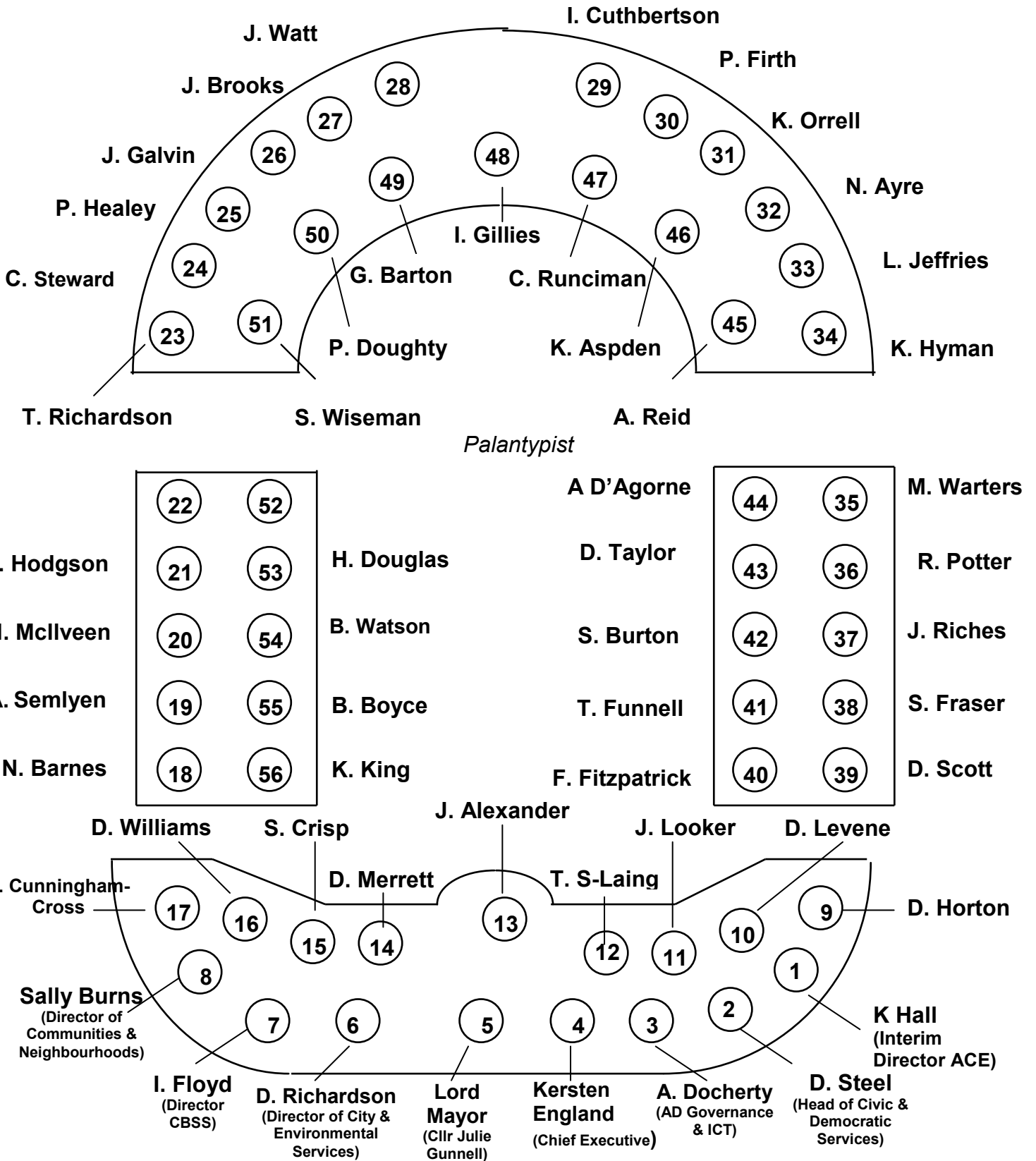


**CITY OF YORK COUNCIL
SUMMONS**

All Councillors, relevant Council Officers and other interested parties and residents are formally invited to attend a meeting of the **City of York Council** at the **Guildhall, York**, to consider the business contained in this agenda on the following date and time

Thursday, 18 July 2013 at 6.30 pm

COUNCIL CHAMBER



A G E N D A

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point, Members are asked to declare:

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

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

2. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider the exclusion of the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following:

The Annex to Agenda Item 8 (Recommendations of the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee) on the grounds that it contains information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual. This information is classed as exempt under paragraph 2 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as revised by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 60)

To approve and sign the minutes of the following meetings of Council:

- Ordinary Meeting, held on 28 March 2013
- Annual Meeting, held on 23 May 2013

4. Civic Announcements

To consider any announcements made by the Lord Mayor in respect of Civic business.

5. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting, any member of the public who has registered to address the Council, or to ask a Member of the Council a question, on a matter directly relevant to the business of the Council or the City, may do so. The deadline for registering is **5:00pm on Wednesday 17 July 2013.**

6. Petitions (Pages 61 - 84)

- (i) To debate a petition signed by 1,236 people asking the Council to rethink Cabinet's plan to close Lendal Bridge for a 6 month trial and stop the ensuing gridlock in York. The petitioners state that "the planned closure of Lendal bridge will have a dire effect on pollution, traffic and business in York. Motorists will be forced to use the 3 already busy bridges crossing the river Ouse causing more traffic build up and pollution". The ePetition runs from 28/04/2013 to 28/09/2013. *[An explanatory report is attached to the agenda]*
- (ii) To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order No.7. To date, notice has been received of 6 such petitions as follows:
- A petition to be presented by Cllr Ann Reid opposing Labour's plans to use Green Belt land across York to build 22,000 houses on over the next 15 years.
 - A petition to be presented by Cllr Ann Reid objecting to the proposals in the council's Local Plan for the development of land lying between Wetherby Road and Knapton Village. We believe that the site should continue to be included in the Green Belt as it protects the rural setting of the western approach to the city which will otherwise begin to merge with the outer ring road.
 - A petition to be presented by Cllr Lynn Jeffries objecting to the proposal in the Council's Local Plan for the development of land lying between the existing urban area and the ring road. We wish to see this land retained in the "Green Belt". Instead we believe that the Council should concentrate any new buildings at previously developed, but now unused, sites such as Terry's, Nestle South, British Sugar and the area behind the station. We specifically object to the inclusion of part of Acomb Moor as a development site (H9) in the Council's Local Plan. We believe the site should continue to be included in the Green Belt as it protects the western approach to the City and avoids the dominance that any building near

the Great Knoll would have on the surrounding area. The Moor is an important informal recreation amenity for local residents and this should be recognised in the Local Plan.

- A petition to be presented by Cllr Lynn Jeffries calling upon the council to install a dog deterring fence around the play area off Grange Lane (next to Westfield School). We ask that more dog dirt bins, and litter bins, are provided close to the play equipment so that the health hazards, resulting from dog fouling and broken glass, can be tackled and to ensure that children can play safely on the equipment.
- A petition to be presented by Cllr Keith Aspden calling on City of York Council to give residents in Fulford a fairer deal and improve the road surfaces particularly in Fulford Park, Cherry Wood Crescent, Eastward Avenue and St Oswald’s Road.
- A petition to be presented by Cllr Ann Reid objecting to the designation of land west of Woodthorpe for house building (ST10). Successive local plans have indicated that this land is important in enhancing York’s rural setting. The nearby Askham Bogs nature reserve could be adversely affected by any development. Residents are concerned that the development in this area would exacerbate the traffic congestion problems which are already evident at certain times of the day. We therefore petition that the land continue to be included in the “Green Belt.”

7. Report of Cabinet Leader and Cabinet Recommendations
(Pages 85 - 96)

To receive and consider a written report from the Leader on the work of the Cabinet, and the Cabinet recommendations for approval, as set out below:

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Cabinet	2 April 2013	Minute 122: Neighbourhood Working

7 May 2013 Minute 144: New Council House Building – Phase 1

16 July 2013 *Any matters referred to Council from this Cabinet meeting (to follow)*

Minute 31: Capital Programme Outturn 2012/13 and Revisions to the 2013/14-2017/18 Programme

Minute 32: Combined Authority Governance Review and Scheme

8. Recommendations of the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee (Pages 97 - 100)

To consider the following recommendations for approval from the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee, together with supporting financial information in relation to Minute 12 (i):

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee	10 June 2013	Minute 12: Redundancy

9. Recommendations of the Joint Standards Committee (Pages 101 - 102)

To consider the following recommendations for approval from the Joint Standards Committee:

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Joint Standards Committee	26 June 2013	Minute 11 – Recruitment of Independent Person

10. Recommendations of the Audit and Governance Committee
(Pages 103 - 108)

To consider the following recommendations for approval from the Audit and Governance Committee:

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Audit and Governance Committee	9 July 2013	Minute 12: Review of the Terms of Reference of the Audit & Governance Committee (<i>copy of amended Terms of Reference attached</i>) Minute 13: Appointment of Independent Member to the Audit & Governance Committee

11. Recommendations of the Member Support Steering Group
(Pages 109 - 120)

To consider the following recommendation for approval from the Member Support Steering Group:

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Member Support Steering Group	1 July 2013	Minute 8 : Review of Member Training and Development Policy (<i>copy of the revised policy is attached</i>)

12. Audit and Governance Committee (Pages 121 - 132)

To consider a report which presents to Council the recommendations of the Audit and Governance Report in respect of their Annual Report for the extended period covering October 2011 to April 2013.

13. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee (Pages 133 - 136)

To receive a report from Councillor Galvin, the Chair of the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC) on the work of the CSMC.

- 14. Report of Cabinet Member** (Pages 137 - 142)
To receive a written report from the Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People's Services, and to question the Cabinet Member thereon, provided any such questions are registered in accordance with the timescales and procedures set out in Standing Order 8.2.1.
- 15. Scheme of Delegation for Planning Matters** (Pages 143 - 168)
To consider a report which asks Council to consider options to revise the Council's Constitution for the scheme of delegation in respect of planning matters
- 16. Activities of Outside Bodies**
Minutes of the following meetings of outside bodies, received since the last meeting of Council, have been made available for Members to view via the Council's website at

<http://democracy.york.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=12959&path=0>

Copies may also be obtained by contacting Democracy Support Group at the Guildhall, York (tel. 01904 551088)

- Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation – 22 March 2013
- Without Walls – 27 March 2013
- Quality Bus Partnership – March minutes have not been approved and will not be for the foreseeable future as the partnership is possibly being disbanded.
- Safer York Partnership – 18 April 2013
- NHS Foundation Trust – 20 March 2013

Members are invited to put any questions to the Council's representatives on the above bodies, in accordance with Standing Order 10(b).

- 17. Notices of Motion**
To consider the following Notices of Motion under Standing Order 12:

A – Motions referred from the Cabinet in accordance with Standing Order 12.1(a)

None

B – Motions submitted for consideration directly by Council, in accordance with Standing Order 12.1(b)

(i) From Cllr Merrett

“Council agrees with the need to upgrade York's Outer Ring Road to alleviate congestion which is increasingly a barrier to jobs and growth.

Council also endorses efforts to produce a funding package through the West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund to achieve this goal within a decade.

Council notes the MP for York Outer's earlier commitment to such an upgrade, as reported in The Press on 12th June 2007:

"Tory Julian Sturdy, who has made calls for dualling a key plank of his campaign to win the new York Outer seat at the next General Election" and "The high cost of dualling - estimated at about £140 million - means it would be impossible without Government funding".

Mr Sturdy has now been in office for over three years and has been a Parliamentary Private Secretary to a Department of Transport Minister for a year. Council therefore invites Mr Sturdy to a meeting of City of York Council to provide an update on any progress made towards his and the Council's shared aspiration of a completed dualled outer ring road for the city”.

(ii) From Cllr Watt

“Council agrees to respect the citizens of York and promises to produce a ‘Local Plan’ which acknowledges and respects any clearly expressed wishes of the people, from their responses to the ‘Preferred Options’ consultation.”

(iii) From Cllr Aspden

“Council notes the failure of the Labour Cabinet to build-on

the achievements of the previous Liberal Democrat administration and bring forward a distinct vision for a greener council and greener York.

This approach has seen a fall in recycling rates, the closure of Beckfield Lane, the reduction in opening hours at Towthorpe, the introduction of unpopular green bin charges, the failure to bring forward a replacement to the successful 'Carbon Reduction Programme', the ending of the Green Jobs Task Group, and the failure to innovate and lead the development of new approaches to tackling climate change and improving the environmental credentials of York.

Council Resolves to:

Confirm its vision to make York the greenest city in the North of England with the highest unitary council recycling rates in the area, a long-term commitment to a food waste recycling scheme, and as a regional centre for Green Jobs.

Ask Cabinet to immediately bring forward the details of the next stage of the 'Carbon Reduction Programme' with renewed commitments to reduce emissions.

Agree to set-up a cross-party 'Green Policy Working Group' (which will incorporate a re-established the Green Jobs Task Group) and will seek to turn this vision into a detailed strategy. This Group should consider issues such as developing a renewable energy company, a sustainable food strategy, a waste minimisation programme and work on fuel poverty and energy efficiency. The Group should be supported in this work by the recently expanded 18-officer strong 'Policy, Performance and Innovation' Team."

(iv) From Cllr Simpson-Laing

"Council notes the distress that the Bedroom Tax is causing many York residents and their families.

Government claims that the Bedroom Tax is part of its policy to get residents into work. However, a majority of

people receiving Housing Benefit in York are in work.

Government has also claimed that the Bedroom Tax is to ensure more appropriate use of Housing Stock. However, across the country there are not enough smaller homes for people to move to

Whilst Government have attempted, nationally, to ensure that those who need a spare room are not penalised it is clear that many still are. Those still being penalised include:

Foster Carers who require more than one room due to the complexities of children they care for
Parents of service people based in Barracks
Partners of people with health complications
Those with 'Safe Rooms' installed in their homes

Government informs that the Discretionary Housing fund is to help such people. However it is becoming clear, both locally and nationally, that this fund is not enough

Council calls upon the Government to end the Bedroom Tax (Spare Room Subsidy) due to the hardship and distress that the policy is causing many residents."

That the Chief Executive writes to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to express Council's concern and request that this Tax is abolished as soon as possible".

18. Questions to the Cabinet Leader and Cabinet Members received under Standing Order 11.3(a)

To deal with the following questions to the Cabinet Leader and / or other Cabinet Members, in accordance with Standing Order 11.3(a):

(i) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Aspden:

"The Cabinet Leader recently welcomed the cross-party support for the Poverty Strategy. Would he agree with me that a cross-party approach to supporting residents with welfare reforms is also needed? If so, would he agree to set-up a cross-party

welfare reform working group as soon as possible, including opposition councillors and relevant council officers, through which the council can objectively assess the effects of welfare changes in York, ensure that the council is using its staff and resources to help and inform the most vulnerable, and collectively lobby the government where necessary?”

(ii) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Ayre:

“How much has the Council spent to date on work connected with the tender for the Community Stadium and how much taxpayers’ money does the Leader now expect to invest in the project in total?”

(iii) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Hyman:

“Would the Council Leader confirm how much the Council spent in assessing the suitability of the Bonding Warehouse for use as a media centre?”

(iv) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Ayre:

“Will the Cabinet Leader agree to join me for a walk along the section of Millennium Way that passes through Heworth Without so he can fully understand the impact of the Local Plan Proposals on the natural environment?”

(v) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Ayre:

“Regarding the Tour de France, how many new posts are being created or adapted to support the TDF – on which scale and at what cost to the Council?”

(vi) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Ayre:

“Besides the £500,000 hosting fees already paid by the citizens of York to secure the Tour De France what other expenses are forecast to be incurred, (broken down by category where possible)?”

(vii) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Ayre:

“In responding negatively to the government proposal to allow conversions of offices to housing, the Cabinet Leader said there is a shortage of office accommodation in York. Could he tell me how many square feet of office space is currently vacant in the City?”

(viii) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Ayre:

“Does the Cabinet Leader think it is acceptable that opposition councillors were prevented from seeing key evidence for the Local Plan prior to the public consultation?”

(ix) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Ayre:

“Given the Labour Leader’s public statement in 2010 that opposition councillors should not be prevented from seeing key Community Stadium documents because of commercial confidentiality, can he explain why his administration is now preventing councillors from seeing documents for this very reason?”

(x) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Barton:

“Does the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing & Adult Social services agree with the statement from York City of Sanctuary’s report that there are 4500 refugees on the Council’s housing waiting list and does she plan to fast track these applicants when the breath taking number of affordable homes cited on the Local Plan become available?”

(xi) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Jeffries:

“How long has Oliver House been empty, how much is it costing to maintain the building and when will it be brought back into use?”

(xii) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Reid:

“Given the importance of the document, will the Cabinet Member make the ‘Get York Building Survey’ available for members and/or members of the public?”

(xiii) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing & Adult Social Services from Cllr Reid:

“Could the Council Leader outline the estimated unit cost of each Council house/flat (including a notional site value) being built on Newbury Avenue, Chaloners Road and Beckfield Lane, and with a number of 2 bedroomed properties currently being advertised for sale on the open market in York priced at around £100,000, and would the Leader say how much of the New Homes Bonus he is prepared to invest in purchasing these properties with a view to adding them to the pool of social rented accommodation available in the City?”

(xiv) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Jeffries:

“The Annual Report of the Head of Internal Audit found significant failings in budget control in adult social care and “no clear links between control of expenditure and budget responsibility in some areas”. Could the Cabinet Member explain what plans she has put in place to deal with this issue?”

(xv) To the Cabinet Member for Crime and Stronger Communities from Cllr Barton:

“Can the Cabinet Member for Crime & Stronger Communities describe what tangible results were evident as a result of the £5000 invested in York City of Sanctuary by the CYC Transformation Fund and can she advise if she has plans to give further funds to this organisation?”

(xvi) To the Cabinet Member for Crime and Stronger Communities from Cllr Orrell:

“The so-called ‘community contracts’ are widely unpopular and often ignored in wards by members across political parties. Will the new Cabinet Member recognise that a different form of community governance is needed in York?”

(xvii) To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism from Cllr Barton:

“The recent explosion in the numbers of geese populating the City and the consequential amounts of excreta they leave in some of our most attractive tourist sites are creating a deterrent to tourists and residents alike visiting the City Centre. Can the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture & Tourism explain what measures have been taken to implement a humane cull in an attempt to minimise the danger they present in terms of both health and safety?”

(xviii) To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism from Cllr Ayre:

“How much has been raised by the organisers towards the cost of the “Arts Barge” project, when will a business plan for running the barge be published, when will the barge be open for business and what process is in place to recover the Council’s contribution - to the purchase price of the barge - should the project fail?”

(xix) To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism from Cllr Ayre:

“Will the Cabinet Member state which meetings of the ‘Community Stadium Project Group’ have been attended by key stakeholders e.g. the football club, rugby club, athletics club?”

(xx) To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism from Cllr Ayre:

“Will the Cabinet Member confirm publically that the only reason for the delay in the stadium project is the ‘newt issue’?”

(xxi)To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism
from Cllr Ayre:

“On the 5th October 2009 the Cabinet Member proudly announced she would set up a leisure reserve to fund a city-centre pool. She repeated this promise again in November 2009 stating "we are the party that will do rather than offer empty promises". Can she therefore state how much is currently in the promised leisure reserve?”

(xxii)To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism
from Cllr Ayre:

“Given Labour's pledge to provide a city-centre swimming pool, yet its omission from their strategic plan to 2030, could the Cabinet Member define what she would say a "long term aspiration" is?”

(xxiii)To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism
from Cllr Ayre:

“Can the cabinet member state the 2012/13 budget for each of the council leisure facilities and the total actual spend?”

(xxiv)To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning &
Sustainability from Cllr Reid:

“Would the Cabinet member join with me in congratulating First York on arranging to consult with passengers before deciding what changes to introduce to routes in the autumn, and would he also join with me in urging First to publish the service reliability data that it holds for each route to ensure an informed discussion on the need for changes?”

(xxv)To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning &
Sustainability from Cllr Reid:

“What is the cost of establishing and maintaining the ‘i-travel’ web site and could he explain what the technical problem has been with the feed from the traffic cameras to the website?”

(xxvi) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability from Cllr Firth:

“During the closure period on Lendal Bridge, what will be the average increase in:

- a) Mileage
- b) Journey time
- c) Cost

for private car drivers who otherwise would have used the bridge?”

(xxvii) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability from Cllr Reid:

“How much funding does the Cabinet member intend to devote to reducing the number of accidents on roads in west York where there are no plans to introduce a 20mph limit, what schemes will this funding be used for, and what reduction in the annual toll of casualties can we expect to see as a result of this investment?”

(xxviii) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability from Cllr Reid:

“In congratulating the Minster authorities on the success of their ‘York Minster Revealed’ project, does the Cabinet Member share my concern about the conflict between some fast moving cyclists and pedestrians in the new “Minster Piazza” on Deangate and would he agree to sign the area as a pedestrian priority zone?”

(xxix) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability from Cllr Aspden:

“Last July, I asked the Cabinet Member what the Council is doing to fulfil the requirement of the Localism Act to maintain a list of “assets of community value”. Could he update Council on this work?”

(xxx) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability from Cllr Aspden:

“Following the unsuccessful bid to secure government funding for the A19 update in Fulford, could the Cabinet Member confirm

that the Council will work with and consult local residents on any future bids or schemes?”

(xxxi)To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability from Cllr Ayre:

“In regards to the Local Plan consultation, can the Cabinet Member state how many deliveries by Local Link have had significant failures, how much the contract is and whether any money has been recouped?”

(xxxii)To the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Customer Services from Cllr Cuthbertson:

“How much were the Council’s fitting out and removal expenses connected with its move to West Offices and how does this compare to the allocated budget and Could the Cabinet Member also outline what steps he – and his predecessor – took to ensure that the move was completed within budget?”

(xxxiii)To the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Customer Services from Cllr Ayre:

“How many temporary or interim staff who are on FTE salaries of £40k or more are working for City of York Council through ‘Work with York’ or other temporary/interim staffing agencies and which departments are they in?”

(xxxiv)To the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Customer Services from Cllr Cuthbertson:

“Can the Cabinet Member state how many Freedom of Information requests have not been answered within the required 20 day timeframe for each month from May 2011 to June 2013?”

(xxxv)To the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Customer Services from Cllr Ayre:

“This year citizens were allowed to pay their council tax in 12 parts, instead of 10. Could the Cabinet Member outline what the Council did to inform home owners/renters, social tenants and those in receipt of benefits of these rights, what promotion of the

new arrangements took place, and how many home owners/renters, benefit recipients, social tenants elected to pay in 12 monthly instalments (overall and as a proportion by group)?”

(xxxvi) To the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services from Cllr Reid:

“The yearly rubbish and recycling calendars came to an end on 31st March 2013 with the interim April-June calendars running out at the end of last month. Could the Cabinet Member outline when people will be given information on the new collection rounds and could he explain why there has been a delay in getting this information to residents?”

(xxxvii) To the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services from Cllr Reid:

“Could the Cabinet Member outline what progress has been made in introducing charges for second green bins and for replacement black rubbish wheeled bins and for recycling boxes?”

19. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer for this meeting:

Name: Jill Pickering

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552061
- E-mail – jill.pickering@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

Contact details are set out above.

CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in Guildhall, York on Thursday, 28th March, 2013, starting at 6.30 pm

Present: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Cllr David Horton) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

ACOMB WARD

BISHOPTHORPE WARD

Horton
Simpson-Laing

CLIFTON WARD

DERWENT WARD

Douglas
King
Scott

Brooks

DRINGHOUSES &
WOODTHORPE WARD

FISHERGATE WARD

Hodgson
Reid
Semlyen

D'Agorne
Taylor

FULFORD WARD

GUILDHALL WARD

Aspden

Looker
Watson

HAXBY & WIGGINTON WARD

HESLINGTON WARD

Cuthbertson
Firth
Richardson

Levene

HEWORTH WARD

HEWORTH WITHOUT WARD

Boyce
Funnell
Potter

HOLGATE WARD

Alexander
Crisp
Riches

HULL ROAD WARD

Barnes
Fitzpatrick

HUNTINGTON & NEW
EARSWICK WARD

Orrell
Runciman

MICKLEGATE WARD

Fraser
Gunnell
Merrett

OSBALDWICK WARD

Warters

RURAL WEST YORK WARD

Gillies
Healey
Steward

SKELTON, RAWCLIFFE &
CLIFTON WITHOUT WARD

Cunningham-Cross
McIlveen
Watt

STRENSALL WARD

Doughty
Wiseman

WESTFIELD WARD

Burton
Williams

WHELDRAKE WARD

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Galvin, Ayre, Hyman, Jeffries and Barton

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in respect of the business on the agenda.

No additional interests were declared.

67. MINUTES

- RESOLVED:
- i) That the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 13 December 2012 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
 - ii) That the minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 13 December 2012 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
 - iii) That the minutes of the Budget Council Meeting held on 28 February 2013 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

68. CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Deputy Lord Mayor reported one item of civic business, relating to the 34th Field Hospital who had had Freedom of Entry to the City of York conferred on them at the December Council meeting. He confirmed that the Lord Mayor had presented the Freedom to the regiment on 9 March 2013 when they were able to exercise their freedom for the first time. A statuette of a medic assisting a fallen soldier had been presented to the City by their commanding officer and all ranks.

69. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Deputy Lord Mayor announced that two members of the public had registered to speak at the meeting.

Gwen Swinburn spoke to raise her concerns regarding three recent important decisions made by Cabinet Members in private

decision sessions. Residents had been unaware of any details of these until the subsequent publication of the decisions with then only a short timescale allowed for call in. It was also unclear from the Council's website whether decisions were to be considered at public or private sessions. She asked Members to consider taking written questions and answers from the public rather than just noting comments at meetings.

Richard Bridge spoke on the current welfare reforms and to their detrimental effect on York residents. In particular to the 'bedroom tax' and the profound effect this would have on residents penalising many unnecessarily. A request was made for the Council not to evict any tenant on the grounds of under occupancy, undertake a review of Council Tax Benefits at the earliest opportunity, particularly the 50% discount for landlords on void properties and undertake a review of the impact of the reforms on the 10% poorest residents in the city. He went on to commend Cllr Gunnell's motion on loan sharks to be considered later in the meeting.

