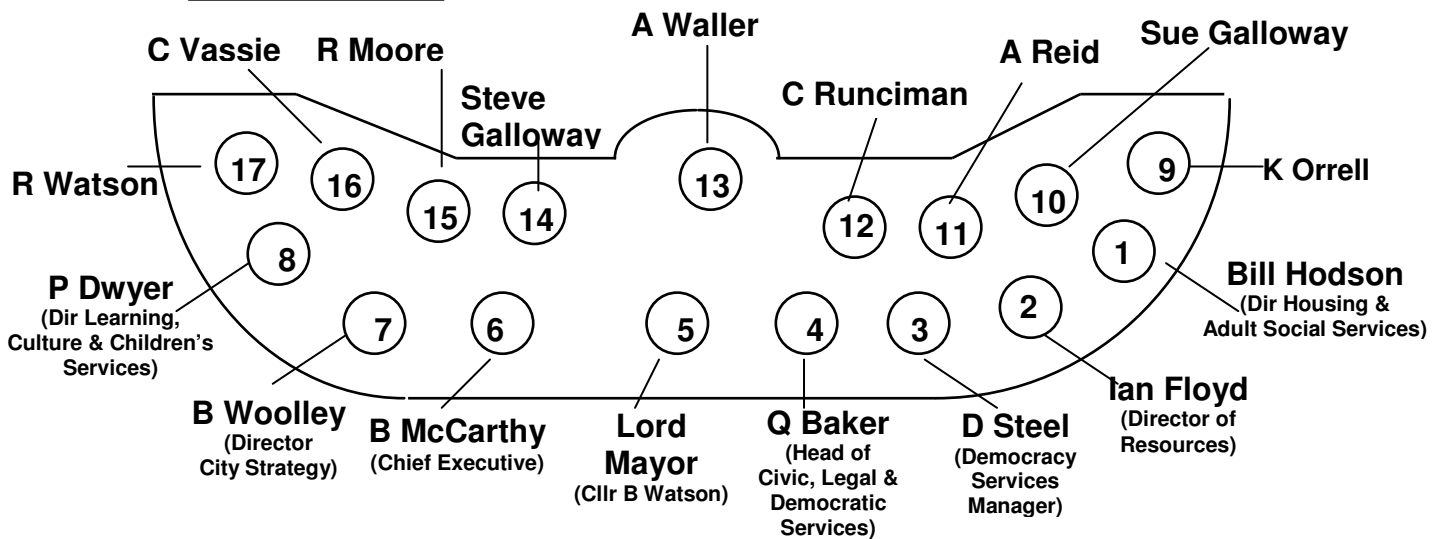
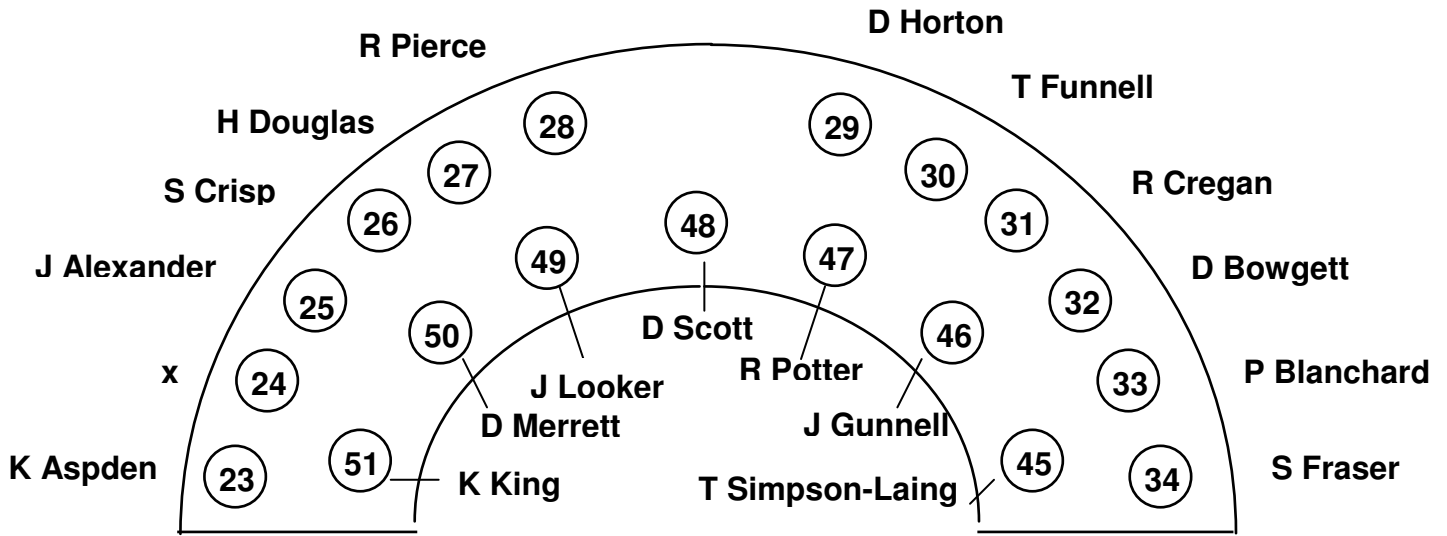


CITY OF YORK COUNCIL SUMMONS

All Councillors, relevant Council Officers and other interested parties and residents are formally invited to attend a meeting of the **City of York Council** at the **Guildhall, York**, to consider the business contained in this agenda on the following date and time:

Thursday, 2 April 2009 at 6.30 pm

COUNCIL CHAMBER



A G E N D A

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda.

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 48)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Special and Ordinary meetings of Council held on 22 January 2009 and the Budget Council meeting held on 26 February 2009.

3. Civic Announcements

To consider any announcements made by the Lord Mayor in respect of Civic business.

4. Public Participation

It is at this point in the meeting that members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the remit of Council may do so. Anyone who wishes to register, or requires further information, is requested to contact the Democracy Officer for this meeting. Contact details are listed at the foot of this agenda. The deadline for registering is **5:00pm on Wednesday, 1 April 2009**.

5. Petitions

To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order No.7. To date, notice has been received of petitions to be presented by:

- (i) Cllr Potter, on behalf of York residents, calling for the introduction of a 20 mph blanket speed limit throughout the City in residential areas.
- (ii) Cllr Potter, on behalf of local residents, calling for the completion of the link road between James Street and Heworth Green.
- (iii) Cllr Potter, on behalf of local residents, calling for the cancellation of plans to cut direct services from Heworth to Monks Cross and York College.

- (iv) Cllr Vassie, on behalf of the residents of Deighton, calling for a traffic island to be built on the A19 in Deighton.
- (v) Cllr Waller, on behalf of residents of The Reeves, seeking closure of snickets in their area.
- (vi) Cllr Waller, on behalf of local residents, calling for measures to tackle speed on New Lane.

6. Report of Executive Leader and Executive Recommendations - Including Approval of the Council's Refreshed Corporate Strategy (Pages 49 - 58)

To receive a written report from the Leader on the work of the Executive, and to consider the Executive recommendations for approval, as set out below:

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Executive	3 February 2009	Minute 178 – <i>Minutes of Working Groups</i>
Executive	31 March 2009	*Minute 215 - <i>The Refresh of the Corporate Strategy (minute to follow)</i>

*Note: the report to Executive and the draft Corporate Strategy are available on the Council's website – click on the link below:

<http://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.asp?CId=102&MId=3588&Ver=4>

7. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee (Pages 59 - 62)

To receive a report from Councillor Galvin, the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) on the work of the SMC.

8. Re-structure of Scrutiny and Decision Making Process (Pages 63 - 68)

To consider a report of the Head of Civic, Legal and Democratic Services, which presents the conclusions of the Working Group tasked with making recommendations regarding the re-structuring of Scrutiny and the Executive Member decision making process.

9. Establishment of a Member Development Steering Group (Pages 69 - 74)

To consider a report of the Head of Civic, Legal and Democratic Services, which seeks formal approval to establish a Member Development Steering Group and agree the terms, conditions and membership of the Group.

10. Report of Executive Member (Pages 75 - 78)

To receive a written report from the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services, and to question the Executive Member thereon, provided any such questions are registered in accordance with the timescales and procedures set out in Standing Order 8(2)(a).

To date, notice has been received of the following questions:

(i) From Cllr Waudby:

"I understand that York's Children and Young People's Plan was launched yesterday; can the Executive Member for Children and Young People explain to Council what will happen to it next and how it will improve the lives of children and young people in the City?"

(ii) From Cllr Aspden:

"Can the Executive Member of Children and Young People give Council an update on the number of exclusions from schools in the City and why has a fall taken place?"

- (iii) From Cllr Orrell:
“How many schools in York have been awarded outstanding grades by OFSTED and how does this distribution compare to the national distribution?”
- (iv) From Cllr R Watson:
“I understand the Executive Member met with the Chief Executive of the Schools’ Food Trust earlier this week. Could the Executive Member please give Council and update on how the meeting went and how the Schools’ Fund Trust plan to work with local schools in the future?”

11. Activities of Outside Bodies

Minutes of the following meetings of outside bodies, received since the last meeting of Council, have been made available for Members to view via the Council’s website at

<http://sql003.york.gov.uk/mqListOutsideBodies.asp?bcr=1>

Copies may also be obtained by contacting Democracy Support Group at the Guildhall, York (tel. 01904 551088):

- North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority - Meeting on 11 February 2009
- Police Authority - Meetings on 8 December 2008 and 9 February 2009
- Without Walls Partnership - Meeting on 19 February 2009
- Yorkshire and the Humber Assembly - Meeting on 12 February 2009

Members are invited to put any questions to the Council’s representatives on the above bodies, in accordance with Standing Order 10(b).

12. Appointments and Changes to Membership (Pages 79 - 80)

To consider the appointments and changes to membership of committees and outside bodies set out on the list attached to this summons.

13. Notices of Motion

To consider the following Notices of Motion under Standing Order 11:

A – Motions referred from the Executive in accordance with Standing Order 11(a)(i)

None

B – Motions submitted for consideration directly by Council, in accordance with Standing Orders 11(a)(ii)

(i) From Cllr Kirk

“Council views with concern the recent government advice to the Yorkshire and Humber Region that there should be a further increase in land allocations for house building over the next 20 years. Council reasserts its view that even the current Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) assumption (providing for 850 additional homes per year) will be difficult to achieve without having an adverse impact on the City's setting, its built and natural environment, and that these numbers will place even further pressures on the City's transport, education, health and leisure infrastructure.

Council therefore advises the Executive to endorse the recommendations of the Local Development Framework Working Group to defend land previously identified as draft green belt from the option of building thousands of new homes in the period up to 2030.”

(ii) From Cllr Alexander

“This Council notes:

- that the cost of First York bus fares has increased 8 times over the past 6 years;
- that the cost of tickets has increased over this period between 25% and 100%;
- that increased prices are a major factor in the decrease in the number of paying passengers;
- that there is an inconsistency of bus services in rural areas;

- with great regret the recent announced bus service cuts.

Council requests the City of York Council's Executive to make an application to take up the available powers to impose a Quality Contract scheme as set out in Section 124 of the Transport Act 2000, as amended by the Local Transport Act 2008, with a view to exercising control over the maximum fares, frequency and timing of local bus services with a view to addressing the above problems and achieving a more satisfactory and effective local public transport service."

(iii) From Cllr Wiseman

"Council believes that the traffic layout, signposting and related infrastructure at York Railway Station concerning the entrance/exit to the short-stay car park, the gyratory known as 'Tearoom Square', and the entrance/exit onto Station Road are confused, congested and therefore cause difficulties for all road-users attempting to negotiate this area. The Council moves to request the Executive to investigate in detail the issues related to this area, with a view to improving the access and traffic flow in and out of this part of the station."

(iv) From Cllr Simpson-Laing

"This Council believes that the both the sub-division and amalgamation of homes should be regulated to reduce the harm they can cause to the City's housing stock and neighbouring residents.

This Council believes that the sub-division of homes should be stopped due to its detrimental effect on the City's housing stock. Council calls upon the Director of City Strategy to bring forward a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on the 'Sub - Division of Terraced and Semi Detached' properties in the City of York Council area.

The SPD should address:

- the impact sub-division has on starter and family homes in the City, including their supply and affordability

- the housing needs of the City as set out in the 2007 City of York Council Strategic Housing Market Assessment and
- should clearly state minimum floor space, as practiced in a number of other Local Authorities.

The drafting of the SPD should take place as a matter of urgency so that it can be adopted during September 2009.

Council also requests that the Chief Executive write to the Secretary for State to request that Government brings under planning control the conversion of two dwelling houses into one as the longstanding exemption contributes to the loss of 'more affordable' terraced houses particularly in conservation areas and York's rural fringe."

(v) From Cllr Holvey

"Council notes with regret the recent threat to several evening bus services in the City, and endorses the successful action initiated by the Executive Member for City Strategy in finding alternatives to the proposed cuts.

Council looks forward to the time when government will return to Local Authorities powers which will allow them to have real influence on bus fares, routings, and frequencies for the benefit of residents.

In the meantime, Council invites the Executive to consider the powers, including any contained in the Transport Act 2008, which might allow the Authority to successfully resist any further reduction in the public transport system in the City."

14. Questions to the Executive Leader and Executive Members received under Standing Order 10(c)

To deal with the following questions to the Executive Leader and / or other Executive Members, in accordance with Standing Order 10(a):

(i) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Watt

"Following last year's petition from the residents seeking council action to address Anti-Social Behaviour in the

Rawcliffe Grange area, a Safer York Partnership Multi-Agency Working Group (WG) was convened to address the concerns raised by the petition. The Executive Leader is requested to advise the Council:

- a) which of the WG's recommendations have been implemented;
- b) which WG recommendations is it intended to implement;
- c) which of the recommendations the Executive does not intend to follow up and why each of these recommendations is not being pursued."

(ii) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Holvey

"Local democracy is helped by a local press, and York benefits from two local newspapers and two locally based radio stations. However, across the country local media outlets are suffering from budget pressures, job losses and other reductions in capacity which are also affecting the City of York. Would the Leader agree that a properly funded and staffed local run newspaper, like "The Press" is vital to local democracy?"

(iii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Sunderland

What action has been taken to safeguard the evening bus services which First plan to cut with effect from the end of April?"

(iv) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Firth

"What opportunities will residents have to influence the LDF core strategy and land allocations over the next few months?"

(v) To the Executive Member for Leisure, Culture & Social Inclusion, from Cllr Morley

"Can the Executive Member give Council an update on the performance of the City's libraries?"

(vi) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr Jamieson-Ball

"Could the Executive Member tell Council what action has been taken to ensure activities at Elvington Airfield have minimal impact on local residents?"

15. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer for this meeting:

Name: Fiona Young

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 551027
- E-mail – fiona.young@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 of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.

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CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in Guildhall, York on Thursday, 22nd January, 2009, starting at 6.30 pm

Present: The Lord Mayor (Cllr Brian Watson) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

ACOMB WARD

Horton
Simpson-Laing

BISHOPTHORPE WARD

Galvin

CLIFTON WARD

King
Scott

DERWENT WARD

Brooks

DRINGHOUSES & WOODTHORPE WARD

Reid
Sunderland

FISHERGATE WARD

D'Agorne
Taylor

FULFORD WARD

Aspden

GUILDHALL WARD

Looker

HAXBY & WIGGINTON WARD

Firth
R Watson

HESLINGTON WARD

Jamieson-Ball

HEWORTH WARD

Blanchard
Funnell
Potter

HEWORTH WITHOUT WARD

Ayre

HOLGATE WARD

Alexander
Bowgett
Crisp

HULL ROAD WARD

Cregan
Pierce

HUNTINGTON & NEW EARSWICK
WARD

Hyman
Orrell
Runciman

MICKLEGATE WARD

Fraser
Gunnell
Merrett

OSBALDWICK WARD

Morley

RURAL WEST YORK WARD

Gillies
Healey
Hudson

SKELTON, RAWCLIFFE & CLIFTON
WITHOUT WARD

Moore
Watt
Waudby

STRENSALL WARD

Kirk
Wiseman

WESTFIELD WARD

Steve Galloway
Sue Galloway
Waller

WHELDRAKE WARD

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Douglas and Holvey.

