



**Notice of a public meeting of
Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

To: Councillors Semlyen (Chair), Watt (Vice-Chair), Barnes, Burton, D'Agorne, Riches and Hyman

Date: Tuesday, 19 November 2013

Time: 5.00 pm

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

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest (Pages 3 - 4)

At this point in the meeting, 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. Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting of the Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 24th September 2013.

3. Public Participation

It is at this point in the meeting that members of the public who have registered their wish to speak can do so. The deadline for registering is by 5pm on Monday 18th November 2013.

**4. Attendance of the Cabinet Member for (Pages 13 - 22)
Health, Housing and Adult Social Services.**

The Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services will update Members of the Committee on the priorities within her portfolio area.

**5. 2nd Quarter Finance Monitor Report (Pages 23 - 32)
2013/14.**

This report provides details of the 2013/14 forecast outturn position for both finance and performance in City & Environmental Services and Housing Services.

**6. Implementation Update on Previously (Pages 33 - 46)
Completed Youth Unemployment Scrutiny
Review.**

This report provides Members with their first update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed Youth Unemployment Scrutiny Review which were agreed by Cabinet in May 2013.

**7. Construction Skills Scrutiny Review - (Pages 47 - 64)
Update Report.**

This report presents the Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee with an update on the work of the Construction Skills Scrutiny Review Task Group to date.

8. Update on Newgate Market. (Pages 65 - 70)

This report provides Members with a progress update on the refurbishment of Newgate Market.

9. Work Plan. (Pages 71 - 72)

Members are asked to consider the Committee's work plan for the municipal year 2013/2014.

10. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer:

Name- Judith Betts

Telephone No. – 01904 551078

E-mail- judith.betts@york.gov.uk

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

- Registering to speak
- Business on the agenda
- Any special arrangements
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Contact details are set out above.

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The majority of councillors are not appointed to the Cabinet (39 out of 47). Any 3 non-Cabinet councillors can 'call-in' an item of business following a Cabinet meeting or publication of a Cabinet Member decision. A specially convened Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC) will then make its recommendations to the next scheduled Cabinet meeting, where a final decision on the 'called-in' business will be made.

Scrutiny Committees

The purpose of all scrutiny and ad-hoc scrutiny committees appointed by the Council is to:

- Monitor the performance and effectiveness of services;
- Review existing policies and assist in the development of new ones, as necessary; and
- Monitor best value continuous service improvement plans

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**MEETING OF ECONOMIC AND CITY DEVELOPMENT
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Agenda item 1: Declarations of interest

The following Members declared standing personal interests.

Councillor D'Agorne- Employee of York College

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	24 September 2013
Present	Councillors Semlyen (Chair), Watt (Vice-Chair), Barnes, Burton, D'Agorne and Hyman
Apologies	Councillors Riches

20. **Declarations of Interest**

Members were asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests, other than those listed on the standing declarations attached to the agenda, that they may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

21. **Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the last meeting held on 23rd July 2013 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

22. **Public Participation**

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

In relation to item 9, Ms. Gwen Swinburn advised that she was disappointed to note that there had been no written report attached for this item and expressed concern at this practice across all Council meetings. She asked that the Council make every effort to provide a written report for all agenda items to enable citizens to consider and comment on reports prior to attending meetings.

Ms Swinburn had also registered to speak in relation to item 10. She expressed disappointment that the Economic Strategy for York had never been presented to this committee or any other Council committee. She advised that at present, the strategy went to the York Economic Partnership Board which offered limited opportunity for members of the public to comment.

Furthermore, the board was considering cutting loose from the strategy which would mean it would be lost completely. She asked that the ECDOSC committee consider pushing for the strategy to be monitored by a Council committee, possibly Cabinet.

23. Attendance of the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability

The Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability attended the meeting to update Members on priorities within his portfolio area.

His verbal update included comments on;

- The transport aspect of his portfolio including details of schemes completed, ongoing and forthcoming i.e the Lendal Bridge trial, the A59 Park and Ride and Kings Square.
- An update on the ongoing work on the Local Plan, in particular that a report on the consultation responses would be coming forward to the Local Plan Working Group in November.
- The recently submitted Neighbourhood Plan for Dunnington and the potential for more plans to be submitted from other Parishes and the cost implications for the Council.
- Details of environmental initiatives such as Carbon Management.

Members queried a number of points, in particular the concerns that had been raised in the local newspaper surrounding the Kings Square improvements. The Cabinet Member advised that the work had followed a comprehensive consultation in the spring and that many residents falsely believed the work was taking place in the Shambles when it isn't.

In relation to Neighbourhood Plans, It was confirmed that following a restructure in the City and Environmental Services Directorate the Council was in a better position to support Neighbourhood Plan applications and staff were now being trained on the process.

Resolved: That Members noted the Cabinet Members update.

Reason: To keep the committee informed on areas within its portfolio.

24. First Quarter CYC Finance & Performance Monitoring Report

Members considered a report that provided details of the 2013/14 forecast outturn position for both finance and performance in City and Environmental Services and Housing.

Members queried the shortfall in respect of Parking income. Officers advised this was a concern as it was a trend that had continued over the last few years and it would be monitored.

Resolved: That the report on the financial position of the portfolio be noted.

Reason: In accordance with budgetary and performance monitoring procedures.

25. Update on Implementation of Recommendations from Out of Hours Childcare Scrutiny Review

Members considered a report which provided an update on the implementation of recommendations arising from the previously completed Out of Hours Childcare Scrutiny Review.

In relation to recommendation 6, this was due to be carried out by December. A further update would be circulated by email.

Officers advised that recommendation 7 - 'That the Family Information Service Manager organise a further event for employers around being family friendly as identified in option 3' – was the only recommendation that hadn't been implemented and an update would be circulated by December.

Members suggested including some information on the 'York Means Business' website to draw employers attention to the preference for family friendly employers in the York area. Members requested that a further update on the implementation of the recommendation be circulated to the committee.

Resolved: That Members noted the report.

A further update on recommendation 7 be circulated to the committee electronically.

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which are still to be fully implemented.

26. External Funding Scrutiny Review Draft Final Report

Members considered a report which presented the findings and recommendations of the External Funding Scrutiny Review Task Group and asked the Committee to agree any requires amendments/additions to the report prior to its future presentation at a meeting of Cabinet.

Councillor Burton spoke as a member of the task group and advised that the review had produced recommendations that provided focus rather than new ideas.

In relation to recommendation (ii) - To identify suitably ambitious measurable targets as part of the development of the investment plan in order to gauge its impact (those targets to be presented at a future meeting of the Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee) – Members requested the investment plan by the end of December with targets based on the plan.

Resolved: That Members endorsed the draft recommendations as outlined in the report.

Reason: To conclude the work on this review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols and to enable this review final report to be presented at a future meeting of Cabinet.

27. Green Travel Plans (Businesses) Overview/Progress Report

Members considered a briefing report which covered one of the key focus areas for the Council's i-Travel York (ITY) programme aimed at businesses engagement through travel planning.

Members were informed that the ITY will deliver integrated projects covering personal, business and school travel planning combined with targeted infrastructure enhancements to increase peoples travel choices.

In response to members questions on school travel planning, Officers confirmed that the current government had abolished the requirement for schools to have their own travel plans so now the emphasis was on initiatives to improve road safety and encouraging walking and cycling amongst school children.

Members were pleased to note that more local businesses had entered the category for 'Best Sustainable Travel Initiative' at the forthcoming York Evening Press awards.

Resolved: That Members noted the report.

Reason: To keep the committee up to date on the key focus areas for the Council's i-Travel York (ITY) programme.

28. Presentation Update on Grand Depart

The Director for Communities and Neighbourhoods was in attendance to provide a verbal update on the Grand Depart due to take place in July 2014.

A presentation was given on the Grand Depart which focused on the following issues:

- The estimated cost to the Council
- The potential economic benefit to York

- The project and the 5 main strands which were the event, cultural aspects, the legacy, commercial and communications.

In response to members questions, the Director for Communities and Neighbourhoods advised that a report on the Grand Depart was now public and on the Cabinet agenda for the 1st October. She acknowledged Members comments surrounding the potential for an increase in costs if the weather was poor and the need for hotels in the city to be sensible with their room prices to encourage visitors to stay in the city.

Resolved: That Members noted the update.

Reason: So that Members can maintain an overview of the event.

29. Work Plan 2013-14

Members considered the Committee's work plan for the municipal year 2013/2014.

In response to comments made by Ms Swinburn about the Economic Strategy, it was confirmed that a report would be added to the Committees work plan for January to consider the recommendation arising from the External Funding Review – Investment Plan – and an overview report of the Economic Strategy and its targets .

Following further discussion, it was agreed that the final reports of the Construction Skills Task Group and Night Time Economy Scrutiny review would come to the January meeting, with update reports in November.

A further informal meeting of the Night Time Economy Task Group was agreed for the 15th October.

Resolved: That the work plan be approved to reflect the above changes.

Reason: To progress the work of the committee.

Councillor Semlyen, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.00 pm and finished at 7.15 pm].

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Report from the Cabinet Member for Health Housing & Adult Social Services, November 2013.

Introduction

An affordable, decent quality and warm home is key to residents' health and wellbeing and to children's educational attainment. It is a phrase I will continue to use until every resident of this City has the choice of a decent home. To expect people to move away because of the cost of living here is not acceptable even if this is the view of some in this City and Government Ministers.

As a Council and in conjunction with our partners we are delivering good services and are receiving praise from many quarters even at times when budgets are being cut. We continue to receive praise from Government in the form of Grants for our ideas and work and I encourage Officers to bid for all grants that are 'advertised'. This is extremely important at a time when we have many homes in the City which are falling into the 'hazardous' homes category due to energy inefficiency, due to the poor take up of the expensive Green Deal, and structural conditions which make them difficult for older residents to live in. Whilst currently this is mainly in the Private Rented Sector homes in private ownership are starting to enter this category. Whilst we have a better than average housing stock we must not become complacent.

