

**Notice of a public meeting of
Executive**

To: Councillors Aspden (Chair), Ayre, D'Agorne, Waller and Widdowson

Date: Tuesday, 20 July 2021

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: The George Hudson Board Room - 1st Floor West Offices (F045)

[Note: this meeting will take place with a reduced Member attendance to ensure compliance with social distancing measures.]

AGENDA

Notice to Members – Post Decision Calling In:

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group by **4:00 pm on Thursday, 22 July 2021**.

*With the exception of matters that have been the subject of a previous call in, require Full Council approval or are urgent, which are not subject to the call-in provisions. Any called in items will be considered by the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee.

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 Press and Public**

To consider the exclusion of the press and public from the meeting during consideration of Annex 1a to Agenda Item 9 (Outcome of the Feasibility Study in to a Riverside Walkway and New Pedestrian Bridge over the Ouse) on the grounds that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons. This information is classed as exempt under paragraph 3 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 3 - 14)

To approve and sign the minutes of the last Executive meeting, held on 24 June 2021.

4. **Public Participation**

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

Please note that our registration deadlines have changed to 2 working days before the meeting, in order to facilitate the management of public participation at remote meetings. The deadline for registering at this meeting is 5:00pm on Friday, 16 July 2021.

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

Webcasting of Public Meetings

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

During coronavirus, we've made some changes to how we're running council meetings. See our coronavirus updates (www.york.gov.uk/COVIDDemocracy) for more information on meetings and decisions.

- 5. Forward Plan** (Pages 15 - 16)
To receive details of those items that are listed on the Forward Plan for the next two Executive meetings.
- 6. City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - July Update** (Pages 17 - 26)
The Chief Operating Officer to present an update report for July 2021 on the council's activities both directly in response to Covid-19 and to support recovery and renewal.
- 7. Innovative Flood Resilience Programme** (Pages 27 - 34)
The Director of Environment, Transport and Planning to present a report which seeks approval to develop a business case for a project that will access Government funding awarded for the delivery of innovative flood resilience projects.
- 8. Huntington Neighbourhood Plan – Referendum Result and Adoption** (Pages 35 - 56)
The Corporate Director of Place to present a report which sets out the results of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan referendum, and asks Executive to formally 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan and bring it into full legal force as part of the Development Plan for York.
- 9. Outcome of the Feasibility Study in to a Riverside Walkway and New Pedestrian Bridge over the Ouse** (Pages 57 - 180)
The Director of Housing, Economy and Regeneration to present a report which sets out initial feasibility findings in relation to potential infrastructure and regeneration proposals for the Coney Street and associated riverside area of the city centre, together with proposals for the next stage of exploratory work.
- 10. Urgent Business**
Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972.

Democracy Officer:

Name: Fiona Young

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552030
- E-mail – fiona.young@york.gov.uk

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

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

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

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

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

 (01904) 551550

Coronavirus protocols for attending Committee Meetings at West Offices

If you are attending a meeting in West Offices, you must observe the following protocols.

All windows must remain open within the meeting room to maintain good ventilation.

If the windows have to be closed due to weather or external noise levels then the meeting must close.

Furniture must not be moved from the designated safe layout.

If you're displaying possible coronavirus symptoms (or anyone in your household is displaying symptoms), you must follow government self-isolation guidance and must NOT attend your meeting at West Offices.

Testing

The Council encourages regular testing of all Officers and Members and also any members of the public in attendance at a Committee Meeting. Any members of the public attending a meeting are advised to take a test within 24 hours of attending a meeting, the result of the test should be negative, in order to attend.

Test kits can be obtained by clicking on either link: [Find where to get rapid lateral flow tests - NHS \(test-and-trace.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus-test-kits/), or, [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/order-coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-tests).

Alternatively, if you call 119 between the hours of 7am and 11pm, you can order a testing kit over the telephone.

Guidelines for attending Meetings at West Offices

You must:

- Not arrive more than 10 minutes early
- Wear a face covering whilst entering and moving around within the Meeting room where 2m distancing cannot be maintained unless exempt.
- Visitors to enter West Offices by the customer entrance and Councillors to enter using the staff entrance only.
- Members of the Public must wear a face covering (unless exempt) on entering the building which needs to remain in place throughout the meeting (unless they are invited to speak)
- Ensure your ID / visitors pass is clearly visible at all times
- Use the touchless hand sanitiser units on entry and exit to the building and those within the Meeting room.
- Keep to the left and adhere to social distancing where possible when using staircases and walkways, giving way on the staircase landings
- You must sit at the dedicated spaces around the table and if screens are in place do not move them or lean around them.
- Bring your own drink if required
- Maintain social distancing of 2 metres within toilet areas and remain vigilant for other occupants
- Only use the designated toilets next to the Meeting room

Please note: If you intentionally, or repeatedly, breach any of the social distancing measures, or hygiene instructions, you will be asked to leave the building.

Developing symptoms whilst in West Offices

If you develop coronavirus symptoms during a Meeting, you should:

- make your way home immediately
- avoid the use of public transport where possible
- self-isolate for 10 days

You should also:

- Advise the Meeting organiser so they can arrange to assess and carry out additional cleaning
- Continue to observe social distancing
- Do not remain in the building any longer than necessary
- Do not visit any other areas of the building before you leave

If you receive a positive test result, or if you develop any symptoms before the meeting is due to take place, **you must not attend the meeting.**

EJAV229.06.21

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Executive
Date	24 June 2021
Present	Councillors Aspden (Chair), Ayre, Craghill (substitute for Cllr D'Agorne), Smalley, Waller and Widdowson
Apologies	Councillor D'Agorne
In Attendance	Councillor Kilbane

PART A - MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

1. Declarations of Interest

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

Cllr Waller declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 11 (Capital Programme Outturn 2020/21 and Revisions to the 2021/22-2025/26 Programme), as a governor of Westfield Primary School. He left the room during consideration of that item and took no part in the discussions or decisions thereon.

2. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 20 May 2021 be approved, and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been three registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme, all from Council Members.

Cllr Douglas spoke on Agenda Item 6 (Supporting the York Economy). She supported the proposal to sign up to the Good Business Charter but raised concerns around the council's use

of regularly contracted workers not in receipt of the Living Wage.

Cllr Perrett spoke on Agenda Item 7 (Recycling Options & Waste Consultation). She queried recommendation 5, supported the proposal not to implement three-weekly collections, and urged Members to continue to work with the public in developing the recycling strategy.

Cllr Crawshaw spoke on Agenda Items 8 (Future of Medigold Element of CYC Approach to Absence Management) and 10 (Finance & Performance Out-turn 2020-21). On item 8, he stated his preference for Option 4 in the report; on item 10, he queried the position on Adult Social Care in paragraph 7 of the report and requested further details for the scrutiny committee.

4. Forward Plan

Members received and noted details of the items that were on the Forward Plan for the next two Executive meetings at the time the agenda was published.

5. City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - June Update

The Chief Operating Officer presented a report which provided an update for June on activities both directly in response to Covid-19 and to support recovery and renewal.

As well as the latest coronavirus figures, the report highlighted the work of the public health function, along with updates on work to improve mental health provision and on re-opening the city centre. A summary of the wider work of the public health team was attached as Annex 1, with a summary of the Northern Quarter mental health project at Annex 2.

On 4 June, the official 7-day rate of Covid cases in York had been 29.4 per 100k population, remaining lower than both national and regional averages. It was reported at the meeting that this had since increased to 100 per 100k. However, due to the impact of the vaccine cases among the over-60s remained very low (12 per 100k) and there were no covid cases in intensive care. By 8 June, 71.1% of the city's estimated adult population had received their first dose of the vaccine and 48.7% had received both doses.

In commenting on the report, the Chair highlighted the expected changes to government guidance, and the proposals made to government to enable the council to support the city centre and secondary shopping areas in Acomb and Haxby. He also thanked the Covid volunteers for their work during the pandemic.

Resolved: That the contents of the report, and the information provided at the meeting, be noted.

6. Supporting the York Economy

The Director of Environment, Transport & Planning presented a report which set out the findings of an independent evaluation of the council's Micro Business Grant (MBG) scheme, along with proposals to provide support for business-led collaboration through networks and Traders' Associations, and to sign up to the Good Businesses Foundation's Good Business Charter (GBC).

The Evaluation Report, by Blueberry Marketing Ltd. was attached as Annex A to the report. It provided a detailed assessment of the economic impact of the scheme, noted the strengths and weaknesses of the process so as to inform future grant schemes, identified future business support needs, and provided insights on the impact of internet and transport connectivity. Key findings of the evaluation, positive feedback from grant recipients, and potential follow-up work were highlighted in paragraphs 20-30 of the report. In terms of supporting business networks, details of funding allocations and objectives were set out in paragraphs 37-45 and Annex C. It was confirmed that the remaining government funding referred to in paragraph 38 had been received on 23 June. Information on the aims, relevance and implications of the GBC was provided in paragraphs 46-60; the accreditation criteria were attached at Annex D.

Members welcomed the report, and thanked all officers and partners involved; the Chair extended particular thanks to Julian Richer and Prof. Charlie Jeffery for their roles in promoting the GBC. Having noted the comments made under Public Participation, it was

Resolved: (i) That the significant economic impacts resulting from the Executive's decision in March 2020 to invest £1.4m in micro businesses be noted.

Reason: To recognise the sizeable economic and social impact of the Council's micro business grant scheme on York's small business community and business owners, and better understand the challenges they face in adapting to, and recovering from, Covid-19.

(ii) That the continued focus on working with networks and Traders Associations to build a stronger business community be endorsed.

Reason: To continue the Council's commitment to working with local businesses and build a stronger sense of community.

(iii) That it be noted that the findings of the MBG evaluation and the council's work with networks and Traders Association will inform plans to spend the outstanding allocation of Additional Restrictions Grant funding once trading restrictions are lifted, and that the Head of Economic Growth be instructed to bring proposals for the use of those funds to Executive at the earliest opportunity.

Reason: To support the further recovery of micro businesses and the York economy.

(iv) That, subject to the receipt of additional ARG funding from Government, £100k of ARG funds be allocated to support the delivery of events and festivals across the city, and that the implementation of that fund be delegated to the Corporate Director of Place in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy & Strategic Planning.

Reason: To support economic recovery.

(v) That the council sign up to the Good Business Charter and commit York to becoming the first Good Business Charter City.

Reason: To promote responsible business practices and provide a practical framework which enables York to Build Back Better.

7. Recycling Collection Options and Waste Consultations

The Director of Environment, Transport & Planning presented a report which set out the results of a city-wide consultation on recycling and proposals for future action. These included responding to Government consultation on recycling, following the release on 12 May 2021 of further details of the Environment Bill. Results of the council's consultation, to which a very high number of responses had been received, were annexed to the report.

The following options were presented for consideration, as detailed in paragraphs 39-60 of the report:

Option 1 – recognise the consultation results and include them in the response to government consultation;

Option 2 – based on the consultation results, progress proposals for a 3-weekly recycling methodology as per Annex 4;

Option 3 – acknowledge the responses but do not make any changes to recycling;

Option 4 – acknowledge the responses, do not implement 3-weekly recycling but make changes to increase recycling rates, improve efficiency and prepare the city for future change.

Options 1 and 4 were recommended, to ensure efficient and effective collection routes and make service improvements, some of which had been requested by residents in response to consultation.

The Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change welcomed the report and commended the proposals to Members. With reference to matters raised under Public Participation, officers confirmed that detailed work on routes would be carried out once the replacement vehicles had arrived.

Resolved: (i) That the 7,205 residents who took the time to complete the council consultation on recycling (one of the best consultation responses ever received) be thanked, and that the Government's own intentions to increase recycling by funding local authorities to provide additional services be welcomed.

Reason: To provide greater clarity on efforts to increase recycling across the country.

(ii) That authority be delegated to the Director of Environment, Transport and Planning, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change, to provide a response to the Government's consultation on recycling collections based upon the resident response to the council's consultation by the closing date of 4 July.

Reason: To ensure that the council's response to the Government consultation reflects the views of residents.

(iii) That the implementation of the three-weekly recycling collections not proceed.

Reason: Results from the resident focus groups showed that communicating the three-weekly collection was extremely difficult and this would therefore be a risk to success; in addition, the forthcoming Environment Bill may mandate fortnightly collections, meaning that any fundamental change is likely to result in a second change to collection methodology in the next few years, potentially leading to abortive costs.

(iv) That the garden waste season be extended by one month, to run from the beginning of March to the end of October each year, starting in March 2022.

Reason: While there was some support for a year-round green waste service this was not conclusive, and previous customer requests have shown a demand for an earlier start to the season; this change will ensure that residents have a service that meets their need and extends the collection season, which was a theme in the consultation.

(v) That, in light of the vehicle replacement, a review be undertaken to determine whether current collection routes for recycling, refuse and garden waste are as efficient as possible and, if this results in proposals for a significant change, that a report be

taken to the Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change.

Reason: To ensure that an efficient and effective service is provided.

(vi) That officers begin to implement the bags to bins policy (wheeled bins rather than black bags), bring this matter to future Decision Sessions of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change, and review the opportunities to extend the green waste collection to these properties.

Reason: To help prepare the city for any future changes.

(vii) That the sorting of dry recycling into two streams by the collection teams be formally adopted and that a communications campaign be launched to all householders that glass, cans and plastics can now be placed in the same box or boxes (2 boxes per household) but that paper and card must be kept separate.

Reason: So that residents are only asked to source-separate their recycling to the required level.

(viii) That it be noted that these decisions, and the previous approvals of a budget for waste vehicle replacement and adoption of the Future Fleet Management Policy, will allow officers to procure a fleet of twin stream recycling vehicles.

Reason: The existing recycling vehicle fleet is beyond its economical and serviceable life.

8. Future of Medigold Element of CYC Approach to Absence Management

The HR Manager presented a report which provided an overview of the sickness processes put in place under the contract with Medigold, feedback on their impact on sickness levels in the council, and options for the future.

The following options were presented for consideration, as detailed in paragraphs 40-46 of the report:

Option 1 – continue with the Medigold agreement for a further year to assess its impact and benefits. This was the recommended option, on the basis of the results of the agreement to date and responses to consultation with staff, managers and trades unions.

Option 2 – go to market for a similar supplier and negotiate the lowest possible cost. This would need extra resources, and better suppliers were unlikely to be found.

Option 3 – return to the original iTrent model. This would take a small project team about 3 months.

Option 4 – return to the iTrent model with additional resources in HR.

The Executive Member for Finance & Performance commended the proposal to Members. In response to comments made under Public Participation, he confirmed that the contract had always been intended as a short term intervention and it was hoped to move the service back in-house in the future.

Resolved: That approval be given to extend the contract with Medigold for one year, at a cost of £90k.

Reason: So that a full assessment of the benefit can be made.

9. Merger of York Coroner Area with North Yorkshire County Council Coroner Areas

Members received a report on the proposed submission of a request to the Chief Coroner and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to merge the City of York Council (CYC) coroner area with those of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC).

The Director of Governance sought deferral of this item, as the MoJ wished to make amendments to the business case that Executive were being asked to consider.

Resolved: That it be noted that this item will be deferred to a future meeting.

Reason: To enable consideration of amendments to be made to the business case by the MoJ.

10. Finance and Performance Outturn 2020-21

The Chief Finance Officer presented a report which provided an analysis of the council's overall finance and performance position at the end of the financial year 2020-2021.

The report highlighted the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the council's financial position, with estimated gross additional costs of £26m and income loss of £8m. These had been mitigated by grant funding, but an ongoing impact was still expected in future years. A provisional net overspend of £1.2m was reported on the net General Fund budget of £127m for 2020/21, funded from the use of contingency, earmarked reserves and the general reserve. An overview of the outturn was provided in Table 1 at paragraph 12 of the report and key variances within each directorate were summarised in Annex 1. The report also examined the position of reserves and contingency and outlined a request from York Museums Trust to extend the letter of guarantee approved by Executive in August 2020.

The performance update was based on the core indicators grouped around the eight outcome areas in the 2019-23 Council Plan. Performance in general had remained high despite the challenges of the past year, and compared well against similar local authority areas. Core indicators with a good or poor direction of travel were set out in paragraphs 25-28 of the report, and progress on the outcome areas was summarised in paragraph 30. Detailed information was provided in Annex 2.

The Executive Member for Finance & Performance commented on the overall report, highlighting the work carried out by frontline staff and the support provided by the council to residents and businesses. Other Members commented on their individual portfolio areas. In response to matters raised under Public Participation, officers confirmed that grant monies had been spent appropriately in Adult Social Care to fund pressures directly relating to Covid-19.

Resolved: (i) That the year end position be noted.

(ii) That the finance and performance information in the report be noted.

(iii) That the extension to March 2023 for the letter of credit to York Museums Trust, as outlined in paragraphs 20 to 24 of the report, be approved.

(iv) That approval be given for the use of contingency and reserves outlined in paragraphs 14 to 16.

(v) That the carry-forward of HRA reserves outlined in Annex 1 be approved.

Reason: To ensure that significant financial issues can be appropriately dealt with.

11. Capital Programme Outturn 2020/21 and Revisions to the 2021/2- 2025/26 Programme

[See also under Part B]

The Chief Finance Officer presented a report which set out the outturn position of the council's 2020/21 capital programme and its overall funding, and provided an update on the impact of the programme on future years.

An outturn of £92.395m was reported on the approved 2020/21 budget of £119.859m; an overall variation of £27.462m. This comprised requests to re-profile a net -£37.575 of schemes to future years and adjustment to schemes increasing expenditure by £10.113m. The overall programme continued to operate within budget

Key areas of investment and outcomes were highlighted in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the report. Variances and re-profiling requests within each portfolio area were set out in Table 1 at paragraph 11 and detailed in the body of the report. The capital programme for 2021/22 to 2025/26, re-stated as a result of the re-profiling, was shown in Table 3 at paragraph 104 and detailed in Annex 1.

Resolved: (i) That the 2020/21 capital outturn position of £92.397m be noted, and that the requests for re-profiling from the 2020/21 programme to future years, totalling £37.575m, be approved.

(ii) That the adjustments to schemes increasing expenditure in 2020/21 by a net £10.113m be noted.

(iii) That approval be given to release an additional £73k from capital contingency to allow the construction of the new crematorium waiting room.

(iv) That the revised leisure offer at the Community Stadium of a children's play area be approved.

Reasons: (a) To enable the effective management and monitoring of the council's capital programme.

(b) To ensure that mourners attending the crematorium and waiting to enter can be treated with dignity through appropriate and proper waiting facilities.