HONORARY FREEMEN

51. The Lord Mayor declared the object of the meeting, under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972. which was to confer the status of Honorary Freeman upon Dr Richard Shepard and Mr Ted Griffiths.

It was then moved by Cllr Waller and seconded by Cllr Scott:

“That, pursuant to its powers under Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do confer the title of Honorary Freeman of the City of York upon:

Dr Richard Shephard, in recognition of his contribution to York Minster and the University of York in a variety of development and academic roles

and:

Mr Ted Griffiths, in recognition of his work on the Remembrance Day Parade and other ex-services events in York.”

The motion was put to the vote and declared CARRIED unanimously and it was

RESOLVED: That the above motion be approved.

Councillor Brian Watson
LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.30 pm and concluded at 6.35 pm]

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CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in Guildhall, York on Thursday, 22nd January, 2009, starting at 6.35 pm.

Present: The Lord Mayor (Cllr Brian Watson) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

ACOMB WARD	BISHOPTHORPE WARD
Horton Simpson-Laing	Galvin
CLIFTON WARD	DERWENT WARD
King Scott	Brooks
DRINGHOUSES & WOODTHORPE WARD	FISHERGATE WARD
Holvey Reid Sunderland	D'Agorne Taylor
FULFORD WARD	GUILDHALL WARD
Aspden	Looker
HAXBY & WIGGINTON WARD	HESLINGTON WARD
Firth Hogg R Watson	Jamieson-Ball
HEWORTH WARD	HEWORTH WITHOUT WARD
Blanchard Funnell Potter	
HOLGATE WARD	HULL ROAD WARD
Alexander Bowgett Crisp	Cregan Pierce

HUNTINGTON & NEW EARSWICK
WARD

Hyman
Orrell
Runciman

MICKLEGATE WARD

Fraser
Gunnell
Merrett

OSBALDWICK WARD

Morley

RURAL WEST YORK WARD

Gillies
Healey
Hudson

SKELTON, RAWCLIFFE & CLIFTON
WITHOUT WARD

Moore
Watt
Waudby

STRENSALL WARD

Kirk
Wiseman

WESTFIELD WARD

Steve Galloway
Sue Galloway
Waller

WHELDRAKE WARD

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Douglas. Cllr Holvey arrived late and was present only from item 7 (Minute 58) onwards.

52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Cllrs Aspden, Funnell, Sue Galloway, Gunnell, Horton, Orrell, Pierce, Potter, Runciman, Sunderland and Waller each declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of the recommendation contained in Minute 148 of the Executive meeting on 12 December 2008 at item 6 on the agenda (Minute 57 refers), as members of the York Credit Union (YCU). Cllr Looker declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the same item, as a Director of the YCU. These Members all left the room during consideration of that recommendation and took no part in the discussion or decision thereon.

Cllrs Cregan, Horton and King each declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Notice of Motion on the national concessionary fares scheme at item 14(i) on the agenda (Minute 65 refers), as recipients of a bus pass. They left the room during consideration of that motion and took no part in the discussion or decision thereon.

Cllr Galvin declared a personal interest in both of the above items, as a member of the YCU and a recipient of a bus pass, stating that he had received legal advice indicating that his interest was not prejudicial.

Cllr Gillies also declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in the Motion on national concessionary fares, as the recipient of a bus pass.

53. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 November 2008 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

54. CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LORD MAYOR ELECT

The Lord Mayor announced the receipt of the following gifts, which were on view in the Council Chamber:

- An original document recording the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by York community leaders and representatives in 2008
- A Yorkshire Flag, presented to the City by the Ridings Association.

The Lord Mayor then announced the imminent departure of Terry Collins, Director of Neighbourhood Services, who would be leaving City of York Council on 30 January 2009 to take up the post of Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods at the new Durham County Unitary Council. On behalf of himself and all Members, the Lord Mayor placed on record Council's thanks to Terry for his contribution during his time at York.

Finally, The Lord Mayor invited Cllr Gillies to nominate the Lord Mayor Elect for the Municipal Year 2009/10. Cllr Gillies nominated, and Cllr Waller seconded, Cllr John Galvin as the Lord Mayor Elect and this nomination was unanimously agreed. Cllr Galvin replied that he would be honoured to accept this office and nominated Mrs Jill Burnett as Sheriff for the 2009/10 Municipal Year.¹

55. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

56. PETITIONS

The following petitions were presented by Members under Standing Order 7:

- (i) Cllr Gunnell, on behalf of residents calling for improvements to the no. 11 bus service for the South Bank / Bishopthorpe Road areas and Micklegate Ward generally.¹
- (ii) Cllr Potter, on behalf of local residents calling for the completion of the James Street Link Road between Heworth Green and James Street.²
- (iii) Cllr Potter, on behalf of residents supporting the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit throughout the City in residential areas.³
- (iv) Cllr Simpson-Laing – on behalf of local residents regarding the extension of yellow lines on Iver Close.⁴
- (v) Cllr Simpson-Laing, on behalf of residents of Sovereign Park seeking a rebate of and reduction in Council Tax.⁵
- (vi) Cllr Reid, on behalf of residents requesting the closure of the snicket between Moor Lane Bridge and Old Moor Lane.⁶
- (vii) Cllr D'Agorne, on behalf of residents calling for a 20 mph speed limit for residential streets in the South Bank area of the City.⁷

It was noted that the petition to be presented by Cllr Bowgett on 'rat running' in Grantham Drive was not yet available and would be presented at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: That the above petitions be referred to the Executive or appropriate committee.¹⁻⁷

Action Required

- 1. Refer petition to Executive / appropriate committee and schedule on Forward Plan SS
- 2. Refer petition to Executive / appropriate committee and SS

schedule on Forward Plan	
3. Refer petition to Executive / appropriate committee and schedule on Forward Plan	SS
4. Refer petition to Executive / appropriate committee and schedule on Forward Plan	SS
5. Refer petition to Executive / appropriate committee and schedule on Forward Plan	SA
6. Refer petition to Executive / appropriate committee and schedule on Forward Plan	SS
7. Refer petition to Executive / appropriate committee and schedule on Forward Plan	SS

57. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE LEADER AND EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

A written report was received from the Leader, Cllr Andrew Waller, on the work of the Executive.

In commenting on the Leader's written report, Cllrs Scott and Gillies both expressed their thanks to Terry Collins, the outgoing Director of Neighbourhood Services, on behalf of themselves and their respective Groups, and asked that this be recorded.

Members then considered the minutes requiring confirmation from the Executive meeting held on 23 December 2008, as set out below.

Minute 146 - Web Casting of Council Meetings

Cllr Waller moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 146 of the Executive minutes:

"That, should Council wish to proceed with this option, then the funding for the capital works be taken from the Council's reserves and that any ongoing funding requirements should represent a growth bid against the 2009/10 revenue budget."

Cllr Scott then moved, and Cllr Alexander seconded, an amendment to the above recommendation, as follows:

"In line 1, delete the words '*should Council wish*' and replace with '*Council wishes*'. After the word '*option*', delete the words '*then the*' and replace with '*and agrees that*'. After the words '*funding requirements*', delete the words '*should represent*' and replace with '*are submitted as*'."

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

The original recommendation was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendation contained in Minute 146 of the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 23 December 2008 be approved.¹

Minute 148 - Granting a Loan to an Outside Body (York Credit Union)

Cllr Steve Galloway moved, and Cllr Moore seconded, the following recommendations contained in Minute 148 of the Executive minutes:

- “(i) That a loan not exceeding £100,000 - if possible structured so that the first £52,000 is a preferential loan with the remainder to be classified as a subordinated loan - be made to the York Credit Union to enable them to provide loans to their members during the present difficult economic situation. The loan interest to be calculated at the current rate being obtained by the Council on its other investments.²
- (ii) That Council seek the agreement of the Credit Union to the appointment of a member of staff from the Council’s Resources department to its Executive Board, in order to allow the Council to maintain a check on the financial position of the Credit Union, or by

Following a debate on the recommendations, and questions as to the intended purpose of recommendation (ii) above, Cllr Steve Galloway sought leave to alter that recommendation to read as follows:

“That Council maintain a check on the financial position of the York Credit Union by such means as are acceptable to the Director of Resources.”²

Council having agreed to that alteration, the altered recommendations were then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendations contained in Minute 148 of the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 23 December 2008 be approved, subject to the alteration agreed to Recommendation (ii), as recorded above.²

Minute 145 – Corporate Efficiency Programme & Efficiency Reviews

Cllr Steve Galloway moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, the recommendations contained in Minute 145 of the Executive minutes, with regard to taking forward the reviews in the Corporate Efficiency Programme and transferring funds for those reviews to the Efficiency Reserve.

On being put to the vote, the recommendations were declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendations contained in Minute 145 of the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 23 December 2008 be approved.³

Action Required

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Prepare a growth bid for the Web Casting option previously agreed by Council | DS |
| 2. Make arrangements to loan the agreed sum to YCU and to maintain a check on YCU's financial position | SA |
| 3. Take forward the reviews as agreed and transfer the agreed sum (£125k) to the Efficiency Reserve | SA |

58. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Members considered the minutes requiring confirmation from the Audit and Governance Committee meeting held on 13 January 2009, as set out below.

Minute 37 – Proposed Change to the Council’s Constitution Regarding Petitions

Cllr Pierce moved, and Cllr Brooks seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 37 of the Audit and Governance Committee minutes:

“That Option 1 be agreed and that Standing Order 7 be amended to provide for ‘residents to initiate a debate at Full Council upon any issue touching and concerning the City of York where a minimum of 1,000 residents petition’.”

Cllr Aspden then moved, and Cllr Holvey seconded, an amendment to the above recommendation, as follows:

“In line 2, after the words ‘Full Council’, insert the words ‘following the receipt of a petition’ ... At the end of the paragraph, delete the word ‘petition’ and replace with ‘on the electoral roll of the City of York sign such a petition’.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

Following a debate as to whether the original recommendation should be revised to include business rate payers and / or young people, Cllr Jamieson-Ball then moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, that Standing Orders be suspended to enable the matter to be referred back to the Audit and Governance Committee for further consideration.

On being put to the vote, the motion to suspend Standing Orders was declared CARRIED.

Standing Orders having been suspended, Cllr Jamieson-Ball moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, that the recommendation be referred back to the Audit and Governance Committee for further consideration.

The motion to refer back was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendation in Minute 37 be referred back to the Audit and Governance Committee for them to consider the

matter further in the light of the debate this evening and to make a new recommendation to Council.¹

Minute 38 – The Audit of the Financial Statements 2007/08 – A Progress Report

Cllr Pierce moved, and Cllr Brooks seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 38 Audit and Governance Committee minutes:

“That authority be given to the Audit and Governance Committee to approve the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement.”

On being put to the vote, the recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendation contained in Minute 38 of the minutes of the Audit and Governance Committee meeting held on 13 January 2009 be approved.²

Action Required

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Prepare report for next meeting of the Audit & Governance Committee to consider this matter | GR |
| 2. Amend the Council's Constitution to reflect the agreed change | GR |

59. SCRUTINY - REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A written report was received from Cllr John Galvin, the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) on the work of the SMC since the last report to Council, on 27 November 2008. The report included a recommendation arising from the advice of the Working Group set up to consider the new Scrutiny structure, which would be formally moved in due course.

The Lord Mayor then announced that notice had been received of three amendments to the motion to be moved on the Scrutiny structure, one of which had been ruled out of order under Standing Order 15.3.6, on the grounds that it was the second amendment to be submitted by the same Member, namely Cllr D'Agorne.

Cllr Waller then moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, that Standing Orders 12.5 and 15.3.2 be suspended to enable him to propose an amendment outside the time limits set down in those Standing Orders, in the same terms as the amendment ruled out of order.

On being put to the vote, the motion to suspend Standing Orders was declared LOST.

Cllr Galvin then moved, and Cllr Pierce seconded, the following recommendation to Council, contained in paragraph 17 of his report, arising from the advice of the Working Group set up to consider the detailed implementation of the new scrutiny structure agreed by Council at the last meeting (Minute 45 refers):

“That the role of the SMC and functions common to all standing scrutiny committees as set out in Annex A be approved and that Council consider which model (A or B) it wishes to adopt as the basis for the standing scrutiny committees, in line with the previously agreed changes to the scrutiny structure.”

Cllr D’Agorne then moved, and Cllr Taylor seconded, the **first amendment** to the above motion, as follows:

“At the start of the second sentence after the words ‘And, that’, delete the words ‘Council considers which model (A or B) it wishes to adopt’ and replace with ‘*Council adopts Model A*’ At the end of the motion, add the following words ‘*and subject to:*’

- *further consultation taking place with the group leaders and chief officers on the precise remit of each Committee;*
- *no loss of provision for the public to access relevant reports and make representations in advance of a decision, nor in their ability to participate at the point of decision making.”*

Cllr Scott then moved and Cllr Looker seconded, the **second amendment** to the above motion, as follows:

At the start of the second sentence after the words ‘and that’, delete the words ‘Council considers which model (A or B) it wishes to adopt’ and replace with ‘*Council adopts Model B*’.

The above amendments were then put to the vote as alternatives, with Members being asked in respect of each to vote for or against the amendment, or to abstain. The results of the votes were as follows:

Amendment 1 - 21 in favour, 24 against, 1 abstention. Declared LOST.

Amendment 2 – 24 in favour, 21 against, 1 abstention. Declared CARRIED.

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

“That the role of SMC and functions common to all standing scrutiny committees as set out in Annex A, be approved, and that Council adopts Model B as the basis for the standing scrutiny committees, in line with the previously agreed changes to the scrutiny structure.”

On being put to the vote the motion, as amended, was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above motion, as amended, be approved. ¹

Action Required

1. Make the agreed changes to the Council's Constitution and decision-making structure GR

60. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Cllr Waller moved, and Cllr Crisp seconded, the recommendation contained in a report at page 43 of the Council papers, prepared by the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services, in response to a motion approved at the last meeting of Full Council (Minute 43 (iv) refers).

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendation in the report be approved and that Holocaust Memorial Day be incorporated as an annual event in within the Civic Calendar, subject to sufficient resources, as identified in the report, being provided for that purpose within the budget process for the relevant year.¹

Action Required

1. Make appropriate arrangements to include HMD in the Civic Calendar GR

61. ALLOCATION OF LOCAL CHOICE FUNCTION – APPROVAL OF LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

Cllr Waller moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, the following recommendation contained in a report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services at page 47 of the Council papers:

“That Full Council allocate to the Executive the functions relating to the Local Area Agreement, as listed in paragraph 22, Schedule 2 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, as amended.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared LOST and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendation not be approved.

62. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER

A written report was received from Cllr Steve Galloway, the Executive Member for City Strategy.

Notice had been received of twelve questions on the report, submitted by Members in accordance with Standing Orders.

The first seven questions were put and answered as follows:

(i) From Cllr Bowgett:

“Can the Executive Member for City Strategy please outline the date he was first aware that First had applied to cease the current No 16 bus service and replace it with an extension of the No 5 service?”

The Executive Member replied:

“On the 8th January 2009.”

(ii) From Cllr Potter:

“Would the Executive Member for City Strategy agree that it is bad news for York residents that First have unilaterally withdrawn the concession which allowed weekly/monthly tickets purchased for use on Park and Ride Services to be used from & to intermediate stops? And will you join with me in making further representations on this issue to First?”

