

**Notice of a public
Decision Session - Executive Member for Culture,
Leisure & Communities**

To: Councillor Smalley (Executive Member)
Date: Monday, 21 October 2019
Time: 4.30pm
Venue: The Thornton Room - Ground Floor, West Offices (G039)

A G E N D A

Notice to Members – Post Decision Calling In:

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in any item* on this agenda, notice must be given to Democratic Services by **4:00pm** on **Wednesday 23 October 2019**.

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

Written representations in respect of items on this agenda should be submitted to Democratic Services by **5.00pm** on **Thursday 17 October 2019**.

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member is asked to declare:

- any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests;
- any prejudicial interests;
- any disclosable pecuniary interests

which he may have in respect of business on this agenda.

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 2)
To approve and sign the minutes of the Decision Session held on 23 September 2019.

3. Public Participation
At this point in the meeting, members of the public who have registered to speak can do so. The deadline for registering is **5.00pm on Friday 18 October 2019**. Members of the public can speak on agenda items or matters within the Executive Member's remit.

To register to speak please contact the Democracy Officer for the meeting, on the details at the foot of the agenda.

Filming, Recording or Webcasting Meetings

Please note that, subject to available resources, this meeting may be filmed and webcast, or recorded, including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The broadcast can be viewed at <http://www.york.gov.uk/webcasts> or, if recorded, this will be uploaded onto the Council's website following the meeting.

Residents are welcome to photograph, film or record Councillors and Officers at all meetings open to the press and public. This includes the use of social media reporting, i.e. tweeting. Anyone wishing to film, record or take photos at any public meeting should contact the Democracy Officer (contact details are at the foot of this agenda) in advance of the meeting.

The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at

https://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/11406/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_of_council_meetings_20160809

4. York Community Covenant Action Plan (Pages 3 - 20)

This report provides an update in relation to the Council's work with York's local armed forces through the Community Covenant. A new framework for action is proposed together with the establishment of a new delivery group, reporting to the York Armed Forces Community Forum, to assist with implementation of the plan.

5. Improving York's Play Areas (Pages 21 - 40)

This report sets out proposals for improving York's play areas by a) carrying out a quality assessment of City Council and local councils' play areas, b) using the assessment to inform investment, and, c) creating a fund to be used to contribute to large scale investment in partnership with community activity.

6. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer:

Louise Cook

Tel: 01904 551031

Email: louise.cook@york.gov.uk

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

- Registering to speak
- Written Representations
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

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

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

 **(01904) 551550**

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities [previously Executive Member for Culture, Leisure and Tourism]
Date	23 September 2019
Present	Councillor Smalley

5. Declarations of Interest

The Executive Member confirmed that he had no personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, nor any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests, to declare in the business on the agenda.

6. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 22 July 2019 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

7. Public Participation

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

8. York Learning: Future Direction

The Executive Member considered a report that proposed a direction of travel for the future management arrangements of York Learning.

The Assistant Director of Communities and Culture was in attendance to give an update. He stated that York Learning was a successful Council service which focused primarily on helping York residents furthest from the job market to improve their confidence, self-esteem and employability skills.

It was noted that in the period leading up to the retirement of the Head of Service, who had also been seconded to support North

Yorkshire County Council on a part time basis, the service had been investigating various operating models for future delivery.

The Executive Member noted that to allow the service to fund the level of management and deliver a capacity that was desirable in some key areas of its operation, greater collaboration with North Yorkshire County Council, by sharing equally between the two authorities a Head of Service and management roles, would encourage a model that was operationally robust and reasonably future proof.

The Executive Member thanked the Head of Service for his contribution to York Learning and wished him well in his retirement. He congratulated North Yorkshire County Council for securing an assessment of 'Good' under the Ofsted framework.

In answer to the Executive Members questions the Assistant Director highlighted the benefits of a joint management approach and confirmed that the two authorities were closely aligned in the way they wanted to manage, structure and deliver their services.

The Executive Member agreed that collaborating with North Yorkshire County Council was a positive direction for York Learning.

Resolved: That the direction of travel for York Learning, set out in paragraph 10 of the report, through collaboration with North Yorkshire County Council, be approved.

Reason: To enhance the service's ability to achieve its mission of ensuring that all learners have the skills and motivation to maximise their life chances and to maximise the level of resource directed to front-line services.

Cllr Smalley, Executive Member
[The meeting started at 4.30 pm and finished at 4.40 pm].



**Decision Session – Executive Member for
Culture, Leisure and Communities**

21 October 2019

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities and Culture)

York Community Covenant Action Plan

Summary

1. This report provides an update in relation to the Council's work with York's local armed forces through the Community Covenant. A new framework for action is proposed together with the establishment of a new delivery group, reporting to the York Armed Forces Community Forum, to assist with implementation of the plan.

Recommendations

2. The Executive Member is asked to:
 - a) Agree the new priority areas for action set out in paragraph 14.
 - b) Agree terms of reference for the Armed Forces Community Forum and for the Delivery Group set out in the annexes.

Reason: To strengthen City of York Council's delivery against the Community Covenant.

Background

3. In May 2011, the Government published the Armed Forces Covenant, which encouraged the adoption of Community Covenants between local communities and the local armed forces community in order to:
 - Encourage local communities to support the Armed Forces Community in their areas.
 - Nurture public understanding and awareness of issues affecting the Armed Forces Community.
 - Recognise and remember the sacrifices faced by the Armed Forces Community.

