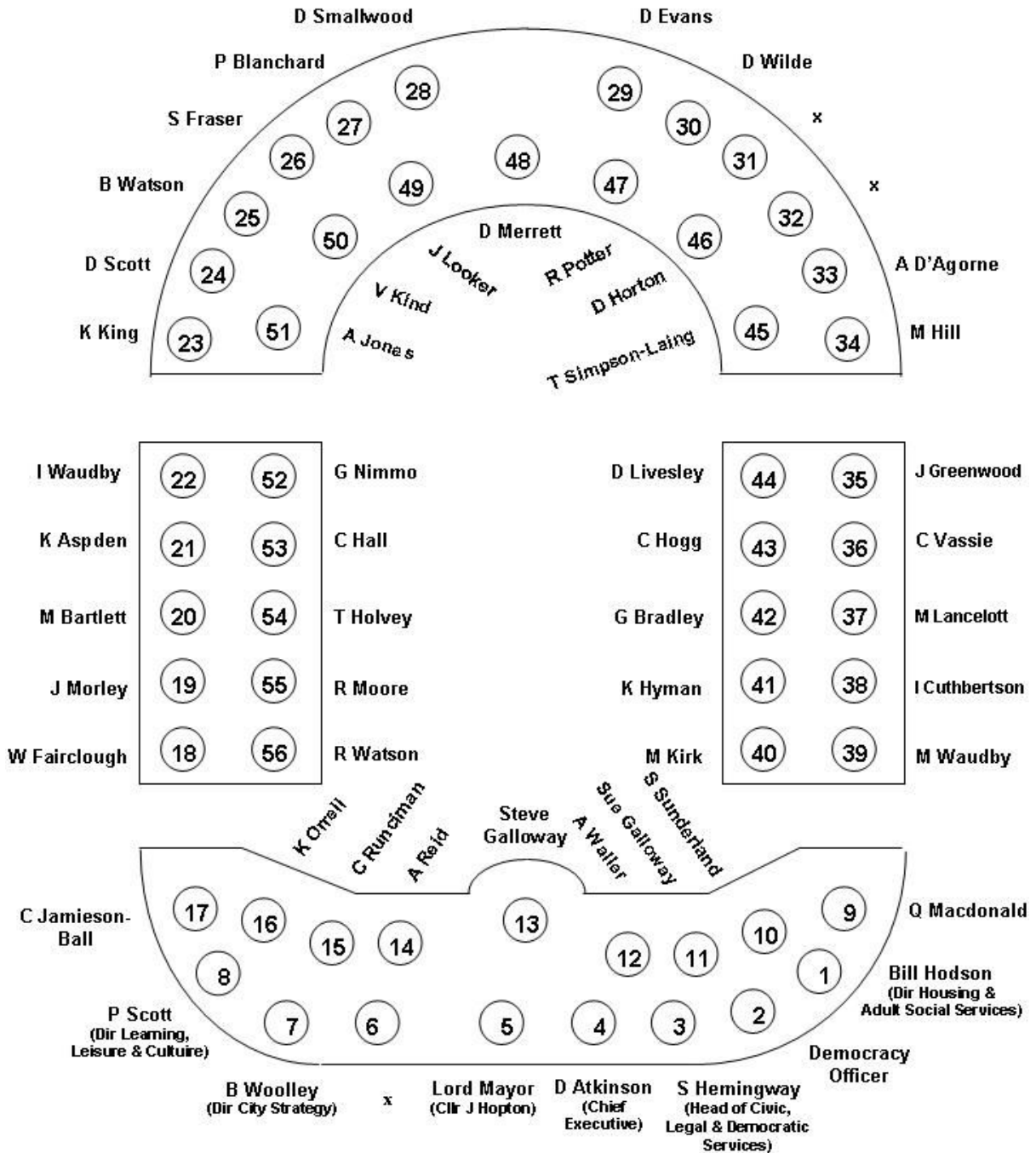


CITY OF YORK COUNCIL SUMMONS

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

Thursday, 5 October 2006 at 6.30 pm

COUNCIL CHAMBER PLAN



A G E N D A

1. Declarations of Interest

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

2. Minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 29 June 2006. Copy to follow.

3. Civic Announcements

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

4. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting, any member of the public who has registered to address the Council or ask a question of any Member of Council, for up to 3 minutes, on any matter directly relevant to the business of the Council or the City, may do so. Anyone who wishes to register or requires further information is requested to contact Dawn Steel on York (01904) 551030. The deadline for registering is **10.00 am on Wednesday, 4th October 2006.**

5. Petitions

To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order No.7.

6. Notices of Motion

To consider the following motions under Standing Order 11:

- (i) From Cllr Potter:
“Council requests the restoration of the budgets for ward committee funding, making good the cuts in this year’s budget.”

- (ii) From Cllr S F Galloway:
“Council notes with concern the recent announcements of job losses in the city. Council recognises the need for stability in, and the further diversification of, the local economy and welcomes proposals to establish new support arrangements for those facing redundancy and for an independent review of the prospects for, and actions necessary to ensure, the prosperity of the City over the next decade and beyond. Council remains concerned at the decline of manufacturing industry across the country, and in our area specifically, and calls upon central government to do more to support local businesses.”

- (iii) From Cllr D Merrett:
“Council requests, as part of the Council’s response to the recent major job loss announcements across a number of important sectors of the City’s economy, and to questions as to how well the Council’s existing job creation strategies and spending levels match the profile and numbers of York residents losing employment, that the Director of City Strategy, in conjunction with local business leaders, partners and MPs urgently review and update the Council’s Economic Development Strategy and expenditure priorities.”

[Note: In accordance with Standing Order 14(r), motion (iii) above, might be ruled out of order by the Chair in light of the previous motion (ii) to be considered]

- (iv) From Cllr Sue Galloway:
“Council believes that responsibility for NHS cuts at Selby & York PCT rests with the Labour Government and the Department of Health. Therefore, Council calls upon Patricia Hewitt, Secretary of State for Health, to act to

reverse the proposal to cut up to 60 beds at York District Hospital.

Council asks the Chief Executive to write to Patricia Hewitt to ask for her assurance she will protect local residents and give a guarantee that these bed closures will not go ahead.”