The Executive Member replied:

“Yes. I am already making representations on the issue; however, we have no statutory powers to intervene.”

(iii) From Cllr Funnell:

“Would the Executive Member for City Strategy inform Council of when exactly he knew that First were cutting the 13 bus service and hiding it behind renumbering the number 16 service?”

The Executive Member replied:

“I am told that First registered changes to their commercial services on 8th January.”

(iv) From Cllr D’Agorne:

“Having seen the ‘competition’ from other bids to the Regional Transport Board, how does the Executive Member expect the Access York Phase 2 bid to fare when set against other more imaginative ‘greener’ project proposals from around the region?”

The Executive Member replied:

“Consultants acting on behalf of the Regional Assembly have prioritised the bids based on a formulae which takes into account various parameters. These do include environmental impact but also give a strong weighting to other factors such as the effect that the scheme would have on economic prosperity and its ability to reduce accident levels.

The Access York phase 2 bid will be ranked towards the top of the list of schemes based on this criteria but, as over £3Bn of bids have been received, and the available resources amount to only £300 million in total for the region, it follows that most bids will not be successful.”

- (v) From Cllr Bowgett:
“Why did the Executive Member for City Strategy not inform Holgate Councillors that the number 16 bus service was being removed and replaced by number 5?”

The Executive Member replied:

“It is not for me to so inform you. These are commercially registered services and First are free to change them having given the appropriate notice. The change of service number actually makes little practical difference to the service within the Holgate Ward.”

In response to supplementary questions, the Executive Member confirmed that he was aware of the possibility of changes to bus routes but was surprised that the changes had been made so quickly following the Christmas break. He indicated that knowledge of the change would not have affected the final decision on the Holly Bank traffic regulations at the SMC and Executive (Calling In) meetings on 5 and 6 January.

- (vi) From Cllr D’Agorne:
“Have First been challenged to justify their fares increases through the Quality Bus Partnership? Are you satisfied with their approach to child and full time student fares?”

The Executive Member replied:

“The bus partnership includes all bus companies operating in the area. Not surprisingly they are not willing to discuss issues of commercial confidentiality in front of their competitors. There is a disappointing reluctance on behalf of many bus operators to provide extended discount fares for young people. A report on the proposed 16-19 Yozone is expected shortly. I fear that operators will only contemplate it on a full recharge of costs basis which could make it unaffordable for the Council.”

- (vii) From Cllr Crisp:
“Will the Executive Member for City Strategy explain why the relevant Ward members of Holgate and Heworth not involved or given information about the proposed changes to bus services before they were advertised?”

The Executive Member replied:

“I understand that officers may have had a few days prior notice of the changes which were to be registered. They did not pass this information on to Members but I will ask them to do so, if possible, in future.”

The time limit having expired on this item, Members agreed to receive written responses to the remaining questions, which are reproduced below together with the written responses:

- (viii) From Cllr Alexander:
“Can the Executive Member for City Strategy explain why he did not make local residents aware that there were proposals to change

services across the City so that they could make representation to the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency?"

Reply:

"It is assumed that Cllr Alexander is referring to 'bus' services?"

It is simply not practical to make such information available to all residents. A prominent article about the changes was, however, carried in The Press.

The Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA) have no power to influence or force First or any other operator to deliver bus routes/schedules, etc. VOSA are responsible for ensuring that bus operators meet engineering and maintenance standards. They have the power to revoke operating licences (or insist that individual buses are taken off the road) if these standards are not adhered to."

(ix) From Cllr Horton:

"Can the Executive Member for City Strategy report how much money has the Council spent repairing footpaths and roads due to damage done by the FTR?"

Reply:

"Information on damage to roads and pavements is not available by the type of vehicle which may be judged to be responsible."

(x) From Cllr Merrett:

"Regarding the performance indicators for his service area (mentioned in Line 14), would he comment on his failure to increase bus usage by the key working age population in the City, indicated by a circa 12 and a half per cent plus decline in non-concessionary (i.e. fare paying) bus passenger usage over the last two years?"

Reply:

"I think that Cllr Merrett is presumptuous in his description of the working age population. Many over 60's have at least part time jobs and now enjoy free travel to and from their places of work (after 9:00am).

Bus usage in the City has show strong growth over the last 6 years.

Over the last two years "all" passengers have increased by 2.5%. The issue is that more people are travelling by bus and it is just a change in the way that they pay because in 2005/6 they were fare paying and now are not. (ie in 2005/6 an eligible passenger paid half fare, in 2007/8 the same passenger paid nothing). The reason the fare paying passenger numbers are reducing is also because the concessionary pass has become more attractive than the tokens and so there has been a further transfer away from fares to concessions. (ie in 2005/6 token users were fare paying passengers in 2007/8 they had transferred to passes)

The spectacular growth in Park and Ride usage is one of the main reasons why stage carriage growth is likely to be more modest in future.

Stage carriage use was always likely to plateau. Growth should re-commence when we are able to improve journey times and address

the need for more orbital services. Releasing more road space in inner York for public transport is an important by product of the Access York phase 2 capital bid."

(xi) From Cllr Potter:

"In the light of his failing public transport policy, and the misleading comment in line 40/41 of his report, why is he unwilling to take up the important new powers that the government has given (including over fare levels) in the 2008 Act?"

Reply:

"The Act has just received Royal Assent. The Council is awaiting guidance from the DfT to understand how the Act can be implemented and what the implications are."

(xii) From Cllr Merrett:

"Regarding the performance indicators for his service area (mentioned in Line 14), would he explain the reversal of the previous decline in the Indicator 7A (Mandatory Indicator LTP8): Air Quality Indicator - Mean of all annual average NO₂ concentrations measured within AQMA no greater than 30µg/m³, which has shown an increase in the last two years, and will he advise what additional steps will be taken to ensure that residents in these areas can be assured of air quality within this health study based limit by the EU deadline year of 2011?"

"There are 40 Air Quality management areas in York. Generally trends in air quality in the City are favorable. While some work in hot spot areas like Fishergate may be necessary and are indeed subject to upcoming reports, the introduction of lower emission standards on vehicles is already playing a part in improving air quality and will help us to meet EU targets.

In setting the air quality target for LTP2 the emphasis has been placed on the need to demonstrate an ongoing year on year improvement in annual average nitrogen dioxide concentrations across the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). This will ensure that the council remains on track to meet the 40ug/m³ health based objective level at all locations in the city. Please note that the LTP2 indicator target concentration of 30ug/m³ by 31st December 2011 is not the same as the legal air quality objective value of 40ug/m³.

For the purpose of setting a realistic but challenging air quality target for LTP2, 40 nitrogen dioxide diffusion tube monitoring locations have been identified across the AQMA. Annual average nitrogen dioxide concentrations for all 40 sites are calculated on a yearly basis, and the mean of these sites are reported every year in the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Progress Report.

Results in recent years

Year	LTP2 Indicator 7A : Air Quality Mean of annual average NO ₂ concentrations at 40 monitoring sites in the AQMA (ug/m ³)
2002	46

2003	41
2004	35
2005	33
2006	37
2007	38

It should be noted that no significant variance/increase was observed in LTP Indicator 7A between 2006 and 2007 (the most recent published statistic). However, a reversal in the previous decline in LTP Indicator 7A was observed between 2005 and 2006.

Certain weather conditions can facilitate the production of high levels of pollutants at ground level - unfavourable weather conditions may in part explain this reversal. Increased levels of traffic using the city centre / inner ring road could also be responsible. Information could be obtained from the transport planning unit's (TPU) city centre traffic counters to confirm if this is indeed the case. Increasing levels of long-stay, private car parking and around the city centre may also be a factor.

The most recent Air Quality Progress Report shows that, based on widespread monitoring across the city (not limited to just the LTP indicator diffusion tubes), there appears to have been a general improvement in nitrogen dioxide concentrations between 2000 and 2007. At most monitoring locations the highest concentrations recorded to date occurred in 2002 / 2003. The lowest concentrations were recorded after 2004. All real time monitoring within the current AQMA indicated a slight improvement in 2007 when compared with monitoring undertaken in 2006. In each of the five AQMA 'technical breach' areas there remain a number of sites where annual average nitrogen dioxide concentrations (as upper 95% confidence limits) remain above the 40mg/m³ annual average objective level. Due to the continued existence of these breaches no changes to the current AQMA 'technical breach' areas are proposed at this time, although some reduction in the size of the technical breach areas may become appropriate in the future.

Good progress has been made towards implementing the majority of measures within AQAP2. Key staff shortages during 2007 meant that a number of schemes have not progressed as quickly as anticipated. However, in 2008, a multidisciplinary air quality steering group was established to facilitate further air quality improvement in the city through the promotion of cleaner vehicles and alternative fuels, a low emission zone feasibility study and a freight transshipment centre(s)."

63. ACTIVITIES OF OUTSIDE BODIES

Minutes of the following meetings of outside bodies had been made available for Members to view on the Council's website:

- Without Walls Partnership – meeting on 19 November 2008
- Quality Bus Partnership – meeting on 11 December 2008

No questions had been submitted to representatives on the above bodies.

64. APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED: That the appointments and changes to membership of committees, working groups and outside bodies set out in the revised list circulated around the Council Chamber (and attached as Annex 1 to these minutes) be approved.¹

Action Required

1. Make the agreed changes to the membership record and GR inform outside body contact

65. NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) National Concessionary Fares Scheme

It was moved by Cllr Steve Galloway and seconded by Cllr Reid that:

“Council notes the campaign being launched by the Local Government Association to ensure that the national concessionary fares scheme is fully funded by central government grant at individual local authority level.

Council further notes that in the case of the City of York Council for 2009/10 the difference, between the government grant announced for concessionary fares and the actual cost, could be as much as £1 million.

Council resolves to support the LGA campaign and instructs the Chief Executive to write to the LGA, together with the City’s 4 MPs, with details of the potential impact of the grant settlement on the City, its Council Tax level and public service standards.”¹

Cllr Potter then moved, and Cllr Bowgett seconded, an amendment to the above motion, as follows:

“In line 1 after the word ‘Council’, insert the following words: *‘welcomes the concessionary bus fare scheme that allows residents in York to have free bus travel and’* to continue ‘notes the campaign etc’.

Delete the second paragraph and replace with the following:

‘Council also notes that in 2003/05 £560k was received from central government for half price concessionary bus fares for older people. Council welcomes the additional £863k in 2006/07, £1,112k in 2008/09 and £1,975k in the next financial year for the very popular and extremely well used concessionary free bus travel for older people.’

In the third paragraph, after the words ‘City’s 4 MPs’, delete all and replace with the following:

‘to explain the unintended consequences of the scheme in those local authorities that are tourist destinations outlining the increased costs incurred due to increasing numbers of non- residents use of local bus services and requesting that the method of distribution be reviewed to

ensure that the resource available is redistributed to address this situation'."

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

The original motion was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.¹

(ii) **The Barbican Auditorium**

It was moved by Cllr Looker and seconded by Cllr Crisp that:

"Council notes that:

- The Barbican auditorium has failed to hold any entertainment events since the agreement was entered into with Absolute Leisure and in fact has lost significant contracts such as the UK Snooker Championships, which had been such a successful part of the York scene, and a number of potential conference opportunities.
- There is still no start date for the proposed alterations and adaptations to the auditorium, which have received planning permission, and so consequently no clear idea as to when the venue will re-open for business.
- When the economic outlook is uncertain, it is imperative that the city maximises its opportunities for a wide variety of business opportunities and the loss of conference income and major entertainment events income are making York a less and less attractive destination for visitors and business clients.
- The building is falling into disrepair and is rapidly becoming a major eyesore both for residents and visitors to the city.
- Absolute Leisure has failed to meet set deadlines for the proposed refurbishment and the £3m deposit required to fulfill this.

Council recognises that:

- the current Liberal Democrat administration has failed to provide York residents with an entertainments programme as befits a city such as York.

Council recommends:

- That the Executive be requested to instruct Officers to cease all negotiations with Absolute Leisure and seek a new solution for the auditorium.²

Council invites the Leader of the Council to take responsibility for this project and provide a written progress report at all future Full Council meetings until the Barbican Auditorium is in full operational usage."²

Cllr Vassie then moved, and Cllr Orrell seconded, an amendment to the above motion, as follows:

"At the end of the first bullet point, delete the words '*and a number of potential conference opportunities*'.

Delete the second bullet point and replace with the following:

- *'Absolute Leisure has failed to meet set deadlines for the proposed refurbishment and the £3 million deposit required to fulfill this, and the council has terminated the contract with Absolute Leisure'*

Delete the third bullet point and replace with the following:

- *'When the economic outlook is uncertain, it is imperative that the city maximises its opportunities for a variety of business opportunities and entertainment events to make York an attractive destination for visitors and business clients'.*

Delete the fourth bullet point and replace with the following:

- *'The building needs to be brought into a serviceable condition so that it can be used for holding events.'*

Delete the paragraphs headed *'Council recognises that etc'* and *'Council recommends that etc*'

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

The original motion was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.²

The guillotine fell at 10:05 pm and all the remaining business requiring a vote was moved, seconded and voted upon without debate.

(iii) The Barbican

It was moved by Cllr D'Agorne and seconded by Cllr Taylor that:

"Council notes:

- i) That it is now over 5 years since the closure of the Barbican, resulting in the loss of sports and swimming facilities in the area and the departure of the UK Snooker Championship from the city.
- ii) That Absolute Leisure has failed to comply with the legal agreement with the council by the deadline, meaning that the future of the auditorium is now in jeopardy, with further delay before it is brought back into public use.

Council condemns the repeated delays to the project and calls for the Executive to undertake an urgent thorough review of all options now open to the Council. This should include a re-examination of the potential for creating a trust to deliver sports, leisure facilities, entertainment and community use on the site."

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared LOST and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion not be approved.

(iv) **Provision of Swimming Facilities**

It was moved by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr King that:

“The City of York has two rivers and a number of other water courses, yet currently only has 2 public swimming pools with a total of only 12 swimming lanes for a population of over 186,000 people.

Council notes that:

- The Liberal Democrat administration promised a replacement pool for the Barbican.
- No site or funding so far have been identified for the third new city centre pool as agreed by Council.
- There has no planning permission, proposed start date for construction or opening date for that replacement pool.
- The city is devoid of council provided city centre leisure facilities.

Council recognises that:

- The current Liberal Democrat administration has failed to provide leisure facilities in the city.
- The City of York is already short of swimming facilities in the city and that the proportion of swimming lanes to residents is set to further deteriorate in future years as set out in recent council reports

Council calls on the Leader of the Council to report at all future Full Council meetings until public swimming provision has been replaced.”³

Cllr Vassie then moved, and Cllr Orrell seconded, an amendment to the above motion, as follows:

“After the words ‘water courses in line 1, delete the rest and replace with the following:

‘... and a variety of swimming pools, including Yearsley Pool, Edmund Wilson, Water World and other a variety of other pools.

Council notes that:

- *The Liberal Democrats have been working with York University to advance plans for a replacement pool to the Barbican*

Council recognises that:

- *The Liberal Democrat administration has invested in upgrading Yearsley Pool, greatly improving its energy efficiency, leading to considerable savings to the public purse, and that the revamped pool has welcomed a considerable increase in visitor numbers.*
- *The Liberal Democrat administration has commissioned the construction of a new public pool by the Oakland Schools site and that this project is on schedule for completion in the autumn of this year, replacing the aging Edmund Wilson Pool*
- *A history of under-funding by the previous Labour administration, including a Labour the plan to close Yearsley Pool altogether, has meant that the Liberal Democrat administration has had to show real commitment to preserve the future of swimming provision in this city.*

Council calls on the Leader of the Council to report at all future Full Council meetings the progress on completing the new pool at York High and the progress on plans to build a new pool with the university on Campus Three.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

The original motion was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.³

(v) Council Rent Increases

It was moved by Cllr Sue Galloway and seconded by Cllr Morley that:

“Council notes attempts by the Government to impose an average rent increase of 7.7% on Council tenants in the city for 2009/10 in order to reach rent convergence in 2011/12.

