prevent**

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 contains a duty on specified authorities to safeguard individuals from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. This is managed strategically through a Prevent Partnership Board that operates across York and North Yorkshire with an action plan executed at local level by the York Local Prevent Delivery Group. The process is supported by a Channel Panel within top tier (Unitary and County) Authorities whereby referrals are made when individuals are highlighted to the police as potentially at risk of being radicalised. The Prevent Partnership Board also reports to the North Yorkshire Police CONTEST Board.

- vi. York's Channel Panel meets monthly. Referrals to Channel have increased and there are currently three cases open to Channel.
- vii. The Prevent Local Delivery Group meets monthly and is made up of a range of services from across the Local Authority, Fire and Rescue, Police, Higher Education Providers, the Armed Forces, Probation and Health. The Prevent Risk Assessment for York has recently been agreed with the Home Office and the annual benchmarking under the Prevent Duty will take place during March.
- viii. Following the attack last year in Southport, the Prevent Programme is subject to more scrutiny. The York Local Delivery Group continues to ensure that all partners are working together to deliver training and awareness and understand the importance of raising concerns through the Channel Process.

4. Domestic Abuse

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places a statutory duty on tier one local authorities for the delivery of support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in safe accommodation and provides clarity over governance and accountability. Strategic responsibility for Domestic Abuse within City of York Council is held by the Public Health Team and delivery is through the York Domestic Abuse Board reporting to Safer York Partnership.

- i. The York Domestic Abuse Strategy Delivery Plan places early intervention and prevention as the focus of partnership working. Work includes education and training across all front line services and equipping professionals with the knowledge to recognise signs and indicators of domestic abuse and particularly to understand the needs of seldom heard and marginalised groups. The group also ensures that specialist support services commissioned across both York and North Yorkshire are inclusive and accessible and that safe accommodation is available to meet the needs of victims. This Partnership also continues to work with services to develop pathways and interventions to work with perpetrators.

5. Safe and Supported Communities

This priority acknowledges the impact that crime and antisocial behaviour have on communities and quality of life. It includes ensuring that the safeguarding needs of victims are met through the inclusion of a range of support services and community connectors in the problem solving process.

- i. Anti-social behaviour is addressed through an escalating approach using education and support to promote behaviour change, with enforcement as the last resort for the most serious cases that cause the highest level of threat and risk to individuals or communities. A joint North Yorkshire Police and City of York Council team make up the Community Safety Hub, working together to ensure that where enforcement action is required, it is dealt with effectively and efficiently through collaborative work.

- ii. Often serious anti-social behaviour is accompanied by wider criminal activity and associations and is very often underpinned by complex mental and physical health conditions. Close collaborative working between City of York Council Housing, Social Care teams, neighbourhood policing teams and the Community Safety Hub takes place through monthly community harm meetings. These are designed to identify issues early and put multi-agency measures in place to provide the relevant support and response to address the needs of both victims and perpetrators of serious anti-social behaviour.
- iii. Hate Crime is managed through the York Hate Crime Partnership. The Partnership includes organisations whose work supports those communities with protected characteristics under the Hate Crime legislation (Race, Religion, Disability, Sexual Orientation, Transgender Identity alongside representatives from City of York Council, North Yorkshire Police and the universities and colleges. The group reports to the Safer York Partnership Board and the North Yorkshire Inclusive Communities Commissioning Group.
- iv. Work to address Hate Crime is delivered collaboratively between the York & North Yorkshire Community Safety Teams and North Yorkshire Police Hate Crime Team.
- v. The following actions have been delivered through York Hate Crime Partnership:
 - The City Centre Choose Respect Not Regrets campaign in collaboration with the York BID.
 - Closer working with the Universities and Colleges to share relevant trends in reporting. This includes the *All About Respect* initiative that aims to improve dialogue with students and young people around healthy relationships, sexual harassment and violence.
 - A multi agency Disability Hate Crime sub group has been established to ensure this complex area of Hate Crime receives the focus it requires. As a result, York Disability Rights Forum are now members of the Yorkshire and Humberside CPS Hate Crime Scrutiny Committee. Links have also been established with Dr Leah Burch from Liverpool Hope University. She is planning a new research project on Disability Hate Crime which York's group hope to contribute to.