(iv) From Cllr D’Agorne:

Consultation on changes to planning processes

“This council notes with concern the Government proposals for new nuclear power stations and the intention to 'fast track' planning applications without full public inquiry processes. We condemn the lack of robust examination of the options during the recent government policy review and the failure to provide hard evidence of the economic and environmental case for new nuclear plants in the UK.

This Council believes that the response to climate change should be with a rapid programme of cutting energy and resource consumption, increased renewables etc rather than by developing new nuclear plants. It believes it is unacceptable to seek to avoid effective opposition by changing planning processes. It also believes any new plants will have a serious opportunity cost in relation to the development of new renewable technologies and will perpetuate the terrorist threat and problems of managing a growing waste mountain.

Council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to respond to the DTI consultation before October 31st expressing these views on behalf of City of York Council.”

7. Report of Executive Leader and Executive Recommendations (Pages 1 - 14)

To receive and consider a written report from the Leader on the work of the Executive and deal with any recommendations arising from their work and including the report of the Director of City Strategy and the original motion from Councillor Simpson-Laing relating to the 'ftr'. [Attached: Leader's report; report of Director of City Strategy on 'ftr', including motion from Councillor Simpson-Laing; and Executive minute from its meeting on 26 September 2006]

8. Report of Executive Member (Pages 15 - 16)

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

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

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

Executive Member for City Strategy

From Cllr Aspden:

"Given the changes to the bus services serving the Fordlands Road area in Fulford, will the Executive Member for City Strategy reconsider the provision of a pedestrian refuge at the junction with Main Street as soon as possible, on the basis that a safe crossing point is needed to allow residents to access the bus stops and local shops?"

From Cllr Simpson-Laing:

Will the Executive Member confirm passenger numbers for the 'ftr' on a monthly basis since May 2006 and compare those with the same period for route No4 in 2005?

From Cllr Simpson-Laing:

Will the Executive Member explain why there are continuing problems with reliability of the 'ftr' service and timing, given the concept was meant to overcome boarding delays, and can she confirm whether an additional bus has been added into the 'ftr' service schedules?

From Cllr King:

Could the Executive Member report on the number of complaints/incidents in relation to trips and falls related to the 'ftr' since May 2006?

From Cllr Looker:

Will the Executive Member explain why there was such a delay in bringing forward the alteration to the Section 106 agreement for the Barbican, and who was responsible?

From Cllr Scott:

Given the figures required for York's housing needs, particularly in relation to Affordable Housing, as published in the Fordham Reserach Document of June 2006, is the Executive Member now seeking higher housing projections for York through the Regional Spatial Strategy Inquiry.

From Cllr D'Agorne:

How much has been spent on preparing the council bid for waste PFI to date (including consultants fees and officer time) and how much is projected for the current year?

Executive Member for Housing

From Cllr Potter:

What level of staff support (including fte time allocations) are residents associations now receiving from the Neighbourhood Pride unit compared to that previously received from Community Services and when will the SLA between Housing and Neighbourhood Services finally be agreed?

From Cllr Merrett:

Would the Executive Member advise how many affordable properties for sale have been agreed in section 106 agreements for housing developments completed to date, how many of these

properties were successfully sold to persons from the York Housing waiting lists, whether any remained unsold and what happened to those (including a breakdown by property type & bedroom number & price, and how the sale of these properties is monitored, including subsequent resales)

Executive Member for Corporate Services

From Cllr Looker

Can the Executive Member explain what he is doing to bring the procurement strategy back on track by meeting the savings targets?

What percentage of staff appraisals have now been completed in the Resources Department?

What is the Executive Member doing to ensure that the Property Services overspend is being managed and brought back within budget?

Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

From Cllr Moore

Would the Executive Member report what cuts have had to be made to the 2006/7 Yorkshire Regional Flood Defence Committee capital and revenue budgets?

From Cllr D'Agorne

When will residents of Fishergate be given the opportunity to have kerbside cardboard collection for recycling?

When will residents in terraced streets and blocks of flats be included in kerbside or other door to door recycling collection systems?

Executive Member for Children's Services

From Cllr Bradley

Given the national concern about Key Stage 2 English results across the country, would the Executive Member for Children's Services like to comment on the standards achieved in York, particularly those achieved by boys?

Executive Member for Leisure & Culture

From Cllr D'Agorne

When does he now expect the Barbican deal to be signed?

10. Recommendations from the Licensing and Regulatory Committee (Pages 17 - 18)

To consider the following recommendations for approval from the Licensing and Regulatory Committee:

Committee	Date	Recommendations
Licensing & Regulatory Committee	1 September 2006	Minute 5 – Electoral Arrangements – Parish of Clifton Without [Copy attached]

11. Audit & Governance Committee - 4 October 2006 (Pages 19 - 22)

To consider the recommendations of Audit & Governance Committee from its meeting on 4 October 2006, relating to a constitutional amendment to Standing Orders 8(2)(a) and 10(a) received from Councillor Merrett. [Report to Audit & Governance Committee attached as background information. Recommendation from Audit & Governance Committee to be tabled at the meeting]

12. Scrutiny - Report of Chair of SMC and Scrutiny Annual Report (Pages 23 - 46)

To receive a written report on the work of the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) from Cllr Kirk, the Chair of SMC, and consider the recommendation of SMC regarding the Annual Report on Scrutiny for 2005/06. [Report attached from Chair of SMC, together with SMC minute and final text of Annual Scrutiny Report for 2005/6. The final version of Annual Report will be available at the meeting]

13. Activities of Outside Bodies (Pages 47 - 76)

Minutes of the following meetings of outside bodies, received since the last meeting of Council, have been made available for Members to view on the Council's computer system, on the M:Drive in "All Members/COUNCIL Outside Body Minutes/2006/29 October 2006". Copies may also be obtained by contacting the Democracy Support Group at the Guildhall, York (Tel. 01904 551088).

- North Yorkshire Police Authority
- Local Government Yorkshire & Humber
- Association of North Yorkshire Councils
- North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority

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

14. Appointments and Changes to Membership (Pages 77 - 78)

To consider the appointments and changes to the membership of Committees and Outside Bodies set out in the list attached to this Summons.