Looking ahead, for many York residents living with the highest Private Sector rents outside of the South East life is becoming more of a struggle. Rents continue to rise as we do not have the supply of homes the City needs.

Social Housing Waiting List - year end 31 Mar 2013

- 4692

There is expected to be seen in the current year a reduction in this number due to policy changes, in September, to the North Yorkshire Home Choice Letting scheme and an ongoing process to ensure applicants renew their application if they have not been actively bidding on properties – this is the first major refresh of applications for a number years.

The changes have been made to reduce the numbers who are in Bronze Band and reflect the need to have a realistic approach. Following research and consultation many applicants in Bronze Band were saying that the policy gave people unrealistic expectations with few of them having any chance of being allocated a home. The changes also recognise that a

significant number on the list who have assets or sufficient income can realise a move in the home ownership market or the private rented sector.

The key changes are listed below.

- Ensuring local people have priority by restricting the register to people who have a local connection
- Supporting balanced and sustainable communities by preventing people with a history of serious Anti-Social Behaviour issues from qualifying for social housing
- Excluding homeowners who have no recognised housing need either for economic or social reasons
- Introducing a financial threshold for people who have a combined household income and/or capital and assets of £60,000 plus and who may be able to meet their own housing needs. It is recognised some people, in particular the elderly, may need to move into specialist accommodation and alternative housing advice will be given to them
- Allocating properties to meet applicants' assessed bedroom need
- To make the process fair, penalties to exclude persons from the register have been introduced. These include persons, who provide false information, deliberately withhold information or who have deliberately worsened their housing circumstances

In addition to these changes Officers have been completing the annual review of applications that always leads to some cancellation of applications. The number on the list now is around 2400 which is a significant and welcome reduction and this is highlighted in the performance report to Cabinet on 5th Nov.

Below is the link to the allocations policy

http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/download/781/north_yorkshire_housing_allocation_policy

Homelessness

Figures for year end 31 Mar 2013:

- 746 households prevented/relieved from homelessness (993 in 11/12)
- 218 homeless decisions taken (stable from 215 in 11/12)
- 146 household accepted as homeless and in priority need (151 in 11/12)
- 99 households in temporary accommodation (93 at 31 Mar 2012, but around 99 over most of last two years, 1.18% per 1000 households, below 2.38% national average)
- 8 rough sleepers as at single night in Dec 2012 (up from 2 in 11/12)

Following a successful stakeholder event in July 2012 and 4 consultation events in October/November including the Supporting People User Group a new **Homelessness Strategy** 2013-18 has been agreed and was approved by Cabinet on 5th March 2013. The report can be viewed at http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/6961/homelessness_strategy_2013-2018

- £279k CLG funds were awarded to York and North Yorkshire to tackle rough sleeping, with delivery to be overseen by York.
- Launch of *No Second Night Out* rough sleeper scheme January 2013 by the Archbishop of York

Peaseholme Centre - Ofsted inspectors were extremely positive during their inspection of the Peaseholme Centre. They reported standard of service and facilities as excellent, with customers clearly benefiting from the service.

Voids

- Average re-let time 21.66 days (down from 25.09 days in 11/12)
Time taken includes 'Tenants Choice' backfill. Until this year tenants had the option to refuse whole or part replacement of kitchens and bathrooms which has meant that each year a number of properties require extensive work before they could be re-let

How many homes let - year end 31 Mar 2013

- 487 properties re-let excluding temp accommodation (513 in 11/12)

How much tenants choice and backfill- year end 31 Mar 2013

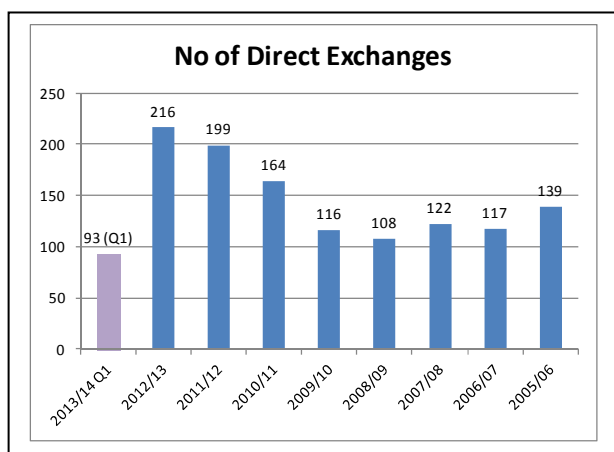
- 210 homes received Tenants' Choice improvement

Windows completed- year end 31 Mar 2013

- 327 homes received new UPVC double glazing

Bedroom Tax info- year end 31 Mar 2013

The impact on CYC tenants has reduced from 1,138 in April 2013 to 1,017. This reduction has in large part being achieved by tenants downsizing through mutual exchange. However, to reduce those negatively affected to zero will take about 10 years. The Government, in the form of Lord Freud, have now admitted that downsizing is not possible due to there not being enough smaller property available. There has been an increase in Direct Exchanges and this is put down to the Bedroom Tax – see tables:



	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09	2007/08
Q1	93	45	46	57	26	41	35
Q2	79	60	52	36	23	18	36
Q3		53	51	34	27	35	20
Q4		58	50	37	40	14	31
Grand Total		216	199	164	116	108	122

Actual at 16/09/13	RSLs	CYC	Combined
Total HB caseload	3,032	5,148	8,180
No. Affected	377	640	1,017
% caseload affected	12.4%	12.4%	12.4%
With dependants	134	249	383
Lone parent h/h	96	172	268
1 bedroom excess	333	541	874
2+ bedroom excess	44	99	143
Predicted av. Loss per wk	£14.81	£13.73	£14.12
for 1 bedroom excess	£13.63	£12.21	£12.75
for 2+ bedroom excess	£23.75	£21.99	£22.53
Total annual loss	£290,407	£421,632	£712,039

Bedroom Tax Figures

Rent arrears at end of October are £876,634. At the same week last year they were £833,898, increase of £42,736.

The Council and its Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners have a wide range of measures in place to mitigate the impacts of 'bedroom tax' and wider welfare reform. This includes a joint Housing Benefit/ Housing Options/ Salvation Army initiative has been developed to use the £27k DWP money to target those affected by further welfare benefit reforms.

Almost all affected households have been contacted and spoken to to enable them to explore a range of options including:

- Dedicated employment and debt advice workers
- Reviewing employment opportunities
- Discount schemes and utility switching
- Advice on claiming Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs)
- Assessing whether non-dependants can contribute
- Scheme to support downsizing costs up to £2500 per household
- Relaxed policy on direct exchange/transfers where arrears exist
- Prioritising downsizers on new build schemes

A specialist “Money Matters” newsletter has been developed (3 editions so far) focusing on welfare reform, housing benefit changes, universal credit, debt and money management advice

Work with schools – Housing services have been looking at alternative venues to run advice sessions. We have piloted a scheme with Westfield School where CAB and housing officers are running sessions.

Discretionary Housing Payments accessed

- 350% increase in DHP applications compared to same period (Mar-Sep) in 12/13.

DHP applications received

2012	268 full year
2013 Mar - Sept	517

DHPs processed

2012	127
2013 Apr - Sept	426

DHP Spend	2012	2013
	Full yr	Apr/Sept
Total	£99,353	£88,731
DWP Grant	£116,422	£286,409

Tenant and Leaseholder annual report 2012/13

The report is extensive and can be found at http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/9692/tenants_and_leaseholders_annual_report_2012_2013 It has in-depth information about what has been delivered/achieved in relation to City of York Council housing stock i.e. 9 out of 10 tenants are satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live, 8 out of 10 are happy with repairs and maintenance service etc

A new post, Tenant Engagement and Equalities Facilitator has been established to further develop tenant engagement and involvement activities.

- The **Tenant Inspectors** have recently completed a review of the voids lettable standard “Your Home Our Promise” which they have presented to the housing management team.
- A **Tenant Scrutiny Panel** Taster Session was held with 15 interested tenants during Housing Week 2012. Subsequently 11 attended the first official Tenant Scrutiny Panel in December 2012 where they drafted the terms of reference and have since looked at local housing standards. The action plan for the first year also includes considering the Business Plan and the Asset Management Strategy.
- The Antisocial Behaviour Panel has been re-established with 25 residents being invited to the quarterly meetings. This Panel is currently reviewing the ASB survey and looking at performance information.

Residents Federation – Once again I would like to praise the work that the excellent Residents Federation undertakes. This is not just a forum for Council Tenants but also for private residents associations to join –such as Sovereign Park – and I look forward to this group’s continued work in the City. Last month the Federation celebrated its 25th anniversary and it was good to see faces old and new there and I look forward to them celebrating many more milestones in the future.

New housing supply

- Supported delivery of 127 affordable homes
- The *Get York Building* Board, established September 2012, comprises a £7m investment programme of projects designed to facilitate increased housing supply. Planning permission has been given for Beckfield Lane.
- The new *HRA Business Plan & Asset Management Strategy* identified a £75.5m five year investment fund for existing council homes and £20m to support the commitment to build 60 new council homes by 2018.
- A 'City-Centre Living' audit was completed, exploring the residential potential of empty commercial properties. This showed potential for 360,000sq ft of useable space.
- Agreement to convert former White Swan hotel into 18 apartments at affordable rent with a target for 35 more on other city centre sites

York Housing Week Oct 2013

This year Housing Week had a focus on poverty. Events were held around the City at Community venues which focused on financial matters such as Loan Sharks and Benefit checks and there was a ‘Property Swap Shop’ held at Priory Street. Seminars included Mental Health & Housing, Living

above the Shop, Private Landlords and the week finished with the Seminar which explored the links between Poor Housing and Poverty.

Hundreds of people attended during the week including developers, Housing Associations, voluntary sector, landlords, academics, Councillors and Officers from York and other Local Authorities and residents.

Discussions have already started on how we can build on this year's event for next year and it is hoped to have a final program by the summer

Private rented sector

Following Cabinet approval, the *Private Landlord Accreditation Scheme* is in development

Rent rises in the Private Rented Sector

Room: 7.2% increase 2 bed: 4% increase

The above are the current rent increases in year in York. These are significantly more than Government is proposing to raise future benefits by.