Council notes that it is now proposed that the convergence deadline is extended to 2023/24 (for 1 year only). Even with this extended deadline council rents in York would increase by an average 6% causing further potential financial pressures for those who do not qualify for rent rebates.

Council therefore calls for the end point for the convergence of Council rents to be further extended, to take account of the current economic situation and to give tenants more time to adjust their household budgets, and instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State accordingly.”⁴

Cllr Simpson-Laing then moved, and Cllr Horton seconded, an amendment to the above motion, as follows:

“In line 1 above, after the words ‘Council notes’ insert ‘that Government recognised that Housing Association Tenants could pay up to 50% more rent than those in Council owned properties. To address this Government introduced a single formula for all social landlords in England which was introduced in April 2002 so that convergence could be reached by 2012. Change was to be made over a period of at least 10 years, be gradual and that in any one year weekly rent could not increase by more than the rate of inflation plus 0.5% plus £2 and that maximum ‘caps’ on formula were set’.

Then, start a new paragraph and continue but delete the words ‘Council notes attempts by the Government to impose’ and replace with *Council understands that for CYC to stay online for convergence, using those rules, that*After the words ‘average rent increase of 7.7%’, delete the word ‘on’ and replace with the words *‘would be required of’* . In line 3 of the same paragraph, after the word ‘reach’, insert the words *‘the original date of ‘* . Finally in this paragraph, add at the end these words *‘and that this would break capping levels’*.

In the second paragraph of the above motion, after the words 'Council notes that', insert '*the Government has recognised difficulties with the formula due to the inflation rate setting date of September 2008 and will allow Councils to reduce this years increase resulting in the final convergence end date being increased by 10 years to 2023/24*' Then, delete the words from 'it is now proposed that' ...upto and including 'Even with' and replace with '*However Council accepts that under current policy*'. Then, after the words 'extended deadline', delete the words 'Council rents in York'. In the same line, after the word 'increase', insert the words '*York rents*'. Next, after the words 'average 6% , insert the words '*this year and could cause*' and delete the words '*causing further*'.

Next, insert the following new paragraph:

'Council recognises that the Government is looking at the issue of rent convergence and 'pre-set guideline rent increases' as part of the 'Handling of the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy Determination 2009-1- and 2010-11 Consultation' which is due to Report in April 2009 and that CYC has made a submission to as part of the Northern Housing Consortium.'

Then, delete the final paragraph in the above motion, in full and replace with '*Council requests the Chief Executive write to the Secretary of State and asks that a further and late submission is accepted from the City of York Council requesting that:*

- *the convergence formulas 'September' calculation date is reviewed, due to the high inflation spike of September 2008 which has caused an anomaly in the 09/10 formula,*
- *a maximum ceiling is put on the formulas inflation percentage increase of 3% and that this is done in conjunction with changes to the rules*
- *the end point for the convergence of Council rents be continued to be looked at on a yearly basis so as to take account of economic situations and to ensure that in any one year tenants do not receive excessive rent increases.'* “

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared LOST.

The original motion was then put to the vote and declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.⁴

Action Required

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Write to the LGA and City of York MPs as instructed | SC |
| 2. Liaise with the Executive and the Leader re this request and re the provision of progress reports to future Full Council meetings | CB |
| 3. Liaise with the Leader re provision of progress reports to Council on swimming provision | CB |
| 4. Write to the Secretary of State as instructed | SC |

66. QUESTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE LEADER AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS RECEIVED UNDER STANDING ORDER 10(C)

Thirteen questions had been submitted to the Executive Leader and Executive Members under Standing Order 10(c). The guillotine having fallen at this point, Members agreed to receive written responses to these questions. The questions and the written responses are set out below:

- (i) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Aspden:
“What steps are being taken to promote environmentally sustainable job in York?”

Reply

“I have asked for the Chief Executive to convene an “Eco Jobs Task Group” from the Council, York Science City and partners, in particular the Business Forum and Economic Development Partnership to examine how the city can create more locally based jobs based on environmental technology.

I would expect that this group will produce an interim report within six months, with a final report by September 2009 as an update to the Future York report dealing specifically with environmentally based sectors.”

- (ii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Galvin:
“In the light of the resolution at the Council Meeting of 25th September referring to a link road between Bishophorpe Road and Sim Balk Lane, will the Executive Member please advise Council as to the progress made to date on the first part of the resolution i.e:
‘To aid the development of the Terrys Site, the Council instructs the appropriate officers to develop as a matter of urgency and in a timescale to inform any future planning application, an assessment of the need for, and effectiveness of providing, a Link Road between Bishophorpe Road and Sim Balk Lane to the south side of the A64.’”

Reply

“An assessment of the need and effectiveness of providing a link road in conjunction with LDF issues is currently in preparation. It is anticipated that the report will be completed in order that it may be considered by Members in early Spring. This work includes an assessment of the volume of traffic that would be expected to use such a link together with the land use policy issues, funding and additionally will seek to address the other items relating directly to the regeneration of Terry's including sustainable transport and accessibility.”

- (iii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Galvin:
“Will the Executive Member also advise as to when the report referred to in the remainder of the resolution will be presented to Council i.e:
‘Officers are therefore instructed to report to the Full Council as soon as possible addressing the potential for funding the Link Road, with a contribution from Developers and other sources.

The report should also indicate how any proposed future development allocated through the LDF process could contribute to the construction costs of such a link road proposal.

Such report also to investigate the possibility of constructing a new junction to the west of London Bridge to facilitate speedy access on to the A64 slip roads.”

Reply

“As for ii above”.

- (iv) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Merrett:

“Would the Executive Member for City Strategy outline the progress on implementation of the council's Green Transport Plan and indicate the latest modal split figures compared to the starting base line, including a breakdown of the figures by department?”

Reply

<i>Main Mode</i>	<i>2002 Baseline</i>	<i>2007 Mode Share</i>
<i>Car</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>19%*</i>
<i>Car Sharing</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>5% #</i>
<i>Cycle</i>	<i>16.70%</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Walk</i>	<i>18.20%</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Bus</i>	<i>11.00%</i>	<i>9%</i>
<i>Park & Ride</i>	<i>13.40%</i>	<i>16%</i>
<i>Rail</i>	<i>3.70%</i>	<i>3%</i>
<i>Multi modal~</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>14%</i>

** includes pool car*

includes car passengers

~3 or more modes used to get to work

A breakdown of the figures by Department is not available

We continue to operate and maintain a pool bike scheme, offer free cycle training to staff, provide generous discounts on the purchase of cycles through the Cycle to Work salary sacrifice cycle loan scheme and provide paid allowances to staff for cycle use, amongst other initiatives such as the provision of bus season ticket loans and free Park & Ride passes to staff.

New travel plan initiatives over the last year have included:

- *Relaunch of www.carshareyork.com <<http://www.carshareyork.com>> website and associated car sharing promotion to staff in June 2008. This website has a dedicated employer group for council staff through which they can match car journeys.*
- *Internal promotion of the council's new all-operator bus route map published in summer 2008.*
- *Distribution of a new guide to cutting car use and encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of travel, entitled Are you Carwise in York?, to all staff in November/December 2007. This was part of a campaign to support the travel plan initiatives of major employers in the city."*

(v) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Merrett:

"Can the Executive Member for City Strategy explain why requests for lighting column repainting in Micklegate Ward going back to at least February 2005, which were part of an extensive list of lighting columns agreed for repainting in September 2007, had still not been completed when this area of responsibility was recently transferred to Neighbourhood Services?"

"The repainting of columns is interlinked with column replacement as it would be poor value for money to repaint a column that is structurally unsound and in need of replacement. As part of our new street lighting term maintenance contract we have a programme for carrying out structural testing of steel street lighting columns. Urgent works arising from this have been organised but detailed assessment of these results is still required to see how extensive the need for further structural replacement may be

Officers will complete the review of the structural testing results for Micklegate Ward and will provide more information for Cllr. Merritt about the works required and the way this relates to repainting of columns by late February. .

New street lighting columns are now pre-painted with a plastic powder coating making them very resistant to weathering and avoiding the need for on site treatments for many years."

(vi) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Merrett:

"Will the Executive Member for City Strategy inform Council what action has been taken since the last Council meeting to re-invigorate the stalled Carbon Management Programme and what steps are being taken to properly resource the need for data analysis to inform the implementation of the programme?"

Reply

"The Carbon Management Programme has not stalled. The pace of progress has been influenced by the Councils ability to fill staffing

vacancies, which in turn has been dependent on the conclusion of the pay and grading review.

A meeting of the Carbon Management Board took place on 5th December. A further meeting is scheduled for later this month and a progress report will be made to the Executive in March

One budget option available of next year could be the appointment of a data analyst. However with budget purse strings drawing ever tighter, it is likely that this work will have to be undertaken by reprioritising the use of existing resources.”

(vii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Potter:

“Will the Executive Member for City Strategy describe what progress has been made in respect of setting a target to achieve at least a 5% reduction in the Council’s energy consumption over the next 12 months?”

Reply

“A decision on whether to include a specific energy reduction target within next year’s refreshed corporate strategy has yet to be taken. One of the problems with doing so is the relatively large proportion of our total energy consumption which can be attributed to schools, the management of which is dependent on the approach of local governors.

The Carbon Management Strategic Implementation Plan identifies a number of projects /actions which would reduce energy consumption. SALIX funding may enable implementation of these. An update on implementation will be provided to the Executive on 3 March 2009.”

(viii) To the Executive Member for Children & Young People’s Services, from Cllr Merrett:

“Would the Executive Member for Children’s Services explain comments in The Press, attributed to a departmental source, regarding the possible closure of a secondary school on the east side of the city. In doing so, will she outline the actual position on this issue and give assurances and/or advise when and how pupils, parents, staff and the wider community in the area are going to be told about what is actually going on, and outline when they will be involved in a meaningful consultation on any proposals to re-organise education in that part of the city and that they will be presented with genuine options and not a single fait accompli solution?”

Reply

“I am fully aware of the comments in the Press surrounding secondary provision in the East of the City. The speculation generated by the media coverage is, in my view, unhelpful and I share the Director’s confidence that the comments do not originate from local authority offices.

Unfortunately this does not generate constructive public debate but often it generates a debate that is uninformed, premature and potentially unnecessary. It also brings with it considerable anxiety for young people and their parents about the future options for their schooling.

I am also very concerned about the debilitating impact such coverage has on the valued leadership and teaching staff who work in schools in this part of the city. They work hard and are totally dedicated to the city's young people and their education.

As officers have publicly stated there is concern that the two key factors of a changing demographic profile and greater parental choices of schools as numbers fall, has resulted in considerable surplus places in the secondary sector. Schools receive funding totally on the basis of the number of actual students they have on roll. Surplus places therefore, directly reduce the level of funding a school receives and as a consequence the numbers of teaching staff and the breadth of curriculum that a school can therefore provide.

As a responsible local authority, we have a duty to respond to such a scenario and dialogue is taking place between officers of the authority and the leadership and governing bodies of the relevant schools.

I can totally reassure the shadow member and the wider public that if there are any specific proposals arising out of the current dialogue then these will be brought to EMAP for a full open discussion on whether to launch a public consultation – a consultation that would have to be reported back to the Executive Member before any decision making took place.”

- (ix) To the Executive Member for Children & Young People's Services, from Cllr Alexander:

“Can the Executive Member for Children's Services outline what progress is being made with regards to the Myplace bid and whether she is still confident of a successful bid for a major central facility for the City's young people?”

Reply

“Cllr Alexander is up to date and well informed about the progress made by Mr Phil Bixby on the Myplace bid. He was in attendance at the recent meeting of the Young People's Working Group where Mr Bixby presented a report of his findings so far and then answered questions from Members. A bid will be ready by March 31st, despite the fact that the government has not released the deadline for this round of bidding yet. It will be a major central facility meeting the needs and wishes of young people.

Whether that bid will be successful or not will be in the hands of the government - not the council - but I very much hope that the government will realise that York has a great need for such a facility and not treat us as a 'leafy suburb' by rejecting the bid.”

- (x) To the Executive Member for Children & Young People's Services, from Cllr Alexander:

Will the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services confirm that she supports me in requesting the Chief Executive:

- Ensures that York secondary schools shows the film 'Live Now, Drive Later' to their pupils annually.
- Contacts every Council Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services in the country to request that they adopt the 'Live Now, Drive Later' campaign, enclosing a copy of the DVD.”

Reply

“As a lifelong supporter of road safety measures, I am happy to promote the 'Live Now, Drive Later' campaign and associated DVD both to the secondary schools in the city (many of whom have already shown it) and to all other authorities in the country, via a letter from myself and the Chief Executive to Council Leaders and Cabinet Members for Children's Services.”

- (xi) To the Executive Member for Housing & Adult Social Services, from Cllr Horton:

“In respect of the empty property at 17 Almsford Road, Acomb would the Executive Member explain for my benefit and those of adjacent neighbours, without blaming others, her unfulfilled promise given at the last Full Council meeting on 27th November, 2008 "that the property should be available for letting within the next couple of weeks", especially noting that the property was further trashed between Christmas and New Year?”

Reply

“I have not, and cannot, ‘promise’ that private properties will or will not be occupied. I can only pass on the information that the owner of the property has given to the Housing Association which is arranging for it to be let. The only lever that the Council has to influence the situation would be if it chose to withdraw any repair grant offer. Clearly it is a matter of opinion whether this would make it more or less likely that the property would be occupied quickly.”

- (xii) To the Executive Member for Housing & Adult Social Services, from Cllr Simpson-Laing:

“Will the Executive Member for HASS explain how she plans to relaunch the idea of 'living above the shop' as mentioned in the recent 'Affordable Housing Initiatives' paper as a means to providing affordable homes in the city?”

Reply

“The return to use, of empty space above shops, has been supported by the Council for many years. Officers are always seeking opportunities in this area as part of the bid to bring more affordable homes to the city. However it should be noted that not all conversions are likely to gain the necessary planning permission and indeed, as members will know, there was very high profile refusal of such a permission last year.”

- (xiii) To the Executive Member for Leisure, Culture & Social Inclusion, from Cllr Holvey:

“Can the Executive Member give Council an update on the success of the smart meter loan scheme that has been recently introduced into the City's libraries?”

Reply

“The smart meter loan programme has been a great success so far. Within 24 hours of the scheme receiving coverage on Look North earlier this month, all 61 smart meters had been taken out and there was a waiting list to borrow them had grown to over 100.

Since then we have released more funds to purchase a further 125 smart meters to meet the demand.

Following the Look North coverage we also received enquiries from libraries and Local Authorities from across the region who wanted to adopt the scheme.”

Cllr Brian Watson

LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.35 pm and concluded at 10.10 pm]

CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in Guildhall, York on Thursday, 26th February, 2009, starting at 6.30 pm

Present: The Lord Mayor (Cllr Brian Watson) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

ACOMB WARD	BISHOPTHORPE WARD
Horton Simpson-Laing	Galvin
CLIFTON WARD	DERWENT WARD
Douglas King Scott	Brooks
DRINGHOUSES & WOODTHORPE WARD	FISHERGATE WARD
Holvey Reid Sunderland	D'Agorne Taylor
FULFORD WARD	GUILDHALL WARD
Aspden	Looker
HAXBY & WIGGINTON WARD	HESLINGTON WARD
Firth Hogg R Watson	Jamieson-Ball
HEWORTH WARD	HEWORTH WITHOUT WARD
Blanchard Funnell Potter	Ayre
HOLGATE WARD	HULL ROAD WARD
Alexander Bowgett Crisp	Cregan

HUNTINGTON & NEW EARSWICK
WARD

Hyman
Orrell
Runciman

MICKLEGATE WARD

Fraser
Gunnell
Merrett

OSBALDWICK WARD

Morley

RURAL WEST YORK WARD

Gillies
Healey
Hudson

SKELTON, RAWCLIFFE & CLIFTON
WITHOUT WARD

Moore
Watt
Waudby

STRENSALL WARD

Kirk

WESTFIELD WARD

Steve Galloway
Sue Galloway
Waller

WHELDRAKE WARD

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Wiseman

67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Lord Mayor invited all Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in the business on the agenda to declare their interests at this point in the meeting. Advice on the declaration of interests in respect of the Budget had been circulated to all Members by the Monitoring Officer, together with a form on which to record their interests.

