
MEETING	EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR CITY STRATEGY AND ADVISORY PANEL
DATE	6 JUNE 2007
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS STEVE GALLOWAY (EXECUTIVE MEMBER), REID (EXECUTIVE MEMBER), GILLIES (CHAIR), D'AGORNE (VICE-CHAIR), HYMAN, SCOTT, SIMPSON-LAING AND POTTER (SUBSTITUTE FOR CLLR CREGAN)
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLOR CREGAN

1. **Declarations of Interest**

The Chair invited Members to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.

Cllr Scott declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 5, Chief Executives Performance and Financial Year End Report 2006/07 (minute 5 refers), as a partner of a York firm of solicitors, but declared that his firm had not been appointed as one to provide legal services under a framework agreement.

2. **Minutes**

RESOLVED : That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2007 be approved and signed by the Chair and the Executive Members as a correct record.

3. **Public Participation**

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

Brian Mellors, of Bishopthorpe Parish Council, spoke on an issue under the Panel's remit. He spoke about the impact of the Terry's development on traffic in Bishopthorpe, and the findings of the traffic impact assessment, which he believed were not accurate.

Mr Ward spoke on Agenda Item 13, Woodsmill Quay Petition, as the lead petitioner. He stated that this was his third year of corresponding with the council regarding the request for a residents parking scheme, and referred to other areas of the city covered by this scheme.

Mr Carbert, a resident of Askham Bryan, spoke on Agenda Item 14, Askham Bryan Parish Council Petition. He stated that the weight restriction should be reinstated and that better signage should be implemented in the area.

Mr Arthur Blacker, Vice Chair of Askham Bryan Parish Council, spoke on the same agenda item. He stated that there should be restricted access and weight limit signs, and that the new Moor Lane roundabout would increase traffic. He requested that Members visit the site and highlighted residents concerns regarding the level of traffic.

Two pupils from St Pauls' Primary School spoke on Agenda Item 19, Petition for measures to improve road safety on Holgate Road near Watson Street junction. They stated that they want a School Crossing Patrol for the school, and cited a recent accident involving a child at the school, and the busy traffic near the school.

Cllr Bowgett spoke on the same agenda item, as a Ward Councillor. She stated that a child's journey to school should be a safe one, and children should be able to walk to school safely. She cited the recent accident near the school and the level of traffic in the area, and stated that action was required immediately.

Mark Wilson, a petitioner, spoke on Agenda Item 10, Public Rights of Way – Petition seeking conditional closure of two snickets from Carrfield into Chantry Close and Carrfield into Foxton, Woodthorpe. He stated that he had lived in the area for 17 years, and that the low level crime in the area could be stopped with the closure of the snickets. He stated that the costs of closure could be reduced if an electronic system was used for closure of the gates. He stated that his neighbours had had a number of problems with crime and fully supported the closure.

4. 2006/07 Economic Development Finance and Performance Outturn

Members considered a report which presented two sets of data for Economic Development, draft outturn figures Economic Development for capital and revenue expenditure for the financial year 2006/07, and outturn (2006/07) performance against target for a number of key indicators that are made up of Best Value Performance Indicators owned by Economic Development, Customer First targets (letter answering), and Staff Management Targets (sickness absence).

Members discussed the carry forward requests, variances, the budget deficit of the York Training Centre, and the performance figures and targets relating to appraisals carried out.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to:

- Note the Economic Development provisional performance and revenue and capital outturn for 2006/07;
- Approve the carry forward of the Grants & Partnerships budget as detailed in paragraph 11 of the report, subject to the approval of the Executive

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: In accordance with budgetary and monitoring procedures

5. Chief Executives Performance and Year End Report 2006/07

Members considered a report which informed them of the Chief Executive's directorate 2006/07 year end position on finance and performance. The report contained outturn information on local and best value performance measures, update on key projects and revenue financial returns. Members were asked to note the year-end performance and financial position and make recommendations with regards to revenue carry forward bids.

