

Meeting	Economy & Place Policy & Scrutiny Committee
Date	11 September 2019
Present	Councillors S Barnes (Chair), Daubeney (Vice-Chair), Douglas, Hook, Pearson, K Taylor and D Taylor (Substitute)
Apologies	Councillor Baker

15. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare, at this point in the meeting, any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests or any prejudicial or discloseable pecuniary interest that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda. The Chair noted that he would be raising an item concerning apprenticeships under Agenda Item 7 [Work Plan] and he declared a personal non pecuniary interest in this he would be undertaking an apprentice degree at York St John University later in the year. There were no further declarations of interest.

16. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Economy and Place Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 19 March 2019 be approved as a correct record and then signed by the Chair.

17. Public Participation

It was reported that there had no registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

18. Attendance of the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning

In addition to the information contained in his report to the Committee, the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning he gave a verbal update on his portfolio work since the last meeting.

He was thanked for his report and in response to questions raised by Members noted that:

- The My City Centre project public engagement work would be similar to that of the My Castle Gateway project to ensure that different groups, residents and Councillors were engaged with issues.
- The procurement for the My City Centre project was being progressed.
- The creation of a Real People's Panel would be useful in finding out what was happening at ground level in a structured way. It was hoped that the Joseph Rowntree Foundation would be involved in the Real People's Panel. A report on the Real People's Panel would be brought to a future Decision Session of the Executive Member.
- The challenge for the Occupier Strategy for York Central was that Homes England and Network Rail would need to show how the site would be accessed by businesses. There was a strong guide for York Central that set out expectations for this.
- The Executive had been working to progress the Housing Infrastructure Fund. The Corporate Director of Economy and Place added that York Central had not been called for Public Enquiry by the Secretary of State.
- The closure of the Post Office on Lendal provided an opportunity to look at the use of St Helen's Square. The implications for access would need to be examined as part of this and consultation would allow an opportunity to look at the use of the square.
- Further thought would need to be given on how to work with Black and Ethnic Minority communities on arts projects.
- Work on the transport and commercial element of York Central was ongoing as part of the Reserved Matters planning application.
- Some administrative forms were part of the constraints that businesses cited as being burdens when working with the council.
- The Executive Member explained how social value could be shown as part of procurement.
- There would an update on the local industrial strategy at a future Decision Session of the Executive Member. York was in two Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and it was yet to be confirmed whether there would one local industrial strategy for both or two separate ones for the city.

- The Executive Member was conscious of developments coming forward that would take away green space.
- There was to be a discussion on Section 106 agreements at a future Audit and Governance Committee meeting.
- It was recognised that the loss of the apprenticeship levy from York's economy was an issue and the LEPs had been asked to promote apprenticeships.
- It had been confirmed that there was no 'plan B' should the HIF funding not be received.

The Chair thanked the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning for his update and it was:

Resolved: That the update from the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning on his priorities and challenges for 2019-20 be noted.

Reason: To understand the priorities and challenges for Economy and Strategic Planning for 2019-20.

19. Attendance of the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change

In addition to the information contained in her report to the Committee, the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change noted that there were fourteen apprentices in the waste and public realm area of the council.

She was thanked for her report and in answer to questions raised by the Committee noted that:

- There was a rationale for the range of recyclates and this was explained to Members.
- The range of plastics being recycled was under constant review. The Corporate Director for Economy and Place added that plastic recycling was an interconnected and complex issue.
- Mixed recyclates were separated at the Allerton Park Waste Recovery Centre.

- There were to be the first two hyper hub for electric vehicle charging at Poppleton Bar and Monks Cross Park and Ride sites which would include photovoltaic panels charging points for electric vehicles.
- The fleet of waste collection vehicles was coming to the end of its lifespan and work would be undertaken on looking at the fleet. An update on the installation of in-cab technology in the vehicles was given.
- There would be a tender process for the new fleet.
- With regard to Climate Change, the Executive Member had been involved with the Leeds Climate Change Committee. She gave an overview of the work and actions of that Committee. Part of this work included housing, for example the installation of insulation in council houses. The Executive Member undertook to provide an update on this to the Committee in six months. The Corporate Director of Economy and Place noted that the Committee would consider the recommendations put forward by the Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee.
- The Executive Member was asked and confirmed that she believed that York could be a carbon neutral city.
- More funding had been included in the emergency budget for biodiversity and it was noted that York was now part of the White Rose Forest which was to form part of the Northern Forest.
- The Committee could feed back into health and biodiversity and in order to do this, York needed to stronger economy to support it.
- Traffic reduction and travel had been taken into account as part of transport and infrastructure planning. The Director of Economy and Place explained the transport planning for York Central.
- The Executive Member felt unable to commit at that stage to carbon budgeting from the Council and undertook to give an update at a future meeting in six months.

The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Change was thanked for her update and it was:

Resolved: That the verbal update from the Executive Member for Environment and Climate on her priorities and challenges for 2019-20 be noted.

Reason: To understand the priorities and challenges for Environment and Climate for 2019-20.

20. CYC Flood Defences Action Plan - Biannual Update

The council Flood Risk Manager and Environment Agency (EA) Partnerships and Strategic Overview Manager were in attendance to present the report. The Partnerships and Strategic Overview Manager an overview of the York Flood Alleviation Scheme, which was included at Annex A of the report. This was an update of the progression made over the last three months on the flood alleviation work in York, and it provided a summary of city wide flood alleviation activities, an update on each flood cell and the engagement plan for the next few months.

The Flood Risk Manager and Partnerships and Strategic Overview Manager were in attendance to present the report were asked and confirmed that:

- The funding for projects was time limited. An update on the funding position was provided.
- Concerning Clifton Ings, the EA was working with Natural England regarding mitigation measures for the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).
- With regard to engagement with residents, there tended to be a low level of resident engagement in areas where there was a high proportion of rentals.
- The council had successfully bid for funding to develop education on flood resilience.
- The flood protections being put in place were in line with predictions.

The Flood Risk Manager and Partnerships and Strategic Overview Manager were thanked for their update and it was:

Resolved: That the biannual update of the CYC Flood Defences Action Plan update report and evidence presented by the Environment Agency be noted.

Reason: In order to be updated CYC Flood Defences Action Plan.

21. Work Plan

Members considered the Work Plan and after discussion agreed that it be updated to include the following items for consideration at future meetings:

Wednesday 16 October 2019

1. Attendance of representatives from Leeds City Region (LCR) and York, North Yorkshire and East Riding (YNYER) Local Enterprise Partnerships for round table discussions around Local Industrial Strategy.
2. Attendance of representatives of the University of York, York St John University, York College and Make it York (MiY) for round table discussions around the inclusive economy in York (to include Apprenticeships and skills, graduate retention and the loss of skilled people from York)
3. Work Plan 2019-20

Wednesday 13 November 2019

1. Update of implementation of recommendations from York Residents' Priority parking Scheme Scrutiny Review
2. Update of implementation of recommendations from Economic Health of York City Centre Scrutiny Review
3. Overview paper from the highways team
4. Work Plan 2019-20

Resolved: That the above items for the Committee's work plan for the 2019/20 municipal year be considered at the next meeting.

Reason: To keep the Committee's work plan updated.

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[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 8.00 pm].