The following prejudicial interests were declared in relation to relevant aspects of the Revenue and Capital Budget proposals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Description of Interest</u>
Cllr King	Holder of a bus pass
Cllr Looker	Company Secretary, York Theatre Royal Director of York Credit Union
Cllr Simpson-Laing	Parent of a child who receives music tuition Works for Relate, which receives funding to voluntary sector.

The following personal interests were declared in relation to relevant aspects of the Revenue and Capital Budget proposals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Description of Interest</u>
Cllr Alexander	Member of the GMB
Cllr Ayre	Trustee Board Member of York Citizens' Advice Bureau
Cllr Bowgett	Parent of a child who may benefit from free school meals
Cllr Cregan	Employee of York Theatre Royal
Cllr Crisp	Governor of Poppleton Road School, Holgate
Cllr Douglas	Holder of a Council tenancy Parent of a child who takes school meals Parent of a child attending a Neighbourhood Nursery at Clifton Children's Centre
Cllr Fraser	Member of retired section of UNISON and TGWU Resident of a Respark zone Recipient of a bus pass
Cllr Funnell	Recipient of Respark subsidy (in lieu of a bus pass) Subscriber to York Credit Union Governor of Burnolme Community College Member of the York Older People's Assembly Executive
Cllr Steve Galloway	Entitled to concessionary travel
Cllr Sue Galloway	Holder of an allotment (34B Holgate)
Cllr Gunnell	Member of Danesgate Management Committee
Cllr Horton	Holder of a bus pass Member of the Friends of the Mansion House Member of York Credit Union

Cllr Hyman	Member representative on the Board of york-england.com
Cllr Looker	Company Secretary, York Theatre Royal Director of York Credit Union
Cllr Merrett	Parent of a child who receives school meals and attends school music lessons, Digital Arts course, swimming courses and holiday events, for which fees are being set as part of the budget.
Cllr Morley	Member of Visit York Bureau
Cllr Orrell	Holder of a bus pass
Pierce	Holder of a bus pass Resident in a Respark area Council representative, Friends of St Nicholas Fields Council taxpayer
Cllr Potter	Chair of Tang Hall Community Centre Management Committee Chair of York Wheels
Cllr Runciman	Holder of a bus pass
Cllr Scott	Wife employed by LCCS Member of the Theatre Royal Resident in a Respark zone Parent of a child receiving school meals at Fishergate and Funfishers
Cllr Simpson-Laing	Committee Member of Out of Schools Club and parent of child attending Club Parent of a child who may benefit from free school meals
Cllr Sunderland	Works at the Citizens Advice Bureau
Cllr Waller	Holder of an allotment (34B Holgate Rd) Member of York Credit Union Governor of York High School and Westfield Primary School
Cllr Brian Watson (Lord Mayor)	Holder of a bus pass / bus tokens
Cllr Waudby	Holder of a bus pass

68. CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor announced that a painting of former Councillor Ken Cooper was due to be received, as a gift from his widow Mrs Dolly Cooper, at a small private function to be held at the Mansion House shortly.

69. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Lord Mayor reported that there had been one registration under the Council's Public Participation Scheme to speak at the meeting with regard to business associated with the setting of the Budget.

The speaker, Ken Beavan, commented that the Budget proposals had failed to take account of the need to cut down on bureaucracy and suggested that employment costs should be a major area for future savings, on an ongoing basis.

70. PETITIONS

The Lord Mayor reported that there were no petitions to be presented by Members at the meeting in relation to business associated with the setting of the Council's Budget.

71. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE ON THE COUNCIL'S DETAILED REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2009/10 AND THE COUNCIL'S CAPITAL PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 2009/10 – 2013/14

Cllr Waller moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, the recommendations of the Executive in respect of the Revenue Budget proposals for the 2009/10 Financial Year and the Capital Programme Budget for the period 2009/10 to 2013/14, as set out in the report at page 1 of the Council papers:

“Revenue Budget

The Executive recommends that Council approves and adopts the revenue budget proposals as set out below and in the annexes to the report of the Director of Resources (*and the amended annexes attached to the report at page 1 of the Council agenda*):

- (i) The net revenue expenditure requirement for 2009/10 of £117.686m, as set out in Annex 1 (*as amended*);
- (ii) The housing revenue account proposals outlined in Annex 12;
- (iii) The dedicated schools grant proposals outlined in the report;
- (iv) The revenue growth proposals of £8.969m on-going for 2009/10, plus one-off growth of £2.336m, outlined in Annex 3 (*as amended*), plus an additional £1.138m relating to one-off growth proposals brought forward from 2008/09;
- (v) The revenue savings proposals for 2009/10 of £5.228m outlined in Annex 4 (*as amended*);
- (vi) The use in 2009/10 of £3.474m revenue reserves, as outlined in Annex 6 (*as amended*);
- (vii) The use in of prior year Collection Fund surplus of £0.236m;
- (viii) The fees and charges proposals in Annex 8;
- (ix) The IT Development Plan proposals as shown in Annex 10;
- (xi) An advance from the Council's Venture Fund of £627k in 2009/10 and £626k in 2010/11 to be made to phase 2 of the [easy@york](#) project, as outlined in Annex 11, which will enable the project to continue until 2014/15 (*plus the £100k in 2009/10 and £200k in 2010/11, for the modernisation of the City's street lighting stock*).

The above recommendations resulting in a Council Tax increase of 4.25% for City of York Council.”

Capital Programme

The Executive recommends that Council:

- (i) Approve the revised capital programme of £185.515m, as set out in the report and annexes, and specifically the inclusion in the capital programme of new schemes totalling £56.958m.
- (ii) Approve:
 - a) the bids in paragraph 49 of the report, totalling £10,586m and
 - b) the additional externally funded schemes in paragraph 54, totalling £46,372m.
- (iii) Agree to provision being made in the capital programme, subject to further detailed reports being brought back to the Executive, for five further additional schemes, as follows, resulting in a total capital programme of £194.165m:
 - a) Community Stadium and athletics facilities -£4m (*this being an initial estimated net cost, in year 2011/12*)
 - New recycling facility – net cost £2.5m (*all in 2011/12*)
 - Acomb Office - £1.75m gross, £0.9m prudential borrowing, £0.85m net cost (*0.5m in 2010/11, £1.25m in 2011/12*)
 - d) Street light modernisation expenditure of £100,000 in 2009/10 and £200,000 in 2010/11, to be financed from the Venture Fund.
 - e) £100,000 in 2009/10 to fund a programme aimed at improving energy conservation standards in homes in the City.
- (iv) Note the overall funding position identified in the report, which highlights a current shortfall in resources over the next five years, which the Council will need to address through increased revenue contributions in the medium term.
- (v) Note the additional impact on the funding position of the inclusion of the five new schemes as set out in Recommendation (iii) above.
- (vi) Endorse the principle of any un-committed revenue budget under-spending, which may be considered as part of out-turn reports, being allocated to assist in balancing the capital programme.
- (vii) Agree to establish a Capital Reserve, to support the funding of the capital programme, to be funded from any future revenue under-spending, together with potential contributions from general reserves, this to be regularly updated as part of ongoing reviews of Council Reserves.
- (viii) Note, in view of the potential funding shortfall towards the end of the capital programme period, the need for regular updates of the 5 year plan to the Executive and Council, with such reports to provide an update on the overall 5 year plan and to identify any required amendments that may be needed to expenditure and resources projections, to ensure that the capital plan is fully resourced in the medium term.
- (ix) Agree the use of £170k of prudential borrowing in respect of the Millfield Lane Community Sports Centre.

(x) Approve the use of £111k of Housing Revenue Account (HRA) balances to fund the HRA capital programme elements in 2009/10.”

First Labour Amendment (Revenue Budget)

Cllr Scott then moved, and Cllr Potter seconded, the following amendment to the Executive’s Revenue Budget recommendations, on behalf of the Labour Group:

“In paragraph 13 (i), replace the figure ‘£117.686m’ with ‘£117.661m.’

In paragraph 13(iv):

Replace the figure ‘£8.969m’ with ‘£9.929m’.

After the words ‘ongoing for 2009/10’ in the same line, add the words ‘*subject to:*’ and insert the following text:

(a) *the inclusion of the following items to the revised Annex 3 (Annex B in the Council Summons papers - pages 11-15 refer):*

- 1) *ResPark fees - Reduction by 10%* £71k
- 2) *CYC Car Park Fees for Resident Badge Holders - Freeze parking charges* £33k
- 3) *Bus Tokens - restore to £40* £170k
- 4) *Noise Nuisance Reduction Service Fund – restore to current levels* £24k
- 5) *School Meals - from September reduce by £1.00 to £1.05 school meals for all Primary Pupils and freeze the cost at £2.05 for Secondary Pupils* £804k
- 6) *Older People’s Assembly – funding* £10k
- 7) *Community Centres – Bell Farm, Foxwood and Tang Hall additional running costs of £1k each* £3k
- 8) *Mansion House urgent repairs -revenue contribution to a capital scheme* £65k
- 9) *Scrutiny Officer – new post* £25k

b) *the deletion of the following from the revised Annex 3 (Annex B in the Council Summons papers – pages 11-15 refer):*

- 1) *(CSCH1) – Inflation on Highway Maintenance* -£150

(c) *alterations to the following items contained in the revised Annex 3 (Annex B in the Council Summons papers – pages 11-15 refer):*

- 1) *(NSG_G2) – Bin Replacement reduction from £90k to £45k* -£45k
- 2) *Information Technology Budget – reduce from £350k to £300k* -£50k
- 3) *(CSCH1) ResPark Review - that the review be undertaken to investigate the physical size and eco-friendly aspects of vehicles.*

In line 3 of the same paragraph, replace the figure ‘£2.336m’ with ‘£2.649m’ and after that figure add the following text:

‘with the following alterations:

- 1) *Management Structure Review - to produce a report with the intention of reducing number of Directors* £30k
- 2) *Credit Crunch Economic Development - to be combined with the £186k LAGBI grant with a direction that it be spent at the guidance of the Economic Development Partnership* £250k
- 3) *Webcasting Trial* £33k’

In paragraph 13(v), replace the figure '£5.228m' with '£6.526m'.

At the end of paragraph 13(v), add the words:

'subject to:

(a) the inclusion of the following to the revised Annex 4 (Annex C in the papers in the Council Summons, pages 17-28 refer):

<i>1) Reducing Number of Directors, Ass Directors and Managers</i>	<i>£200k</i>
<i>2) Centralise HR</i>	<i>£30k</i>
<i>3) Advertising on bins (part year income)</i>	<i>£20k</i>
<i>4) Advertising columns (part year income)</i>	<i>£25k</i>
<i>5) Advertising on roundabouts (part year income)</i>	<i>£25k</i>
<i>6) (CSHS3) Highway and Footpath</i>	<i>£244k</i>
<i>7) (LS15) Library opening hours – review and rationalize</i>	<i>£8k</i>
<i>8) Bootham Bar Toilets - close</i>	<i>£10k</i>
<i>9) Bridge Inspection - reduce</i>	<i>£8k</i>
<i>10) Council Tax – move the collection date to the 1st of the month</i>	<i>£10k</i>
<i>11) External Legal Fees and use of Consultants – Reduce</i>	<i>£200k</i>
<i>12) Departmental Travel Budgets reduction</i>	<i>£50k</i>
<i>13) Across Directorate Increase in Vacancy Factors</i>	<i>£200k</i>
<i>14) Environmental Enforcement Team – remove</i>	<i>£52k</i>
<i>15) Parking Services Cashiers – combine with City Finance</i>	<i>£20k</i>
<i>16) Chewing Gum Machine – reduce usage spend</i>	<i>£17k</i>
<i>17) Trade Waste - increase charge by 2%</i>	<i>£35k</i>
<i>18) Your City - cancel</i>	<i>£11k</i>
<i>19) York Grant 2.5% increase</i>	<i>£1k</i>
<i>20) HMO Licence 2.5% increase</i>	<i>£2k</i>

(b) the deletion of the following from the revised Annex 4 (Annex C in the papers in the Council Summons, pages 17-28 refer):

<i>1) Economic Development saving</i>	<i>£25k</i>
<i>2) (NSSEO_S1) Street Environment Officer</i>	<i>£29k</i>
<i>3) (CXLS2) Democracy Post – part time saving</i>	<i>£15k</i>
<i>4) (CXMS2) Member Services 0.6 post</i>	<i>£11k</i>
<i>5) (CXHS1) Trade Union Facility time</i>	<i>£20k</i>

and (c) to alterations to the following items contained in the revised Annex 4 (Annex C in the papers in the Council Summons, pages 17-28 refer):

<i>1) Increase Standard Stay Car Parking for Non Residents by 10p to 30p per hour and freeze the charge for York's Resident badge holders by deleting the proposed 10p increase (CSHS1)</i>	<i>£115k</i>
<i>2) Corporate Energy Cost Efficiency Target – increase from 75k to 248k</i>	<i>£173k</i>
<i>3) (HASS 7) Efficiency against premises, supplies and service budgets - increase by an extra 0.5% from £200k to £234k</i>	<i>£34k</i>
<i>4) (HASS15) Disability Related Expenditure disregard– reverse cut from 80% to 75%</i>	<i>-£92k</i>

HASS 15 amend from £180k by £92k to £88k.'

In paragraph 13(vi), replace the figure '£3.474m' with '£3.787m'

At the end of that paragraph, add the words:

'subject to:

(a) the inclusion of the following:

- 1) *Management Structure Review - to produce a report with the intention of reducing number of Directors.* £30k
- 2) *Credit Crunch Economic Development - to be combined with the £186k LAGBI grant with a direction that it be spent at the guidance of the Economic Development Partnership* £250k
- 3) *Webcasting Trial* £33k'

At the end of paragraph 13(viii), add the following:

‘as affected by the changes to the revised Annex 3 (Annex B in the papers to the Council Summons – pages 11-15 refer)

Note; such changes being in relation to new growth as follows:

- 1) Respark reduction by 10% £71k
- 2) CYC Car Park Fees for Resident Badge Holders - Freeze parking charges £33k
- 3) Increase Standard Stay Car Parking for Non Residents by 10p to 30p per hour and freeze the charge for York’s Resident badge holders by deleting the proposed 10p increase £115k
- 5) Increase in commercial waste by 2% £35k
- 6) York Grant 2.5% increase £1k
- 7) HMO Licence 2.5% increase £2k

At the end of paragraph 13(ix), add *‘subject to the reduction of £50k from the Plan further to the proposed saving in revenue growth, in respect of which the Director of Resources is asked to determine how such saving will be achieved.’*

In paragraph 13(x), on line 5, after the words ‘street light stock’, add *‘and also £100k for York Markets economic stimulus’*

At the end of paragraph 13 and after 13(x) specifically, in the paragraph that starts ‘The above recommendations’, replace the figure ‘4.25%’ with ‘3.75%’.

On being put to the vote, the above amendment was declared LOST.