Members discussed the figures for sickness absence, and the differences in the figures stated, which Members were informed were the differences between two reporting systems used, and the mechanisms in place for addressing the issue of sickness absence in terms of the Active Health programme. Members requested information on the percentage of sickness absence related to work related injuries and would be provided with this information by e-mail. They also discussed the levels of staff vacancies and stress related issues.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to:

- (i) note the performance and financial outturn position for 06/07
- (ii) approve the carrying forward bids totalling £52k as detailed in paragraph 69 of the report, subject to the agreement of the Executive;
- (iii) recommend that the Executive consider using resources released from the underspend to fund the cost pressures re: the replacement Chief Executive (£60k) and additional CPA inspection costs (£47k).

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: (i) To prevent further slippage or non completion on the projects and actions identified;
(ii) To allow for unbudgeted pressures to be funded.

6. Community Safety Year End Performance 2006/2007

Members considered a report which set out how local and national community safety structure work together, flagged up work being done to clarify future reporting mechanisms in light of the agreement of a Local Area Agreement (LAA), presented a picture of 2006/07 crime figures in key crime categories, and presented a picture of the latest crime perception figures among residents. It provided an overview of performance on community safety related indicators that have now been brought within the

remit of the Director of Neighbourhood Services following the restructure of Neighbourhood Services.

Members discussed the crime reduction targets and figures, the work of the Neighbourhood Policing team and their relationship with the media, the six priority crime areas, and issues relating to anti-social behaviour.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to note the report on community safety performance.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To update the Executive Member, in accordance with budgetary and performance monitoring procedures.

7. 2006/2007 City Strategy Finance and Performance Outturn

Members considered a report which presented two sets of data from the City Strategy Directorate, the outturn figures for revenue expenditure and capital expenditure for the City Strategy portfolio, and outturn (2006/07) performance against target for a number of key indicators that are made up of Best Value Performance Indicators owned by City Strategy, Customer First targets (letter answering), and Staff Management Targets (sickness absence).

Officers updated that paragraph 4 of the report should read “the net *underspend* is £220k.....”, and also distributed annex 4 for Members information which had been omitted from the agenda. Members received updates regarding slippage of the waste PFI project, excellent income levels from car parks, the highway maintenance budget, and discussed issues relating to sickness levels, DDA compliance in relation to drop crossings, and the reduction in residents parking income.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to approve the financial and performance position of the portfolio and the carry forward requests set out in paragraph 54 of the report (totalling 180k) subject to the approval of the Executive.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: In accordance with budgetary and performance monitoring procedures.

8. City Strategy Capital Programme 2006/07 Outturn report

Members considered a report which set out progress on schemes in the City Strategy Capital Programme during the financial year 2006/07. It is the outturn report for 2006/07 and reports on budget spend to the end of March 2007.

Members discussed the overspend on the FTR budget, the Park & Ride sites, the access ramp to York station, the A64 Hopgrove roundabout, and the Fulford Road bus priorities scheme.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to:

- (i) note the significant progress made in 2006/07 in implementing the City Strategy capital programme;
- (ii) note the financial implications indicated in paragraphs 114 – 114 of the report;
- (iii) approve the proposed carryovers as outlined in paragraphs 115 – 117, subject to the approval of the Executive.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To manage the Capital Programme effectively.

9. Progress report on York Eco Business Centre

Members considered a report which intended to provide Members with an update on progress following the decision at Executive EMAP in March 2006 to support the development of a managed workspace scheme at Clifton Moor under the capital programme, and to lease new managed workspace from the developer Helmsley Group.

The report presented two options:

- i) that York, Selby and Malton Business Advice Centres Ltd (YSMBAC) should manage the Eco Business Centre on behalf of CYC for 2 years until the result of the current tendering exercise by Yorkshire Forward is known;
- ii) that a tender exercise should be undertaken to seek a management company who could manage the centre and also provide a high-quality business advice service to tenants - crucial to the ethos of the centre.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to :

- (i) Note the content of this report and the progress made towards the establishment of the new Eco Business Centre;
- (ii) Approve that a two-year Service Level Agreement to YSMBAC (York, Selby & Malton Business Advice Centres Ltd) be issued to manage the Eco Business Centre.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To update the Executive Member, and due to the uncertainty presented by the current tendering of the regional business support contract by Yorkshire Forward which will be settled within the proposed two year period

10. Public Rights of Way - Petition seeking conditional closure of two snickets from Carrfield into Chantry Close and Carrfield into Foxton, Woodthorpe

Members considered a report which advised them of the receipt of a petition signed by 87 residents living in the Woodthorpe area, requesting that two snickets leading from Carrfield into Chantry Close and Carrfield into Foxton, be closed at night because of problems with criminal activity and anti-social behaviour.