70. PETITIONS

Under Standing Order 7, petitions were presented by:

- (i) Cllr Alexander on behalf residents in Low Green and Croft Farm Close in relation to parking disruption from parents dropping off children at school.¹
- (ii) Cllr Reid on behalf of residents of Chancery Court requesting that the salt bin is put back on the list of salt bins to be filled at the start and throughout the winter period as it is much needed given the age of residents and the incline of the roads and footpath.²
- (iii) Cllr Reid on behalf of residents of Parker Avenue and Hotham Avenue requesting that the ward salt bins are put back on the list of salt bins to be filled at the start and throughout the winter period as they are much needed given the steep incline of the roads and footpaths.³
- (iv) Cllr Reid on behalf of residents of Ridgeway requesting that the salt bin, next to No 10, is put back on the list of salt bins to be filled at the start and throughout the

winter period as it is much needed in this road given the nature of the incline of the road and footpath. ⁴.

- (v) Cllr Reid on behalf of residents of Vesper Drive requesting that the salt bin is put back on the list of salt bins to be filled at the start and throughout the winter period as it is much needed in this road. ⁵.
- (vi) Cllr Brooks on behalf of Kexby Parish Council requesting the provision of an additional bus stop outside the Derwent Care Home for the use of visitors and staff and residents. ⁶.
- (vii) Cllr Doughty in respect of the Towthorpe Household Waste Recycling Centre. This petition informs the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and the Council administration that residents of the City of York do not want any diminishment in service, whether this is through reduced operating hours, days of operation or seasonal closures at this Household Waste Recycling Centre. ⁷.

The Deputy Lord Mayor confirmed that, Cllr Doughty's petition would be taken into account when discussing the Conservative motion in relation to the Towthorpe HWRC later this evening. The remaining petitions would be referred to the Cabinet, Cabinet Member or appropriate Committee.

Action Required

- 1. and 6. Schedule items on the Forward Plan, if required, and keep relevant member updated on progress. MD
- 2/3/4/5 and 7. Schedule items on the Forward Plan, if required, and keep relevant member updated on progress. SS

71. REPORT OF CABINET LEADER

A written report was received from the Cabinet Leader, Cllr James Alexander, on the work of the Cabinet.

Questions

Notice had been received of eighteen questions on the written report, submitted by Members in accordance with Standing

Orders. The first five questions were put and answered as follows and Cllr Alexander undertook to provide Members with written answers to the remaining questions:

(i) From Cllr Healey:

“What contingency plans does CYC have in place should the Allerton Park EfW fail to proceed?”

The Leader replied:

“While continuing discussions to establish a way forward with the Allerton Park Waste scheme, the council is also considering alternatives for depositing waste in the short to medium terms. Harewood Whin offers the council sufficient capacity for some years to come but without Allerton Park, alternatives will be required.

We are exploring what capacity there is in other local authority areas through talks with those authorities and also looking at merchant facility providers for alternative solutions.

A report to Cabinet in June will provide more detail and an update on where we go next following the Government’s decision.”

(ii) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“While acknowledging potential benefits of HS2, can the Leader outline what action has been taken to oppose the re-privatisation of East Coast service and to seek assurances that any future franchise will limit fares increases and guarantee HQ jobs being kept in York?”

The Leader replied:

“Can I first of all welcome your acknowledgement of the potential benefits of HS2. I know how difficult this must be for you considering your party nationally is opposed to HS2. I have raised all of the issues you mention to the rail minister, shadow rail minister, both the city’s MPs and the East Coast Main Line Authority group we have set up. The Government has sadly failed to offer assurances these jobs will remain in York, but I will be lobbying, I’m sure with both of the city’s MPs, to ensure that they do in fact remain here once the franchise is awarded.”

(iii) From Cllr Reid:

“Will the Cabinet Leader confirm that the new HS2 trains will be able to travel on the existing line from Church Fenton to York or will this line need upgrading?”

The Leader replied:

“No, not until the Government can confirm this. I suspect there will be some upgrade at the junction where the HS2 line will meet the classic line at Church Fenton.”

(iv) From Cllr Warters:

“Following my support of the Council’s Living Wage policy, would the Council Leader now join me in congratulating the Coalition Government for further assisting low paid workers by increasing personal allowances to £10,000 a year earlier than forecast?”

The Leader replied:

“Yes and thank you for your support. But Coun. Warters I’m sure must be aware that what the Government giveth with one hand, it taketh away with another. For example, if you are low paid, this higher tax threshold will be welcome but the Government’s removal of council tax benefit, of tax credits and the introduction of universal credit will be much less so.”

(v) From Cllr Cuthbertson:

“If the Leader recognises that our current procedures are inadequate and that there is a need for a ‘more open and transparent democratic process’ at Full Council, will he now ensure that Cabinet Members’ decision making sessions are also open, transparent and held in public and not behind closed doors?”

The Leader replied:

“What you are confused about is routine decisions compared to strategic ones. The previous administration used these meetings to create the illusion of activity and progress. My predecessor cancelled 13 out of the 24 he held since they were introduced. I don’t think this is a good use of diminishing resources. These meetings still continue for strategic items that require much needed public engagement.”

I would like to draw your attention to one meeting in particular and ask if you think this is a good use of officer time and resources? On 20th October, 2009 the Executive Member for Corporate Services had one agenda item, bad debts write off. No members of the public registered to speak. The Executive Member then agreed to exclude the press and public for this one item, which was the point of the meeting. This would have had an officer present the report and at least a committee clerk and there will have been administration costs for the meeting.

This administration is committed to openness and transparency. and our procedures bring us into line with most councils in the country at the same time as saving money and being able to redirect it to important areas like adult social care.”

(vi) From Cllr Healey:

“Have CYC or NYCC costed any alternatives to the original Allerton Park scheme yet?”

Reply:

“The council has not costed any alternatives at this stage until we are completely clear on the future of plans for Allerton Park. The Government’s out of the blue decision, without any discussion with local authorities, has obviously put these plans in jeopardy, but we are in discussions with the Treasury over options to mitigate the lost PFI credits. We will be meeting with the relevant DEFRA Minister and his team very soon and will be in a position to update council following that meeting. We certainly expect some cooperation from a Government that has not handled this process well. In an attempt to save itself some money to make its figures look better, it has potentially cost both councils involved millions of pounds.”

(vii) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“What work is being done to ask residents for their views on how to make full council meetings more meaningful and accessible?”

Reply:

“As discussed and accepted by you previously, a paper will be made public over how to improve these meetings. This will then come to Audit and Governance Committee where residents will be able to make their own views known.”

(viii) From Cllr Runciman:

“On the recent Budget, would the Cabinet Leader join me in welcoming the announcement that the tax-free threshold will be increased to £10,000 and would he agree that this is a better situation than under the previous Labour Government where someone working full-time on the Minimum Wage paid £1,000 in Income Tax?”

Reply:

“Yes but I am disappointed the Liberal Democrats in Parliament would not support their own manifesto policy to introduce a mansion tax and would also not support abolition of the 10p tax rate which they were right to previously oppose.”

(ix) From Cllr Cuthbertson:

“Will the Leader confirm that bailiffs acting for City of York Council are pursuing debts that are properly owed to the Council and not the Government; since Labour has made a local choice to pass on reductions in Council Tax Benefit to residents, and will he acknowledge that the Council would be failing in its duty to the taxpayer if it did not collect Council Tax and rents that are due?”

Reply:

“I would have thought a Member of some years would know the council does not collect Government debts. The bailiffs collect different debts owed to the council only.”

(x) From Cllr D’Agorne

“Is this policy being promoted to other key partners in the city as a way to boost inclusion and fairness across York?”

Reply:

“Yes.”

(xi) From Cllr Runciman:

“Could the Cabinet Leader expand upon his thoughts on airport expansion?”

Reply:

“I support airport expansion.”

(xii) From Cllr Cuthbertson:

“Does the Leader agree that the Council’s reputation is being damaged whenever bailiffs visit the wrong premises on its behalf? Will he mitigate this key corporate risk by ensuring that bailiffs only visit the right premises and that unnecessary stress is not caused to innocent residents?”

Reply:

“I saw no evidence of this happening at all. However, some people do leave properties and debts behind to which new tenants can be called upon. In this instance, bailiffs would seek to locate individuals that have moved addresses as a first action.”

(xiii) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“In the absence of the March Local Plan group meeting (cancelled) could the Leader advise whether this work is on track and when public consultation will begin on the preferred options document?”

Reply:

“Coun. D’Agorne has had it explained to him on more than one occasion that Local Plan meetings are scheduled for the benefit of Member availability and meeting space, but only take place when business needs considering. I remain hopeful that one day this will sink in.

But yes, and in the next few months to answer your question.”

(xiv) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“With the demise of much of government funding for warmer homes and home renewables, what green jobs can we expect in the short term before the LCR Green Deal is available?”

Reply:

“I think you raise a very valid point that more needs to be done in the short term as Government promises don't seem to be making an impact quickly enough, and uptake of funding from existing private Green Deal providers has been slow nationally.

Members may know that all funding streams for energy efficiency measures for private sector housing and businesses will cease as

of the end of this month, to be replaced by the Green Deal and the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), a scheme which involves energy companies making contributions towards energy efficiency measures now. While the City Region Green Deal is not immediately available, the latter scheme is and officers are working on plans to ensure that green jobs are supported and new jobs created through our housing improvement and sustainability plans.

Those plans will focus on the three strands of ECO; affordable warmth, carbon saving (general) and carbon saving (communities). The focus I'm pleased to say is on low income households and communities who desperately need help to reduce crippling household energy costs. More detail of our strategy will be considered by Cabinet next Tuesday, where we will set out how the transition will be made from accessing ECO funding to Green Deal funding through the City Region from 2014."

(xv) From Cllr Runciman:

"The Cabinet Leader says that the recent visit to the MIPIM Conference has led to 30 leads but no firm offers. Could he outline what he plans to do now and when would he expect the leads to become firm offers?"

Reply:

"I can't predict the future, but I envisage us getting some positive outcomes from the investment we made at MIPIM. Time will tell, but these things don't always happen immediately and will require a longer term effort on our part. Coun. Runciman can rest assured that I will be the first to let her know when we have news on this."

(xvi) From Cllr Runciman:

"On the recent Budget, could the Cabinet Leader confirm what the top rate of tax was for York residents in the first 12 years and 11 months of Labour's time in Government and what the top rate of tax is now?"

Reply:

"The top tax rate for the majority of the previous Labour Government was less than it is now but this doesn't deflect attention from your party's support for reducing the tax rate for high earners at a time of supporting draconian cuts to the vulnerable through welfare spending reductions. What you need to take into

account is the tax rate was during good times when most people had increasing living standards. At a time when this is not the case the more wealthy should increase contributions to support the poorest. This is happening through other forms of taxation and should happen through the basic rate of tax. To do otherwise I think shows a Government with the wrong priorities.”

(xvii) From Cllr Runciman:

“On the recent Budget, will the Cabinet Leader join me in welcoming the fact that over the five years of this Parliament under the Coalition, a millionaire in York (earning £1m p/a) will pay £381,000 more tax on their income (income tax and NICs) than they did under the last five years of the Labour Government?”

Reply:

“I refer you to my previous answer.”

(xviii) From Cllr Runciman:

“On the recent Budget, would the Cabinet Leader join me in welcoming the decision to cancel another of Labour’s planned fuel duty rises – meaning fuel will now be 13 pence per litre less than under Labour plans and would the Leader agree that this has a beneficial effect on York residents as it will now be £7 cheaper to fill up your car than under Labour, and fuel duty has now been frozen for almost three and a half years?”

Reply:

“I welcome any measure that reduces the pressure on ordinary people trying to get on in life. But this freeze must be set against increases in the tax burden the Coalition has imposed on such people. Fuel price increases have resulted from the VAT increase the Coalition Government introduced. This was something the Liberal Democrats campaigned against before the election. You may recall Nick Clegg stood in front of a billboard with Charles Kennedy saying stop the Tory VAT bombshell, before getting squarely behind the tax hike only a few weeks later.”

72. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

As Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, Cllr Cunningham-Cross moved, and Cllr Brooks seconded, the following recommendations contained in Minute 60 of the Audit and Governance Committee meeting held on 19 March 2013.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH

That Council make the appropriate constitutional amendments to formally set up a Health and Wellbeing Board and endorses the terms of reference as attached, to the report.

On being put to the vote, the recommendations were declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above recommendations of the Audit and Governance Committee meeting held on 19 March 2013 be approved. ¹

Action Required

1. Make necessary constitutional amendments. AD

73. SCRUTINY - REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE CORPORATE AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Council received the report of the Chair of the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee at pages 105 to 108, on the work of the Committee.

Councillor Wiseman then moved and Cllr Runciman seconded acceptance of the report and it was

RESOLVED: That the scrutiny report be received and noted.

74. REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER

Council received a written report from Cllr Simpson-Laing, Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services.

Notice had been received of twenty seven questions on the report, submitted by Members in accordance with Standing Orders. The

first three questions were put and answered as follows and Members agreed to receive written answers to their remaining questions, as set out below:

(i) From Cllr Doughty:

“Firstly, let me begin by congratulating Councillor Simpson-Laing on her proclamation to 'make a difference'. This is a laudable aim but it is unfortunate that within this statement, the first paragraph of the Cabinet members report aims to make purely political statements that have the potential for causing serious misunderstanding and anxiety to residents in the City. Can she please tell Council what benefit cuts are being referred to that are making the city unequal, less fair and with reduced life outcomes and if any actual evidence exists to support these claims?”

Cabinet Member replied:

“Cllr Doughty, as a Councillor I have the right to express my views and concerns with regard to the residents of this City when I believe that the policies of your Government, as I did under the previous administration, are detrimental those residents. Not to express my concerns over the devastating cuts to Local Government funding would be a failure of my duties, as would not informing residents of the effects that changes to benefits will have on their lives. We are undertaking this process of informing as it has become clear both locally, and nationally that Government has done little to pre-warn or prepare those in receipt of benefits or service cuts exactly what they are facing.

Cllr Doughty should remember that Adult Social Care takes up a large proportion of the Council's Budget and that that percentage will continue to rise due to the City's increasing older population and as a result of improved healthcare. With that in mind, Cllr Doughty needs to realise that many people will be affected and that if this Council cannot provide the same levels of service in the future, than it did in the past, then the work to make the City a more equal place will go backwards not forwards.

Along with the cuts to Government funding to this Council I am also referring to the reduction in the Local Housing Allowance to the lowest 30% of housing in the PRS, the introduction of Universal Credit, the removal of inflationary rises to Child Benefit, Child Tax Credits, Working Family Tax Credits, Maternity Pay, Paternity Pay, the constant and often intrusive re-assessments of

those receiving disability benefits – their reduction and freezing to name but a few of the benefits many people receive in this City. The changes taking place are fact, something your colleagues across the country seem to accept but not the Conservatives in York. Because of these changes it will make it more difficult for many residents to continue to live and contribute to the City. When you have less money in your pocket and prices are rising at a rate greater than the support you are receiving, then living in the City on a low wage makes the ability to stay here more difficult and thus less equal. If you have a poor diet and cannot afford to heat your home then you will have reduced life outcomes.

You ask for evidence, well, increased enquiries about, and an actual rise in, homelessness, increased enquiries for help to the CAB, an increase in the incidence of Domestic Violence, increased debt levels and a rise in those taking out pay day loans, the list goes on.

I am very clear as I have no misunderstanding of the Government's policies and the work that the Council, and partners are undertaking, to help those the Government has caused anxiety to."

(ii) From Cllr Runciman:

"The Cabinet Member refers to the Archer Close Council housing development (started under that last Lib Dem administration). At the December Council meeting the Cabinet Member said that she expected 102 affordable homes in total to be completed in York during the current financial year. This would have been the lowest outturn for 6 years. What are her current estimates of the likely outturn for the current financial year, the forthcoming year, and how many of these are the result of section 106 contributions?"

Cabinet Member replied:

"110 Affordable Homes are projected to complete in the current year - 33 are through current planning gain.

In 2013/14 we currently project 90 completions of which 32 are on S106 sites. This figure will change and we are hopeful that some recent permissions, New Lane Huntington (30) , and Tannery (11) may start to deliver homes."

(iii) From Cllr Wiseman:

“Rather than simply reporting on a consultation around sheltered housing having taken place in summer 2012, could the Cabinet Member report the finding of that consultation and could she tell Council whether, as a percentage of interested parties (Tenants, Carers, relatives etc), the 200 responses are sufficient for a representative sample?”

Cabinet Member replied:

“When writing a report to Council, a Cabinet Member aims to inform Councillors of an overview of the work undertaken in the Cabinet Member’s portfolio area so that it will either elicit further questions, at Council, or as I am quite happy to do, at other times. I could have given much more detail on this consultation in my report but that could then have taken up my whole report.

The survey was undertaken in August 2012, and the purpose was to find out how residents felt about their scheme, including their own flat and the communal areas. This included

Decor in the communal areas

Accessibility (e.g. mobility around scheme, size of rooms in own flat)

Sense of community in the scheme (activities, events, involvement in wider community, resident consultation, etc)

Individual circumstances (reasons for moving into the scheme, length of time in scheme, how easy it was to ‘settle’ in the scheme etc)

When they wanted to have the staff cover on site

198 surveys were returned – a return rate of 54% for the 364 properties. We did not survey relatives and carers separately, however residents were invited to have input from relatives/carers if they wished. Officers and I felt that this was a good return rate. We have displayed survey results for residents in all schemes, and we are keeping residents informed about actions we are taking in response to their feedback, so hope to further improve response rates next year.

Surveys have been examined for each of the 11 schemes, however overall results show that

79% feel that the size of the rooms in their flats is adequate or better

20% feel that their kitchen is not large enough

82% attend regular residents meetings in the schemes

93% feel safe in their scheme

88% feel that their scheme is welcoming

There were very variable results about the decor in schemes – in most schemes this was considered to be good/very good, however in 3 schemes there were a number of residents who were less happy, and considered this to be adequate or poor.

Action has been taken in response to surveys

Re-decoration of dining room at Barstow House

Replacement of hallway carpets at Barstow House

Re-fit of communal kitchen areas at Barstow House and Glen Lodge

Re-fit of laundry facilities at Marjorie Waite Court and Glen Lodge

Further work is planned in response to resident feedback for 2013-14, and we plan to run the survey again around August 2013.”

(iv) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“How many empty homes are there in York and how many of these can we realistically expect the new 'dedicated officer' to bring back into use in the coming year?”

Reply:

“After years of empty homes being all but ignored in the City it was right to create the post of Empty Homes Officer to tackle the small scale but persistent problem in the City with high demand on housing meaning that every home unused counts.

The work of the Empty Property Officer will be measured against the Empty Property Strategy, which I agreed in 2011, and action plan which laid out four key aims.

1) Maintaining accurate information about the numbers of long term empty homes – significant progress has been made in this area and in particular has ensured that officers are targeting those homes which not only maximise the amount of New Homes Bonus available but also those which cause significant problems to neighbours.

On the council tax register there are currently 294 properties which have been empty for more than six months. Only some are eligible for New Homes Bonus and only a few cause detriment to the neighbourhood, many homes are empty due to the natural turnover of the market, for example being sold or are in probate or the owner is in care. 146 of the 294 homes are ones where they fall into the criteria for action, i.e. they are not actively being marketed for sale etc and the Empty Property Officer will be focusing on these properties.

2) Encouraging owners of privately owned empty homes and owners of vacant property to bring them back in to residential use.

A target of 30 homes per year was set as a realistic but a stretched target given the relatively low numbers of empty homes within the city. This has been exceeded this year with 34 homes being brought back in to use.

In addition we have commissioned a feasibility study, part funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, with the Northern Civic Trust of England to determine the extent of the problem of disused upper floors in the historic centre of York with a view to understanding the causes of the problem and what action can be taken to bring them into use for residential use. Fabrick Housing Group have submitted a bid to the Homes and Communities Agency for grant funding to support the conversion of 18 dwellings above shops/commercial premises in the centre of York. We will know the outcome of the bid in May and conclusion of negotiations with the property owners will follow.

3) Targeting owners whose empty homes cause a significant detrimental impact to the neighbourhood

Officers have assessed the properties which have been brought to their attention through council records/planning and other partners such as the Police and directly from residents. A report will be brought later this year considering the enforcement options available to the council to tackle those owners who refuse to work with the council and whose properties are affecting others.

4) Strengthening existing and develop new partnerships to reduce the number of long term empty homes in the city. The resource of the Empty Property Officer has meant that a more coordinated approach both internally and externally can be developed which has seen the benefits which I have already highlighted.

Councillors may want to note that his work was particular welcomed by residents when he worked with a number of agencies (Police/Fire/Planning) to ensure that the garage formerly known as Reg Vardy was properly secured against squatters. This property has now been demolished, already improving the neighbourhood and planning permission has been obtained for student homes.”

(v) From Cllr Aspden:

“The Council’s original Elderly Persons’ Homes (EPH) Modernisation Programme envisaged 200 specialist residential care beds - 55 beds at Fordlands, 90 beds at Lowfield Village, and 55 beds at Haxby Hall. With the scrapping of the Fordlands project, can the Cabinet Member assure residents that these 200 beds will still be provided?”

Reply:

“The May 2012 Cabinet report on the EPH review identified a programme to create three new facilities providing 200 beds based on a projected level of need and subject to further detailed work on financial affordability. Approval in principle was given to progress work on the first two facilities with a decision on the need to replace Haxby Hall to be taken at a later date. A report to Cabinet, expected in June, will provide members with options to replace the facility originally proposed for the Fordlands site at Burnholme, and will set out the overall financial model for new facilities.”

(vi) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“Will City of York Council join the growing number of local authorities that include Brighton and Hove, Bristol, Islington, Dundee, East Lothian and other Scottish councils who have already pledged that no council tenant will be evicted from their home because of arrears resulting from the so-called 'bedroom tax'?”

Reply:

“The Council is visiting all its tenants that are affected by the bedroom tax offering guidance on financial management, assisting them with opportunities to downsize including the resources available through the incentive scheme and ways of maximising their income and appropriate referrals for specialist advice (future prospects, CAB) and support. Ultimately only when every effort has been made to help tenants maintain their payments will enforcement action be taken. The final decision on such matters rests with the courts.”

(vii) From Cllr Richardson:

“Could the Cabinet Member illuminate council on the outcomes anticipated through the ‘Tenancy strategy’, ‘Equalities Facilitator’ and ‘respect standard for housing management’ and will these ambiguous initiatives incur additional costs or place further work upon our existing teams working within Housing?”

Reply:

“The Tenancy Strategy is a statutory requirement set out in the Localism Act 2011 and requires the authority to publish its approach to a number of issues.

The guidance states that the strategy should aim to:

- Set out the principals to the management of Social and Affordable rented homes.
- Give guidance to social housing providers in York, how the local authority thinks they might best use this important resource to meet housing needs in the City.
- Seek to set out principles around the use of fixed term tenancies, views around the allocations policy, discharging homeless duty into the Private Rented Sector and the approach to ‘affordable rents’.

The most contentious matter for this administration is the use of fixed term tenancies. Broadly speaking the authority is opposed to the widespread use of these tenancies partly because of the additional administrative burdens they place on landlords. We are also concerned that wide use of fixed tenancies could undermine our successful efforts to build mixed and sustainable communities.

It is not envisaged that the strategy will place any additional costs on the authority.

The Respect Standard for Housing Management provides details of good practice for landlords in tackling the issues of anti social behaviour. Any Social Landlord striving to provide the best service would look to adopt the standard. The cost of meeting these standards is met from within existing resources.

The appointment of the Tenancy Engagement and Equalities Facilitator is critical to the Council's need to maximise opportunities to capture tenants' views and direct involvement in the development of services as we are expected to by Government. The aim is to make these services more effectively targeted at the range of needs that we know exist in our increasing diverse City and which are constantly changing due to the current economic situation and changes to welfare. This in turn will help deliver service efficiencies as well as better outcomes for tenants."

(viii) From Cllr Cuthbertson:

"Following the public inquiry into Mid Staffordshire Hospital, will the Cabinet Member join me in welcoming the recommendations of a legal duty of candour to ensure that patients and families are informed if treatment or care has caused death or serious injury, and of a new role of Chief Inspector of Social Care to oversee the care received by elderly and vulnerable people? These recommendations deliver a Liberal Democrat manifesto commitment confirming that poor care is unacceptable, also that staff have a professional duty to speak up about it and should be supported in so doing."

Reply:

"Yes, I very much welcome these recommendations and seeing them implemented as soon as possible. Though I think Coun. Cuthbertson will find that all parties find poor care unacceptable, not just the Liberal Democrats, they just don't need a manifesto pledge to say so."

(ix) From Cllr D'Agorne:

"Will you be pressing the case for active travel and healthy eating/lifestyles to be a central plank of the overall approach to public health in the city?"

Reply:

"Yes."

(x) From Cllr Doughty:

"Could the Cabinet Member tell us how many new homes have been built or at least commissioned as a direct result of 'Housing week' in November 2012?"

Reply:

"I think firstly it may helpful for Cllr Doughty if I explained the purpose of Housing Week.

The intention of 'Housing Week' was to set out the start of a clear approach to *Get York Building*. Details of issues discussed, at workshops and the Housing Summit have formed part of the base evidence for the interventions set out in the Get York Building report that was presented to Cabinet in February 2013 and will also support more interventions which will be brought forward in the coming months.

It think most Members would think it unrealistic to have expected any new homes to have been built as a direct result of Housing Week held 5 months ago, effective though this administration undoubtedly is. The average build time of a new home is closer to 12 months, and often longer, and that is not taking account the drawing up of plans Outline and Reserved Matters, negotiation with statutory agencies such as the Environment Agency, the obtaining of planning permissions and any appeals process that may result from the granting of permission.

The recommendations and initiatives from Housing Week were approved in February, 2013, and officers are now working on the initiatives that include, mortgage support, simplifying S106 agreements, infrastructure investment funding, and a Council House building programme. Affordable Housing 'targets' have already been reduced and The Tannery, Strensall was approved under these new targets at last week's Planning Committee at which Cllr Doughty was present. Referring back to the GYB report

and the actions being taken forward it can be seen that many actions that could be enacted immediately – such as reduced targets, simplified S106 for rural sites - are already in place.

However as previously reported 50-70 new council homes are being commissioned in the first phase of council house building.

I appreciate that Cllr Doughty and some of this colleagues may not support the work we are undertaking in the City but I am assured by the support we have received from the Director General of DCLG that the work we are taking forward here in York is starting to make a difference.”

(xi) From Cllr Doughty:

“Could the Cabinet Member share the projections that tell us that the Council match funding required to develop the Gypsy and Traveller site will be secured solely from additional revenue for new pitches. Assuming these pitches are charged at standard rates and all rent is collected on time, how many decades will it take for the match funding to be recovered and does that figure include any interest charges incurred whilst the initial outlay is being recouped?”