12. Treasury Management Annual Report and Review of Prudential Indicators 2020/21

The Chief Finance Officer presented a report which outlined the annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2020/21

The report included details of the effect on interest rates of the government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequent reduction in rates of investment earnings.

The report had been reviewed and scrutinised by Audit & Governance Committee at their meeting on 16 June 2021.

Resolved: That the 2020/21 performance of treasury management activity and prudential indicators outlined in Annex A to the report be noted.

Reason: To ensure the continued performance of the treasury management function can be monitored and to comply with statutory requirements

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

13. Capital Programme Outturn 2020/21 and Revisions to the 2021/2- 2025/26 Programme

[See also under Part A]

The Chief Finance Officer presented a report which set out the outturn position of the council's 2020/21 capital programme and its overall funding, and provided an update on the impact of the programme on future years.

An outturn of £92.395m was reported on the approved 2020/21 budget of £119.859m; an overall variation of £27.462m. This comprised requests to re-profile a net -£37.575 of schemes to future years and adjustment to schemes increasing expenditure by £10.113m. The overall programme continued to operate within budget

Key areas of investment and outcomes were highlighted in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the report. Variances and re-profiling requests within each portfolio area were set out in Table 1 at paragraph 11 and detailed in the body of the report. The capital programme for 2021/22 to 2025/26, re-stated as a result of the re-profiling, was shown in Table 3 at paragraph 104 and detailed in Annex 1.

Recommended: That the re-stated 2021/22 to 2025/26 programme of £600.778m, as summarised in Table 3 at paragraph 104 of the report and detailed in Annex A, be approved.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the council's capital programme.

Cllr K Aspden, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.50 pm].

Forward Plan: Executive Meeting: 20 July 2021

Table 1: Items scheduled on the Forward Plan for the Executive Meeting on 26 August 2021

Title and Description	Author	Portfolio Holder
<p>CYC Renewal and Recovery Strategy</p> <p>Purpose of Report To provide an update on activities in response to the Covid-19 and the work to support recovery and renewal. This follows previous Executive decisions to approve the Recovery and Renewal Plan, which frames the Council's recovery activities for the year.</p> <p>Executive will be asked to: note the report.</p>	Will Boardman	Executive Leader
<p>York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy</p> <p>Purpose of Report To present the updated York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy which replaces the previous 95 Alive Safer Roads, Healthier Places Strategy which ran through to 2020.</p> <p>Executive will be asked to: endorse the York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy subject to final approval by all members of the partnership.</p>	Tony Clarke	Executive Member for Transport

Table 2: Items scheduled on the Forward Plan for the Executive Meeting on 30 September 2021

Title and Description	Author	Portfolio Holder
<p>York Community Woodland Design Plan, Funding and Delivery Options</p> <p>Purpose of Report To set out the proposed final woodland design plan following detailed site assessment, concept design plan and community and stakeholder engagement. It also sets out funding options to deliver the woodland.</p> <p>Executive will be asked to: consider and approve the final woodland design plan recommendations, and consider and approve recommendations in relation to funding the capital cost of woodland creation.</p>	Shaun Gibbons	Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change

Table 3: Items Slipped on the Forward Plan

Title & Description	Author	Portfolio Holder	Original Date	Revised Date	Reason for Slippage
<p>York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership – Safer Roads Strategy</p> <p><i>See Table 1 for details</i></p>	Tony Clarke	Executive Member for Transport	20/7/21	26/8/21	To allow further time to finalise the draft strategy with other partners in advance of the decision on adoption.



Executive**20 July 2021**

Report of the Chief Operating Officer
Portfolio of the Leader of the Council

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – July Update**Summary**

1. This report provides an update on activities both directly in response to Covid-19 and the work to support recovery and renewal.
2. In this month's report, the changed restrictions associated with Step 4 are discussed, along with updates on the development of a Citizens' Panel to support broader engagement and an update on York's bid to the Levelling Up fund.
3. It is highly likely given the fast-changing nature of the pandemic that some of the information within this report will have changed between publication and the Executive meeting. Updates will, therefore, be given at the meeting.

Recommendations

4. Executive is asked to:
 - a. Note the contents of the report

Background

5. On 25th June 2020, Executive received a report to outline the council's 1-year Recovery and Renewal Strategy. This highlighted the need for a revised set of strategies to address the very significant and immediate impacts of coronavirus across all aspects of life in our city.
6. The strategy set the following principles upon which we will build our response:
 - a. Prioritise the health and wellbeing of our residents, against the immediate threat of coronavirus and the consequences of changes to the way we live. Public Health guidance will be paramount in all the decisions we make.

- b. Support the economic recovery of the City, helping to create a strong, sustainable and inclusive economy for the future. Learning lessons from the challenges of coronavirus, promote a system that utilises the strengths of our city and region to the benefit of all York’s residents and businesses.
 - c. Protect and prioritise the City’s environment and reinforce our work to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
 - d. Pursue improvements in service delivery where they have been identified as part of the Response phase, creating a more efficient and resilient system.
 - e. Reinforce and restore public confidence in the resilience of public agencies and resilience to future challenges and emergencies.
7. Included in the June 2020 report was a One Year Transport and Place Strategy, as the first part of the economic recovery approach. A report in July supplemented this with a Business Support Plan, a Skills and Employment Plan and a Tourism Marketing Plan.

CYC Recovery and Renewal Plan (1 year)				
Economic Recovery Plan			Communities	Corporate
Business Support Plan	One Year Transport and Place Plan	Skills and Employment Plan	Recovery from coronavirus: A community-based approach	Organisational Development Plan
Tourism Marketing Plan				

Latest Outbreak Update

- 8. Given the continually changing context, an update on the latest situation will be given verbally to the Executive at the meeting.
- 9. As at 6.7.21 a total of 143,248 CYC residents have had the first dose of the vaccine. This represents 82.1% % of the estimated adult (18+) population of York.
- 10. As at 6.7.21 a total of 100,316 CYC residents have had both doses of the vaccine. This represents 57.5% of the estimated adult (18+) population of York.
- 11. The latest official “validated” rate of new Covid cases per 100,000 of population for the period 27.6.21 to 3.7.21 in York was 414 (872 cases). The national and regional averages at this date were 263.9 and 333.2 respectively.

12. On 5 July, the Prime Minister hosted a press conference to set out plans for the final step of the Roadmap in England.
13. Step 4 could commence on 19 July if the Government's "four tests" for easing COVID restrictions have been met. This will be confirmed on Monday 12 July following a review of the latest data.
14. At the time of writing, guidance is still being published, so the following is provided as an indication. It is recommended that everyone refers to the latest guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.
15. At Step 4, the Government will remove outstanding legal restrictions on social contact, life events, and open the remaining closed settings. They have said the focus is on enabling people and businesses to make informed decisions about how to manage the risk to themselves and others.
16. This means that at Step 4:
 - a. All remaining limits on social contact will be removed and there will be no more restrictions on how many people can meet in any setting, indoors or outdoors.
 - b. All settings will be able to open, including nightclubs.
 - c. Large events, such as music concerts and sporting events can resume without any limits on attendance or social distancing requirements.
 - d. The legal requirements to wear a face covering will be lifted in all settings.
 - e. Social distancing rules will be lifted.
 - f. Businesses will be encouraged to display QR codes for customers to check in using the NHS COVID-19 app, although it will no longer be a legal requirement.
 - g. It is no longer necessary for the Government to instruct people to work from home and employers can start to plan a return to workplaces.
17. Currently, the rules around self-isolation remain the same in that if you develop COVID-19 symptoms, you must self-isolate immediately and get a PCR test, even if your symptoms are mild. You should self-isolate at home while you book the test and wait for the results. You must self-isolate if you test positive. Your isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you do not have symptoms), and the next 10 full days. This is the law.
18. You must self-isolate if you are told to do so by NHS Test and Trace, for example if you have come into contact with someone who has tested positive. This remains the law, regardless of your vaccination status. The

Government intends, in due course, to set out further detail on how and when the rules will change for fully vaccinated contacts and those under 18.

19. The Health Secretary has announced that from the 16 August, when even more people will have the protection of both doses and when modelling suggests the risk from the virus will be lower, anyone who's a close contact of a positive case will no longer have to self-isolate, if they've been fully vaccinated.
20. If someone gets their second dose just before, or after, 16 August, they'll need to wait until two weeks after they get the second jab to benefit from these new freedoms so the vaccine has time to build the maximum possible protection.
21. In line with the approach for adults, anyone under the age of 18, who is a close contact of a positive case, will no longer need to self-isolate. Instead, they'll be given advice about whether they should get tested, dependent on their age, and they'll need to self-isolate if they test positive. These measures will also come into force on the 16th August, ahead of the autumn school term.
22. The advice around fresh air remains that it's always worth considering if you can meet outdoors or, if you're indoors, thinking about how you can improve ventilation by letting fresh air in. The more fresh air you let into your home or other enclosed spaces, the less likely a person is to inhale infectious particles.
23. The Education Secretary gave a statement to Parliament on the government's plan to remove key restrictions on education and childcare when we move to step four of the roadmap.
24. He confirmed that, from step four, the government is ending class bubbles, and that from 16 August, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, they will be advised to take a PCR test as soon as possible.
25. The Education Secretary added that there will be no restrictions on in-person teaching and learning in universities unless students are advised to isolate or are affected by local outbreaks. It will not be required to stagger start and finish times for schools and colleges – although they can continue doing this until the end of summer term if they wish.
26. Even though we may reach step of the roadmap on 19 July, it is clear that Covid-19 is still very much with us and the pandemic is not yet over. It is

likely that some measures such as hand washing, good respiratory hygiene, and the wearing of masks in crowded places indoors will continue to be recommended, albeit on a voluntary basis. The council is working with partners to agree clear messaging on how to control the rise in positive case rates through these measures. The council will also continue working with the NHS to support vaccination and preparation for the winter vaccination programme for seasonal flu and Covid boosters.

Recovery Updates

Economic

27. The council has submitted a first round bid to the government's £4.8bn national Levelling Up Fund which closed on 18 June. Although the country is split in to priority areas, and York is in tier 3 – the lowest priority – this is only one of the criteria, and the Executive previously delegated the final decision on what to submit in our application to the Executive Member for Finance and Performance and the Corporate Director for Place. To maximise the chance of success the council sought guidance from economic business case consultants Amion to look across the portfolio of council projects for the best strategic fit.
28. The final bid included three inter-related projects totalling £19.116m (against an allowed maximum of £20m) and included £10m for the new riverside park and public realm to replace Castle Car Park and the Eye of York as part of the Castle Gateway regeneration; £4.2m to support the regeneration of Coney Street and a new riverside walkway as part of the developer led Riverside Quarter; and £4.9m to revitalise Parliament Street and St Sampson's Square. The proposals received extensive letters or support from key stakeholders and both the city's MPs.
29. The overall bid was designed to transform key areas of the city centre by creating new and improved public realm, improving accessibility to green spaces, providing world-class spaces for cultural activation and events, providing new pedestrian and cycle routes, and improving the setting of key historical assets. The targeted interventions are intended to also act as a catalyst for the re-use of vacant spaces for residential and business purposes, leverage private sector investment, and inspire community activity. This will ensure that York city centre remains a high-quality destination for business, leisure and cultural experiences, supporting direct spend in city centre businesses and bringing widespread public enjoyment. The package of support was designed to drive city centre vibrancy and occupancy at a critical moment in its evolution, maintaining and improving the important function of the retail, leisure and tourism which underpins local jobs and the city's economy. By creating a linked series of exciting dynamic and fit for purpose spaces, events can be better managed in the

historic core, and important amenity spaces will be created for this and future generations.

30. The successful bids will be announced by Government in the autumn. However, should this bid be unsuccessful the business case preparation will not be wasted as future Government funding is anticipated to be forthcoming, including within any devolution asks.

Corporate

31. A Citizens' Panel proposal is being developed to support broader engagement with residents. Drawing on the LGA engagement framework "increasing levels of public impact" now embedded into our resident engagement approach approved at Executive in April 2021.
32. The Citizens' Panel could never be representative of all perspectives in the city, rather it provides the starting point for wider engagement in draft proposals that can be further explored.
33. The panel will take the form of three focus groups held to explore three strategic issues a year. Panel members will be asked to commit to all three focus groups and discuss the issue in depth, generating recommendations for wider engagement. Panel members will be selected at random from the already established Talkabout Panel with a sense check to ensure fair representation.
34. It is proposed that first a trial of the Citizen's Panel takes place for the budget consultation, with a review in February. The proposed trial would steer broader engagement on the budget process, ultimately providing feedback prior to decision-making.
35. Should the trial be successful, the panel will go ahead in 2022/23, meeting three times a year meeting for three sessions over a month to discuss pre-identified strategic issues.

Council Plan

36. The Recovery and Renewal Strategy outlines activities for the next year to allow the continued achievement of Council Plan outcomes.

Implications

- **Financial** – Within the body of the report.
- **Human Resources** – No specific impacts identified.

- **One Planet Council / Equalities** – A principle of recovery is to ensure climate change is considered in decisions taken. The economic recovery plans recognise and respond to the unequal impact of coronavirus and the risk of increasing levels of inequality as a result.
- **Legal** – No specific impacts identified.
- **Crime and Disorder** – No specific impacts identified.
- **Information Technology** – No specific impacts identified.

Risk Management

37. There remain significant areas of risk in responding to this crisis across all areas of recovery. The highest priority continues to be the health and wellbeing of residents and all planning and decisions will be taken with this in mind.

Contact Details

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Ian Floyd
Chief Operating Officer

Report **Date** 12/07/2021
Approved

Wards Affected: List wards or tick box to indicate all

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Background Reports

Update on Coronavirus Response – 7 May 2020

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s139955/Coronavirus%20Executive%20Report.pdf>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - June

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=59688&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI55501>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy Update – July

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=59899>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy update - August

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=60167&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI55914>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy update – September

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s142400/Recovery%20and%20Renewal%20Update%20Report.pdf>

CYC Recovery and Renewal Strategy update – October

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=60724&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI56530>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - November Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s144127/Recovery%20and%20Renewal%20Update%20-%20November%202020%20v0.3.pdf>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – December update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=61412&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI57153>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –January Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=61755&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI57489>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –February Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s146708/Recovery%20and%20Renewal%20Update%20-%20February%202021.pdf>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –March Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=61990&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI57770>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy –April Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=62864&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI58384>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – May Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=62866&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI58386>

City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy – July Update

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieIssueDetails.aspx?IId=63229&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A158774>

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Executive**20 July 2021**

Report of the Director of Environment, Transport & Planning
Portfolio of the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning

Innovative Flood Resilience Programme**Summary**

1. Government announced a programme to test and demonstrate ways to help communities become more resilient to flooding and coastal change in the 2020 budget. The programme aims to allocate £150 million to 25 areas in England to deliver innovative flood resilience projects.
2. City of York Council and North Yorkshire County Council have worked with a number of project partners to develop a bid for this funding, our project aims to deliver catchment wide natural flood risk management solutions that will provide increased flood resilience to North Yorkshire and York communities and reduce the impacts of existing and future flood events.
3. Following the successful award of funding members are recommended to approve the development of the business case for the project as detailed in paragraph 4 of this report.

Recommendations

4. The Executive is asked to:
 - i. Approve the ongoing work to develop the business case to access the funding indicatively valued at £5.8m.

Reason: To support the delivery of the York and North Yorkshire Natural Flood Risk Management Innovative Flood Resilience project.

Background

5. City of York Council have developed a proposal for Defra's Innovative Flood Resilience Grant to support catchment scale natural flood risk management solutions which would be funded through the utilisation of innovative modelling linking beneficiaries with those that can provide the services upstream. Financial modelling will identify the ways in which the services could be funded.
6. The proposal was successful and funding has been allocated to deliver the six year project. Initial funding has been provided for a development phase through to early 2022 to finalise the business case, refine the project and confirm all budgets and outcomes.
7. All funding bids required an assessment of risk and contingency to ensure all eventualities could be covered following the completion of a full business case. The project currently has a valuation of £5.8m, the final value to be awarded to the project will be confirmed following the projects development phase as detailed above.
8. The project has been developed with involvement from a number of key partners including JBA Consulting, Environment Agency, University of York, Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust, Yorkshire Dales National Park and a range of other river catchment based partnerships.
9. The project seeks to work with landowners and those at flood risk across the River Swale, Ure and Nidd catchments upstream of the City of York and form links to develop an understanding and agreement of how changes to upstream land management can benefit at risk communities downstream. This is an ambitious project that has not previously been carried out on this scale. The project will work with the varying catchment partnerships and the good work that has already been carried out to embed catchment-sensitive farming ideals and directly link those who have the means to home upstream flood prevention measures with those who benefit from reduced flood risk downstream. The linkage would be both financial and social, providing reward and recognition for the upstream parties and engendering an understanding and sense of ownership of the measures by those who benefit downstream.
10. The project will develop a bespoke and detailed science base to identify storage and natural flood management opportunities down to a local scale, producing a 'shopping list' of potential measures and identifying the downstream locations that would benefit from this work.

Engagement of beneficiaries in urban areas will identify ways in which they can support and contribute to the delivery of such measures, and this is expected to be supported through local policy and financial incentives and inform national policy and future programmes of investment

11. Innovative ways to engage all parties will be developed drawing on past best practice, science and research from a wide range of fields. A number of demonstration sites will be developed throughout the catchment to illustrate the techniques and highlight the benefits.
12. The Environment Agency continue to work closely with City of York Council on all aspects of the York Five Year Plan. Flood defence improvements in North Street, Memorial Gardens and the majority of the upper Bootham scheme are completed. Works are commencing in Clementhorpe, Bishopthorpe, Lower Bootham, Museum Gardens and upstream of Strensall through 2021. A quarterly update is brought to the Executive Member for the Environment and Climate Change Decision Sessions, the latest update can be accessed via the below link:

[Agenda for Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change on Wednesday, 5 May 2021, 3.00 pm \(york.gov.uk\)](#)

13. City of York Council are leading on the development of the scheme in Fulford, approvals and contract award has been made to take this scheme through the detailed design and planning stage, work has commenced and a number of design meetings, review sessions and community meetings have been held. A preferred option of a pumping station has been identified to provide protection to homes and maintain access on Fordlands Road during flooding. The scheme will also aid future flood resilience on the A19. The scheme was considered in the August 2020 Executive Member for the Environment and Climate Change Decision Session:

[Agenda for Decision Session - Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change on Wednesday, 12 August 2020, 3.00 pm \(york.gov.uk\)](#)

Consultation

14. Following the funders call for expressions of interest CYC liaised with a range of project partners to discuss a number of projects and their applicability to the funding. The long term flood resilience of the cities

defences and the need to work with natural process across the whole catchment area supported the promotion of the successful project.