- Encourage activities which help to integrate the Armed Forces Community into local life.
 - Encourage the Armed Forces Community to help and support the wider community, whether through participation in events and joint projects, or other forms of engagement.
4. The Community Covenant was signed in York in December 2011 with representatives of City of York Council, the British Army, Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, veterans, charities and other key figureheads joining together to sign a scroll to mark the launch.

Progress

5. **Early successes** included:
- Formation of a York Community Covenant Task group which has representatives from all the key organisations.
 - Implementation of an action plan with positive outcomes across a range of issues.
 - A number of local projects have accessed funding from the Community Covenant Grant Scheme.
 - Annual Armed Forces Day celebrations have been held in the City and more are being considered as we move forward.
6. **Employer Recognition Scheme:** An important recent success is that City of York Council has achieved the Gold Award in the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS). The award is the top accolade an organisation can receive and acknowledges the contribution the authority makes in going the extra mile in support of the armed forces community.
7. The Council is only the seventh employer in the whole of the Yorkshire and Humberside region to have won the award, which was launched by the Government five years ago. Now in its fifth year, the ERS rewards employers who employ and support those who serve, veterans and their families – typically by putting in place employment practices that support reservists to train and mobilise and veterans to transition to civilian life.
8. The Council has policies in place that mean reservists and cadet force adult volunteers get extra paid leave each year to enable them to attend training camps. It also offers a guaranteed interview

scheme to veterans and their spouses who meet the minimum criteria for any role. The award will formally be presented to the Council in November.

9. **The York and North Yorkshire Local Authorities Armed Forces Covenant Project:** City of York is the lead authority for the York and North Yorkshire Local Authorities Armed Forces Covenant Project. CYC has benefited from this partnership project in a number of ways, principally through the implementation of a comprehensive training programme which the project funded, a county-wide practitioners' conference that was organised, and through the research that was carried out.
10. **Training:** The partnership group has developed a comprehensive training programme including:
 - An introduction to the armed forces covenant and armed forces awareness. This is a one hour session delivered by local authority staff who have themselves been trained to deliver the material. The criteria for a local trainer is that they are a veteran with training delivery experience.
 - A train-the-trainer module delivered by Warwickshire County Council.
 - A military culture and transition session delivered by York St John University.
 - The military human - a full day or two half days delivered by York St John University.
 - An e-learning module based on Warwickshire County Council's e-learning module.
 - Forces Connect delivered three one-day training sessions at Hambleton District Council offices:
 - Elected Councillor Armed Forces Champion training
 - Service Champion Training
 - Armed Forces Awareness training for Call Centre and Frontline staff

11. The effectiveness of the training among the staff in each partner authority is measured through occasional surveys.
12. **A Practitioners' Conference** is being held on 11 October 2019 at the Pavilions Harrogate. This will provide an opportunity for the working group to showcase the successful work that has been achieved throughout the county and identify the challenges which can be faced by our Armed Forces Community.
13. **Research:** The cornerstone of this project has been research carried out across North Yorkshire and York by an organisation named Shared Intelligence, who have considerable experience in this work, with the aim of increasing our understanding of the needs of the armed forces community. In addition, a York focused armed forces community survey has been undertaken by the Council which yielded more information and insight into the armed forces community in York. Taken together these two pieces of research have provided a wealth of actionable information that has allowed clear priorities to be identified within a new work plan for York.

Potential Action Areas

14. The research led to the Armed Forces Community Forum identifying the following priority areas for action:
 - **Advocacy:** Designing processes to support and enable members of the armed forces community to express their views and concerns as well as to access information, services, and practical support.
 - **Awareness Raising:** Through events and networking, raising the profile of the Covenant and encouraging others to sign / play their part.
 - **Training:** Continuing to developing training for staff in awareness of issues relevant to the armed forces community (through direct delivery, e-learning and train the trainer) and rolling this out within the public sector and third sector organisations in the city and potentially making it available to the private sector.
 - **Schools:** A schools partnership is already in place focussing on the needs of armed forces community children and strong policies, procedures and practices are in place. We will continue this work and build awareness of it.

- **Employers:** Seeking to understand and develop good employer practice of reservists, ensuring that the Council continues to lead by example and building relationships with employers and business groups in York as armed forces friendly employers.
- **Improving transition:** Working with our North Yorkshire partnership colleagues in order to further understand how transition is experienced by the various ranks of the armed forces communities and their families and developing pilot approaches to support career transition.
- **Family:** The York Armed Forces Community Survey received a significant response from armed forces community families, spouses and partners. There is the potential for family support, social groups and related initiatives.
- **Health:** Working with health professionals and organisations to ensure suitable care packages are in place, for example, exploring the potential for a veteran friendly accredited GP practice scheme in certain York practices.
- **Housing:** The research highlighted the need for a conversation regarding housing provision for the armed forces community in York. The starting point will be to organise an information event, housing support session or some form of workshop that could inform/support members of the armed forces community and their housing needs.
- **Volunteering:** The community survey highlighted a potential group of volunteers who are interested in exploring volunteering opportunities both opportunities for veterans to volunteer and opportunities to support the armed forces community through volunteering.
- **Geographical representation:** The York Armed Forces Community Survey generated a map indicating through post code where there are concentrations of members of the armed forces community. A high volume of respondents came from Fulford and Strensall as you would expect, but there were also significant numbers in Westfield, Acomb, Holgate and Heworth wards. We can now explore with ward members and ward teams appropriate projects in these wards including the potential for using local community hubs to provide appropriate sign-posting.