Reply:

“Cllr Doughty needs to understand, as do all Councillors, that this City has a duty to make provision for the Gypsy and Traveller community as set out in the Housing Act 2004 - we are no different from any other Council in the requirement to undertake this duty. This provision also includes the right to access Tenants Choice as all our tenants do on a cyclical basis of replacement and have repairs undertaken when required.

In March 2012, the Government published the Planning Policy for Traveller sites alongside the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The policy sets out the national policy requirements with respect to Gypsy and Traveller provision, which includes a new requirement for a five year supply of Gypsy and Traveller sites. The council will need to take these national requirements into account in the formulation of the evidence base and subsequent Local Plan policies relating to Gypsy and Traveller provision.

Funding for the proposed extension of the Osbaldwick Travellers site is coming from two sources, Homes & Communities Agency

grant funding and match funding from the Council. Match funding from the Council is on the same basis of match funding for any other housing development, i.e. funded from the additional revenue income as a result of the proposed works.

The length of time any borrowing for match funding is taken out over will depend on the longevity of the investment. Match funding for the proposed extension of Osbaldwick Travellers site is over 30 years, as was the case for the match funding for the recent development of 19 new council homes at Archer Close.”

(xii) From Cllr Doughty:

“Could the Cabinet Member inform Council whether the air source heat pump and solar panel initiatives noted on page 110 of the Agenda report have incurred financial costs to taxpayers in York? If so, what are the costs?”

Reply:

“This Council is committed to make York a greener place to live and with the current cost of utilities we will continue to work to reduce the cost of heating for residents who are often in fuel poverty.

The cost of improvement works to the Council’s housing stock does not incur any financial cost to taxpayers in York. Improvement works to our housing stock is funded from income from Council tenants’ rents, the Housing Revenue Account, and appropriate grants where these are available.

The installation of solar panels to our housing stock was funded by institutional investors at no cost to the Council or the York taxpayer. Where these have been fitted the occupiers of the homes benefit from reduced energy costs as a result of the free electricity generated as well as this having a positive impact on reducing the city’s carbon footprint. However, I would say that it was the Government who actually imposed a cost on York tax payers through their mismanagement of the Feed in Tariff – being that they closed the scheme down 3 months early with only a few days notice. This ill-advised move led to ‘fitters’ being laid off – unemployment benefit, residents waiting longer to receive reduced energy bills and the costs of the Government’s failed challenge in the High and Supreme Courts.

To continue with this work I actively encourage Officers to apply for all grants that are advertised by Government.”

(xiii) From Cllr Richardson:

“Thank you for reminding us that Howe Hill Hostel for young people opened in January 2012. As this is now 14 months in the past, will you ensure your future “copy & paste” reports contain up to date information?”

Reply:

“Coun. Richardson, should note that this is my first report to Council since June 2011 and it is only right that I inform Council of all the work undertaken, the huge strides this Labour Council is making, during over that period as not all Members sit on Scrutiny Boards to which I report. I will provide information that I feel is fit and right for Council to receive and which is informative.”

(xiv) From Cllr Doughty:

“It is reassuring to see that we now have some Officer time dedicated to working on bringing empty homes back into use. Is this change expected to make the process more effective and if so, what is the benchmark it will be measured against?”

Reply:

“I refer Cllr Doughty to the answer to my earlier question.”

(xv) From Cllr Runciman:

“How many empty homes are there currently in York and what is the timetable for bringing these back into use?”

Reply:

“I refer Cllr Runciman to the answer to my earlier question.”

(xvi) From Cllr Doughty:

“I am shocked to hear that Government are to introduce a new tax that I have not yet heard of. Could the Cabinet Member point me to the legislation introducing a "Bedroom Tax" and tell us when this new legislation is to commence?”

Reply:

“I’m extremely grateful to Coun. Doughty for drawing Members’ attention to the Government’s bedroom tax unprompted. It is a tax in the same sense as the council’s green bin tax, the main and very important difference being the latter doesn’t and never did exist. I would refer Cllr Doughty to the widely referred to Bedroom Tax, also known as the Under Occupation Subsidy which forms part of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 that even the Telegraph has reported as being a ‘tax’.

It is a tax on those who cannot pay and who are unable to move due to a lack of smaller accommodation both here in the City and across the country. If people do not have the income to pay then they may well cut back on food and heating and that is the Government placing a tax on their abilities to reside in their homes.

A family that has maintained their home for many years, and who receive Housing benefit due to low wages or loss of employment, will see dramatic changes to their lives. If a family has two children of the same sex under 16, say 14 and 8, and those children currently have separate rooms they will now be expected to share a room. This then is a tax on children having their own room and could be detrimental to their education and a tax on being poor – unable to pay rent without assistance.

If the Government had introduced a higher level of Council Tax on large houses with extra rooms then that also would be a tax and that is why a Mansion Tax was proposed but rejected by the Government who would rather attack society’s most vulnerable and those on more meagre incomes.”

(xvii) From Cllr Doughty:

“Within the 'Social Care Services' satisfaction survey quoted on page 112 of the Agenda, could the Cabinet Member share with us when this took place, how many responses were received and the results from the full survey?”

Reply:

“Each year Local Authorities are required to survey eligible service users and submit the results to the Department of Health. The questions are set by the Department of Health. Postal questionnaires were sent out in January 2012 to 879 eligible customers, selected at random as has been practice, who were in

receipt of a service between 30 September and 31 December 2011. A total of 431 customers completed a survey. This gives an excellent response rate of 51% which I am pleased with. This year's survey has now been sent out and we are awaiting results.

We have not published the survey in its own right, but the Local Account is our annual report to the public on our achievements and areas for improvements. Results from the survey are included as part of the Local Account.

If further details are needed Cllr Doughty is welcome to ask to meet with officers.”

(xviii) From Cllr Wiseman:

“On page 112 of the Council Agenda, Council is told of financial 'pressure' on the Adults social care budget when children move into adult services. As getting older is one of the few things that can be reliably predicated can the Cabinet Member tell us why these costs were not anticipated at the beginning of the year and whether her department have now learned that vulnerable children will eventually become vulnerable adults who need social care services?”

Reply:

“Cllr Wiseman knows well that prediction with some of the medical conditions that young people have, or the complexities that can develop is not possible. As is recognised, medical science changes frequently and children with conditions not treatable just a few years ago are now living longer, and this is one of the reasons why two year budgeting helps.

Although we can identify most of the young people moving through from Children's to Adult services early it requires careful planning with the individuals, families and other agencies, including Health, to agree what the right support will be, how much it will cost and who will fund what. Many of these decisions can only be taken in year, and are not within the control of the authority, particularly whether or not and what level of support will be available from Health.”

(xix) From Cllr Doughty:

“Could the Cabinet Member tell us whether she believes the proposed new model for Yorkcraft will produce improved outcomes for those using the service and if so, what will this be benchmarked against and how will the outcomes be measured?”

Reply:

“The Council wants to ensure that we provide services that are fit for the 21st Century and which residents wish to use, this is why we are working to improve the outcomes of those who use our services. Work continues on finalising the model for a sustainable Yorkcraft which will include increasing employment training and support offer. Measures of success will be defined and monitored to include the number of vulnerable people supported in to employment. Discussions continue on an economic agenda seeking to gain wider support from local businesses.”

(xx) From Cllr Aspden:

“The Council’s original Elderly Persons’ Homes (EPH) Modernisation Programme envisaged Lowfield Village opening in April 2014 and Haxby Hall opening in 2015, when does the Cabinet Member now envisage these homes will open?”

Reply:

“A report to Cabinet in June will provide an update on the modernisation programme, and will set out revised completion dates and detailed timelines for the new facilities. These will be later than originally indicated due to the unexpected late information with regard to Fordlands environmental conditions, will reflect the complexity of the programme and the need for Officers to ensure that the design of the new facilities delivers the best possible dementia care environment that will support the provision of modern care into the future.”

(xxi) From Cllr Aspden:

“The Council’s original Elderly Persons’ Homes (EPH) Modernisation Programme envisaged the following financial projection: “investment of £67k is needed in year 1 (2013/14), £408k in year 2, £469k in year 3 before a cost saving of £108k begins in year 4 to reduce the investment

required to £361k that year, and subsequently reducing investment amounts of £145k and £39k for years 5 and 6. A £69k saving would accrue in year 7 and increase to £105k saving in subsequent years before repaying these investment costs in year 21 (2032/33). It would then generate a savings of £1.1m, until the capital repayments end in 2038/39 when ongoing savings of £870k per year would accrue". Is the Council still on track to meet these targets and, if not, how far have they slipped and how will this financial shortfall be met?"

Reply:

"A report to Cabinet In June will contain an updated financial model which will set out in a similar fashion to the May 2012 report the overall capital and revenue cost for the project within our current financial climate."

(xxii) From Cllr Cuthbertson:

"What Public Health funding increases are expected in the years after 2013-14 and 2014-15?"

Reply:

"The original baseline Public Health allocation for 2013-14 for the City of York Council based on historic spend for 2013-14 was £6.037 Million which was uplifted by 10% to give an actual allocation for 2013-14 of £6.64m. This will be uplifted by a further 10% next year to give an allocation in 2014-15 of £7.305m. At this stage we do not know what the actual increases will be beyond 2014-15 but the allocation of £7.305m still leaves us £1.56m below the Government's target allocation based on our needs. It's unfortunate that the Government has set a target based on need and then set an allocation that falls well short of that target.

I would then expect further increases in the years ahead but as there has been no indication, this makes future years needs planning more difficult."

(xxiii) From Cllr Cuthbertson:

"How will the work done by the Obesity Working Group of the Council in 2010/11 be used to inform the JSNA and how will the work being planned to address the three JSNA strands of Smoking, Obesity and Domestic Violence differ from previous campaigns?"

Reply:

“Cllr Cuthbertson should be aware that the JSNA is revised at least annually and draws on all available information. The three strands of work will be based on up to date information taking into account all available evidence and updated guidance, such as that produced by NICE and other national organisations.”

(xxiv) From Cllr Wiseman:

“Labour members on the Health Scrutiny Committee have made calls to write to Government and local MP's to complain about levels of Health funding, could Councillor Simpson-Laing tell us whether she has written to Government to thank them for the positive steps in the right direction that are the increased allocations of 10% in each of the next two years to the public health budget in York?”

Reply:

“It may not surprise you to learn that I will not be doing so as I pointed out clearly in a letter to The Press not too long ago.

Our allocation is only £33 per head of population for 2013-14 against a target of £42 per head and for 2014-15 it will still only be £36 per head against a target of £44 per head. Hopefully that explains why I will not be praising the Government on this occasion.”

(xxv) From Cllr Cuthbertson:

“What is the Cabinet Member doing to ensure that the CCG, Hospital and other agencies are working with HealthWatch to ensure that it is able to meet patients’ needs as the new contract gets under way?”

Reply:

“Cllr Cuthbertson should be aware that Healthwatch is a key member of the Health & Well-being Board where the CCG, York Teaching Hospital and the Leeds and York Partnership Foundation Trust are both also members and both are represented by their Chief Executives. Also, the NHS Commissioning Board is represented on the Board by The Director for the York and Humber Local Area Team. The Board will have an overview of the whole Health & Social Care System and will be

ideally placed to ensure that HealthWatch is fully engaged with all appropriate agencies.”

(xxvi) From Cllr Doughty:

“Continuing with her 'making a difference' theme, for the sake of transparency could the Cabinet Member comment on the long list of conferences, meeting visits and events she has recorded at the end of her report and tell us what difference these have made to those she was elected to represent?”

Reply:

“Cllr Doughty appears to be employing similar logic to his thinking on our housing week and the expectation that we should have new homes completed as a result a handful of months afterwards. He should note that these meetings are part of my duties as Cabinet Member and that the meetings are mainly with partners that the Council works with, seeks advice from or seeks to influence. In having these meetings I can ensure better outcomes on Housing, Health and Adult Social provision in the City as to work in isolation and silos leads to poor services and poor practice.”

(xxvii) From Cllr Runciman:

“Further to the list of meetings etc provided by the Cabinet Member does she believe that it is important to talk with residents and community associations and if she does, why is it that she has found time to attend meetings all over the country but failed to regularly attend the Federation of Tenants & Residents Associations?”

Reply:

“I have visited a number of Residents Associations. I feel it is important that the Federation of Tenants & Residents Associations feel that they can discuss matters at their meeting openly and this may not always be possible with a Councillor present.

I have known many of those involved with the Association for over a decade and they know of my support of Council and Social Housing. Because of this they know that I will always make myself available to speak with them when required.”

75. PAY POLICY 2013/14

Cllr Gunnell, as Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, presented a written report presenting the Pay Policy Statement for 2013/14 relating to the pay of the Council's senior staff, to fulfil the requirements of Sections 38-43 of the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr Gunnell then moved a motion to approve the Pay Policy Statement, which was seconded by Cllr Alexander.

RESOLVED: That the motion in respect of the Pay Policy Statement for 2013/14 be approved.

76. TRAVEL ALLOWANCES

As Cabinet Leader, Cllr Alexander moved and Cllr Simpson-Laing seconded, the following recommendations contained in the report of the Monitoring Officer, in respect of anomalies as to when travel costs could be claimed by Members, at pages 141 to 145 of the agenda:

- i) *[That Council] extend the list of approved duties in line with paragraph 5 in the report.*

Reason: To ensure that the list of approved duties properly reflects the range of work undertaken by Councillors.

- ii) *[That Council] request Officers to publish details of all travel and subsistence costs incurred on behalf of Members alongside the details of their allowances.*

Reason: To ensure complete transparency in this area.

On being put to the vote, the recommendations were declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendations contained in the report of the Monitoring Officer be approved. ^{1.}

Action Required

1. Implement use of amended list of approved duties and publish details as from 1 April 2013.

DS

77. ACTIVITIES OF OUTSIDE BODIES

Minutes of the following meetings had been made available for Members to view on the Council's website:

- Fire Authority – 13/02/13
- Safer York Partnership – 06/12/12
- Quality Bus Partnership – 10/12/12
- Yorkshire Purchasing Org – 30/11/12
- Without Walls – 19/12/12
- NHS – 17/10/12

Notice had been received of six questions in respect of the minutes, submitted by Members in accordance with Standing Orders. The first five questions were put and answered as follows and the Members agreed to receive written answers to the remaining question, as set out below:

To Cllrs Merrett and Steward as appointed Council representatives on Quality Bus Partnership – Minutes of 10/12/12

From Cllr Reid:

- (a) “At December’s Council meeting the Cabinet Member told Cllr D’Agorne, in reply to a written question about the sales of “All York” bus tickets, that *“This is a commercial product of the operators. It is commercial data that belongs to the operators and the operators view is that this is commercially sensitive information. It's disclosure could have a negative impact on both the future development of all York products and on general operations.”*

It now appears from the minutes of the above meeting (para 3.2), which have been made publicly available on the Council website, that you were told at the Partnership meeting (which had taken place 3 days before the Council meeting) that 10,000 of the tickets had been sold in the first quarter. Why has there been such secrecy about these figures and will you now agree to make the total number of tickets sold available to residents and bus users via the Councils web site on a monthly basis?

- (b) As part of the bus improvement work (para 6.0), will the Cabinet Member agree to publicise all bus service reliability information that the Council has access to?

- (c) The minutes of the above meeting say (para 7.1.2) that a Green Bus Fund bid “will be submitted by 26th March 2013”. The bid was being constructed by ARUP consultants. How much has this consultancy work cost, who has paid for it and in what ways were Council Members, taxpayers, bus operators and bus users consulted on the content of the bid before it was submitted?”

Reply:

Cllr Merrett confirmed that a figure had been quoted in reply to a question at the last Council meeting, however the information was still commercially sensitive. It was understood that the original agreement had been to allow publication of annual cumulative totals, which would be continued. Information regarding reliability was also subject to similar restrictions.

It was reported that the cost of the Green Bus Fund bid had been borne by First. Work was ongoing regarding the new Park and Ride site and further information would be provided on this cost when the relevant Officer returned from leave. Information from the Bus Improvement Study had informed the bid prior to submission.

- (i) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“Is the reported 10,000 'All York' bus ticket sales for the first quarter of availability accurate, and why was this considered to be 'commercially sensitive information... whose disclosure could have a negative impact on the future development of all York products and general operations' when I asked for the same data three days later in questions for full council (para 3.2, p55)?

Reply:

Cllr Merrett confirmed that personally, he supported the reporting of this information more regularly however this was in the hands of the bus operators.

To Cllrs Aspden, Barnes, King & Steward as appointed Council representatives on the Fire Authority – Minutes of 13/02/13

(i) From Cllr D’Agorne:

"What are the likely costs and benefits of the proposed joint Fire-Police pilot scheme to test routine pairing of fire and police staff (para 265)?"

Reply:

Cllr King, congratulated Cllr D’Agorne for asking the first question of the authorities’ representatives on the Fire Authority at Council. As a representative since 1994 he confirmed his willingness to answer questions, however, as this particular question related to an item considered in a confidential session, he was only able to provide public information. He went on to comment on the joint pilot scheme in both rural and urban areas, which had been at a minimal cost, explaining the benefits, and confirming that an update on progress was due to be reported back to the Authority in June 2013.

To Cllrs Alexander, Runciman & Gillies as appointed Council representatives on Without Walls – Minutes of 19/12/12

(i) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“Can you report any progress on the proposal to carry live stream CCTV footage of Coney St / Parliament St on Visit York and the Council website during floods to demonstrate that we are still open for business?”

Reply:

“No.” (Cllr Alexander)

78. APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED: That the appointments and changes to membership of committees as set out in the Council papers pages 147 and 148, be approved.
1.

Action Required

1. Update membership details and inform relevant bodies.

JP

79. NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) Regulation of Loan Sharks

It was moved by Cllr Gunnell and seconded by Cllr Boyce that:

“CYC welcomes the UK-wide campaign to end ‘legal loan sharking’ and believes that the lack of access to affordable credit is socially and economically damaging.

Unaffordable credit is causing a myriad of unwanted effects such as colder homes, rent, council tax and utility arrears, and depression, which itself impacts on job seeking behaviour. All of these effects ultimately lead to poorer health. This practice is extracting wealth from York’s most deprived communities.

Council notes the efforts made cross-party through Amendment 41 to the Financial Services Bill, in May 2012, to properly regulate legal loan sharks but was disappointed with its final report.

Whilst acknowledging recent announcements by the Office of Fair Trading, that the top fifty pay-day loan companies need to change their practices or risk losing their licences, Council is disappointed that the Government is not going to cap the price – interest and costs – of borrowing from pay-day loan companies.

Council believes it is the responsibility of all levels of government to ensure affordable credit for all, and therefore pledges to use best practice to promote financial literacy and affordable lending to help to ensure that wealth stays in the local economy. Council will continue to work with those affected by the introduction of Universal Credit to ensure help is available.

Council resolves:

- To lobby Government to ensure that pressure is kept up so that action is taken to regulate legal loan sharks and a sensible cap placed on levels of interest charges; and

- To further lobby Government on introducing veto powers to Local Authorities to ensure that they are able, through licensing, to prevent socially damaging high street credit agencies operating within their areas.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above motion be approved. ¹.

(ii) Towthorpe Household Recycling Centre

It was moved by Cllr Doughty and seconded by Cllr Richardson that:

“Council notes with concern the deterioration in recycling in York and the negative effects on the environment and on the city’s reputation that such a decline may produce. In particular Council is concerned that household recycling targets look set to be missed and that landfill tax to be paid is predicted to rise by 12.5%. This could be further exacerbated should the Council introduce an unwelcome charge for green bins.

Therefore, in light of the failure to reach these recycling targets and the closure of Beckfield Lane Recycling Centre, Council confirms that it commits to the future of Towthorpe Recycling Centre in order to provide a basic service to residents and to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill in order to prevent costly increases in landfill taxes.”

Councillor Orrell moved, an amendment to the above motion, as follows:

Insert the following additional paragraph at the end after landfill taxes:

“Council also calls on the Cabinet Member to work with Yorwaste to review the traffic arrangements for Towthorpe Recycling Centre, including investigating better signage and traffic flow within the site. This follows concerns that on occasions traffic has been forced to queue onto Towthorpe Moor Lane, a well used road with a 60mph speed limit, to

gain access to the Recycling Centre and growing fears that closure on one day a week, the introduction of identity checking, and proposals to cease winter green bin collections will make the situation even worse.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

A second amendment to the original motion had been submitted by Councillor Taylor, as follows:

Insert the following additional paragraph at the end after landfill taxes:

“In light of the uncertainty regarding the financial viability of the Allerton incinerator project, Council will enter into new discussions with North Yorkshire County Council to explore the viability of a long-term, non-incineration, and high recovery strategy, as proposed in the "Due Diligence" report by Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council, which it claimed could be more than £120 million cheaper than the Allerton waste management solution.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

The original motion was then put to the vote, and also declared LOST and it was

RESOLVED: That the original motion be not approved.

(ii) Green Bin Collections

It was moved by Cllr Reid and seconded by Cllr Runciman that:

“Council Notes:

- Under the previous Liberal Democrat administration the recycling rate increased from 12% to 45% and a successful garden waste collection system operated.
- The Labour Cabinet has closed Beckfield Lane Recycling Centre and is due to miss its 2012/13 recycling and landfill targets, with landfill tax due to increase year on year by 12.5%.

Council believes that introducing charges for green bin collections would further undermine the successful recycling schemes introduced by the Liberal Democrats, lead to a fall in recycling rates, and a further increase in landfill taxes. This would cancel out any short-term income received from charging.

Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to immediately rule out any plans to introduce charging for green bin collections and redouble their efforts to increase recycling rates in York.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared LOST and it was

RESOLVED: That the motion be not approved.

(iv) Chancellor’s Autumn Statement

It was moved by Cllr Simpson-Laing and seconded by Cllr Burton that:

“Council is extremely concerned at the detail of the Chancellor’s Autumn Statement and the impact it will have upon services this Council provides to York residents, especially the city’s more vulnerable residents. The 'Statement' shows an ideological Government committed to reducing the ability of councils to deliver quality services and improve their respective areas for their residents.

The Leader of North Yorkshire County Council has confirmed that it is inevitable that the quality of service his council offers will suffer, and Council believes this is true for all local authorities, including York.

Since the Chancellor’s first announcement in 2010 this Council is expecting to lose a total of £21m between 2011 and 2015, a 35% cut in its previous level of funding from Government, inclusive of previously received grants. Together with unfunded budget pressures, this will result in the council needing to make savings of £51.8m over the 2011-2015 period of this administration.

Local Government is being asked to make cuts that far outweigh Government expenditure reductions in Whitehall

Departments. In 2014/15 there will be a 0.6% reduction in public expenditure, yet local government will experience a cut of around 8.7%.

Council agrees with the view of Conservative Local Government Association Leader Sir Merrick Cockell when he says that, "cutting council funding to help pay for nationally-administered economic stimulus programmes would be bad for local frontline services and makes no sense economically". Council also agrees with the LGA view that councils actively support economic growth.

Council resolves:

- Through its membership of the LGA, to campaign on a cross-party basis against these damaging cuts which will push even more York residents into poverty;
- Through that same membership to call for a reversal of the decision to impose an extra 2% cut to local government budgets in 2014/15 on top of the disproportionate cuts already dealt to councils since the Conservative-led Government came to power in 2010."

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above motion be approved. ².

Action Required

1. Lobby Government as set out in details of motion. WB
2. Through the LGA, campaign on a cross party basis against cuts. WB

80. QUESTIONS TO THE CABINET LEADER AND CABINET MEMBERS RECEIVED UNDER STANDING ORDER 11.3(A)

Twenty two questions had been submitted to the Cabinet Leader and Cabinet Members under Standing Order 11.3(a). The guillotine having fallen at this point, Members agreed to receive written answers to their questions, as set out below:

(i) To the Cabinet Leader from Cllr Aspden:

“The ‘Voting Age (Reduction to 16) Bill 2012-13’ sponsored by Liberal Democrat MP Stephen Williams is due for its second reading on 26th April. Will the Cabinet Leader continue his efforts to promote this reform and join me in lobbying York Outer MP Julian Sturdy?”

Reply:

“Yes.”

(ii) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Aspden:

“Could the Cabinet Member outline what has happened to residents who previously received support in the “moderate” care bracket. How many residents have been reassessed and how many now have care needs classified as “substantial”?”

Reply:

“184 residents who received support at ‘Moderate’ received a review. Approximately half (92) were re-designated as having substantial needs, either because their needs had changed since their previous review, or because it was agreed their needs had been wrongly designated as moderate – this is not unusual as peoples needs to change with time due to age and changes in their health situation. Those who remained at Moderate level were offered advice information and support to find alternative ways to meet their needs.”

(iii) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Aspden:

“Labour’s Budget confirmed plans to move the Warden Call service to a ‘social enterprise’ model. Could the Cabinet Member ensure all options are considered before a final decision is taken and proper consultation takes place with users of the service?”

Reply:

“Cllr Aspden should be aware that due to continued Government cuts to the funding of Local Government we are being actively being supported by Government to look at alternative models to

deliver services. Consideration of the options and a full business case will be the subject of a report to Cabinet on the 7th May. Consultation with customers and stakeholders continues and will be included in the report.”

(iv) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Aspden:

“How will the community be involved in decisions on the future of the Fordlands site in Fulford?”

Reply:

“I have no involvement in decisions on the future of the Fordland’s site. Property services and the Capital Asset Board are dealing with this and this is not within my portfolio area.”

(v) To the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services from Cllr Orrell:

“Following the recommendation of the Fairness Commission to set up an Equity Release Scheme when does the Cabinet Member expect the scheme to start?”

Reply:

“I am glad to see that Cllr Orrell has read the Fairness Commission report. His question relates to the ‘Idea’s for action’ companion report that supported the development of the recommendations in the September 2012 report.

One idea that was presented as part of the consultation was to:

‘Consider equity release scheme for ‘asset rich but cash poor’ elderly homeowners to access {to cash to enable improvements / sustained independent living}.

Whilst this could form a part within any long term strategy to delivering a balanced housing market, our focus has been on the key recommendations arising from the report.”

(vi) To the Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People from Cllr Aspden:

“Labour’s Budget included a further £150,000 cut to Youth Services in 2014/15. Could the Cabinet Member guarantee

that the Council will continue to fund and supervise Youth Centres and none will close as a result of this funding reduction?”

Reply:

“The Youth Support Service has been through a process of significant transformation over the past year. This work has helped to modernise the offer to young people in the City and to prioritise individual support for vulnerable young people. In fact the majority of youth work now takes place in a wide range of settings throughout the City – including URBIE. There is also considerable spare capacity at Moor Lane and the 68 Centre for use by other services and community organisations.