Conservative Amendment (Revenue Budget)

Cllr Gillies then moved, and Cllr Healey seconded, the following amendment to the Executive’s Revenue Budget recommendations, on behalf of the Conservative Group:

“We call upon the Executive to amend its Recommendations as set out in the Council Summons as follows:-

Net Revenue Expenditure

On page 4, paragraph 13, recommendation (i), replace ‘£117.686m’ with ‘£117.010m’.

Growth

On page 4, paragraph 13, recommendation (iv), replace ‘£8.969m on-going for 2009/10’ with ‘8.631m ongoing for 2009/10’.

At the end of the paragraph add the words *‘subject to the following amendment to the revised Annex A at page 9: replace the corporate growth*

for pay increment of £882k with a figure of £544k to be delivered through controlling the staffing budgets.'

Savings

On page 4, paragraph 13, recommendation (v) replace '£5.228m' with '£5.566m'.

At the end of the clause add the following note:

'Additional revenue savings of £338k will be delivered through a reduction in external consultancy costs, a review of legal services/costs with a view to providing greater in-house capability and reduced external legal fees and improved sickness absence resulting in improved productivity and reduced costs. The Director of Resources shall determine the detailed breakdown of savings across the areas following further review.'

Council Tax

On page 5, second paragraph, replace 'a Council Tax increase of 4.25%' with 'a Council Tax increase of 3.25%'.

On being put to the vote, the above amendment was declared CARRIED.

Second Labour Amendment (Capital Programme)

Cllr Simpson-Laing then moved, and Cllr Hudson seconded, the following amendment to the Executive's Capital Programme Budget recommendations, on behalf of the Labour Group:

"In paragraph 14(i), replace the figure '£185.515m' with '£185.580m' and the figure £56.958m with '£57.023m'.

In paragraph 14(ii) a) (as revised per erratum), replace the figure '£10.586m' with '£10.651m', then add the words *'to include essential external repairs to the Mansion House, costing £65k approx'*.

In paragraph 14(iii), replace the figure '£194.165m' with '£194.230m (including Mansion House repairs)'."

On being put to the vote, the above amendment was declared CARRIED.

On being put to the vote the main motion, as amended, was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendations of the Executive in relation to the Revenue Budget for the 2009/10 Financial Year and the Capital Programme Budget for the period 2009/10 to 2013/14, as amended, be approved, as follows:

Revenue Budget

The Executive recommends that Council approves and adopts the revenue budget proposals as set out below and in the annexes to the report of the Director of Resources (and the amended annexes attached to this report):-

- (i) The net revenue expenditure requirement for 2009/10 of £117.010m, as set out in Annex 1 (as amended);
- (ii) The housing revenue account proposals outlined in Annex 12;
- (iii) The dedicated schools grant proposals outlined in the report;
- (iv) The revenue growth proposals of £8.631m on-going for 2009/10, plus one-off growth of £2.336m, outlined in Annex 3 (as amended), plus an additional £1.138m relating to one-off growth proposals brought forward from 2008/09, subject to the following amendment to the revised Annex A at page 9: replace the corporate growth for pay increment of £882k with a figure of £544k, to be delivered through controlling the staffing budgets.
- (v) The revenue savings proposals for 2009/10 of £5.566m outlined in Annex 4 (as amended); additional revenue savings of £338k will be delivered through a reduction in external consultancy costs, a review of legal services/costs with a view to providing greater in-house capability and reduced external legal fees and improved sickness absence resulting in improved productivity and reduced costs. The Director of Resources shall determine the detailed breakdown of savings across the areas following further review.
- (vi) The use in 2009/10 of £3.474m revenue reserves, as outlined in Annex 6 (as amended);
- (vii) The use in of prior year Collection Fund surplus of £0.236m;
- (viii) The fees and charges proposals in Annex 8;
- (ix) The IT Development Plan proposals as shown in Annex 10;
- (xi) An advance from the Council's Venture Fund of £627k in 2009/10 and £626k in 2010/11 to be made to phase 2 of the [easy@york](#) project, as outlined in Annex 11, which will enable the project to continue until 2014/15 (plus the £100k in 2009/10 and £200k in 2010/11, for the modernisation of the City's street lighting stock).

The above recommendations resulting in a Council Tax increase of 3.25% for City of York Council.

Capital Programme

That Council:

- (i) Approve the revised capital programme of £185.580m, as set out in the report and annexes, and specifically the inclusion in the capital programme of new schemes totalling £57.023m
- (ii) Approve:
 - a) the bids in paragraph 49 of the report, totalling £10.651m, to include essential external repairs to the Mansion House, costing £65k approx. and

b) the additional externally funded schemes in paragraph 54, totalling £46.372m.

(iii) Agree to provision being made in the capital programme, subject to further detailed reports being brought back to the Executive, for five further additional schemes, as follows, resulting in a total capital programme of:£194.230m(including Mansion House repairs)

a) Community Stadium and athletics facilities -£4m (this being an initial estimated net cost, in year 2011/12)

b) New recycling facility – net cost £2.5m (all in 2011/12)

c) Acomb Office - £1.75m gross, £0.9m prudential borrowing, £0.85m net cost (0.5m in 2010/11, £1.25m in 2011/12)

d) Street light modernisation expenditure of £100,000 in 2009/10 and £200,000 in 2010/11, to be financed from the Venture Fund.

e) £100,000 in 2009/10 to fund a programme aimed at improving energy conservation standards in homes in the City.

(iv) Note the overall funding position identified in the report, which highlights a current shortfall in resources over the next five years, which the Council will need to address through increased revenue contributions in the medium term.

(v) Note the additional impact on the funding position of the inclusion of the five new schemes as set out in Recommendation (iii) above.

(vi) Endorse the principle of any un-committed revenue budget under-spending, which may be considered as part of out-turn reports, being allocated to assist in balancing the capital programme.

(vii) Agree to establish a Capital Reserve, to support the funding of the capital programme, to be funded from any future revenue under-spending, together with potential contributions from general reserves, this to be regularly updated as part of ongoing reviews of Council Reserves.

(viii) Note, in view of the potential funding shortfall towards the end of the capital programme period, the need for regular updates of the 5 year plan to the Executive and Council, with such reports to provide an update on the overall 5 year plan and to identify any required amendments that may be needed to expenditure and resources projections, to ensure that the capital plan is fully resourced in the medium term.

(ix) Agree the use of £170k of prudential borrowing in respect of the Millfield Lane Community Sports Centre.

(x) Approve the use of £111k of Housing Revenue Account (HRA) balances to fund the HRA capital programme elements in 2009/10.

72. COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION 2009/10

In consequence of the amendments to the Revenue Budget proposals approved under the previous item, a revised version of the Council Tax Resolution set out in the report at page 43 of the Council papers was circulated around the Chamber.

Councillor Waller moved, and Councillor Runciman seconded, the revised Council Tax Resolution for 2009/2010, as set out in that document.

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the revised Council Tax Resolution for 2009/2010, as set out in the document circulated around the Council Chamber, be approved, as follows:

(i) COUNCIL TAX BASE

That it be noted that the Director of Resources, under his delegated authority, calculated the following amounts for the year 2009/10 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a) Whole of the Council's Area

65,732.91 being the amount calculated in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 and the Local Government Act 2003, as its Council Tax Base for the year.

(b) Parts of the Council's Area

the amounts mentioned in Column 1 of Schedule A to this Resolution, being the amounts calculated in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations and the Local Government Act 2003, as the amounts of its Council Tax Base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(ii) DISTRICT / PARISH COUNCIL TAX RATES

That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a) District/Parish Gross Expenditure

£346,486,384.00 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act.

(b) Income

£231,689,000.00 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act.

(c) District/Parish Net Expenditure

£114,797,384.00 being the amount by which the aggregate at 11(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 11(b) above, calculated

by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.

d) Government Grants and Collection Fund Surpluses

£43,716,480 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant, increased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its Collection Fund to its General Fund in accordance with Regulation 4(7) of the Local Government Changes for England (Collection Fund Surpluses and Deficits) Regulations 1995 and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its Collection Fund to its General Fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Local Government Changes for England)(Community Charges) Directions under Section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 made on 22 November, 1995.

(e) Basic Amount of Tax (including average parish precepts)

£1,081.3595 being the amount at 11(c) above less the amount at 11(d) above, all divided by the amount at 10(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(f) Parish Precepts and Special Expenses

£584,984.00 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act.

(g) Basic Amount of Tax (Unparished Area)

£1,072.46 being the amount at 11(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 11(f) above by the amount at 10(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.

(h) Basic Amount of Tax (Parished Areas and Special Expenses Areas)

The amounts mentioned in Column 2 of Schedule A to this Resolution, being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 11(g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned divided in each case by the amount at 10(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(i) District/Parish Council Tax Rates

The amounts mentioned in Columns 3 A to H of Schedule A to this Resolution, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 11(g) and 11(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed

in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

(iii) NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY TAX RATES

That it be noted that for the year 2009/10 the North Yorkshire Police Authority has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
132.78	154.91	177.04	199.17	243.43	287.69	331.95	398.34

(iv) NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY TAX RATES

That it be noted that for the year 2009/10 the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority has stated the following amounts in precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
40.59	47.36	54.12	60.89	74.42	87.95	101.48	121.78

(v) TOTAL COUNCIL TAX RATES

That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 11(i), 12 and 13 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts mentioned in Schedule B to this Resolution as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2009/10 for each of the categories of dwellings shown therein.¹

Action Required

1. Make arrangements to circulate Council Tax bills for the SA agreed amounts.

73. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE ON THE COUNCIL'S TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR 2009/10 - 2013/14

Cllr Waller moved, and Cllr Runciman seconded, the recommendations of the Executive in respect of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2009/10 to 2013/14, as set out in the report at page 53 of the Council papers:

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendations of the Executive in respect of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2009/10 to 2013/14 be approved and adopted, as set out below (*references to 'the report' relate to the report to the Executive meeting on 16 February 2009*):

- (i) The Prudential Indicators for 2009/10, as set out in Annex A to the report;
- (ii) The proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2009/10;
- (iii) The Specified and Non-specified investments schedule;
- (iv) The revised Treasury Management Policy and Treasury Management Practices, as set out in Annexes C and D to the report.

74. APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

Cllr Waller moved, and Cllr Moore seconded, the recommendations in respect of the establishment of an Appointments Committee for the post of Director of Neighbourhood Services, as set out in the report of the Chief Executive at page 57 of the Council papers.

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved and that consequently:

- (i) An Appointments Committee be established consisting of five members, two from the Liberal Democrat Group, two from Labour and one Conservative, as follows:
 - Councillors King and Potter
 - Councillors Waller and Reid
 - Councillor Gillies.¹
- (ii) The Appointments Committee be authorised to conduct the final interviews, select a successful candidate and make an offer of employment subject to the necessary employment procedures.¹

Action Required

1. Convene a meeting of the Appointments Committee and TP
arrange the recruitment process.

Cllr B Watson

LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.30 pm and concluded at 9.25 pm]

Leader's Report to Full Council 2nd April 2009

Local Economy

Clearly support for the local economy and job prospects is the key priority for the council in these days of rising unemployment across the nation. Whilst jobless levels in the city are lower than at regional or national level, strenuous efforts are being made by the council to support local businesses to retain jobs, and to help people set up new businesses.

The council was involved with two events at the Racecourse organised in partnership with Yorkshire Forward, working with York businesses and residents to respond to the recession. On 10th March there was the second of the "Doing Business with the Council" sessions to assist local businesses to understand how they get onto the council's supplier list, and find out about the tendering processes. The event on the 11th was focussed at individuals in terms of benefits advice, accessing training and skills, and support for people to set up their own businesses.



York Racecourse 10th and 11th March

On the same day the specific report for York from the Centre for Cities was launched. This will give a timely update to parts of the Future York report given the national downturn in the economy, and suggestions on the future direction for the York economy. The full report is available from the web at <http://www.centreforcities.org/york>

The report recommends that:

- York - its Council, the University of York, Science City York and Yorkshire Forward should use the recent expansion of the University of York to attract further investment into York and foster existing and attract new businesses.
- York needs to make sure that progress on the York Northwest site in the city centre stays on track. This means establishing a clear consensus on the need for sustainable economic growth and development in the city, prioritising staff resources and capacity towards the site and investigating new infrastructure funding models to finance the project



I am pleased to report to council that in the case of the latter point the Leeds City Region has supported the progression of York North West (see photo above) as a joint ‘trailblazer’ in the area for the Urban Eco Settlement funds which replaced the eco-town allocation for Leeds City Region. The bid is for £19.5 million which will sent to central government for approval. This should provide the resources necessary for infrastructure to access the site, and for the additional costs associated with increasing the environmental standards of the housing built on that development. More details are available from <http://www.leedscityregion.gov.uk/research.aspx>

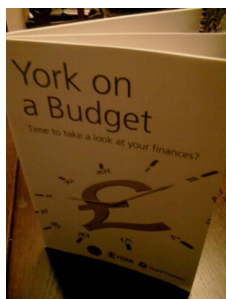
One City



The council is drawing together help for individuals and businesses in one place on the council website, and I would encourage all members to utilise this to help connect their residents with the assistance that is available.

Kingsway West Project

As part of the council's commitment to tackling social exclusion, the Kingsway West Project has been piloting intensive outreach work in the part of the Westfield Ward which had been identified as being in the highest deprivation in the city. There has been successful partnership working. There have been 170 contacts by Future Prospects since January resulting in , amongst other outcomes, 25 people accessing skills training, and 5 gaining employment. The area has also received copies of the booklet "York on a Budget" which was launched recently, and on a visit to Acomb Library at an exhibition of the work of the project, the Archbishop of York was also given a copy.



Network Rail

I have met with Richard Lungmuss, the recently appointed Route Director for Network Rail, and Simon Leyshon, Route Enhancement Manager to discuss the potential job losses at Network Rail in York. Richard has been in post for 6 weeks and is in the process of moving down from Edinburgh. The suggestion from the Unions that the numbers could be as high as 220 were agreed as roughly correct, but the team that would be moving is the NDS (National Delivery Service) which has not been located in York for that many years. No other functions would be moving from York. There are around 2000 jobs in York (33,000 nationally with 3,500 planned to be at the Milton Keynes HQ). The comments that were made were that York would remain as a Railway City as far as they were concerned. Clearly the job losses come at a very bad time for those concerned and I made sure that Network Rail were aware of the services of Future Prospects in terms of helping those employees who did not want to move to Milton Keynes. There did appear to be significant hope that some people impacted by the job losses could be redeployed within Network Rail in York.

Barbican

The Executive received a report on the Barbican on 3rd March as an update on the progress that had been made since the council took the Barbican Auditorium back from the conditional development agreement with Absolute Leisure in January. A specialist local partner LHL has been commissioned to undertake a full condition survey. This will assist with the short and long term uses of the building. Another

team of specialists working on the building's future plans are Drivers Jonas who have been commissioned to look at the future use of the building in the light of their experience of the entertainment and leisure industries.

The stone is being cut for the rotunda and the repairs should be completed over the next two weeks which should allow the scaffolding to be taken down.

Meetings have been held with a wide range of organisations in the city who have expressed an interest in being involved with future activities in the Auditorium. These extend from the Theatre Royal and Opera House, to "One Voice" and the organisers for the Community Carol Service.

Pete Dwyer, Director of Learning Culture and Children's Services, continues to take the lead on the officer team working on the project. There will be a further report to Executive on 28th April with further information on the proposed uses of the site which will cover the information and recommendations from the specialists being used currently.

Council Headquarters

The Executive received an update report on the progress being made with the Headquarters project on 3rd February. The Executive agreed the criteria by which the bids would be evaluated for progressing to third stage of the process when the bidders will be invited to submit detailed proposals. At the same meeting the Executive approved a new initiative to set up an office of the future as a working model to pilot new workplace ideas in advance of the move to the new headquarters building.