The report presented two options:

Option A Do nothing and leave both snickets open to public use;

Option B Progress the request to make conditional restrictions for both snickets by means of Conditional Gating Orders under S129 of the Highways Act 1980.

Members discussed the processes in place for gate management, in terms of responsibilities for locking gates, the reporting of all incidents to the police for the purpose of keeping a record of problems in the area, and the evidence available to them.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to approve Option B, to progress the request to make conditional restrictions for both snickets by means of Conditional Gating Orders under S129 of the Highways Act 1980, subject to Ward Committee funding and the agreement of the Community Ranger.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To respond to the issues raised by the petition.

11. Petition from the residents of Clifton area requesting the retention of York stone flags in St Peters Grove, Clifton, York

Members considered a report which advised them of the receipt of a petition signed by a number of residents and visitors to St Peter's Grove, York. The petitioners objected to the Council replacing the existing defective York stone as concrete flag paving with a new bituminous surfacing.

The report presented three options:

Option 1 - Continue with the scheme as designed in accordance with the current Paving Policy.

Option 2 - Redesign the scheme in order to comply with the residents wishes in respect of the retention of the existing paving.

Option 3 - Refer it to the Ward Committee for the extra over funding to provide and lay new thicker York Stone on an enhanced foundation.

Members discussed the options available in terms of council policy and took due regard of the paving policy but, bearing in mind that St Peter's Grove is in a conservation area, decided on this occasion not to follow the policy and agreed to approve Option 2.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to approve option 2, to redesign the scheme in order to comply with the residents wishes in respect of the retention of the existing paving.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To respond to issues raised by the petition.

12. Petition from residents in the Heworth area to stop vehicles parking on grass verges

Members considered a report which advised them of the receipt of a petition from a total of 102 properties in the Heworth area. The residents called on the Council to work with residents to stop cars parking on grass verges and to make good those verges that are already churned up and muddy by reseeding or returfing them as soon as possible.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to :

- (i) note the receipt of the petition;
- (ii) approve the proposals outlined in paragraphs 21 – 24 of the report

21.To re-affirm the details included in the damaged grass verge policy adopted in December 2000.

22.The Highway Inspectors will continue to record where damage is evident and where they have seen vehicles on the verges and instigate recovery of costs, wherever possible.

23.The Highway inspectors will carry out a survey of all the grass verges in the Heworth area and carry out essential repairs where safety is an issue in accordance with the approved policy.

24.Where vehicle parking on verges is witnessed the inspectors will arrange for letters to be sent to the appropriate property owners and will instigate recovery of repair costs wherever possible.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To ensure, as far as possible, the verges are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

13. Woodsmill Quay Petition

Members considered a report which advised them of the receipt of a petition that requests the inclusion of Woodsmill Quay, off Skeldergate, in a residents parking scheme.

Members discussed the availability of concessionary parking for the residents, and issues relating to planning permission conditions relating to residential parking.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to reject the request for inclusion in a residents parking scheme and confirm that the policy for dealing with new developments in or near residents parking schemes should continue and that officers advise the lead petitioner of this decision.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To prevent new developments from overloading the available on street parking in residents parking schemes.

14. Askham Bryan Parish Council Petition

Members considered a report which advised them of the receipt of a petition that requested action to reduce the amount of HGV and other traffic passing through the village.

The report presented three options:

- A. Take no further action.
- B. Investigate this matter further
- C. Begin the process for introducing a weight limit

Members discussed signage issues, traffic surveys and the issues relating to protecting the unique nature of the area and other similar roads in the area.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to approve that the item be referred back to officers to further investigate the matter.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To further respond to the issues raised in the petition.