15. All major project partners attended a number of virtual workshops to develop the project further but a wide range of ongoing partnerships and existing projects across the catchment already underpinned the need for the project.
16. Consultation with project partners has recommenced following the successful project submission. A number of workshops and project review meetings are being set up to inform the final business case.
17. Once initiated the project will be monitored through a project board which will involve all partners, quarterly updates will be provided to the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change and NYCC governance processes. Public, business and landowner liaison will not commence until later in year one of the project, likely in late 2022.

Options

18. The long term resilience of the cities flood defences relies on the development of catchment scale interventions, this is a key concept of the existing programme of defence improvements in the city. The Innovative Flood Resilience funded project outlined here is crucial in the development of these outcomes. It is therefore recommended that only two options are available for members:
 - ii. Approve the ongoing work to develop the business case to access the funding indicatively valued at £5.8m, further updates will be brought to the Executive following the acceptance of the full business case.
 - iii. Reject the project approaches as proposed and advise on alternate approaches or details to be developed and included within the emerging project.

Analysis

19. The project ultimately aims to deliver the means to establish a wide range of natural flood risk management projects across the catchment that will deliver increased flood resilience and support a wider range of multiple benefits across other climate, ecology and biodiversity agendas.

20. Although City of York Council are the project funding lead an approach will be developed and agreed between the authority and North Yorkshire County Council to establish joint project principles and outcomes and deliver a joined up approach to flood risk solutions across the whole river catchment.
21. The position and policy of CYC regarding the project outcomes that link upstream landowners with the means to deliver natural flood risk management interventions with those who may benefit downstream needs to be carefully considered. Negotiation, influencing and linkages with available funding sources will potentially be successful in the delivery of measures but there cannot be an expectation that the connection of sellers and potential buyers should lead to this.
22. The procurement strategy for the programme is to be developed, a range of project partners expertise has been instrumental in a successful national funding bid and this will need to be incorporated into the procurement of the project delivery partners.
23. A number of significant changes will occur across the project area during its six year delivery programme – the establishment of the York and North Yorkshire LEP, devolution and boundary changes, the establishment of the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS), the delivery of the CYC Climate Commission and partner's climate change/carbon reduction initiatives. The expression of interest linked all of these agenda's and all have the ability to significantly support the delivery of the project and to also benefit from its approaches.
24. Further to this the project will seek to co-develop approaches with a wide range of other initiatives and wherever possible work as a catalyst for their work, the project partners already have links into initiatives such as the Northern Forrest, Catchment Sensitive Farming, LEP Natural Capital programmes and many others.
25. The project will also link closely with the ongoing flood risk management works within the city. The Environment Agency led schemes are delivering improved flood defences able to provide direct flood resilience to our communities in future flood events.
26. A key design consideration for the schemes has been the need to ensure the height and extent of the floodbanks and walls can manage future flood events without impacting negatively on our riverside communities, we understand that we cannot continue to raise these features without a

serious negative impact on our city. To ensure this is not the case the schemes include a design element to manage climate change impacts upto the projected 2039 levels.

27. To ensure the defences continue to provide an effective level of protection after this time the Environment Agency and all key partners have identified that catchment scale solutions are needed to support the direct flood protection in the city. The ideals of our innovation programme will directly support and assist in the delivery of these ambitions.

Council Plan

28. Improved provision of flood defences supports a prosperous city for all through safer communities for residents, businesses and visitors, a wide range of consultation events will ensure this is in line with the needs and expectations of local communities.

Implications

- **Financial**
No impact: the project is externally funded by Defra for its full six years of delivery. A letter of financial support has been received covering the values included within the expression of interest, this included optimism bias and risk. These figures and wider aspects of funding will be revised through the business case development and final funding will be confirmed at this stage.
- **Human Resources (HR)**
There are no HR implications
- **One Planet Council / Equalities**
The project supports a wide range of CYC aspirations with regard to climate change mitigation/adaptation and will link with the Climate Commission.

An appraisal of the way in which a number of policies and processes are developed to address the issues detailed in the appraisal section of this report will need to be carried out at the appropriate time to ensure they do not impact disproportionately on any communities or groups.

- **Legal**
The provision of flood risk management interventions is purely based on the exercise of permissive powers and duties, a number of areas discussed within the analysis section of this report will require legal consideration and agreements with other authorities.
- **Crime and Disorder**
There are no Crime and Disorder implications
- **Information Technology (IT)**
There are no IT implications
- **Property**
There are no implications directly to CYC Property, however, the project outcomes may identify CYC assets that are likely to benefit and that should be included as potential beneficiaries.
- **Other**
There are no other implications

Risk Management

There are no risk management implications associated with this plan.

Contact Details

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Flood Risk Management**

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Report **Date** 7 July 2021
Approved

**Neil Ferris
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Wards Affected:

All

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Background Papers:

None

Annexes

None



Executive**20 July 2021**

Report of the Director of Place
Portfolio of the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning

Huntington Neighbourhood Plan**Summary**

1. The purpose of the report is to consider the results of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan referendum. It asks Members to formally 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan and bring it into full legal force as part of the Development Plan for York. This will allow the Neighbourhood Plan to progress in line with the relevant Neighbourhood Planning legislation and Regulations. This paper was considered by Members of Local Plan Working Group on 13th July 2021.

Recommendations

2. The Executive is asked to:
 - i) Consider the results of the referendum and formally 'make' the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan.

Reason: To allow the Neighbourhood Plan to progress in line with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations.
 - ii) To approve the Decision Statement attached at Annex B to be published in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

Reason: To allow the Neighbourhood Plan to progress in line with neighbourhood planning legislation.

Background

3. The Localism Act 2011 introduced new powers for community groups to prepare neighbourhood plans for their local areas. The Council has a statutory duty to assist communities in the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans and to take plans through a process of Examination and Referendum. The local authority is required to take decisions at key stages in the process within time limits that apply, as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as amended in 2015 and 2016 (“the Regulations”) and within new government guidance in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.
4. The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by Huntington Parish Council with on-going engagement with the local community and City of York Council. The Plan has been through the following stages of preparation:
 - Designation as a Neighbourhood Area (28th September 2015)
 - Consultation on Pre-Submission Version (29th January to 23rd March 2018)
 - Submission to City of York Council (31st July 2019)
 - Submission Consultation (7th October to 18th November 2019)
 - Regulation 17A (2) Consultation (3rd December 2020 – 28th January 2021)
 - Examiner Report considered at LPWG and Executive (16th March and 18th March 2021 respectively)
 - Referendum (10th June 2021)
5. The Examiner’s Report concluded that subject to a series of recommended modifications, the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan met the necessary basic conditions (as set out in Schedule 4b (8) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and subject to these modifications being made it should proceed to referendum.
6. At Local Plan Working Group on 16th March 2021 and Executive on 18th March 2021, Members accepted the Examiner’s recommendations (excluding the ones in relation to Green Belt) and the additional modifications recommended by officers in relation to the Green Belt Policy and associated supporting text (in line with the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 17A(2) Consultation) and agreed that the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan as so modified should proceed to referendum.

7. A referendum was held on Thursday 10th June 2021.

Referendum

8. A referendum on the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan was held on Thursday 10th June 2021 and was organised by the City of York Council. As per the Examiner's recommendations, the referendum area was the same as the Neighbourhood Area designated by the Council, which is the parish of Huntington.
9. Two polling stations were open from 7am until 10pm on Thursday 10th June 2021. One at Orchard Park Community Centre, off Kestrel Wood Way and the other at Huntington Community Centre at 26 Strensall Road in Huntington.
10. The Declaration of Results of Poll contained at Annex A to this report confirms that 1318 residents casted a valid vote in the referendum, out of a potential 7733 on the electoral roll (17.1% turnout). The results on whether to accept the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan were:-
 - YES = 1144 (86.8%)
 - NO = 174 (13.2%)
11. The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012 as amended) requires that where over 50% of those voting in the Neighbourhood Plan referendum, vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan, then the Council is legally obliged to 'make' the plan (i.e. bring it into force as part of the Development Plan). The Council is not subject to this legal requirement if the making of the plan would breach, or would otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998) or there are unresolved legal challenges.
12. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 also provides that a Neighbourhood Plan for an area becomes part of the development plan for that area after it is approved by an applicable referendum, prior to the plan being 'made' by the Council. In the very limited circumstances where the local planning authority might decide not to 'make' the neighbourhood plan, it will cease to be part of the development plan for the area. Given that the referendum result was 86.8% in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan; the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan and the policies within it are now part of the statutory development plan for City of York.

13. The Neighbourhood Plan must be made by the Council within 8 weeks beginning with the day immediately following that on which the referendum is held (unless the Plan is incompatible with EU/HR legislation or there is an unresolved legal challenge). This date is 6th August 2021.

Consultation

14. As mentioned earlier in the report, the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan has been through several stages of consultation. These are: consultation on designation as a Neighbourhood Area (28th September 2015), consultation on Pre-Submission version (29th January to 23rd March 2018), consultation on a Submission version (7th October to 18th November 2019), Regulation 17A (2) Consultation (3rd December 2020 – 28th January 2021) and the Referendum (10th June 2021).
15. A Consultation Statement accompanied the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan and sets out the consultation undertaken. All the consultation undertaken by City of York Council has been carried out in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

Options

16. Members are asked to formally 'make' the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan and bring it into full legal force as part of the Development Plan for York. The Council is legally obliged to make the plan because it meets the legal requirements for making a plan.

Analysis

17. This report presents to Members the outcome of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan referendum. At 86.8% in favour of using the Neighbourhood Plan to help determine planning applications in the defined neighbourhood area, this endorsement is demonstrably higher than the required threshold of more than half of those voting. A positive majority at the referendum means that the Council is now obliged to "make" the plan and bring it into full legal force as part of the Development Plan for York.
18. The Neighbourhood Plan is considered to meet the basic conditions and all relevant legal and procedural requirements and this is supported in the Examiner's Report. It is advised that the plan be made by the

Council given the positive vote in support of the neighbourhood plan and nothing has changed since the earlier consideration of the Examiner's report and modifications which would suggest that the Plan would breach, or be incompatible with any EU obligation or any of the Convention of Rights. Nor is there any unresolved legal challenge in respect of the Plan. There are no reasons why the Council should not proceed to 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with the outcome of the referendum.

Next Steps

19. Once the plan is 'made', it will achieve its full legal status. It forms part of the statutory development plan for the area and will sit alongside the Local Plan (once adopted). The Neighbourhood Plan contains a series of policies that will be used when determining planning applications that are located within the defined Neighbourhood Area. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Council Plan

20. The Council Plan for 2019-2023 identifies eight priorities, seven of which are relevant to this work and include:
 - good health and wellbeing;
 - a well-paid and an inclusive economy;
 - getting around sustainably;
 - a greener and cleaner city;
 - creating homes and world-class infrastructure;
 - safe communities and culture for all; and
 - an open and effective council.

Implications

21. The following implications have been assessed:
 - **Financial** – The examination and referendum has been funded by City of York Council. However the Council has applied for and received a government grant of £20,000 towards the costs of the Councils involvement in preparing the Plan (including the costs of the Examination and referendum).
 - **Human Resources (HR)** – There are no HR implications

- **One Planet Council / Equalities** – Equality Impact Assessment attached at Annex C.
- **Legal** - The legal implications are set out within the body of this report.
- **Crime and Disorder**– There are no crime and disorder implications
- **Information Technology (IT)** – There are no financial implications
- **Property** – There are no property implications
- **Other** – None

Risk Management

22. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, the main risks associated with the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan are as follows:

- The decision whether or not to 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan is, like all decisions of a public authority, open to challenge by judicial review. The risk of any such legal challenge being successful has been minimised by the thorough and robust way in which it has been prepared and tested.
- Risks arising from failure to comply with the laws and regulations relating to Planning and the SA and Strategic Environmental Assessment processes and not exercising local control of developments.

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Report Approved Date: 8.07.2021

Specialist Implications Officer(s):

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Wards Affected: Huntington & New Earswick

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

Annex A: Declaration of Result of Poll
Annex B: Regulation 19 Decision Statement
Annex C: Equality Impact Assessment

List of Abbreviations Used in this Report:

EU	European Union
HR	Human Rights
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
HRA	Habitat Regulation Assessment
NP	Neighbourhood Plan

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DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Referendum on the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan Area

On 10 June 2021

I, Rachel Antonelli, being the Deputy Counting Officer at the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan Area referendum, do hereby give notice of the number of votes recorded for each answer to the question:

Question:		
Do you want the City of York Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Huntington to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?		
	Votes Recorded	Percentage
Number cast in favour of a YES	1144	86.8%
Number cast in favour of a NO	174	13.2%

The number of ballot papers rejected as follows:	Number of ballot papers
A Want of an Official Mark	0
B Voting for more answers than required	1
C Writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D Being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	3
TOTAL	4

Electorate: 7733

Ballot Papers Issued: 1322

Turnout : 17.1%

Dated: 10 June 2021

Rachel Antonelli
Deputy Counting Officer

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Huntington Neighbourhood Plan

Final Decision Statement published pursuant to Section 38A (9) and (10) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and Regulations 19 and 20 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

1. Summary

Following a positive referendum result on the 10th June 2021, City of York Council is publicising its decision made on 20th July 2021 by the Executive to 'make' the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan part of the City of York Development Plan in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

2. Background

Huntington Parish Council, as the qualifying body, successfully applied for the Parish of Huntington to be designated as the Huntington Neighbourhood Area under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012). Following the submission of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan to the Council, the plan was publicised and comments were invited from the public and stakeholders. The consultation period closed on 18th November 2019.

3. Decision and Reasoning

City of York Council appointed an independent Examiner; Mr Andrew Ashcroft BA (Hons) MA, DMS, MRTPI, to review whether the plan met the basic conditions required by legislation and whether the plan should proceed to referendum.

The Examiner's Report concluded that subject to a series of recommended modifications, the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan met the necessary basic conditions (as set out in Schedule 4b (8) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and subject to these modifications being made it should proceed to referendum.

At Local Plan Working Group on 16th March 2021 and Executive on 18th March 2021, Members accepted the Examiner's recommendations (excluding the ones in relation to Green Belt) and the additional modifications recommended by officers in relation to the Green Belt Policy and associated supporting text (in line with the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 17A(2) Consultation) and agreed that the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan as so modified should proceed to referendum.

A referendum on the modified plan was held on Thursday 10th June 2021 and 86.8% of those who voted were in favour of the plan. Paragraph 38A (4)(a) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as amended requires that the Council must 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the plan. City of York Council is not subject to this duty if the making of the plan would breach, or would otherwise be incompatible with, any EU obligation or any of the Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998).

The referendum held on 10th June 2021 met the requirements of the Localism Act 2011; it was held in the Huntington Neighbourhood Area and posed the question:

Do you want City of York Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Huntington to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

The count took place on the 10th June 2021 and greater than 50% of those who voted were in favour of the plan being used to help decide planning applications in the plan area.

The results of the referendum were:

Response	Votes recorded (percentage)
Yes	86.8%
No	13.2%
Turnout	17.1%

The Council considers that the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions (set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended), its promotion process was compliant with legal and procedural requirements and it does not breach the legislation (set out in Section 38A(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

4. Inspection of Decision Statement and made Neighbourhood Plan

This decision statement can be viewed on the City of York Council website [Huntington Neighbourhood Plan – City of York Council](#)

The decision statement can also be viewed on the Huntington Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan website [Huntington Parish Council \(North Yorkshire\) - Neighbourhood Plan](#)

In accordance with Regulation 20 of the Regulations, the made Huntington Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed on the Council's website [Huntington Neighbourhood Plan – City of York Council](#)

The Neighbourhood Plan can also be viewed on the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan website: [Huntington Parish Council \(North Yorkshire\) - Neighbourhood Plan](#)

A copy of this decision statement is being sent to:-

- The qualifying body, namely Huntington Parish Council; and
- To any person who asked to be notified of the decision.

Paper copies of this statement and the made Neighbourhood Plan can also be viewed at:

York Libraries

If open at the time of the Neighbourhood Plan Adoption (post 20th July 2021) five hard copies are available in both York Explore Library and Huntington Library. These copies will be subject to a 72 hour quarantine period after use to be in line with covid protocols.

The Neighbourhood Plan Adopted Version and this Decision Statement will also be available to view online via computer access at Explore Libraries, if open at Adoption (post 20th July 2021). Computer access will be in line with the library opening hours and the protocols in place for Covid 19, such as booking computer access by appointment only. For further information on computer access, please see: <https://www.exploreyork.org.uk/libraries/>

Current opening times are as follows:

York Explore Library, Library Square, York, YO1 7DS

(Monday 9am-8pm, Tuesday 9am-8pm, Wednesday 9am-8pm, Thursday 9am-8pm, Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 11am-4pm)

Huntington Library, Garth Road, Huntington, York, YO32 9QJ

(Monday: 9.30am – 12 noon and 2pm – 5pm, Tuesday: 9.30am – 12 noon and 2pm – 5pm, Wednesday: Closed, Thursday: 9.30am – 12 noon and 2pm – 5pm, Friday: 9.30am – 12 noon and 2pm – 5pm, Saturday: 9.30am – 12.30pm)

City of York Council Offices, West Office's Station Rise, York, YO1 6GA

Hard copies of the Neighbourhood Plan Adopted Version and this Decision Statement will be made available, after adoption (post 20th July), at West Offices, if open and will be available to view by appointment only. Should you wish to arrange an appointment, you should contact the Forward Planning team directly on (01904 552255). Access to the documents will be in line the protocols in place for Covid 19, such as quarantine of documents after use.

If public buildings are not open after adoption (post 20th July 2021) or you do not have internet access, you should telephone 01904 552255 to discuss and/or arrange a viewing, including where appropriate access to hard copies subject to prevailing Covid 19 measures and public health advice. Officers will only seek to provide hard copies on request for those who have no other means of access.

For further information please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team on neighbourhoodplanning@york.gov.uk or 01904 552255.

Neil Ferris
Corporate Director Place

20th July 2021

City of York Council

Equalities Impact Assessment

Who is submitting the proposal?

Directorate		Place	
Service Area		Forward Planning	
Name of the proposal		Huntington Neighbourhood Plan – Referendum Results and Adoption	
Lead Officer		Anna Pawson	
Date Assessment Completed		5.07.2021	
Names of those who contributed to the assessment			
Name	Job Title	Organisation	Area of Expertise
Anna Pawson	Development Officer	City of York Council	Planning Policy

Step 1 – Aims and intended outcomes

1.1	What is the purpose of the proposal? Please explain your proposal in Plain English avoiding acronyms and jargon.
	The main purpose of the proposal is to formally 'make' or adopt the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan. This will bring it into full legal force as part of the Development Plan for York to be used in decision-making.