Action Plan Development Workshop

15. An action plan development workshop took place on 30 July hosted by York CVS. 70 people attended from the private, public and charity sectors. Speakers included:
 - Stuart Horton MOD Defence Transition Service Manager for the North talking about what we can do as a community to support transition.
 - Jason Tether from Atkins Global on how we can better link those leaving the military with employers.
 - Tim Moon of the Council talking about Community Led Housing and veterans' housing needs.
 - Craig Waugh from the Council introducing the *Live Well York* project. The output from the workshop has been used to further refine the work plan.

16. A follow-up event for the voluntary sector took place on 18 September convened by CVS. The purpose of the event was to explore how the charity sector in York could support and serve the armed forces community in York. Speakers included:
 - Laura Clark the interim head of Communities and Equalities and an RAF veteran.
 - Captain Simon Gibney Welfare Officer Royal Signals based at Fulford barracks.
 - WO2 Jamie Hartley RAMC, 34 Field Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall.

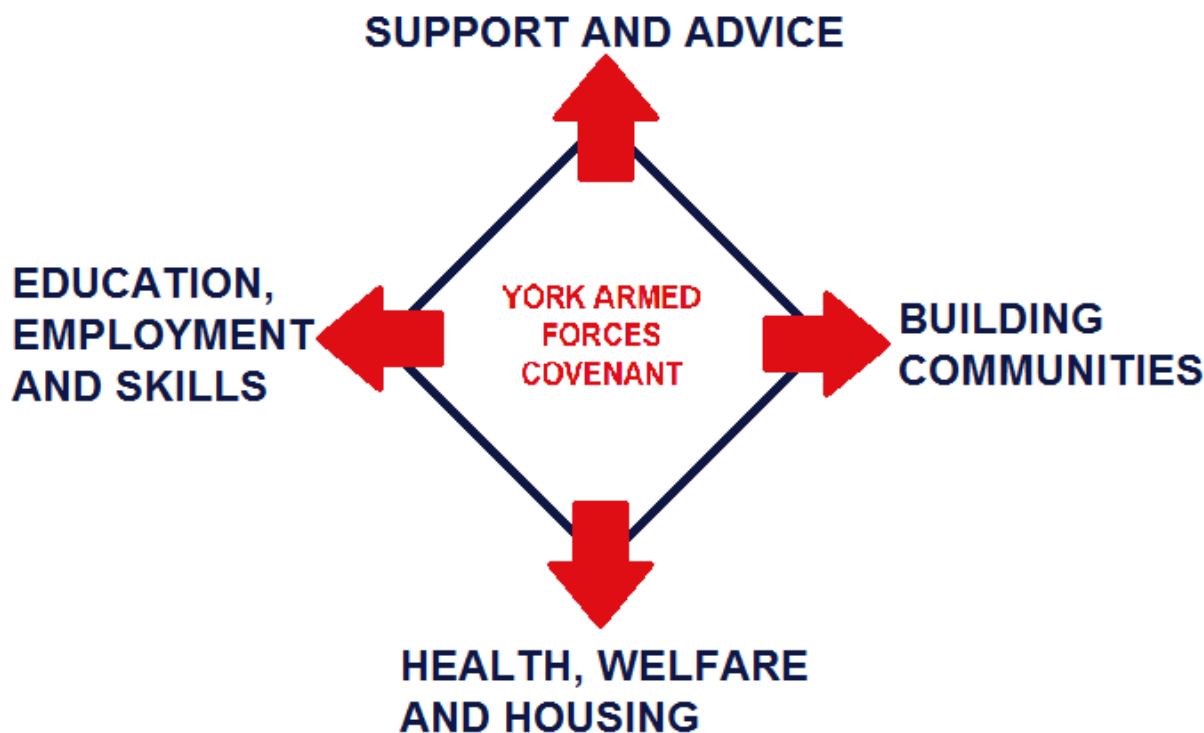
17. In the discussion it was identified that the third sector has a unique role to play in terms of offering support to the armed forces community through existing provision across the city. Key items to explore further included:
 - Local armed forces awareness training for the sector.
 - Development of a York Armed Forces directory of support.
 - Encouraging York charities to sign the covenant.

18. With regard to the York Armed Forces Directory this will be a comprehensive resource covering contact, advice and referral information. This document is now in advanced stages of

production and will shortly be trialled in specific, targeted situations / locations.