In these circumstances it is only right that we review our use of Youth Service buildings to make sure we are not only continuing to deliver the kind of Youth Support Services we need, but that they are in the right locations; and that council assets are being used to the full.

We will be conducting a review over the coming months and I am expecting that by September this year we will be able to bring forward our detailed plan that will meet our plans for the new service offer, and details of the budget reductions.

The review will be undertaken jointly with colleagues in Community and Neighbourhoods and Property Services to determine the best future use for these buildings.”

(vii) To the Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People from Cllr Aspden:

“Labour’s Budget included plans to scrap the Toy Library Bus in 2014/15. In a recent letter to the Council concerned parents said that “To lose this wonderful resource would be to the detriment of young learners’ creative development in the York area.” Will the Cabinet Member listen to these concerns and rethink this cut?”

Reply:

“We are consulting with users of the Toy Library after Easter about ways of continuing to provide the service in the light of the Bus itself no longer being fit to continue in service for much longer. It is possible that we could provide the service through Children’s Centres – which now have a much wider reach than when the Toy

Bus was originally commissioned. We are open to other ideas and suggestions and will listen to views, but the costs of replacing the actual bus are prohibitive. While consultations take place the Toy Bus will continue while we consider other options.”

(viii) To the Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People from Cllr Aspden:

“Labour’s Budget included plans to cease directly offering play grants and transfer this to Your Consortium. Could the Cabinet Member outline what impact this will have on groups such as SNAPPY?”

Reply:

“Over 2014/2015 the Play grants will transfer to Your Consortium. This is in line with the policy of making grants to voluntary organisations via an arms length group. The current criteria for the Community York will be revisited to take into account the priorities from the new Taking Play Forward policy. Play organisations will be able to apply to the Community York fund and there would seem to be no reason why SNAPPY along with the other play organisations should not be eligible for grants.”

(ix) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability from Cllr Reid:

“The Green Deal has the potential to deliver significant environmental, social and economic benefits for York. Could the Cabinet Member outline what plans are in place to ensure that York residents benefit from this opportunity?”

Reply:

“A paper is going to Cabinet recommending that CYC participate in a programme to procure a Leeds City Region Green Deal Provider.

<http://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MIId=6883>

This scheme, in its first 3 years, will aim to deliver Green Deal Packages of energy efficiency measures across York’s homes (see above paper).

In addition, and to compliment the Green Deal, the LCR provider will also secure ECO funding for the city, which may fully fund or subsidise certain qualifying energy efficiency measures (see paper

for more details). A communication plan will also support the programme.

Whilst a regional provider will be sought, the scheme aims to be delivered locally, and has potential for local job creation, training and skills development and to tackle climate change and fuel poverty priorities in the City.

We are already piloting elements of the Green Deal in the city, including our solid wall insulation pilot
http://www.york.gov.uk/press/article/174/york_to_trial_solid_wall_insulation_in_the_city

We also recently put on a business engagement/upskilling event for local businesses on the opportunities surrounding the Green Deal.”

(x) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability from Cllr Reid:

“Could the Cabinet Member outline what consultation will take place with residents in Acomb, Holgate, Dringhouses & Woodthorpe and Westfield under the next phase of the Council’s 20mph roll-out and could he assure these residents that their views will be listened to?”

Reply:

“Consultation on the scheme has already started with officers attending ward committees to gain and understanding of residents opinions and feedback on the initial scheme design. This will be built on over the next month, leading up to the advertising of the formal order in April.

Information about the proposals will be displayed at key community venues in the areas, alongside a series of ‘information days’ allowing officers to meet face to face with residents in key public locations – these will be confirmed in due course. Information will also be made available online on the Council Website and the dedicated York20mph site.

The 20mph@york.gov.uk email address has been active for several months now and residents have already contacted us through this channel to voice their opinion, social media portals are also available to receive comment on an informal basis.

The formal aspect of the consultation will follow, leading up to the advertising of the traffic order in the press and on street.

Household with a frontage on to the proposed new 20mph speed limits will receive a letter, accompanied by plans, inviting them to make representations, if they so wish.

Representations are recorded, considered and reported as part of the legal process in making of the traffic order, which I will then consider, and I can assure that I will always look very carefully at what people have to say.”

(xi) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability from Cllr Reid:

“Who decided on the design and the position of the new seats that have appeared across the City Centre? Would the Cabinet Member agree that they look no different from a municipal park bench and that in many cases they have replaced other street furniture that was considered to be “clutter”?”

Reply:

“The design for these was considered by the officer design group, in the light of the poor state of a number of the existing seats, the fact that many existing seats didn’t conform with current standards or disabled user needs and finally to address gaps in provision that leave disabled people who need to sit down at frequent intervals in some difficulties. Many of these issues were identified in the York City Centre Access & Mobility Audit that I commissioned on taking office and reflected feedback from equality groups. The design was then endorsed by the Reinvigorate York Board, following consultation. Extensive efforts were made to consult equality groups, particularly disabled, to ensure the designs approved could cater for the needs of a wide range of individual needs.

Providing suitable seating areas in the city centre is an important element of the “offer” to residents and visitors, and therefore enhances the public realm rather than introducing “clutter”. We have received some positive feedback on the introduction.

Wherever possible we should try and have seating every 400m ish, this is not always possible in Coney Street. Most of the benches are additional not replacements.”

- (xii) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability from Cllr Runciman:

“The carbon reduction initiative, begun by the Liberal Democrats in 2007, has reduced council emissions by 28% over the past five years. What plans are in place to build on this progress?”

Reply:

“Feasibility work is currently being undertaken to develop a new post 2013 carbon management programme, Any new programme will need to build on the success of the Council’s Green Audit which identified over 400 tonnes of savings from energy efficiency /renewable energy measures across ten schools. These emission savings will from the basis of a wider portfolio of forthcoming projects from across the Council (including opportunities form capital and asset management programmes) to save the Council further carbon over the coming years.

Officers will be bringing forward a paper for consideration by myself.”

- (xiii) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability from Cllr Aspden:

“Liberal Democrat run Bath & North East Somerset Council have a fully functioning system for community groups to register ‘Assets of Community Value’ under powers granted under the Localism Act. Could the Cabinet Member outline when community groups will be able to register assets in York and how this process will work?”

Reply:

“The straight answer is no, but work is underway by Officers in Resources, Planning and other Directorates to positively address the opportunity of the new legislation, and I will be working with my colleague, Julie Gunnell, who will be leading on this.”

- (xiv) To the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability from Cllr Firth:

“Given Labour’s manifesto promise to invest “more money for road repairs” can the Cabinet Member explain why spending on road maintenance and repair fell from £6,388,000 in 2011 to £4,428,000 in 2012?”

Reply:

“As Cllr Firth well knows, the manifesto promise he quotes refers specifically to a commitment to an increase of £60,000 following a Labour win in the May 2011 Local Elections. He may remember that we did win that election, while the Liberal Democrats lost a dozen of their 20 seats, and this commitment was included in our June 2011 Budget (which the Lib Dems voted against). As such this is a pledge we have honoured, a concept I know the Liberal Democrats are unfamiliar with.

With regards to the difference in spend between 2011/12 and 2012/13, this can largely be accounted for by a drop in Government funding, which unfortunately for the people of York, the Labour Party has no control of.

Regrettably, massive Government cuts to the Council’s budget mean difficult decisions have to be taken, and Opposition plans to borrow huge amounts of money for filling potholes now, that residents will have to pay for in the future, is incredibly irresponsible.

It is worth noting that latest Department of Transport figures confirm the condition of York’s principal road network is the best in the Yorkshire and Humberside region - placing the council in the top quartile compared to other authorities in England.”

(xv) To the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services from Cllr Reid:

“Could the Cabinet Member update Council on the situation regarding the Waste PFI project?”

Reply:

“Following DEFRA’s decision to withdraw the Waste PFI credits for the North Yorkshire and York proposal without any consultation, action is continuing on a number of fronts.

Further information has been requested on the technical assessment undertaken to support the decision made by DEFRA. This is still awaited. A meeting to lobby Ministers is scheduled to take place in April, with the Leader of the Council due to attend.

The withdrawal of the PFI credits in itself does not directly impact on the level of capital funding that is required to finance the

Allerton Park Facility. It does however impact on the revenue support from the government to both local authorities. It is Amey Cespa's (AC) responsibility to pull together the required funding package. They are continuing to move towards financial close.

Both local authorities and AC are in discussions with the Treasury on funding options to mitigate the loss of the Waste PFI credits in order to work towards providing an affordable solution to the authorities. The European Investment Bank are still supporting the project up to 50% of the overall funding requirement.

Further information is likely to come forward over the next couple of months as to whether the scheme is still a viable option for the Councils to pursue. We are not yet in a position to determine this. In line with the agreement, any decision on financial close and final affordability would need to be considered by Cabinet.

In the short term, we are able to continue to landfill at Harewood Whin, but as a fall back position we are having informal discussions with other Local Authorities and merchant facility providers as to what other options the council may have in dealing with their waste on a /medium term basis."

(xvi) To the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services from Cllr Reid:

"Could the Cabinet Member outline the new schedule for grass verge cutting after the cuts to 'Smarter York' in this year's Budget?"

Reply:

"Officers are currently examining the options and I will be receiving a report on this and how we increase community involvement in maintaining public green spaces at a Decision Session in late April. This is necessary to deal with the massive cuts being made to the Council's budget by Liberal Democrats in Government."

(xvii) To the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services from Cllr Reid:

"Could the Cabinet Member detail the spending on public art in West Offices, where each installation is from, and where they can be viewed by the public?"

Reply:

“Under the agreed contract the developer of West Offices provided £220k for public art for the new Headquarters. This administration has made sure that the art commissioning has been used to support local creative talent from York and Yorkshire. Jo Fairfax from Halifax has been the lead artist and mentored all the other local artists, most of whom have received their first major commission from this project. All the art, once installed will be in publicly accessible places. Outside the building Matt Lazenby has installed a beautiful quote from Auden into the central seating area and Jo Fairfax has designed a lighting wash for the central facade. Jo has also produced the digital interactive installation in the entrance area called the station master. Once inside the Customer care centre you will be able to see Rachel Welford striking Glass partition showing overlain maps of the city, a theme which is picked up again on the matriculation discs on the entrance doors. Overhead in the central void Suzanne Davis has produced a delightful 3D rainbow of copper threads. We are still working on getting the lighting of this work adjusted correctly so its shimmering interference effect is shown to its full extent. In addition Bright White will be producing an interpretive work where the full effect of the artworks can be appreciated for those with visual disabilities. We have also commissioned John Newling, emeritus professor of Public Art at Nottingham University to work with Students at our universities on a “market place” of creative ideas. This market will be taking place in Early May once the building is fully open.”

(xviii) To the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services from Cllr Cuthbertson:

“How many queries has the Council received about the Housing Benefit changes due to come into effect next month and how many outstanding queries have the Council yet to deal with?”

Reply:

- **“Proactive work** - we have been proactive in raising awareness for 6500 customers on what the welfare reform changes could mean for them, part of which was sending out letters to our customers on 17 January advising on both the LCTS and Social Size Criteria (“bedroom tax”) changes. This is in addition to information available on our website, proactive communications activity by Housing and partners such as CAB through their publications.

(xix) To the Cabinet Member for Crime and Stronger Communities from Cllr Orrell:

“Could the Cabinet Member outline how much ward committees will receive in funding next year?”

Reply:

“Acomb WC Work	3,200
Bthorpe & Wheldrake WC Work	3,190
Clifton WC Work	4,980
Derwent Heworth WC Work	4,340
Dringhouses & Wthorpe WC Work	4,450
Fishergate WC Work	3,280
Fulford & Heslington WC Work	2,780
Guildhall WC Work	2,760
Haxby & Wigginton WC Work	5,160
Heworth WC Work	4,860
Holgate WC Work	4,790
Huntington & New Earswick WC Work	5,010
Micklegate WC Work	4,550
Rural West York WC Work	4,260
Skton Rcliffe Clton WC Work	5,040
Strensall WC Work	3,260
Hull Road WC Work	3,420
Westfield WC Work	5,670”

(xx) To the Cabinet Member for Crime and Stronger Communities from Cllr Firth:

“The funding for Your Consortium is due to end this month. Could the Cabinet Member outline what plans are in place for voluntary sector grant funding after this?”

Reply:

“The launch of the next round of Community York will take place Tuesday 23rd April 2013, at Clements Hall, York from 11am - 2pm. The event provides the opportunity to celebrate the projects funded through the last round as well as inviting bids for the next

year against the themes of the four council objectives of healthy, engaged, inclusive and prosperous communities.”

(xxi) To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism from Cllr Runciman:

“Suffolk County Council’s policy of cutting library funding and then outsourcing the service to an Industrial Provident Society has resulted in widespread public opposition, staff reporting the service was at “breaking point”, and last month Stowmarket Library launching a fundraising drive in a bid to stay open. What lessons does the Cabinet Member draw for York from this?”

Reply:

“I’m surprised that Cllr Runciman had not done her homework as she could have easily found out that Suffolk have gone down a completely different route to York.

In their unusual and complicated model every single library has been set up as a separate legal entity and the community benefit society at the centre of the network has for its members only the libraries themselves. This model may or may not suit Suffolk – I cannot say - it is a matter for them.

What I can say is that it bears no relation to the approach we are taking in York and so no lessons can possibly be drawn from it. Central to our approach is the fact that it is being led by our staff who will be the founder members of the community benefit society and will drive it forward with all the energy and skills that they have demonstrated in abundance over the last couple of years. Also, very importantly, library users will be members of our community benefit society. Our initiative is about bringing the service closer to communities involving them in governance and enabling them to shape it to better meet the needs of our communities. Membership of our organisation will be open to everyone – it will be jointly owned by staff and the community but professionally managed.”

(xxii) To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism from Cllr Runciman:

“How much is the Council paying Mutual Ventures for its work on the changes to the library and archive service?”

Reply:

“Nothing – The Cabinet Office’s Mutual Support Programme were so taken with our innovative ideas to enhance and protect our libraries and increase community engagement that they are providing the necessary funding.

Despite the threats caused by the Conservative/ Liberal Democrats cuts to local Government funding, this administration is determined to do its best to protect those vital community services provided by our Library Service and so we are very pleased that we have been able to access support in this way.”

Cllr David Horton

DEPUTY LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.30 pm and concluded at 10.00 pm]

CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in the Guildhall, York on Thursday, 23rd May, 2013, starting at 11.00 am.

Present: The Lord Mayor Councillor Keith Hyman, in the Chair during the first part of the meeting; the Lord Mayor, Councillor Julie Gunnell, in the Chair during the second part of the meeting, and the following Councillors:

ACOMB WARD	BISHOPTHORPE WARD
Horton Simpson-Laing	Galvin
CLIFTON WARD	DERWENT WARD
Douglas King Scott	Brooks
DRINGHOUSES & WOODTHORPE WARD	FISHERGATE WARD
Hodgson Reid	D'Agorne Taylor
FULFORD WARD	GUILDHALL WARD
Aspden	Looker Watson
HAXBY & WIGGINTON WARD	HESLINGTON WARD
Cuthbertson Firth Richardson	Levene
HEWORTH WARD	HEWORTH WITHOUT WARD
Boyce Funnell Potter	Ayre

HOLGATE WARD

HULL ROAD WARD

Alexander
Crisp
Riches

Barnes
Fitzpatrick

HUNTINGTON & NEW
EARSWICK WARD

MICKLEGATE WARD

Hyman
Orrell
Runciman

Fraser
Gunnell

OSBALDWICK WARD

RURAL WEST YORK WARD

Warters

Gillies
Healey

SKELTON, RAWCLIFFE &
CLIFTON WITHOUT WARD

STRENSALL WARD

Cunningham-Cross
McIlveen
Watt

Doughty

WESTFIELD WARD

WHELDRAKE WARD

Jeffries
Burton
Williams

Barton

Also in attendance: Honorary Aldermen B Bell, Mrs M Bwye, J Morley, R Pulleyn, R Watson, I Waudby, D Wilde and K Wood.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Semlyen, Merrett, Steward and Wiseman.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

2. APPOINTMENT OF LORD MAYOR

Councillor Paul Healey moved, Councillor Fiona Fitzpatrick seconded and the Council unanimously

RESOLVED: That Councillor Julie Gunnell, of 33 Nunthorpe Crescent, South Bank, York YO23 1DU, be elected Lord Mayor of the City of York for the ensuing municipal year.

3. QUALIFICATION OF LORD MAYOR

Councillor Julie Gunnell signified Acceptance of the Office of Lord Mayor of the City of York, subscribed the Declaration of such acceptance and took the Oath of Allegiance prescribed by the law in that behalf.

4. APPOINTMENT OF SHERIFF

Councillor Sonja Crisp moved, Councillor John Galvin seconded and the Council unanimously

RESOLVED: That Councillor Brian Watson, of 97 Beckfield Lane, Acomb, York YO26 5PW, be appointed Sheriff of the City of York for the ensuing municipal year.

5. QUALIFICATION OF SHERIFF

Councillor Brian Watson made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Sheriff for the City of York and took the Oath of Allegiance prescribed by law in that behalf.

6. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LORD MAYOR

The Lord Mayor moved, Councillor Paul Firth seconded and the Council unanimously

RESOLVED: That Councillor Keith Hyman, of 1a The Old Village, Huntington, York YO32 9RA, be appointed Deputy Lord Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

7. QUALIFICATION OF DEPUTY LORD MAYOR

Councillor Keith Hyman made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Deputy Lord Mayor for the City of York and took the Oath of Allegiance prescribed by law.

8. LORD MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Lord Mayor advised Council that she had appointed Reverend Andrew Stoker to serve as her Chaplain during her year of office.

9. SHERIFF'S CHAPLAIN AND UNDER SHERIFF

The Sheriff advised Council that he had appointed Reverend David Porter to serve as his Chaplain and Miss Samantha Gunnell to serve as his Under-Sheriff during his year of office.

10. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING LORD MAYOR AND LADY MAYORESS

Councillor Keith Orrell moved, Councillor James Alexander seconded and Council unanimously

RESOLVED: That the Council express its sincere thanks to the outgoing Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress for their services to the City during the past municipal year.

11. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING SHERIFF AND SHERIFF'S LADY

Councillor Ian Cuthbertson moved, Councillor Dave Taylor seconded and Council unanimously

RESOLVED: That the Council express its sincere thanks to the outgoing Sheriff and Sheriff's Lady for their services to the City during the past municipal year.

12. FORMAL BUSINESS OF COUNCIL - ALLOCATIONS TO SEATS AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE COUNCIL STRUCTURE AND OUTSIDE BODIES 2013/14

With reference to the recommendations contained in paragraph 14 of the report at page 8 of the Council papers, the Lord Mayor moved, and Council agreed, to:

- (i) Note the changes to Cabinet portfolio holders made by the Leader with effect from 22 May 2013;
- (ii) Agree the allocation of seats in accordance with Annex A ; and
- (iii) Approve the nominations to Committees and outside or partnership bodies, as well as appointments to Chairs and Vice-Chairs, at Annex B, as circulated at the meeting and set out online in the republished papers for the meeting.¹

Action Required

1. Update memberships and inform Outside Bodies of nominations.

JP

Councillor Julie Gunnell
LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 11.00 am and concluded at 12.20 pm]

This page is intentionally left blank



Council

18th July 2013

Report of the Director for City & Environmental Services

Lendal Bridge Restrictions Trial

Summary

1. A paper was presented at Cabinet on 7th May 2013 seeking approval to proceed with a trial to restrict access across Lendal Bridge between 10:30am and 5:00pm for an initial period of six months. The full report can be found at <http://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MId=6884&Ver=4>
2. Following approval to proceed with the trial two e-petitions were established on the City of York Council website, one in support of the restriction, the other against. The petition supporting the restriction finished on 10th June and was supported by 143 signatures. The petition against the restriction finishes on 28th September 2013 and is currently supported by 1218 signatures. Any petition generating over 1000 signatures initiates a discussion of the subject at full council.
3. This briefing note sets out the reasons for undertaking the trial and the detail of implementation as currently agreed. Detailed design of some elements of the trial is still to be determined.

Background

4. A paper setting out the objectives of the trial and initial proposals on how the trial would operate was presented and discussed at 7th May Cabinet meeting. The full paper can be found at the link in paragraph 1. An overview of the paper can be found at Annex A attached to this report.

5. The reasons for pursuing the idea of a trial are several fold. Firstly, there is significant investment planned or taking place or scheduled in York, including the Art Gallery, Theatre Royal and the former council offices at St. Leonard's Place which it is anticipated will be converted into a hotel. Much of this funding from public and private purses (in the region of £14m), is on the route from the station to the Minster and to Bootham, which a reduction in traffic will support by enabling the public spaces to be altered and used for maximum benefit.
6. Secondly, there is evidence that a general improvement in the quality of public spaces, making them much more pedestrian friendly, such as Duncombe and St. Leonard's Places and Exhibition Square will support economic growth in the city centre, which is under particular challenge at the moment. Many cities in the UK and elsewhere, including nearby Sheffield, where there has been significant investment in public realm projects, have reported increases in footfall, spend and business interest.
7. Thirdly, traffic levels are increasing and congestion will spread further across the city with the expected growth agenda for York increasing jobs and housing, unless there is provision of some marked improvements to alternative ways of getting about. As cities grow they inevitably have to become more public transport based, although a flat compact city like York could also sustain a lot more cycling as well.
8. Fourthly, the council is currently in receipt of substantial funding from the Government to improve local bus services in the city and other low carbon ways of getting about which will help to fund a number of other improvements as well as this trial. Part of the trial will be to look at whether we can gain improved bus reliability and continuity of service. Improving these facilities encourages those residents who can change how and when they travel to do so, freeing up road space for essential vehicular trips.
9. Two petitions were established on the Council website. One in support commenced on 29th April 2013 and finished on 10th June 2013 and attracted 143 signatures. The other against the trial, commenced on 28th June, finishes on 28th September 2013 and has attracted 1218 signatures so far, thus requiring a discussion at Council. The person establishing the petition decides how long it is to run. The Council facilitates the provision of a petition but not the

detail of what is included or how long it runs. The difference in running time of the two petitions may explain some of difference in support.

10. Against the restriction, the Council is petitioned to:

‘Rethink the Council Cabinets plan to close Lendal Bridge for a 6 month trial and stop the ensuing gridlock in York. The planned closure of Lendal Bridge will have a dire effect on pollution, traffic and business in York. Motorists will be forced to use the 3 already busy bridges crossing the river Ouse causing more traffic build up and pollution’.

11. In support of the restriction the Council is petitioned to:

‘Close Lendal Bridge during peak hours and enforce measures to only allow essential services to use the crossing.

The aim is to improve the quality of life in York through reducing traffic volumes and positively promoting and encouraging sustainable modes of transport’

Consultation

12. A full communications plan has been developed and further detail can be found in the 7th May Cabinet report. Extensive stakeholder and public consultation will be undertaken during the trial and prior to any decision made to make the scheme permanent.

13. As the trial is being undertaken through an experimental TRO process the formal consultation period occurs once the Order is in place. This allows for evidence to be collected on which to understand and base decisions rather than expectation.

14. Initial discussions with businesses through the City Team have taken place and a Lendal Group sub group has been established.

15. Initial high level consultation with bus operators has already commenced. Continued engagement is through the Quality Bus Partnership performance group. Discussions so far have been broadly supportive of the proposal and, in order to take advantage of the improved reliability on Lendal Bridge, First York have indicated that they would consider operating: fare promotions,

marketing initiatives, experimental re-routing of commercial services (including P&R). Both Reliance and Stephenson's have responded positively to early discussions and have indicated that trialing the rerouting of services would be something they would welcome.

16. Essential areas of communications development include: press features (June 2013) and releases, leaflets and posters, website pages (FAQs updated as the project progresses), information, twitter feed, presentations, discussions meetings with user groups, drop-in-sessions, and feedback / comment channels.
17. A leaflet that will be distributed around the city is being designed and will begin circulation in late July. A business sector information pack is also being developed.
18. Information and consultation events will be taking place in the city centre (including early mornings and evening openings) in early August and early September with a Saturday consultation event in early October.
19. Discussions with North Yorkshire Police have also taken place and the Police are supportive of the trial. Further discussions are to take place regarding the potential for a Police presence if traffic issues around the Footstreets or immediately adjacent highway arise.

Options

20. There are no options for Council to consider the report and information contained within it are provided as information for the debate of the e-petition.
21. The petition provides no additional evidence to amend the decision made by Cabinet. The basis for that decision which is set out in the Annex to this report (and in more detail at <http://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MIId=6884&Ver=4>) still remains valid. The purpose of the trial is to provide evidence to understand how and whether the network can cope or could cope with the restriction if other alterations were made. That evidence will provide the basis on which to make a decision about whether such a restriction should be made permanent. The evaluation of the trial will be based on data

collected throughout the trial period and comments based on experience of the situation. Without the data from the trial any petition to prevent the trial or amendment to the Cabinet decision is based on personal expectation.

Council Priorities

22. The decisions made in relation to the trial agreed at Cabinet in May are aimed at supporting the priorities in the Council Plan.

Implications

23. Financial - The capital and revenue costs of designing and implementing the works around Lendal Bridge total approximately £170k and will be funded from the capital programme and the revenue elements will be funded from the Better Bus Area Fund and from existing public transport resources.

The project management will be funded from the BBAF, the network staff, monitoring and consultation will be funded from existing public transport resources and the signing, orders and cameras will be funded from the capital programme.

Human Resources (HR) - Depending on enforcement issues a potential requirement for new staff.

Equalities - Access to the city centre is still available to all users (subject to the operation of the footstreet hours) and all users are equally impacted where a different route to the city centre will need to be used. Exemptions to the bus only lane restrictions will be permitted where specific access to premises is required. Access to all current areas will remain but trip lengths will increase for some users (i.e. those not permitted to use the bus only lanes). Consultation and a full equality impact assessment will be carried out prior to making the scheme permanent.

Legal - Traffic orders will need to be advertised to make the restrictions legal. Enforcement of access restrictions in York can only currently be carried out by the police. Application for powers for the highway authority to enforce certain moving vehicle offences would require government authorisation. Application to carry out

enforcement by CCTV of bus lanes has been granted to some authorities, including York as regards Coppergate.

Crime and Disorder - See Legal above. Implications for police resources unless powers are sought for civil enforcement of restrictions.

Information Technology (IT) - Any future 'back office' Systems for enforcement and revenue collection will require IT input.

Property - No implications

Risk Management – Risks are predominately reputational and stakeholder and will be monitored frequently throughout the project.