- vi. Over the next 12 months, York Hate Crime Partnership have agreed three main areas of focus:
- Agree a new operating model for Third Party Hate Crime Reporting Centres
 - Roll-out accredited Hate Crime Champions Training
 - A York & North Yorkshire Hate Crime Conference taking place on 15 October at Priory Street Centre as part of Hate Crime Awareness week

6. **Serious Organised Crime including County Lines, Exploitation and Modern Slavery**

- i. Serious organised crime (SOC) whilst often associated with regional, national or international criminals, impacts significantly on local communities. Organised crime groups will deploy intimidation tactics, exploit individuals and use violence for unlawful gain. A Serious Organised Crime Board for York and North Yorkshire focuses on the National Serious Organised Crime Strategy and delivers across both Local Authority areas. It is supported by a multi-agency disruption panel which brings together intelligence from a range of partners to disrupt the most prolific groups operating locally.
- ii. A Monthly multi-agency Serious Organised Crime Group has been established for York to particularly focus on the increase in County Lines activity in the city. County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police force and local authority boundaries, usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced by gangs. The 'County Line' is a mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where drugs are taken to) often report an increase in levels of violence and weapons related crime. Because of this it is crucial that police and partners work together to disrupt these groups are reduce the threat harm and risk they pose to vulnerable people within the community. The monthly SOC group also links through its membership to the Multiagency, Child Exploitation Disruption Meetings.

- iii. Clear Hold Build is a Home Office developed strategy to help police forces tackle Serious and Organised Crime. The Clear and Hold phases are a targeted police response to disrupt criminal activity and maintain control of the area to prevent future escalation. The Build phase engages wider partners and the community themselves to work together to reduce the risk of crime re-emerging. York is delivering this initiative in the Clifton area through the work of a multi-agency approach whereby partners work together to maintain a tactical response to crime and anti-social behaviour in the area supported by a more strategic plan to provide ongoing support to the community.

7. Serious Violence

- i. The Serious Violence Duty has been in place since January 2023, introduced under the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. The duty requires partners to work together to share information and collaborate on interventions to prevent and reduce serious violence within communities.
- ii. A Serious Violence Duty Working Group has been established across York and North Yorkshire by the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) involving all key partners in both Local Authority areas. The group has overseen the production of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, highlighting the key areas of concern, patterns and trends and the drafting of a Serious Violence Strategy 2024-29 to address them through a multiagency approach. Funding has been made available by the Home Office to support this work and as administered through the OPFCC through a bidding process to support projects aligned to the strategy. This work also links across to other strands of the community safety strategy including Hate Crime, Violence Against Women and Girls and Keeping the City Centre Safe (violence linked to the Nighttime economy).

Council Plan

8. The Community Safety Strategy links to the following core commitments within the Council Plan:
- **Equalities and Human Rights:** Working with all communities to ensure that residents, Businesses and visitors are able to feel safe within the City.
 - **Affordability:** Working closely with the most disadvantaged to ensure that victims of crime and antisocial behaviour are supported and that a holistic approach to problem solving is delivered with education and early intervention at its heart.
 - **Health:** Working in partnership to address health inequalities and ensure that communities and individuals are supported to address their health needs where it is impacted by crime and antisocial behaviour

Implications

9. There are no implications in relation to this report which requires no formal decisions as it is a report for information only.

Risk Management

10. There are no identified risks relevant to this report.

Conclusions

11. The Police and Justice Act 2006 introduced a clear role for Overview and Scrutiny Committees in overseeing the work of Community Safety Partnerships and their constituent partners. Under the council's scrutiny arrangements bi-annual performance reports from Safer York Partnership are presented to the Scrutiny and Policy Committee.

Recommendation

12. Members are asked to note the information relating to delivery of the Community Safety Strategy.

Reason: To update Members on the performance of the Safer York Partnership and facilitate contribution to development of future strategy.

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Report Approved ☒ Date 20 February 2025

Wards Affected:

All ☒

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

Annex A: Community Safety Strategy refresh 2024
Annex B: Safer York Partnership Score Card

Abbreviations

CYC - City of York Council
NYP - North Yorkshire Police
BID - Business Improvement District
ASB - Anti-Social Behaviour
NEO - Neighbourhood Enforcement Officer
NYCC - North Yorkshire County Council
PSPO - Public Space Protection Orders
OPFCC – Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner
HVM - hostile vehicle mitigation
CONTEST – Government response to Counter Terrorism
SAG – Safety Advisory Group
IDAS - Independent Domestic Abuse Service



MAKING YORK A SAFER CITY

COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

2023-26

VERSION	DRAFT REFRESH 2024
AUTHOR	Head of Community Safety CYC
DATE PRODUCED/UPDATED	11/07/24

Making York a Safer City

Introduction

This is the 9th Community Safety Strategy produced by Safer York Partnership since it was established in 1998 under the Crime and Disorder Act. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states that Community Safety Partnerships are required to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder and to have in place partnership plans setting out their priorities.

The priorities contained within this strategy have been identified through a Safer York Partnership Development Session and are aligned to Home Office National Priorities, the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan and City of York Council plan priorities. They also take into account community intelligence and information. Some of these priorities are delivered through joint structures with our Neighbouring Local Authority, North Yorkshire Council recognising that one police force (North Yorkshire) covers both local authority areas. Using a Public Health approach, the partnership will look holistically at the community safety issues identified within each priority and using an approach based on early intervention and prevention, and where appropriate, enforcement, will work with partners to develop innovative and effective solutions.