15. Petition for Residents Parking - Main Street, Heslington

Members considered a report which advised them of the receipt of a petition that requests the introduction of a residents parking scheme for residents of Main Street, Heslington.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to approve that this area be included on the residents parking request list and to begin investigations and consultation once it reaches the top of the list.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To facilitate parking for residents and their visitors as requested.

16. Bus Services in Elvington

Members considered a report which informed them of a petition presented by Councillor Vassie to Council on 12 April 2007, seeking a better public transport system for Elvington.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to approve that the item be deferred.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To enable the Elected Member and the petitioners to be informed of the date of the meeting where the petition will be considered.

17. Petition objecting to bus service fares

Members considered a petition which was presented to Full Council on 12 April 2007 by Cllr Potter, objecting to recent fare rises on First York buses, and calling upon the Council to make more effort to resist future fare increases.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to approve that the item be deferred.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To enable the Elected Member and the petitioners to be informed of the date of the meeting where the petition will be considered.

18. Petition regarding traffic problems in Horner Street, Cromer Street and Wilberforce Avenue requesting traffic calming and/or measures to prevent through traffic

Members considered a report which informed them of the receipt of a petition from the residents of Horner Street, Cromer Street and Wilberforce Avenue requesting traffic calming and/or measures to prevent through traffic.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to adopt the proposals in paragraphs 8 & 9 of the report :

8. To carry out a detailed assessment of the traffic issues in the Horner Street, Cromer Street and Wilberforce Avenue area for inclusion within the '*Six monthly review of speeding issues*'. The next report is scheduled for the Meeting of Executive Members for City Strategy and Advisory Panel on 16 July 2007 and the assessment could be included in this report. If due to unforeseen circumstances this is not feasible, the assessment could be included in the next six monthly review.

9. To make North Yorkshire Police aware of the petition and request that they consider routine speed enforcement.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: The proposal will ensure that residents' concerns are investigated and assessed using the data led method of assessment. The proposal will allow this request to be considered against other speeding issues identified over the preceding six months.

19. Petition for measures to improve road safety on Holgate Road near the Watson Street junction

Members considered a report which advised them of the receipt of a petition from St Paul's C of E Primary School, seeking the reinstatement of a "School Crossing Patrol" [SCP] (currently vacant), enforcement of road traffic regulations and traffic calming measures on Holgate Road. The petition contained signatures from 369 people.

Members discussed the signage around the area of the school, the fact that the new signs which had been erected were not visible enough, driver behaviour, and the fact that a SCP would be able to report incidents of bad driver behaviour to the police.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to :

- (i) note the content of the petition;
- (ii) support the proposal for officers in Learning, Culture & Childrens Services to carry out a detailed assessment of the location for the provision of a School Crossing Patrol pelican crossing on Holgate Road, to look at the signage in the area, and to request a report back on the outcome in due course.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: To respond to the petitioners concerns.

20. Petition on behalf of Clifton Moor Residents Association calling on the council to investigate and address speeding on Oakdale Road and Rivelin Way

Members considered a report which informed them of the receipt of a petition containing 115 signatures from Clifton Moor Residents Association requesting action to address speeding traffic on Oakdale Road and Rivelin Way.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Member for City Strategy be advised to adopt the proposals put forward in paragraphs 9 – 11 of the report:

9. To carry out a detailed assessment of the traffic issues in the Oakdale Road and Rivelin Way area for inclusion within the '*Six monthly review of speeding issues*'. The next report is scheduled for the Meeting of Executive Members for City Strategy and Advisory Panel on 16 July 2007 and the assessment could be included in this report. If due to unforeseen circumstances this is not feasible, the assessment could be included in the next six monthly review.

10. To make North Yorkshire Police aware of the petition and request that they consider routine speed enforcement.

11. To liaise with First and request that they make drivers aware of resident's concerns about speeding on these roads.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and endorsed.

REASON: The proposal will ensure that residents' concerns are investigated and assessed using the data led method of assessment. The proposal will allow this request to be considered against other speeding issues identified over the preceding six months.

Cllr SF Galloway
Executive Leader

Cllr Reid
Executive Member for City Strategy

Cllr Gillies
Chair of Advisory Panel
The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 7.30 pm.