Recommendation

24. The report is provided for information purposes only.

Author:

Ruth Stephenson
Head of Sustainable Transport
01904 551372

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Darren Richardson
Director of City & Environmental Services

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Patrick Looker

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

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A – Overview of Lendal Bridge Trial

Annex B - Plan

Annex C – Modelling analysis

Background papers

- Cabinet report 7th May 2013. Improving Movement and Public Realm in the City Centre
- York New City Beautiful: Toward an Economic Vision, 2010
- Reinvigorate York, Cabinet Decision Session, 1st December 2011
- Disappearing Traffic? The story so far. Cairns et al (2002) Municipal Engineer 151 issue 1

This page is intentionally left blank

Annex A - Overview of the Lendal Bridge Trial

1. The trial forms part of the wider transformation of the economic, cultural and recreational offer in the city centre. It will take the city forward in the same way as the vision to create the city centre footstreets and move traffic away from the Minster over 20 years ago. Concern at that time was overtaken by opportunity and vision, and the success of those bold decisions is now being shared throughout the country.
2. Significant transport changes are taking place across the City including expansion of park and ride, the upgrading of bus interchanges in the city centre, the rolling out of 20mph limits in residential areas and the development of smart ticketing, including the All-York ticket. Many other measures funded through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) and Better Bus Area Fund (BBAF) are aimed at increasing walking, cycling and the use of public transport and are influencing how we think about travel. These changes are fundamentally changing the way we make our travel choices and addressing the situation that as an historic city we do not have the physical space to fit more cars on the highway.
3. The Reinvigorate York programme, BBAF and the Local Transport Plan are spearheading major public realm improvements in the city centre, which includes: the redesign of the station frontage interchange; enhancements to the walking route from the station past the council offices to the Minster; theatre royal interchange Duncombe Place/Blake Street and Exhibition Square/St Leonard's Place/Bootham Bar improvement projects.
4. Removal of through traffic from the 'heart of the city' with managed access provided for essential traffic on 'priority routes' (in particular Lendal Bridge) offers a key transformational opportunity to maximise access for pedestrians, cyclists and buses. Significantly reducing motorised traffic offers the scope to improve air quality in some key central locations, improve bus reliability and enhance the attractiveness of the city centre. As the city grows the public transport system will become more vital for residents and visitors to in and around the city. More predictable journey times and less traffic in the city centre will improve the reliability and efficiency of bus services.

5. More specifically the reduction of vehicular traffic along the route from Queen Street, past the station, the city walls, Lendal Bridge to York Minster Library Square, St. Leonard's Place, Exhibition Square, Bootham Bar and beyond, improves the place and setting of this world class historic environment, stimulating trade, creating jobs and growing the economy. Reallocating released road space facilitates the realisation of series of public realm improvements along this route, and is an important step towards achieving the 'Reinvigorate York' transformation.
6. It is significant that on Lendal Bridge cars account for only 25% of person movements but comprise 80% of the vehicles, a disproportionate impact on the location and environs. 17% of person movements are by bus, 12% by cyclists and 41% are pedestrians.

The Economic Case for Investing in the City Centre

7. The quality of the city centre and its public spaces is absolutely critical to the continued economic prosperity of York, and particularly the city's ambition to become a top 5 UK city and top 10 mid sized European city¹. The city centre, as the 'face' of York, whilst still popular with many visitors and residents, is looking tired in places and will struggle in future years to compete with competitor cities across the UK and abroad.
8. Investment to uplift the city centre is important to encourage a greater proportion of the city's residents, as well as visitors, to spend time in the city. Experience in York (with the original footstreets implementation) and other cities who have taken bold decisions to invest in public streets and spaces, like Sheffield, Manchester and Bradford, have reported real uplifts in footfall, spend and business interest – as well as reaping the human benefits of a looked after and pedestrian-friendly place.
9. Local businesses have identified accessibility and movement in and around the city as being essential to improve. Key stakeholder groups such as Visit York, English Heritage, York Civic Trust and the Future York Group have all identified the need to improve streets and spaces across the city centre to provide a high quality public realm that is spectacular by day and night. Making the city

¹ York Economic Strategy 2011-15

more business-friendly will increase demand and build private sector confidence.

10. The York Visitor Survey 2011-12 found that the overwhelmingly top activity of our 7 million visitors each year is to “stroll around and enjoy the ambience of York”, together with “eating and drinking out”. Less than 2 million of the 7 million visitors actually go into the major attractions. This illustrates the vital importance of the quality of public spaces in attracting entrepreneurs, investors, students and people looking for jobs.
11. Resident surveys over a number of years have already shown support for measures to reduce traffic in the city centre. Recent surveys as part of the City Centre Area Action Plan (2008) consultation demonstrated specific support for restrictions on through traffic over Lendal Bridge.
12. More specifically the reduction of vehicular traffic along the route from Queen Street, past the station, the city walls, Lendal Bridge to York Minster Library Square, Bootham Bar and beyond, would vastly improve the place and setting of this world class historic environment.

The Opportunities and Rationale for Improving Movement in the City Centre. Why Now?

13. The ability to deliver on a bridge reprioritisation proposal impacts directly on the scope of the Reinvigorate York projects at Exhibition Square/St Leonard’s Place / Bootham Bar and Duncombe Place/Blake Street and the benefits that can be accrued, including the opportunity to showcase the city during the Tour de France event in 2014. Significant investment in the area (over £14m) is taking place around the art gallery, theatre and St Leonard’s Place to create a cultural hub. The whole area therefore acts as a gateway to the city centre, the station and Minster and cultural quarter
14. Reprioritisation of traffic on the bridge is critical to enabling the full potential of this investment to be realised. It would create spaces not dominated by traffic, free up space currently used by traffic thus enabling it to be used as shared space or public realm and allows the spaces to be more coherently joined together. However these areas can be maximally enhanced only if the majority of traffic is removed.

15. Equally importantly there is a one off opportunity with a number of critical transport projects (which will offer mitigation and complement the trial) are being delivered over the next two years, which bring with them external funding of approximately 22 million pounds; namely the i-Travel York project encouraging mode shift, Better Bus Area Funding delivering bus improvements, Access York A59 / Outer Ring Road roundabout upgrade and Poppleton Road/Boroughbridge Road bus lane improvements and new Park & Ride sites, also being delivered through Access York.
16. Reprioritising traffic on Lendal bridge also presents opportunities to make significant improvement to public transport, creating a corridor that enables greater reliability and consistency. If the growth aspirations for the city are to be delivered then the public transport offer will need to be strengthened in order to provide for the additional demand for travel within a constrained highway network. The greatest benefit would accrue in the 7:00am to 7:00pm period.
17. It is accepted that the re-routing of traffic will potentially lead to some detrimental displacement effects, and worsening congestion on some routes dependant upon the travel choices people make as a result of the changes. This will be influenced by the mitigation works pursued in the form of business and personalised travel planning, re-routed bus services etc.
18. However, research into roadspace reallocation (Cairns et al 2002) looking at 70 schemes in 11 countries, suggested that predictions of traffic problems were often 'unnecessarily alarmist' and that subject to local conditions 'significant reductions in overall traffic can occur', on average across the schemes, 11%. It also makes the point that how the scheme is perceived and reported in the media is critical. If as a result of any trial or permanent arrangement a significant reduction in overall traffic was achieved, as maybe likely, this would also contribute significantly to air quality improvements and targets.
19. The recently successful £2.2M Better Bus Area (2012) fund bid included proposals for the investigation of bus priority corridors on Lendal (and Ouse) bridges. The proposal is to support the implementation of other major public realm initiatives as well as contribute to the economic aspirations of the city by enabling growth whilst accommodating existing traffic in an alternative way.

Trialing restrictions on Lendal Bridge

20. The overview for the proposal for the trial is set out here:

- To be delivered using experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO). Under an experimental TRO the trial can run for up to 18 months before it must either be revoked or made permanent. The first six months of the trial constitutes the objection or representation period.
- To commence during the summer holiday period in August 2013
- Commencing with 10:30am – 5:00pm which will need to operate for at least 6 months.
- A two-way restriction to be enforced with ANPR cameras based at the Rougier Street end of the bridge
- The enforced restriction to be in place between Rougier St/Lendal Bridge traffic signals and Lendal/Museum St junction (see plan attached to the report)
- Access only provision to be made from the Bootham/Gillygate junction into St. Leonard's Place
- The right turn out of Lendal to be reinstated (this will mean that for the period of the trial there will be a smaller informal pedestrian crossing point at this location, however as part of any possible permanent arrangement there is potential to deliver a shared space solution to the junction such as altered paving or a raised table)
- The 'no right turn' into Explore to be recinded

21. An evaluation report will be brought back to Cabinet and the objections to the Order considered before any consideration could be given to making the trial permanent. The aspiration is for a restriction from 7:00am to 7:00pm and the trial provides a step towards understanding what, where and how the traffic redistributes on the network and what impact the restriction has on residents and businesses.

22. A dedicated Project Manager is in place for the trial to ensure that the project runs efficiently and that full consultation and monitoring processes are in place.

23. The 'access only' arrangements on St. Leonard's Place will provide for access for businesses and residents and ensure they have 24 hour access to their premises. It will also enable legitimate access to the footstreets area.

24. The signing regime in relation to the enforced restriction and the wider signing around the city is still subject to final detailed design. The enforced restriction will follow as closely as possible the signing at Coppergate as it will not require any additional authorisation from the Department for Transport. It will also make the signing more consistent and understandable.
25. Any exemptions from the restriction are still subject to a final decision e.g. post office delivery vehicles but are being kept to a minimum and are 'except for operational requirements' as necessary.
26. Officers are in discussion with a company that uploads streetworks information to satellite navigation systems to understand whether it is possible to include the Lendal Bridge restriction.
27. A restriction on Lendal Bridge to through traffic could cause some problems on a number of bus services at specific locations. Mitigation measures are being considered as part of the trial and any permanent scheme (and are set out in more detail in Annex D of the 7th May Cabinet report). However, crucially, the proposal has the potential to generate substantial benefits to bus services. This is because such a closure will:
- Free buses from the congestion that they experience over the bridge itself
 - Reduce traffic flows on links near to the bridge, where buses also experience congestion currently
 - Reduce traffic flows and congestion on Ouse Bridge – bus services using either bridge benefits from the measure

Mitigation overview

28. The main points of the mitigations available are set out below. Further detail is included in Annex D of the Cabinet report.
29. The main focus is on providing a proactive traffic management service. Adjustment of the signal settings will be made to capitalise from the reductions on some routes and mitigate against impacts on others. Adjustment of the plans will enable more 'green time' to be given to some arms of the junction to reduce delay.

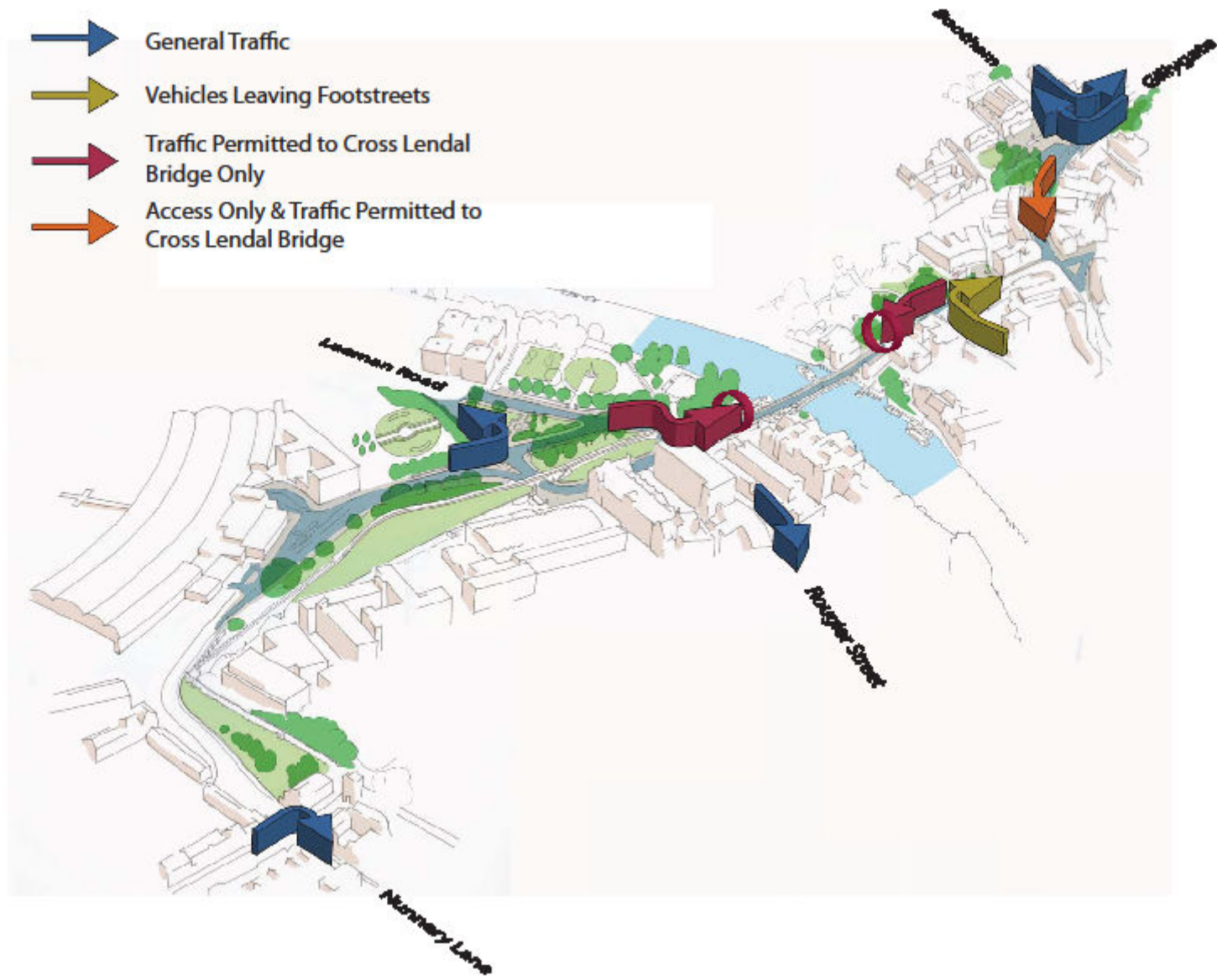
30. Additional network operator staff will be deployed to provide proactive management and control utilising equipment available e.g. CCTV. These staff will focus on monitoring the network and identifying problems which will enable any problems that develop to be dealt with immediately.
31. Through the BBAF provision is being made for bus wardens – who will monitor the situation on the ground and deal with issues directly with bus users and operators; and for a bus controller who will be based in the CCTV office. This person will monitor the CCTV specifically in relation to bus issues and seek to address them directly or avert potential issues before they escalate.
32. Through the LSTF a programme of personalised travel planning in the northern quadrant of the city is commencing in May 2013 and running for two years. Staff will be working with individuals to identify how, where and when they can change their travel behavior. Cycle facility improvements are being provided which will provide a more joined up network by infilling gaps and providing new routes e.g. Haxby to Clifton Moor and a park & pedal scheme at the P&R sites has just been launched through the business travel planning initiative.
33. Early discussions with bus operators have indicated general support and a willingness to work with the council to trial additional services, re-routing of services, fare promotions etc. Discussions with operators are on-going. The new Park & Ride at Poppleton on the A59 will provide additional public transport capacity in 2014.
34. The BBAF will also be delivering a number of other public transport improvements including: a bus priority lane on Clarence Street to improve bus reliability and reduce delay, improved ticketing arrangements with the introduction of a smart card, improved interchange areas, improved information and provision of real-time information and improvements to the existing city centre bus priority area on Coppergate.

Monitoring & Evaluation

35. Further detail is provided in the 7th May Cabinet report.

36. Additional traffic surveys have been undertaken to establish a baseline. Officers are working in partnership with the Institute of Transport Studies (ITS) at Leeds University to ensure critical and relevant data is collected, questionnaires are suitably designed and supporting contextual data is available.
37. The monitoring of the scheme will be undertaken by the Council but it is the intention that the evaluation will be undertaken independently by ITS.

Annex B – Overview Plan of bridge restriction



This page is intentionally left blank

Annex C - Modelling analysis

1. Modelling of a number of access options has been made using the York Strategic Transport Model. Traffic models are constructed as computer representations that aim to reproduce the current behaviour of traffic on the highway network. A model that validates can be used to predict likely future traffic patterns. The York traffic model has recently (2010) undergone a major refresh including extensive roadside interview and public transport surveys to confirm and update its current validity. Modelling allows us to see where the model predicts traffic will go both on day 1 and where it will end up at when a steady state or equilibrium is achieved. Limitations to the model are that it does not explicitly model walking and cycling, and it also does not fully take into account any decisions not to make a trip or to change the time when a trip is made (peak spreading). Modal change arising from fundamental changes to public transport provision including quality of service and new routes are also not modelled. What we model is therefore a 'worst case' scenario. The model is used to indicate where issues might arise and for testing of mitigation options. A detailed local knowledge of the operation of York's highway network, traffic engineering practice and 'common sense' has also been used extensively in this analysis.
2. When a change is made to the highway network there is an initial impact as vehicles re-route from 'day 1'. Over the following days and weeks people explore different routes, different modes, and alternative times of day travel. Travellers may also decide to make trips to different locations or not to make some trips at all. After some time (weeks to months) the network achieves 'equilibrium', this is where it has settled down to the new patterns of travel. In reality this equilibrium is never fully stable because different people are travelling on different days and making different trips. Advance publicity of the restrictions and marketing of public transport, walking and cycling alternatives where appropriate, should help reduce the time taken for traffic to reassign and alternative mode choices adopted. The time taken to reach this equilibrium is important in that it dictates the appropriate length of the trial, in terms of understanding the effects, but note that this is separate from any legal restrictions over the time that an experimental order can be operated. Schemes reducing capacity generally settle down more quickly than those that increase capacity with the majority of rerouting occurring within the first few weeks of the changes.

3. An investigation into the elasticity of public transport demand i.e. how demand varies with cost and travel time shows that in York travel time is relatively inelastic. This means that relatively large savings in travel time for buses only result in small increases in bus patronage. A 10% reduction in bus travel times is resulting in a 2% increase in patronage. Improvements to reliability and frequency of services change the elasticity, making them more elastic. However, this is outside the scope of the model, although the local and national experience is that increasing the frequency of bus services is the biggest influence on patronage. This is important because savings in bus journey times bring about efficiencies in bus operations reducing the operating cost. These cost savings can then be passed on to the users through the fare structure, and/or increases in quality of the fleet and/or improvements in bus frequency. First have committed to reinvesting any efficiency gains back into York by improving the quality of the service – the running fleet, the stop provision and information about services, will all help increase patronage which in turn positively feeds back to the quality. However, quantifying the impact of quality improvements at this stage or through modelling is difficult.
4. Assessment of impact on air quality has not been made for the trial. The air quality will be measured during the trial using the existing network of monitoring points although air quality measurements need to be made over a long period before conclusions can be drawn. Assessment using air quality modelling would provide a good indication of the likely impact in advance of the on-street monitoring becoming available and would be necessary as part of considerations prior to any decisions on permanent restrictions being made.

Where does the traffic go?

5. On 'day 1' of the restriction the traffic splits between Water End and Skeldergate Bridges and to a lesser extent Ouse Bridge. At 'equilibrium' once the traffic patterns have settled down, the effect is far more dispersed with traffic redistributing to the A1237 and A64 river crossings. It should be noted that the changes in flow are not just the re-routed bridge vehicles but displaced vehicles as a consequence of re-routing. This 'rippling out' effect is very much as would be observed when throwing a pebble into a pond. What the model cannot tell us is how long it takes for the pattern to settle. From previous experience a change on the scale that we are talking

about it is likely to be in the order of weeks although the prior publicity about the scheme might make this more rapid.

6. Lendal Bridge carries approx 8% of river crossing vehicle traffic (excluding buses) in the morning peak. The table below shows the changes to the split of traffic on the other crossings that are predicted to result from a Lendal Bridge restriction:

River Crossing:	A1237	Clifton	Lendal	Ouse	Skeldergate	A64
Existing (total 12,400 veh per hr AM peak)	24%	9%	8%	6%	14%	38%
Lendal Br Restriction (total 12,200 veh per hr AM peak)	26%	11%	0%	7%	16%	40%

Notes: Different totals are due some vehicles crossing both bridges in the base situation. The Clifton Bridge figures are pre-reinstatement of left turn lane at Clifton Green.

7. Significant reductions in traffic volumes are predicted on the corridor from Queen Street (-290) past the station frontage (-400), Lendal Arch Gyratory (-600), Lendal Bridge (-700), Museum Street, St Leonards Place (-500) and Gillygate (-150).
8. Moderate reductions will take place on the Mount outbound (-140), Clarence Street (-90), Haxby Road inbound (-80). Some redistribution of traffic between Fulford Road, Cemetery Road and Heslington Road is indicated.
9. Significant increases in traffic are predicted on the Inner Ring Road anti-clockwise Prices Lane gyratory over Skeldergate Bridge, Fishergate and Foss Islands Road. The largest increase is at the Walmgate Bar (+200 northbound, +125 southbound). Increases in flow are also predicted for Water End at Clifton Bridge (+150 heading to Clifton Green, +200 coming from Clifton Green).
10. Area-wide the overall impact is low. The worst case increase in overall travel times over the entire city boundary is less than 2%. Looking at a cordon including the inner ring road and Water End this

raises to 3%. To put this into context traffic is expected to grow in York by 1% each year once the current economic recession ends.

11. The biggest impact is Water End eastbound and Foss Islands Road. In terms of the bus network these routes are less strategic. Lawrence Street and Layerthorpe Bridge Foss Bank and Foss Islands Road approaches are a concern but there are some options to re-route buses via James Street. In the longer term the completion of the James Street link road would provide relief for this corridor and may open up options for new routes and bus priority measures. Additional traffic on Water End would inevitably lead to additional traffic using residential roads in the Clifton Green area to avoid the signals at Clifton Green. The Rawcliffe P&R service route could be protected using signal settings and there is the potential for inbound bus lanes on Shipton Road.
12. The Burtonstone Lane and Crichton Avenue route would appear to provide an alternative means of accessing the Hospital and Nestle however the model does not show significant increases in traffic using these roads. Improvements to traffic conditions at Bootham / Gillygate are effectively countering against this. This route will require to be monitored as part of any trial.
13. Leeman Road would appear to provide an alternative route for traffic accessing the station from the north and although the model does not predict significant changes (<50 vehicles per hour) this would require monitoring.
14. A concern is that a number of the areas that are predicted to see increases in traffic volumes are within the Air Quality Management Areas and many are areas of technical breach (including Fishergate and Prices Lane). Equally other technical breach areas like Gillygate may see some improvement. However the Low Emission Strategy recognises that we can not simply eliminate vehicular traffic and that the focus needs to be on reducing emissions by encouraging the use of lower emission vehicles through the adoption of Low Emission Zones. Other strategies including freight consolidation, electric charging infrastructure, and the roll out of LSTF travel planning will all in time help encourage lower emissions from transport. In the short term it is likely that the overall effect is negative, in the longer term the effect would become positive.

15. Strategic management of where traffic re-routes using signal settings has the potential to be used to help protect strategic bus corridors or areas with air quality issues. Further work using the Paramics micro-simulation model that is being developed for the Low Emission Strategy would be required to help develop and assess these strategies. This work would be informed by the outcomes of the trial and would be undertaken before any implementation of any permanent restrictions.
16. One of the principal objectives of the scheme is to encourage people currently making private car trips to make more use of public transport. This can be achieved by improving the reliability, travel time and frequency of the buses. These reductions in vehicles on the road will help mitigate congestion on the highway network. Modelling work shows that the savings in travel times bus routes (and increases in car trip lengths) on only leads to a relatively small direct increase in bus patronage (+2%). However the modelling work does not take into account improved reliability of bus services, the potential for new routes being opened, the release of vehicles and drivers and subsequent reinvestment in improved frequencies. These have the potential to lead to a significantly greater impact. The option for cross-city park and ride routes is also opened up by the proposed restriction, and the feasibility of such routes can be tested as part of the trial.
17. Research findings (Cairns Atkins and Goodwin 2001) from an examination of over 70 case studies on road space reallocation concluded that problems with displaced traffic resulting from reallocation of road space were “in reality rarely as bad as predicted, and that, with careful planning and appropriate implementation, reallocating road space to more sustainable modes of transport can result in a variety of complementary benefits.” Traffic reductions evidenced in the report showed an average of reduction in traffic volumes of 11%. The month long closure of Lendal Bridge resulting in a 15.9% reduction in overall traffic volumes.

This page is intentionally left blank



Councillor James Alexander
Labour Leader of City of York Council
Report to Full Council – July 2013

Employment Rates

Last month York's unemployment rate fell again to 2763. This is the equivalent of 2.1% of the working age population. In Yorkshire and Humber the figure is 4.6%. In the country it is 3.7%. York's employment rate is outperforming both the region and the country.

The council prioritising jobs and growth is beginning to show a return.

Former Terry's site

The former Terry's factory is a brownfield site which has been left to languish for a long period of time. It has now been purchased for the development of new homes. This represents a significant step forward in breathing new life into this site. The council must be flexible to see this site come to fruition.

Comprehensive Spending Review

Councils will see a further 10% cut in funding on top of the 35% already imposed by Central Government. By the end of this Parliament the council will have had to make £70m of savings due to Government funding reductions mixed with increased costs and demands. The annual operational budget of the council is £128m per annum. The savings required equates to well over half of this.

The further funding reduction will inevitably have an impact on front line services which political parties opposite will oppose at the same time as supporting their parties' decision in Government.

The Government has also announced that £400m of the £2bn funding given to Local Enterprise Partnerships will come from councils such as York. Giving York taxpayers' money to unelected bodies to administer sets a dangerous and undemocratic precedent for the Government. Furthermore this means York will not receive the funds the government said we would receive to support the economy.

Inward Investment

Around the time of the John Lewis planning application I asked the economic development team to contact Primark about setting up a store in York and I suggested the Piccadilly M&S store that would be vacated. The feedback was that Primark had wanted to come to York for some time and the site may fit their requirements. More recently it transpired the retail floor space was too small but a conversion of the surplus storage space to retail floor space would fit their needs. It has been announced in The Press that Primark is coming to York. I would like to give a further update about a new development for this retailer coming to York but the deadline for submission of this report prevents me from doing so. I will provide this update at Full Council.

Webcasting

I am pleased the council webstreamed its first meeting. This is something I pushed for some time ago in opposition. However the administration at the time was not supportive. I am pleased that the trial will include full council meetings. This is an important step forward to open up democracy.