1.2	Are there any external considerations? (Legislation/government directive/codes of practice etc.)
	<p>Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), City of York Council has a statutory duty to assist communities in the preparation of neighbourhood (development) plans and to take plans through a process of examination and referendum. The Localism Act 2011 (Part 6, Chapter 3) sets out the Local Planning Authority's responsibilities under neighbourhood planning. Additionally, the preparation of the plans needs to be in conformity with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation (2017, as amended) and SEA Directive 2011/42/EC enacted through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.</p> <p>The adoption of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan needs to be in line with Section 38A (9) and (10) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and Regulations 19 and 20 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).</p>

1.3	Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?
	The stakeholders are included in Schedule 1 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. These include statutory advisory bodies to Council such as Natural England. The people who live, work and do business in the Parish of Huntington are also stakeholders who have been provided the opportunity to comment on the Plan through two rounds of consultation. All residents on the electoral register and living in Huntington were permitted to vote in the Referendum.

1.4	What results/outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom? This section should explain what outcomes you want to achieve for service users, staff and/or the wider community. Demonstrate how the proposal links to the Council Plan (2019- 2023) and other corporate strategies and plans.
	By adopting the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan it will bring it into full legal force as part of the Development Plan for York. This will allow the Neighbourhood Plan to progress in line with the relevant Neighbourhood Planning legislation and Regulations. The process must be undertaken to

	<p>accord with national planning policy and be in conformity with local planning policies set out in the emerging Local Plan.</p> <p>The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan contains a series of policies that will be used when determining planning applications that are located within the defined Neighbourhood Area. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. It is for the Parish to determine the issues and policies they wish to include in the Neighbourhood Plan to help determine how their area deals with planning applications in the future.</p> <p>The Council Plan for 2019-2023 identifies eight priorities, seven of which are relevant to the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good health and wellbeing; • a well-paid and an inclusive economy; • getting around sustainably; • a greener and cleaner city; • creating homes and world-class infrastructure; • safe communities and culture for all; and • an open and effective council.
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Step 2 – Gathering the information and feedback

2.1	<p>What sources of data, evidence and consultation feedback do we have to help us understand the impact of the proposal on equality rights and human rights? Please consider a range of sources, including: consultation exercises, surveys, feedback from staff, stakeholders, participants, research reports, the views of equality groups, as well your own experience of working in this area etc.</p>	
	Source of data/supporting evidence	Reason for using
	Submitted Huntington Neighbourhood Plan Basic Conditions Statement	A Neighbourhood Plan must have regard to, and is compatible with, the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights. The Plan has had regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).
	The submitted Huntington Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Statement accompanied the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan. This sets out the consultation undertaken by the Parish as part of the preparation of the plan, including their statutory Pre-Submission Consultation.	The Consultation Statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 Section 15(2) of Part 5 of the Regulations (as amended).

<p>The Neighbourhood Plan has been through several public consultation exercises, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Submission Consultation: 29th January to 23rd March 2018, • Submission consultation: 7th October to 18th November 2019 and • Regulation 17(A)(2) consultation: 3rd December 2020 to 28th January 2021 which have shaped the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan policy formation. <p>A referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan also took place on 10th June 2021. The people who live within Huntington and on the electoral role were able to vote.</p> <p>The residents, businesses and people with a land interest in the Huntington area were consulted as part of this consultation process as well as the Statutory bodes set out in in Schedule 1 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012</p>	<p>The local authority is required to take decisions at key stages in the process within time limits that apply, as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as amended in 2015 and 2016 (“the Regulations”) and within new government guidance in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.</p>
<p>The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan uses the City of York Local Plan policies and evidence base to support its policies.</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan must be prepared to be in conformity with local planning policies; for York, this is the saved policies from the Yorkshire and Humber RSS and the emerging Local Plan submitted for independent examination in May 2018. Additionally, the Local Plan evidence base documents have been used to support policy development and understand any likely impacts of the proposal.</p>
<p>City of York Council Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2007) and Updated (2020).</p>	<p>All the consultation undertaken by City of York Council has been carried out in accordance with the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (2007) and the Update (2020). The SCI sets out the Council’s proposals for how the community will be involved in the production of planning documents and through consultation on planning applications, as required under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004).</p>

Step 3 – Gaps in data and knowledge

3.1	What are the main gaps in information and understanding of the impact of your proposal? Please indicate how any gaps will be dealt with.	
	Gaps in data or knowledge	Action to deal with this
	N/A	N/A

Step 4 – Analysing the impacts or effects.

4.1	Please consider what the evidence tells you about the likely impact (positive or negative) on people sharing a protected characteristic, i.e. how significant could the impacts be if we did not make any adjustments? Remember the duty is also positive – so please identify where the proposal offers opportunities to promote equality and/or foster good relations.		
Equality Groups and Human Rights	Key Findings/Impacts	Positive (+) Negative (-) Neutral (0)	High (H) Medium (M) Low (L)
Age	No impacts identified	0	
Disability	No impacts identified	0	
Gender	No impacts identified	0	
Gender Reassignment	No impacts identified	0	
Marriage and civil partnership	No impacts identified	0	
Pregnancy and maternity	No impacts identified	0	
Race	No impacts identified	0	
Religion and Belief	No impacts identified	0	
Sexual orientation	No impacts identified	0	
Other Socioeconomic groups including :	Could other socio-economic groups be affected e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes?	0	
Carer	No impacts identified	0	
Low income groups	No impacts identified	0	
Veterans, Armed Forces Community	No impacts identified	0	
other			

Impact on human rights:			
List any human rights impacted	No human rights impacted	0	

Use the following guidance to inform your responses:

Indicate:

- Where you think that the proposal could have a POSITIVE impact on any of the equality groups like promoting equality and equal opportunities or improving relations within equality groups
- Where you think that the proposal could have a NEGATIVE impact on any of the equality groups, i.e. it could disadvantage them
- Where you think that this proposal has a NEUTRAL effect on any of the equality groups listed below i.e. it has no effect currently on equality groups.

It is important to remember that a proposal may be highly relevant to one aspect of equality and not relevant to another.

High impact (The proposal or process is very equality relevant)	There is significant potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or public facing The proposal has consequences for or affects significant numbers of people The proposal has the potential to make a significant contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights.
Medium impact (The proposal or process is somewhat equality relevant)	There is some evidence to suggest potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or across services, but mainly internal The proposal has consequences for or affects some people The proposal has the potential to make a contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights
Low impact (The proposal or process might be equality relevant)	There is little evidence to suggest that the proposal could result in adverse impact The proposal operates in a limited way The proposal has consequences for or affects few people

	The proposal may have the potential to contribute to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights
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Step 5 - Mitigating adverse impacts and maximising positive impacts

5.1	Based on your findings, explain ways you plan to mitigate any unlawful prohibited conduct or unwanted adverse impact. Where positive impacts have been identified, what is been done to optimise opportunities to advance equality or foster good relations?
<p>The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan covers a wide range of policy areas. Its overall vision responds to the issues, opportunities and challenges facing the area. It is considered that the plan will have a positive impact overall on creating a fair, healthy, sustainable and resilient neighbourhood and includes a good understanding of equalities and has regard to, and is compatible with, the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights.</p>	

Step 6 – Recommendations and conclusions of the assessment

6.1	Having considered the potential or actual impacts you should be in a position to make an informed judgement on what should be done. In all cases, document your reasoning that justifies your decision. There are four main options you can take:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No major change to the proposal – the EIA demonstrates the proposal is robust. There is no potential for unlawful discrimination or adverse impact and you have taken all opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations, subject to continuing monitor and review. - Adjust the proposal – the EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. This involves taking steps to remove any barriers, to better advance quality or to foster good relations. - Continue with the proposal (despite the potential for adverse impact) – you should clearly set out the justifications for doing this and how you believe the decision is compatible with our obligations under the duty - Stop and remove the proposal – if there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, you should consider stopping the proposal altogether. If a proposal leads to unlawful discrimination it should be removed or changed. <p>Important: If there are any adverse impacts you cannot mitigate, please provide a compelling reason in the justification column.</p>	
Option selected	Conclusions/justification

No major change to the proposal	The EIA demonstrates the proposal is robust. There is no potential for unlawful discrimination or adverse impact and the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan has taken all opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations, subject to continuing monitor and review.
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Step 7 – Summary of agreed actions resulting from the assessment

7.1	What action, by whom, will be undertaken as a result of the impact assessment.		
Impact/issue	Action to be taken	Person Responsible	Timescale
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Step 8 - Monitor, review and improve

8.1	<p>How will the impact of your proposal be monitored and improved upon going forward?</p> <p>Consider how will you identify the impact of activities on protected characteristics and other marginalised groups going forward? How will any learning and enhancements be capitalised on and embedded?</p>
	<p>The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan sets out at Section 5 that the Plan will be monitored by Huntington Parish Council in conjunction with the City of York Council on at least an annual basis. The Parish Council proposes to formally review the Plan on a five-year cycle or to coincide with the review of the City of York Local Plan if this cycle is different.</p>



Executive**20 July 2021**

Report of the Director of Housing Economy and Regeneration
Portfolio of the Executive Member for Finance and Performance

Outcome of the feasibility study in to a riverside walkway and new pedestrian bridge over the Ouse**Summary**

1. This report sets out initial feasibility findings for potential infrastructure and regeneration proposals for the Coney Street and associated riverside area of the city centre. The high level feasibility study was undertaken by BDP through York North Yorkshire & East Riding LEP (YNYER) funding and considered a range of interventions including a new pedestrian bridge over the River Ouse; a continuous riverside walkway from Lendal Bridge to Ouse Bridge; and links to the Riverside Quarter redevelopment of much of Coney Street that is proposed by private developers, the Helmsley Group. Any redevelopment of Coney Street is likely to need the inclusion of the council owned 25-27 Coney Street.
2. Having considered the opportunities and constraints - informed by a wide ranging context analysis, technical feasibility and financial viability - it is proposed that the focus for the next stage of exploratory work is on the riverside walk from the existing boardwalk outside City Screen to Ouse Bridge. Whilst a pedestrian bridge is technically feasible it will need to be considered within the wider future movement strategy of Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP 4). A walkway connecting the existing boardwalk from City Screen to Lendal Bridge is considered to be too problematic due to complex land ownership and the conservation impact on the setting of the Guildhall.
3. It is therefore recommended that officers continue to explore options for the riverside walkway route identified above, and work with the Helmsley Group to shape the public benefits of the proposed Riverside Quarter redevelopment, including undertaking necessary survey and feasibility works for the council's associated land holdings. To support the delivery

of the project it has been included in the council's bid submission to the government's Levelling Up Fund to match fund the private developer investment and provide a fully funded deliverable scheme.

Recommendations

4. The Executive is asked to:

- 1) Note the outcomes of the YNYER LEP funded feasibility work on a riverside walkway to the rear of Coney Street and options for a new pedestrian bridge over the Ouse

Reason: To note the options and opportunities for opening up the Ouse riverside and creating new walking routes from the station in to the city centre

- 2) Note the inclusion of the riverside walkway in the council's Levelling Up Fund bid

Reason: To be aware that the riverside walkway has formed part of the council's first round funding bid to government's Levelling Up Fund with the outcome due to be announced in autumn 2021

- 3) Approve officers continuing to work with the private sector owners of riverside properties to shape the emerging riverside walkway proposals and negotiate any necessary commercial relationships with neighbouring landowners and developers for Executive approval

Reason: To ensure the developer proposals for a new walkway as part of the emerging Riverside Quarter development fit with the city's strategies and ambitions, and optimise social benefits.

- 4) Approve the undertaking of any necessary early stage surveys and feasibility work on the council owned 25-27 Coney Street as part of the wider private sector redevelopment proposals to be funded from existing city centre regeneration budgets and staff resources

Reason: To ensure that the council can use its landholding interest to influence the Riverside Quarter development proposals and maximise the commercial return from any potential future development

Background

5. In March 2019 the council submitted a funding bid to the government's Future High Street Fund. This bid focused on the revival of Coney Street, and sought feasibility funding to explore the options for a continuous riverside walkway alongside the River Ouse from City Screen to Ouse Bridge. The primary principle of the bid was the creation of a secondary riverside frontage to the rear of Coney Street to spark and encourage investment from landlords in an area of the city centre that was starting to decline. It would help to bring large scale property owners - who had persistent vacancies in medium sized retail stores that were unattractive to the modern retail environment - to the table, allowing the remodelling of properties at ground floor and enabling access to upper floors to encourage the conversion of vacant storage spaces into residential and office use. Unfortunately the funding bid was unsuccessful, with the government funding allocated to areas which were experiencing more severe high street failures. However, that did not detract from the principles of the bid being sound, or the complexity of the issues that had coalesced around Coney Street and the increasingly challenging future outlook.
6. At that point the council were approached by local developers The Helmsley Group, who intend to use their recently acquired Coney Street land holdings to create a new Riverside Quarter and bring back in to use vacant upper floors and open up access to the River Ouse as set out in the Future High Streets Bid. Given the council's strategic role in the success of the city centre it is important that the council has an input into any emerging proposals in partnership with prospective developers to ensure the quality, viability and feasibility of the proposals, and to optimise the social benefits for the city. The council are also a key landowner on Coney Street having acquired the freehold 25-27 Coney Street (currently leased to Holland and Barrett) in December 2019 as a strategic commercial interest. This retail property sits in the middle of Helmsley Group's landholdings meaning any comprehensive project including that property would need the council's agreement.
7. The council submitted a funding bid to the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP's Pipeline Capital Infrastructure Projects Fund in early 2020 to undertake a feasibility study of a continuous riverside walkway from Lendal Bridge to Ouse Bridge. It was also decided to include a consideration of options for a new pedestrian bridge to link from North Gardens to create a new walking arrival route in to the heart of the city centre from the railway station, whilst avoiding the heavily trafficked

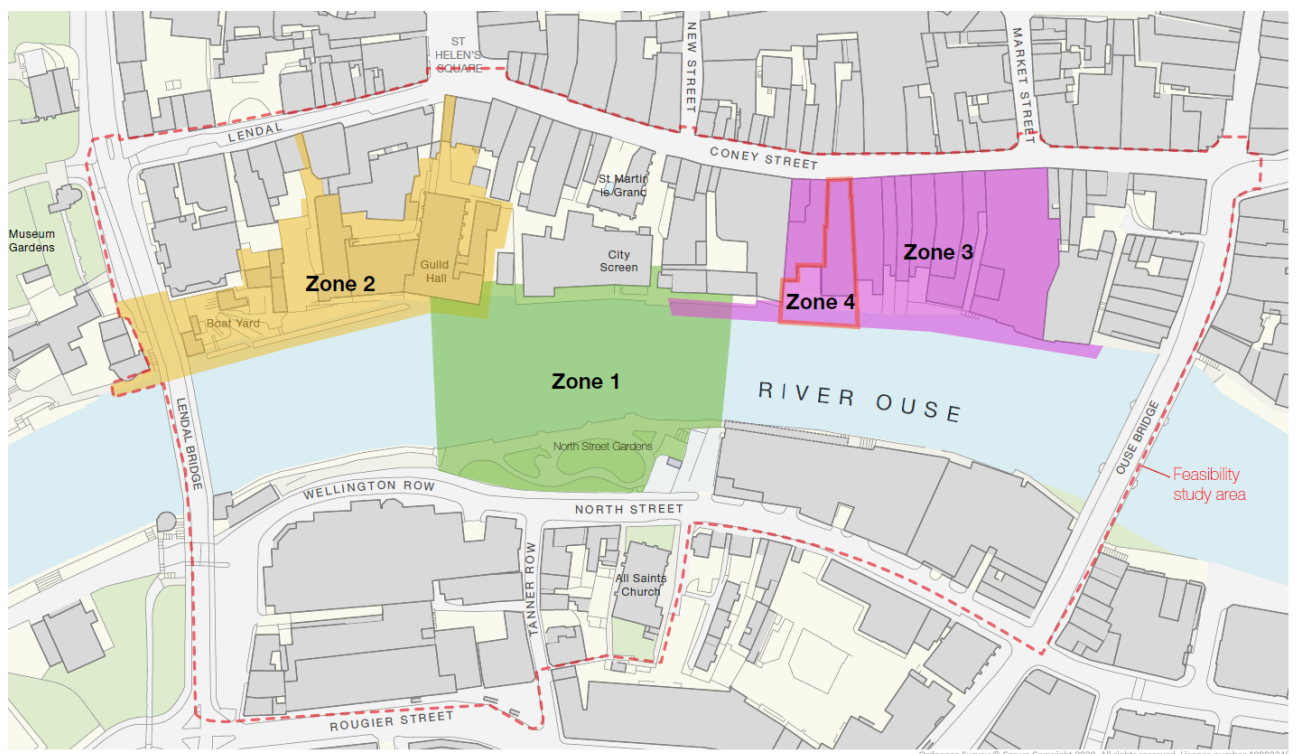
Lendal Bridge. The feasibility study funding application was successful and the council were allocated £45k, with £15k of match funding from CYC and private developers.

8. On receipt of the funding a procurement exercise was undertaken in September 2020 through the Crown Commercial Services Project Management & Full Design Team framework to appoint consultants to undertake the feasibility study. Two bids were received, with a bid led by BDP (and supported by Turner Townsend Cost Consultants and Mark Lovell Design Engineers) being successful based on price and quality. Work commenced in November 2020 with a deadline for completion in March 2021 to meet the funding conditions.

Feasibility study scope

9. The feasibility looked at four zoned areas between Lendal and Ouse Bridge:

Figure 1 – feasibility study zones



Within Zone 1, the feasibility study brief was to explore options for a pedestrian bridge linking North Gardens with the city centre; in Zone 2, to explore connectivity improvements at high level including a walkway

linking from the Lendal Bridge area to the existing walkway terminating at Vodka Revolution; in Zone 3, to review the riverside walkway proposed by the Helmsley Group to connect from City Screen to Ouse Bridge as part of the wider proposed development forming the zone; and in Zone 4, to consider at high level the development potential of the council owned 25-27 Coney Street should a decision be taken to include it in any comprehensive redevelopment of the area.

10. The feasibility study considered these options with reference to any previous studies that had been undertaken and:

- Assessed technical & engineering feasibility
- Produced context and option analysis
- Outline designs
- High level cost analysis for future business case preparation
- Development appraisal
- Early stakeholder engagement

Feasibility study outcome

11. The feasibility study positively establishes the deliverability and broad cost and design parameters for infrastructure works across all four zones, exploring alternative options for further development where appropriate, and incorporating stakeholder feedback and constraints and next steps for design development. The study is informed by historic context and constraints analysis, significance assessment, and movement and connectivity analysis, as well as drawing on previous studies and policy context. The study is available at confidential annex 1, and a non-confidential summary of approach and findings is provided at annex 1.