15. Urgent Business

To consider any business which the Lord Mayor considers is urgent in accordance with Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Democratic Services Manager

Dawn Steel

Tel: 01904 551030

Email: dawn.steel@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Manager responsible for servicing this meeting:

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

The Executive has met on only 4 occasions since the last Council meeting because of the August recess. The Executive has not yet had the opportunity to formally consider the implications of the recent announcements on job losses in the City but there will be an opportunity for members to discuss this issue elsewhere on the Council agenda.

The Executive met shortly after receiving the Secretary of State's decision not to cap the Council. The implication of the decision, though, was that a **Council Tax** increase in 2007 would be limited to a maximum of 4.5% and this, together with our usual policy of continuous improvement, meant that the Council's budget position has to be scrutinised very carefully.

It is clear already that next year, partly as a result of increasing demand for Council Social Services and partly as a result of the inescapable increases in commitments arising from legislation and job evaluation that we needed to undertake a review of this year's budget.

The Council's long term strategy is aimed at reducing its standing costs. Significant amongst these is the rental for the buildings which it occupies.

The New *City Hall* project is aimed at reducing these costs in the long run.

In addition the introduction of new IT systems will in future have to be justified with a tangible "payback" in terms of reduced running costs.

In the shorter term some of our income streams – such as car parking revenue – are buoyant despite the reduction in charges introduced in April.

There is still a need to undertake a "root and branch" examination of the Council's expenditure to ensure that

- ✎ There is no duplication of effort in the organisation
- ✎ we have eliminated "waste"
- ✎ we have, where necessary, de-prioritised inessential expenditure
- ✎ there are adequate and fair "gatekeeping" processes to control the allocation of limited resources where demand exceeds supply.
- ✎ We are making better use of fixed assets (vehicles, buildings etc.)

The key initiatives identified by the Executive include a review of income collection systems to ensure that we do collect all the tax that is due, different ways of delivering highway services and looking at how we can efficiently meet the increasing demand for home care services.

At a later meeting the Executive also reviewed its **capital programme** and in particular the assets available to support the programme.

Lack of capital resources will be a growing issue for the Council over the next few years as our potential for land sales dries up. Our programme is heavily dependent on a few land sales including Foss Islands, the Barbican and Derwenthorpe. The absence of any of these would mean substantial cuts in investment. In addition we aspire to have good quality well maintained assets and this will put additional pressure on our revenue budget.

Executive members stopped short of entirely embracing a revised CRAM process which could inhibit our ability to act flexibly to meet new challenges or to take advantage of new opportunities. The CRAM process will continue to be an important guide in prioritisation.

A major threat to the Council's financial stability arises from the treatment of the **collection and disposal of waste**.

A report to the Executive revealed that the long term waste treatment demands on the council are influenced by the following Council actions and trends;

1. Increasing our recycling rate to 36% has bought us some time
2. The ever decreasing permitted levels of landfill, with £150 per tonne fines mean that some sort of treatment is cheaper than simply paying the fines
3. Whatever technology is chosen, it will cost more than what we are currently paying to deal with waste in future.

4. We need to access the £65 million on offer from DEFRA for PFI credits to soften the blow of any contract to treat the waste

5. In terms of DEFRA financial support, and economies of scale, it is not viable for York to 'go it alone'

The final contract is over a year away, and even at this stage no specific technology solution is being proposed.

Whilst it has been frustrating to be caught up in the delay caused by DEFRA changing the way in which PFI credits would be granted, the change to an end process only project does avoid arguments over the spreading of costs of collection across a dispersed county area.

MBT (Mechanical Biological Treatment – 'recycling and digestion') is still the preferred option for York. However, DEFRA are still not defining the output from MBT process as being 'inert', which has impacted on the way in which the OBC can be drawn up. This is not the case in other European countries. We have written to Diana Wallis MEP and Graham Watson MEP about this anomaly and a meeting with the European Commissioner for Environment has been arranged in an attempt to bring the UK government definition in to line.

There has been extensive debate over the last 5 years as to the role of Yorwaste, and at one point it looked as though we might have to sell it off in order to encourage bidders for the contract. We are pleased that we have been able to retain the company, and the decision to exclude them from the PFI contract does not impact on their current business operation (which is landfill, composting and recycling).

The substantial 'affordability gap' is something that the Council must not allow central government to forget.

An opportunity to address the backlog in highways maintenance has arisen.

The Executive received a report which proposed the next steps for the highway services procurement following the decision in May to make a bid for a **highway management PFI**.

In the short and medium term, officers had progressed the re-tendering for street lighting, routine highway maintenance, footways and the surface-dressing programme and confirmed that a financial advantageous repair & resurfacing contract would be in place for September.

The Executive approved the steps necessary to submit an *Expression of Interest* to the DfT for the PFI bid. This in effect would have meant around £500 million being invested in bringing the City's transport infrastructure up to a good standard, and maintaining it in that condition, for the next 25 years.

The importance of the **York Central project**, judged against the background of the developing situation at British Sugar, Norwich Union and Nestle situations, cannot be under-estimated. Clearly the project is influenced by the availability of additional brownfield land for potential development (which may affect land values) and the pressing need to provide commercial sites with good connectivity to the rest of the Leeds City Region. Yorkshire Forward in July agreed to provide additional funding to accelerate the production of an Area Action Plan for public consultation. Unfortunately this was overtaken by the announcement of the closure of the British Sugar plant and the Executive has subsequently decided that a fresh approach is required

I had a constructive meeting with Directors from British Sugar (BS) at their Peterborough headquarters. The intention of the meeting was to seek BS support for a partnership approach to the future use of their Boroughbridge Road site.

Although British Sugar indicated that their refining plant would indeed finally close before Christmas 2007, they expressed a willingness to work with the Council to ensure that their site was used effectively for the benefit of the City and its economy.

They expressed a strong interest in working jointly with those involved with the York Central site and accepted that there could be benefits for both the City generally and the land owners, if the two sites were developed in a mutually compatible way and to an agreed timetable.

I have offered the company the support of the Council in dealing with issues arising from their closure decision and am hopeful that, in time, the Boroughbridge Road site will provide not only additional employment opportunities for the City but also will help to satisfy demand for family housing and improved community facilities on the west of the City.

