

CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in Guildhall, York on Thursday, 28th June, 2007, starting at 6.35 pm

Present: The Lord Mayor (Councillor Irene Waudby) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

ACOMB WARD

Horton
Simpson-Laing

BISHOPTHORPE WARD

Galvin

CLIFTON WARD

Douglas
King
Scott

DERWENT WARD

Brooks

DRINGHOUSES & WOODTHORPE WARD

Holvey
Reid
Sunderland

FISHERGATE WARD

D'Agorne
Taylor

FULFORD WARD

Aspden

GUILDHALL WARD

Looker
B Watson

HAXBY & WIGGINTON WARD

Firth
Hogg
R Watson

HESLINGTON WARD

Jamieson-Ball

HEWORTH WARD

Blanchard
Funnell
Potter

HEWORTH WITHOUT WARD

Bennett

HOLGATE WARD

Alexander
Crisp

HULL ROAD WARD

Pierce

HUNTINGTON & NEW EARSWICK

MICKLEGATE WARD

WARD

Hyman
Orrell
Runciman

Fraser
Gunnell
Merrett

OSBALDWICK WARD

RURAL WEST YORK WARD

Morley

Gillies
Healey
Hudson

SKELTON, RAWCLIFFE & CLIFTON
WITHOUT WARD

STRENSALL WARD

Moore
Watt

Kirk
Wiseman

WESTFIELD WARD

WHELDRAKE WARD

Steve Galloway
Sue Galloway
Waller

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bowgett and Cregan

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

14. 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. The following interests were declared:
- Councillor Merrett - a personal non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 6(i) (Notices of Motion – Provision of a Swimming Pool on the Kent Street Site) as his daughter was a member of the York Baths Club;
 - Councillor Hogg - a personal non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 6(iii) (Notices of Motion – Policing in York) as his father was a North Yorkshire Police pensioner;
 - Councillor Fraser - a personal non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 6(iv) (Notices of Motion – Funding of the York Older People's Assembly) as the Council's nominee on the Board of Trustees of the Council for Voluntary Service (CVS).

MINUTES

15. The minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council held on 12 April 2007 and the Annual Council meeting held on 24 May 2007 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

16. The Lord Mayor announced receipt of the following gifts:
- Receipt of a flag and two books presented by visitors from the Swedish Parliament;
 - Receipt of a medal and declaration from Munster commemorating the 50th anniversary of the twinning and renewing the twinning agreement.
- She also reported that she had recently attended a civic reception to celebrate Clifton Without School winning a national football tournament and that the trophy was on display in the Council Chamber.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

17. The Lord Mayor reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

PETITIONS

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

- i) A petition presented by Cllr Potter, on behalf of residents of Morrit Close, requesting that bungalows be built on the Council land adjacent to their homes;
- ii) A petition presented by Cllr Hudson, on behalf of Rufforth Parish Council, supporting the proposal to construct a cycle path linking Rufforth to Acomb.

NOTICES OF MOTION

19. In accordance with Standing Order 11, five notices of motion had been received:

(i) **Provision of a Swimming Pool on the Kent Street Site**

This motion had been referred from the Executive in accordance with Standing Order 11(a)(i):

“Council instructs Council officers as a matter of urgency to seek to retain the option of a pool on the Kent Street site. To enable the re-provision of a pool on the site this Council asks

- a) That officers take no active steps to promote the sale of the site, save as might be required by law;
- b) That officers enter into negotiations to withdraw from the agreed sale.
- c) The £2m funding currently earmarked for a University Pool to be retained by the Council for pump priming a pool development at the Kent Street site or other appropriate city centre location.
- d) Officers provide a report which examines alternative design solutions for a replacement pool including examining
 - i) whether an agreement can be reached with the car park owner for car parking facilities to provide the customer parking off the coach park site, or
 - ii) the possible release of the end bay of the car park, and
 - iii) the redesigning of the previously proposed pool etc to provide front servicing to remove the need for the access road to the back.”

As proposer of the motion, Cllr Scott put forward an amendment with Council’s consent:

“Delete wording from ‘retain the option of a pool’ to ‘this Council’ and replace with ‘provide the options for a City Centre Pool and’.

On point a) to add ‘To preserve all options’ at the beginning and delete the word ‘That’.

To delete points b) and d) and re-label point c) as new point b).

To add a new point c) to read, ‘A further report be provided outlining

possible options on sites, including the Kent Street site and all necessary design and redesign options for a any proposed building, and this be included in the Leisure Review already commissioned.”