Park and Rides

I am pleased to see progress being made on our manifesto pledge to provide new park and rides. This will free up road capacity for those who have no alternative but to use their car at the same time as providing more opportunities for people to use alternative, more sustainable transport to get in and out of the city. Park and Rides have been a major success since their introduction under Labour and increasing their coverage across the city falls again to Labour as the Party not only talking about tackling congestion, but taking action on it.

Police

I worked a seven hour shift with the Police in the city centre during the night recently. I would like to pay tribute to the police officers who work hard to keep our streets safe. It is clear that body cameras help speed up convictions and reduce cost to the judiciary. I will be working with the newly appointed Cabinet Member for Crime and Stronger Communities and the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure all York's police officers have body cams. Not only do they free up police capacity and increase convictions, they also help with the safety of officers.

Local Plan

I welcome comments from the Planning Minister at the recent Westminster Hall debate on York's draft Greenbelt. He made clear the Local Plan is a matter for York and that the Government will not intervene as Julian Sturdy MP has requested. He also highlighted York's homes crisis and the need for new homes.

A recent planning appeal upheld by the Planning Inspector made clear York did not have the five year land supply expected by the Government for new homes and increased land allocation for homes was needed. The Inspector made clear that if York did not have a Local Plan in place then planning decision making powers will be taken away from democratically elected councillors and given to unelected officials in London.

As I have stated on previous occasions, York needs a Local Plan and increased land for homes.

The appeal also showed that if York is to expect homes people can afford, this can only be achieved through increasing land supply.

Tourism Phone Application

I am looking forward to the launch of this joint venture between the council and Appeartome, a York based technology company. The app will revolutionise the visitor experience to York and is a world technological first. I have been working with IT and the company for some time over the course of the development of the app. The council will receive an income stream from the sale of the app. Initially this will pay for our share of development costs, after which we can use this income stream to support tourism activities in York.

Local Government York North Yorkshire

This year I will be chair of this organisation which encompasses all unitary, district and county Leaders in North Yorkshire. It also includes the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chair of the Police and Crime Panel and Leaders of our national parks.

I intend to use my year as Chair to promote jobs and growth across North Yorkshire and initiate shared services where appropriate.

CCTV

Our CCTV network has been transferred to our dark fibre network and an expanded control room has been officially opened. We will soon be installing cameras on Coppergate and Lendal Bridge for enforcement of traffic restrictions. I will be working with relevant cabinet members to ensure we make use of further traffic enforcement and further criminal evidence gathering. I am in talks with other councils to expand this service to cover other authorities.

There may also be some opportunities to review our park and rides using the CCTV link up put in place.

Law College

It is sad to see the Law College move to Leeds but it is clear given the scale of the University of Law's plans that this decision was likely. Yet the move also provides opportunities and I have every confidence that the site will be occupied in the near future, for whatever use that might be.

Councillor James Alexander
9th July, 2013

MEETING	CABINET
DATE	2 APRIL 2013
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS ALEXANDER (CHAIR), CRISP, GUNNELL, LEVENE, LOOKER, MERRETT, SIMPSON-LAING (VICE-CHAIR) AND WILLIAMS
IN ATTENDANCE	COUNCILLORS CUTHBERTSON, DOUGHTY, HEALEY, RICHARDSON, REID, RUNCIMAN, STEWARD AND WARTERS

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

122. NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING

Consideration was given to a report which set out details of a refresh of the Council's approach to Neighbourhood Working, coming into effect in June, following the current round of annual meetings.

The proposed update included:

- The establishment of Resident Forum meetings in place of Ward Committees
- A refresh of the Community Contract
- A revised mechanism for how ward funding is spent
- A strategy to engage residents
- Priorities for the new Communities and Equalities Team to support members in delivering the new model.

Details of work already undertaken to implement the proposals was set out at paragraphs 2 and 3 of the report, with feedback on consultation and changes made in response at paragraph 5. Support to be given to Members by the Communities and Equalities team in planning, organising and promoting programmes of engagement events and further practical steps was also set out. To facilitate the proposals would also require amendments to the Council's constitution details of which were set out at paragraph 16 together with proposed terms of reference for the Resident Forum meetings in the Annex.

Consideration was then given to the available options to:

- Adopt the new model as proposed
- Retain the status quo or
- Adopt an amended version of the model

The Cabinet Member presented the report in more detail explaining the need for rebranding of the Neighbourhood Management Unit to better reflect the work being undertaken. It was confirmed that the new model was not prescriptive and allowed Members to be freed up and continue with those parts that worked well, whilst developing new flexible ways of working. The earlier speaker's comments were also supported.

RECOMMENDED: That Council agree to the alteration of the Constitution to establish Resident Forums in place of Ward Committees, as described in paragraph 12 of the report, to include a revised mechanism to agree the allocation of ward funding, as described in paragraph 15 of the report.
1.

REASON: To actively engage York's residents in their wards.

Action Required

1. Refer recommendation to Council

JP

Cllr J Alexander, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 7.10 pm].

MEETING	CABINET
DATE	7 MAY 2013
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS ALEXANDER (CHAIR), CRISP, GUNNELL, LEVENE, MERRETT, SIMPSON-LAING (VICE-CHAIR) AND WILLIAMS
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLOR LOOKER
IN ATTENDANCE	COUNCILLORS BARNES, D'AGORNE, DOUGLAS AND STEWARD

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

144. NEW COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING - PHASE 1

[See also Part A Minute]

Consideration was given to a report which set out proposals to deliver the first phase of new council homes and sought approval for the council to pursue development of a number of sites within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) to build between 50 and 70 new homes.

The Cabinet Member outlined the report and advised that the Council needs to improve its housing stock level to address the high level of housing need in the city. The sites identified in the report as suitable for development are sites within the council's own portfolio and the Beckfield Lane site would be the first to come forward.

Details of the funding route was outlined at paragraphs 14 to 16 of the report, including the use of £1million of commuted sums that are ring fenced for the delivery of affordable housing.

RECOMMENDED: That Cabinet agree to recommend the use of £1m commuted sums, and thereby increase the approved capital programme (HRA) for new homes from £6m to £7m.

REASON: To allow a total scheme budget of £7m to deliver the project.

Councillor James Alexander, Chair
[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 7.55 pm].

Meeting	Cabinet
Date	16 July 2013
Present	Councillors Alexander (Chair), Crisp, Cunningham-Cross, Levene, Looker, Merrett, Simpson-Laing (Vice-Chair) and Williams
In attendance	Councillors Barton, Cuthbertson and Runciman

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

31. CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2012/13 AND REVISIONS TO THE 2013/14 – 2017/18 PROGRAMME

[See also Part A minute]

Consideration was given to a report which set out the capital programme outturn position, including any under or overspends details of the overall funding of the programme together with an update on the impact of this on future years.

An outturn of £46.476m was reported compared to the approved budget of £57.281m, financed by £21.227m of external funding and £36.054 of internal funding, a variation of £10.805m, of which £10.4457m had been reprofiled to future years. Details of the variances for individual departments along with requests for reprofiling were set out at Table 1 and paragraphs 8 to 31 of the report.

Information was provided on the Economic Infrastructure Fund with an overall value of £28.5 covering a 5 year period with schemes committed to a value of £17.663m, detailed at Annex B.

Updates on the 2013/14-2017/18 Capital Programme were reported at Table 2 and Annex A, with further details at paragraphs 39 to 43 and the projected Capital Programme financing for this period reported at Table 4. It was confirmed that close monitoring of the overall funding position was being

undertaken by the Director of Customer and Business Support Services with any issues being reported back to Cabinet.

The Cabinet Member referred to the reprofiling of funds, part of which included delays in DfT approval for the Access York scheme. The West Offices development was however still expected to be under spent and on time a significant achievement.

Following further discussion it was

RECOMMENDED: That Council agree to the restated 2013/14 to 2017/18 programme of £203.295m as summarised in Table 3 and detailed in Annex A of the report.

REASON: To allow the continued effective financial management of the capital programme from 2013/14 to 2017/18.

32. COMBINED AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW AND SCHEME

Members considered a report which confirmed the next steps for the City of York Council in becoming a non-constituent member of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, in order to improve transport and economic activity.

As it was not currently legally possible for York to become a full constituent member, non-constituent membership was proposed in the interim which would allow a degree of decision making powers.

In order to secure Government approval for a Combined Authority the West Yorkshire Local Authorities were required to undertake a statutory review of economic and transport functions, details of which were set out at paragraphs 8 to 16 and at Annex A of the report. The proposal for the Combined Authority, legally known as a "Scheme", prepared for the approval of the Secretary of State was shown at Annex B, which, if agreed, could result in the Combined Authority being created by April 2014.

Further information on the Scheme and supporting structures were reported at paragraphs 21 to 25 with timescales for future

decisions at paragraph 28. The legal implications and risks of the Council not becoming a member were also reported.

The Leader confirmed a change in the report recommendation, in that the recommendations required Council approval. The Cabinet Member reiterated the importance of membership of the Authority and the gains for economic growth and receipt of transport funding for the city.

RECOMMENDED: That Council agree to:

- (i) Note and support the findings of the West Yorkshire Review, set out in Annex A of the report, including that a Combined Authority for the area of West Yorkshire, and ultimately including the City of York, would be likely to improve:
 - the exercise of statutory functions relating to economic development, regeneration and transport in the area;
 - the effectiveness and efficiency of transport in the area; and
 - the economic conditions in the area.
- (ii) Consider and support the proposed Scheme for establishing a West Yorkshire Combined Authority, pursuant to Section 109(2) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act (LDEDCA) 2009.
- (iii) Confirm consent for the City of York Council to becoming a non-constituent member of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, pending assurance from proposed constituent members as to the decisions on which CYC as a non-constituent member will be given voting rights.

- (iv) Authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and with the other West Yorkshire Authorities to undertake such steps as are necessary to facilitate the submission of the Scheme and CYC's non-constituent membership of the resulting Combined Authority.
- (v) Pursue full membership for City of York Council, and to consider the full details of this full membership as and when it becomes possible for the Council to join as a full member.

REASON: To secure greater influence over and opportunity for investment in infrastructure in the City of York.

Cllr James Alexander, Chair
[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.15 pm].

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

MEETING	STAFFING MATTERS & URGENCY COMMITTEE
DATE	10 JUNE 2013
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS BOYCE, FRASER, GILLIES, SIMPSON-LAING (SUB FOR CLLR ALEXANDER) AND REID (SUB FOR CLLR ASPDEN)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS ALEXANDER & ASPDEN

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

12. REDUNDANCY

Members considered a report which asked them to agree to the dismissal of a Chief Officer on the grounds of compulsory redundancy and the approval for the Council to make payments in respect of both statutory and contractual obligations in respect to the dismissal.

Details of the employee were contained as an exempt annex to the report, this annex was circulated at the meeting.

The report informed Members that there was also a requirement for the financial package, if approved, to be considered at a Full Council meeting in line with the Council's Pay Policy 2013/14. It suggested that Members recommend to Full Council that the wording in the Council's Pay Policy be changed to allow all future Chief Officer severance packages over £100k in value to be considered and agreed at Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee. Given the frequency of Council meetings, if the recommendation was approved, this would then shorten the decision making process and associated costs attached with this.

Discussion between Members took place on issues associated around access to information on redundancy cases due to be presented at Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee meetings before the meeting, particularly in regards to allowing careful consideration of the details of the cases. Discussion also took place on the individual compulsory redundancy case itself.

Some Members suggested that the decision on whether to agree to compulsory dismissal be deferred until the next meeting, in order to give Members more time to examine the information circulated to them about the particular case. However, following an Officer presentation of the report and full debate all Members felt that they could make a proper decision without having to defer the issue until the next meeting.

RECOMMENDED: (i) That the proposed dismissal on the grounds of redundancy, and the associated expenditure detailed in the annex be agreed and details of the financial impact be referred to Full Council for its information and consideration.

REASON: In order to implement the City & Environmental Services restructure and make the required budgetary savings at Assistant Director level.

Note: The financial/severance details are annexed to this recommendation for Members information and consideration and are classified as exempt information in accordance with Paragraph 2 of Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972.

(ii) Recommend to Full Council that the wording of the Council's Pay Policy is amended to allow all future Chief Officer financial packages to be considered and approved at Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee.

REASON: To reduce timescales and associated costs relating to the Chief Officer redundancy process.

Councillor T Simpson-Laing, Chair
[The meeting started at 1.00 pm and finished at 1.55 pm].

By virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Joint Standards Committee
Date	26 June 2013
Present	Councillor Runciman (Chair) (CYC Member) Councillor Barton (CYC Member) Councillor Horton (CYC Member) Councillor Taylor (CYC Member) Councillor Martin (Vice-Chair) (Parish Councillor) Councillor Simpson (Parish Councillor)
In attendance	Mr Dixon (Interim Independent Person)
Apologies	Councillor Crawford (Parish Councillor) Mrs Bainton (Interim Independent Person) Mr Hall (Interim Independent Person) Mr Laverick (Independent Person)

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL**11. RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON**

[see also Part A minute]

The Monitoring Officer gave a verbal update on the appointment of an Independent Person. There had been four applicants for the position and three of the candidates had been interviewed the previous day. It was the Selection Panel's recommendation that Mr Nicholas Hall be appointed.

RECOMMENDED: That Mr Nicholas Hall be appointed as an Independent Person.

REASON: To ensure that the Council has appropriate arrangements in place for handling complaints about Members.

Councillor Runciman, Chair
[The meeting started at 3.00 pm and finished at 3.40 pm].

This page is intentionally left blank

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

MEETING	AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
DATE	9 JULY 2013
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS POTTER (CHAIR), AYRE, BARNES, BURTON, WATSON AND STEWARD (SUBSTITUTE FOR COUNCILLOR BROOKS)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS BROOKS AND WISEMAN

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL**12. REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE***[see also Part A minute]*

Consideration was given to proposed changes to the terms of reference of the Audit and Governance Committee.

The proposed changes were detailed in Annex 2 of the report.

RECOMMENDED: That the revised terms of reference for the Audit and Governance Committee be approved.

REASON: To ensure that the Audit and Governance Committee continues to operate effectively and in accordance with recommended best practice.

13. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE*[see also Part A minute]*

The Chair gave a verbal update on the appointment of an Independent Member to the Audit and Governance Committee. She reported on the selection process that had taken place. Two applicants had been interviewed by the Chair, Vice-Chair and an officer. It was their unanimous recommendation that Mr Martin Whiteley be appointed as an Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee.

RECOMMENDED: (i) Mr Martin Whiteley be appointed as an Independent Member of the Audit and Governance Committee.

(ii) That this be a two-year term of office.

REASON: To enable the Audit and Governance Committee to benefit from the skills and experience offered by an Independent Member.

Councillor Potter, Chair
[The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 6.50 pm].

Audit and Governance Committee – Terms of Reference

No	Delegated authority	Conditions
	Audit	
1	To consider the annual report and opinion of the Head of Internal Audit. The report should include a summary of internal audit activity in the relevant period and the level of assurance that can be given over the control environment and corporate governance arrangements at the Council	
2	To consider periodic reports from the Head of Internal Audit detailing the summary findings and the main issues arising from internal audit work.	
3	To consider reports dealing with the management and performance of the Internal and External Audit functions.	
4	To review the effectiveness of Internal Audit and the Committee itself on an annual basis.	
5	To consider reports of the Head of Internal Audit detailing the progress made by management to address control weaknesses identified by Internal or External Audit.	
6	To consider the action plan arising from the Annual Letter of the External Auditor.	With respect to the Annual Letter being first considered and accepted by the Cabinet.
7	To consider all other relevant reports received from the External Auditor as scheduled in the forward plan for the Committee or otherwise requested by Members.	

No	Delegated authority	Conditions
8	To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and ensure it provides value for money.	
9	To liaise with the Audit Commission over the appointment of the Council's External Auditor.	
10	To approve the Internal Audit Strategy	
11	To approve the Annual Plans of the Internal Audit Service and the External Auditor.	
12	To commission work from the Internal Audit Service and External Audit with regard to the resources available and the existing scope and breadth of their respective work programmes and the forward plan for the Committee.	Subject to budgetary provision.
	Governance & Regulatory	
13	To keep under review the Council's contract procedure rules, financial regulations, working protocols and codes of conduct and behaviour (not otherwise reserved to the Standards Committee).	
14	To review any relevant issue referred to it by the Chief Executive, S151 Officer, the Assistant Director (Financial Services)), the Monitoring Officer, the Head of internal Audit or any other Council body.	
15	To consider the effectiveness of the Council's arrangements for corporate governance (including information governance).	

No	Delegated authority	Conditions
16	To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management arrangements across the Council.	
17	To assess the effectiveness of the Council's counter fraud arrangements including the Whistleblowing policy and other relevant counter fraud policies and plans.	
18	To consider the Council's compliance with its own and other relevant published regulations, controls, operational standards and codes of practice.	
19	To bring to Full Council all proposals for amendment to this Constitution submitted by Members in accordance with this Constitution.	Subject to the advice of the Assistant Director of Governance and ICT.
	Annual Governance Statement and Accounts etc	
20	To approve the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement.	
21	To consider the External Auditor's report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the accounts.	
22	To scrutinise the Treasury Management Strategy and Monitoring Reports.	
	General	
23	To meet informally with the External Auditor and the Head of Internal Audit on a periodic basis to discuss audit related matters.	
24	To report on the discharge of the Committee's responsibilities under the Constitution to Full Council on an annual basis.	

This page is intentionally left blank

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

MEETING	MEMBER SUPPORT STEERING GROUP
DATE	1 JULY 2013
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS DOUGLAS (CHAIR), BOYCE AND REID (SUBSTITUTE FOR COUNCILLOR RUNCIMAN)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLORS GALVIN, LOOKER AND RUNCIMAN

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL**8. REVIEW OF MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

[see also Part A minute]

Members considered a report that reviewed the current Member Training and Development Policy in light of new approaches adopted towards training and developing Members for 2013/14 and beyond.

Consideration was given to Annex A of the report, which highlighted proposed amendments to the policy.

RECOMMENDED: That the revised Member Training and Development Policy be adopted.

REASON: In order to ensure that the Council policy remains fit for purpose and reflects new working practices and commitments.

Councillor Douglas, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 7.00 pm].

This page is intentionally left blank

Member Training & Development Policy

Member Training & Development Policy

- Introduction 2
- Delivering the Council's Key Priorities 2
- A Councillor's Role 2
- Aims of the Policy 3

Support & Resources

- Member Development Steering Group 4
- Member to Member Support 5
- Officer Support 5
- Budget Support 6
- ICT Resources & Support 6

Delivery of Training & Development 6

- Sharing Learning 7
- Communication & Raising Awareness 7
- Key Strategic Elements 8
- External Events 9
- Monitoring and Evaluation 9
- Looking to the Future 10

Introduction

It is vital that members on the Council are supported in all their diverse roles on the Council and this policy sets out the Council's commitment to providing a consistent and structured approach towards developing and supporting Members in:

- Carrying out their existing roles efficiently, including effective community leadership;
- Preparing for future roles on an individual basis;
- Undertaking their specific duties and responsibilities;
- Contributing to achieving the Council's agreed corporate priorities;
- Keeping up to date with new legislation and changing policies

Delivering the Council's Key Priorities

City of York Council's Council Plan sets out the Council's key priorities over the next four years from 2011 to 2015. As well as demonstrating to the city as a whole the work we are doing for our communities, the Plan also gives all teams in the council, however different in their day to day work, a shared purpose.

The Council Plan has five key priorities to:

- Create jobs/grow the economy
- Get York moving
- Build strong communities
- Protect vulnerable people
- Protect the environment

The Council recognises that one of the many factors in achieving its shared vision for the City is the provision of good quality training and development opportunities for both officers and Councillors. Our Councillors will be trained in any new corporate developments or initiatives which affect their roles and are material to achieving the key priorities under the Council Plan.

A Councillor's Role

Once elected a Councillor (elected Member) must represent the best interests of their residents, the Council and the City working in partnership. In performing their duties, a councillor will have the following roles:

- Representing the local interests of the community they are elected to serve (ward councillor)
- Setting and developing council policies
- Helping to shape and advise upon the policies of others (partners with whom the Council works)
- Scrutinise and investigate the Council's work and activities and the work and activities of others (statutory partners)
- Promoting and maintaining high standards of behaviour across the Council and its parishes
- Consider and determine applications for planning and licensing consents and related issues

In addition to their roles as community representatives councillors may be appointed to:

- Cabinet
- Scrutiny
- Planning
- Licensing
- Standards or governance committees
- Outside Bodies
- Partnerships Boards (eg Without Walls)
- Ward Committees

Aims of the Policy

This policy is built around supporting all councillors in their particular roles, taking account of their diverse needs. It aims to:

- Ensure that support is available enabling individuals to acquire and develop a full range of skills to maximise their ability and capacity to deliver
- Encourage councillors to take responsibility for their continuing professional development whilst reinforcing that they are key to enabling the Council to achieve its aims and objectives
- Ensure Council resources are available to enable the delivery of identified training and development needs for Members;
- Ensure a mechanism is in place for agreeing training needs with Members (eg. Member Support Steering Group)

In fulfilling these aims we will observe the following **key principles**:

- provide a planned approach to developing Members

- involve Members in their learning and development, from planning the learning programme through to delivery and evaluation
- maximise development opportunities for Councillors through partnership with other organisations and neighbouring authorities
- ensure that the contribution that Member learning and development makes to meeting the Council's aims is evaluated and recognised
- support individual learning and development, valuing and recognising the skills and experiences that Members bring with them
- adopt a Core Training & Development Programme for Members which addresses key needs, the overarching aims of the Council, as well as statutory, quasi-judicial and governance roles;
- deliver training and development in innovative ways to make the best use of the resources available to the Council;
- encourages every Member to take responsibility for their own learning and self development
- be flexible about the delivery of training and development, taking into account the diverse needs of individual councillors
- encourage and support mentoring both within party groups 'buddying' and by use of I&DeA peer mentors, where possible
- support Members with caring responsibilities

Support & Resources

The following will assist in delivering the aims and key principles of the Member Training & Development Strategy

The Member Support Steering Group (MSSG)

The MSSG is a cross party Group overseeing all Councillor training and development on behalf of the Council and leading on the development of relevant strategies, policies and programmes for councillors.

Each Member of the MSSG will act as an ambassador for training and development and positively support and encourage other Councillors to participate in essential or key learning activities.

In particular the MSSG will:

- Ensure that a comprehensive induction programme covering all appropriate Council functions and services is made available to all newly elected Councillors
- Ensure opportunities are provided for Members to identify, through coaching, any specific training needs they may have
- Ensure that a core programme of training & development for Members is provided based on statutory, organisational or individual need
- Facilitate new approaches to learning and development and to encourage a culture of lifelong learning
- Review the Member Development Policy annually to ensure that it remains fit for purpose and continues to support the Council's aims and the needs of Members
- Encourage and develop Councillors in their roles as community leaders

Member to Member Support

Members will be encouraged to share their knowledge, experience and expertise with fellow Members, where appropriate, by:

- Supporting newly elected members (buddying)
- Speaking at external conferences and seminars in their capacity as an elected member
- Considering the opportunity to become an accredited peer with the Local Government Group which involves mentoring elected members from outside the authority and being involved in the delivery of Local Government Group seminars and conferences

Officer Support

Democratic Services will support training and development by:

- Compiling and administering a core programme of key, essential or statutory training requirements;
- Providing officer support in relation to the preparation of agenda and minutes relating to meetings of the MDSG
- Providing 1-2-1 support to newly elected members as part of their planned induction programme
- Devising and delivering in consultation with the MSSG a programme of induction training for new Councillors
- Managing the Member training budget in consultation with the Member Support Steering Group, including the allocation of funds to each Group in relation to external training activities;
- Advising and assisting the MSSG in carrying out their role

Budget

The Council allocates a Member Development Budget each year against which the MSSG monitors spending. To encourage joint working with other local Councils and gain a small income from its Member Training Programme, the Council sometimes offers appropriate opportunities to neighbouring authorities at a nominal charge
Expenses incurred by Members attending training and development events outside the Authority will be reimbursed under the Members Scheme of Allowances and in accordance with an agreed protocol.

ICT Resources and Support

ICT equipment: is made available to each Member upon election to enable:

- More effective communication with residents, the Council and it's partners
- The opportunity to explore e-learning/distance learning
- Self development opportunities e.g. researching information on the internet

Broadband Connections: are either paid on behalf of Members or reimbursed on a monthly basis depending on the broadband package.

ICT support: is made available via the Council's ICT helpdesk including out of hours assistance. Members also have access to the ICT on-line help facility.

Delivery Of Training & Development

Elected and co-opted Members have a diverse range of development needs and learning preferences which will be delivered through a range of options to both provide and promote that diversity. Whether delivered through the Council's internal expertise or, in some quantified cases, through specialist external training providers, access to training will be offered as follows:

- Core programme courses
- Written learning materials

- E-Learning packages
- Shadowing opportunities
- External conferences & seminars
- Peer mentors, political group/officer buddying
- Pre-Council Briefings, in-house briefings & workshops
- Study visits to other Councils or relevant partners
- Targeted induction training for newly elected Members
- Leadership development opportunities
- Sharing knowledge with other elected & co-opted Members

Sharing Learning

Attendance at external events is a valuable way of acquiring information about a wide range of issues including new and innovative practice, new legislation, and other regional and national developments. Increasingly, Cabinet Members, Chairs of Committees and scrutiny Members are participating in a variety of external events. Under this policy, where appropriate, those Members are encouraged to share their learning and knowledge gained with other Members, through the new Members App ('Membersphere') or the Members E-Bulletin.

Communicating and Raising Awareness

Communicating the commitments set out in this policy is essential to delivering successful training and development for Members. This will be achieved through:

- The Steering Group creating a supportive environment in which all Members feel able to take part in and take control of their own learning and development ;
- The role of the Council's Management Team in reinforcing the Council's commitment to developing officers and Members alike and raising the profile and awareness of this policy and the commitments within it;
- Democratic Services in providing advance notification, through the Members E-Bulletin and Membersphere, of the core programme and events, involving and informing Members as early as possible and proactively seeking their engagement

Key Strategic Elements

Induction:

- A comprehensive induction programme of training for every newly elected Councillor, enabling them to 'fast track', learning about the organisation and supported by the following:
- an induction day to meet key senior Councillors and Officers and learn more about corporate and constitutional processes
- a 1-2-1 with Democratic Services to discuss the support available to them and to identify any individual needs or concerns confidentially;
- an induction pack setting out the entitlements, support and guidance available, together with other useful information about the Council and its processes;
- a six month review (1-2-1) to check 'satisfaction' levels and to identify any areas of concern

A Core Programme:

- a focused programme of key statutory or essential training aimed at appropriate Members, addressing:
- legislative requirements or changes
- identified Council priorities
- core skills or roles, ie. quasi-judicial, scrutiny, corporate parenting, safeguarding, standards.