12. Within Zone 1, and informed by context analysis and stakeholder feedback from the Environment Agency, Canals & Rivers Trust and Historic England amongst others, the study identifies three options for a bridge crossing. All three options are based on a single-masted cable-stayed structural approach, and a river crossing alignment broadly continuing the route between City Screen and Pitcher & Piano. The three bridge options have differing landing options at North Street gardens.

13. Option 1 proposes a curved ramped landing into North Street Gardens (with steps also), which would activate the garden space, and not impinge on adjacent flood infrastructure and highway, though the approach would mean that the bridge was unusable in times of flood. Option 2 proposes an approach which continues the linear bridge alignment to span over the existing flood wall at the rear of the gardens, and then ramp down within the highway at North Street. This approach would allow the bridge to be used during most flood events (landing on the 'dry-side' of the flood defences), but would require a significant reconfiguration of and loss of the highway at North Street, and create a high level structure crossing over the whole of North Street Gardens, increasing visual disruption. A third 'hybrid' approach combines the ramped (and stepped) landing in North St Gardens, to activate the space, whilst also extending the bridge deck over the flood wall and providing a (less intrusive, but also less accessible) stepped access within the highway which would be less intrusive, but would be less accessible in times of flood.
14. All three options are manageable in terms of flood storage, and propose a sensitive re-landscaping of North Street Gardens. All three also maintain the current riverside pedestrian route, which would pass beneath the new crossing. As part of more general design development, particular consideration would be required for options 2 and 3 to ensure there is no impact on the existing North Street flood wall. Additionally, further discussions would be required to agree the proposals with both Joseph Rowntree Trust (who have a covenant on North Street Gardens), and the Church Commissioners in respect of passageway between City Screen and Pitcher & Piano. The cost parameters across the three options range from £5.02m to £5.23m (excluding design, service diversions, archaeology and other costs), with option 1 the most affordable.
15. Within Zone 2, the study identifies limited scope for a walkway between Dame Judy Dench Walk and Vodka Revolution. Due to the highly sensitive historic location adjacent to The Guildhall the only real solution would be a series of floating and landscaped pontoons, with stepped link to the existing Vodka Revolution terrace. A high level cost (with exclusions as above) in the order of £1.68m was identified for the approach.
16. This proposal has a number of challenges however as there is no publically accessible land and it would require access through City

Cruises Boatyard which is not possible under its current operation. The flood related constraints at the site would also impact on the design, as well as rendering public open space and connectivity routes inaccessible at some times. These factors, alongside the fact that the route would not be likely to be heavily used, and poses heritage impacts as noted above, lead the study to the conclusion that the proposals do not have a strong business or strategic case to proceed to the next stage of development.

17. Within Zone 3, the study reviewed emerging details for the riverside walkway component of the proposed developer led Riverside Quarter regeneration scheme, confirming the broad cost and engineering basis of the proposals are sound, and reviewing (with stakeholder involvement) the high level emerging concept designs. The due diligence undertaken around engineering and cost has provided reassurance that the proposals are deliverable, with broad cost parameters identified at between £5.65 and £7.52m. The review of high level emerging concept designs have identified opportunities for improvement which have been shared with the developers to feed into ongoing design work.
18. Within Zone 4, the study undertook a high level analysis of the redevelopment potential of the council owned 25-27 Coney Street, which sits in the heart of the Riverside Quarter masterplan and would be an integral part of any development. The study identified and considered how the property could be redeveloped, both in isolation or as part of any wider scheme, to establish a high level massing approach and accommodation schedule to inform the development value and to inform ongoing discussions with the wider development.

Next steps

19. Given the outcomes of the feasibility study it is proposed that at this stage any further work to develop the Zone 1 pedestrian bridge is only undertaken following wider strategic reviews such as My City Centre and Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) which can establish whether it is a strategic transport investment priority. Similarly the conservation, flood risk and land ownership complexities of a Zone 2 pontoon walkway, in addition to potentially limited benefits, mean that it is proposed not to undertake any further work at this stage. However, the principles of both of these options may be explored in the My City Centre and LTP4 public engagement to inform future decisions.

20. Given the positive outcome on the feasibility of the Zone 3 riverside walkway connecting the existing area outside City Screen to Ouse Bridge, and that it forms part of upcoming Riverside Quarter redevelopment being pursued by the Helmsley Group, it is proposed that this element of the project is taken forward. This is to continue to shape the emerging plans and to explore the options for inclusion of 25-27 Coney Street in the Riverside Quarter masterplan (which the zone 4 findings will also influence). The proposed next steps to achieve this are set out as follows.
21. Firstly, the Zone 3 riverside walkway has been included in the council's first round bid to the government's £4.8bn national Levelling Up Fund which closed on 18 June. Although the country is split into priority areas, and York is in tier 3 – the lowest priority – this is only one of the criteria and the Executive delegated the final decision on what to submit in our application to the Executive Member for Finance and Performance and the Corporate Director for Place. To maximise the chance of success the council sought guidance from economic business case consultants Amion to look across the portfolio of council projects for the best strategic fit. The riverside walkway scored well under the economic modelling that the bid is assessed and consequently a £3m funding ask was made to part fund the anticipated £6.6m walkway, with agreement that the remaining £3.6m is provided by the Riverside Quarter developers.
22. This was part of a package of three other projects included in York's £19m first round bid that had extensive stakeholder support and was supported by both of the city's MPs. The other projects included delivery of the new Castle & Eye of York public realm (including riverside park improvements), and improvement works to Parliament Street & St Sampson's Square. The successful bids will be announced by government in the autumn. However, should this bid be unsuccessful the business case preparation will not be wasted as future government funding is anticipated to be forthcoming.
23. Secondly, it is proposed that the regeneration team (in liaison with legal projects and property teams) continue to engage and work with the Helmsley Group to continue to shape the emerging Riverside Quarter proposals. This will ensure that the plans meet and complement the city's wider strategic aims and priorities, optimising the social value of any redevelopment scheme and ensuring they are an appropriate size and scale of development for the area. Should any formal commercial partnerships be required to enable the development, officers will

undertake those negotiations and return to the Executive for approval before entering into any agreement.

24. Finally, the council will undertake any necessary feasibility studies or surveys to establish the relationship of 25-27 Coney Street premises with any wider development plans. This will ensure that if the council decided that the property should be included in the Riverside Quarter redevelopment its' value is maximised. The council have a land owning interest so a comprehensive redevelopment including this property can only go ahead if the council, as land owner, are in support of the proposals. Any redevelopment or disposal of the property would be subject to future Executive decisions and would also need to account for the lost rental income on which the commercial purchase was predicated in December 2019. **It is important to note that at this stage there are no proposals to redevelop or dispose – the council is just exploring options.**

Consultation

25. Internal dialogue on the emerging Riverside Quarter proposals has taken place between regeneration and property teams. The Levelling Up Fund submission was worked up in consultation with legal and finance teams and external stakeholders and both local MPs who provided letters of support. The BDP feasibility study included stakeholder engagement with internal Council teams such as heritage, planning, engineers and highways, as well as with external stakeholders including the Environment Agency, Historic England, and Canals & Rivers Trust. Public consultation has not yet been undertaken on the proposals, due to their emerging nature and the ongoing commercial confidentiality of the Riverside Quarter proposals. Moving forward it is proposed that the infrastructure proposals are tested through the My City Centre vision engagement, and Local Transport Plan 4, and a detailed engagement strategy be worked up by Helmsley Group aligned to the planning submission of Riverside Quarter proposals.

Council Plan

26. The proposals support the Council Plan 2019-2023 (Making History, Building Communities), which sets out the ambition to provide the best quality of life for residents, supporting in particular 5 of the Council Plan's core outcomes:

- **Well-paid Jobs and an Inclusive Economy** – Investment through the Riverside Quarter would support and diversify the high street to benefit York’s economy, and support the lowest paid sectors, and contribute to improvements to placethat facilitate inward investment and growth in higher value sectors.
- **A Greener and Cleaner City** – creation of new pedestrian routes to encourage greater use of active travel to reduce vehicle emissions, and new and improved open spaces in the river corridors
- **Getting around Sustainably** – creation of new pedestrian infrastructure to encourage active travel in York city centre
- **Creating Homes and World-class Infrastructure** – Improving and creating new, free to access public realm in the heart of the city centre, which also improves the setting of York’s historic environment and buildings, and freeing up inaccessible and vacant upper floors for new homes.
- **Safe Communities and Culture for All** – the provision of new and improved spaces for cultural activation and community activity.

Implications

27. The following implications have been identified:

- **Financial** – The costs incurred to date have been funded from a contribution from the Y&NY LEP as well as contributions from the council My City Centre Budget. The proposals outlined in the report do not require further budgets at this time as the majority of costs relate to staff time on the project or work on commercial portfolio which can be contained within current budgets. The costs of the wider scheme quoted in the report are indicative and require further development. Should the Levelling Up Fund bid be successful the fully costed scheme will need to be incorporated into the council capital programme.
- **Human Resources (HR)** – considered to be no implications
- **One Planet Council / Equalities** – see *Equalities Impact Assessment (annex 2)*

- **Legal**

- The report seeks approval for officers to continue to work with the private sector riverside property owners to shape the emerging riverside walkway proposals and negotiate any necessary commercial relationships with neighbouring landowners and developers for Executive approval. Care needs to be given in developing the relationship between the Council and the private sector riverside property owners to ensure this remains in accordance with public sector procurement legislation.
- Should the application to the Levelling Up Fund be successful the Council will develop a procurement strategy to ensure the funding is used compliantly in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and subsidy control requirements (previously known as State aid).
- Any commercial arrangements around the associated development scheme would need to be framed to ensure best value requirements are met.
- Legal Services officers will work closely with project officers to ensure compliance with public sector procurement legislation.
- **Crime and Disorder** – considered to be no implications
- **Information Technology (IT)** - considered to be no implications
- **Property** – covered in the report.

Risk Management

28. The report recommendations establish next steps for progressing the works, including some limited initial budget to develop the works further. Future decisions to progress to capital delivery will require further executive approvals, and detailed risk analysis and management approach will be set out in association with these approvals. The risks at this stage are that the projects will not proceed as planned, and work (and resource deployment) will have been abortive. However, these are outweighed by the risk of the council not engaging to shape the emerging private sector proposals to ensure they align with the city's strategic ambitions.

Contact Details

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Neil Ferris
Corporate Director of Place

Report **Date** 7 July 2021
Approved

Specialist Implications Officer(s) List information for all

Financial:-
Patrick Looker
Finance Manager
01904 55 1633

Legal:-
Cathryn Moore
Legal Manager - projects
01904 552 487

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

Guildhall

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Not applicable

Annexes

Annex 1 – Summary of feasibility study findings
Annex 2 – Equalities Impact Assessment

Confidential Annex 1a – Full feasibility study findings (containing sensitive commercial information relating to developer proposals)

List of Abbreviations Used in this Report

BCR – Benefit cost ratio

LEP – Local Economic Partnership

LTP 4 – Local Transport Plan 4

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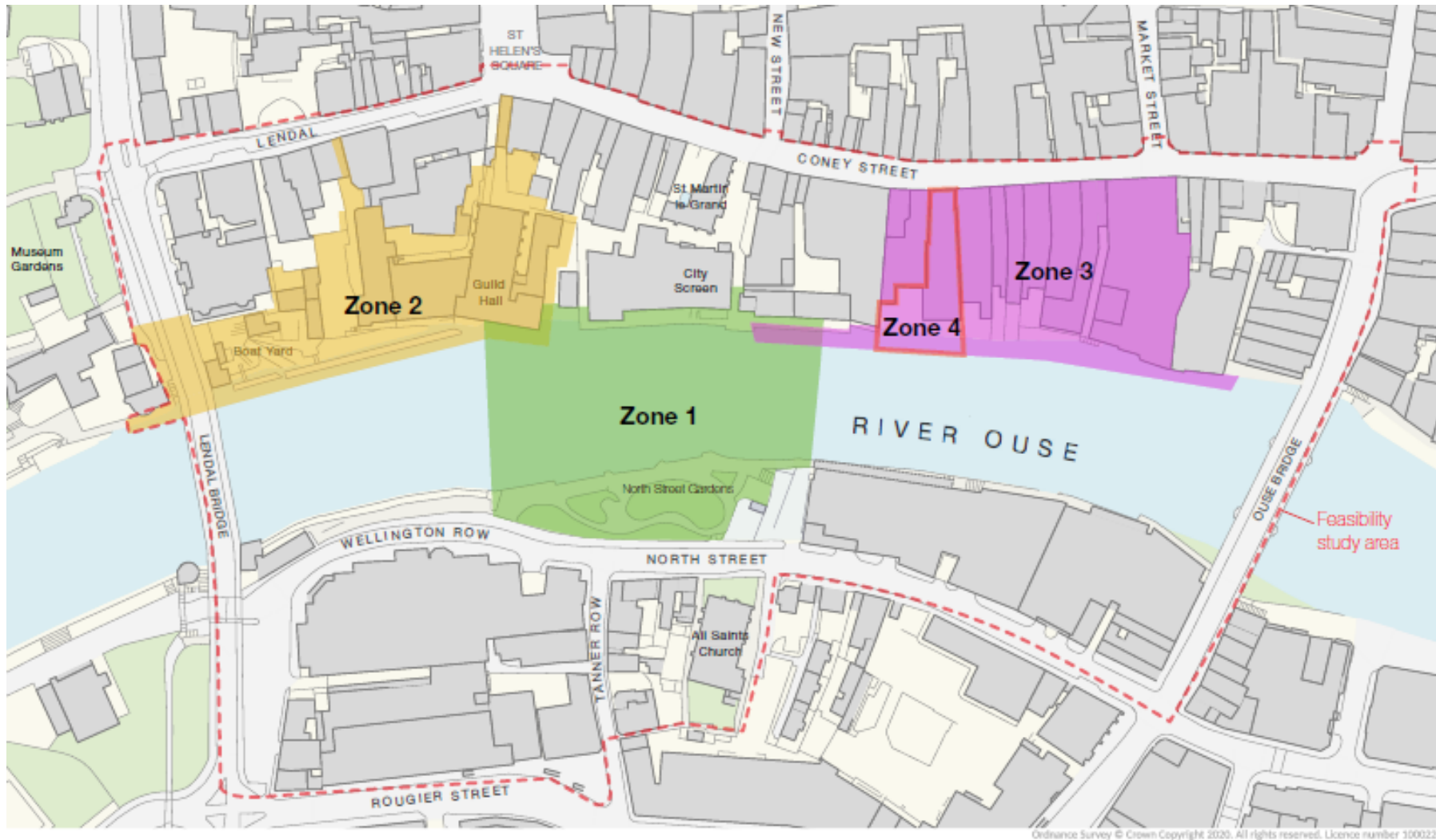
York Riverside Pedestrian bridge & enhanced connectivity

Feasibility Report

May 2021

Feasibility Report Summary

- Majority Funded by YNYER LEP, with contributions from Council and Helmsley Group
- Undertaken by Building Design Partnership (BDP), with support from Turner & Townsend Cost Consultants and Mark Lovell Design Engineers
- High level study only (RIBA stage 0), to establish broad feasibility and design and cost parameters for further design development and stakeholder conversations.
- Driven by range of key objectives including improving accessibility and footstreet capacity, improving environmental attractiveness and vibrancy, providing new and improved amenity space, and facilitating regeneration objectives around highstreet buildings and environment.
- Undertook extensive context analysis including planning policy, historic development, heritage assets (including significance assessment), connectivity, character and key views. Reviewed previous studies – most notably the 2004 study by Giffords (now Ramboll).
- Explored at high level technical parameters around accessibility, utilities, navigation, flooding, ground conditions, and ongoing maintenance. Also considered sustainability and carbon approach.
- Informed by wide ranging stakeholder discussions including Environment Agency, Historic England, Civic Trust, Canals & Rivers Trust, Council Conservation, Highways, Building Control and Engineering departments

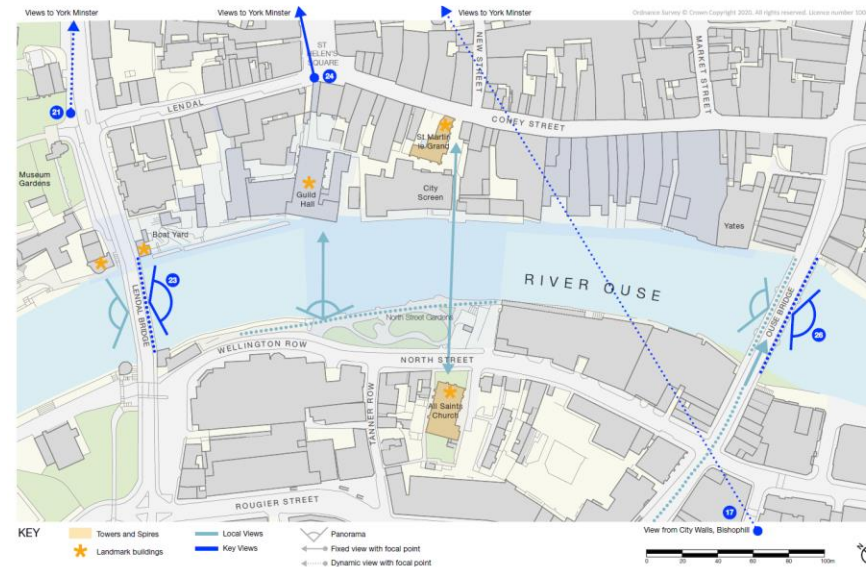


- 4 Zones to the brief, each with different emphasis for feasibility enquiries:
- Zone 1: Explore Options Feasibility & Cost for new river crossing
- Zone 2: Explore connectivity improvements at high level
- Zone 3: Review emerging riverside walkway proposals from Helmsley Group
- Zone 4: Explore development potential of 25-27 Coney Street at high level