The amended motion was then moved by Cllr Scott, and seconded by Cllr Potter:

“Council instructs Council Officers as a matter of urgency to seek to provide the options for a City Centre Pool and asks:

- a) To preserve all options officers should take no active steps to promote the sale of the site, save as might be required by law
- b) The £2m funding currently earmarked for a University Pool to be retained by the Council for pump priming a pool development at the Kent Street site or other appropriate City Centre location.
- c) A further report be provided outlining possible options on sites, including the Kent Street site and all necessary design and redesign options for a any proposed building, and this be included in the Leisure Review already commissioned.”

Cllr Gillies then moved, and Cllr Galvin seconded, a further amendment to the above motion, as follows:

“To insert the words ‘County Standard Swimming’ before ‘Pool’ in the first sentence.

To delete point a) and re-label subsequent points.

To delete all wording in point b) after the word ‘Council’ and replace it with ‘for future swimming provision’.

To delete the words ‘including the Kent Street site’ from point c).”

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

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

“Council instructs Council Officers as a matter of urgency to seek to provide the options for a City Centre County Standard Pool and asks:

- a) The £2m funding currently earmarked for a University Pool to be retained by the Council for future swimming provision.
- b) A further report be provided outlining possible options on sites and all necessary design and redesign options for a any proposed building, and this be included in the Leisure Review already commissioned.”

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

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

(ii) **Report of the Future York Group**

It was moved by Cllr Steve Galloway and seconded by Cllr Jamieson-Ball that:

“Council:

- a) Notes the publication of the important *Future York* report on the economic well being of the City
- b) Places on record its thanks to Christopher Garnett and the other members of the Future York Group for the time that they have invested and the quality and depth of the report that they have produced.
- c) Welcomes the underlying conclusion of the report which is an endorsement of the economic strategy that has been pursued by the Council on behalf of the City for the last few years
- d) Urges residents and local businesses to consider and make their views known on the recommendations made in the report so that when the Council comes to consider its reaction, it can do so confident that, any refinements which may be necessary to the City’s economic strategy, will have the support of the local community.”

Cllr Bennett then moved, and Cllr Gillies seconded, the first amendment to the above motion, as follows:

*“On paragraph c) delete all of the words after ‘report’ and insert the following
‘in particular the comments expressed in support of the dual carriageway of the A1237 (Northern Ring Road)’”.*

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

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

“Council:

- a) Notes the publication of the important *Future York* report on the economic well being of the City
- b) Places on record its thanks to Christopher Garnett and the other members of the Future York Group for the time that they have invested and the quality and depth of the report that they have produced.
- c) Welcomes the underlying conclusion of the report in particular the comments expressed in support of the dual carriageway of the A1237 (Northern Ring Road).
- d) Urges residents and local businesses to consider and make their views known on the recommendations made in the report so that when the Council comes to consider its reaction, it can do so confident that, any refinements which may be necessary to the City’s economic strategy, will have the support of the local community.”

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

“Paragraph c) add ‘and the assessment of York’s economy by Yorkshire Forward’.

Add a new paragraph at e)

‘e) instructs the Chief Executive to provide an urgent report to Council which examines how best this Council can

- i) respond to the challenges set by the Report;*
 - ii) implement its recommendations; and*
- provide a timetable for actions by the Council.’.”*

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

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

“Council:

- a) Notes the publication of the important *Future York* report on the economic well being of the City
- b) Places on record its thanks to Christopher Garnett and the other members of the Future York Group for the time that they have invested and the quality and depth of the report that they have produced.
- c) Welcomes the underlying conclusion of the report in particular the comments expressed in support of the dual carriageway of the A1237 (Northern Ring Road) and the assessment of York’s economy by Yorkshire Forward.
- d) Urges residents and local businesses to consider and make their views known on the recommendations made in the report so that when the Council comes to consider its reaction, it can do so confident that, any refinements which may be necessary to the City’s economic strategy, will have the support of the local community.
- d) Instructs the Chief Executive to provide an urgent report to Council which examines how best this Council can
 - i) respond to the challenges set by the Report;
 - ii) implement its recommendations; andprovide a timetable for actions by the Council.”

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

“Add an additional point at the end:

‘resolves to assess the recommendations of the report over the next six months using the carbon footprinting tool to enable the city to balance these against the planned climate change strategy.’.”