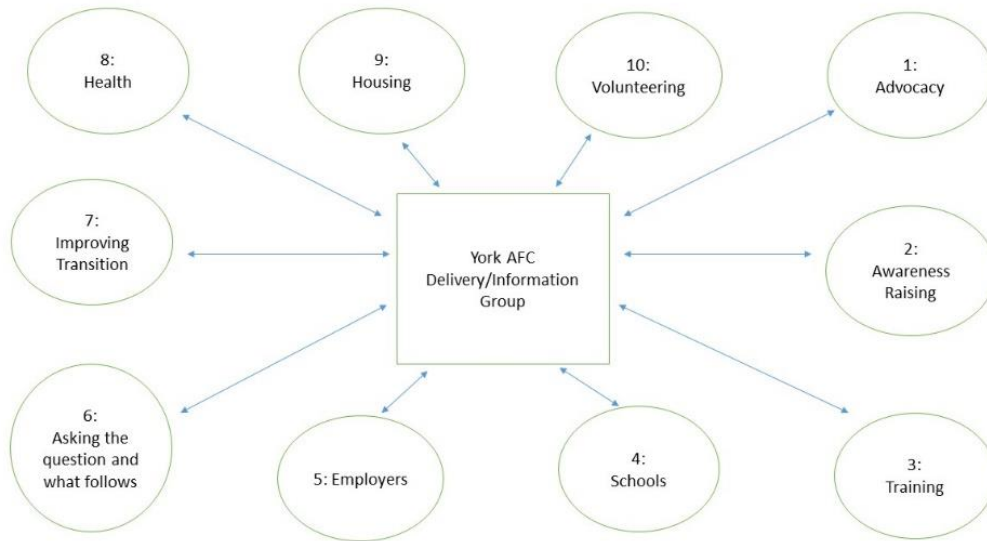
The Action Plan

19. The action plan will now be organised in line with the 4 pillars of the Armed Forces Covenant:



Governance Proposals

20. To improve delivery of the plan it is proposed to have an executive group to oversee the Covenant work and a delivery / information group where most of the work will be undertaken / co-ordinated.
21. The current Armed Forces Covenant Community Forum will become the York Armed Forces Covenant Forum Executive. Its main purpose will be to act as the accountable body for the delivery of the action plan as outlined in the terms of reference (see Annex A).
22. A new Action Plan Information and Delivery Group will be established. Its main purpose will be to coordinate and deliver the implementation of the action plan (see terms of reference at Annex B). It will also act as an informal hub for sharing of information and best practice (see diagram below).



23. Members of the current forum will be invited to identify which group they will best fit with.

Options

24. It is open to the Executive Member to:

- Propose any amendment to the terms of reference.
- Propose any amendment to the covenant action plan.

Analysis

25. The report reaffirms the Council's commitment to the Community Covenant. The action plan provides further details of the projects and work areas that the Council is committed to deliver, working in partnership with the York Community Covenant Group.

Council Plan

26. The Community Covenant contributes to all the Council Plan themes ensuring that the Armed Forces Community is able to benefit from all of them and helping to build strong, resilient and supported communities.

Implications

27. **Financial:** There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report. Projects identified through York Armed Forces Forum will seek to draw down external funding via the Community Covenant national fund.

28. **Equalities:** The Community Covenant action plan seeks to address equality issues within this community of identity.
29. There are no **Human Resources, Crime and Disorder, Legal, Information Technology, Property** or **Other** implications arising from this report.

Risk Management

30. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy the main risks that have been identified associated with the proposals contained in this report are those which could lead to the inability to meet business objectives and to deliver services, leading to damage to the Council's reputation and failure to meet stakeholders' expectations. The level of risk is assessed as "Low". This is acceptable but means that regular monitoring is required of the operation of the new arrangements.

Contact Details

Author:	Chief Officer responsible:			
Charlie Croft Assistant Director (Communities and Culture) charlie.croft@york.gov.uk	Amanda Hatton Director of Children, Education and Communities			
Ian Cartwright Armed Forces Covenant Officer	Report Approved	✓	Date	7.10.19.
Specialist Implications Officers:				
Wards Affected:			All	✓
For further information please contact the author of the report				

Annexes

- A. Terms of reference for the Executive Group
- B. Terms of reference for the Delivery / Information Group

Abbreviations

CYC – City of York Council
ERS - Employer Recognition Scheme
GP - General Practitioner

MOD – Ministry of Defence
RAF – Royal Air Force

York Armed Forces Covenant Forum Executive

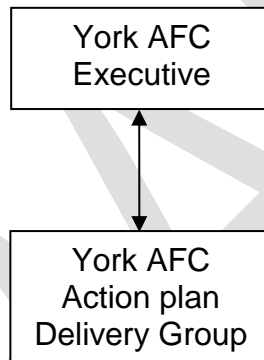
Terms of Reference

The York Armed Forces Covenant (AFC) Executive consists of City of York Council officers and project partners.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the executive is to ensure that the needs of the armed forces community in York are identified and actively meet.

- The executive is the responsible body for the delivery of the Armed Forces Covenant in York.
- The Executive receives reports from the York AFC delivery group on a quarterly basis



Note the action plan includes the structure for the project as a whole

QUORUM AND ATTENDANCE

A quorum shall consist of no less than one third of the membership and must include the Chair or Vice Chair of the executive. If a meeting is not quorate, any decisions made must be ratified at the next quorate meeting of the executive.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES

- The executive's principal duty is to be the accountable body for the delivery of the Armed Forces Covenant in York.
- The executive will also endorse appropriate funding applications to the MoD's Community Covenant Grant scheme in York

MEMBERSHIP

The membership is comprised of suitable representatives of City of York Councillors

- The Armed Forces Champion is chair
- Senior Council Officers
- York Garrison
- Other branches of the armed forces
- Veteran groups
- York CVS

Other strategic bodies who deliver services to the armed forces community including health, education, etc.

Other groups and individuals to be co-opted from time to time

Each group member will be empowered to represent the views of the function or service they represent.

Each member may nominate a standing deputy to be notified in advance to the CYC lead officer who is the convener of the executive.

All members shall be encouraged to take an active part in proceedings and appropriate support shall be provided where necessary to facilitate this.

MEETINGS

The administrator will liaise with the Chair before the next meeting. The agenda will be based on delivering the action plan, matters arising and requests from members. The agenda and minutes will be circulated to all members at least seven days prior to the meeting.

The group will normally meet on a quarterly basis. Additional meetings will be arranged as determined by the Chair of the meeting. The business, agenda and notes/actions will be managed by the convenor of the meeting and the administrator.