Study Wide Context Analysis

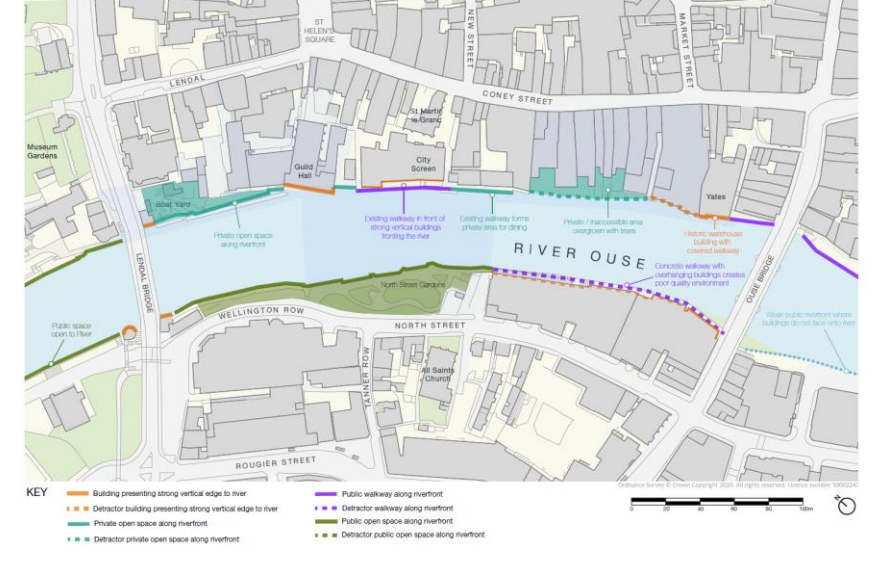
- Comprehensive context analysis undertaken by BDP across full study area
- Informed by site visits, desk based analysis, literature review and stakeholder conversations
- Informed subsequent options analysis and assessment of strengths weaknesses and threats for feasibility approaches in individual zones
- Also including flood zone analysis, planning policy, assessment of historic significance, and carbon approach. Site investigations and surveys not undertaken at this stage

Heritage Assets

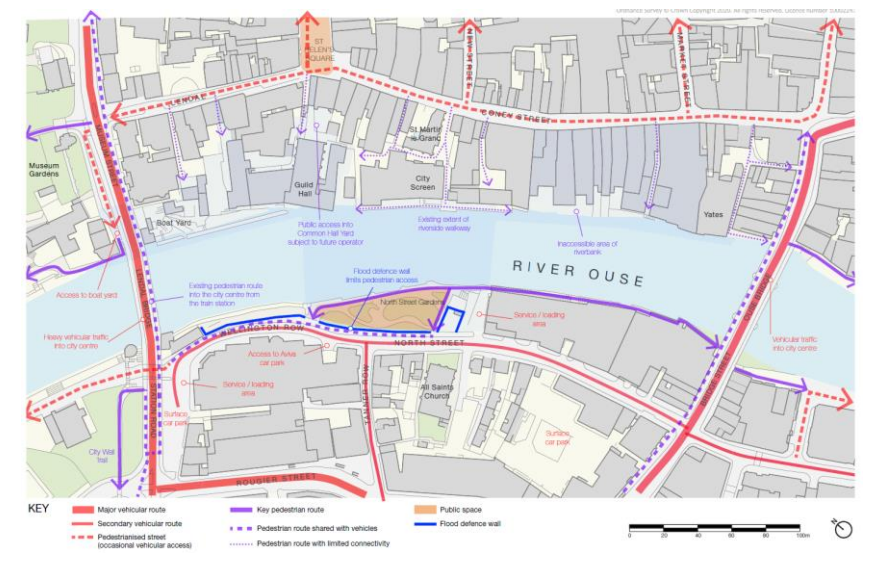


Key Views

Relationship with River



Connectivity



Zone 1: Brief

- To explore options and establish high level engineering feasibility, cost and design parameters for new river crossing.
- Bridge specification
 - 120 year design life
 - Safe, comfortable & attractive crossing, including for those with disabilities
 - Meet or exceed current accessibility standards
 - River Navigation and flood risk to be accounted for
 - Integrated with landscape improvements to North Street Gardens
 - Preferred location to take account of connectivity into wider network, desire lines etc
 - Consider visual impact and integration with city fabric
- Given the stage of the report (RIBA 0), focus on establishing key parameters within which design should be developed, and explore options for future work stages
- Options for cycle connectivity to be explored



Zone 1: Design Parameters & Constraints

- Flood risk & levels – North Street Gardens lies within flood zone 3, and contains pumping station and flood wall to North Street. Approach must establish no net loss of flood storage (possible with replacement of raised clearance structures in gardens), maintain easements to infrastructure and flow capacity of river.
- Navigability & watercourse assessments – maintain navigation envelope established by Ouse & Lendal bridges
- Maintain riverside walking route in North St Gardens
- Respond to forecast demand flows
- Designed in accordance with BS 8300:1 – design of an accessible and inclusive built environment, including ramp gradient of 1:20 or below, with maximum rise of 500mm between landings
- Designed in accordance with Design Manual for Roads & Bridges CD 353, to allow for Council adoption
- Respond to known ground conditions, geology, utilities, ecological constraints

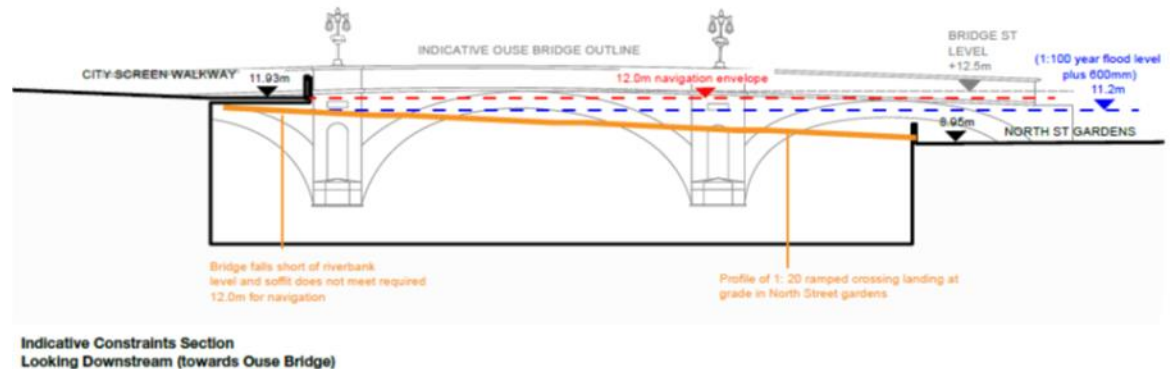
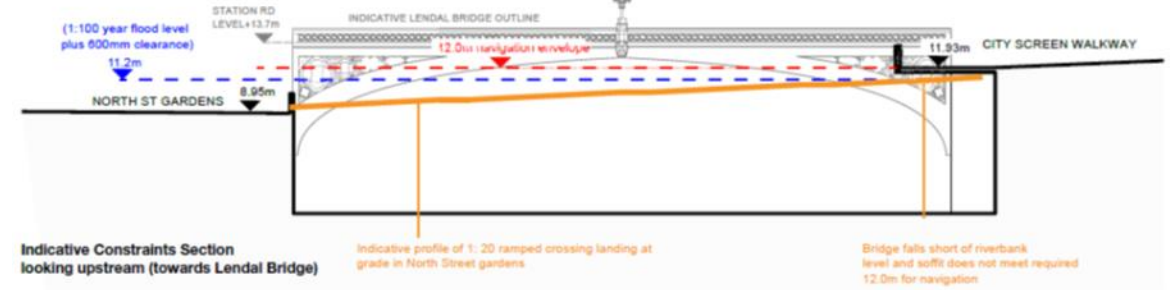
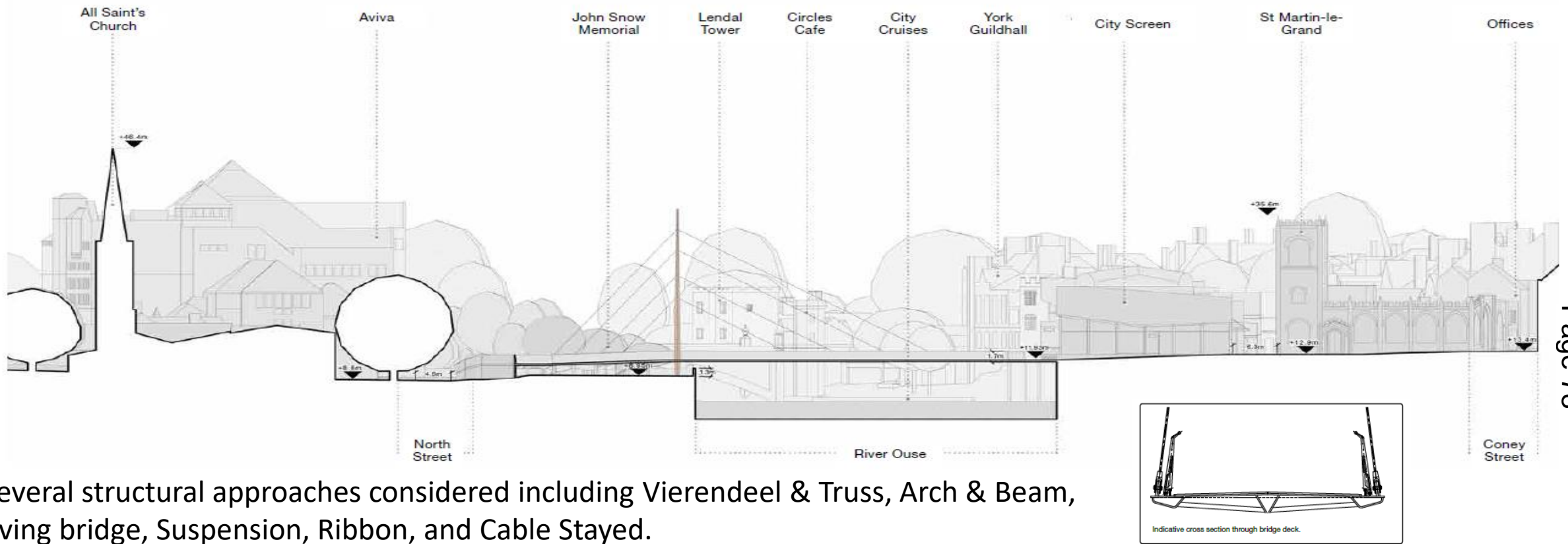


Figure 1.05: Section diagrams showing existing site levels, navigation, and flood risk constraints

Zone 1: Structural Principles & Materiality



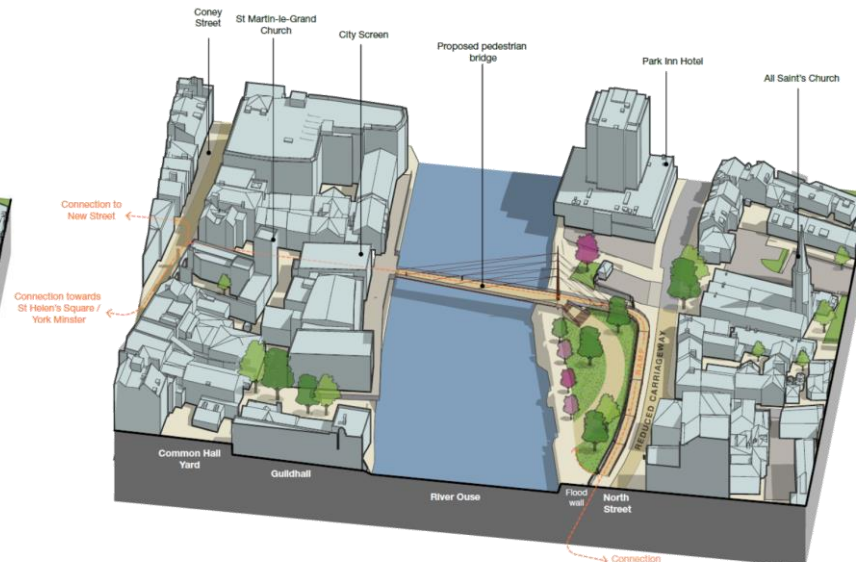
- Several structural approaches considered including Vierendeel & Truss, Arch & Beam, Living bridge, Suspension, Ribbon, and Cable Stayed.
- Assessment of alternative options included consideration of geology/ ground conditions, integration with city fabric/ visual dominance, maintenance, spatial constraints and structural geometry, buildability, flooding and accessibility.
- A single masted cable-stayed structural approach (illustrated in long section and cross section above) was identified as the preferred solution given this range of constraints. This would be supported by 4 compression pile foundations.
- Given requirements for a 120 year design life and maintenance considerations, a steel mast and deck structure is proposed, with CorTen weathering steel recommended.

Zone 1: Alignment Options

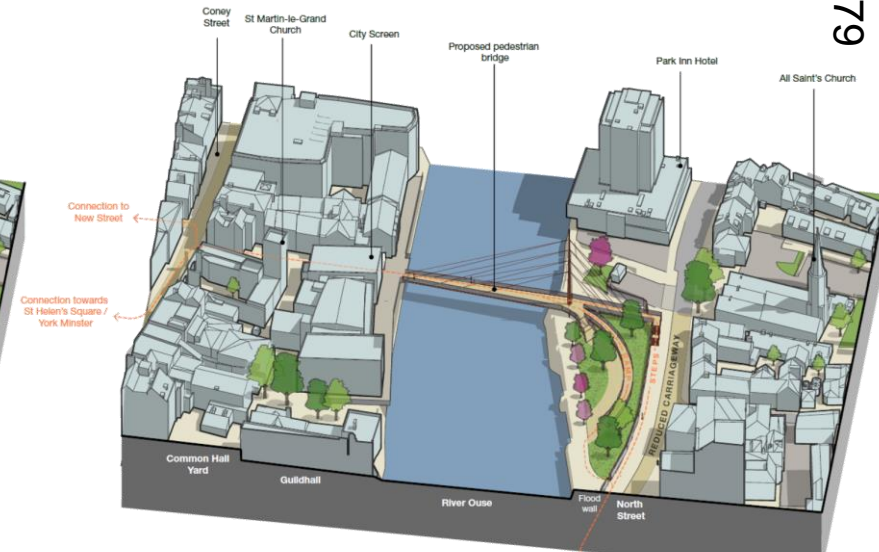
- A crossing which continues the route between City Screen and Pitcher & Piano was identified as preferred strategic alignment due to interaction with historic fabric and conservation area character, and connectivity amongst other factors.
- Three more detailed alignment options are proposed for further exploration in future design stages, as illustrated below.
- Principal differentiators between the options relate to flooding interaction, with option 1 inaccessible during flood events which close North Street Gardens, and options 2 & 3 remaining accessible, though having a greater visual impact in the gardens, impacting highways at North Street and having slightly increased cost.
- High level costings of £5.023m, £5.276 and £5.233m for options 1 2 and 3 respectively. It is proposed that all three options are taken forward in any further stages of works for design development



Option 1



Option 2



Option 3

Zone 1: Cycle Connectivity

- The previous 2004 Giffords study had concluded that a pedestrian only river crossing was the preferred river crossing approach, though this was reviewed by BDP as part of the commission.
- In terms of broader connectivity, cyclists would need to dismount at pedestrian footstreets at the City Screen end of the bridge, where the access route is also most constrained, therefore generating a very limited journey time/ convenience saving.
- The bridge deck would need to be widened by around 3.5m to accommodate cyclists, increasing the depth of deck, and raising the balustrade also, resulting in a heavier appearance with greater heritage impacts.
- Even with a wider deck, the bridge would likely be a place for residents and visitors to linger, meet, take photographs etc, introducing conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists regardless of width
- The three alignment options were also reviewed in high level cost terms with upgrades to cycle accessibility. This would result in an estimated cost uplift of £3.17-£3.36m dependent on option (around 63% uplift).
- Given all of the above, the study concludes that a shared pedestrian and cycle bridge would not be appropriate. Cycle facilities such as secure storage can be provided as part of improvements to the North Street Gardens area.



Zone 1: Visuals

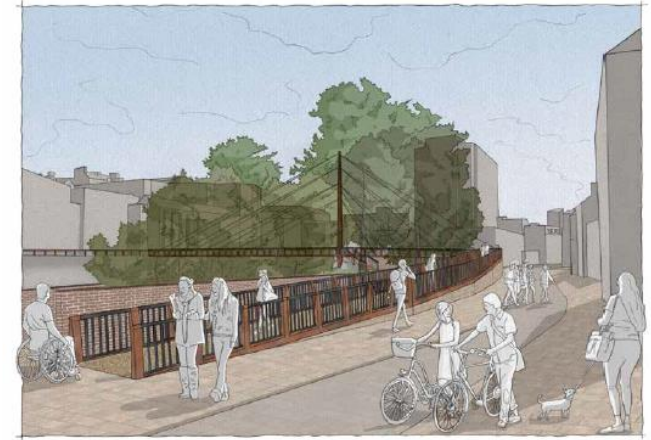
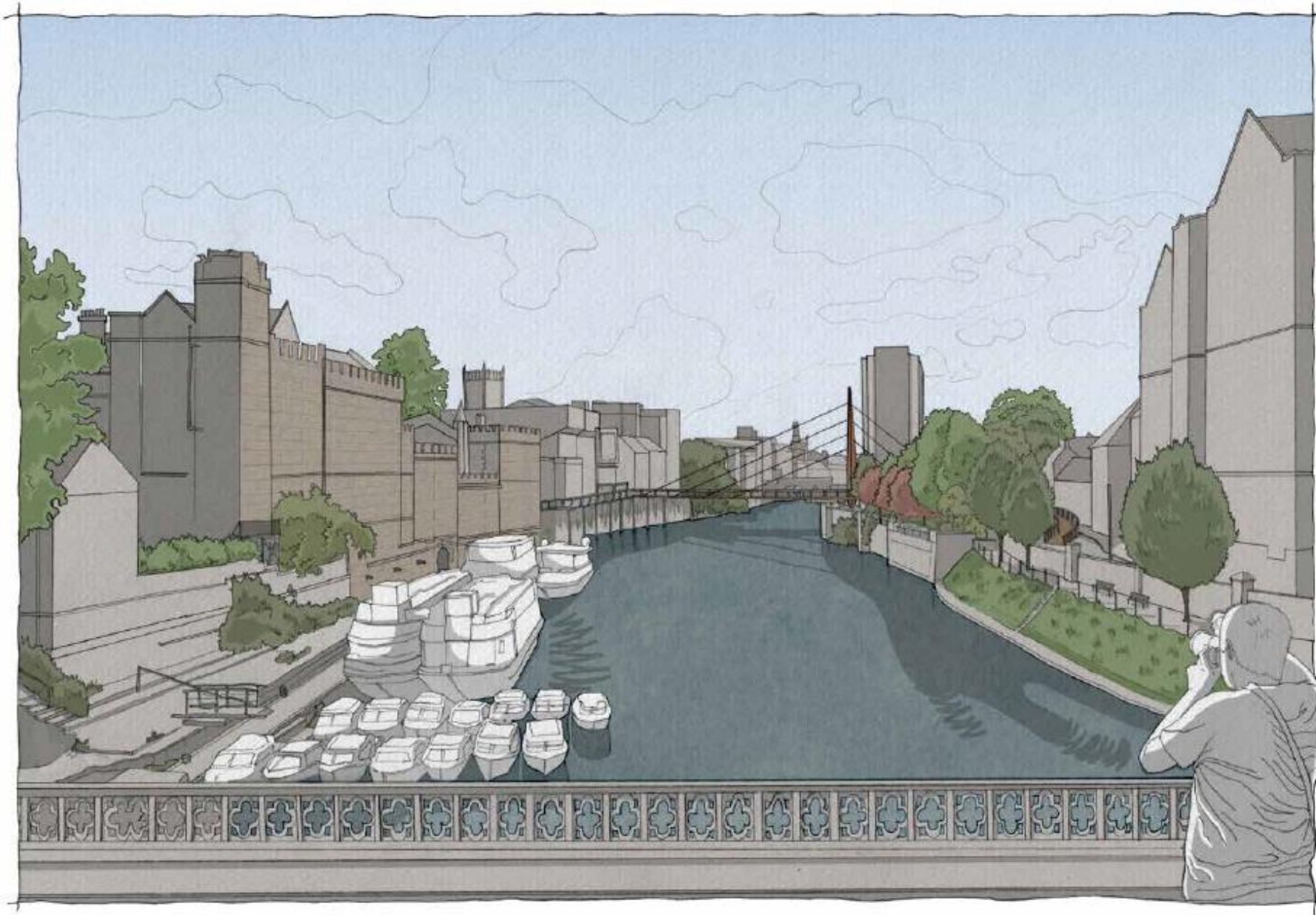


Figure 1.23: Concept sketch of option 2, showing the proposed ramp and narrowway/resurfacing of the North Street carriageway.