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

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

“Council:

- a) Notes the publication of the important *Future York* report on the economic well being of the City
- b) Places on record its thanks to Christopher Garnett and the other members of the Future York Group for the time that they have invested and the quality and depth of the report that they have produced.
- c) Welcomes the underlying conclusion of the report in particular the comments expressed in support of the dual carriageway of the A1237 (Northern Ring Road) and the assessment of York’s economy by Yorkshire Forward.
- d) Urges residents and local businesses to consider and make their views known on the recommendations made in the report so that when the Council comes to consider its reaction, it can do so confident that, any refinements which may be necessary to the City’s economic strategy, will have the support of the local community.
- a) Instructs the Chief Executive to provide an urgent report to Council which examines how best this Council can
 - i) respond to the challenges set by the Report;
 - ii) implement its recommendations; andprovide a timetable for actions by the Council.
- f) Resolves to assess the recommendations of the report over the next six months using the carbon footprinting tool to enable the city to balance these against the planned climate change strategy.”

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

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

(iii) **Policing in York**

It was moved by Cllr Orrell and seconded by Cllr Kirk that:

- a) “Council extends a welcome to the new Chief Constable Graham Maxwell and looks forward to further cementing the constructive partnership with his staff which has led to significant reductions in crime levels in our City over the last 2 years.
- b) Whilst Council recognises the financial pressures being felt by many public agencies including the Police, it would be deeply concerned if any reduction in “front line” neighbourhood or reactive policing resources were advocated as a way of tackling any budget deficit.
- c) Council looks forward to discussing with the new Chief Constable how it may cooperate in addressing some of the

more intractable issues in the City including the levels of violent crime, traffic speeds & anti social behaviour generally together with the causes, consequences and possible remedies for drug and alcohol abuse.”

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

RESOLVED: That the above notice of motion be approved.

(iv) **Funding of the York Older People’s Assembly**

It was moved by Cllr Potter and seconded by Cllr Fraser that:

"The York Older People's Assembly, a registered charity representing the majority of York citizens over 50, call upon the City of York Council to urgently consider a grant of £6,000 so as to add to monies received by the Assembly from the North Yorkshire & York Primary Care Trust.

This will enable the Assembly is able to employ a part-time member of staff for 16 hours per week at Scale 4 (Local Government scales).

This will allow the Assembly to: -

- 1) Expand its contacts with older people in their own settings.
- 2) Aid its applications for alternative funding sources.
- 3) Embed and extend current work plans.
- 4) Ensure that it remains the key representative body for older people in the City of York Council area.
- 5) Be the key City of York Council focus of consultation with older people in the City.
- 6) Ensure Council services meet the needs of its older citizens.”

Cllr Steve Galloway then moved, and Cllr Aspden seconded, an amendment to the above motion, as follows:

“Add at the end of the motion the following words:

‘Council resolves to consider the request of the Older Persons Assembly, together with grant applications from other bodies, as part of the 2008/09 budget build process.’”

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

The motion, as amended, now read as follows:

"The York Older People's Assembly, a registered charity representing the majority of York citizens over 50, call upon the City of York Council to urgently consider a grant of £6,000 so as to add to monies received by the Assembly from the North Yorkshire & York Primary Care Trust.

This will enable the Assembly is able to employ a part-time member of staff for 16 hours per week at Scale 4 (Local Government scales).

This will allow the Assembly to: -

- 1) Expand its contacts with older people in their own settings.
- 2) Aid its applications for alternative funding sources.
- 3) Embed and extend current work plans.
- 4) Ensure that it remains the key representative body for older people in the City of York Council area.
- 5) Be the key City of York Council focus of consultation with older people in the City.
- 6) Ensure Council services meet the needs of its older citizens.”

Council resolves to consider the request of the Older Persons Assembly, together with grant applications from other bodies, as part of the 2008/09 budget build process.”

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

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

(v) Holding an Additional Council Meeting in July

It was moved by Cllr Galvin and seconded by Cllr Healey that:

“That an additional Council Meeting be held at or around the end of July to enable any Council business to be dealt with effectively between the current June and October cycles.”

The motion was put to the vote and declared LOST and it was

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

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE LEADER AND EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

20. A written report was received from the Leader, Cllr Steve Galloway, on the work of the Executive. He then moved, and Cllr Jamieson-Ball seconded, the minutes requiring confirmation from the Executive meeting on 26 June 2006, namely:

- Minute 20 – 2007/08 Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) and Year-End Performance Review of 2006/07;
- Minute 21 – Statement of Accounts (subject to the inclusion of a number of minor corrections made following the Executive meeting, which were incorporated in or attached to the revised copies of the accounts circulated at the meeting);
- Minute 22 – Corporate Procurement Strategy 2007-2010.