Partners will contribute to the agendas and debate so that informal reports and key issues are included on the next agenda.

DECISION MAKING

Each decision will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting or in the records of email correspondence (when decisions need to be made prior to the formal meetings).

REVIEW

These terms of reference shall be reviewed at least every two years.

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**York Armed Forces Covenant
Action Plan Information and Delivery Group
The Hub**

Terms of Reference

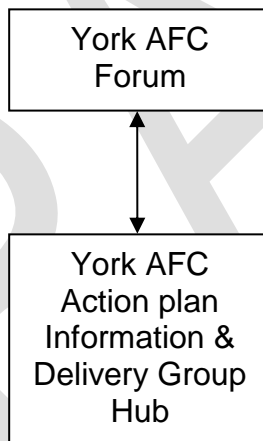
THE YORK AFC ACTIONPLAN INFORMATION AND DELIVERY GROUP

The York Armed Forces Covenant (AFC) Action Plan Information and Delivery Group (The Hub) consists of City of York Council officers and project partners.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Information and Delivery group is to ensure that the outcomes and outputs of the action plan are being delivered.

- The delivery group reports on the progress that is being made delivering the outcomes and out puts of the action plan to the executive.



Note the action plan includes the structure for the project as a whole

QUORUM AND ATTENDANCE

A quorum shall consist of no less than one third of the membership and must include the Chair or Vice Chair of the executive. If a meeting is not quorate, any decisions made must be ratified at the next quorate meeting of the executive

PRINCIPAL DUTIES

Work alongside partners to deliver the action plan.

Preparing information and briefing for the Armed Forces Community Forum on progress delivering the action plan

MEMBERSHIP

The membership is comprised of organisations and individuals that have agreed to deliver activities and services in line with the action plan

Each group member will be empowered to represent the views of the function or service they represent.

To be consistent with the action plan deliverables the structure of the membership fits under the headings of the four pillars of the armed forces covenant

Each member may nominate a standing deputy to be notified in advance to the CYC lead officer who is the convener of the delivery group.

All members shall be encouraged to take an active part in proceedings and appropriate support shall be provided where necessary to facilitate this.

Members of the meeting and their organisations

MEETINGS

The administrator will liaise with the Chair before the next meeting. The agenda will be based on delivering the action plan, matters arising and requests from members. The agenda and minutes from the delivery group meetings will be circulated to all members at least seven days prior to the meeting.

The delivery group will normally meet on a quarterly basis.

Additional meetings will be arranged as determined by the Chair of the meeting. The business, agenda and notes/actions will be managed by the convener of the meeting and the administrator.

Partners will contribute to the agendas and debate so that informal reports and key issues are included on the next agenda.

Each group member will be empowered to represent the views of the function or service they represent.

Each member may nominate a standing deputy to be notified in advance to the CYC lead officer.

All members shall be encouraged to take an active part in proceedings and appropriate support shall be provided where necessary to facilitate this.

DECISION MAKING

Each decision will be recorded in the minutes of the meetings or in the records of email correspondence (when decisions need to be made prior to the formal meetings).

Evaluation

The delivery group's progress will be evaluated by the executive.

Review

These terms of reference shall be reviewed at least every two years

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**Decision Session – Executive Member for
Culture, Leisure and Communities**

21 October 2019

Report of the Assistant Director (Transport, Highways and Environment)

Improving York's Play Areas

Summary

1. This report sets out proposals for improving York's play areas by a) carrying out a quality assessment of City Council and local councils' play areas, b) using the assessment to inform investment, and, c) creating a fund to be used to contribute to large scale investment in partnership with community activity.

Recommendations

2. The Executive Member is asked to:
 - a) Agree the multi-strand approach to using the new budget as set out in paragraphs 8 to 12.
 - b) Agree the criteria for allocation of the community challenge fund set out in paragraph 11.

Reason: To ensure York's play areas are kept in a good condition.

Background

3. At Council on 17 July 2019 a new capital fund of £250k was approved for play area investment.

Context

4. Equipped children's play grounds in York are provided by a range of organisations, including the City Council, parish / town councils, housing associations, the Ministry of Defence, housing developers and private housing management companies.
5. As part of the Local Plan process all sites have been mapped at a ward level and generally there is good geographical coverage across the city. See City of York Council Local Plan Evidence Base: Open Space and Green Infrastructure Final Report September 2014

(Updated September 2017).

[http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/16040/sd085 -
_city_of_york_local_plan_evidence_base -
_open_space_and_green_infrastructure_update_september_2017](http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/16040/sd085_-_city_of_york_local_plan_evidence_base_-_open_space_and_green_infrastructure_update_september_2017)

When large developments sites come forward seeking planning permission equipped play areas are regularly included as a condition. This caters for the new residents needs and helps “fill in the gaps” for example Lowfields, The Chocolate Works.

6. Whilst the number and geographical spread of equipped playgrounds is therefore generally good, their play value is more varied. This is a reflection of their age and sporadic local and national investment that has been available.
7. All playground providers have a duty of care to ensure that the site is safe. This is provided by regular health and safety inspections by suitably qualified inspectors or organisations.