Developing Leadership:

One annually funded place on LGA Leadership Academy, based on criteria adopted by MSSG

Certificate in Local Government & Democracy

An accredited course delivered by University of York providing the skills, knowledge and learning required to help Members and the public to:

- understand our democratic and civic origins;
- appreciate the role of governance and the value of effective communication;
- understand the issues affecting social need and the impact on future policy setting

This course is an opportunity to gain an accredited certificate in recognition of your public role as a democratically elected Councillor.

External Events

This policy acknowledges the value for Members in specified roles, eg Cabinet Members or Chairs of Committees, to attend external conferences etc relevant to their area. As far as the Member Development Budget will allow, Groups will be allocated 'pots' based on a per head allocation to fund participation in external activities by appropriate Members.

Under the terms of this policy, Members are encouraged to share any learning from such activities with other Members via 'Membersphere' or the E-Bulletin.

Arrangements for Monitoring & Evaluation

To be of real benefit, any training provided must be monitored for its appropriateness, relevance and effectiveness

. Monitoring and evaluation processes will be put in place and will:

- be open and constructive, enabling any necessary adjustments to be made to future delivery;
- be regularly monitored by MSSG, to ensure delivery of objectives and continuous improvement;
- be clearly communicated to Members and the public, through the reporting arrangements to MSSG;
- ensure Members achievements are recognised and acknowledged through reporting arrangements to MSSG

Review	Steering Group	Full Council
Annual review of policy	July	July
Monitor of take-up & Evaluation of events	November	
	March	
Findings Report to Deputy Leader	December	
	April	

Annual budget monitor	January	
Agree Core Training Programme	March	

Looking to the Future

This policy establishes a framework for the provision and delivery of all elected Member training and development, setting out approaches for its key strategic elements and for communicating, monitoring and evaluating the provision.

The Policy will be reviewed annually by the Member Support Steering Group to ensure that it continues to reflect the Council's approach towards Member training and development and that provision continues to meet the needs of the organisation and its Members.



Council

18 July 2013

Report of the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee

Annual Report of the Audit and Governance Committee

Summary and Background

1. This report presents to Council the recommendations of the Audit and Governance Committee in respect of their Annual Report for the extended period covering October 2011 to April 2013.
2. This report covers an extended period from October 2011 to April 2013 so includes an additional 4 meetings of the Committee. The preparation of this report was delayed from September due to the appointment of a new Chair of the Committee in June 2012 to allow sufficient time for the Chair to be able to provide adequate assurance on the work of the Audit and Governance Committee.
3. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has issued guidance to local authorities to help ensure that audit committees operate effectively. The Guidance recommends that audit committees should report annually on how they have discharged their responsibilities.

Annual report of the Audit and Governance Committee

4. A copy of the draft annual report of the Committee is attached at Appendix 1. A copy of the Committee's terms of reference as set out in Section 8, Part 3C of the Constitution is also attached to the report at Appendix 2, for information

Consultation

5. Consultation was not required for the production of this annual report.

Options

6. Not relevant for the purpose of the report.

Analysis

7. Not relevant for the purpose of the report.

Council Plan

8. This report contributes to the overall effectiveness of the council's governance and assurance arrangements contributing to an 'Effective Organisation'.

Implications

9. There are no known Legal, HR and financial implications associated with the recommendation within his report.

Risk Management

10. Assurance in respect of the council's arrangements for managing risk, the maintenance of effective controls including those designed to prevent and detect fraud, and compliance with relevant legislation, may not be provided if the Audit and Governance Committee does not produce an annual report.

Recommendations

11. Having considered the information within this covering report, Council are asked to note the Annual Report of the Audit & Governance Committee which covers the period between October 2011 and April 2013.

Reason: To enable its presentation to Full Council, in line with requirements

Contact Details

Authors:

Emma Audrain
Trainee Cipfa Accountant
(01904) 551170

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Ian Floyd
Director of Customer and Business Support Services

Report Approved



Date 18th July 2013

Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

All

For further information please contact the authors of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: Annex A – Annual Report of the Audit & Governance Committee

This page is intentionally left blank

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
FOR THE PERIOD TO 17 APRIL 2013**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide Members of the council with details of the work of the Audit and Governance Committee covering the period to 17th April 2013. The report also details how the Audit and Governance Committee has fulfilled its terms of reference.

BACKGROUND

The Audit and Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing the council's corporate governance, audit and risk management arrangements. The Committee is also responsible for approving the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement. The functions of the Audit and Governance Committee are set out in Section 8, Part 3C of the Constitution. A copy of the list of the Committee's responsibilities is attached at **Appendix 2** for information.

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has issued guidance to local authorities to help ensure that audit committees are operating effectively. The guidance recommends that audit committees should report annually on how they have discharged their responsibilities.

WORK UNDERTAKEN

The Audit and Governance Committee has met on ten occasions in the period to 17th April 2013. During this period, the Committee has assessed the adequacy and effectiveness of the council's risk management arrangements, control environment and associated counter fraud arrangements through regular reports from officers, internal audit and the external auditors, The Audit Commission (now Mazars). The Committee has sought assurance that action has been taken, or is otherwise planned, by management to address any risk related issues that have been identified by auditors or inspectors during this period. The Committee has also sought to ensure effective relationships exist between internal and external auditors, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies.

The specific work undertaken by the Committee is set out below by subcategory. The Committee has:

Risk

1. Assessed the adequacy and effectiveness of the council's risk management arrangements through consideration of the progress made by officers to address the Key Corporate Risks (KCRs). Details of the KCR's were reported to the Committee on a quarterly basis. Each quarter the report has focused on a specific directorate and the relevant director for each area has been present at the meeting to provide assurance by providing further information to members at the meeting.
2. The committee has also participated in a council-wide review of risk management facilitated by Zurich. The committee expressed some concerns about the way in which risk is reported to the committee and has taken steps to address this (see point above). This will continue to be monitored over the coming year to ensure new approaches are embedded fully.

Internal Audit and Fraud

3. Received and considered the results of the annual review of the effectiveness of internal audit. The outcome of this review informed the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement.
4. Received and considered the results of internal audit work completed during the period and monitored the progress made by management to address identified control weaknesses. The Committee considered breaches of the Council's Financial Regulations and contract procedure rules identified during audit work.
5. Received, considered and approved the Internal Audit and Counter Fraud plan along with updates on the progress throughout the year.
6. Requested and received an additional update in the year to provide assurance that adequate progress had been made to date to implement actions agreed following an audit of personalisation and direct payments.
7. Considered a report which informed them about potential fraud risks facing the council and potential counter fraud activity to

address those risks. The Committee also noted the outcome of a review of the Councils counter fraud policies.

8. Considered the Annual Report of the Head of Internal Audit which provided an overall opinion on the council's control environment. The Head of Internal Audit confirmed that the council's internal controls provided substantial assurance although the Committees attention was drawn to a number of significant control weaknesses. Again this informed the conclusions reported within the Annual Governance Statement for 2011/12.

External Audit

9. Received and considered the Audit Commission's plan for the audit of the financial statements and value for money opinion, the certification of grant claims together with the associated fee for undertaking this work. A progress report was also received and considered during the year.
10. Received and considered the Annual Audit Letter of the Council's District Auditor. Members noted details of strengths and improvements identified by the Audit Commission and any areas which required review.
11. Considered the outcome of the Audit Commission's review of the Council's grant claim arrangements for the 2010/11 financial year. The Committee noted a constructive report which reflected the hard work of the financial services team in implementing previous recommendations
12. Received regular updates on national reports produced by the Audit Commission

Treasury

13. Continued the role of scrutinising the council's treasury management strategy and policies. The Committee received and considered the Treasury Management Annual Report and review of Prudential Indicators which compared actual performance against the budget and the treasury management strategy for the year.

Governance and Statement of Accounts

14. Considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement, noting that action plans would be put in place to address each of the significant governance issues identified in section 5.

15. Considered a report which informed members about the Information Governance Strategy developed by the Council's Information Governance Group (CIGG) and the proposed actions to strengthen information governance arrangements.
16. Considered a report which shared the latest draft of a revised whistle blowing policy and procedures for the Council.
17. Considered a number of proposed changes to the Council's constitution, and recommended their adoption by Full Council. This included a merger of the Scrutiny Management Committee with Effective Organisation Overview and Scrutiny Committee; the abolishment of Cabinet working groups; changes to cabinet member decision-making sessions; establishment of a Corporate Parenting board; Review of the Council's Scrutiny Arrangements; Review of the terms of reference of the Audit Committee and removing certain internal protocols.
18. Initially considered a draft and then approved the final Statement of Accounts for 2011/12.

Other

19. Set up a Committee working group to review the Committee's own effectiveness. The working group then reported back to the Committee during the year with a number of recommendations. These include appointing at least one independent member to the committee (the recruitment process for this is already underway); making annual training mandatory for all committee members; and improving our approach to risk management.
20. At each meeting the Committee has maintained a rolling Forward Plan for a number of meetings in advance, to ensure that its responsibilities are discharged in full and appropriate reports are brought by officers on a timely basis.

Summary

21. This past year has been a busy one for the Audit and Governance Committee. Thanks to the work of the sub-group, key officers and the committee as a whole, the review of effectiveness has been very successful. A number of key areas for development were identified and over the next year these will be addressed through a number of measures such as mandatory training, the addition of

independent members and a review of risk management procedures. The committee has taken its role very seriously in terms of providing assurance that the Council's financial and governance procedures are effective and has questioned officers and auditors rigorously and will continue to do so going forward.

Cllr Linsay Cunningham-Cross
Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee

Part 3 C of the Constitution (Council Committees and Other Bodies)

8.1 The functions of the Audit & Governance Committee are:

No.	Delegated authority	Conditions
	Audit	
1	To consider the annual report and opinion of the Head of Internal Audit including a summary of internal and external audit activity (actual and proposed in the relevant accounting period) and the level of assurance that can be given over the corporate governance arrangements at the Council and to advise the Executive accordingly.	
2	To consider summaries of specific internal audits reports as scheduled in the forward plan for the Committee or otherwise requested by Members.	
3	To consider reports dealing with the management and performance of the Internal and External Audit functions.	
4	To consider reports from Internal Audit on agreed recommendations not implemented within agreed timescales.	
5	To consider the action plan arising from the Annual Letter of the External Auditor.	With respect to the Annual Letter being first considered and accepted by the Executive.
6	To consider all other relevant reports from the District Auditor as scheduled in the forward plan for the Committee as agreed with the External Auditor or otherwise requested by Members.	
7	To comment on the scope and depth of External Audit work and ensure it provides value for money.	
8	To liaise with the Audit Commission over the appointment of the Council's External	

No.	Delegated authority	Conditions
	Audit body.	
9	To approve the Annual Plans of the Internal Audit Service and the External Auditor.	
10	To commission work from the Internal Audit Service and External Audit with regard to the resources available and the existing scope and breadth of their respective work programmes and the forward plan for the Committee.	Subject to budgetary provision
11	To provide advice to the Council on issues arising out of a fraud investigation and report any action which has or ought to be taken by the Council.	
	Governance & Regulatory	
12	To keep under review the Council's contract procedure rules, financial regulations, working protocols and codes of conduct and behaviour (not otherwise reserved to the Standards Committee).	
13	To review any relevant issue referred to it by the Chief Executive, S151 Officer, the Monitoring Officer or any other Council body.	
14	To consider any reports of the Director of Customer & Business Support Services referred to the Committee for consideration further to Article 13 of this Constitution.	
15	To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance across the Council.	
16	To monitor Council policies on 'whistle blowing', the Anti-Fraud & Corruption Strategy and consider any issues referred to it in accordance with the Council's whistle blowing policy and procedures as set out in Part 5 of this Constitution.	
17	To consider the Council's arrangements for corporate governance and make recommendations about all actions necessary for compliance with best practice to Full Council.	

No.	Delegated authority	Conditions
18	To consider the Council's compliance with its own and other relevant published regulations, controls, operational standards and codes of practice.	
19	To bring to Full Council all proposals for amendment to this Constitution submitted by Members in accordance with this Constitution.	Subject to the advice of the Assistant Director of Governance and ICT.
	Annual Governance Statement and Accounts etc	
20	To approve the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement.	
21	To consider the External Auditor's report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the accounts.	
22	To scrutinise the Treasury Management Strategy and Monitoring Reports.	

Scrutiny Report to Council July 2013

Report of the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee

1. This report is submitted by the Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC), in accordance with the constitutional requirements set out in Standing Order 4.3(l) to update Council on scrutiny work and to set out any recommendations such as may be made to Council in relation to that work.

Annual Work Planning Event

2. The Annual Scrutiny Work Planning Event took place on 13 June which was well attended and resulted in discussion around a variety of potential topics. As a result those Members who wish to are now submitting formal topics for consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee and each Committee is in the process of considering what topics they want to prioritise for the year ahead.
3. In particular this year, the idea of one common theme in relation to which all Scrutiny Committees could contribute improvements within a Council priority area, was put forward. Members were invited to put forward appropriate topics for the theme to see how feasible this approach would be to introduce.

Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC)

4. Call-ins

Since the last report of this kind in March 2013, CSMC has considered the following call-ins and decided in each case that having had the opportunity to look at the issues in more detail, not to refer them back to the Cabinet for further consideration:

- Street Lighting Maintenance Procedure
- West Yorkshire Transport Fund (WYTF+)

5. Since the last scrutiny update to Council, the Deputy Leader has given an end of year report to CSMC on her areas of responsibility, as Deputy Leader.
6. At CSMC on 24 June 2013, consideration was given to the Council's new governance arrangements for equalities and the Council's ambition to be 'Excellent' under the Equalities Framework for Local Government.

The Committee is planning to do further detailed work on how it can specifically help the Council achieve 'excellence'.

7. At this meeting, the Committee began to look at potential topics suggested for it at the Annual Working Planning Event. It was specifically interested in developing the idea put forward at the Annual Work Planning Event to select a common theme in relation to which all Scrutiny Committees could contribute improvements within a Council priority area. Initially, in this regard, CSMC has agreed to receive a further briefing on the nighttime economy in York.
8. CSMC Scrutiny Reviews
The Loans and Grants Task Group met in May to consider an interim report on the topic put forward by Cllrs Healey and Runciman to scrutinise how loans and grants from CYC to outside organisations were being monitored. The Group have requested further detailed information in a number of areas for consideration to their next meeting in July.

Standing Overview & Scrutiny Committees

8. Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee has met once since the last report to Council in and received briefing notes on tenancy enforcement , restorative justice and CCTV.
9. The Committee has appointed 2 Task Groups which are ongoing in relation to Domestic Waste Recycling and A Boards.
9. The Committee next meets on 22 July 2013 when it will begin to focus upon any new individual areas for review in the year ahead.
11. Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee has met three times since the last report to Council in May, June & July 2013.
12. The Committee has one Task Group currently appointed, CEIAG, looking at careers, education, information advice and guidance. The work of this Group is drawing to a close with a final draft report being anticipated in September 2013.
13. On 17 July 2013, the Committee will receive a scoping report to identify the specific areas for review in relation to another agreed topic around school meals take-up. The Committee will consider whether it wishes to establish a Task Group to effect this review.
14. Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ECDOSC) has met once, formally, since the last CSMC report to Council, firstly in June, when the Leader attended to present his challenges and priorities for the year ahead and an interim report on the

ongoing review relating to External Funding was received. In July, after this Council meeting, the Committee will meet again to receive briefing notes initially on new potential reviews relating to Building Skills & Supporting Online Working. Once it has decided what it feels it needs to achieve in these areas, the Committee may decide to set up further Task Groups.

15. The work of the ongoing Task Group on External Funding is scheduled to draw to a close in September 2013, with its draft final report being submitted to this Committee, at its September meeting.
16. **Health Scrutiny Overview & Scrutiny Committee**, *has met twice since the last report to Council, firstly in April 2013, when it met the Managing Director of the new Commissioning Support Unit (CSU) and amongst other business had a monitoring report from the Director of Public Health. Secondly, it met in June, when it received an update report on the Merger of Priory Medical Group Surgery and Abbey Medical Group and considered the interim report from the ongoing Community Mental Health and Care of Young People Task Group. It also updated its membership on ongoing Task Groups, in line with changes made to the membership of this Committee at the Annual Meeting.*
17. At its meeting in June 2013, the Committee also began to look at potential topics suggested at the Annual Work Plan event and initially requested a specific briefing on the relevant issues for scrutiny around 'men's health, with a potential overview also on the work being done by Joseph Rowntree Trust on 'loneliness'. It intends to look at the briefing on 'men's health issues' at its forthcoming meeting in July 2013.
18. In addition, the Committee has 2 ongoing Task Groups. Firstly, the Task Group relating to Community Mental Health & the Care of Young People is scheduled to draw to a close in September, when it present its draft final report to the Committee. The Personalisation Task Group, however, next meets informally on 19 July when it will consider its next steps and the work done to date.

Councillor John Galvin
Chair of Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee

This page is intentionally left blank

Councillor Janet Looker, Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Young People**Report to Full Council - July 2013**

First of all I would like to register the changes that have happened within the Department since the last Report to Council which must have been well over a year ago. Pete Dwyer, the Director of Children's Services, left the Authority in April 2013 to take up the same post in North Yorkshire County Council. He was much missed but I am pleased to report that work within the Department has continued unabated; and we are delighted that Kevin Hall is making a full contribution as the Interim Head of Children's Services. A little more unexpected was the announcement that Jill Hodges who is the Assistant Director for Education and Skills – and has led the whole School Improvement agenda for the council, is also leaving – at the end of August, to take up the post of Director of Education Services in Lincolnshire. We will really miss Jill and her contribution to the success of York's schools and education service, but I am very pleased that Maxine Squire (who has been the Lead Adviser for Secondary Schools) will take on the overall role of Head of School Improvement going forward. I am very confident that these two posts will be well covered and we will not see any reduction in the level of drive and energy while the interim arrangements are in place.

Education and Skills

Within Education the overall headline figures at key stages 2 and 4 show York schools to be achieving in line or above national averages, with key stage 4 outcomes being in the top quartile. This is good, but gives us no reason to be complacent. National averages have moved ahead in some ways more quickly than York's have – perhaps because it is easier to move up from a low starting point than to improve from an already good position – but we are ambitious for York and are challenging ourselves to improve the position significantly.

The new Ofsted framework – launched in September 2012 is proving to be very rigorous. The "Satisfactory" category has been removed, and a school is either "Good" / "Outstanding", or it moves into a Category "Requiring Improvement" / Special Measures.

As of early July 74% of our primary schools are good or better; 80% of our secondary schools and 76% of all our schools. It is particularly good to see that eight of our schools – previously deemed to be Satisfactory

have achieved a judgement of Good. As these schools serve areas of deprivation these outcomes were particularly welcome.

I am anxious to see school improvement remain high on our council priorities. I am planning that we should have the target that every child in York will be able to attend a Good or Outstanding School. It is achievable, it is what the children of York deserve and we will continue to set a pace for schools to meet these targets. To encourage the issues around school improvement to remain at the forefront of councillors minds, I am initiating briefings around the school improvement agenda, and I have encouraged the wider remit of the Ofsted sub-committee (which has been a longstanding cross party group that meets with schools as they have their Ofsted inspection) which will continue not just to receive a report of the inspection and talk to the individual headteacher and chair of governors about the experience and the next steps to be taken by the school; but will also take on the wider brief of engaging with officers around the whole school improvement agenda and will be monitoring progress towards our ambition.

The York Education Partnership continues to develop and forms the basis of real strategic thinking and direction around school to school support and cluster led school improvement. As the central funds for education continue to be significantly reduced it is essential that we refocus our work around school leadership and skilful use of the resources within the schools themselves. The cluster model which broadly revolves around a secondary school or schools and the feeder primary schools is increasingly taking a firm lead in monitoring the effectiveness of the schools within their cluster and supporting the work of the school improvement service to provide the resource and expertise to strengthen schools within their cluster. This work is ongoing and developing but there is a real willingness within the clusters to embrace this method of working. Examples of such work are where a school “lends” a deputy headteacher to stand in for an absent headteacher in a neighbouring school, or where a cluster pools a budget to enable them to buy in more resource for their cluster schools. I am hugely impressed by the way in which headteachers across the city are embracing this way of working and feeling able not just to work to improve the outcomes for their own school but for those of the whole area. Truly the education of every child in the city is the responsibility of us all. I must make an acknowledgement of the work of the Independent Chair of the Partnership Board (the “real” David Cameron), he brings an outsider’s view to the work of York and its Schools and both encourages and challenges us to achieve the very best.

The skills agenda is increasingly becoming an important part of the work of the education part of the department. It is not only important for our children to be well educated, but we also need to look to the skills they will need to progress on into adulthood. We are also facing the challenge required by new legislation that everyone up to the age of 18 should be either in Education, Employment or Training; our Participation rates are in the top 10% of national averages, but (and it is a big but) there is a long term significant challenge to improve these statistics for our learners with disabilities and learning difficulties. It is a challenge that the 14-19 team are well aware of and we welcome both the strong support from York College who work with to bring some of our most disadvantaged young people back into learning, and the investment being made at Askham Bryan College which has now received capital funding for a new facility that will significantly support our high needs learners and will really enable us to make an improved local offer for them. A Skills Strategy has been written and this is based upon a detailed assessment of need around employment and skills.

Early Years continues to be a significant priority. If you cannot get it right for the child before they are five, there are some things that will be very difficult to correct after they start school. Too many children are still reported to be starting school with very poor language development, and very unready to make any use of their education journey. Our early years settings and childminders reach very high standards from their Ofsted inspections – 89% of the former and 72% of the latter now being judged good or better. Our Childcare Strategy and Business Management Service working with the Family Information Service ensure that there is quality childcare available for parents that is also affordable and accessible for parents wanting to start back into work. But it is not just the quality of the provision that is important, we also need to be sure that our settings are sustainable and financially viable – I know we value the Business Support that CVS is able to offer many of our settings in the voluntary sector to enable them to not only provide the quality child care service, but manage the business side as well.

Children's Centres are a significant part of all this as well. We have so far retained all our Children's Centres and increasingly we are asking them to work to the Universal Healthy Child Programme which we hope will continue to support not only the quality of every child's physical and emotional development, but also look to the whole family's needs as well. Early Intervention which is part of the education and social care remit can so often prevent serious problems and enable us to support a family before the crisis develops. As part of this agenda I am looking forward to the opportunities that will come when first school nursing and

then health visitors become part of the services commissioned by our own public health service. It will increase the opportunities for joined up thinking and working, which are already such a key part of the York service.

School Admissions: without the school places none of this work would happen; and York is not exempt from the current national rise in birth rate, which is now showing up in our primary Schools. This is part of the national demographic trend which shows a steady rise in demand for school places until 2017-18. However, we did manage to see 92% of pupils allocated their first preference primary school; and 96% of secondary school places.

But this is going to be an increasingly challenging problem and we are working with schools to identify ways in which we can increase primary school places. This has included capital build at Knavesmire Primary School which will significantly ease some of the pressures in the South Bank area, and increasing the number of places available at Acomb Primary, Carr Infant and Junior and Fishergate Primary Schools. Schools in clusters which are facing the greatest pressures are already meeting to plan collaboratively how they can meet future demand.

Children's Specialist Services

This year has seen a significant change in the national landscape for all areas of children's services; and locally it has been a year of considerable transformation to ensure our services continue to deliver the best possible outcomes for children in this changing environment.

The Keeping Families Together programme across Children's Specialist Services has seen an overall reduction in our Looked After Children population from a high of 260 in 2012 to 222 at the current time. We always knew this would be a challenging target to meet and I am impressed by the dedication and hard work of the teams that have enabled this to happen.

The achievements of 2012/13 can be described against our twin track approach of reducing the number of children who enter care and improving the outcomes for those who need to be looked after.

In reducing the number of Looked After Children we have produced a comprehensive vision statement for children's social care in York emphasising the preventative role of social work and describing a new professional development offer for all our social workers.

We have developed a new city wide Integrated Family Service. Located on school sites in three localities across the city, this service (which incorporates York's response to the national Troubled Families initiative) ensures that there effective help and support in place for vulnerable families across the city.

To support older children and young people who may be vulnerable we have launched a new youth offer for the city. Described in the recently published Youth Support Services Strategy 2013/15, this strategy describes how the reconfigured service will provided more targeted help to the most vulnerable young people in the city.

Improving the outcomes for our Looked after Children

2013 has seen the launch of our New Deal for Foster Carers. Our locally devised scheme, which is attracting national attention, implements a new remuneration structure for foster carers linked to their training and development achievements.

We have re-provisioned our local children's home to ensure greater placement choice and value when it is necessary for a young person to enter a residential care placement. Our local children's home beds and those required outside of the city are now provided by Northern Care, an independent provider contracted by the city.

We have launched a new Looked After Children's support service to facilitate supervised contact between children (usually Looked After) and their parents. This service also undertakes life story and identity work with children who may be moving on to adoption or other alternative permanent care.

To engage members as fully as possible with this work we have established The Corporate Parenting Board to enable a group of members to familiarise themselves with the agenda and monitor the work of the service in maintaining a high commitment to our Looked After Children and offering an opportunity for members to engage with both professional social workers in the field and the foster carers who are such a fundamental part of or our whole work with our Looked After Children. This year has also seen some careful preparations to ensure the city is well placed to meet the national reforms to services for children and young people with special education needs. At their heart, these reforms are about putting children, young people and their parents at the centre of service design and delivery. Accordingly we have started our change journey in York by first engaging families in the design and piloting of a single education, health and care plan. This

approach ensures that we prioritise people's needs over individual agency systems and procedures. We remain vigilant and watch the horizon carefully to ensure we can meet changing needs across the city. We are also undertaking a comprehensive review of our specialist provision for children with autism and will be making changes to the style and model of service delivery to meet a growing cohort of children with additional needs in the next school year.

Underpinning all the work with children both in education and Children's Centres and the social care is the YorOK Board. This is York's Children's Trust and it works with partners and a wide range of agencies to review across the city how we serve children, young people and their families. It has a remit from birth to 25 so that we can consider not just children and young people as they go through school but from birth with some of our health colleagues, and right through post-16 education into employment. It is a big brief and I am pleased to say that partners are very well engaged with the agenda, and discussions round the table are informed and useful. The YorOK Board reports through to the Health and Wellbeing Board which monitors the work through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Plan.