Throughout its existence, the partnership has developed and changed to ensure that it is addressing those issues of community safety which impact most significantly on quality of life for those who live in, work in or visit the City of York. Each year the strategy will be reviewed to ensure that it has the flexibility to address new and emerging trends, ensuring that we are continuing to use local resource to best effect in addressing local needs. The priorities within this strategy are not exclusive and many are linked. The role of Safer York Partnership is to coordinate organisations to address the links and ensure that the correct powers and capabilities across the Partnership are utilised. It can then help organisations focus on ensuring the available resources are focused on the priorities so that the partnership delivers in the most effective and efficient way.

Supt Jon Aldred, Chair Safer York Partnership

Our partners

City of York Council

North Yorkshire Police

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

Probation

York and North Yorkshire Office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning (OPFCC), part of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority

NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (HNY ICB)

Make It York

York BID

Our priorities

- **Keeping the City Centre Safe**
- **Counter Terrorism: Protect, Prepare, Prevent**
- **Domestic Abuse**
- **Safe and Supported Communities**
- **Serious Organised Crime: County Lines, Modern Slavery, Exploitation**
- **Serious Violence**



KEEPING THE CITY CENTRE SAFE

Keeping the City Centre Safe is a priority for Safer York Partnership. York City Centre is an international tourist destination, attracting over 8 million visitors per annum. The City Council has adopted the My City Strategy which recognises the tensions between a tourist destination as well as a city centre which serves its residents. At the heart of this strategy is a family friendly city centre. York has a compact mix of residential, commercial and licensed premises. This can result in conflict between different user groups and lead to a negative perception of the city as a safe place. This is not borne out by the actual crime figures and York is one of the safest cities in the UK.

Like many cities, York is changing as consumer shopping habits have changed but it's small independent shops, festivals and events and extensive hospitality offering continue to keep it vibrant and attractive to both visitors and local residents. This will be further enhanced through the delivery of some major development plans which will ensure that York remains a popular and thriving city into the future.

Working through the BID Safe Partnership, the Council, Police and other key stakeholders work together to ensure to address emerging community safety issues in the city centre including hate crime associated with the night time economy.

SYP Board Lead: The York BID

Contributing Groups:

My City Centre
BID Safe Partnership
NYP Operation Safari
York Water Safety Group
Purple Flag
Pubwatch
YBAC Board and Steering Group
Make It York
Safety Advisory Group
Guildhall Ward Committee
Hate Crime Working Group
York Drug and Alcohol Partnership

Aims:

- To contribute to the Board and Working Groups of My City Centre to ensure that Community Safety is considered within future planning and development
- Work in partnership with the BID & Make It York to ensure that the City Centre remains an attractive and prosperous location for visitors
- Contribute to delivery of the York Homelessness Strategy by tackling the community safety aspects of begging and rough sleeping

- Contribute to the work of the York Water Safety Group to prevent serious incidents associated with York's rivers
- Rebrand York Business Against Crime to harness a wider sharing of information and intelligence that will assist in reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and contributing to the delivery of Counter Terrorism Aims
- To work with the York BID Safe Partnership to deliver a multiagency response to crime and antisocial behaviour in the City Centre
- To work with partners to ensure that the work in relation to safety in the city continues to meet the principles outlined by Purple Flag
- Develop a closer working relationship with the SAG to ensure that the CSP is aware of the community safety impact of events which take place in the City of York Council
- To work with the York Drug and Alcohol Partnership to deliver outcomes related to the unwanted impact from the use of drugs and alcohol aligned to the night time economy

How will success be measured?

- Retain Purple Flag
- North Yorkshire Police recorded crime and anti-social behaviour within the City Centre
- Measurement of perception through surveys and consultation
- Counts of rough sleepers
- Qualitative feedback from the community and partners



COUNTER TERRORISM: PROTECT, PREPARE, PREVENT

Protect & Prepare

Since 2017, York has had an active multi-agency Protect and Prepare Group which has undertaken extensive work to increase security in the City Centre and for all major events hosted within the City. This work has achieved National recognition and has contributed to a North East Regional pilot working to develop guidance that will support the implementation of the Protect Duty (Martyn's Law) which comes into effect in 2023.

The partnership acknowledges that the introduction of physical Counter Terrorism measures which include installation of barriers, and restriction of access to certain areas of the city will cause some community tensions. There is a need to ensure that visitors and residents understand the National threat risk and importance of protective security measures and how this links to both the priorities of Keeping the City Centre Safe and Safe and Supported Communities. Research evidence has shown that community intelligence and vigilance plays a key role in defeating terrorism.

The Protect and Prepare group has developed an action plan which includes a range of interventions designed not only to strengthen the visual deterrent to terrorism in the city but also includes training and awareness for staff working in local businesses to be vigilant and able to recognise suspicious behaviour. The group organises regular FREE training throughout the year and is working closely with Safer York Business Partnership to improve communication with the business community that could be essential in the event of an attack (or indeed any major incident).

