



Notice of a public meeting of

Economy, Place, Access and Transport Scrutiny Committee

To: Councillors K Taylor (Chair), B Burton, J Burton, Fenton, Healey (Vice-Chair), Hook, Whitcroft, Steward, Vassie and Merrett

Date: Tuesday, 25 February 2025

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: West Offices, Station Rise, York

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 and co-opted members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest, or other registerable interest, they might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.
- 3. Minutes** (Pages 7 - 12)
To approve and sign the minutes of the Economy, Place, Access, and Transport Policy and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 28 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 2024.

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.

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services by 5.00pm on

5. The Gender Pay Gap in York

Report to follow.

6. Work Plan (Pages 13 - 16)

Members are asked to consider the Committee's work plan for the 2024/25 municipal year.

7. Urgent Business

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

Democratic Services officer:

Name:

Robert Flintoft

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 555704
- Email – Robert.flintoft@york.gov.uk

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

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

Contact details are set out above.

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We can also translate into the following languages:

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	Economy, Place, Access and Transport Scrutiny Committee
Date	28 January 2025
Present	Councillors K Taylor (Chair), J Burton, Fenton, Healey (Vice-Chair), Hook, Whitcroft, Steward, Vassie, Merrett and Melly (Substitute)
In Attendance	Councillor Kent – Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency
Officers in Attendance	James Gilchrist - Director of Environment, Transport and Planning Pauline Stuchfield - Director of Housing and Communities Ben Grabham - Head of Environmental Services Ian Hoults - Head of Fleet and Operations
Apologies	Councillor B Burton

37. Apologies for Absence (17:30)

Apologies were received from Cllr Ben Burton, Cllr Rachel Melly was attending as his substitute.

38. Declarations of Interest (17:32)

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.

Several members of the Committee confirmed while not a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest that they were subscribers to the garden waste collections service in relation to minute 41, Cllr Melly also noted that she had a non-prejudicial interest in relation to minute 41 as she was currently a Corporate Director of Yorwaste. Several Committee members also confirmed they were snow wardens in relation to minute 42.

39. Minutes (17:34)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meetings of the committee held on 26 November 2024 and 10 December 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed.

40. Public Participation (17:34)

It was reported that there had been 2 registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Tracy Ostle spoke in relation to Neighbourhood Caretakers as a member of the Groves Association. She stated that there was currently insufficient support from the Council and hoped to see more collaborative work and walk arounds.

Flick Williams stated that she believed the Council lacked sufficient design training in relation to planning. She raised concerns regarding York Central and York Station Gateway and didn't believe the Council would catch and address access issues in these kinds of projects.

41. Garden Waste Collections: Review of Implementation of Charging Arrangements (17:42)

The Head of Environmental Services introduced the report and outlined that the positive take up of Garden Waste Subscriptions. He also confirmed that concerns regarding an increase in household waste and fly tipping had not shown up in the Council's data, with both household waste and fly tipping being down in 2024 on 2023's data. It was confirmed that with any new service the Council would review its roll out and as a result had already increased the number of staff answering questions in customer services on the scheme and had expanded the criteria for those receiving a discounted subscription.

The Committee enquired about the possibility of expanding the service to households who were unable to get garden waste collections pre or post subscription. Officers confirmed that they had expanded the service to more areas including two new housing developments. They also confirmed that the Council was rolling out the bags to bins collections in six wards during 2025 and the intention was for properties to be able to participate in the garden waste subscription scheme in the future. It was noted that the Council would consider surveys to gauge demand in areas that currently couldn't access garden waste collections. Officers confirmed that there

would likely be some capacity in the system, but this would be clearer once it was the Council was aware of how many repeat subscriptions it would have from the previous year.

Officers confirmed that the testing phase had been vital in rollout and the ability to delay by two weeks in July 2024 had allowed the Council to ensure online system worked correctly. It was noted that the online form was the first on a new Granicus CRM system for the Council, there had been initial plans to have the discounted offer for those on Council tax support to be integrated automatically however, this was not possible. Members enquired about how the collection crews had found the rollout and it was confirmed while there were some concerns leading up to the start of the new subscription service, the team had been provided with support including information to provide to resident queries which worked effectively.