Localism Act

- York's first *Tenancy Strategy* was approved
- Extensive consultation informed the revised Allocations and North Yorkshire Home Choice policies to be considered by Cabinet June 2013
- A *Tenant Scrutiny Panel* was established January 2013
- Nine *Community-Based Service Delivery Sessions* are operational, many of which offer multi-agency advice on housing, debt and employment

Welfare Reform Act

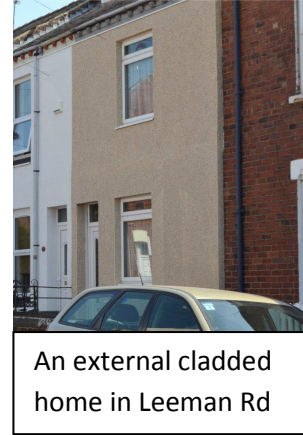
- Two new *Money and Employment Advisor* posts were created, operational early 2013.
- 808 under-occupying tenants were visited to help them prepare for the implementation of the 'bedroom tax' April 2013.
- A targeted *Under-Occupation Incentive Scheme* was developed
- £27k DWP funds were used to target private renters affected by welfare reforms
- A specialist *Money Matters* newsletter for tenants was developed to focus on welfare reform, housing benefit changes, universal credit, debt and money management advice
- A city-wide multi-agency *Welfare Reform Task Group* was established
- *Tang Hall Advice hub* has started with a further Community Hub being established in the West of the City

Landlord services

- Launch of *Flexible Direct Exchange Policy* allowing customers in financial and social hardship another option to obtain a move
- *Leaseholder Forum* resurrected and quarterly meetings organised

Protect the environment

- *Green Deal* funds were successfully secured In October 2012, with Cabinet approving the Leeds City Region delivery model in April 2013
- £447k DECC funds were awarded to install heating and insulation in the homes of fuel-poor vulnerable residents.
- £124k Green Deal grants were awarded for solid wall insulation trials and these are currently being installed across York.
- Six regional pilot community energy collective switching schemes have been funded by a £300k DECC grant.
- £341k CERT funds enabled private sector residents to access energy efficiency measures.
- Over 400 council homes have now benefited from the installation of photovoltaic panels.
- City of York Council Home Energy Conservation Plan 2013 – 2015 can be found at http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/download/2427/home_energy_conservation_act



Older people

- *Positive Ageing – Housing Choices*, the *Older Peoples' Housing Options Guide* was launched in Housing Week 2012 and followed, at customers' suggestion, by monthly outreach sessions in the community
- First *Supported Housing Strategy* underwent consultation March 2013.
- The transfer of *Sheltered Housing* management from Adult Services was completed June 2013

Student Housing

I have been asked to sit on the Student Community Partnership 'Housing Sub Group. The first meeting was held in October at York St John's. Dave Merrett and myself met with York St John's to discuss their concerns and needs regarding future student accommodation.

Gypsies and Travellers

- Cabinet agreed the first *Gypsy & Traveller Strategy* June 2013.
- A new '*Travellers Choice*' refurbishment scheme was launched to deliver a programme of improvements informed by customer preference.
- £342k Homes & Community Agency funds were awarded for the creation of six new *Traveller Pitches* at the Osbaldwick site.
- The planning application, for the much needed expansions was approved at planning in October and Cabinet agreed funding to support the works on the 5th Nov.

Grants awarded

Council successfully obtained *Warmer Winter Healthy* funding of £18k from DOH, in partnership with Age UK, York and Yorkshire Energy Partnership, to assist and give advice to older residents on how to keep warm over the winter. CYC also led on a sub-regional *Fuel Poverty* bid to DECC for replacement boilers - within York 60 households will benefit.

Orlit Homes - a £800k project, to refurbish 84 post war non traditional Orlit homes including re-roofing, loft insulation, new UPVs double glazed windows, structural repairs and masonry painting has taken place.

Empty Homes – the Officer dedicated to working on the City's empty homes has removed 198 homes from the list of those empty since April 2011 and attracted £2m of *New Homes Bonus* over 6 years. Working with the Health Service the demolition of 83 condemned nursing homes also took place – resulting in £500k of Empty Homes Bonus over 6 years.

Local Plan - Also with regard to the Local Plan and need for Housing I have been looking at the births and deaths in York for the last 10 years. I think there is some interesting data here which can be useful at the next stage of arguing the need for more homes.

	Births	Deaths	Diff
2003	3021	2381	640
2004	3270	2236	1034
2005	3311	2292	1019
2006	3247	2247	1000
2007	3255	2240	1015
2008	3565	2320	1245
2009	3495	2408	1087
2010	3404	2303	1101
2011	3461	2416	1045
2012	3481	2378	1103

Attended

- Leeds City Region HCA (Leeds) – Jan, June, October
- York & North Yorks Strategic Housing Forum -
- Living Above the Shop Forum Meeting - Jan
- Bedroom Tax Forum (Manchester) – June
- Bedroom Tax Forum (Birmingham) - September
- LGA All Parliamentary Group (House of Commons, London) – June
- Residents Federation
- Resident Federation Training Day – Feb 2013
- Peashome
- York Housing Association
- York High & Millthorpe Deputy Heads meeting– changes to Housing and Welfare
- Inside Housing interview
- Inside Housing Blog for Housing Week
- The Guardian - interview on EPH's
- Jack Dromey MP – Housing



Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee

19 November 2013

Report of the Director of City & Environmental Services

2013/14 Finance Monitor 2 Report

Summary

1. This report provides details of the 2013/14 forecast outturn position for both finance and performance in City & Environmental Services and Housing Services.

Analysis

Finance – forecast outturn overview General Fund

2. The current outturn position within the City & Environmental Directorate (excluding Highways, Waste & Fleet) is a projected overspend of £45k on a total net budget of £1,842k. Economic Development has a budget of £769k and is expected to outturn on budget. The Housing General Fund has a budget of £1,066k and is expected to underspend by £78k. Service Plan Variations by service plan are shown below:

	Net Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Variance £'000
City & Environmental Services			
Strategic Planning & Transport	-705	-666	+39
City Development & Sustainability	1,046	925	-121
Director's Group	636	609	-27
Mitigation		-250	-250
Total	977	618	-359
Economic Development	769	769	0
Housing Services			

Housing General Fund	1,066	988	-78
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Note: '+' indicates an increase in expenditure or shortfall in income
 '-' indicates a reduction in expenditure or increase in income

3. Details of the main variations by service plan are detailed in the following paragraphs.

Strategic Planning and Transport (£+39k)

4. Car Parking income is forecast to be £250k below budget which is made up of £107k short stay, £290k standard stay, £11k on-street and £58k surplus on Respark and season tickets. The shortfall equates to 4%.
5. There is expected to be £115k saving from concessionary fares and reduced use of taxi cards, shortfall of £45k on park & ride income, an underspend of £42k on employee costs where a number of posts are unfilled. Income from transport projects is expected to be £50k higher than expected.
6. Additional income from ANPR cameras (£50k) and saving in the transport review budget (£50k), travel plans (£25k) and signal electricity (£20k) are offset by an expected shortfall in income from providing shared CCTV and traffic systems (£54k).

Planning and Sustainable Development (£-121k)

7. Income from planning applications and land charges has recovered following an increase in activity by developers and in the housing market. Latest forecasts indicate that there will be additional income from planning (£60k) and from land charges (£20k). However, income from building control is still expected to be £70k below budget.
8. The Development Projects Team has £56k saving from a vacancy and from adoption leave, offset by £8k redundancy cost. Within the rest of service area there are 2 staff secondments, saving £63k.

Director's Group (£-27k)

9. There is £-27k saving from vacant posts.

Economic Development (£nil)

10. The current forecast is that Economic Development will outturn on budget.

Housing Services (£-78k)

11. The review of the Housing Services General Fund budgets indicates at monitor 2 that the service will be £78k under budget. This is mainly due to additional income and staff vacancies in Housing Options and homelessness.

Finance Housing Revenue Account (HRA) - Non General Fund account

12. The budgeted working balance at 31st March 2014 on the HRA is £12,082k and this review indicates a net underspend of £295k, leaving a projected working balance of £12,377k. The underspend includes £62k from vacancies and utilities savings, £49k from additional rents, £84k from higher management fees, leaseholder administration and works recharges and £100k saving from a reduced contribution to the provision for bad debt.

Mitigation (£-250k)

13. To offset the shortfall in parking income and budget shortfalls in other services such as waste, additional savings have been made from the CES directorate (50k), additional funding for the Regeneration Team (£100k) and from use of s106 balances (£100k).

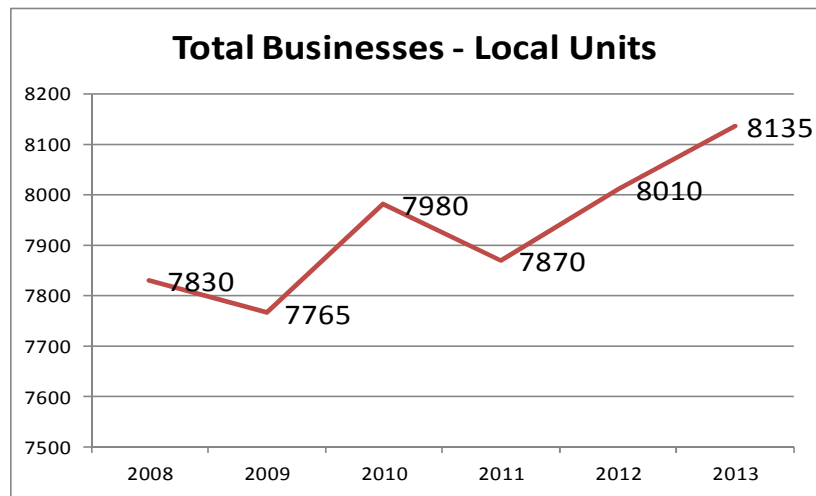
Performance Update

Create Jobs and Grow the Economy

Economy

14. New businesses are up from 8010 in 2012 to 8135 (1.9% increase) and city centre footfall has improved between June and September with a 1.9% percentage point improvement in the

average year to date figure. Welcome news, given the decline noted in the previous report.