RESOLVED: That the above minutes and the recommendations of the Executive be approved.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER

21. A written report was received from Cllr Waller, the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services.

Notice had been received of seven questions put by Members in accordance with Standing Orders, as follows and as set out on the list circulated around the Council Chamber:

(i) From Cllr Potter:

“I note the increase in staff satisfaction but also note the high number of working days lost due to absence, the high turnover of staff and the low percentage of staff appraisals undertaken in this Directorate, so can the Executive Member inform Council what he intends to do about this poor state of affairs and to further improve staff satisfaction?”

(ii) From Cllr Brian Watson:

“Will the Executive Member look at improving access for pedestrians bringing recyclables to the Hazel Court recycling centre following complaints from local residents?”

(iii) From Cllr Merrett:

“Is the Executive Member now pleased that he listened to Labour's suggestions that physically brushing footpaths clean would increase cleanliness and improve the BVPI 199 figures and does he not now wish he had introduced this much earlier as we had suggested?”

(iv) From Cllr Potter:

“What provision is the Executive Member making to enable more Ward Committees to have JAG meetings facilitated by the Neighbourhoods team so that this important work around community safety issues can be fully integrated into Neighbourhood Action Planning?”

(v) From Cllr Alexander:

“What is the Executive Member going to do about graffiti on private land that is not linked to the public utilities?”

(vi) From Cllr Simpson-Laing:

“What work is being undertaken to improve air quality in those areas that are close to breaching standards around the inner ring road?”

(vii) From Cllr Firth

“What steps have been taken by Neighbourhood Services to

tackle the recent and, in some cases, ongoing floods in the York area?"

Members agreed to accept written responses to these questions.

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

22. In accordance with Standing Order 10(c)(i), the following questions had been put and the following written responses had been given, as set out on the list circulated around the Council Chamber:

- (i) **To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Vassie:**
"Can the Executive Member report on the success of the relaunched Yozone card?"

[Deferred from the meeting on 12 April 2007 as the guillotine had fallen.]

"The 'YOzone roadshow' has visited 9 state secondary schools in York, plus Bootham School & Tadcaster Grammar. I am pleased to be able to report that there are now 5,300 valid YOzone cards in circulation with just over 3,500 of these are the new-style cards launched in March 2007. This equates to a take up of around 50%.

Yozone cards are available from St Leonard's Place during normal office hours and full details are available on the Council's website."

- (ii) **The question to the Executive Member for Adult Social Services, from Cllr Fraser had been withdrawn.**

- (iii) **To the Executive Member for Youth and Social Inclusion, from Cllr Scott:**

"Will the Executive Member for Youth and Social Inclusion explain why the young people of Strensall and Haxby feel excluded?"

[Reworded question submitted in place of one deferred from the meeting on 12 April 2007 as the guillotine had fallen.]

"I am very sure that the majority of young people in Strensall and Haxby are far from excluded as implied by the question but are actively engaged and involved with a range of community and leisure activities. The Youth Service, supported by both local Ward Committees, is active in the areas and has a developing range of provision.

It is unclear what issue or group of young people Cllr Scott is referring too, however if he would like to inform me of a particular concern I would be more than happy to work alongside him, the

ward councillors and the Youth Service to investigate.”

(iv) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Potter:

“What action is being taken to ensure that the LPSA2 targets relating to violent crime, vehicle interference, reducing the reporting of noise nuisance and people feeling free from crime and violence will be met so that grant income can be maximised and reinvested into community safety?”

“Safer York Partnership are leading on delivering the LPSA targets for Violent Crime and Vehicle Crime.

There has been a national increase in wounding incidents which contribute to the violent crime stretched target. The definition of violent crime has also changed during the recording period. This change makes it unlikely that any authority will achieve this element of the LPSA target. The numbers of incidents in the City is has been stable and, very recently, has started to show a downward trend.

The vehicle interference stretched target is also unlikely to be achieved despite there being reductions in incidents from the baseline set in 2003/04. However this element accounts for only 5% of the vehicle crime total target so there is little effect on the £327,919 reward grant available from this section of the LPSA agreement. The expectation is that Neighbourhood Policing will impact on the 492 instances of vehicle interference reported last year.

