

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency
Date	20 May 2025
Present	Councillors Kent
Officers in attendance	James Gilchrist - Director of Environment, Transport and Planning Guy Hanson - Design and Conservation Manager

28. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

29. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare if he had any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests that they might have had in relation to the business on the agenda. None were declared.

30. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 29 April 2025 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

31. Public Participation

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

Councillor Baxter spoke in relation to matters regarding the remit of the portfolio of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency and discussed the positive work of the Public Realm Team and the effects that this had had on Hull Road Ward. Councillor Baxter commended recent upgrades to the ward including the installation of new tennis nets which had benefitted the residents and area, increasing access to sport. She concluded by thanking volunteer groups such as Friends of Hull Road Park, and thanked officers in the Public Realm Team, and the Executive Member.

The Executive Member confirmed that she had also received a written representation by Councillor Warters in relation to matters regarding the remit of the portfolio of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency, of which had been published alongside the agenda.

32. North Yorkshire & York, Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) consultation draft

The Director of Environment, Transport and Planning, and the Design and Conservation Manager, Planning and Development Services, presented the report, and it was resolved that:

- The Executive Member:
 - i. Noted the work that had been undertaken in relation to the North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
 - ii. Agreed to delegate authority to the Head of Strategic Planning Policy to:
 - a. Provide written consent to a public consultation on the draft North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
 - b. Confirm to North Yorkshire Council the Council's position. This would occur before the expiry of a 28-day statutory consultation period.

Reason: To clarify the Council's position to North Yorkshire Council, in respect to the Council's duties and powers as set out by LNRS Regulations 2023. The current position is that council officers have worked closely with North Yorkshire Council on the emerging draft Strategy and give support to the overall format of the Strategy and process of its development and so have no objections to a public consultation. However, officers have not seen complete draft strategy documentation before the publication of this report, so require complete documentation and further time to confirm this position.

- iii. To delegate authority to the Head of Strategic Planning Policy to make any comments on behalf of the Council in response to the draft North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Reason: For the efficient delivery of the Strategy.

Cllr Kent, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 10.13 am].

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