We are establishing a regular dialogue with the company and expect to meet with them frequently over the next few months.

The Executive wished to make it very clear that our commitment to the York Central project remains undiminished by recent events. The site is in a very sustainable location; its development would remove a City centre eyesore and potentially will satisfy much of the demand for jobs and homes in the City for a generation.

However the availability of the British Sugar site has to be an influencing factor at least as far as transport access arrangements are concerned. Hence a new approach to the production of an Area Action Plan will delay public consultation on the options until the summer of 2007.

Executive members received with pleasure the outturn report on the **LTP**

This is the document that we have to submit to the DfT reporting on our achievements over the last 5 years of the LTP. The vast majority of our targets have been reached or exceeded and key achievements include:-

- A bus partnership which has attracted over £15 million of investment from the private sector.
- The best park and ride service in the country which has grown from 1.1 to 2.6 million passengers each year and produces an income of over £100k per year to the council.
- Bus patronage growth of 45% in 5 years, which is unseen anywhere else in the country outside London.
- A reduction in congestion in the peak hours relative to 1999 levels against increases nationally.
- Cycling levels well above the national average and the maintenance of the city's status as the UK's top cycling city (ERCDT assessment 2004).
- A State of the Art Traffic Management System with the pioneering Traffic Congestion Management System (TCMS) and Bus Location Information Sub-System (BLISS) systems;
- A significant reduction (over 20%) in accidents to below the levels needed to achieve the governments targets for 2010
- A doubling of the number of children cycling to school to 11%
- Significant improvements in the condition of the roads and footways to within government target levels and with substantially higher customer satisfaction ratings.

We also continue to invest substantial resources in highway maintenance which is reflected in public satisfaction as well as investing in "soft measures" such as green travel plans and awareness campaigns.

Our approach of providing real travel options to persuade people to use private cars less continues to have a tangible effect on congestion levels in the City with peak hour traffic levels at 1999 levels or below.

The Council will no doubt wish to record its thanks to the officers involved for their hard work and dedication in achieving sustained results over the 5 year plan period.

A number of other matters have been considered by the Executive. The **City Strategy** Directorate is being restructured. Change will be gradual.

The **Homebuy Plus** scheme will provide local people with an opportunity to get onto the housing ladder. Whilst only 30 properties will be available in this financial year- around 10 of which will be in York- the partnership between York, Leeds and Harrogate has received £7.5m from 2005-2011 which will help maximise affordable housing opportunities across the Golden Triangle. As there is already a waiting list for this scheme it is anticipated that there will be a rapid turnaround once a partner housing association has been selected in October. There is clearly a demand for this service and it is excellent that City of York Council will be able to help local families currently priced out of the housing market.

Agreement has been given to the relocation of the **Peasholme Centre** and the location of the **New Manor School**. The **Bonding Warehouse** is now on the market and the former **Childrens Home at 51 Bismarck Street** is likely to be sold to the York Housing Association for use by mature York residents with mental health problems (in conjunction with MIND)

I record our appreciation to **The Press** for supporting our initiative to establish a *Magic Childrens Christmas Tree* in Parliament Street. Hopefully this will prove to be a popular new approach to enjoying the festive season in the City.

We received, and broadly agreed, the conclusions of the **scrutiny** report into the **extended schools service** while additional information was requested on the implications of the report from the **street lighting** sub committee. In both cases Executive members recorded their appreciation of the work undertaken by the committees on behalf of the Council.

Steve Galloway



Executive

26th September 2006

Report of the Director of City Strategy

Full Council Motion - ftr Concerns

Summary

- 1 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council on 29th June 2006 by Cllr. Simpson-Laing and Cllr. Merrett. The motion concerns the partnership agreement between City of York Council and First York with regard to the ftr. The motion requests that officers:-
 - Ensure that ticketing difficulties, including the issue of 'Family Tickets' and the inability of the ticket machines to give change are sorted out as a matter of urgency so that York residents are not financially penalised when using the service.
 - That City of York Council ask First to retain conductors on board or allow contact between passengers and drivers when there are payment difficulties or access / destination issues particularly for those with disabilities.
- 2 This report seeks to clarify the current position and provide an update on relevant issues as under Standing Order 11, that the motion stand referred for the preparation of an Officer report and subsequent consideration by the Executive, without substantive debate at this meeting.

Background

- 3 ftr is the new concept in public transport that was introduced by First York in partnership with City of York Council in May 2006 on the Service 4 bus route between York University, the City Centre and Acomb. ftr seeks to encourage increased use of public transport in preference to the private car by moving away from the image of a conventional bus service. Service 4 is operated on a commercial basis by First York and as such, City of York Council has no control over service operation but can seek to influence First through the Heads of Terms Agreement.
- 4 Critical to the success of ftr is changing the way that people view public transport. In order to develop a mode of transport that provides an attractive alternative to the private car it is necessary to provide comfortable, punctual and reliable services which both reduce journey times and are easy to use.

- 5 The ftr is a pilot scheme and it was inevitable that changes and improvements would be required after the launch in May 2006. City of York works in partnership with all bus operators in the city which means that we regularly discuss issues of concern and resolve difficulties.
- 6 A partnership approach was adopted for ftr in York. Prior to the introduction of ftr, City of York Council and First York signed a Heads of Terms agreement. The agreement broadly outlines the commitment and responsibilities of both parties to the project.
- 7 The council is committed to improvements in public transport through the Local Transport Plan. City of York Council is committed to ensuring that ftr is a success. Officers from the council have met and continue to meet with senior personnel within First Group and the operations team at First York on a regular basis to discuss issues relating to both service operation and policy. Regular meetings take place to monitor progress and provide feedback.
- 8 Following the introduction of ftr, council officers fully understand that issues relating to ticketing that have caused concern and have been continually working with First to resolve these issues.
- 9 In developing the ftr concept a decision was taken by First Group, following the successful Transport for London (TfL) model to encourage Pay Before You Board (PBYB) off bus ticketing. PBYB ticketing offers reduced journey times through decreasing stop dwell times and should allow for a wider range of tickets, tailored to individual need, to be offered away from the vehicle.
- 10 In developing PBYB ticketing policies it is necessary to make it more advantageous for passengers to purchase tickets before they board the vehicle. This is done through offering easily accessible tickets at a discounted rate away from the vehicle (such as at 'Paypoint' Outlets and via the mobile phone barcode ticket). There have been teething problems with some elements of the technology surrounding ticketing. Officers are currently in discussion with First Group about future ticketing availability and policy. These include the provision of on street ticketing machines allowing passengers to purchase tickets using cash. Additionally, First Group are investigating modifications to Cityspace units to accept bank card and mobile phone transactions.