15. The council has also recently agreed to invest in footfall cameras at key points across the city centre to gain a greater insight into resident and visitor use and movement around the city, to inform future investment decisions. Despite the challenge of retaining healthy footfall numbers to support local businesses, York still has the 2nd lowest shop vacancy rate in the country after Cambridge.
16. In order to consolidate this strong position, the council is identifying the sector-specific support needed to enable businesses in the city's key sectors to grow. Continued EIF investment in the city will also help to secure York's strategic position within the region and globally, most notably through Re-invigorate York's public realm improvements in Kings Square and an investment of £1.5million in the city centre market refurbishment scheme. The council is also launching the Yorkafter5 initiative, aimed at improving the offer available to visitors and residents in the evening in the City.
17. There has been significant movement in the financial year in terms of the growth in planning activity, with planning applications received or determined including major new housing sites at the Tannery, Strensall, Breck's Lane, Strensall, the former Sessions site, Huntington. Planning application fee income is more than 12% higher, whilst pre-application advice fee income has more than doubled compared to the same period last year, reflecting the recent upsurge in developer confidence and the strength of York's position as an attractive place to invest. The growth agenda as encapsulated in the emerging Local Plan has led to owners and developers of 'Preferred Sites' coming forward to discuss the potential for early delivery.

18. Many of York's longstanding brownfield sites have been the subject of planning approvals or renewed interest. The former Terry's factory site has outline approval, with Phase 1 of the 270 new-home element now submitted in detail. Phase 2 of the Hungate redevelopment has been submitted for approval with early commencement on site anticipated shortly afterwards.
19. On Piccadilly, following 3 recent approvals the former White Swan Hotel building, vacant for about 30 years, will soon be reoccupied as a shop on the ground floor and affordable housing above, whilst the building just south of the bridge will be converted to 10 apartments, and the 'Banana Warehouse' premises will be redeveloped to create 37 flats and two shops.
20. Formal pre-application discussions are ongoing regarding the former British Sugar site, with an application for approximately 1,000 new homes anticipated in Spring next year.
21. Planning permissions have been granted to facilitate the provision of two Primark stores, one in the city centre and one at Monks Cross.
22. Investigation of funding streams to unlock the development and workshops with stakeholders is underway regarding York Central to bring about phased regeneration.

Employment

23. Actions in York are demonstrating positive results on employment. Despite the slow economic recovery, York remains resilient, with a comparatively small loss of private sector employment (-3.7% between 2008 and 2012), whereas e.g. Leeds saw a loss of -9.2%. This strong employment market in York likely to continue with new businesses such as John Lewis and Hiscox recruiting this year. Two job fairs organised by the council have already seen over 1800 prospective candidates attend and £200k of EIF funding is being used to better connect residents to job opportunities, all helping to further drive down unemployment.
24. Consequently, the proportion of Workless Households in York is at its lowest point since 2005, at 13.2%. This compares well to the much higher regional figure of 19.2% and the national figure of 18.1%. The proportion of Children in Workless households has also decreased over the same time period, another welcome

downward trend as the council strengthens its approach to tackling poverty.

25. The proportion of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance dropped to 1.7% in September 2013, the lowest JSA rate since October 2008. This represents a decrease of 740 claimants since September 2012. Out of 64 UK cities, York remains the third least affected with respect to Job Seekers allowance claimants since February 2008.
26. However, recent data suggests that public sector cuts are beginning to bite in York. The city is highlighted in new ONS data as the most affected local authority in the region for the percentage loss in public sector employment. This was anticipated, given York's high public sector workforce and will continue to be a challenge for the city. The council's focus on bringing more jobs to the city is therefore crucial to offset this ongoing reduction.
27. Youth unemployment and longer term claimants remain an issue, although this is a national trend and not unique to York. Locally, the longer term outlook is moving in the right direction with youth unemployment decreasing by 230 in the year to September 2013 and longer term claimants reducing by 205 from 1 year ago.
28. York's schools have a significant role to play in preparing our young people for work and providing an environment where they can excel and achieve their full potential. Educational attainment results show significant and tangible improvement over the previous year putting York in a strong position regionally and nationally. Overall York's children are achieving good and improving results but there remains work to do in some of York's schools.

Get York Moving

29. The council welcomed the recent news that York is one of only four areas across the country to receive a share of the £16.5m Better Bus Area funding from the DfT. This will help drive up bus performance and passenger numbers and the council aims to increase passenger numbers in York by 18% by 2015. It is working closely with local bus operators to improve service reliability and offer more incentives to travel by bus. These include First's recent bus fare reduction and the introduction of bus smartcards followed

by the council's programme of improvements to bus stops and signage that starts next month.

30. In the last three months, the Green Bus Fund has also been awarded £750k to invest in seven electric buses and a further £1.93m of funding has been secured to invest in bus priority measures between the York Designer Outlet and the Germany Beck junction.
31. Residential Personal Travel Planning is a significant component of i-Travel York. throughout 2013 and 2014, the program will be targeting 12,500 households in the Northern Quadrant of York, engaging with residents in a conversation about their travel issues and offering information, ideas and incentives for them to try out new sustainable travel options, as well as running a number of community events in the area.
32. Over the summer over 6,000 households were approached in the Clifton and Rawcliffe areas, with 2,228 households actively participating in the programme. An after care survey found that:
 - 37% of respondents said they were walking more often
 - 38% said they were cycling more often
 - 23% said they were using the bus more often
 - a. 32% of respondents said they were using their car less, estimating an average 18 miles per week less driving.
33. Cycling activity continues to increase at peak times and the first York Sky Ride also encouraged over 5,500 people to get on their bikes as part of another successful Festival of Cycling.
34. York has also secured Department for Transport funding of over £250,000 from the government towards new electric vehicle charging points throughout the city.
35. The 2013 Big York Survey identified affordable housing as the third most important issue requiring improvement and whilst projects are underway, concern still remains. There is some movement in this area, with a £2m scheme to build 18 affordable homes in Elvington currently being developed by York Housing Association. This will be for people with a local connection and in housing need and is due for completion August 2014.

Build Stronger Communities

Housing

36. Plans to build between 50 and 70 new homes as part of a first phase of new council housing are progressing with a planning application for the former Beckfield Lane refuse site being approved recently. The development will provide 27 new homes, with 9 apartments and 18 houses. Fifty per cent of the houses will be for market sale to create a mixed tenure community. The nine apartments are intended to form a bespoke 'down-sizing' scheme, aimed at council and housing association tenants who are under-occupying larger family houses.
37. The council plans to boost and improve York's private rented sector through a new private sector housing strategy which was launched as part of the housing summit in October.
38. The policy on Direct Exchanges and transfer concerning rent arrears has been relaxed - tenants with low level arrears can now exchange if they are affected by the spare room subsidy providing they demonstrate a commitment to reducing their debt. This has resulted in Completed Direct exchanges increasing by 70% on the same point last year, making best use of housing assets.

Homelessness

39. To mitigate the effects of welfare reform on rent arrears and increases in other debt a corporate Welfare Reform Task group has been established which includes voluntary sector partners. Residents directly affected by changes have been identified and a range of initiatives to raise awareness and provide support is underway including: the creation of two 'Money & Employment Adviser' posts to provide advice on debt, benefits, and training and employment opportunities to individuals and families.
40. Housing Options service is using £27k DWP grant to target advice and support to tenants affected by Local Housing Allowance changes in collaboration with the Salvation Army. A 'Gateway service' a drop in and telephone advice service provided by CAB and partners is up and running.

41. Despite pressures created by welfare reform the level of rent arrears has remained stable from the same point last year. We estimate that approximately £50k of the current tenant rent arrears is due to the effects of the spare room subsidy. Over 600 council tenants are still affected by this policy change, but the work of the Money and Employment Advisers to offer advice to these tenants, and the changes to facilitate direct exchanges continue to help reduce this figure.
42. The number of homeless households in temporary accommodation has reduced from 99 at year end (and at the same point last year) to 92 at Qtr1, which is a significant achievement, especially in relation to a 9% increase in this measure nationally. Welfare reform continues to contribute to a challenging context nationally with the number of homelessness decisions and acceptances increasing by 5% compared to the same point last year. In York, we are seeing an increase in numbers approaching us for assistance and advice, but the number formally presenting for decisions has decreased significantly (by 32%). This is due to the very proactive prevention work which is taking place, including the implementation of a dedicated Housing Options worker in the customer centre, who is able to deal with a significant proportion of customers without the need for a formal presentation. Customers are also helped into accommodation in the private rented sector through YorHome, and through North Yorkshire HomeChoice for social housing.

Implications

43. There are no financial, human resources, equalities, legal, crime & disorder, information technology, property or other implications associated with this report.

Risk Management

44. The report provides Members with updates on finance and service performance and therefore there are no significant risks in the content of the report.

Recommendations

45. As this report is for information only, there are no recommendations.

Reason: To update the scrutiny committee of the latest finance and performance position.

Author:

Patrick Looker
Finance Manager
Tel: 551633

Chief Officers responsible for the report:

Sally Burns
Director of Communities and
Neighbourhoods

Darren Richardson
Director of City and Environmental Services

**Report
Approved**



Date 13th September
2013



Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee**19th November 2013**

Report of the Assistant Director Governance and ICT

Update on implementation of recommendations from the previously completed Youth Unemployment Scrutiny Review**Summary**

1. This report provides Members with their first update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed Youth Unemployment Scrutiny Review which were agreed by Cabinet in May 2013.

Background

2. At a meeting of Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 27 March 2012 it was agreed that during the 2012/13 municipal year, they would carry out a review around youth unemployment. At a meeting held on 20 June 2012 It was subsequently agreed that the review would be carried out by a Task Group comprised of Councillors D'Agorne, Riches and Semlyen.