Finally, as a well brought up middle class person, who believes in deferred gratification – I leave the best to last. Play is an integral part of every child's life and I am pleased to report that although the play team are a veritable shadow of their former selves we have still produced a new Strategic Plan for Promoting Play in the City. With an amazing list of partners we still offer a stunning range of play and out of school activities through the summer – and if you have not yet read your copy of Shine – do so and be delighted. Before the end of August I look forward to making a tour of some of the activities that will be offered and available to children and young people this summer, and later in the year we will be offering the Lord Mayor's Shine awards to recognise some of these achievements. Although the team is small I am delighted that Mary Bailey our former play officer is now securely embedded in the neighbourhoods team, and I am confident that she will continue to promote play and its value through all the opportunities that come her way.

The education and children's services brief is a big one but the opportunities of really making a difference to the lives of some many children and their families in the city is a real privilege, and continually offers exciting ways of planning and delivering an excellent service.

Janet



Council

18th July 2013

Scheme of Delegation for Planning Matters

Introduction

- 1 This report asks Members to consider options to revise the Council Constitution for the scheme of delegation in respect of Planning matters, to take account of the recent replacement of the two Planning Area Sub Committees to one Sub Committee, and to update the scheme to reflect other changes to the planning system since it was formulated. The scheme, which operates on a 'by exception' basis, sets out which planning matters are dealt with by Planning Committee, by Sub Committee and by officers (Annex A).

Background

- 2 Members will be aware that the change to a single Planning Sub Committee was determined by Budget Council in March and took effect from June of this year. This reduction reduces the administrative workload, and provides savings in terms of printing, postage and site visit travel. A single Sub-Committee for the whole Council area will also potentially improve the consistency of decision making.
- 3 The main consideration is the potential number of items brought to a single sub-committee. Officers have analysed the applications considered at the West and City Centre, East Area and the new single Sub Committee meetings over the period July 2012 to June 2013 (see Annex B). This demonstrates that 145 applications were considered over that period, averaging out at approximately 12 per month.
- 4 Members of the new Sub Committee will be aware that its first meeting in June included 19 items, and was preceded by a full day of site visits. This took considerable Member time commitment, and the attendant public and applicants having to sit through debates on other items before their particular item was considered by the Committee.

- 5 Other matters that are not addressed in the current Planning delegation scheme are:-
- The delegation of applications for minor changes to approvals, and repeat or extension of time applications; where these are non-controversial Committee scheduling leads to delay for the applicant.
 - Reference to size thresholds for applications for changes of use of land.

Consultation

- 6 The issues being considered relate to the administration of the Council's functions as planning authority, rather than to the formulation or interpretation of policy. They do not affect consideration of the merits of applications or other planning matters. This amendment of the Constitution is therefore for the Council to determine and had not been the subject of a formal consultation process.

Options

- 7 In order to potentially reduce the length of the meeting and ensure a more manageable number of items is brought to the sub-committee, a number of options to revise the current scheme of delegation are suggested :-
- A - Control the number of Member Call-ins
 - B - Increase the Frequency of Meetings
 - C - Revise the criteria for applications by staff members
 - D - Change Main Committee/ Sub-Committee Thresholds

Analysis

- 8 Option A - Over half of the applications considered by the sub-committee are 'called in' by Members . The list included at Annex B shows the number for each of the previous Committees. Although Planning based reasons are required for call-ins, many are made only on the basis of officers recommending approval of a particular application under delegated powers, which the member would not wish to call in if refusal were recommended. Often no clear planning reason is expressed.
- 9 It is suggested that to better manage the number of call-ins, requests are first considered by the Assistant Director in consultation with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the [Main Planning Committee](#) and [the Sub](#)

Committee. Rather than simply providing a mechanism for Members to prevent any application being approved under delegated powers, the revised Member call-in system would involve assessment of the planning reasons put forward and of the merits of bringing the case to the Committee for consideration. The number of call-ins may as a result be reduced by up to 50%, bringing the overall number of Call-in items down to around 40 and the overall number of applications considered by the Sub Committee to approximately 110.

- 10 Option B - Holding Committees on a 3 weekly cycle would increase the number of meetings per year to 17, giving an average based on last year's numbers of 8.53 per meeting. This would also have the advantage of reducing the wait time for Committee-bound applications to be dealt with, and help to maintain the Council's application performance. However, the larger number would mean the cost and time savings of moving to one Sub Committee would be reduced, and there would be a greater time commitment for those Members sitting on the Sub-Committee.
- 11 An alternative may be to diarise stand-by meetings between the monthly scheduled meetings, to utilise if and when the Committee workload demands it, to ensure applications are dealt with expediently.
- 12 Option C - Current criteria in scheme of delegation (see Annex A) states for bringing an application to Committee :-

Any application which would otherwise be "delegated" to officers for determination which has been submitted by or on behalf of:

- *A serving Councillor of the City Council or the spouse / partner of a Councillor;*
- *an employee of the City Council or the spouse / partner of an employee;*
- *a person who, in the period of four years prior to the date of the application, was either a Councillor with, or an employee of the City council, or the spouse / partner of such a person.*

- 13 In the period analysed, a total of 19 applications were dealt with by Committee which could otherwise be dealt with under delegated powers at officer level (13.1%).
- 14 As an alternative it is suggested that the requirement for Committee consideration be limited to applications by:-
 - Serving Members or immediate family,
 - Chief Officers and senior managers or the spouse / partner of such an employee

- Staff within the Planning and Environment or Development and Regeneration Service areas or staff who have been actively involved in planning negotiations or the spouse / partner of such an employee
- 15 Option D - The intention would be to increase in the number of applications dealt with at Main Committee to reduce the workload of the new Sub-Committee.
 - 16 Current Thresholds are set out at Annex C. Applications considered by the Main Committee between July 2012 and June 2013 is included at Annex D. There is scope to lower the threshold of those applications dealt with by Main Committee to again potentially reduce the number of Sub Committee applications. A previous delegation scheme required residential schemes of 40 dwellings or more to be dealt with by the Main Committee rather than the current 50 or more dwellings; this lower threshold could be reinstated.
 - 17 The vast majority of applications currently dealt with by Sub Committee are small scale; single or two dwellings, changes of use of small premises, and listed building consents. Annex E shows the largest applications dealt with over the year analysed; a relatively low number overall.
 - 18 As the Get York Building programme takes effect and Local Plan allocated sites are formalised, the number of larger submissions to be dealt with by Main Planning Committee is likely to increase. Revised or Reserved Matters applications relating to the Terry's site, Nestle South and Germany Beck are also likely to come forward. A lowering of thresholds to 40 dwellings may provide for a more consistent approach across the City for dealing with more significant residential applications.

Council Plan

- 19 The proposals to provide a more efficient and consistent regime for determining applications has implications in particular for the Council Plan priorities to "Create Jobs and Grow the Economy" , "Get York Moving", and of "Building Stronger Communities" and "Protecting the Environment".

Implications

- 20 Financial – There are no significant financial implications directly arising from the report.
- 21 Human Resources – There are no Human Resources implications directly involved within this report and the recommendations within it

other than the need to allocate officer time towards the provision of the information.

- 22 Legal – There are no known legal implications associated with this report or the recommendations within it.
- 23 There are no known Equalities, Property, Crime & Disorder or other implications associated with the recommendations within this report.

Risk Management

- 24 In compliance with the Council’s risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

Recommendation

- 25 Council is asked to agree
 - i) That options A, C and D be adopted and the Scheme of Delegation for Planning within the Council’s Constitution be amended as set out in Annex F to this report to reflect the requirements of those options.
 - ii) That Option B be considered for future introduction, to alter the frequency of meetings, if required.

Reason

- 26 To address the change to a single Planning Sub-Committee, to ensure effective, timely decision making and the efficient use of Member and officer time.

Contact Details

Author:

Jonathan Carr,
Head of Development
Management,
Directorate of City Strategy

01904 551303

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Mike Slater
Assistant Director Planning & Sustainable
Development, Directorate of City Strategy

**Report
Approved**



Date 2nd July 2013

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None.

Wards Affected:

All Y

For further information please contact the author of the report.

Annexes

- A) Current Scheme of delegation
- B) Sub Committees – Applications ‘Called in’ and staff submissions
July 2012 to June 2013
- C) Current Thresholds for delegation
- D) Applications dealt with by Main Planning Committee Main
Applications
- E) Largest Applications at Sub Committees July 2012 to June 2013
- F) Proposed Revised Scheme of delegation

Planning Committee & Planning Area Sub-Committees

Planning Committee

- 1 To consider and determine applications for planning permission and other related consents, arising under the Town and Country Planning Act and associated legislation as set out in Part A of schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities)(England) Regulations 2000 as amended, which have not been delegated to the Planning Area Sub-Committees or to officers.

Development

- 2 To approve (with or without conditions), or refuse, applications for planning permission and other related consents under the appropriate legislation in accordance with the following criteria :
 - (a) **Outline planning applications** for :
 - residential development on sites over 1.0 hectares in area and
 - non-residential development on sites over 1.5 hectares in area
 - (b) **Full detailed, or reserved matters applications** for :
 - residential development (including conversions/ changes of use) over 50 dwellings and
 - non-residential development, including extensions and changes of use , of over 3,000 square metres gross floor space.
 - (c) **Any application or proposal which raises significant strategic or policy issues for the city**
- 3 To enter into Section 106 Agreements, in respect of proposed developments which fall within the scope of the Planning Committee to determine.
- 4 The renewal, modification and revocation of planning permissions and other related consents and agreements.

Approval of planning / development briefs

- 5 To designate new Conservation Areas or modify boundaries of existing Conservation Areas.
- 6 To approve Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG's) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's).

Planning Area Sub-Committees

- 7 To consider and determine applications for planning permission and other related consents, arising under the Town and Country Planning and associated legislation as set out in Part A of schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities)(England) Regulations 2000 as amended, which have not been delegated to the Planning Committee or to officers.

Development

- 8 To approve (with or without conditions), or refuse, applications for planning permission and other related consents under the appropriate legislation in accordance with the following criteria:
 - (a) **Outline planning applications** for :
 - residential development on sites between 0.1ha and 1ha in area.
 - for non-residential development on sites between 1ha and 1.5ha in area.
 - (b) **Full detailed or reserved matters applications** for :
 - residential development (including conversions/ changes of use) between 10 to 50 dwellings.
 - non-residential development (including extensions and changes of use) , of between 1,000 and 3,000 square metres gross floor space
 - (c) Any application which would otherwise be “delegated” to officers which a Councillor requests should be the subject of consideration by the relevant Planning Area Sub-Committee. (The request to bring an application to an

Planning Area Sub-Committee must be made in writing to the Director City Strategy or the Assistant Director (Planning and Sustainable Development) within 3 days after the end of the consultation period and include the planning reason(s) for the request.)

(d) Any application which would otherwise be “delegated” to officers for determination which has been submitted by or on behalf of:

- A serving Councillor of the City Council or the spouse / partner of a Councillor;
- an employee of the City Council or the spouse / partner of an employee;
- a person who, in the period of four years prior to the date of the application, was either a Councillor with, or an employee of the City council, or the spouse / partner of such a person.

(e) Applications submitted by or on behalf of the Council for its own developments except for the approval of routine minor developments to which no objection has been received.

(f) Any application that the Director City Strategy or the Assistant Director (Planning & Sustainable Development) considers should be presented to the Planning Committee or the relevant Planning Area Sub-Committee for decision.

- 9 To enter into Section 106 Agreements (in respect of proposed developments which fall within the scope of the Planning Area Sub-Committee to determine)
- 10 The renewal, modification and revocation of planning permissions and other related consents and agreements.

Delegation to the Director of City Strategy or the Assistant Director (Planning & Sustainable Development) following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Planning Committee

- 11 To authorise the serving of: enforcement notices and stop notices, (except where urgent and immediate action is required) and to take any action in connection with non compliance with any of these notices.

Planning Area Sub Committees:Called-in Applications and Staff/Member ApplicationsJuly 2012 – June 2013

	West and City Centre					East				
	Total	Call-in	%	Staff	%	Total	Call-in	%	Staff	%
Jan 12	6	1	16.7	2	33.3	8	5	62.5	0	0.0
Feb	5	2	40	2	40.0	5	4	80.0	0	0.0
March	3	1	33.3	0	0	5	2	40.0	0	0.0
April	3	0	0	0	0	6	4	66.7	0	0.0
May	No Meeting					2	0	0.0	1	50.0
June	4	1	25	2	50.0	2	2	100	0	0.0
July	2	0	0	1	50.0	7	5	71.4	1	20.0
Aug	10	6	60.0	2	20.0	3	1	33.3	1	33.3
Sept	3	2	66.7	1	33.3	3	3	100	0	0.0
Oct	8	4	50.0	0	0.0	5	3	60.0	1	20.0
Nov	10	4	40.0	0	0.0	12	5	41.7	1	8.3
Dec	8	5	62.5	1	12.5	7	2	28.6	0	0.0
Jan13	10	7	70.0	0	0.0	4	2	50.0	1	25.0
Feb	3	1	33.3	1	33.3	5	2	40.0	2	40.0
Mar	No Meeting					4	1	25.0	2	50.0
April	7	3	42.9	1	14.3	6	3	50.0	1	16.7
May	2	2	100	0	0	5	1	20.0	2	40.0
TOTAL	63	34	54.0	8	9.5	64	28	43.8	10	15.6
	Single Sub Committee									
June	18	12	66.7	1	5.6					

Overall Totals for both Sub Committees and Single Sub Committee

Type	Number	% OF TOTAL
Call ins	74	51.03
Staff applications	19	13.10
Total dealt with	145	100.0

This page is intentionally left blank

Planning Development Control Decision Making (Committee/Area Committee and Officer Delegation) May 2006

Development type		Previous (April 2004)	May 2006 (Current) Scheme
Residential development (inc new build conversions and change of use)	1. Outline applications	Officers = 1dwelling Area Cttee = 2 to 40dwellings Planning Cttee = 40+ dwellings	Officers = sites up to 0.1ha Area Cttee = sites 0.1ha to 1ha Planning Cttee = sites over 1ha
	2. Full +reserved matters applications	Officers = 1dwelling Area Cttee = 2 to 40dwellings Planning Cttee = 40+ dwellings	Officers = 1 to 9 dwellings Area Cttee = 10 to 50 dwellings Planning Cttee = 50+ dwellings
non residential development (industrial,warehouse,agriculture forestry)	1. outline applications	Officers = floorspace up to 1,000sqm Area Cttee = floorspace 1,000 to2,000sqm Planning Cttee = floorspace over 2,000sqm	Officers = sites up to 1ha Area Cttee = sites 1ha to 1.5ha Planning Cttee = sites over 1.5ha
	2. Full + reserved matters applications	Officers = floorspace up to 1,000sqm Area Cttee = floorspace 1,000 to2,000sqm Planning Cttee = floorspace over 2,000sqm	Officers = floorspace up to 1,000sqm Area Cttee = floorspace 1,000 to 3,000sqm Planning Cttee = floorspace over 3,000sqm
non residential development (retail and offices)	1. outline applications	Officers = floorspace up to 500sqm Area Cttee = floorspace 500 to2,000sqm Planning Cttee = floorspace over 2,000sqm	Officers = sites up to 1ha Area Cttee = sites 1ha to 1.5ha Planning Cttee = sites over 1.5ha
	2. Full + reserved matters applications	Officers = floorspace up to 500sqm Area Cttee = floorspace 500 to2,000sqm Planning Cttee = floorspace over 2,000sqm	Officers = floorspace up to 1,000sqm Area Cttee = floorspace 1,000 to 3,000sqm Planning Cttee = floorspace over 3,000sqm

This page is intentionally left blank

Main Planning Committee
Applications Considered July 2012 – June 2013

July

a) 12/02163/OUTM Derwenthorpe Variation of condition to allow 277 dwellings to be accessed from Fifth Avenue, 74 dwellings to be accessed from Meadlands, 125 dwellings to be accessed from Temple Avenue and 64 dwellings to be accessed from Osbaldwick Village.

b) 12/01286/REMM Derwenthorpe, Reserved Matters application landscaping for phase 2

August

a) 12/01975/FULM 9 St. Leonards Place, Change of use to a hotel (use class C1) and business use (B1) and/or restaurant (A3) and/or bar (A4) and/or leisure (D2) with external alterations by way of extension and selective demolition of modern attachments and associated landscaping.

b) 12/01976/LBC 9 St. Leonards Place, Listed Building Consent for alterations and extensions

September

a) 12/02216/FULM Hungate Development Site, conversion of 6 townhouses to 12 duplex apartments within Phase 1

b) 12/02282/OUTM Hungate Development Site Application to extend time period for implementation of permission 02/03741/OUT

c) 12/02306/FULM. Heslington East
Athletics track and a closed road racing cycle circuit with ancillary parking, lighting and fencing and including re- routing of public right of way.

d) 12/02373/FULM .James Ashton Playing Field, Water End
Water End Flood Alleviation Scheme

e) 12/02429/FULM Proposed Site for Poppleton Bar Park and Ride,
Northfield Lane,

f) 12/02545/REMM Land Including Huntington Stadium, Reserved Matters application for details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale

g) 12/02459/FUL Creepy Crawlies, Clifton Gate Business Park, Wigginton Road, Change of use of part of a reception building to a childcare facility, including outdoor space.

October

09/01606/OUTM Former Terry's Factory Site, Proposed variation of the provisions of the legal agreement in respect of affordable housing to accord with the Council's interim policy in respect of the following application:

November

a) 12/02609/FULM 32 Lawrence Street, demolition of existing car showroom and erection of student accommodation comprising 244 bedrooms

b) 12/01878/REMM Derwenthorpe reserved matters application for details of siting, design, external appearance and landscaping of 346 dwellings (phases 3 and 4)

December

a) 12/02979/FULM Land Adjacent to and to the rear of Windy Ridge and Brecks Lane, Huntington, Residential development of 87 dwellings and associated access and infrastructure

January - cancelled

February

a) 12/03551/FULM Matmer House, Hull Road, front and rear extension to ground floor shops, change of use of first floor to create 16no. 1 bedroom student flats, create two new floors to accommodate a further 31no. 1 bedroom student flats. Free standing unit containing a lettings / management office with managers accommodation over, incorporating cycle, bin and furniture stores (resubmission)

b) 12/03606/FULM Millie Crux Sports Ground, Haxby Road Outdoor sports facilities with floodlighting and associated access, parking and landscaping.

c) 12/03617/REMM Heslington East Reserved Matters application for 620 bedroom student accommodation

d) 13/00047/FUL Royal York Hotel (Wheel), allow observation wheel to operate until 30 September 2013

March

12/03149/FULM The Tannery, Sheriff Hutton Road, Strensall, York Residential development of 53 dwellings with associated public open space, access, infrastructure, and pedestrian and cycle bridge over the River Foss.

13/00017/FULM Land Between Park And Ride and Malton Road, Huntington,
Re-profiling works to create grassed soil mounds to an area of agricultural land to the north of Malton Road and west of Martello Way in Huntington

April

a) 12/00384/REMM Germany Beck Site, East Of Fordlands Road, York A reserved matters application for details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of 655 dwellings and associated facilities granted under outline permission 01/01315/OUT

b) 12/03385/FULM North Selby Mine, New Road, Deighton, Demolition of existing buildings and the re-profiling of bunds and areas of the former mine, construction of an anaerobic digestion combined heat and power facility and horticultural glasshouse and associated infrastructure and works.

May

13/00363/FULM Beetle Bank Farm, Moor Lane, Murton, Use as a farm and a farm based visitor attraction with erection of agricultural building, amenity building and associated car parking and facilities.

June

13/00361/FULM Wickes Building Supplies Ltd, 1 Stirling Road
the erection of a retail building comprising of 5
retail units with associated car parking, recycling facilities and
landscaping
following demolition of existing retail unit.

b) 13/00362/FUL Clifton Moor Centre, Units 3 to 6, Stirling Road, York
Erection of free-standing structures for the display
of advertisements and minor alterations to shop front elevations to units
3 to 6.

Former Terry's Factory Site - Section 106 Update Report.

The application for the mixed use redevelopment of the former Terry's
Factory site was approved by the Council's Planning Committee on 3rd
February 2010, subject to the completion of a legal agreement under
section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act. This report seeks to
update Members on the position with the draft agreement.

TOTAL applications = 27 (Average = 2.25 per meeting)

Largest Applications at Planning Sub-Committees

July 2012 to June 2013

East Area

July and August - none

September

12/02524/FULM

Leonard Cheshire Disability, 421Huntington Road

Change of use from General Industrial (Use Class B2) to Storage (Use Class B8) with General Industrial

October – none

November

12/02909/FUL Fox Inn, 90 The Village, Stockton on the Forest - 6 houses and the conversion of a barn into 3 dwellings

December

12/02990/FULM Sports Centre, Heslington Lane, Heslington - Installation of inflatable dome cover for tennis courts and erection of portacabin

12/02873/FULM Audi York, Centurion Way - Erection of car showroom and car deck following demolition of existing building

January, February, March and April 2013 - none

May

13/00293/FULM Archbishop Holgate's School, Hull Road - Two storey classroom block, relocation of cycle stores and replacement car park.

13/00571/FULM Biology Department, Wentworth Way, Heslington - Erection of a three-storey Biomedical and Natural Sciences building.

West and City CentreMarch 2012

12/00087/FULM Turf Tavern, 277 Thanet Road - Erection of 12no. two and three storey dwellings with garage block

April to July - none

August

11/02985/FULM Fox and Hounds 39 Top Lane Copmanthorpe - Construction of 11no. Dwellings following demolition of existing public house

September- none

October

12/02118/FULM - First York, 45 Tanner Row - Conversion and alteration of 45 Tanner Row and 4 Barker Lane from offices to 11no residential apartments

November - none

December

12/03155/FULM 2 - 16 Piccadilly - Change of use of existing ground floor retail units (Use Class A1) to flexible A1, A2, A3 or A4 use, change of use of former White Swan Hotel (Use Class C1) to residential (Use Class C3) to form 14no. apartments

January

12/02991/REMM Plot 15, Great North Way, Nether Poppleton - Reserved matters application for approval of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of development of light industrial/storage and distribution

February

12/03598/FULM Oliver House, Bishophill Junior - Change of use from elderly peoples home (Use Class C2) to offices and workspace and erection of single storey front and rear extensions

March, April and May - none

Single Sub Committee

June

13/00760/FUL Country Park, Pottery Lane, Strensall, - Use of land for winter storage of up to 30 touring caravans.

This page is intentionally left blank

Planning Committee & Planning Area Sub-Committee

Planning Committee

- 1 To consider and determine applications for planning permission and other related consents, arising under the Town and Country Planning Act and associated legislation as set out in Part A of schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities)(England) Regulations 2000 as amended, which have not been delegated to the Planning Area Sub-Committee or to officers.

Development

- 2 To approve (other than repeat or Section 73 applications involving minor modifications or extensions of time) or refuse, applications for planning permission and other related consents under the appropriate legislation in accordance with the following criteria :
 - (a) **Outline planning applications** for :
 - residential development on sites over 1.0 hectares in area and
 - non-residential development on sites over 1.5 hectares in area
 - 40 dwellings or more
 - (b) **Full detailed, or reserved matters applications** for :
 - residential development (including conversions/ changes of use) of 40 dwellings or more and
 - non-residential development, including extensions and changes of use , of over 3,000 square metres gross floor space.
 - (c) **Any application or proposal which raises significant strategic or policy issues for the city**
 - (d) Any non-residential or domestic application for which there is a policy presumption against development in the Green Belt
 - (e) Changes of Use of Land of 5.0 hectares or more

(f) Any application that the Director City and Environmental Services or the Assistant Director (Development Services, Planning and Regeneration) considers should be presented to the Planning Committee for decision.

- 3 To enter into Section 106 Agreements, in respect of proposed developments which fall within the scope of the Planning Committee to determine.
- 4 The renewal, modification and revocation of planning permissions and other related consents and agreements.

Planning Area Sub-Committee

- 7 To consider and determine applications for planning permission and other related consents, arising under the Town and Country Planning and associated legislation as set out in Part A of schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities)(England) Regulations 2000 as amended, which have not been delegated to the Planning Committee or to officers.

Development

- 8 To approve (with or without conditions), or refuse, applications for planning permission and other related consents under the appropriate legislation in accordance with the following criteria:
 - (a) **Outline planning applications** for :
 - residential development on sites between 0.5ha and 1ha in area.
 - for non-residential development on sites between 1ha and 1.5ha in area.
 - (b) **Full detailed or reserved matters applications** for :
 - residential development (including conversions/ changes of use) between 10 to 39 dwellings.

- non-residential development (including extensions and changes of use) , of between 1,000 and 3,000 square metres gross floor space
- (c) Changes of Use for 1.0 hectares and less than 5.0 hectares of land
- (d) Any application which would otherwise be “delegated” to officers which a Councillor requests should be the subject of consideration by the Planning Sub-Committee and which has been agreed for call-in by the Assistant Director in consultation with the **Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Planning Committee and Planning Sub Committee** (the request to bring an application to an Planning Area Sub-Committee must be made in writing to the Director City Strategy or the Assistant Director (Planning and Sustainable Development within the consultation period and include the planning reason(s) for the request).
- (e) Any application which would otherwise be “delegated” to officers for determination for which the applicant is :-
- A serving Councillor of the Council or the spouse / partner of a Councillor;
 - Any Chief Officer or senior manager, or the spouse / partner of such an employee
 - Any staff member within the Development and Regeneration or Planning and Environment, or the spouse / partner of such an employee, or employee who has been actively involved in planning negotiations or the spouse / partner of such an employee
- (f) Applications submitted by or on behalf of the Council for its own developments except for the approval of Minor or Other category developments to which no objection has been received.
- (g) Any application that the Director City and Environmental Services or the Assistant Director (Development Services, Planning and Regeneration) considers should be presented Planning Sub-Committee for decision.

- 9 To enter into Section 106 Agreements (in respect of proposed developments which fall within the scope of the Planning Area Sub-Committee to determine)
- 10 The renewal, modification and revocation of planning permissions and other related consents and agreements.

Delegation to the Director of City Strategy or the Assistant Director (Planning & Sustainable Development) following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Planning Committee

- 11 To authorise the serving of: enforcement notices and stop notices, (except where urgent and immediate action is required) and to take any action in connection with non compliance with any of these notices.
- 12 To authorise the consideration by Planning Sub-Committee of an application that would otherwise be “delegated” to officers, which a Councillor requests should be the subject of consideration by the Committee.