It is anticipated that the targets for reducing burglaries, the theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle, theft from a vehicle and the percentage of illegal sales detected through our test purchase programme will all be achieved whilst overall crime has decreased by 8% in the last year.

The profile of noise nuisance (specifically noisy neighbours) was raised considerably throughout 2006/07. There was a great deal of publicity following the launch of the night time noise enforcement service which has been warmly welcomed by residents. One consequence of this media activity is that the perception that noise is a significant problem was placed in the minds of residents. To some degree therefore we are victims of our own success here. The expectation is that the noise nuisance team will gradually weed out the persistent noise producers reducing the number of repeat reports. Unfortunately this is unlikely to happen sufficiently quickly to impact on the current year’s public perception outturn.

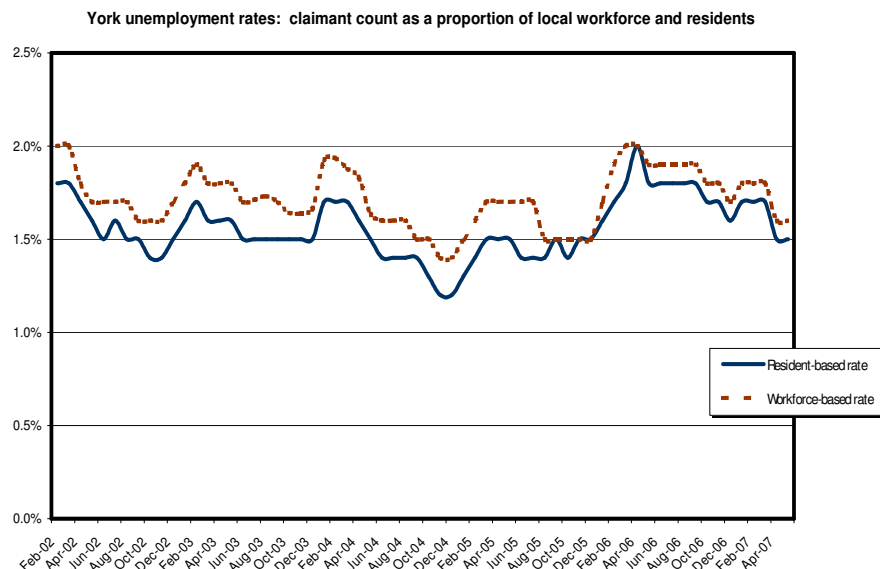
The number of people who feel that York is a safe place in which to live has increased to 53% in 2006/07 compared with 50.6% in 2005/06. This is another perception measure which are notoriously slow to change dramatically.

A decision has already been taken to financially reward partners for their work in contributing to the successful achievement of targets where this is appropriate.”

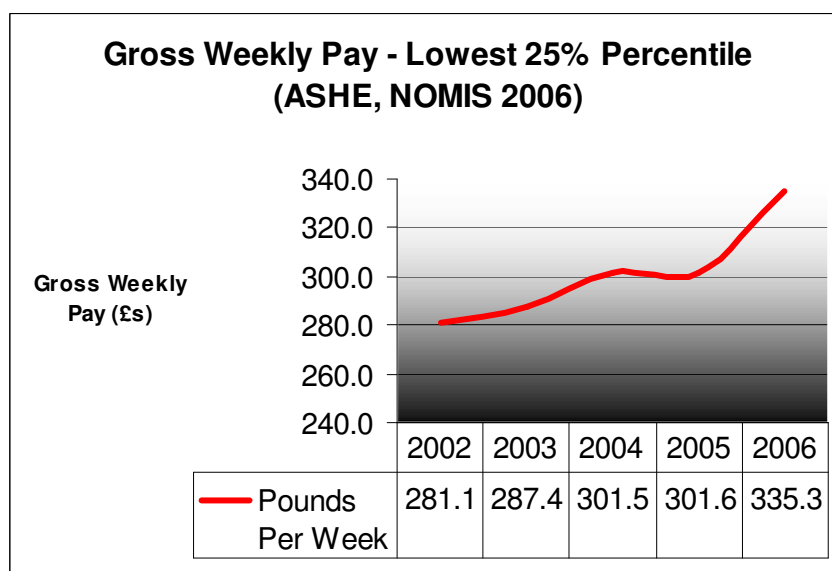
(v) To the Executive Leader, from Cllr Holvey:

“Would the Leader confirm the current levels of unemployment in the City and compare them with rates over the last few years? Would he provide information on how wage levels are changing in the City and particularly with regard to the traditionally low paid sectors?”