Aim

3. With a particular focus on vacancies within the care sector and business administration, to look at ways City of York Council can help young people to navigate the employment economy.
4. The objectives were to: investigate what the barriers are for young people (ages 16-24) getting work; investigate whether all agencies are playing their part in supporting young people into work; to investigate whether there are any gaps and/or overlaps in provision and if so make recommendation to address them.

Consultation

5. The Learning City York Partnership Manager has provided the update information contained within **Annex A**.

Options

6. Members may decide to sign off any individual recommendations where implementation has been completed and can:
 - a. request further updates and the attendance of the relevant officers at a future meeting to clarify any outstanding recommendations relating to the above review or;
 - b. agree to receive no further updates on this review.

Council Plan

7. The process of monitoring and ensuring the implementation of the approved recommendations arising from the review will contribute to the 'Create Jobs and Grow the Economy' priority of the Council Plan 2011-15.

Implications

8. There are no known financial, human resources, equalities, legal, ITT or other implications associated with the recommendation made in this report.

Risk Management

9. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no known risks associated with this report.

Recommendation

10. Members are asked to note the contents of this report and sign off all recommendations that have been fully implemented.

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which are still be fully implemented.

Contact Details

Author:

Steve Entwistle
Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Services
Tel: 01904 5554279
e: *steven.entwistle@york.gov.uk*

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Andrew Docherty
Assistant Director
Governance and ICT
Tel: 01904 5551004

Report Approved



Date 6/11/2013

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annex

Annex A – Update information on Youth Unemployment Review

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**Update on Implementation of Approved Recommendations Arising
From Previously Completed Youth Unemployment Scrutiny Review**

Key Statistics : Job Seeker Allowance Claimants 18-24 in York

Jan 07 (pre-recession)	=	535 (2%); including 55 x 6-12 months
May 2012 (start of scrutiny)	=	875 (3.2%); including 185 x 6-12 months and 105 x 1 yr+
November 2012 (interim report)	=	740 (2.7%)
May 2013 (final report)	=	650 (2.4%)
August 2013	=	595 (2.2%); including 75 x 6-12 months and 90 x 1 yr+

Scrutiny Recommendations Approved by Cabinet in May 2013	Update on Implementation Provided November 2013
<p>1. That the Learning City York Partnership Manager, via the 'Connecting People to Jobs and Opportunities' partnership network and the Learning City Strategic Board, take overall responsibility for setting an achievable target with key partners within the city to reduce longer term unemployment in the 18-24 year old bracket.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Connecting People to Jobs & Opportunities' network (chaired by Learning City, CYC) is meeting quarterly to better plan, cohere and develop targeted provision for different unemployed residents, including 18-24 year olds. • The new York Skills Strategy (to be published in November) sets out clear targets to reduce unemployment in the city to pre-recession levels, including 18-24 year olds

- Learning City Strategic Board will take responsibility to monitor and work with partners across the city to ensure that these targets are met; new Chair is Alison Birkinshaw, Principal of York College and the Board is supported by the Learning City Partnership Manager (CYC)
- New provision since scrutiny includes:
 - Head Start for longer term unemployed 18-24 year olds, delivered by York Learning and supported by JobCentre Plus Flexible Support Funding to help 36 young people back into work by next March 2014
- Learning City has been successful in working with Leeds City Region partners to bid for and secure additional funding from Government to support longer-term unemployed 18-24 year olds back into work. Due to over demand by city regions on the funding available, the original bid for £5.6mn to support 3,250 young people across the region will be reduced. We are waiting to hear the revised figures and Learning City will then be working with partners of the 'Connecting People to Jobs' network to support young people in York and Selby between

	<p>January 2014 – December 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A further £60k has been approved from the CYC Economic Inclusion Fund to complement the Leeds City Region model to enable the city to support a further 40 18-24 year olds back into work, including wage incentives for employers.
<p>2. That City of York Council continue to offer apprenticeships to young people under the age of 24 and evaluate the success of this by collecting information on how many of those that have completed an apprenticeship at the Local Authority are still in work or further training 6 – 12 months later and that the Learning City York Partnership Manager lead on a programme with the Head of York Learning to develop a programme that better supports unemployed 18-24 year olds into unfilled apprenticeship vacancies.</p>	<p>CYC Apprenticeship Programme:</p> <p>In 2011, the council allocated a budget of £115k to increase the number of apprenticeships within the council. The model developed provided 50% of the cost of employing an apprentice for one year on the minimum apprenticeship rate of £2.65 per hour, with the relevant Directorate contributing the rest. The first cohort was announced during the “York Apprenticeship Challenge” (see above).</p> <p>Two cohorts of apprentices were recruited (2011 and 2012) on this model (69 apprentices in all). The programme has been very successful in establishing the principle and benefits of employing apprentices and has also achieved some notable successes, including the successful progression of a young person with high level learning difficulties from our Special School through a council apprenticeship into sustainable employment gained</p>

in a competitive interview process.

For 2013, the council has moved from this approach to a vacancy management approach, whereby all vacancies up to a certain grade are considered for apprenticeships prior to advertising. This will move the programme away from the creation of apprenticeship posts which are supernumerary and largely fixed term, to one where an apprenticeship will lead to a permanent post in the organisation on successful completion. 17 Apprentices have been recruited through this route in September 2013.

From April 2013, in line with the recommendations of the York Fairness Commission (2012), the council became a Living Wage employer. In order to recognise this at apprenticeship level it is now paying all apprentices at £4.98ph (the national minimum wage rate for 18-20 year olds) with progression after 1 year to £6.31ph (national minimum wage rate for 21 +). The new approach will still allow for the recruitment of a smaller cohort of 15 supernumerary posts.

	<p>Step-up to Apprenticeships:</p> <p>The funding and programmes of support identified under ‘section 1’ will incorporate activity to better support unemployed 18-24 year olds into Apprenticeships, as well as other employment opportunities.</p>
<p>3. That City of York Council continues to offer work experience placements to under 16s (whilst still at school) and under 18s not yet ready for an apprenticeship. And in addition to this:</p> <p>i. That the Head of Strategic Workforce Development and Resourcing, in conjunction with the Learning City York Partnership Manager, offer a discrete, managed, matched pilot, of work experience placement opportunities for unemployed 18 to 24 year olds, who have been unemployed in excess of three months</p> <p>ii. That the Head of Strategic Workforce Development and Resourcing ensures that there is a robust Graduate and Student Internship Programme in place within the</p>	<p>Under 18s not ready for Apprenticeships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York Learning (as well as other providers across the city) will continue to offer Foundation Learning or new Traineeship programmes to support those not work-ready / Apprenticeship-ready • Where possible, CYC will offer work placement opportunities for these young people <p>CYC Work Placements for Unemployed 18-24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whilst a co-ordinated approach to support work placements for different age groups is still a priority for the Council, there is currently a lack of capacity to support the infrastructure required in the HR team. A bid was submitted to the Economic Inclusion Fund to lever the capacity required, however a shift in

authority.

Government Policy on activity to support 18-24 year olds (see below) has required the funding to be re-directed to programmes outlined in section1.

- Government Policy has now prioritised getting unemployed 18-24 year olds quickly into paid work placements with wrap around training and mentoring to support them on the job. The LCR bid to Government and the £60k CYC Economic Inclusion Funding is to support this approach, for which CYC (in its own right) could offer 'paid placements'.
- The strategic Workforce & Resourcing team is now looking at alternative ways to fund and develop work placements offers within West Offices

Graduate and Student Internship Programme

- The Strategic Workforce & Resourcing team has developed strong relations with the University of York to support an annual 3-month programme of around 15 Graduate Intern placements across the Council, Jan –

	<p>March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategic Workforce & Resourcing team is also developing its own internal internship programme modelled on the JRF programme
<p>4. That the Head of York Learning at City of York Council works in partnership with Jobcentre Plus and leads on the co-ordinating of twice yearly job fairs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 3rd York Jobs Fairs (co-ordinated by York Learning) took place on October 1 at the Barbican. 70 employers and training providers exhibited (including Hiscox) and 1,400 residents attended. Learning City also coordinated a local ward Jobs & Opportunities Discovery Day on September 11 at Acomb Explore, in response to local demand from Keith Myers at Acomb Village News; 400 people attended to meet with 18 locally recruiting employers and training providers. This initiative was supported by Economic Infrastructure Funding for the Acomb regeneration programme.
<p>5. That the Head of York Learning at City of York Council ensures that the Future Prospects team continue to work in conjunction with JobCentre Plus, to offer sector specific workshops and that both Work Programme</p>	<p>York Learning does not have the capacity to offer sector specific workshops.</p> <p>York Learning are able to continue to support this customer group with their core funding, some</p>

<p>providers and their clients* are made aware of the sector specific workshops on offer.</p> <p>* in this instance clients means unemployed 18 to 24 year olds, including those on the Work Programme</p>	<p>increased funding for Traineeships and Flexible Support Funding from JCP. However referrals to their current pilot programme - Headstart - are very poor. We had understood that this was a significant group but to date we have had only 9 referrals to a programme capable of accommodating 24. This has been very disappointing. We are currently challenging JCP to make further referrals to the programme.</p>
<p>6. That the Learning City York Partnership Manager continue to facilitate quarterly networking meetings of 'Connecting People to Jobs and Opportunities' to support residents on out of work benefits and seeking employment. This networking meeting should include a standing item on looking at potential solutions to enable currently unemployed 18-24 year olds back into work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See section 1 • Two quarterly meetings have taken place – July and October • 18-24 year olds is a standing item and the successful outcome of additional funding to support this age group through LCR and CYC Economic Inclusion Fund will secure more positive outcomes for these young people.
<p>7. That the Council's Head of Communications lead on a branded campaign that effectively markets:</p> <p>i. success stories and inspiring cases about York's young people finding jobs/self employment and those that have overcome</p>	<p>No overall branded campaign delivered to date by Marketing and Communications Team.</p> <p>Learning City 14-19 and Skills Team are planning the following activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next 100 in 100 Apprenticeship Challenge campaign for the city, which will be