Update

- 11 As part of the ftr pilot scheme a decision was taken by First Group to introduce only a limited amount of on board tickets in order to reduce the complexity of the ticket machine. Following feedback from customers and representation by City of York Council, a family ticket, priced at £6.00 is currently under development and will be available in 'Paypoint' Outlets from October 2006.

- 12 As detailed in paragraph 9, the purchase of tickets away from the vehicle is critical to the success and future development of the service. Initial teething problems are being addressed by First Group and both City of York Council and First Group are confident that PBYB ticketing will soon be commonplace. First Group have made a decision that the ticket machines will not be modified to issue change in an effort to encourage PBYB ticketing. Officers are working with First Group on publicity issues to ensure that PBYB ticketing is more effectively communicated to the public.
- 13 As detailed above, the encouragement and promotion of PBYB ticketing is critical to the success and development of ftr in the city and this process may be compromised through the use of conductors issuing tickets. The Council however have a commitment from First York that additional 'Queue Busters' will be introduced on street to issue tickets at busy stops at peak times prior to the introduction of on street ticket machines at 12 key stops. It is anticipated that ticket machines will be implemented in February 2007. The mobile phone 'M' barcode ticket will be available from October 2006 and will be heavily promoted amongst the student community.
- 14 First Group are investigating on vehicle instructions to ensure passengers are clear on how to use the service. This will reduce the need for passengers requiring instructions from the 'pilot'. Essential contact between passengers and 'pilots' when there are payment difficulties is possible via the intercom system located adjacent the ticket machine. Additionally the 'pilot' has full CCTV coverage of the vehicles and is willing (as with any other service) to assist passengers if necessary. Route information is clearly displayed throughout the vehicle along with 'Next Stop' electronic displays.

Consultation

- 15 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council No consultation has been required, or undertaken as part of this report.

Options

- 16 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. No options have been required or considered as part of this report.

Analysis

- 17 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. No analysis has been required or considered as part of this report.

Corporate Priorities

- 18 The ftr is contributing to the following Corporate Aims:

Corporate Aim 1: Take Pride in the City, by improving quality and sustainability, creating a clean and safe environment.

The scheme encourages modal shift to ftr, a more sustainable form of transport rather than driving into and around the city.

Corporate Aim 4: Create a safe city through transparent partnership working with other agencies and the local communities.

The scheme, implemented through effective partnership working is contributing to making York's roads safer by reducing traffic.

Corporate Aim 5: Work with others to improve the health, well-being and independence of York residents.

The scheme is improving air quality through a reduction in congestion.

Local Transport Plan (LTP) : ftr contributes to several of the aims and objectives outlined in the Council's Local Transport Plan relating to a reduction in congestion and improvement to air quality and accessibility.

Implications

Financial

- 19 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. There are no financial implications.

Human Resources (HR)

- 20 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. There are no human resources implications.

Equalities

- 21 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. There are no equalities implications.

Legal

- 22 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. There are no legal implications.

Crime and Disorder

- 23 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. There are no issues relating to crime and disorder.

Information Technology (IT)

- 24 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council. There are no issues relating to information technology.

Property

25 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council.
There are no issues relating to property.

Other

26 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council.
There are no other issues to report.

Risk Management

27 This report has been published in response to a motion at Full Council.
There are no issues relating to risk management to report.

Recommendations

28 It is recommended that Members note the explanations detailed within the report.

Reason: In line with constitutional requirements to report back from Council.

Contact Details

Author:

Author's name: Matt Ward
Title: Transport Planner
Dept Name: Transport Planning
Tel No: 01904 551413

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Chief Officer's name: Bill Woolley
Title: Director of City Strategy

Report Approved

Date 04/09/2006

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

None

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Extract from Executive Minutes – 26 September 2006

Minute relating to ftr Motion

Members considered a report published in response to a motion at Full Council on 29 June 2006, concerning the partnership agreement between City of York Council and First York with regard to the ftr.

Members expressed concern about the difficulties with purchasing tickets for the ftr which had been highly publicised, and the negative impact that would have had on the level of use.

It was noted that First York expected to see radical improvement in that area with the introduction of on street ticketing machines allowing passengers to purchase tickets using cash, together with a wider range of tickets tailored to suit individual needs. First were also committed to introducing a mobile phone 'M' barcode ticket which would be heavily promoted amongst the student community.

In addition, Members of the Executive stated that they believed First must make significant changes to the ticketing systems for the ftr service and as such, they looked forward to receiving reports on major improvements in customer satisfaction with this aspect of the service before the end of the year.

RESOLVED: That (i) the report and the results of the ongoing discussions between the Council and First over ticketing arrangements on the ftr service be noted; and

(ii) further progress updates be received on any improvements to the ticketing systems introduced by First and on customer satisfaction levels, as set out above.

REASON: In line with constitutional requirements to report back from Council.

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**Notice of Motion on 'Ftr' from Councillor Simpson-Laing
Referred to Executive by Council on 29 June 2006**

Full text is as follows:

"This Council has some concern over the partnership agreement between CYC & First York Ltd with regard to the 'ftr'. Council asks CYC Officers:

- To ensure that ticketing difficulties, including the issue of 'Family Tickets' and the inability of the ticket machines to give change are sorted out as a matter of urgency so that York residents are not financially penalised when using the service.
- That CYC ask First to retain conductors on board or allow contact between passengers and drivers when there are payment difficulties or access/destination issues particularly for those with disabilities."

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Report to Council by Executive Member for Corporate Services

I am pleased to report that the overall performance of the Resources directorate has been steadily improving since I last reported to Council. Almost all performance indicators have improved significantly and key projects have progressed well. My priority is therefore to consolidate this improvement and to ensure that we embed the improvements and concentrate those areas where the performance has not yet reached the required standard.