In the week commencing 12th January 5 bidders were invited to participate in the competitive dialogue process and submit outline solutions by 16th February. Dialogue meetings were held with each of the developers (27th to 29th January).

Following the evaluation process two bidders achieved more than a 50% score on the criteria, and were invited to continue in the process.

We await the results from the Hungate Scrutiny Committee with regards to the information on the operation of English Heritage in the process, and I hope that there will be much earlier indication from them with future plans of objections that they may have. The Hungate site owned by the council is a valuable employment site, and with the future pressure on public finances, following the debts being generated by the current government, there will be good reason for more Whitehall jobs to leave expensive central London offices, and Hungate will be there.

The two bidders for the stage 3 process were announced on 23rd March, being Norwich Union (Yorkshire House) and Tarras Park Properties Ltd (West Offices). The public consultation document will be prepared throughout April with illustrations and descriptions developed by the bidders so that the document can be delivered across the city from early May. We will produce a document explaining the reasons why we need to move to a new HQ, the benefits to residents, and financial savings.

The communications strategy will involve a three day exhibition, displays, and pages on the council website which will assist the public to appreciate the designs that are on offer. I am sure that there will be thorough examination of the two schemes.

The public consultation will feed into the detailed solutions plans from the two bidders which will be returned to the council in July this year.

The process is still on track for a completed headquarters by late 2012 as set in the timetable agreed in the Executive report on 21/10/08.

Private Sector Housing Strategy

The Executive has approved the private sector housing strategy which will take the council up to 2013. It is a requirement that such a strategy is produced every 5 years.

The last survey done in 2003 contained 5 key objectives as follows:-

- Introduction of a new grants policy to include 3 categories of grants, disabled facilities grants, repair grants and landlord grants
- Preparation of an empty homes policy
- Setting up a Home Improvement Agency
- Assessment of the impact of the Housing Act 2004 and the introduction of mandatory licensing
- Establishment of a sub regional equity release scheme for owner occupiers who are not eligible for grant assistance

Successes are as follows:-

- A reduction in the overall proportion of unfit homes from 4.9% in 2002 to 2.1% - a reduction of 1793 dwellings. The 2008 national average was 3.9%.
- Less than 20% of private sector homes failing the Decent Homes standard compared with a national average of 37.5%.
- Less than 10% of homes containing hazards detrimental to health compared with a national average of 23.5%
- Almost 80% of vulnerable private sector households living in homes classed as Decent, well ahead of the government target of 70% by 2010.
- Very low rates of long term empty properties and overcrowding
- A significant increase in the overall energy efficiency of dwellings to levels well above the national average. (Energy efficiency is measured using the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) expressed on a scale of 1 – 100 – the higher the number the more energy efficient the home. Average SAP levels in the city have increased from 47 in 2002 to 65 in 2008 compared to a national average of 47).

The 2008 survey undertook a condition survey of private owner occupied and private rented housing. It has concluded that whilst overall conditions in the city are better

than the national average and have significantly improved since 2002, there are some underlying issues to be addressed eg Micklegate, Hull Road and Guildhall Wards have above average rates of poor condition.

The five aims for the next 5 years are as follows:-

- Encourage and support owner occupiers to maintain and repair their homes and introduce energy efficiency measures
- Encourage private landlords to provide good quality and well managed properties for their tenants
- Help people whose independence may be at risk to remain in or return to their homes
- Maximise use of existing housing stock to increase the supply of decent affordable homes
- Strengthen existing partnerships and develop new ones to support the private housing sector

Carbon Management Programme

The Executive considered the update to the Carbon Management programme on 3rd March . The carbon management programme is inextricably linked to the Council's energy savings initiatives. Additional investment will be made available for reducing energy consumption following the budget decisions taken for 2009/10.

Initiatives include



- street lighting modernisation,
- home energy insulation,
- a new one stop shop in Acomb which will be built to a sustainable design,
- new environmentally friendly school buildings

- initiatives aimed at encouraging the use of low emission methods of transportation.

A significant saving will come when the Council occupies its new HQ office building. As a result the Council is now better placed to control its energy consumption and costs over the next few years.

The officer paper explains the constraints that the Salix matched funding programme places on the Council. Essentially Salix are looking for short payback periods for any capital investment. The projects selected will do that. Some, however, are for schools and will not impact on the Council's revenue expenditure, while any revenue savings from the others will initially have to be used to repay the capital investment.

Outside the Salix and building based savings, it is important that other CO2 producing activities are addressed. Progress will be made with streetlight and bollard modernisation during the next 12 months but this will still leave Council housing and CYC transport use as major carbon generators. Therefore the proposals have been modified to require responsible Directors to provide visibility, in the next update, of the programmes that they intend to implement over the next 4 years aimed at tackling these important areas.

Access York Phase 1

The Executive received a report on the Access York Phase 1 Park and Ride Development on 3rd February. Good progress is being made on designing the 3 new park and ride sites. Specification changes reflected the need to address local conditions such as the need to preserve wildlife corridors. In addition the specification now includes additional bus priority measures which will aid the long-term viability of the services to be provided from the sites.

Further consultation prior to the submission of a planning application will be required particularly at the Wigginton Road site but the opportunities there to provide a good service for those accessing the hospital together with the opportunity to link the route to the Clifton Moor development may, in reality, reduce the number of choices available.

The Executive noted that the Park and Ride fleet has now been upgraded, and the most recent usage figures show a 6% increase in passenger trips compared to the previous year.

Terry's Development – Proposed New Link Road

Following the motion to the Full Council meeting on 25th September instructing officer to undertake a feasibility study to consider the potential implications of the

creation of a link road between Bishopthorpe Road and Sim Balk Lane the Executive received a report on 17th March.

The officer report detailed that the provision of a Bishopthorpe by pass on the route suggested by the motion would actually worsen traffic conditions on part of Bishopthorpe Road, whilst bring little relief to Tadcaster Road.

It would cost over £6 million which would make a very expensive scheme and beyond the resources of the Councils capital programme to fund. Critically it would impinge into the Green Belt setting an undesirable precedent. This could have a knock on effect across the whole City if we were to allow incremental fringe development solely as a way of funding transport infrastructure schemes.

The Executive requested that officers address local traffic issues by further developing options aimed at improving public transport, cycling, and pedestrian facilities in the vicinity of the former Terry's factory site.

CPA Result for 2007/08

The Executive received on 17th March the report on the result of York's Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) and Direction of Travel (DoT) statement for 2007/08. It was unfortunate that even though there was an increased combined score across the services with improved scores in Housing (to 4 star) and Culture (from 2 to 3 star) maintenance of 4 star rating for Children's Services and 3 star rating for 'Use of Resources', Benefits, and Environment that the overall scoring of the council was reduced.

The statement did highlight the following;

- Strong managerial leadership and effective political leadership, which is enabling the council to work well with its partners; and
- Sustained focus on improving corporate capacity through the delivery of the Single Improvement Plan

The corporate assessment inspection took place in early 2008 and since then the council has developed a Single Improvement Plan to enhance organisational effectiveness, and address areas for improvement. The Executive received an update on the progress has been made on the Single Improvement plan.

Cllr Andrew Waller

MEETING	EXECUTIVE
DATE	3 FEBRUARY 2009
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS WALLER (CHAIR), STEVE GALLOWAY, SUE GALLOWAY, MOORE, REID, RUNCIMAN AND VASSIE

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

178. MINUTES OF WORKING GROUPS

[See also under Part A minutes]

Members considered a report which presented the minutes of recent meetings of the Social Inclusion Working Group (SIWG), the Local Development Framework Working Group (LDFWG) and the Young People's Working Group (YPWG).

Minutes of the following meetings were annexed to the report:

- SIWG – meetings on 19 November 2008 (Annex A) and 14 January 2009 (Annex B)
- LDFWG – meeting on 6 January 2009 (Annex C)
- YPWG – meeting on 15 January 2009 (Annex D).

Members were asked to consider in particular the recommendation in Minute 32 of the SIWG minutes at Annex B, that a total of four disability groups be invited to nominate representatives for appointment to the Group as non-voting co-opted members. It was noted that the current approved membership included only two co-opted members from each of the equality 'strands'. Approval of this recommendation would therefore require a recommendation to Council to increase the membership of the Group.

Having noted the comments of the Shadow Executive on this item, it was

RECOMMENDED: That the recommendation in Minute 32 of the Social Inclusion Working Group meeting on 14 January 2009 be approved and that the membership of the Group be increased accordingly, to include two additional non-

voting co-opted Members representing the equalities disability strand.

REASON: In accordance with the advice of the Social Inclusion Working Group.

A Waller, Chair

[The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.45 pm].

Scrutiny Report To Council

Report of the Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee

1. This report is submitted by the Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC), in accordance with the constitutional requirements set out in Standing Order 4.3(l) to update Council on scrutiny work during the period of activity since the last Council meeting and to set out any recommendations such as may be made to Council in relation to that work.

Update on Scrutiny Work

SMC

2. There have been two meetings of SMC since the last update to Council, at which we considered reports on the following:

Updates on the implementation of recommendations

3. Scrutiny Management Committee have received updates on the implementation of the recommendations from the review on Recycling and Reuse, the review of City Centre Retailing and the review on Reducing Carbon Emissions.

Scrutiny Annual Report

4. Committee received a draft of the Scrutiny Report and suggested a few minor amendments before its presentation to this meeting of Full Council.

Protocol for Joint Scrutiny Reviews

5. Members of the Committee also received a revised protocol to enable York to host joint scrutiny reviews as and when the need arises. Members had now approved the protocol subject to some alterations regarding proportionality of joint committees.

Final Report of the 'Cultural Quarter' Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review

6. SMC has also received the final report of the 'Cultural Quarter' Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review and agreed that the report and its associated annexes be noted, accepted and forwarded to the Executive.
7. Finally the Committee approved a short extension to the timeframe of the Planning Enforcement Ad Hoc Scrutiny Review and received an information report regarding Councillor Call for Action (CCfA), which came into force on 1st April 2009. The report highlighted how the overview and scrutiny function in York has responded to the forthcoming new requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and highlighted the need to provide some best practice guidance for Members for resolving potential CCfAs. As a result SMC have commissioned a scrutiny report

outlining best practice from those Council's who have piloted CCfA in order to establish some agreed working practices for York.

Health Scrutiny Committee

8. Since last Council Health Scrutiny Committee has considered two feasibility reports in relation to a 'Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy' and 'Access to Dental Services in York' registered by Councillor Susan Galloway and Councillor Moore respectively. Health Scrutiny Committee decided not to go ahead with either of these at the moment but have requested further information in the form of briefing notes on both topics.
9. The Committee has continued work on the Annual Health Check, which is the system that the Healthcare Commission uses to assess the performance of all NHS Trusts and a few other types of organisations in the NHS in England. The Health Scrutiny Committee will work with North Yorkshire and York Primary Care Trust (NYYPCT), York Hospital Foundation Trust and Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) to produce submissions to the Healthcare Commission by the end of April 2009.
10. The Committee also continues its work on understanding its relationship with Local Involvement Networks (LINKs), and in defining its relationship with the network. It has received a further update report regarding current progress and the steps and measures that need to be taken to ensure that LINKs establishes an effective working relationship with the Health Scrutiny Committee.

Education Scrutiny Committee

11. The Education Scrutiny Committee has met once since they last reported to Council. They have received an update on the recommendations stemming from the following scrutiny reviews and signed those off that have been implemented:
 - Inclusion in York Schools
 - Post 16 inclusion
 - School Governors
12. Work has continued on the review of the 'Extended Schools Agenda in York'. The Committee held a consultation event for schools and private providers of childcare and after school clubs in order to gather their views on the quality cost and up-take of the current provision in York. Feedback from the event is being fed into a draft final report which the Committee are due to consider at their next meeting.

Cultural Quarter Ad-hoc Scrutiny Sub-Committee

13. The work of this Sub-Committee is now complete and the final report was presented to SMC on 24th March 2009. The report will shortly be presented to the Executive for approval.

Hungate Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Committee

14. This Committee has met twice since the last report to Council. At the first of those meetings they discussed the information gathered to date, including the documentation provide by English Heritage as a result of a 'Freedom of Information' This resulted in a number of pertinent questions being raised and the Committee therefore agreed to invite English Heritage to attend their next meeting. They also requested further information regarding budgetary matters and the Strategic Site Study report and agreed to make a further 'Freedom of Information' request to CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment).
15. At their second meeting, the Committee were disappointed that English Heritage had refused to meet with them again and agreed to make a further request to them to attend their next meeting. Having considered all the other new information gathered, the Committee agreed to hold an informal meeting to meet with a representative of York Civic Trust and the former Executive portfolio holder for Resources, Quentin MacDonald. This meeting is due to take place on 9 April and the Committee plan to meet again on 1 May 2009 to consider and agree their final report.

Planning Enforcement Scrutiny Ad-hoc Sub-Committee

16. This Ad-hoc Scrutiny Sub-Committee has met twice since last Council. At the first of these meetings the Committee received an interim report containing the evidence gathered to date. Members of the Committee then formulated some draft recommendations for inclusion in the final report. The draft final report was presented to Members at their second meeting where it was agreed that further information was still required to complete the review. In light of this the Committee requested an extension to the timeframe of the review in order to gather the further evidence required. This was granted by SMC at a meeting on 24th March 2009. The Committee has scheduled two further meetings in April and May in order to complete the review.

Councillor John Galvin
Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee

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Full Council**2 April 2009**

Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services

Restructure of Scrutiny & Decision Making Process**Summary**

1. This report presents the conclusions of the Working Group tasked with making recommendations in regard to the restructuring of Scrutiny and the Executive Member decision making process.

Background

2. At Full Council in November 2008 it was agreed to remove EMAPs from the decision making structure and replace the existing Scrutiny Committees with an increased No. of alternative Scrutiny Committees.
3. A Working Group of Council, made up of one member from each of the political groups, was formed to consider the detailed implementation of the changes agreed at Full Council in November 2008, and the consequential changes required to the Constitution.
4. At Full Council in January 2009, following the first meeting of the Working Group, Members agreed new terms of reference for the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC). They also agreed to the creation of five new cross cutting scrutiny committees based around the LAA themes and the functions which would be common to all of those new standing scrutiny committees.

Consultation

5. In early March 2009 the Working Group met to consider:
 - the most practical and transparent method for making Executive Member decisions whilst ensuring no loss of provision for the public to access relevant reports, make representations in advance of a decision, and participate at the point of decision making
 - the names and composition of the new Scrutiny Committees
 - The composition of SMC
 - Sourcing some external research support for the scrutiny team

Options

6. Having considered the information within this report, Members may choose whether or not to approve the recommendations made within this report.