<p>barriers to gain employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. apprentices and interns iii. a video of the next job fair iv. wage incentives and support available to employers 	<p>launched during or just after National Apprenticeship Week (early March 2014). This will include inspirational success stories about young people in Apprenticeships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new programme to support the longer-term unemployed 18-24 year olds into work, January 2014 – end December 2015, following a successful bid by Learning City through Leeds City Region and CYC Economic Inclusion Fund. Learning City will work with marketing and communications and the Economic Development team to raise the profile of the wage incentive and support available to employers to take-on 18-24 year olds.
<p>8. That the Learning City York Partnership Manager continues to promote the range of support available to employers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going • Sector focus on construction (to support the ‘Get York Building’ campaign) and Tourism / Retail, particularly in the city centre (to support the night-time economy developments and Tourism Strategy)
<p>9. That the Assistant Director for Strategic Planning and Transport explore potential ways and investigate the feasibility of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning City has included 1 month travel passes to the model that will be supported by the successful Leeds City Region bid to

<p>funding/providing sustainable subsidised travel that fits shift patterns and would help young people to access entry level jobs outside of the city centre (e.g. bicycles, public transport, car share)</p>	<p>Government and the CYC Economic Inclusion Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning City will seek to work with the AD for Strategic Planning and Transport to secure additional support from First Bus.
<p>10. That the Work Programme providers, working with the Learning City York Partnership Manager and the Head of York Learning at City of York Council, develop a plan for improving the skills of those clients without basic literacy and numeracy. This should happen in the first year of the Work Programme's two year cycle.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going discussions with Work Programme providers • Additional literacy and numeracy support will be given to those young people returning to JCP after two years on the Work Programme and still not in employment (see section 1)

Updated as at 24.10.13 – Julia Massey, Learning City Partnership Manager



Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee19th November 2013

Report of the Assistant Director Governance & ICT

Construction Skills Scrutiny Review - Interim Report**Summary**

1. This report presents the Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee with an update on the work of the Construction Skills Scrutiny Review Task Group to date.

Background to the review

2. At a meeting of the Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee in July 2013 the Committee considered a briefing paper on a proposed scrutiny review of constructions skills in York
3. The briefing paper provided information on the Construction Industry Training Board's (CITB) latest labour market forecast which predicted that the industry will show some signs of recovery from 2015/16 with increased demand for roles in wood trades, bricklaying, flooring and tiling, and plant operatives.
4. However, it confirmed that York and North Yorkshire has a large amount of SMEs (small and medium enterprises employing fewer than 250 workers), which obviously preclude mass recruitment drives. In York there are 611 construction related companies, 99.7% are SMEs, with 85% of these (521) employing under 10 people. In addition, the recruitment and selection of staff in the sector has to be flexible, able to expand and contract according to demand. Many companies took on external contractors - small businesses and self employed trades people to fulfil their requirements.

5. The Committee also received information on the significant number of York residents that would need pre-employment / pre-apprenticeship training in employability and functional skills linked to the construction sector, before they would be able to benefit from more substantial training and work based learning opportunities.
6. Having recognised the national and, particularly, northern England shortage of skilled builders the Committee agreed that any review should focus on what the Council and its partners could do to address that skills gap and prepare for future growth.
7. The Chair suggested that the review should look at how City of York Council and its partners could work together to ensure that local York people were able to support the city's ambition for housing and construction growth that is predicted to require over 4,000 building jobs within the next two years.
8. The Committee decided to proceed with the review and appointed a Task Group comprising Cllrs Watts, D'Agorne and McIlveen to carry out the work on their behalf.
9. The Task Group held an initial meeting in August 2013 to discuss their ideas on what the review should cover, and in September 2013 they met again to consider:
 - A draft remit and timetable for their review - see Annex A.
 - Details on the existing training provision and funding landscape based on information from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) – see Annex B.
10. As a result the Task Group agreed the following review aims and objectives:

Aim

To investigate ways of increasing the supply of local people with building and construction skills.

Objectives

- i. Identify what skills gaps and shortages there are in York and will be in the future, against planned development in the city

over the next 5 years and beyond

- ii. Examine the opportunities for local people, including NEETs, 16-24 year olds and those looking to retrain, to enter the construction industry to enable the industry to take advantage of new and emerging projects
- iii. Identify what strategy and funding is in place by building companies and training organisations to develop a suitably qualified workforce to meet projected demands including retention and recruitment strategies, and identify best practice.

Information Gathered

13. Regional Initiatives

At a Skills Officer Meeting in November 2012 officers discussed the complexity of Section 106 agreements (made under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to enable development proposals to meet the needs of the community by securing contributions towards community infrastructure) and how the focus of a 106 agreement leans towards what employers can receive.

14. At the meeting Local Authority representatives agreed that Section 106 agreements were not the main avenue for promoting locally targeted Employment & Skills issues and that voluntary agreements achieved more. All provided information on the alternative methods they were putting in place to achieve this:
15. Wakefield: The LA felt the Section 106 process did not maximise opportunities and as a result a new strategy was put in place to encourage employment and skills linkages with all new actions taken through a procurement skills strategy. This new framework ensured everything procured by the LA was passed on via the planning team etc. A Job Centre Plus (JCP) secondee was working with Wakefield LA concentrating on working with planners, regeneration, other departments and the private city centre development team looking to join up economic development within LA departments.
16. Bradford: The authority was working closely with JCP to capture community benefits. Officers in planning and procurement were working to develop a framework (similar asks to 106) and were looking to develop a 'Bradford Offer' - a single gateway for

developers and businesses via the Employment and Skills Partnership.

17. Barnsley: In regard to new developments, those bidding for building contracts have to include opportunities for local jobs and skills. Cabinet and colleges agreed to fund a Business Development Manager to work within the supply chain. In addition they look to increase competitive levels for supply chains by working with contractors to increase skills and staff training levels, including up to date certificates. They also provided information on how to apply for funding etc.
18. Kirklees: The LA was seeking to create a joined up offer for inward investment. All service delivery teams have to articulate how they will build employment and skills into their plan. They were also starting to look to voluntary agreements to simplify the offer to employers by bringing all different teams together. A property pilot (renovating empty properties) was also being developed.
19. Calderdale: All 106 funding goes into the regeneration budget and the Employment and Skills team look at how to use this, e.g. work experience grants, apprenticeship grants. A youth employment worker was being recruited to work with JCP to develop youth employment opportunities. Resources were in place to look to developing apprenticeship planning. Due to the internal restructuring all teams must now be focused and interconnected.
20. Selby: Funding via North Yorkshire. An amount of Homes and Communities Agency funding looked to develop an empty homes scheme. They were also developing working relationships with partners to smooth the way for large investments.
21. In York, protocols are in place via the YorCity Construction Skills Model between CYC – Skills and Planning Departments, Higher York¹, North Yorkshire Business and Education Partnership and JCP to secure locally targeted recruitment and training opportunities through developers and sub-contractors supporting major capital development sites across the city. Through the model the city is looking to develop a more joined up offer for inward investors and investigating how it can influence procurement to increase take-up of apprenticeships and other locally targeted

¹ A partnership of Askham Bryant College, City of York Council, the University of York, York College and York St John University with one associate member – Craven College.

recruitment and training opportunities.

22. YorCity Construction

In 2001 a number of key York organisations came together to form Higher York. The partnership has since developed YorCity Construction, a targeted training and recruitment model to encourage broader local community engagement during the development stage of major sites in the city, with the aim of:

- Increasing choice and improving opportunities for people to access Higher Education and training
- Helping local businesses to develop their skill base through Higher Education and training; making links between employers, staff, students and graduates.
- Sharing best practice, resources, knowledge and expertise in order to maximise effectiveness and impact on skills for the local economy.

23. Higher York also helped develop a training and development facility at the University of York's Heslington East site for education, training and community engagement activity.

24. In 2010 the facility at Heslington East was awarded National Skills Academy status by the CITB-Construction Skills, and the Higher York Team started to seek ways to roll out the model across the city.

25. Under the model each site developer and main contractor is initially approached to discuss what kind of activities they would be prepared to be involved in. Activities can include:

- Working with local Job Centres and recruitment agencies to source local labour.
- Working with local providers on pre-employment training programmes to support and encourage local residents, in particular those who are unemployed, to access job opportunities.

- Taking on apprentices from local colleges and training providers.
 - Offering internships or work placements to undergraduate or postgraduate students.
 - Offering work experience to school and college students.
 - Getting involved in employer events focused on school and college students.
 - Providing support for professional development of teachers and tutors.
 - Providing site visits for the local community, schools, universities, and colleges.
 - Working with local colleges and universities to up-skill site staff or potential employees.
 - Ensuring that local businesses are aware of the work packages available on site.
 - Working with the supply chain to get them involved in the types of activities mentioned above.
26. This approach provides developers, contractors and suppliers with an opportunity to influence, contribute to and access recruitment and training of a future and current workforce, which in turn raises a positive profile for the developer not only with local residents but also with other businesses and stakeholders in the local area. In addition, the local community benefits from access to training and potentially jobs, as well as a better understanding of the development in its own right, and the benefits it can bring to their community and the city in the long term.
27. Since then North Yorkshire Business and Education Partnership (NYBEP) has been coordinating activities on behalf of the University with companies on the Heslington East site. The project is long term and has and will continue to involve a large number of companies. To date companies such as BAM, Shepherds, GMI, McAlpine and their supply chains have all been involved in the

academy.