Proposals

8. It is proposed that the available budget be split into two complementary uses. The first part of the budget will be used to address specific smaller scale site-based investment needs e.g. replacement swings, seats, surfacing repairs. These needs will be identified by an independent quality audit of the condition, play value, access to and within the site, suitability of and options for disabled users and finally investment needs. This will cover all City Council and parish / town council sites (with the approval of the relevant parish or town council). Annex 1 lists the play areas provided by the City Council, parish and town councils.
9. It is proposed that £150k is allocated to this work. This funding will cover the cost of the survey work as well as the repair and replacement programme itself.
10. A tender for the survey work will be issued in December with the requirement to report back by the end of March 2020.
11. The second part of the budget will be used as a “challenge” or “community” fund to match or contribute to larger refurbishment schemes or new build in areas deficient of play area provision. This will be open to sites managed by the City, Parish and Town Councils and Housing Associations. It is proposed that the following criteria are adopted for allocation of this funding:

- Is based on consultation with users, parents / carers, local residents, or a commitment to carry out such consultation as the scheme progresses.
 - Provides a lasting improvement to the play area.
 - Local community activity in fundraising towards the project. (Recent examples of such community activity can be found in connection with the £100k refresh of Poppleton Community Centre in 2018 and £30k worth of planned investment at West Bank Park play area.)
 - Contributions to, and compatibility with, the quality audit findings.
 - Has landowner's permission.
 - Clarity over future care and maintenance.
12. It is proposed that £100k is allocated to the community challenge fund. The fund will open for applications in April 2020. This will enable the quality audit to be used as part of the assessment process. Once schemes have been assessed against the above criteria, recommendations for funding will be brought back to the Executive Member for approval.

Options

13. It is open to the Executive Member to agree to the proposals set out in Paragraphs 8 to 12 or to suggest a different allocation of the budget between the two uses.

Analysis

14. The proposal would create for the first time since 1996 a detailed audit of play value of the Council and local Council play equipped plays areas. In an unbiased way it will inform spending decisions and highlight future spending needs. The allocation of part of the budget to a community fund also opens up the prospect of local community energy and expertise to improve local play areas. With local children being given a say in choosing what happens to their play area.

Council Plan

15. The investment in play areas contributes to the Council plan themes of:
- A Better Start for Children and Young People
 - Greener and Cleaner City
 - Safe Communities and culture for all

Consultation

16. Consultation has been a key component of delivering previous play area improvements. Consultation takes place with local users and stakeholders e.g. Friends groups to inform the tender specification. A second round of consultation then takes place with the community to choose the winning design. This same approach will be a requirement for the challenge fund and where there is a genuine choices for the general repairs.
17. Any proposals for a new play area are likely to need planning permission and be subject to the necessary consultation requirements.

Implications

18. **Financial:** Use of the budget will be monitored through the normal monitoring arrangements. Any tenders for work will comply corporate procurement arrangements. Where money is passed to a local council a formal agreement will be in place to control its use. A small degree of flexibility will need to be exercised between the proposed funding split once a final programme has been confirmed.
19. **Equalities:** A Better Decision Making Tool assessment has been carried out and the paper amended to reflect this.
20. There are no **Human Resources, Crime and Disorder, Legal, Information Technology, Property** or **Other** implications.

Risk Management

21. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy the main risks that have been identified associated with the proposals contained in this report are those which could lead to the inability to meet business objectives and to deliver services, leading to damage to the Council's reputation and failure to meet stakeholders'

expectations. The level of risk is assessed as “Low”. This is acceptable but means that regular monitoring is required of the operation of the new arrangements.

Contact Details

Author:	Chief Officer responsible:			
Dave Meigh Operations Manager Public Realm dave.meigh@york.gov.uk	Neil Ferris Corporate Director of Economy and Place			
	Report Approved	✓	Date	11.10.19
Specialist Implications Officers:				
Wards Affected:			All	✓
For further information please contact the author of the report				

Annexes

Annex 1- List of Council and local council play areas

Annex 2 - Better Decision Making Tool

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City Council and Parish / Town Council play areas

Ward	Site	Managed by
Acomb	Viking Road	City of York
	Sovereign Park	City of York
Bishopthorpe	Keeble Park	Bishopthorpe Parish Council
Clifton	Ashton Avenue	City of York
	Crombie Ave	City of York
Copmanthorpe	Copmanthorpe Recreation Ground	Copmanthorpe Parish Council
Dringhouses and Woodthorpe	Leeside	City of York
	Woodthorpe Green (Summerfield Road)	City of York
	Girvan Close	City of York
	Nelsons Lane	City of York
Fishergate	Cemetery Road	City of York
	Fulford Cross	City of York
Fulford and Heslington	School Lane	Fulford Parish Council
	Fordlands Road	Fulford Parish Council
	Outgang	Heslington Parish Council
Guildhall	Clarence Gardens	City of York
	Navigation Road	City of York
Haxby and Wigginton	Mancroft	Haxby Town Council
	Ethel Ward	Haxby Town Council
	Churchfield	Wigginton Parish Council
Heworth	Barfield Road	City of York
	Bell Farm Adventure Playground	City of York
	Arran Place	City of York
	Glen Gardens	City of York
Heworth Without	Stray Road	Parish Council