Analysis

7. In regard to Executive Member decision making, the Working Group suggests:
 - individual Executive Member Decision Making Sessions should be held on Tuesdays at 4pm following either EBS or meetings of the Executive
 - These sessions should occur four-weekly e.g.
 - Week 1 = Decision Session of the Executive Leader &
Decision Session of the Executive Member for City Strategy
 - Week 2 = Decision Session of the Executive Member for HASS &
Decision Session of the Executive Member for Children's Services
 - Week 3 = Decision Session of the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods &
Decision Session of the Executive Member for Leisure & Culture
 - Week 4 = Decision Session of the Executive Member for Resources
 - The same rules should continue to apply in relation to Executive Member items appearing on the Forward Plan.
 - Information only reports should no longer appear on the agendas for Executive Members. Instead, an on-line Information log should be introduced which allows officers to submit information only / update reports which require no decision. The log should be made visible to all Members, officers and the public. Each entry should show which portfolio area the report relates to, the name of the report author and the date of submission, and the log should contain a search mechanism to enable items of interest to be easily found. Finally, all Members should receive email notification each time a new report is submitted which gives a summary of the new report and provides a direct link to the council website to allow Members to read the full report if they so choose.
 - Each Executive Member agenda should include a standard item which lists all the information only reports added to the log since the Member's last decision making session, thus enabling any members of the public to register to speak on any of the information only reports and allowing the Executive Member to publicly ask any pertinent questions about a report on the log and have those answers recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

- The reports presented to Executive Members relating to petitions are currently handled in a variety of different ways, which is not ideal. The Working Group agreed that in order to ensure a corporate approach an optimum method for handling petitions should be identified. As there is an ongoing commitment for officers to report back to Audit & Governance Committee on e-petitions, the Working Group recommends the introduction of a corporate register for petitions and a corporate approach for reporting on them, and that these recommendations be fed into the officer report to Audit and Governance Committee for their consideration.
8. In regard to the new Scrutiny Committees:
- The suggested names are:
 - Effective Organisation
 - Economic & City Development
 - Learning & Culture
 - Community Safety
 - Health
 - Their composition, based on proportionality to be as follows:

2 x Committees = LD 3 : Lab 3 : Cons 1,
3 x Committees = LD 3 : Lab 3 : Cons 1 : Greens 1

(the Green Party having 3 seats to be apportioned on the scrutiny committees of their choice)
9. In regard to SMC, the Working Group suggests:
- Composition based on proportionality = 4 LD : 4 Lab : 1 Green : 1 Cons
 - It should include one committee member from each of the five new scrutiny committees.
10. Finally, the Working Group agreed in principle to the external sourcing of expert advisors from local universities for the scrutiny team, subject to further investigation by the Chief Executive.
11. There was one issue on which the Working Group were unable to agree, and that was on the proportionality for chairing the new Scrutiny Committees, although it was recognised that issues relating to strict proportionality could be resolved at Annual Council in May 2009.

Corporate Strategy

12. Making the recommended changes to the scrutiny function and decision making process in York will ensure full support is given to achieving the Council's Vision, Direction Statements and Corporate Values.

Implications

13. **ITT** – Revisions to the Council's Committee Management System are already underway including the creation of the information log referred to in paragraph 4 above.
14. **Legal** – The following sections of the Council's Constitution will need to be amended to reflect the changes:
 - i. Part 2 - Articles relating to Scrutiny and Executive Member decision making
 - ii. Part 3 - Removal of EMAPs / SPP and references there to Scrutiny committees and their delegated authority
 - iii. Part 4 - Scrutiny procedural rules
 - iv. Part 1 - Decision making structure chart

S.21(11)(b) LGA 2000 provides that overview and scrutiny committees are subject to the duty under S.15 of the Loc Govt & Housing Act 1989, to allocate seats according to principles of political proportionality.

15. **Human Resources** – In order to support the enhanced level of service required, given the increased number of scrutiny committees on the structure and the impact of forthcoming legislative changes upon the scrutiny function (e.g. CCfA), approval is currently being sought to release the frozen Scrutiny Assistant post.
16. **Financial** – The overall financial implications of the agreed changes to the scrutiny structure have been addressed in previous reports to Council. In regard to the HR implications for the scrutiny team i.e. the release of the frozen Scrutiny Assistant post, this was originally graded at scale 4/5 (approx £26k with on costs), and this funding is still available. However, in light of pay and grading, a new job description would need to be prepared and graded, which may affect the amount of funding required.
17. There are no known Crime and Disorder, Property or other implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Risk Management

18. Without making the required changes identified in this report Council will not be able to deliver the structural changes it has already agreed to the scrutiny and decision making functions.

Recommendation

19. As Chair of SMC, Cllr Galvin will move the following recommendations as a motion at this meeting of Council:
- (1) That council authorises the Monitoring Officer to make the following necessary constitutional changes to be put into operational effect after the Annual meeting in May 2009:
 - i. Public monthly individual Executive Member Decision Making Sessions held on Tuesdays (minor timetabling requirements to be agreed with Democratic Services Manager)
 - ii. A public on-line information log for 'information only' reports
 - iii. A Scrutiny Management Committee of 10 members on 4:4:1:1 basis, to include one Member from each of the new scrutiny committees and be set up with the functions and delegated powers agreed by Council in January 2009
 - iv. 5 scrutiny Committees of either 8 or 7 members in principle (subject tot proportionality details being resolved at Annual Council in May 2009), to be set up with the functions and delegated powers agreed by Council in January 2009
 - v. external expert advisors to scrutiny from local universities (pro bono excluding expenses), subject to further investigation by the Chief Executive
 - (2) Council to commission a report to Audit & Governance Committee investigating a corporate approach to handing petitions (including establishing a public on-line corporate register).

Contact Details

Author:

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Quentin Baker
Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

Report Approved

Date 23 March 2009

Specialist Implications Officers

Finance: Helen Malam
Accountant (Chief Execs)
Ext. 1379

Human Resources: Sue Foley
HR Advisor (Chief Execs)
Ext. 1690

Legal: Quentin Baker
Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services
Ext 1004

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report



Council**2 April 2009**

Report of the Head of Civic Legal and Democratic Services

Establishment of a Member Development Steering Group**Summary**

1. This report seeks formal approval to establish a Member Development Steering Group, to ensure that the Council takes a strategic approach to Member Development and to support and monitor the Council's progress in working towards Improvement & Development Agency/Local Government Yorkshire & Humber Charter Status.

Background

2. Member development has been highlighted through the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) as an area that requires improvement in York. On the 20 January 2009 the Executive considered a report by the then Director of Neighbourhood Services, setting out a number of recommendations aimed at improving the quality and take up of Member Development events and achieving I& DeA/LGYH Charter Status.

At the above meeting the Executive agreed to

- a) Sign up the IDeA Member Development Charter
- b) Implement the outline Member Development Scheme, as set out in an annex to the report, and
- c) Delegate to the Member Development Steering Group responsibility to decide a Member Development Programme, appropriate training and development activities and budget.

Member Development Steering Group

3. The first step towards achieving Charter Status is to establish a Member Development Steering Group. Council is asked to formally establish such a group on the structure. The Executive suggested the composition be on 1:1:1 basis. As a working group, proportionality would not need to be strictly applied.

Terms of Reference

4. Suggested terms of reference are set out in Annex A to this report, to which Council approval is sought.

Reporting Lines

5. It is suggested that the Member Development Steering Group should report three times a year to the Standards Committee in view of its ethical and standards role relating to Members. This would enable Standards Committee to feed any recommendations into Council in relation, for instance, to development funding for Members or to engagement with events/activities. Establishing these reporting lines would provide a structured approach to dealing with Member development and training issues from now on.

Composition

6. The Executive has suggested that this Steering Group be set up on 1:1:1 basis and the Groups are being consulted on their nominations for the Steering Group. Details of nominations received will be reported to full Council on 2 April 2009.

Consultation

7. Groups are currently being consulted on the proposed composition of this Steering Group as set out above. Full consultation with Council Management Team, Group Leaders and the Executive on developing a more structured approach towards developing Members took place prior to the submission of the report to the Executive referred in paragraph 2 above. Establishing this Steering Group formally is a response to those discussions.

Options

- 8 (a) to establish a Member Development Steering Group with the proposed terms of reference in Annex 1 (Option 1)

or

(b) to decide not to establish the Group and to continue with the current arrangements for dealing with Member Development & Training issues (Option 2)

or

(c) to establish the Member Development Steering Group and propose changes to the terms of reference in Annex 1 (Option 3).

Corporate Priorities

7. The proposal to establish a Member Development Steering Group is consistent with the priority actions included in the Council's refreshed Corporate Strategy; in particular the provision of strong leadership, supporting and developing people and encouraging improvement in everything we do.

Implications

8. The following implications have been considered:
 - **Financial** – there are no financial implications associated with the proposals in this report.
 - **Human Resources (HR)** – there are no Human Resource implications associated with this report, other than the support required from Democratic Services to support the operation of the Steering Group, once established.
 - **Equalities** – there are no Equality implications, associated with this report.
 - **Legal** – there are no legal implications associated with the proposals in this report, except to note that the legal provisions relating to proportionality of places on committees etc does not to working groups by their nature as working groups set up to advise on policy/practice with no decision making authority.
 - **Crime and Disorder** – there are no Crime and Disorder implications.
 - **Information Technology (IT)** – there are no IT implications.
 - **Property** – there are no Property implications.
 - **Other** – there are no other implications.

Risk Management

9. If Council were to decide not to proceed with establishing this Steering Group at this stage despite the recommendations of the Executive in this regard, it would jeopardise its application for IdEA Member Development Charter status, on the basis that establishing such a Group is one of the requirements of the application process. Other local authorities achieving Charter Status have all establishing a Member Group to specifically look at member development issues.

Recommendations

10. The Leader will propose the following recommendation as a motion to Council on 2 April 2009:

- (i) Council establishes on its structure a Member Development Steering Group on a 1:1:1 basis and appoints to it those nominees received from Party Groups.
- (ii) Council approves the terms of reference for the Group annexed to this report.

Contact Details

Author:

Amanda Oxley
Senior Member Support Officer

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Quentin Baker
Head of Civic Democratic & Legal Services

Report Approved



Date 24/3/09

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Legal: Quentin Baker, Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services

Wards Affected: n/a

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None.

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference – Member Development Steering Group

Terms of Reference:

1. Developing and reviewing the Member Development Strategy.
2. Developing, monitoring, evaluating and reviewing the Annual Member Development Programme.
3. Receive periodical attendance monitoring reports with a view to reporting annually to Standards Committee/Full Council
4. Providing direction and guidance to officers in respect of all Member Development issues.
5. Promoting best practice in respect of Member Development amongst all elected Members of the Council.
6. Encouraging the highest level of participation by all Members in the Member Development Programme, in respect of the Strategy, and in relation to Personal Development Plans (PDPs).
7. Encouraging the Council to reach and maintain the required level of skills, competence's and practices in order to achieve I&DeA Charter status in connection with elected Members.

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Report on Children and Young People's Services for Council – April 2nd 2009.

Our APA Result

In December 2008, the Annual Performance Assessment for the City of York was announced. We scored four stars in all 7 judgements made about the authority – the highest rating possible – and we are one of only three local authorities in the country to do so. It is interesting that Ofsted also found that we provide very good value for money. As we are one of the lowest funded authorities, this is a great tribute to the achievements of our many dedicated and hard-working staff, who truly believe that by working together, we can continue to make a significant difference to the lives of York's children. Despite this acknowledged high level of performance, Children's Services remains committed to further improvement, driven by the well-established and strong partnership of the YorOK Board, who on the 1st April will be launching the new Children and Young People's Plan for the city. This has been developed using the views of over 4000 children and young people around the city.

Schools and School Buildings

In January, the new York High building opened. Having been round it recently, I can say that I was very impressed by the building, the staff and the well-behaved and hard-working young people. Their work on the new Diplomas is progressing well and is ahead of schedule and I hope the next set of results will reflect their application to their studies.

Manor Church of England School's new building is about to open and I have been round the new and striking building. Like York High, it has a high and light central learning space and the layout of the rooms will accommodate new styles of learning and teaching. These are schools designed for the 21st century with new approaches to the way our young people learn, giving both them and the staff teams full use of modern technology.

Joseph Rowntree School's new building is growing at a steady pace and continues to excite and interest the young people. It is very much at the heart of the New Earswick community and – like our other schools – will be offering many facilities to community groups, both for sporting and other activities.

Many 'Outstanding' Ofsted reports have been awarded to schools around the city with other schools achieving 'good'. I was delighted to join Clifton Green in their recent 'Outstanding' Ofsted report celebrations; it was a tremendous achievement by all. Clifton Green joins a total of now 13 schools ranked outstanding – the highest figures ever recorded in the city.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

A lot of work has been done on Safeguarding recently. The Local Safeguarding Children's Board, under the Leadership of its independent

Chair, provides strategic oversight of this work with a number of partners. The Board itself recently had a planning day working together and was joined in the afternoon by wider group of interested partners. All were determined to look at closer working to ensure that when things go wrong in family life, the well-being of the children is top priority.

Provision for Looked After Children was recently audited with partners such as the PCT, Early Years providers, schools, the Education Psychology service, CAMHS, the YOT, paediatricians, the Arts Service, MIS, the Pathways team, Young People's Services, the Independent Reviewing Officers, Residential Care Workers, School Nurses and the Voluntary Sector. We met together to consider how to reduce bureaucracy and improve service delivery.

Both were excellent days, which really brought services together to improve outcomes for children.

Children's Centres and Early Years

Our eight Children's Centres are already providing valuable help and advice to local families and the site of the ninth has recently been announced. Head Teachers tell me that the joined up thinking that can be achieved when working in partnership with the services in the centres, provides a very useful addition to the work done in schools. In fact, some of our secondary schools would like to be able to explore similar collocation of multi-agency teams and we are looking at how this could be done.

I have been pleased to present quality assurance certificates – Steps to Quality – to a number of early years settings recently, including our only maintained nursery school, St Pauls's Nursery, and the nursery at Askham Grange Women's Prison, where there is have a wonderful new building and a team of very dedicated staff. It is good to know that early years settings around the city recognise that quality assurance is so important and spend time to gain certification in this way.

Early Intervention and Children's Health

Child and Adult Mental Health Services in York have been rated as Excellent. However, it is a priority for us that we provide early interventions so that the use of specialist CAMHS services is kept for those that really need them. Many schools, both primary and secondary, provide peer-mentoring help – so that children can help each other; there are Buddy Benches for pupils to sit on if they need someone to talk to and we have a number of Nurture Groups, where younger children can be helped and supported right from the outset of their time at school.

Our strong parenting programme helps to skill parents to be able to cope with the many pressures of life today and we have recently submitted a further bid for funding to expand and target this work. This is for a Parenting Early Intervention Project to target families experiencing multiple problems and who

have children aged 8 to 13yrs – an age group that often needs special help and support.

Almost all of our schools have achieved Healthy Schools status and they take the health of their children seriously. As a recently co-opted member of the North Yorkshire County Catering Board, I have been interested to see how the emphasis is on locally produced food and providing only free range eggs. A good, balanced diet is offered in all schools and I have been able to try several different menus myself. A recent visit by the School Food Trust during a schools meals promotion campaign, has led to the possibility of further investment in staff training and kitchen design and refurbishment. The Chief Executive of the Trust will visit York soon and I will be pleased to have the opportunity to meet her.

Schools' Councils and consulting young people

All schools have a School's Council and we have held two School's Council Conferences – one for the Primary schools and a recent event for the Secondary Schools. Both were well attended and enabled the young people to discuss topics that of their choice and ask the questions that are important to them. At these events, it is the young people who plan and organise them and run them on the day. They pay great attention to the detailed planning required and display a confidence and authority that does them credit. It is always a pleasure to attend and – as on the many other occasions when I have the opportunity to talk to young people, they demonstrate a depth of maturity and understanding, both of their own circumstances as well as about those of children around the world, that does them credit.

Carol Runciman.

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Membership of Committees, Working Groups and Outside Bodies

Committees / Council bodies

Social Inclusion Working Group

To appoint the following co-opted members to the Group, in order to fill existing vacancies and the two additional places for co-opted members representing the disabilities equality 'strand', as recommended to Council by the Executive:

- David Brown – Access Group (physical and sensory disabilities)
- Becca Cooper - York People First (learning disabilities)
- Fiona Walker - Valuing People Partnership (learning disabilities)
- John Bettridge - York Mental Health Forum (mental health)
- Larry Hotchkiss – York Older People's Assembly (in place of Jack Archer)
- Cory Hewitt – York Interfaith (in place of Jan Jauncey)

Partnership Bodies

Golden Triangle Partnership Board

To appoint:

- Cllr Sue Galloway, (Executive Member for Housing Services) and
 - Steve Waddington (Head of Housing Services)
- as the City of York Council's representatives on the Board.

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