“I am pleased to advise members that our unemployment numbers have remained remarkably stable over the last 4 years. Despite the much publicised and worrying reductions in employment numbers in the manufacturing sector, unemployment levels in the City have fallen from a February 06 high.



I am also pleased to report that using central governments preferred statistical base the earnings of the lowest paid 25% of our population has increased significantly faster than inflation over the last recorded 12 month period. While some caution should be exercised, as these figures refer to those in employment and are not therefore a reliable indicator on their own of relative poverty levels in the City, the trends taken together, suggest that the modernisation of the York economy is beginning to bring benefits for all sections of our community.



(vi) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Simpson-Laing:

“Will the Executive Member for City Strategy promise to undertake a review of the Council’s Conservation Team in light of the known and expected development that is to come forward in the City over the next decade?”

“As the member will be aware the need to properly resource key activities within the Strategy Directorate, to allow for prompt attention to be given to any development proposals, which may emerge from the new availability of brownfield sites for commercial, leisure and housing purposes in the City, has already been highlighted by the Council Leader. The York Future report also makes the same point. I would expect that the Director would bring forward such proposals as he considers necessary to address this issue in a timely way. However, members will be aware that the total expenditure of the Council continues to be limited by central government policy and, therefore, that any increase in costs in one activity area will have to be compensated by a corresponding reduction in costs elsewhere.

Recruitment is currently taking place for the 2 vacancies in the Conservation team.”

(vii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Simpson-Laing:

“Can the Executive Member for City Strategy explain why the City’s Variable Message Signs are not being used to promote modal shift, report on Air Quality and advertise Council Transport Campaigns?”

“The answer is simple. - we are not allowed to use them for any other purpose than informing drivers of traffic conditions or preventing danger.

Other messages do not fall within the Department for Transport rules that authorise us to use VMS in York. We are also required to have a system that records the messages that we use so that these message can be audited if necessary.

Indeed, when these signs were used for a short period to warn drivers to safeguard their Satellite Navigation equipment from theft, the Council received a sharp rebuke from DfT in Leeds!"

(viii) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr Simpson-Laing:

"Would the Executive Member for City Strategy join with me in welcoming the Government's latest initiatives on Climate Change, which called for Local Authorities to adopt their own local strategies and inform members when she expects the first papers to go to City Strategy?"

"As the member will be aware, the 4 Group Leaders have already addressed this issue as part of the Policy Prospectus which emerged from discussions about the Council's future political management arrangements. The agreement was ratified by the Executive on 12th June. I understand that the approved timetable shows that a policy review document, or documents, covering Climate Change strategy, will be tabled before September."

(ix) To the Executive Member for City Strategy, from Cllr D'Agorne:

"In the light of the 'Future York' recommendations on dualling of the outer ring road, will the Executive Member provide its members and new council members with the Executive summary of the Halcrow Outer Ring Road study, reported to EMAP on July 6th 2005? Could she advise us what has changed since the conclusion of this report (commissioned by the council) that 'The full dual option results in similar time user benefits to that of upgrading roundabouts... but has a much lower benefit to cost ratio'?"

"The executive summary to the Halcrow report is available on the Council's website as Annex 1 to the Outer Ring Road Study Report to the 6 July Planning and Transport EMAP meeting (note: date of meeting on the website is identified as 28 June).

The study identified that in terms of journey time savings the benefit to cost ratio of the roundabout enhancement proposal was higher than the full dualling and grade separation option. This was mainly due to similar predicted time savings but substantially higher costs for the dualling option. It should be noted that the dualling option assumed that all sections were dualled and all roundabout junctions grade separated – further work may refine the requirement to enhancing capacity at limited sections only.

The study concentrated on the congestion benefits of the upgrade and not the economic regeneration benefits which may arise e.g from the redevelopment of the York Central and British Sugar sites.

The dualling option would lead to the largest reduction in citywide travel time relative to do-nothing projections but could lead to additional trips being generated.

There have been a number of transport related issues since the study was completed which may have an affect on the conclusions of the report.