Prevent

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 placed a duty on the Local Authority play a wider role in the Prevent agenda, leading on the Channel Process to assess the risk associated with radicalisation and put in place measures to mitigate that risk. Membership of the Channel Panel includes a range of services with the council and partners including Health, Probation and Police. York's approach ensures that the wider safeguarding needs of individuals and their families are also considered alongside Prevent concerns and ensures that these needs are also being addressed in tandem with any interventions prescribed by the panel. When cases are closed to Channel, assurance is always sought to ensure that wider safeguarding support continues.

Prevent is strategically managed at a sub-regional level through a York and North Yorkshire Prevent Partnership Board whose agenda is led by the Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP). Recommendations contained in the CTLP are delivered locally through the Prevent Local Delivery Group which has an established annual action plan. A recently published Independent Review of Prevent Nationally will further develop the way in which the Prevent agenda is delivered locally. Work undertaken through the Hate Crime Working Group also contributes to the Prevent agenda as the two issues are not discrete.

SYP Board Lead: CYC Head of Community Safety

Contributing Groups:

York and North Yorkshire CONTEST Board
York and North Yorkshire Prevent Partnership Board
Local Resilience Forum
York Protect and Prepare Group
Safety Advisory Group
YBAC Board and Steering Group
York Local Prevent Delivery Group
York Channel Panel
Hate Crime Working Group
Safeguarding Adults Board
Safeguarding Childrens Partnership

Aims

- Support local businesses, organisations and event organisers who will fall within the legislative requirements of Martyn's Law
- Continue to work with the Safety Advisory Group to ensure that Counter Terrorism is considered within the safety planning for all major events taking place within the City
- Deliver the Protect and Prepare Action Plan
- Deliver regular training and awareness for partners to ensure that they are vigilant to suspicious activity and know what action to take in the event of a terrorist incident
- Consider the impact of the Independent Review of Prevent and what that means for Prevent delivery in York
- Develop local Prevent Champions to engage with communities in order to promote a better understanding of the Prevent agenda
- Continue to develop the City's approach to Prevent in accordance with Regional and National Home Office guidance
- Develop and deliver a programme of accessible training for partners to raise awareness of Prevent and how to make referrals to the Channel process
- Linking the work of the Hate Crime working group with the Prevent Local Delivery to engage better with communities and understand where tensions exist
- Ensure that residents understand the importance of protective security and how they can play a role in defeating terrorism through vigilance and reporting suspicious activity

How will success be measured?

- Delivery of the Counter Terrorism Task Group and Prevent Local Delivery Group Action Plans

- Reduction in number of non permitted vehicles accessing the city centre
- Increase in number of Project Servator deployments in York
- Increase in referrals to Channel Panel
- Increase in number of cases adopted and dealt with through Channel
- Case studies on outcome of Channel cases



DOMESTIC ABUSE

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 places statutory requirements on local authorities to improve governance of Domestic Abuse, whilst ensuring the appropriate and accessible provision of safe accommodation for victims. In York, the Domestic Abuse agenda is delivered through the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board. In addition, a York and North Yorkshire Joint Commissioning Group ensures a collaborative approach between City of York Council, North Yorkshire Council and the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire, ensuring an equitable access to provision of support across both authorities. This joint commissioning group reports to both the York and North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards.

Prevention is a significant element of the Domestic Abuse programme, ensuring that there is a close working relationship with schools, colleges and young people to focus on developing healthy relationships and raising awareness of unhealthy behaviours.

Domestic abuse specialist services are in place to both support victims of domestic abuse and to work with the perpetrators requiring support in changing their behaviour.

The statutory duty also includes the management and oversight of the Domestic Homicide Review process where cases are approved as meeting the criteria i.e. a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by— (a) a person to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or (b) a member of the same household as himself, held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death. The criteria also now includes death by suicide, where circumstances related to the death indicate a link with domestic abuse or controlling and coercive behaviour

SYP Board Lead: Director of Public Health

Contributing Groups:

York Domestic Abuse Board
York and North Yorkshire Domestic Abuse Commissioning Group
York and North Yorkshire Joint Working Group
White Ribbon Accreditation Sub-Group
MARAC and MATAC Steering Group
Joint VAWG Strategy Group
Safeguarding Adults Board
Children's Safeguarding Partnership

Aims

- Contribute to the refresh and local delivery of the Domestic Abuse Strategy for York and North Yorkshire

- Further strengthen the governance processes ensuring that partners are contributing to the local delivery structure through the York Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board
- Ensure that York is able to meet the requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Adopt a public health approach to domestic abuse, improving prevention and early identification to reduce incidents and the escalation of abuse
- Ensure local services are inclusive and accessible to meet the needs of local victims and survivors of domestic abuse
- Work with the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner to contribute to the domestic abuse outcomes identified within the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Contribute to the work for the York and North Yorkshire Serious Violence Duty working group
- Oversight of the Domestic Homicide Review Process and completion of any actions in relation to learning and recommendations.