Holgate	Balfour Street (Back Park)	City of York
	Sowerby Road	City of York
	Garnett Terrace	City of York
	Victoria Park	City of York
	West Bank Park junior	City of York
	West Bank Park senior	City of York
	Upper St Paul's	City of York
	Carlisle Street	City of York
	Sidings Gardens	City of York
Hull Road	Hull Road Park - main	City of York
	Hull Road Park – small	City of York
	Badgerwood Walk	City of York
Huntington and New Earswick	Orchard Park	Huntington Parish Council
	Garth End	Huntington Parish Council
	Vesper Walk	Huntington Parish Council
	Saddlers Walk	City of York
	Forge Close	City of York
Micklegate	Dewsbury Terrace	City of York
	Rowntree Park 1 (fenced)	City of York
	Rowntree Park 2 (unfenced)	City of York
	Scarcroft Green	City of York
Rural York West	Brecksfield	Skelton Parish Council
	Poppleton Community Centre	City of York
	Esk Drive	City of York
	Askham Bryan	Askham Bryan Parish Council
	Rufforth Playing Fields	Rufforth Parish Council
	Laburnum Farm Hessay	City of York
Osbalwick and Dunnington	Dunnington Recreation Ground	Dunnington Parish Council
	Beckett Drive Osbalwick	Developer
	Osbalwick Lane Recreation Ground	Osbalwick Parish Council
Rawcliffe and Clifton Without	Rawcliffe Country Park	City of York
	Landalewood Road	City of York
	Kensington Drive	City of York
	Eccles Drive off Manor Lane	City of York
	Broadstone Way off Manor Lane	City of York
	Brailsford Crescent	City of York
	St Marks Grove	Rawcliffe Parish Council
	Rawcliffe Lane	Clifton Without Parish Council

Strensall	Northfield	Strensall and Towthorpe Parish Council
	Kirklands	Strensall and Towthorpe Parish Council
	Littlethorpe Close	City of York
	Earswick Chase	Earswick Parish Council
Westfield	Chesney's Field (Foxwood Lane)	City of York
	Grange Lane	City of York
	Acomb Green	City of York
	Cornlands Road	City of York
Wheldrake	Vicarage Lane, Naburn	Naburn Parish Council
	Elvington Lane, Elvington	Elvington Parish Council
	Broad Highway, Wheldrake	Wheldrake Parish Council

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The 'Better Decision Making' tool should be completed when proposing new projects, services, policies or strategies.

This integrated impact assessment tool was designed to help you to consider the impact of your proposal on social, economic and environmental sustainability, and equalities and human rights. The tool draws upon the priorities set out in our Council Plan and will help us to provide inclusive and discrimination-free services. The purpose of this new tool is to ensure that the impacts of every proposal are carefully considered and balanced and that decisions are based on evidence.

Part 1 of this form should be completed as soon as you have identified a potential area for change and when you are just beginning to develop a proposal. If you are following the All About Projects Framework it should be completed before going through Gateway 3.

Part 2 of this form should be filled in once you have completed your proposal and prior to being submitted for consideration by the Executive. If you are following the All About Projects Framework it should be completed before going through Gateway 4. Your answer to questions 1.4 in the improvements section must be reported in any papers going to the Executive and the full 'Better Decision Making' tool should be attached as an annex.

Guidance to help you complete the assessment can be obtained by hovering over the relevant text or by following this link to the 'Better Decision Making' tool on Colin.

Guidance on completing this assessment is available by hovering over the text boxes.

Please complete all fields (and expand if necessary).

Introduction

Service submitting the proposal:	E&P
Name of person completing the assessment:	Dave Meigh
Job title:	Operations Manager
Directorate:	Economy and Place
Date Completed:	04.10.19
Date Approved: form to be checked by service manager	

Part 1

Section 1: What is the proposal?

1.1	Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed?
	Play area investment

1.2	What are the main aims of the proposal?
	To improve the quality of York playgrounds

1.3	What are the key outcomes?
	Improved playgrounds and greater community engagement in their development and care through A quality audit Small scale site specific improvements based on the audit Larger scale investment in partnership with the local community

Section 2: Evidence

2.1	What data / evidence is available to understand the likely impacts of the proposal? (e.g. hate crime figures, obesity levels, recycling statistics)
	The programme will be driven by an independent quality assessment which will be used to inform investment.

2.2	What public / stakeholder consultation has been used to support this proposal?
	The proposals reflect learning from previous investment programmes for play areas

Are there any other initiatives that may produce a combined impact with this proposal? (e.g. will the same individuals / communities of identity also be impacted by a different project or policy?)

2.3 Not at this stage. Part of the proposal opens up this avenue of work.

Part 1

Section 3: Impact on One Planet principles

This section relates to the impact of your proposal on the One Planet principles.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.
If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

Equity and Local Economy

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.1	Impact positively on the business community in York?	Neutral	
3.2	Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Neutral	
3.3	Help individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups to improve their skills?	Unsure	As part of the proposal local communities will be able to bid for funds to improve their local play area. As such the council will work with the community on funding bids and consultation support skills development and creating social capital.

Health & Happiness

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.4	Improve the physical health or emotional wellbeing of staff or residents?	Positive	Improved play areas will offer better, safer and potentially more stimulating places for physical and mental wellbeing for children
3.5	Help reduce health inequalities?	Positive	Investment will be needs driven so no area will be discounted
3.6	Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	Positive	
3.7	Reduce crime or fear of crime?	Positive	Play areas that are kept in a good condition and well used are less likely to attract antisocial behaviour and vandalism
3.8	Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Positive	Improved play areas will offer better, safer and potentially more stimulating places for physical and mental wellbeing for children

Culture & Community

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9	Help improve community cohesion?	Positive	As part of the proposal local communities will be able to bid for funds to improve their local play area. As such scheme will reflect what the local community wants
3.10	Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?	Neutral	
3.11	Improve the cultural offerings of York?	Neutral	
3.12	Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?	Positive	As part of the proposal local communities will be able to bid for funds to improve their local play area. As such scheme will reflect what the local community wants