We reached the end of the last financial year within budget and in this financial year are within the budget at the first monitor report. I have highlighted below a number of significant achievements beyond the day to day work for which I thank officers for their dedicated work.

I am pleased to be able to report that sickness levels in Resources have fallen significantly. The outturn figure for 2005/06 was 9.46 days, well below the council's target maximum of 11.5 days. After 4 months of this year the figure is 2.27 days and if this trend continues, the outturn figure could be under 7 days.

Executive recently approved the new Capital Strategy for the years 2006 to 2011. The Capital Strategy is closely linked to the approach to Asset Management Planning. It requires each service area to be clear about its own direction and the Resources it needs, including property, to support its services now and into the future. At the same time the CRAM process has been updated to ensure that it properly guides the allocation of funding in line with corporate aims and objectives.

Revenue collection (in year) is still slightly below target although it has improved from last year. It is one of the areas where service improvement is required, as we are not yet in the Unitary upper quartile. A debt collection manager has recently been appointed and the results are very promising. I am pleased to report that he approaches this task with the tact and diplomacy required in what can sometimes be difficult personal circumstances for the individuals involved.

The times for processing of Housing and Council Tax Benefits continue to fall. The outturn figure for BVPI 78a (processing new claims) has fallen significantly over the lifetime of this administration. The past figures were:

2003/04 – 86 days, 2004/05 – 73.23 days, 2005/06 – 40.22 days.

The downward trend is continuing and at 31st July 2006 the figure of 36 days had been reached. The target for this year is 34 days which I believe should be bettered as we hit 31 days for the month of August.

Corporate risk management goes from strength to strength. The new software tool to support this work is being used in earnest. We have seen a significant reduction in insurance premiums when the contract was relet this year, despite the fact that premiums in general are forever rising. Much of that was down to managing risk better and hence making fewer claims. Risk management techniques have been particularly successful in the easy @ york project where the risks are being fully identified and understood with mitigation measures being put in place to ensure success.

Work has been ongoing to achieve full DDA compliance in Council Buildings. There are 58 properties involved and at 2002/03 outturn we were only 13% compliant. I can report that we have performed very well and at 2005/6 outturn were 72% compliant which has put us in the upper quartile for local authorities. Much of the remaining work will be completed in this year with some carrying over to the next year.

The Administration Accommodation project continues to progress well. The land assembly work is complete and the sale and lease back arrangements of major buildings such as St. Leonard's Place and 2-4 Museum Street is progressing well. Work continues less visibly in all other areas of the project. The documentation is being prepared seeking bids from architects and other design teams for appointment to undertake the work of designing the council's new home. Appointments are expected to be made early in the new year.

The Easy @ York project is progressing well. The York Contact Centre was established in late June 2006 by bringing the York Pride Action Line and the Switchboard into a single office in Back Swinegate. The response times have improved significantly and the Service Level Agreement targets are being achieved consistently. At the moment the two services still function separately but that will change later this year. It will then be possible to add other services to the contact centre. Announcements about the new services and the commencement dates will be made much nearer to the to the commissioning dates.

We enter the autumn period with very significant pressure on some of the staff. In addition to the annual task of setting and agreeing the budget, which is well in hand, we face the significant workload of supporting the programme for the implementation of equal pay and job evaluation across the council, which has to be achieved by the financial year end.

Quentin Macdonald

City of York Council

Minutes

MEETING

LICENSING & REGULATORY COMMITTEE

DATE

1 SEPTEMBER 2006

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS NIMMO (CHAIR), BARTLETT
(VICE-CHAIR), HORTON, B WATSON AND
I WAUDBY**PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL****5. ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS - PARISH OF CLIFTON WITHOUT**

Members considered a report regarding the electoral arrangements for the Parish of Clifton Without following a request to reduce the number of parish councillors from fifteen to ten due to a failure in the past to recruit fifteen members.

A review took place between 1 July and 1 August 2006, during which time, no comments or representation were received.

Members were asked to consider two options:

- To reduce the number of parish councillors from fifteen to ten to provide the parish with a fully elected membership.
- Not to reduce the membership of the Clifton Without Parish Council which would result in the parish council not having a full membership quota.

RECOMMENDED: That:

- i. the number of parish councillors for the Clifton Without Parish Council be reduced from fifteen to ten and that the reduction takes place at the election of parish council members be held at the ordinary election of parish councillors on the 3rd May 2007
- ii. the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services be authorised to take any necessary action to make the local Order.

REASON: To benefit the democratic process by encouraging a fully elected membership.

Executive Leader

Chair of Advisory Panel

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.20 pm.



Audit & Governance Committee**4 October 2006****Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services****CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT****Summary**

1. This report gives details of a constitutional amendment proposed by the Labour Group in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution for submission to Audit & Governance Committee.

Background

2. In April 2006, a revised Constitution was approved by full Council with a commitment for the Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services to report back at the appropriate time with any 'snagging' issues.
3. Only two full Council meetings have taken place since the introduction of the new Constitution and with revised Standing Orders in operation, governing how full Council conducts its business. Insufficient time has elapsed to warrant the report back anticipated in 2. above. However, a constitutional amendment has since been received to Standing Orders from Members in line with the new constitutional requirement to submit any such proposals to this Committee.

Consultation

4. No public consultation is necessary for what is essentially an organisational matter.

Options

5. The options open to Members are simply to recommend approval or refusal of the proposed amendment or to consult the Member proposing the amendment on any suggested revisions to it.

Analysis

6. The proposed amendment is to Standing Orders 8(2)(a) and 10(a) which currently read as follows:

Standing Order 8(2)(a): *“The Executive Member will answer questions on any item in their written report, the time spent on this item shall not exceed 10 minutes. Such questions must relate directly to the report and be received by the Chief Executive in writing on the day before the meeting.”*

Standing Order 10(a): *“A member of the Council may ask a question on the Leader’s written report or ask an Executive Member a question upon any item within their portfolio when their portfolio is under consideration by the Council under Standing Order 4(c)(9). Such questions must relate directly to the report in the case of the former and in any event must be received by the Chief Executive not later than the day prior to the Council meeting. The time limit for questions on the report is 10 minutes. The Chair of Council will determine the order in which questions should be put and answered to reflect political balance, public expectation and significance to the Council.”*

7. The proposed amendment is being put by Councillor Merrett and is as follows:

Standing Order 8 (2) (a) after the first sentence ending with the words “10 minutes” insert a new sentence with the words “no answer given shall exceed 2 minutes in duration.”