How will success be measured?

- Utilise the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board to ensure effective monitoring of need to develop a coordinated system response
- Ensuring effective delivery of specialist domestic abuse services
- Undertake the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation
- Engage with the victims and survivors who do not engage with the police or specialist services to shape service development
- Implement a comprehensive training package for professionals to have a workforce that is able to identify signs of abuse
- Reduce the incidence of domestic abuse by engaging with perpetrators or those displaying abusive behaviours to provide access to behaviour change interventions



Safe and Supported Communities

This priority is a cross cutting priority with links to all other priorities when considering the need to raise awareness, educate and empower communities to build confidence in reporting neighbourhood crime, antisocial behaviour and community tensions.

City of York Council Ward committees provide the platform for two way engagement between partners responsible for delivering community safety outcomes and residents, and this relationship can be developed also through the Resilient Communities Strategy Group.

Where community safety issues impact on communities, a multi agency problem solving approach based on early intervention and prevention is used with the council working closely with the police and wider partners to deliver holistic problem solving plans. This includes ensuring that the safeguarding needs of victims are met through the inclusion of a wide range of support services and community connectors in the problem solving process.

Anti-social behaviour is addressed through an escalating approach with enforcement action as a last resort. A dedicated team of police and council officers make up the Community Safety Hub. The remit of this team is to ensure that where enforcement action is required, it can be taken efficiently and effectively through joint working. The team also has specific powers to tackle environmental antisocial behaviour, also using an escalated approach based on advice, education and behaviour change with enforcement as the final stage. The team work closely with York's Neighbourhood Policing Teams to identify emerging anti-social behaviour early and put in place proportionate measures to address it. This approach will also involve a wider range of partners through a multi-agency problem solving model.

A multi-agency York Hate Crime Partnership has been established for York and is working to deliver the Hate Crime Action Plan. This group reports to Safer York Partnership.

SYP Board Lead: CYC Director of Housing and Communities

Contributing Groups:

Resilient Communities Strategy Group
Ward Committees
York Hate Crime Partnership
Community Safety Hub, Problem Solving Groups
Community Harm Meeting
Safeguarding Adults Board
Safeguarding Children's Partnership

Aims

- Increase the profile of the Hub to ensure that services within City of York Council, partners and the community understand the remit and work that is delivered
- Develop stronger links between the Community Safety Hubs, Ward Committees, partners and residents (community connectors) to allow for emerging issues to be identified at the earliest opportunity and related actions build into Neighbourhood Action Plans linking to Ward Funding priorities
- Identify other partners who could contribute to the overall remit of the hub and improve service delivery
- Develop the multi-agency problem solving approach to ensure that Problem Solving Plans are developed in partnership with all relevant agencies
- Deliver the Hate Crime Action Plan
- Create stronger links between the Community Safety Hub and Ward Teams

How will success be measured?

- Number of cases dealt with by the Community Safety Hub
- Outcomes of cases
- Number of prosecutions where enforcement action is taken
- Feedback from communities affected by serious anti-social behaviour
- Measurable improvements from Neighbourhood Action Plans
- Reduction in incidents of Hate Crime
- Increase in successful prosecutions for Hate Crime Offences



SERIOUS ORGANISED CRIME INCLUDING COUNTY LINES, EXPLOITATION AND MODERN SLAVERY

Serious Organised Crime (SOC) whilst often associated with regional, national or international criminals impacts most within local communities. Organised Crime Groups will deploy intimidation tactics, exploit individuals and use violence for unlawful gain. A Serious Organised Crime Board for York and North Yorkshire focuses on how the National Serious Organised Crime Strategy is delivered across the City and County. It is supported by a multi-agency Disruption Panel which brings together intelligence from a range of partners to disrupt the most prolific groups operating locally.

Within York, the City has seen an increase in Exploitation of both children and adults, examples of Modern Slavery and the impact of County Lines activity. The Community Safety Hub has fortnightly Early Intervention and Prevention Meetings with NYP Intelligence Unit, Neighbourhood Policing Inspectors, City of York Council Housing, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue and the Youth Justice Service. This ensures that where there is suspected county lines activity, partners can contribute to evidence gathering and the Community Safety Hub can use their enforcement powers to contribute to disruption of criminal and/or antisocial activity.

Safeguarding the victims of exploitation associated with Serious Organised crime sits at the heart of partnership working and is supported by the work undertaken by the Community Safety Hub to take an early intervention and prevention approach to activity such as county lines.

York is piloting the National Clear Hold Build Policing initiative developed by the Home Office for addressing serious organised crime. This aims to work in high harm areas and to build community resilience.