Zero Carbon and Sustainable Water

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.13	Minimise the amount of energy we use, or reduce the amount of energy we will use/pay for in the future?	Neutral	
3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use or reduce the amount of water we will use/pay for in the future?	Neutral	
3.15	Provide opportunities to generate energy from renewable/low carbon technologies?	Neutral	

Zero Waste

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.16	Reduce waste and the amount of money we pay to dispose of waste by maximising reuse and/or recycling of materials?	Neutral	

Sustainable Transport

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.17	Encourage the use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and public transport?	Positive	Having quality local play areas can help to keep people in their local area and reduce the need to travel.
3.18	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?	Neutral	

Sustainable Materials

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.19	Minimise the environmental impact of the goods and services used?	Neutral	

Local and Sustainable Food

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.20	Maximise opportunities to support local and sustainable food initiatives?	Neutral	

Land Use and Wildlife

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.21	Maximise opportunities to conserve or enhance the natural environment?	Neutral	
3.22	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Neutral	
3.23	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Neutral	
3.24	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Positive	Evidence from previous investment eg Poppleton has seen a significant rise in the use of and, by implication enjoyment of, the play area.

3.25		Additional space to comment on the impacts	

Part 1

Section 4: Impact on Equalities and Human Rights

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on staff or residents. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on **advancing equalities and human rights** and should build on the impacts you identified in the previous section.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.
 If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'

Equalities

Will the proposal **adversely impact** upon 'communities of identity'?
 Will it **help advance equality** or **foster good relations** between people in 'communities of identity'?

	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?	Relevant quality of life indicators
4.1	Age		
4.2	Disability	Positive Within the work programme this is the opportunity to make play areas more disability friendly.	Addressing loneliness and social isolation, health and physical activity, safety, long-term health, <u>standard of living</u> , <u>cultural activity</u>
4.3	Gender		
4.4	Gender Reassignment		
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership		
4.6	Pregnancy and maternity		
4.7	Race		
4.8	Religion or belief		
4.9	Sexual orientation		
4.10	Carer		
4.11	Lowest income groups		
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community		

Human Rights

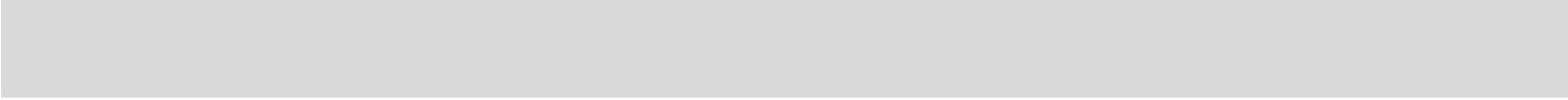
Consider how a human rights approach is evident in the proposal

	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
4.13	Right to education	
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment	
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing	
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	
4.17	Freedom of expression	
4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination	
4.19	Other Rights	

4.20

Additional space to comment on the impacts

Additional space to comment on the impacts	





'Better Decision Making' Tool
 Informing our approach to sustainability, resilience and fairness

Part 1

Section 5: Developing Understanding

Based on the information you have just identified, please consider how the impacts of your proposal could be improved upon, in order to balance social, environmental, economic, and equalities concerns, and minimise any negative implications.

It is not expected that you will have all of the answers at this point, but the responses you give here should form the basis of further investigation and encourage you to make changes to your proposal. Such changes are to be reported in the final section.

5.1	Taking into consideration your responses about <u>all of the impacts</u> of the project in its <u>current form</u>, what would you consider the overall impact to be on creating a fair, healthy, sustainable and resilient city?
	Positive

5.2	What could be changed to improve the impact of the proposal on the <u>One Planet principles</u>? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)

5.3	What could be changed to improve the impact of the proposal on <u>equalities and human rights</u>? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
	The quality audit will include accessibility to and within the play area and suitability and opportunities for play for children with disabilities

Section 6: Planning for Improvement

6.1	What further evidence or consultation is needed to fully understand its impact? (e.g. consultation with specific communities of identity, additional data)

6.2	What are the outstanding actions needed to maximise benefits or minimise negative impacts in relation to this proposal? Please include the action, the person(s) responsible and the date it will be completed (expand / insert more rows if needed)

Action	Person(s)	Due date
Commission Quality Audit	DM	Dec-19
Open Challenge funds for bids	DM	Apr-20
Commence site based improvements	DM	Jul-20

	Additional space to comment on the impacts
6.3	



'Better Decision Making' Tool
 Informing our approach to sustainability, resilience and fairness

Part 2

Section 1: Improvements

Part 2 builds on the impacts you identified in Part 1. Please detail how you have used this information to make improvements to your final proposal.

Please note that your response to question 1.4 in this section must be reported in the One Planet Council implications section of reports going to the Executive.

For the areas in the 'One Planet' and 'Equalities' sections, where you were unsure of the potential impact, what have you done to clarify your understanding?

1.1
 N/A

What changes have you made to your proposal to increase positive impacts?

1.2
 N/A

What changes have you made to your proposal to reduce negative impacts?

1.3
 N/A

Taking into consideration everything you know about the proposal in its revised form, what would you consider the overall impact to be on creating a fair, healthy, sustainable and resilient city?

Your response to this question must be input under the One Planet Council implications section of the Executive report. Please feel free to supplement this with any additional information gathered in the tool.

1.4
 Very positive

Any further comments?

1.5