It was confirmed that the current cost of running the service was around £1.85 million when accounting for staff, vehicles, and fuel. The expected revenue from the subscription was between £1.5 and £1.6 million. The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency confirmed to the Committee that the aim of the subscription was to reduce the cost on the Council budget without losing the service.

Members made several enquiries relating to the subscription service for residents, including cost, access for those in deprived areas, and the ability to share subscriptions. The data for subscriptions currently showed them by ward, the Council currently was unable to gauge how many were shared subscriptions but that this was promoted to residents. It was confirmed that the Council would examine the possibility, in communication to subscribers, whether these were shared. It was also confirmed that the Council was evaluating whether to retain the current subscription method or look at being able to move to a direct debit which would let residents have a rolling subscription. The possibility of monthly payments was discussed but officers noted that this would be very costly and direct debit scheme is likely to remain one payment. due to the cost of running a monthly direct debit.

Resolved:

- i. That the Committee asked that their thanks be passed to all officers and collection crews involved in the rollout of the service.
- ii. To request that the Council review whether the Subscription could be moved to a direct debit model;

- iii. To request that the Council seek to expand access to the garden waste collections subscription service;
- iv. To add an update on garden waste collections to the Committees work plan for 2025/26.

Reason: To provide scrutiny on the rollout and performance of the garden waste collection service post the introduction of a subscription model.

42. Neighbourhood Caretakers: Proposal Development (18:48)

The Director of Environment, Transport and Planning introduced the report and outlined that the Committee were being asked to consider, the desired outcomes outlined in the presentation and feed into the possible role of neighbourhood caretakers.

The Committee discussed the role of walk abouts with staff and community groups to identify issues and potential projects. Members noted the challenge of doing walk abouts that are meant to cover a whole ward due to how large especially rural wards can be. The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency agreed and noted that she would envision more regular walk abouts that use local knowledge to identify areas in need of Council resources.

Members were asked to consider how Council resources might be allocated on a ward-by-ward basis. Discussion took place on whether this would be equally shared or targeted at the most deprived wards. It was also noted that mapping out where community capacity was in place and whether support could be needed to build capacity. Members agreed that it was important to ensure resources would support and work with community ambitions.

The Committee asked that the objectives include reference to creating a bio-diverse city. Members enquired about how the Council can use GIS mapping to support caretaking across the city. Officers confirmed that the public realm team was increasing its access to data to support its work and was partnering with organisations such as Natural England around weeding and grass cuttings.

Officer training and the challenges and how the time of year affects work in the public realm team was discussed by the Committee. Officers confirmed that the Council aims to support and develop staff to be multi skilled. It was confirmed that the only work that the team stopped doing in winter was assisted gardening.

The Committee enquired about how the Council would measure the success that neighbourhood caretakers could have. Officers noted that KPI's had not been agreed due to the early stage the project was at. It was confirmed that the Council would be able to measure some of its success on customer complaints, in areas such as housing the housing regulator will monitor, and there are things such as the resident satisfaction survey for Council tenants.

Resolved:

- i. To request that the desired outcomes include targets for addressing climate change and creating a bio-diverse city;
- ii. To request that a session for Councillors be arranged to see how the new Alloy computer system works.

Reason: To ensure neighbourhood caretakers provide value and support to communities across the city.

43. Work Plan (19:55)

The Committee considered its work plan and noting questions raised around planning in public participation discussed whether there was work in this area for the Committee to consider. The chair confirmed that he had written to the York Disability Rights Forum regarding the work of the Committee. Members discussed future items on the gender pay gap, assets of community value, and car parking which members asked to include an update regarding residential parking, blue badge parking, and parking enforcement.

Resolved:

- i. To request that Committees item on Car parking provision across the city include updates on regarding residential parking, blue badge parking, and parking enforcement.

Reason: To ensure the Committee maintains a programme of work.

Cllr Taylor, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.03 pm].