The effect of this amendment would be to make it read as follows:

*The Executive Member will answer questions on any item in their written report, the time spent on this item shall not exceed 10 minutes. **No answer shall exceed 2 minutes in duration.** Such questions must relate directly to the report and be received by the Chief Executive in writing on the day before the meeting*

Standing Order 10 (a) in the sixth line after the sentence ending with the words “10 minutes” insert a new sentence with the words “no answer given shall exceed 2 minutes in duration.”

The effect of this amendment would be to make it read as follows:

A member of the Council may ask a question on the Leader’s written report or ask an Executive Member a question upon any item within their portfolio when their portfolio is under

*consideration by the Council under Standing Order 4(c)(9). Such questions must relate directly to the report in the case of the former and in any event must be received by the Chief Executive not later than the day prior to the Council meeting. The time limit for questions on the report is 10 minutes. **No answer given shall exceed 2 minutes in duration.** The Chair of Council will determine the order in which questions should be put and answered to reflect political balance, public expectation and significance to the Council*

Corporate Priorities

8. The proposal is not directly related to any of the Council's Corporate Priorities but complies with the Council's constitutional arrangements for processing such amendments.

Implications

9. None of the following implications are directly relevant to this report other than the above constitutional requirement to report it to this Committee:

Human Resources;
Finance;
Equalities;
ITT;
Property;
Highways;
Crime & Disorder

Risk Management

10. There are no risk management implications associated with the report or amendment.

Recommendations

13. Members are asked to consider the proposed amendment and make a suitable recommendation to Council for consideration at its meeting on 5 October 2006.

Reason:

To enable the amendment and Committee's recommendation on it to be considered at the next Council meeting.

Contact details:

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Suzan Hemingway
Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

Report Approved



Date 21..09.06

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers

None

Annexes

None

Scrutiny Report to Full Council - October 2006

Since my last report to full Council Scrutiny Management Committee has, for the first time, exercised its new constitutional power of considering the call-in of a decision made by an Executive Member. This decision related to a decision made by the Executive Member for City Strategy regarding junction improvements at Moor Lane, Askham Lane and Askham Bryan.

Deciding a call-in was a new experience for SMC members and a full discussion was held with inputs from one of the calling-in members, two Executive members and an interested member of the public who had registered to speak. In this case SMC decided to confirm the decision of the Executive member and not request any reconsideration. However, SMC was pleased to have had the opportunity to carry out this important function which is a vital part of the statutory role of Scrutiny.

In my last report I mentioned outstanding Scrutiny reports which had not been completed when the former Scrutiny Boards were disbanded in May 2006. Ad Hoc Sub-Committees were formed in order to complete these as quickly as possible and allow new work to commence without undue delay. I am pleased to report that the report on Sustainable Street Lighting has been completed and submitted to the Executive on 25 July.

The reports on Reducing Carbon Emissions and Recycling and Re-use were considered by SMC on 25 September and, subject to short revisions, should be considered by the Executive in the near future. The report on Guidance for Sustainable Development is expected to be submitted to the October meeting of SMC.

The Education Scrutiny Committee completed its report on the Extended Schools Service in York, this was considered by the Executive on 12 September and the recommendations accepted.

The Health Scrutiny Committee has been considering its response to a consultation about the replacement by the Department of Health of Patient and Public Involvement Forums with new Local Involvement Networks. They are also preparing for next year's annual evaluation of Health Trusts, which they are required to contribute to, as well as continuing to liaise with the Primary Care Trust as part of their scrutiny of the proposed financial recovery plan.

I am pleased to report that, as much outstanding work has now been cleared, it has been possible to authorise the creation of two new Ad Hoc Sub-Committees. These will examine i) use of Council owned land in the Tang Hall area and ii) the highways maintenance procurement process. Political groups have been asked to submit the names of members who are willing to serve on these sub-committees. It is hoped that, if the necessary resources are available, a third sub-committee will be formed in the very near future.

Scrutiny have to create guidelines for the selection of topics for Scrutiny review and to monitor progress on new, ongoing and completed reviews. The limited resources available for Scrutiny mean that for the system to be effective it needs to have a sharply streamlined approach to the whole function. Work is in progress to establish a database which will monitor the progress of scrutiny reviews and final recommendations which have been agreed by the Executive.

I am pleased with the progress of the new arrangements for Scrutiny within City of York Council and ask Council note the work underway to move scrutiny forward.

Councillor M Kirk
Chair, Scrutiny Management Committee



Scrutiny Annual Report 2005/2006

to be re-done when all data received/formatting done

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INTRODUCTION

This report sets out the achievements of Scrutiny at City of York Council during the 2005/6 municipal year and describes how Scrutiny will be carried out over the year 2006/7. Scrutiny in York is carried out in a positive and robust manner by:

- Examining the decisions of the Council's Executive and Executive Members
- Investigating Council services which affect the well being of the citizens of York
- Looking at the performance and services of the local Health Trusts

In 2005/6 there were nine Scrutiny Boards which reflected the Directorates of the Council. They were:

- Commercial Services Scrutiny Board
- Economic Development and Community Safety Scrutiny Board
- Education Scrutiny Board
- Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Board
- Housing Scrutiny Board
- Leisure and Heritage Scrutiny Board
- Planning and Transport Scrutiny Board
- Resources Scrutiny Board
- Social Services and Health Scrutiny Board

There was also an overarching Scrutiny Management Committee, which co-ordinated and developed scrutiny activity.

In 2005/6, the primary purpose of Scrutiny in York continued to be to make a contribution to the improvement of Council services by undertaking the following:

- reviewing and researching issues which affect the wellbeing of York's citizens;
- making recommendations aimed at contributing to and developing Council policies;
- examining the Council's performance in order to raise standards and check whether services meet people's needs;
- considering the work of Health Services bodies which impact on the people of York.