28. As the local planning authority and a procurer of services, City of York Council takes a lead in promoting the model through its processes and practices. An example of this would be working with housing services and housing associations to look at employment for ex-offenders.
29. All planning applications of above an agreed size/value are flagged as being potential projects within the model. The 'client' (e.g. developer) is made aware of the model and those who can support. Examples of this include:
 - The new City Council headquarters - Miller Construction (the main contractor) and S Harrison (the developer) were both committed from the outset to work with local schools, colleges and the local economy, and supported local businesses with opportunities to tender for work and individuals with employment.
 - The Joseph Rowntree Trust eco-housing project in Derwenthorpe - David Wilson Homes has been involved in targeted training and recruitment activities including actively seeking local people to work on site. JRT had already put requirements on the developer to engage with local people and communities while David Wilson Homes had the support of CITB-Construction Skills. The City of York Council team responsible for developing the Community Stadium project also embraced the concept of the model.
30. In order to maintain its links with the construction industry, YorCity Construction held a free event in May 2013 to inform companies how they could get involved in working with schools, colleges, universities and community projects in and around York.
31. The agenda allowed for an overview of the YorCity Construction model including achievements, business benefits and case studies and there were round table discussions on the benefits and how the model can be improved. Feedback from employers included:
 - Widespread acknowledgement of a joint apprentice scheme offered by YorHub. While the scheme was welcomed it was felt the 16-19 age range was a little restrictive considering 19+

young people tended to be more work ready and flexible. However, there was general agreement that the shared apprentice initiative was an excellent idea as it allowed apprentices to gain a wider learning experience across a broader spectrum of the sector and, secondly, a small business could struggle to take an apprentice on their own.

- Agreement by employers that City of York Council operated a balanced approach to tendering.
 - A willingness to explore how more local contractors could win local contracts. They agreed there was a need for increased stability of local contracts, rather than national contracts to make the taking on of apprentices more feasible for local employers.
 - That recruiting apprentices at an early age often paid dividends in the future, but smaller employers (in the supply chain) often faced barriers as a result of larger employers not allowing under 18s to work on construction sites.
32. At their meeting in early November 2013 the Task Group learnt that a Steering Group was being established to support the next stage of development for the YorCity Construction model and examine how the model can be rolled out to benefit firms of every size. The Steering Group includes the Council's Director of City and Environmental Services, the Assistant Director Development Services, Planning & Regeneration and the Head of Economic Development and employers and will look at how they can better support the locally targeted training and recruitment needs of small to medium sized businesses, not just large developers

Analysis to Date

33. Having considered the information from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) on the existing training provision and funding landscape (shown at Annex B), the Task Group recognised there is a skills gap in York which has yet to be clearly identified, and noted that work was ongoing through engagement at local level to identify that gap.

34. It appears the YorCity Construction targeted training and recruitment model has had some success in securing opportunities for young people still in education and some apprenticeship roles, as identified in paragraph 25. However what is not clear is how successful it has been in securing job opportunities for local residents, NEETs, the up to 24 year olds, those looking to retrain and the up-skilling of the existing workforce.
35. The feedback from employers attending the YorCity Construction event held in May 2013 suggests the need to examine what opportunities are available for the 19+ age group to enter the construction industry – see paragraph 31 above. However, members had previously been made aware that a significant number of potential construction industry recruits in York would need pre-employment / pre-apprenticeship training linked to the construction sector before they would be able to benefit from more substantial training and work based learning opportunities.
36. At a meeting in early November 2013 Task Group members recognised that the YorCity Construction model was working very well with large construction companies on large development sites but acknowledged there was a need to engage with smaller firms to investigate what barriers, if any, there are to taking part in the scheme.
37. In noting that each major site developer and main contractor is approached to discuss which elements of the targeted training and recruitment model they would be prepared to be involved in, it would be helpful to understand how many do not take up the model and why. It is hoped this would be addressed at meetings with employer groups detailed below.
38. While the recruitment and training of staff is recognised as being a key issue in the Review, but there is a need to identify a strategy whereby companies that have a suitably qualified workforce can best retain their skilled employees.
39. At the November Task Group meeting Members welcomed the formation of the YorCity Construction Steering Group, recognising it will ensure a more cohesive approach for development of the model for medium and small firms. Members expressed an interest in attending the first Steering Group meeting, which it has since been

decided will be held on 8 January, 2014.

To Progress the Review

40. In support of objective (i) of the review remit listed in paragraph 10, the Task Group has previously agreed they would like to meet with Property Forum of York's Chamber of Commerce to investigate how local firms and organisations within the supply chain currently source new staff and apprentices.
41. To support objectives (ii) & (iii), the Task Group has agreed to consult with current apprentices on their route into the industry and the barriers they faced. They also agreed they wanted to meet with representatives from training providers such as York College, CITB, and Job Centre Plus.
42. With this in mind a number of meetings and site visits have been arranged as detailed in the review timetable at Annex A.
43. Following this it is suggested that the Task Group hold a further interim meeting to discuss the review findings to date and agree what if any additional information is required to support the work on this review.

Council Plan

44. This review is linked to the '*create jobs and grow the economy*' element of the Council Plan 2011-15.

Implications

45. There are no other known implications associated with the report. However, implications may arise as the review progresses and these will be addressed accordingly.

Risk Management

46. There are no known risks arising from the report. Any risks arising from the final review recommendations will be addressed once they become apparent.

Recommendations

47. Having considered the information contained within this report and its annexes, Members are asked to:

- Note and comment on the work on the review to date.

Reason: To progress this scrutiny review in line with scrutiny procedures and protocols.

Contact Details

Author:

Steve Entwistle
Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Services
Tel: 01904 554279.
steven.entwistle@york.gov.uk

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Andrew Docherty
Assistant Director of Governance and ICT
Tel: 01904 551004

**Report
Approved**



Date 11/11/2013

Wards Affected:

All

Annexes

Annex A – Timetable for review

Annex B – Training provision and funding landscape

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Construction Skills Task Group Scrutiny Review

Review Aim: To investigate ways of increasing the supply of local people with building and construction skills

Objectives	Method	Meetings
i. Identify what skills gaps and shortages there are in York and will be in the future, against planned development in the city over the next 5 years and beyond	Map the existing training provision and funding landscape to support the skills and employment needs of the industry	23 Sept 2013 @ 5:30pm
	Consider interim report providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on current practice in York • Feedback from Employers gathered July 2012 • Information on best practice from other Local Authorities detailing how they work with developers and training organisations to ensure they have a skilled workforce available to achieve their future development demand 	4 Nov 2013 @ 2:30pm
	Meet with Property Forum of York's Chamber of Commerce and other contacts to investigate how local firms and organisations within the supply chain currently source new staff and apprentices	10 Dec 2013 @ 5pm
ii. Examine the opportunities for local people, including NEETs, 16-24 year olds and those looking to retrain, to enter the construction industry to enable the industry to take advantage of new and emerging projects	In support of objectives (ii) & (iii): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carry out site visit to consult with current apprentices to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate their route into the industry and; • Identify any barriers they faced 	11 Dec 2013 @ 11:30am at Training College, Osbaldwick

<p>iii. Identify what strategy and funding is in place by building companies and training organisations to develop a suitably qualified workforce to meet projected demands including retention and recruitment strategies, and identify best practice</p>	<p>2. Meet with representatives from training providers such as York College, CITB, and Job Centre Plus to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map existing capacity and potential gaps and; • Identify possible obstacles in the recruitment process 	<p>11 Dec 2013 Afternoon (venue to be confirmed)</p>
	<p>Consider Interim Report detailing information gathered to date</p> <p>Identify Conclusions to date and agree what if any additional information is required to progress work on the review</p>	<p>TBC</p>
	<p>Receive any additional information identified at the previous meeting</p> <p>or</p> <p>Consider review draft final report containing review conclusions and draft recommendations</p>	<p>TBC</p>

Construction Sector Training and Workforce Development				Funding criteria	
	Unemployed		Employed/ existing work force		
	New entrants	Re-enter and up skill	Employees aged 19+	Leaders and managers	
Core SFA funding (York College)	Classroom infill against a range of L1 – L3 quals.	EWPA in (Experienced Worker Practical Assessment) in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decorative Occupations Trowel Occupations Wood Occupations <p>These qualifications together with a Health and Safety Test certificate will enable these individuals to qualify for a CSCS Card.</p> <p>Free to unemployed residents</p>	Range of short courses and qualifications from L1-4. Range of Apprenticeships for 16-18 & 19+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Certificate in Building Studies BTEC Level 3 Diploma or Extended Diploma CIOB Site Management Certificate Diploma (SMETS). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployed individuals should qualify for free programmes as these would be fully funded by the Skills Funding Agency Short Course programmes are fully funded by students or their employers Qualifications are part funded by the Skills Funding Agency and students or their employers Apprenticeship programmes are part funded by the Skills Funding Agency and students or their employers
	Free to unemployed residents	Free to unemployed residents			1

<p>ESF workplace learning</p>			<p>1) Birkwood Plant Training – (plant/ construction operations) 2) Integrated Training Solutions – (plant operations) 3) Leeds College of Building – (various L2 diplomas, ranging from glazing, roofing, steel, fenestration).</p>		<p>1) Up to 1,000 employees. 2) Up to level 2 3) Fully funded 4) Some larger employers 5) Some funding L3 19-24 SMEs 6) To June 2015</p>
<p>Skills enhancement fund</p>			<p>1) Construction Plant Operations – Unit Qualifications NVQ L2 max 3 per learner This Framework seeks to fund additional units of the Plant Operations NVQ level 2 allowing operatives to show competence in a wider range of equipment which will in turn; increase their prospects of remaining in employment and achieve their Blue Card.</p>		<p>1) PO -Employers in the Construction Sector that employ less than 5000 people. 2) Until June 2014 3) 30% cash contribution from employer ~£40 per unit.</p>



<p>CITB Construction for growth via LEPs Employer funds</p>	<p>✓ Growth through people</p>	<p>Site Environmental Awareness Training Scheme – Framework seeks to provide funding towards the costs of undertaking the SEATS which will enable Construction Companies to become compliant with the requirements ahead to it becoming a mandatory. Endorsed by the UK Contactors Group & Environment Agency. Provides workers with knowledge on environmental best practises, enables the industry to become more aware of environmental issues and reduce carbon emissions and wastage.</p>	<p>✓ Improving employer's capabilities and capacity to respond to business opportunities</p>	<p>SME for workers with responsibility for environmental issues 30% employer cash contribution (maximum of £100 per learner) max group 10.</p>
			<p>✓ 500k of CITB employer levy monies to support activity across LCR. Jan 2013 – Dec 2016. Match required. Registered CITB employers/businesses.</p>	



Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee19th November 2013

Report of the Assistant Director Communities, Culture & Public Realm

Update on the Refurbishment of Newgate Market**Summary**

- 1 This report provides Members with a progress update on the refurbishment of Newgate Market.