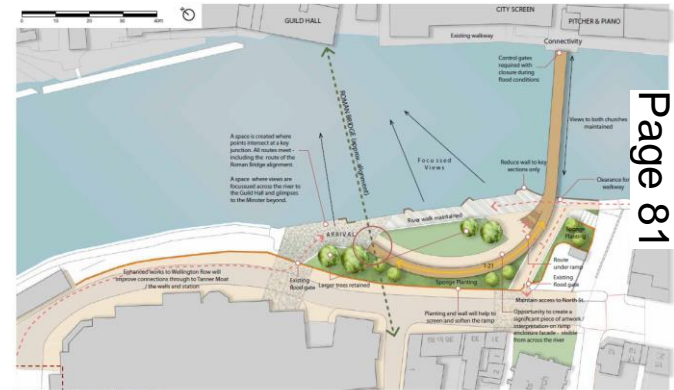


Figure 1.17: Proposed site and landscape plan for alignment option 1

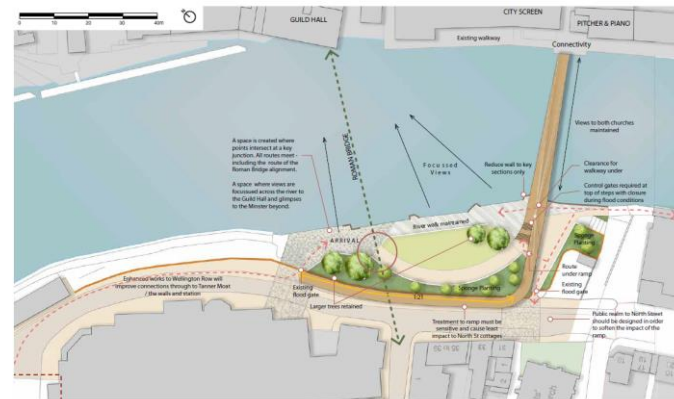


Figure 1.18: Proposed site and landscape plan for alignment option 2

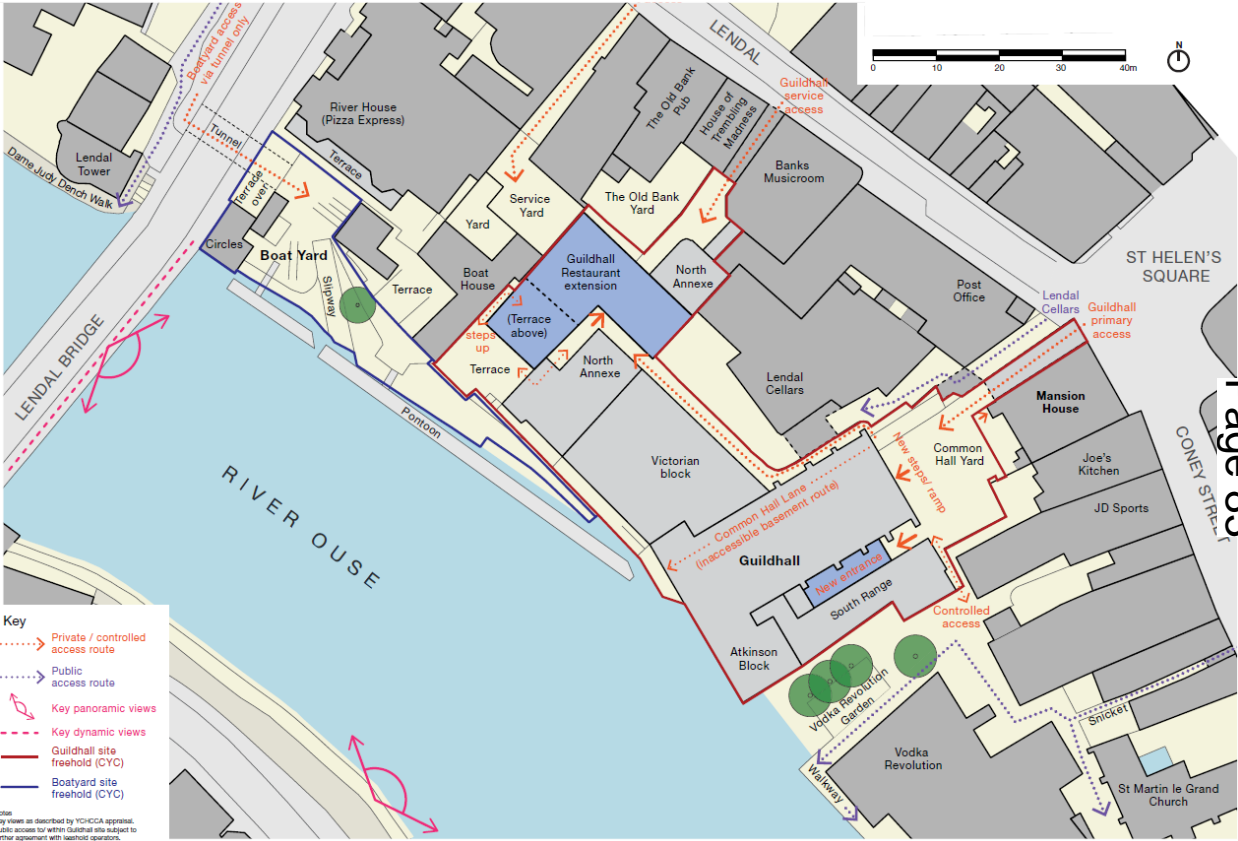
Zone 2: Brief

- To explore (secondarily to zone 1 and at high level), options to improve connectivity in the area between City Screen and Lendal Bridge.
- Taking into account the guildhall redevelopment currently underway, and existing access routes
- Cognisant of heritage impacts and technical parameters
- Identifying ancillary development opportunities as appropriate



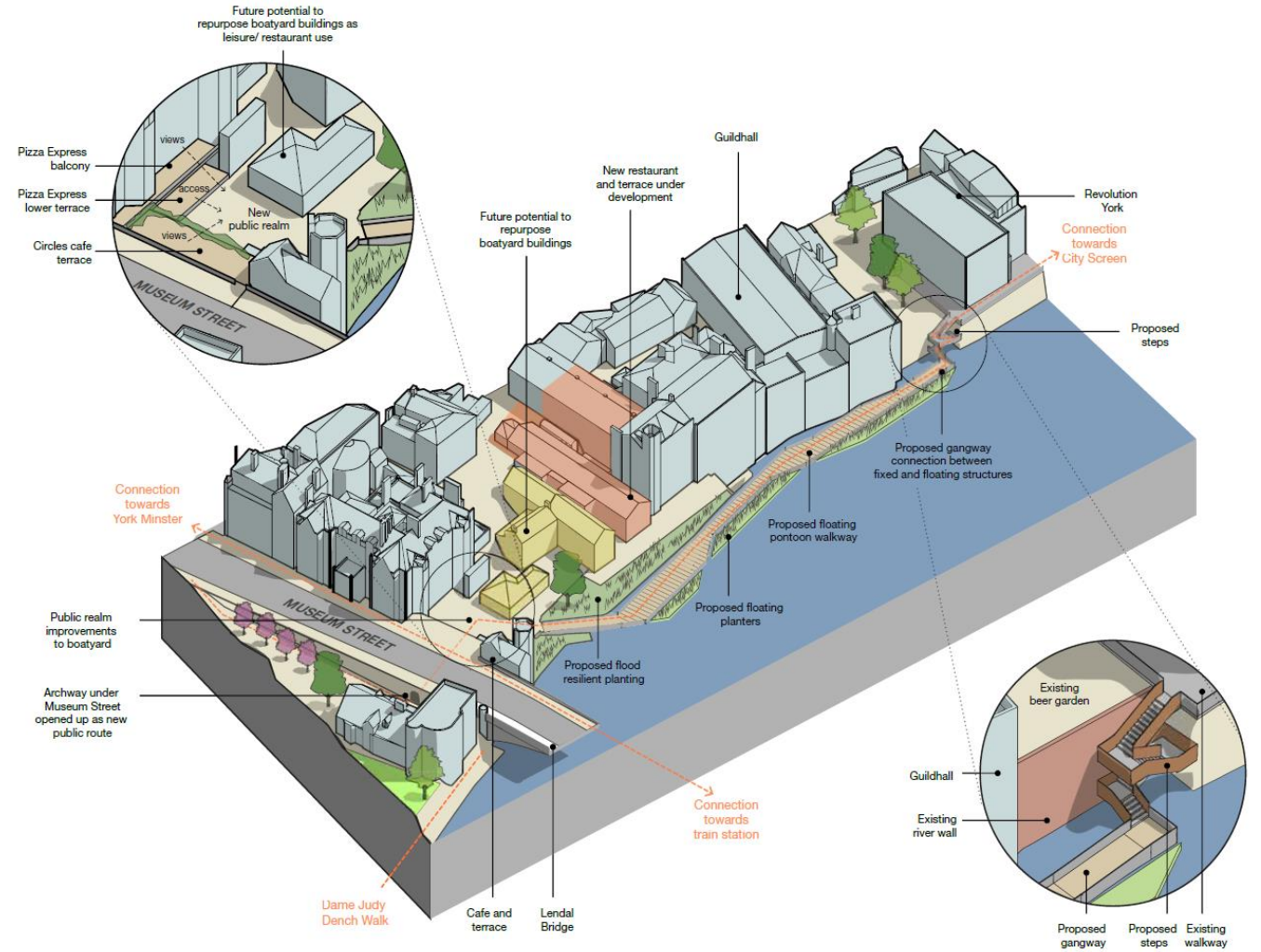
Zone 2: Option Assessment

- Informed by technical constraints including navigability and flooding as previous zone.
- Land ownership a further constraint, with no active proposals to relocate boat yard. Extremely sensitive heritage location with proximity to grade I Guildhall complex and scheduled monuments.
- Connectivity improvements between riverside and Lendal challenging without redevelopment, due to building service areas and configuration.
- Topography and relationship with heritage assets lead to a floating pontoon concept as preferred approach to potentially improving connectivity



Zone 2: High Level Outcomes

- Floating articulated pontoon walkway, connected by new steps to existing river walkway is technically feasible.
- Opportunity to complement with floating pontoon landscaping and new landscaping/ public realm to riverside.
- Discussion with stakeholders reveals residual heritage impact (and perception of limited benefits), infrastructure also unusable in times of flood, and no active plans to relocate boatyard – an essential precursor to delivery.
- Infrastructure would not be fully accessible due to site constraints
- Potential to repurpose boatyard buildings to alternative uses should relocation occur
- High level cost estimates in the order of £1.68m for infrastructure works only



Zone 3: Example scheme images



Figure 2.04: A temporary floating walkway and sun deck provides public space and leisure access down to the canal for summer swimming. Bruges, Belgium (Atelier Bow-Wow and Dertien 12).



Figure 2.09: (And Below) Cantilevered stairs linking Royal William Yard in Plymouth to the public park above (Gillespie Yunnis Architects)

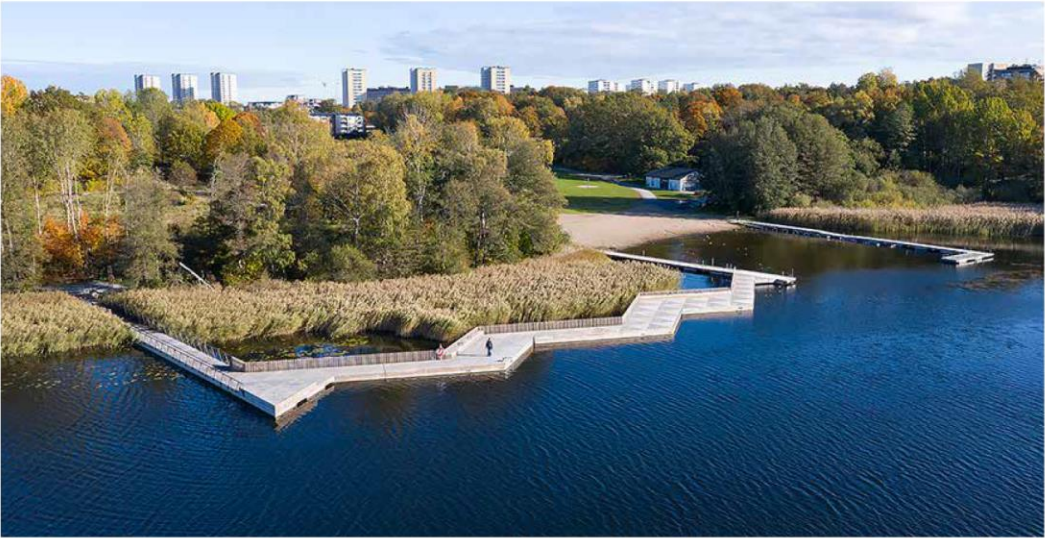


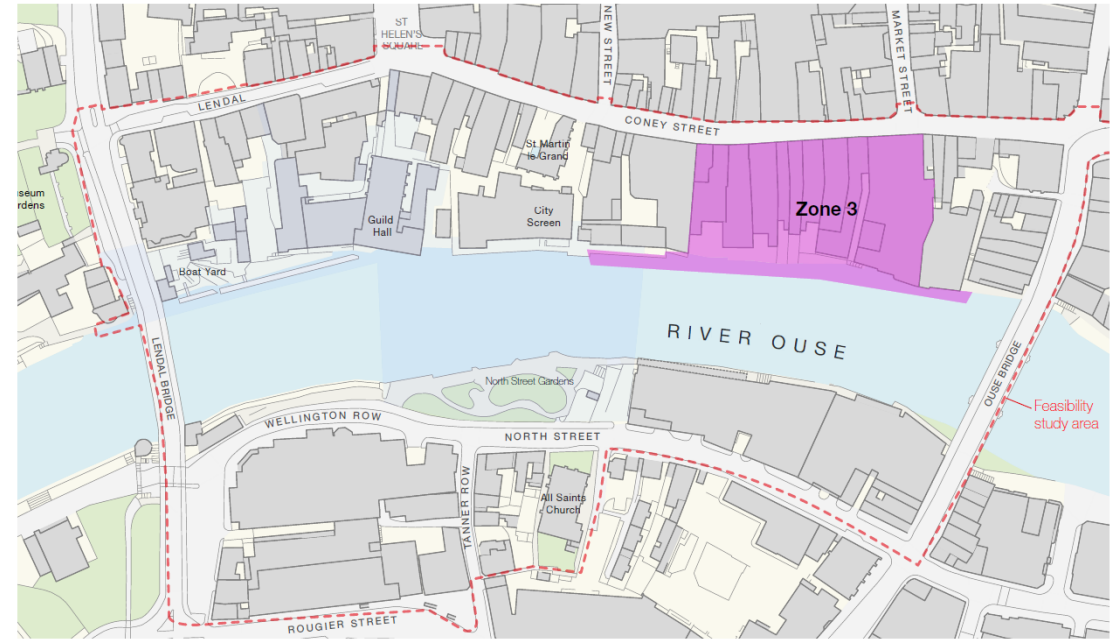
Figure 2.05: A new timber boardwalk opens up a recreational access to the lakeside of Lake Magelungen, Sweden. The boardwalk is a combination of a fixed structure attached to the land, connected by gangways to a floating pontoon construction. (Karavan landskapsarkitekt).