**SYP Board Lead: NYP SUPERINTENDENT AREA
COMMANDER**

Contributing Groups:

York and North Yorkshire Serious Organised Crime Board
York and North Yorkshire Modern Slavery Partnership
York and North Yorkshire Disruption Panel
CYC Missing and Child Exploitation Meeting
CS Hub Fortnightly Early Intervention and Prevention Meeting
Serious Violence Duty Working Group
York Drug and Alcohol Partnership
Safeguarding Adults Partnership
Safeguarding Childrens Partnership

Aims

- Ensure that York partners are engaged in the work of the York and North Yorkshire Serious Organised Crime Board
- Continue to improve intelligence and information sharing to disrupt organised crime groups operating in the city
- Engage with communities affected by serious organised crime to provide timely information and reassurance
- Raise awareness of signs and behaviour associated with organised crime and promote national and local reporting mechanisms
- Develop the Fortnightly Intelligence meetings to ensure that action can be taken by appropriate partners to protect those who are vulnerable to County Lines activity
- Reduce Supply of Drugs
- Tackling crimes, bringing offenders to justice and safeguarding those at risk of becoming a victim of Modern Slavery

How will success be measured?

- Reduction in number of county lines operating in York
- Number of major and moderate disruptions against Organised Crime Groups
- Reduction in drug related crime
- Reduction in number of deaths related to drug misuse
- Increase in number of NRM referrals made
- Increase in number of victims supported / safeguarded



SERIOUS VIOLENCE

The Serious Violence Duty was introduced in January 2023 as part of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. The Duty requires relevant partners to work together to share information and collaborate on interventions to prevent and reduce serious crimes within their local communities.

The definition of serious violence for North Yorkshire and York reflects issues found within the local area, and the impact and prevalence of different types of serious violence. Therefore, for North Yorkshire and York, the following crimes are included in our definition of serious violence and were used during the Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA):

- Homicide
- Violence with Injury
- Domestic Abuse
- Rape and Sexual Offences
- Weapon Related Violence; including Weapon Possession
- Arson Endangering Life
- Stalking and Harassment; non-domestic

From this SNA, a York & North Yorkshire Serious Violence Strategy and Implementation plan have been produced and Home Office funding provided has been allocated to support a number of initiatives aligned to the implementation of the strategy.

SYP Board Lead: Probation Service Yorkshire and Humber, Head of York PDU

Contributing Groups:

York and North Yorkshire Serious Violence Working Group
York and North Yorkshire Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy Group
York Domestic Abuse Board
CS Hub Fortnightly Early Intervention and Prevention Meeting
Operation Safari
Youth Justice Board

Aims

- Adopt a Public Health Approach to serious violence, improving prevention and early intervention to reduce incidents
- Ensure that relevant York stakeholders are involved in the Serious Violence Working Group
- Contribute relevant partner data to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to ensure that it accurately reflects the needs of York

- Ensure that the work of Groups, sub groups and task groups which are undertaking work that contributes to the reduction of serious violence is taken into consideration in the joint strategic needs assessment and subsequent strategy

How will success be measured?*

- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment undertaken
- Serious Violence Strategy is written in conjunction with key relevant partners and published by 2024
- Reduction in homicides
- Reduction in knife/weapon offences
- Reduction in hospital admissions for weapon related injuries.

Further Information and Contact Details:

Further information on the work of Safer York Partnership and to obtain advice on aspects of Community Safety can be obtained from the website:

www.saferyorkpartnership.co.uk

We can be contacted at:
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West Offices
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Follow us on Twitter at @SaferYork

				Previous Years			2024/2025						
			Collection Frequency	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Target	Polarity	DOT
1. Crime Prevention	CSP01	All Crime	Monthly	14,235	14,759	14,208	3,759	3,725	3,757	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
		All Crime per 1000 population	Monthly	67.4	70.7	70.3	18.4	18.2	18.4	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
		Benchmark - National Data	Monthly	86.3	90.7	87.5	21.7	21.6	20.4	-	-		
	CSP10	Burglary of a Non-Dwelling	Monthly	160	217	264	67	80	93	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
	CSP12	Criminal damage (excl. 59)	Monthly	1,537	1,455	1,337	379	339	333	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSP03	Domestic burglary (incl. attempts)	Monthly	405	383	239	71	51	64	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSP15	Overall Violence (Violence Against Person Def.)	Monthly	5,675	5,746	5,226	1,252	1,279	1,500	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSP19	Shoplifting	Monthly	1,272	1,466	2,045	616	688	652	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
	CSP04	Theft from a vehicle (incl. attempts)	Monthly	182	211	237	45	51	57	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSP40	Theft from person	Monthly	122	142	121	42	20	34	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSP11	Theft or unauthorised taking of a cycle	Monthly	784	819	796	257	211	189	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
2. ASB/Communities	CSP13	NYP Recorded ASB Calls for Service	Monthly	6,394	4,741	4,644	1,197	1,308	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSP28	Number of Incidents of ASB within the city centre ARZ	Monthly	1,276	994	1,149	336	435	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
	CSP29a	Number of Incidents of ASB within the CIZ	Monthly	656	423	625	181	221	-	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
	CSP27	Number of Incidents of Violent Crime Within the ARZ	Monthly	1,324	1,398	1,266	285	360	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSP29	Number of Incidents of Violent crime within the CIZ	Monthly	823	798	740	164	200	-	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
	CSPEC1	FLY-TIPPING - Number of issues reported	Monthly	2,069	2,368	2,500	597	807	746	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
	FLT02	Number of warning letters issued (Duty of Care over Waste)	Monthly	78	124	173	32	22	25	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
	FLT03	Number of statutory notices issued (Unlawful Waste Carriers)	Monthly	73	71	46	23	6	38	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
	FLT05	Number of duty of care inspections carried out (Business visits)	Monthly	73	71	46	23	6	38	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral

				Previous Years			2024/2025				Target	Polarity	DOT
			Collection Frequency	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
3. Vulnerability	CSP51	Number of Reports of Domestic Abuse Incidents reported to NYP (York only)	Quarterly	534	1,699	1,388	430	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral
		Number of Reports of Domestic Abuse Incidents reported to NYP (York only) - per 1000 population	Quarterly	42.9	41.3	34.4	Tbc	-	-	-	-	Up is Bad	Green
	CSP51a	Number of Reports of Domestic Abuse Incidents reported to NYP (North Yorkshire)	Monthly	8,652	8,427	7,115	1,764	NC	NC	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral
	CSP23	Hate Crimes as Recorded by NYP	Monthly	233	168	199	55	79	48	-	-	Up is Bad	Red
	PHOF76	% of opiate users in treatment who successfully completed drug treatment (without representation within 6 months)	Quarterly	4.38%	5.42%	4.40%	4.20%	4.09%	-	-	-	Up is Good	Red
		Benchmark - National Data	Quarterly	5.04%	4.95%	5.12%	5.14%	5.16%	-	-	-		
	PHOF77	% of non-opiate users in treatment who successfully completed drug treatment (without representation within 6 months)	Quarterly	26.50%	20.00%	19.52%	16.50%	17.70%	-	-	-	Up is Good	Red
		Benchmark - National Data	Quarterly	34.55%	31.99%	29.76%	29.53%	29.25%	-	-	-		
Resident and Corporate Su	TAP20	% of panel who agree that York is a safe city to live in, relatively free from crime and violence	Quarterly	74.36%	72.92%	76.73%	76.53%	-	73.21%	-	-	Up is Good	Neutral
		% of panel who disagree that York is a safe city to live in, relatively free from crime and violence	Quarterly	11.44%	11.20%	10.53%	9.07%	-	11.22%	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral
	TAP21	% of panel who think that hate crime is a problem in their local area	Quarterly	6.25%	5.70%	3.88%	2.93%	-	4.86%	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral
		% of panel who think that hate crime is not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	73.63%	77.98%	80.06%	78.93%	-	78.01%	-	-	Up is Good	Neutral
	TAP22	% of panel who think that noisy neighbours or loud parties are a problem in their local area	Quarterly	13.53%	12.14%	11.08%	12.73%	-	14.62%	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral
		% of panel who think that noisy neighbours or loud parties are not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	81.57%	85.79%	84.21%	84.88%	-	80.26%	-	-	Up is Good	Neutral
	TAP23	% of panel who think that people hanging around on the streets is a problem in their local area	Quarterly	19.77%	19.48%	16.20%	16.80%	-	20.05%	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral
		% of panel who think that people hanging around on the streets is not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	75.93%	76.62%	79.33%	80.27%	-	74.04%	-	-	Up is Good	Neutral
	TAP24	% of panel who think that rubbish or litter lying around is a problem in their local area	Quarterly	40.70%	38.86%	39.50%	41.76%	-	42.05%	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral
		% of panel who think that rubbish or litter lying around is not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	58.51%	60.62%	60.22%	57.45%	-	55.90%	-	-	Up is Good	Neutral
	TAP25	% of panel who think that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is a problem in their local area	Quarterly	20.39%	17.14%	17.45%	21.49%	-	18.72%	-	-	Up is Bad	Neutral

Safer York Board 2024/2025

No of Indicators = 45 | Direction of Travel (DoT) shows the trend of how an indicator is performing against its Polarity over time.
Produced by the Business Intelligence Hub February 2025