Background

- 2 The Newgate Market Scrutiny Review took place between December 2009 and December 2010, with the aim of investigating possible ways of improving the existing market and its surroundings in Newgate. Since then, a number of the Committee's recommendations have been implemented and the committee received a detailed update on 20 November 2012.
- 3 Committee asked for a further update to be brought to this meeting on progress with the major refurbishment scheme agreed by Cabinet in November 2012.

The Refurbishment Scheme

- 4 Cabinet approved a £1.5m capital investment together with £114k of revenue funding to cover the lost income during refurbishment. The funding is drawn from the Economic Infrastructure Fund. 50% of the capital is to be repaid through the new business plan.
- 5 The purpose of the planned £1.5m investment is to reinvigorate the markets as a platform for enterprise and opportunity, creating a destination market with a clear brand and the potential to increase footfall and spend. The scheme will deliver a step change in the city's profile as a visitor and retail destination contributing to a wider drive to enhance the overall attractiveness and competitiveness of the city centre.

- 6 The focus of the project will be to uplift the appearance of the existing market place, making more imaginative uses of the space, increasing the visibility of the market gateways, improving the flow of footfall throughout the whole site, diversifying the trader offer, and bringing stronger activity to previously weak places. The aim will be for shoppers to visit more frequently, stay longer and spend more.
- 7 Initial feasibility work has identified the following key deliverables that would result from the £1.5m capital investment:
 - A market that continues to provide a retail offer for local residents (especially high quality fresh food) whilst at the same time becoming a destination for visitors
 - A market that is popular with existing traders whilst stimulating new business start ups and attracts new traders to enhance the quality of the offer
 - Opportunities for extended trading hours contributing to the evening economy for example through evening markets or one off events
 - Addition of complimentary uses such as a potentially small performance event space
 - Increased footfall, potentially leading to an additional spend in the local economy of £2.3m p.a.
 - Contribution to the visitor economy through increased visitor stays with a potential economic impact of £1m
 - An additional 171 jobs created indirectly across the local economy through increased retail spend
 - At least 10 jobs to be created in the market itself
 - An increase in rental income to the Council of around £250k p.a. (initially to be used to repay the investment)
 - An increase in business investment from traders
 - Sustained improvement in the market environment through the employment of a market porter – to be funded through the business plan
 - Improved sustainability through use of appropriate technologies and waste management systems
 - Improved linkages with the surrounding businesses such as Marks and Spencer and the Shambles properties

- Initiatives to assist the traders and support business start-ups: Working with partners (Future Prospects, FE/HE sector, Retailers Forum, Visit York, etc)
 - Transitional support to ensure that businesses created are sustainable and expandable with potential to move onto the high street
 - Improvements to accessibility-for-all and to health & Safety and comfort for both trader and shopper
- 8 Following the allocation of a project manager within CES a procurement exercise has been undertaken to appoint the design team. As a result of this, Bauman Lyons have recently been appointed to be our architects on the scheme. They are Leeds based and have a strong track record both on markets and on many projects with a focus on social-purpose. They are both enthusiastic and imaginative and we are confident that they will engage well with all stakeholders, including the traders to deliver the scheme that everyone wants.
- 9 The scope of the project has been defined as follows:
- The market will not become an indoor or single covered market
 - A significant number of the existing stalls will be refurbished rather than completely starting from scratch. The purpose of this is to improve their functionality and general attractiveness
 - The arrangement of stalls should be re-planned to achieve improved permeability, visibility, ease of movement
 - In addition to existing stall formats new market stall formats are needed- both permanent “kiosk” type ones and potentially movable “pop up” type ones
 - The final solution must generate more income than the existing arrangement, but this doesn’t automatically mean the same number of stalls or more are needed. We will require a more navigable
 - Elements of repaving to improve functionality and attractiveness should be provided and associated below ground infrastructure should be reviewed
 - Storage and waste handling facilities are to be reviewed and provided

- General environmental improvements within the market space and on the gateway approaches are needed
 - Planning permission for this refurbishment is not anticipated as long as the design proposal fits within certain criteria
 - The market needs to develop a branding strategy and deliver this through outputs such as wayfinding, web presence, visual branding artwork
 - How we promote the market needs to be improved
 - Digital technology solutions are needed to deliver a real-time awareness of who is trading to promote buyers' stalls and improve IT facilities for traders
 - Existing meat and fish stalls should be retained but with improvements
- 10 Design work has started and will continue into the new year. The architects will be asked to bring forward a phased approach to the refurbishment which reflects relevant constraints including the need to minimise disruption to the traders and to ensure that the city is not disrupted during the Tour de France.

Consultation

- 11 An extensive initial consultation was carried out with shoppers and traders last year. This showed support for a refurbishment. Key issues identified by the traders were:
- Letting people know the market is there was probably the biggest concern on traders' minds. A lot of emphasis was placed on what happens outside the market in terms of advertising, banners and signage. There was general agreement about the need to invest in new, professionally produced branding though differences of opinion about the form that should take. Exploiting the link to the Shambles interested some traders
 - There was broad agreement about the need to improve the gateways. It was seen as particularly important to address how to draw people in from Parliament Street. The current fountain is a barrier; specialist markets create more problems, especially with tents, and damage trade for some Newgate traders; we need to turn specialist markets into a benefit for everyone

- Creating a good atmosphere in the market was seen as important with ideas expressed about the use of music, public art, a performance area, and children's play. Lighting was seen as most important. There were differing views about whether there should be seating. On-going maintenance is a priority
 - Everyone supported the need to reinvigorate the bottom of the market. A number of people thought this might be the place for any lock-up units: There was general agreement that lock-up units should i) be of the highest quality appearance and ii) should not be at the top of the market
 - With regard to stalls there was no appetite to replace them although there was concern about having better canopies that keep people dry. Drainage needs to be improved. Some people wanted to have zones for different products, others didn't. But everyone wanted to make the stalls more visible stretching back into the market
 - There was support for new paving but concern about how much of the budget it could take. Traders put more emphasis on the potential details of the scheme, for example getting bins hidden, having murals and other landscaping to improve the appearance of the market
 - There was concern about how the scheme is carried out so that it doesn't disrupt trade
- 12 This feedback will inform the design process. Further consultation will be undertaken with traders and the public on the detail of designs as they emerge.

Council Plan 2011 - 2015

- 13 Two of the key priorities of the Council Plan 2011 – 2015 are 'to create jobs and grow the economy' and to protect the environment. This Committee's ultimate recommendations clearly address these particular priorities and are reflected in the EIF bid.
- 14 Create Jobs, Grow the Economy – the emerging project for reinvigorating the market and the improvements made since the last scrutiny review will generate greater footfall and turnover in the markets, thus creating further opportunities for market traders. By creating a higher quality market, the EIF project being developed would attract even more footfall and provide the opportunity to create jobs through the market

- 15 Protect the environment – by improving the market’s performance, the improvements proposed and already undertaken enhance the market which itself is part of York’s unique historical city centre environs.

Recommendations

- 16 Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

Contact Details

Author and Chief Officer responsible for the report:

Charlie Croft
Assistant Director (Communities, Culture & Public
Realm)

Tel – 01904 553371

Wards Affected – Guildhall Ward.

**For further information please contact the author of
the report**

Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2013/2014

Meeting Date	Work Programme
18 June 2013 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Leader (to include information on the City Team) 2. CVS Briefing– Volunteering opportunities for under 16s and York Charter for Volunteering 3. Verbal Update on Implementation of Recommendations Arising from the Scrutiny Task Group E-Planning Facilities – Reasons for Being Behind Schedule 4. Update report – Local Enterprise Partnerships 5. External Funding Scrutiny Review Interim Report 6. Workplan 2013/14
23 July 2013 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Year End CYC Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 2. Briefing notes on Potential Review Topics for the municipal year 2013/14 (Building Skills & Supporting Online Working) 3. Update on Implementation of Recommendations Arising from the Scrutiny Task Group E-Planning Facilities 4. CYC Welfare Biannual Update Report - Major Transport Initiatives 5. Bi-annual Update Reforms - Impact of the 'The Spare Room Subsidy' 6. Report - Major Developments within the City of York Council 7. Workplan 2013/14
24 September 2013 @ 5pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning & Sustainability 2. First Quarter CYC Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 3. External Funding Scrutiny Review Draft Final Report 4. Implementation Update on Previously Completed Out of Hours Childcare Scrutiny Review 5. Presentation Update on Grand Depart 6. Green Travel Plans (Businesses) Overview/Progress Report 7. Workplan 2013/14

Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2013/2014

<p>19 November 2013 @ 5pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing & Adult Social Services 2. Second Quarter CYC Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 3. Implementation Update on Previously Completed Youth Unemployment Scrutiny Review 4. Construction Skills Scrutiny Review – Update Report 5. Update on Newgate Market - success of improvements, EIF bid & information on footfall 6. Workplan 2013/14 including verbal update on Night-time Economy Scrutiny Review
<p>28 January 2014 @ 5pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation Update on Previously Completed E-Planning Facilities Scrutiny Review 2. Six Monthly Update Report on Major Transport Initiatives 3. Six Monthly Update Report on Major Developments within the City of York Council 4. Report on recommendation arising from External Funding Review – Investment Plan – and an overview report of the Economic Strategy and its targets 5. Final draft report on Construction Skills Scrutiny Review 6. Final draft report on Night-Time Economy Scrutiny Review 7. Scoping paper on support for online business / ecommerce skills 8. Workplan 2013/14
<p>25th March 2014 @ 5pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Third Quarter CYC Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 2. Update report on implementation of recommendations of previously completed Out of Hours Childcare Scrutiny Review. 3. Workplan 2013/14
<p>29th April 2014 @ 5pm</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workplan 2013/14