Figure 2.08: New corten walkway and steps inserted into Roman ruins, Malaga (OAM Arquitectos)

Zone 3: Brief

- To review high level emerging proposals from private sector developers Helmsley Group for a new riverside walkway potentially extending the existing route from City Screen/ Pitcher & Piano to Ouse Bridge.
- To have regard as part of this to stakeholder engagement, existing connectivity in the area and relationship with heritage assets.
- As part of this, to provide due diligence around:
 - Emerging high level costs
 - Engineering feasibility
 - Concept proposals



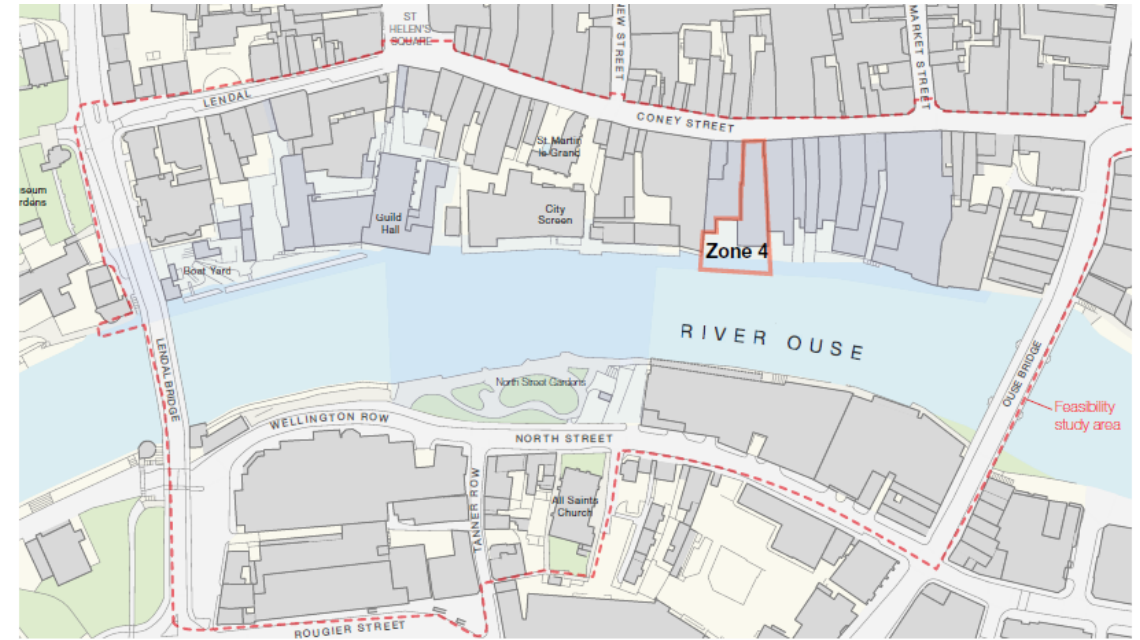
Zone 3: Analysis

- Study identifies opportunities associated with creation of connectivity improvements and public realm provision, as well as introducing new uses and reusing vacant floorspace. Key opportunity to improve buildings currently identified as detractors in conservation area appraisal.
- Study identifies technical constraints (including utilities, flooding etc), challenging topography between Coney Street & Riverside (though this also presents opportunities to introduce new uses), and sensitivity of area in terms of heritage assets.
- Emerging engineering approach reviewed and recommendations made to inform design development.
- Emerging costs reviewed, and order of magnitude validated, with sensitivity analysis undertaken.
- Detailed findings commercially confidential



Zone 4: Brief

- To analyse and propose potential development options around 25-27 Coney Street recently acquired by Council.
- To test potential new uses for the unit including vacant upper floors, and test more fundamental redevelopment options including looking at the later rear extensions to the building.
- Establish potential uses and key parameters around which future designs could be developed
- Undertake analysis in context of
 - Wider site analysis and context appraisal
 - Heritage significance assessment work
 - Technical site constraints



Zone 4: Analysis

- Study reviews existing site and building condition, identifying original grade II listed 5 storey building fronting Coney Street, with later addition to rear and disused riverside space. Upper floors of the building are currently disused, though access is challenging, only currently being provided to the Coney Street frontage
- The study reviews development potential of the plot, taking into account technical constraints and the early views of stakeholders. In order to redevelop the unit's upper floors and rear (the latter through demolition of existing structures), access would be required through the Coney Street frontage, leading to the conclusion that a café/ bar with active frontage to Coney Street would need to replace existing retail use., and contain a controlled foyer /reception to wider uses. Detailed findings are commercially confidential
- Options for boutique hotel/ aparthotel or co-working/ office space are explored, residential having been ruled out due to accessibility approach
- Opportunities to improve the riverside environment and generate additional footfall and economic benefits through redevelopment.
- Challenges around scale and massing, means of escape from fire, and the retail unit is also tenanted (and indeed the commercial acquisition made on this basis)

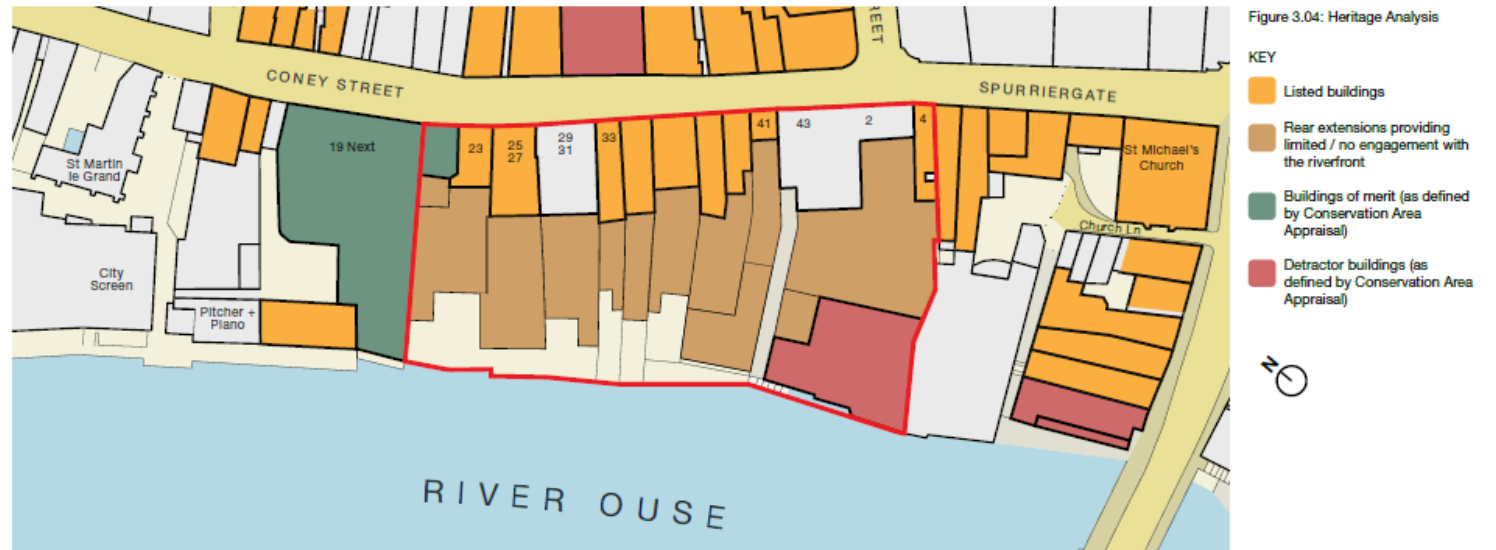


Figure 4.04: Zone 4 Listed Buildings and heritage assets

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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City of York Council
Equalities Impact Assessment

Who is submitting the proposal?

Directorate:	Economy & Place		
Service Area:	Regeneration		
Name of the proposal :	York Riverside Pedestrian Bridge & Enhanced Connectivity		
Lead officer:	Andy Kerr		
Date assessment completed:	6 th July 2021		
Names of those who contributed to the assessment :			
Name	Job title	Organisation	Area of expertise
Ben Murphy	Commercial Project Officer	City of York Council	Regeneration/ planning

Step 1 – Aims and intended outcomes

1.1	What is the purpose of the proposal? Please explain your proposal in Plain English avoiding acronyms and jargon.
	<i>The proposal seeks Member endorsement of the findings of a feasibility study into connectivity improvements (potentially including a river crossing and walkway extension) at the River Ouse in York City Centre. The report seeks Member endorsement of ongoing engagement with private sector developers regarding an associated regeneration scheme 'Riverside Quarter', and the undertaking of associated survey works, and deployment of associated budget</i>
1.2	Are there any external considerations? (Legislation/government directive/codes of practice etc.)
	<i>Principal considerations include that public spaces such as those the projects seek to deliver must comply with Equalities Act 2010 with regards accessibility.</i>

1.3	Who are the stakeholders and what are their interests?
	<p><i>The proposals seek to improve connectivity within and regenerate a key and central part of the City Centre, and will inevitably affect and be influenced by a very wide range of stakeholders and communities of interest. In terms of stakeholder organisations, these are best articulated around the membership of the My City Centre Stakeholder Group, whose collective membership is comprised from: Indie York, the Retail Forum, York Property Forum, higher york, the hospitality association, the canals & Rivers trust, the city guilds associations, north yorkshire police, the centre for voluntary services, make it york, the Business Improvement District, York Community Safety, Cultural Leaders Group, and York Food Festival. The proposals will be shared with these formal stakeholders as part of the ongoing My City Centre project.</i></p> <p><i>The project also involves extensive community engagement, and it is planned to share proposals through this engagement as part of a draft vision to be consulted on later this summer. The engagement has focussed on residents and users of the city centre, as well as the business community, and specific communities of interest such as those with mobility issues.</i></p>
1.4	What results/outcomes do we want to achieve and for whom? This section should explain what outcomes you want to achieve for service users, staff and/or the wider community. Demonstrate how the proposal links to the Council Plan (2019- 2023) and other corporate strategies and plans.
	<p><i>The outcomes we hope to achieve are the physical improvement of sustainable connectivity and environment within York City Centre, and associated regeneration with economic and cultural benefits flowing. The schemes will provide new high quality amenity space for all and active travel linkages, as well as improving existing open spaces and supporting diversification of the highstreet, with economic benefits – particularly within those low wage retail tourism and hospitality sectors.</i></p> <p><i>The benefits are intended principally for the resident community of York (as well as benefiting visitor and business communities).</i></p>

The proposals also support a number of outcomes outlined in the Council Plan 2019-2023, which sets out the Council’s central ambition to provide the best quality of life for its residents, positively supporting 5 of the Council Plan’s core outcomes:

- *Well-paid Jobs and an Inclusive Economy – supporting hard hit retail, leisure and tourism sectors to recover from Covid, whilst diversifying the highstreet to benefit York’s economy, and support lowest paid sectors, alongside longer term plans to facilitate growth in higher value sectors.*
- *A Greener and Cleaner City – creation of new pedestrian routes to encourage greater use of active travel to reduce vehicle emissions, and new and improved open spaces in the river corridors*
- *Getting around Sustainably – creation of new pedestrian infrastructure to encourage active travel into York city centre*
- *Creating Homes and World-class Infrastructure – transforming public realm in key city centre locations and providing a world class space that improves the setting of York’s historic monuments and buildings*
- *Safe Communities and Culture for All – the provision of new public spaces in the city centre, and improvement of existing. Supporting the associated Riverside Quarter development, which seeks to consolidate (and access) leisure and evening economy uses away from the traditional family shopping environment on Coney Street.*

Step 2 – Gathering the information and feedback

<p>2.1</p>	<p>What sources of data, evidence and consultation feedback do we have to help us understand the impact of the proposal on equality rights and human rights? Please consider a range of sources,</p>
-------------------	---

	including: consultation exercises, surveys, feedback from staff, stakeholders, participants, research reports, the views of equality groups, as well your own experience of working in this area etc.	
Source of data/supporting evidence	Reason for using	
<i>My City Centre engagement - emerging findings</i>	<i>Focusses on many of the specific issues which the projects are seeking to resolve, explored individuals relationship with the City Centre and its spaces in detail, and seeks to establish how people wish to see it improved</i>	
<i>York Open data, ONS and Census data</i>	<i>Provides a variety of regularly reported metrics by which we can measure the proposal's impact and success against socio-economic parameters should works proceed</i>	

Step 3 – Gaps in data and knowledge

3.1	What are the main gaps in information and understanding of the impact of your proposal? Please indicate how any gaps will be dealt with.	
Gaps in data or knowledge	Action to deal with this	
<i>Works are yet to have a business case established and be designed in detail, and the specific needs of socio-economic groups will be assessed and factored into detailed proposals as they are worked up</i>	<i>Resourcing engagement activity as part of the design development stage of work, and high quality design stage work input</i>	

Step 4 – Analysing the impacts or effects.

4.1	<p>Please consider what the evidence tells you about the likely impact (positive or negative) on people sharing a protected characteristic, i.e. how significant could the impacts be if we did not make any adjustments? Remember the duty is also positive – so please identify where the proposal offers opportunities to promote equality and/or foster good relations.</p>		
Equality Groups and Human Rights.	Key Findings/Impacts	Positive (+) Negative (-) Neutral (0)	High (H) Medium (M) Low (L)
Age	<p><i>My City Centre feedback reveals existing accessibility issues with existing city spaces, sometimes related to age. Connectivity improvements which are accessible for all and designed to modern standards improve accessibility and active travel opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>New and improved public spaces will ultimately accommodate a diverse range of uses and activities for people of different ages from young people to older residents.</i></p>	+	L
Disability	<p><i>My City Centre feedback reveals existing accessibility issues with existing city spaces. Connectivity improvements which are accessible for all and designed to modern standards will improve accessibility and active travel opportunities. Consideration will be given in future design to equality of access and the differing needs of all users, for example those with limited mobility, those that use mobility aids, or have visual or hearing impairment.</i></p>	+	L

Gender	<i>The safety and security of city spaces, particularly during the evening, is an issue which my city centre is exploring in detail, and which can disproportionately impact non-males. There is an opportunity through the detailed design of spaces, to follow best practice principles and ensure that spaces are naturally surveilled, well used and populated and both operate and feel safe and secure.</i>	+	L
Gender Reassignment	<i>The projects impacts in respect of gender re-assignment are considered to potentially mirror those related to gender itself and no additional impacts or issues are identified in this respect</i>	+	L
Marriage and civil partnership	<i>No additional impacts or issues are identified in this specific respect</i>	0	L
Pregnancy and maternity	<i>No additional impacts or issues are identified in this specific respect</i>	0	L
Race	<i>No additional impacts or issues are identified in this specific respect</i>	0	L
Religion and belief	<i>No additional impacts or issues are identified in this specific respect</i>	0	L
Sexual orientation	<i>The safety and security of city spaces, particularly during the evening, is an issue which my city centre is exploring in detail, and which can impact on the perception of the city as being inclusive of people of all sexual orientation. There is an opportunity through the detailed design of spaces, to follow best practice principles and ensure that spaces are naturally surveilled, well used and populated and both operate and feel safe and secure.</i>	+	L
Other Socio-economic groups including :	Could other socio-economic groups be affected e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low incomes?		
Carer	<i>The retail, hospitality and tourism sectors which the proposals seek in part to support are disproportionately staffed by part time employees (42% of</i>	+	L

	<i>staff part time against 32% for all other sectors). Part time employment is potentially beneficial to carers who are managing other challenging life commitments alongside work, and therefore supporting these sectors may provide some beneficial impacts to this socio-economic group</i>		
Low income groups	<i>The proposals has positive impacts in supporting the robustness and economic performance of the city's low wage retail hospitality and tourism sectors, following the immediate impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic and systemic change which is flowing. This will in turn help to support employment prospects and wages amongst the workers in these sectors, who are lower income groups.</i> <i>New and improved public spaces will ultimately accommodate a range of uses, activities and events which can be accessed and enjoyed at low or no cost to residents.</i>	+	L
Veterans, Armed Forces Community	<i>No additional impacts or issues are identified in this specific respect</i>	0	L
Other	<i>No additional impacts or issues are identified in this specific respect</i>	0	L
Impact on human rights:			
List any human rights impacted.	<i>The rights to freedom of expression and a fair and public hearing are positively reinforced through the ongoing extensive and open engagement being undertaken through My City Centre, to which this project relates</i>	+	L

Use the following guidance to inform your responses:

Indicate:

EIA 02/2021

- Where you think that the proposal could have a POSITIVE impact on any of the equality groups like promoting equality and equal opportunities or improving relations within equality groups
- Where you think that the proposal could have a NEGATIVE impact on any of the equality groups, i.e. it could disadvantage them
- Where you think that this proposal has a NEUTRAL effect on any of the equality groups listed below i.e. it has no effect currently on equality groups.

It is important to remember that a proposal may be highly relevant to one aspect of equality and not relevant to another.

<p>High impact (The proposal or process is very equality relevant)</p>	<p>There is significant potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or public facing The proposal has consequences for or affects significant numbers of people The proposal has the potential to make a significant contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights.</p>
<p>Medium impact (The proposal or process is somewhat equality relevant)</p>	<p>There is some evidence to suggest potential for or evidence of adverse impact The proposal is institution wide or across services, but mainly internal The proposal has consequences for or affects some people The proposal has the potential to make a contribution to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights</p>
<p>Low impact (The proposal or process might be equality relevant)</p>	<p>There is little evidence to suggest that the proposal could result in adverse impact The proposal operates in a limited way The proposal has consequences for or affects few people The proposal may have the potential to contribute to promoting equality and the exercise of human rights</p>

Step 5 - Mitigating adverse impacts and maximising positive impacts

5.1	Based on your findings, explain ways you plan to mitigate any unlawful prohibited conduct or unwanted adverse impact. Where positive impacts have been identified, what is been done to optimise opportunities to advance equality or foster good relations?
<p>Unwanted adverse impacts (and unexploited positive impacts) will be avoided through compliant, sensitive and high quality design of the spaces and connections to be delivered, informed by continuation of detailed and wide ranging engagement as part of My City Centre.</p>	

Step 6 – Recommendations and conclusions of the assessment

6.1	Having considered the potential or actual impacts you should be in a position to make an informed judgement on what should be done. In all cases, document your reasoning that justifies your decision. There are four main options you can take:
<p>- No major change to the proposal – the EIA demonstrates the proposal is robust. There is no potential for unlawful discrimination or adverse impact and you have taken all opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations, subject to continuing monitor and review.</p>	

- **Adjust the proposal** – the EIA identifies potential problems or missed opportunities. This involves taking steps to remove any barriers, to better advance quality or to foster good relations.
- **Continue with the proposal** (despite the potential for adverse impact) – you should clearly set out the justifications for doing this and how you believe the decision is compatible with our obligations under the duty
- **Stop and remove the proposal** – if there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, you should consider stopping the proposal altogether. If a proposal leads to unlawful discrimination it should be removed or changed.

Important: If there are any adverse impacts you cannot mitigate, please provide a compelling reason in the justification column.

Option selected	Conclusions/justification
<i>No major change to the proposal</i>	<i>The proposals intrinsically provide positive impacts for groups sharing a protected characteristic, and there are further opportunities as the proposals progress, to embed additional positive impacts in subsequent stages of development. No adverse impacts are identified</i>

Step 7 – Summary of agreed actions resulting from the assessment

7.1 What action, by whom, will be undertaken as a result of the impact assessment.			
Impact/issue	Action to be taken	Person responsible	Timescale
<i>Potential for additional positive impacts to be realised in relation to groups with protected characteristics around gender, gender reassignment and sexual orientation as the projects are developed</i>	Ongoing consultation exercises to be continued, and opportunities to deepen debate in these area explored. Brief for detailed design of spaces to capture opportunities, and tender selection process for design stage work to be cognisant of opportunities	Ben Murphy	By close 2021

Step 8 - Monitor, review and improve

8. 1	How will the impact of your proposal be monitored and improved upon going forward? Consider how will you identify the impact of activities on protected characteristics and other marginalised groups going forward? How will any learning and enhancements be capitalised on and embedded?
	<i>Future business case preparation will be accompanied by a monitoring and evaluation plan which sets out how key metrics will be assessed moving forward, a 3 year review process is also built into the my city centre engagement programme. All capital projects operated out of the Council's regeneration function include ongoing lessons learnt assessment, with these disseminated within the Council.</i>