- The final LTP submitted in March 2006 including a proposal to enhance access to the city by providing additional Park and Ride capacity and bus priorities and upgrading sections of the Outer Ring Road. This proposal is the subject of current investigation.*
- The LTP funding which was confirmed in December 2005 is substantially lower than was anticipated at the time the report was written.*
- The Highways Agency Hopgrove Roundabout improvement scheme has not progressed as rapidly as expected due to rising costs and funding constraints.*
- The transport model has been refined to take better account of the effect of public transport provision.*
- The emergence of additional large developments at British Sugar and Nestle which were not considered in the original modeling.*
- The landowners of the York Central site are reviewing their development strategy to take account of the British Sugar site.*
- The approved layout of other large developments at Derwenthorpe, Germany Beck, the University and Terry's need to be incorporated into the model*
- The emergence of the Regional Transport Board as the mechanism for determining regional priorities and advising the DfT on the distribution of funding.*
- The emergence of the Leeds City Region and its transport vision of improving connectivity between main population centres.*
- The emergence of the Leeds City Region and its transport vision of improving connectivity between main population centres."*

(x) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr Potter:

"Can the Executive Member inform Council what plans are being put in place to ensure the roll out of recycling to terraced and flatted areas, and hard to reach properties in the City, in order that residents who live in these types of properties receive a recycling service that is equitable with the rest of the City?"

“The objective of this administration has been to expand recycling collections as rapidly as funding allows for additional services to be rolled out, notwithstanding the ever increasing burden of Landfill Tax which draws four times more money from the city than is returned in grants for recycling.

Already 11,000 properties on terrace collection rounds receive recycling collections, and I was grateful for the support of all parties at the June 7th Neighbourhood Services EMAP for the continued support for the Friends of St Nicholas Field collection service. I hope that the other parties will support my objective in getting the growth bid mentioned in the report for the 2008/09 budget. Officers will be presenting a report by the end of September as stated in the Group Leaders’ Policy Prospectus on the LATS position of the council which will include options for members to consider regarding additional recycling services together with a financial assessment of the costs of taking these next steps. It would be helpful to know if the Labour Party’s view is in favour of Alternate Weekly Collection equality with the rest of the city?”

(xi) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr Potter:

“Will the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services ensure that there are staff available to deal with any raised alarms in public disabled toilets, as currently if any alarm is triggered when ‘mitie’ are not on site there is no-one available to deal with the issues as there is no set procedure in relation to one of the alarms being activated?”

“I have referred this issue to the Social Inclusion Working Group as there needs to be careful consideration of resources, and details of instances where this has been a problem and the appropriate way of ensuring assistance is available. City of York Council does not operate this part of the service any differently to the local authorities that we have benchmarked against, and is in line with the guidance from the British Toilet Association.”

(xii) To the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, from Cllr Taylor:

“Would the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services agree with me that the Government’s Gambling Act of 2005 is both a hurried and hazardous piece of legislation. In light of the recent tragedy related to gambling and the Executive Member’s comments in the media in relation to this man’s death, would he support a ‘no casino clause’ if brought forward to Full Council?”

“The Government’s insistence on expanding the number of casinos in the Gambling Act has been rushed, and produced one of only three defeats of secondary legislation in the House of Lords since 1945 as testimony to the divisive natures of the moves. I believe that the ‘no casino clause’ should be examined

when the council reviews its' Gambling Policy as it has to within three years of Full Council's approval of the existing policy."

(xiii) To the Executive Member for Youth and Social Inclusion, from Cllr Orrell:

"Would the Executive Member tell me about the number of applications received for YorKash, and whether he hopes it will be a successful year for the scheme?"

"The YorKash Panel was recruited through a postcard campaign that went through all secondary schools and youth service and voluntary projects. Following publicity for the scheme 75 applications were received last year – an increase from the previous three years.

I know that that the YorKash Panel are currently visiting some of the successful projects and making a DVD. This will help to continue to increase the success of the scheme."

(xiv) To the Executive Member for Youth and Social Inclusion, from Cllr Fraser:

"Would the Executive Member outline one ambition for his coming year in office?"

"I am looking forward to working with a wide range of people and community groups as Executive Member for Youth and Social Inclusion. It is vital that the Council continues to promote good community relations, whereby no one is disadvantaged or suffers because of discrimination.