			Previous Years			2024/2025					Target	Polarity	DOT
			2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
Trends	TAP25	% of panel who think that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles is not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	74.71%	78.18%	76.18%	72.41%	-	73.08%	-	-	Up is Good	▼ Red
	TAP26	% of panel who think that people using or dealing drugs is a problem in their local area	Quarterly	23.73%	17.97%	20.50%	18.30%	-	23.14%	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
		% of panel who think that people using or dealing drugs is not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	49.22%	52.86%	50.42%	50.40%	-	49.36%	-	-	Up is Good	▼ Red
	TAP27	% of panel who think that people being drunk or rowdy in public places is a problem in their local area	Quarterly	29.41%	26.61%	24.10%	25.53%	-	24.36%	-	-	Up is Bad	◀▶ Neutral
		% of panel who think that people being drunk or rowdy in public places is not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	61.96%	67.44%	68.98%	68.35%	-	65.13%	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶ Neutral
	TAP28	% of panel who think that abandoned or burnt out cars are a problem in their local area	Quarterly	0.79%	0.53%	0.28%	1.34%	-	1.03%	-	-	Up is Bad	▲ Red
		% of panel who think that abandoned or burnt out cars are not a problem in their local area	Quarterly	86.96%	90.00%	89.75%	88.24%	-	85.90%	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶ Neutral
Supporting Families P3	SF3-A01	Number of Supporting Families cases (Families identified with 3 or more headline criteria) - (Snapshot)	Quarterly	-	-	386	446	518	559	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶ Neutral
	SF3-A02	Number of Supporting Families cases On-Programme - (Snapshot)	Quarterly	-	-	350	403	466	502	-	-	Up is Good	◀▶ Neutral
	SF3-A03	Number of Supporting Families cases who have achieved an outcome - (Snapshot)	Quarterly	-	-	88	108	174	199	-	-	Up is Good	▲ Green
	SF3-E06	Number of Supporting Families cases with an unresolved indicator against the Preventing & tackling crime category - (Snapshot)	Quarterly	-	-	0	6	6	0	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral
	SF3-E08	Number of Supporting Families cases with an unresolved indicator against the Safe from domestic abuse category - (Snapshot)	Quarterly	-	NC	17	17	16	22	-	-	Neutral	◀▶ Neutral

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Children, Culture & Communities Scrutiny Committee
Work Plan Template 2024/25

Updated March 2025

Date	Agenda Item
07 May 2024	1. <i>Work-planning for programme of work for 2024-2025</i>
04 June 2024	- <i>Meeting cancelled</i>
02 July 2024	1. York Pipeline of proposals to York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority 2. Family Hub Network Development Update 3. York Learning
03 September 2024	1. Finance & Performance Q4 (<i>for information</i>) [<i>Postponed from 2 July 2024</i>] 2. SEND Update 3. School Attendance 4. Youth Strategy Update
01 October 2024	1. Finance & Performance Q1 (<i>for information</i>) 2. School Attendance [<i>Postponed from 3 September 2024</i>] 3. Early Years and Childcare Reforms 4. Virtual School Annual Report
05 November 2024	1. Free School Meal Pilot Year Review 2. Locality Model – York Neighbourhood Model
03 December 2024	1. Finance & Performance Q2 (<i>for information</i>) 2. York Explore Annual Update 3. Placement Sufficiency (Update on Fostering Services, Together We Can, and Family Arrangements) 4. Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report
14 January 2025	1. York Neighbourhood Model – Update 2. Fostering Framework 3. Attainment Gap 4. SACRE Annual Report
04 March 2025	1. Finance & Performance Q3 (<i>for information</i>) 2. Digital Inclusion Update [<i>Postponed from 14 January 2025</i>] 3. Safer York Partnership Report - Children Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report – [<i>Postponed – TBC</i>]
01 April 2025	1. York Museums Trust Update 2. York Theatre Trust Update 3. REACH Progress Update

Future meeting dates: 1 May 2025, 5 June 2025, 3 July 2025, 4 September 2025, 2 October 2025, 6 November 2025, 4 December 2025, 22 January 2025, 5 March 2026, 16 April 2026.

Agenda items for consideration

- Updates from Task & Finish Groups (detailed below).
- Update from York Centre for Voluntary Services (CVS).
- Review of North Yorkshire Police's Pilot: "Clear, Hold, Build".
- Considering results of consultation with York Explore.

Task & Finish Groups

- Food Insecurity Task & Finish Group: Members = Cllrs Knight, Nelson.
- Education, Health, and Care Plan Task & Finish Group: Members = Cllrs Clarke, Cuthbertson, Wilson.

Committee Remit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop & maintain close working with Corporate Parenting Board and York Schools & Academies Board and deliver complimentary agendas where appropriate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Social Care
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Virtual School for children in care
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years and childcare
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School effectiveness and achievement, including school attendance and school safeguarding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School services: School place planning and capital maintenance; School transport; Admissions; The School governance service and SENDIASS; Behaviour and attendance; Elective home education; Children missing education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND services & Educational Psychology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills, including monitoring of York Skills Board; York Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Area Teams, Neighbourhood Working, Community Centres
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People & Neighbourhoods Strategy & Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety including Safer York Partnership, Substance Misuse, Anti-Social Behaviour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early intervention, prevention, and community development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture, including York Theatre Royal, Museums, Music Venues Network (& elements of MIY?)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Sector
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libraries & Archives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital inclusion strategy

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