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Economy, Place, Access, and Transport Scrutiny Committee Work Plan

Living-document, subject to change

Item	Lead Officer	Scope
25 March 2025		
(Q3) Finance and Performance Monitoring Report	Patrick Looker	
Park & ride re-tender	James Gilchrist? / Julian Ridge? / Michael Howard? Cllr Kate Ravilious / Cllr Pete Kilbane?	Early input into what we ask for
Car parking provision across the city	James Gilchrist? / Julian Ridge? / Michael Howard? Cllr Kate Ravilious / Cllr Pete Kilbane?	Covering public, private and Park & Ride provision, income received, usage, impact on closing Castle Car Park on the wider estate, wider aims e.g. shifting to less polluting vehicles, approach taken for busy shopping areas outside of the city-centre (e.g. Haxby, Acomb Front St), Res parking, and disabled parking.
29 April 2025		
Review of bags to bins	James Gilchrist, Cllr Jenny Kent	
Trees	Harvey Lowson, Cllr Jenny Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performance / challenges relating to CYC's management - Changes in legislation? - How many are we planting vs losing - Engagement with third party owners of trees
20 May 2025		
Planning and Development Services - enforcement.	Becky Eades?, Cllr Michael Pavlovic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational challenges / opportunities - Performance over the last 5-10 years relative to staffing

			<p>numbers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Numbers of (known) breaches by developers
	Section 106	Becky Eades?, Cllr Michael Pavlovic	<p>CYC's approach to creating S106 documents before they are signed off</p> <p>Implementation of new tracking system, cooperation between Finance and Planning</p>
24 June 2025			
	Dial & Ride	Julian Ridge, Cllr Kate Ravilious	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on administration's work one year on since Task & Finish Group recommendations
	Parking Enforcement	Michael Howard / Jav Safder?, Cllr Kate Ravilious	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costs of service / Income generated - scope to improve? - Offer services to private land owners? - Activity across entire local authority area - How many enforcement officers do we have, how many fines issued, which areas of their city are they issued in, how often are Res Park zones visited. <i>A view of this over the last 5 - 10 years would be helpful for identifying trends.</i> - Position on pavement parking - Consistency of enforcement (seen officers apply different limits to Double Yellow Lines) - Hotline performance - how many reports logged, how many of these received visits in a timely manner (or at all) Out-of-hours drop in provision due to over-stretched Police unable to prioritise parking
29 July 2025			
	Emergency Planning	James Gilchrist, Steve Wragg, Cllr Jenny Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less common / rare: Food insecurity / novel disease outbreaks / major heatwaves, droughts, wildfires. - More common: Floods - reviewing city's flood resilience, public information and guidance, impact of major schemes?

	23 September 2025		
	21 October 2025		
	25 November 2025		
	9 December 2025		

List for future potential topics

Economy

- Tourism Levy - what's being done elsewhere, what is possible here?
- Focus on Council-owned / part-owned companies?
- Local Growth Plan - implementation / progress

Place

- A-Boards - How effective has the A-Board ban been? Cycles chain to fences covering paths.
- Make It York - normally receive annual update but - *what would we specifically want from them? Possibly something on relationship with market traders and plans for the market.*
- York BID - normally receive annual update - as above, and is the scrutiny of their business membership sufficient given our limited meeting time?
- Yorkshire Water

Access

- Age Friendly York: Can Scrutiny assist their Evolving Action Plan?

Transport

- Buses: network coverage and frequency, BSIP plan implementation and use of funding, improving the Enhanced Bus Partnership, Integration with Railway Station / Park & Ride, Bus Stop improvements, Passenger Information Review implementation plan - think about timing
- Bus lane enforcement on Coppergate - drop between July 2023 and October 2023 / ANPR enforcement across the city. What are the non-revenue generating benefits of wider implementation?
- Transport Strategy: Local Transport Plan, who will do what between CYC / NYCC / YNYCA, forward plan of decisions and upcoming consultations.
- Review of Council's pedestrian crossing policy
- Input into next EV Charging Strategy