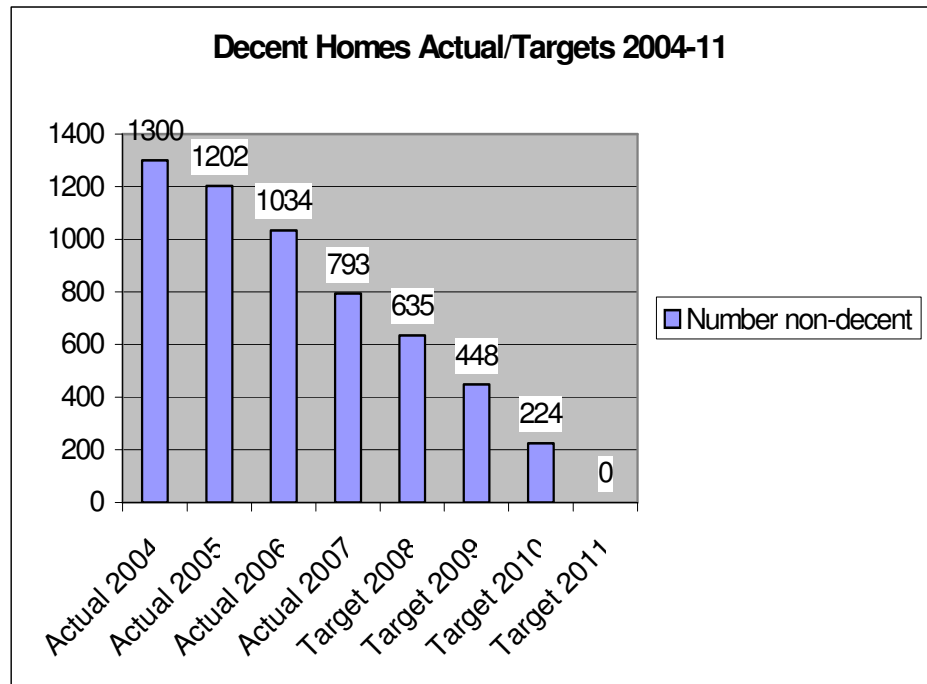
Many developments, such as the revised Social Inclusion Working Group, the new Children and Young People's Champion and the recent equalities conferences, build on the Council's progress in this area. Moving towards the next level of the Equality Standard for Local Government will further help – and one ambition will be to oversee the annual review of the Equalities Strategy to ensure this."

(xv) To the Executive Member for Housing, from Cllr Hyman:

"Would the Executive Member confirm what progress has been made over the last few years in bringing Council housing in the City up to "decent homes" standard and would she compare this performance with that of other Councils in the region?"

*"York has made excellent progress in bringing Council housing up to decent homes standard. York is in the **top quartile** of all the councils in England. The service remains on target to meeting the decent homes target by 2010. As at 1st April 2006, only 12.78% of our council housing stock was "non decent" – using central government terminology. By 1st April 2007 this had reduced to 9.80%. The target for 2006/07 was to reduce the number of non-decent homes to 810, but performance exceeded expectations*

and the actual number was reduced to 793.



(xvi) To the Executive Member for Adult Social Services, from Cllr Hogg:

“Could the Executive Member comment on any success that the Council may have had recently in encouraging vulnerable residents to claim the benefits to which they are entitled?”

“Following the merger of the financial assessment team and the charging unit within HASS along with the transfer of the social care benefits advice team from Resources, a benefits check was undertaken on 800 customers receiving non residential care services via the Council. As a result 310 customers have received an increase in the amount of benefits claimed and a total of £800k is involved. To give you an example, one couple are now £161.40p a week better off.”

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STANDARDS COMMITTEE

23. Cllr Kirk moved, and Cllr Horton seconded, the minute requiring confirmation from the Standards Committee meeting on 8 June 2007, namely:

- Minute 6 – The Revised Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members 2007

RESOLVED: That the above minute and the recommendations of the Standards Committee be approved.

SCRUTINY - REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

24. A written report was received from Cllr Galvin, the Chair of the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) on the work of the SMC since the last report to Council on 12 April 2007.

ACTIVITIES OF OUTSIDE BODIES

25. The Lord Mayor reported that there were no minutes of outside bodies to be considered at the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

26. RESOLVED:(i) That the appointments and changes in membership of committees and outside bodies, indicated in italics in the revised list circulated around the Council Chamber, and the appointment of proper officers, also set out in revised papers circulated around the Council Chamber, be approved;
- (ii) That consideration of the proposed scheme of delegation for the Strategic Policy Panel, changes to the relevant article of the constitution and consequent changes to the scheme of delegation for the Executive be deferred for further consideration by the Group Leaders.

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING, CULTURE & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

27. Members recorded their thanks to Patrick Scott, Director of Learning, Culture & Children's Services, for his hard work and achievements and wished him well for his retirement.

Councillor Irene Waudby
LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.35 pm and concluded at 10.15 pm]