Scrutiny's role may change considerably in the future. Processes to streamline the scrutiny function are being introduced with the Council. More significantly, the Government has plans to extend the powers of scrutiny to hold to account all public bodies serving the community. A shift which all local authorities and scrutiny Councillors would need to adapt to.

Foreword from Chair of Scrutiny Management Committee

This was my second complete year as Chairperson of the Scrutiny Management Committee which continued to meet monthly throughout the year, overseeing the work of 16 scrutiny topics and receiving reports on 12.

Reports on the positive outcomes from the reviews undertaken in 2004/5 and previous years were reported to the committee bi-annually and we also met with the Executive as part of our monitoring role.

The Executive Members responded positively to the many Scrutiny recommendations contained in this years 12 reports and the Citizens of York will continue to benefit from that in the future.

Many of the years topics were challenging and I would like to thank the members involved for their commitment and regular progress reports to the board.

With the review of Scrutiny management arrangements underway I look forward to further strengthening the process and continuing to make a contribution to the decision making process in 2006/7.

Cllr Madeleine A Kirk
Chair, Scrutiny Management
Committee

WHAT DID SCRUTINY DO?

The Chairs of each Scrutiny Review have set out below the work they focused on during 2005/6.

SCRUTINY AD HOC PANEL Inclusive Decision Making Scrutiny Panel

The Older People's Assembly in 2005 asked the Older People's Champion to look at age discrimination in the Council and in particular to address older people's involvement in the Council's decision-making process. At the same time consultation for the development of the Pride in our Communities (PIOC) Equality Strategy (2005-8) showed that groups representing people from disadvantaged communities felt that the Council's decision-making needed to be more accessible and inclusive. The PIOC therefore identified as a priority to review how community groups participate in decision-making. A Scrutiny topic was registered by Cllrs Kirk and Potter and Julian Horsler, the Equalities Officer.

The Scrutiny Panel co-opted a number of community representatives to sit on the panel, including Include Us In, the Older People's Assembly, Older Citizens' Advocacy York, York Racial Equality Network and York Churches Together. The panel held four informal sessions and invited a variety of interested stakeholders to meetings, such as members of York RAP group (organization of young disabled people), Inclusive Living Sheffield and MESMAC Yorkshire.

Its recommendations included that the Council should:

- consult on the formation of a Social Inclusion Working Group

- work to strengthen inter-faith partnerships
- improve communication with need-to-reach groups
- encourage the co-option of community representatives onto decision making bodies

The final report and recommendations have since been presented to the Executive.

I would like to thank all those who have been involved in this important topic. We identified some key recommendations that will enable York to become more inclusive and I look forward to seeing them adopted in the future.

**Cllr Paul Blanchard
Chair, Inclusive Decision Making
Ad-Hoc Panel**

Commercial Services Scrutiny Board

The Recycling and Re-use Scrutiny Sub-Committee presented its final report in September 2006 after an in-depth look at the current practices in this area both in York and in comparator authorities elsewhere.

Our recommendations are notable for being concerned with straightforward issues. We dealt with collection in narrow streets, minimising obstructions on pavements which might cause difficulties for the disabled and the most efficient means of collection and disposal of the recyclates currently extracted from the waste stream. We did not attempt to address the broader, background environmental issues but sought only to give functional support.

We were and remain concerned that in this constantly changing field, York should not lag behind comparator authorities either in the range of recyclates extracted or in the constant search for an economic addressal of the problems associated with their extraction. We are grateful for the constant attention and support of representatives of the Neighbourhood Services Department and we hope that we have set the tone not only for effectiveness now but also for adaptability in the future.

Cllr David Livesley
Chair, Commercial Services
Scrutiny Board

Economic Development and Community Safety Board

This year has been spent on just one topic – Drug & Alcohol Anti Social Behaviour, a long title and what turned out to be a long investigation.

The topic was first suggested in June 2004 and adopted in August of that year despite its very obvious broad remit. The Board and Officers, have worked at this topic over an 18 month period which has seen other investigations and legislation overtaking us. However, due to the importance of this subject in making York a Safer and Cleaner City for all, it was important that we continued in order to make some recommendations that we hope will have a beneficial impact.

During our investigations we had assistance from many outside sources and these have helped us form a solid base for our recommendations rather than having to work on our instincts about what we felt was happening in the City. Listing them all would take

too much space but their help and input is greatly appreciated, and this information is shown in the report.

Two items which did come up throughout our deliberations were felt to broaden the topic even further and it was decided that it would be wrong to continue investigating these as it may dilute the purpose of the report and also that they could probably merit a Scrutiny Report in their own right. These were Domestic Violence, which is a major topic in itself and has been the source of many reports in the past. Our intention was to look at the effects of Drugs and Alcohol on these situations but it was difficult to obtain concrete evidence of a link and therefore better treated as a separate matter.

The second item related to a more moving story regarding the taking of drugs and followed the showing of a film by local film maker Kevin Curren, Catch Me When I Fall. This was a very moving piece and showed some of the problems faced by youngsters living in the suburbs of York who used drugs at an early age as a way of escaping boredom. Although this did not fit within our remit it gave an insight into the future and how the situation can worsen without early intervention. This topic is certainly something I felt warranted its own investigation. Kevin's passion for this subject shone through and he is already trying to work with various agencies to bring this to the front of people's minds to ensure that these sometimes forgotten children are not ignored. We all wish him well in his endeavours.

As I said earlier, we were sometimes overtaken by events and one of the biggest was the introduction of the Licensing Act 2003 which came into force in November last year. The initial results from the introduction of

the Act were very positive with a reduction in city centre incidents by 20% in the first couple of months, which included the Christmas and New Year periods. We have asked for further updates to be presented when the first year's review has taken place.

Our initial recommendation to look at replacing the current City CCTV system, which had been in place for about 20 years was also part of a different review and it has now been agreed that a new 'state of the art' system will be implemented and funding has been found for this. One of the advantages of the new system is that it will be easier to add to as well as having better quality images. Several of the businesses that we interviewed expressed an interest in contributing to the system and our hope is that the expression of interest is translated into actions.

The report makes many recommendations which we feel will contribute to our aims for York and the level of co-operation shown by most organisations and individuals shows that this is a general wish for many others.

Our report last year into City Centre Retailing has been followed up and we were delighted that many of our findings were backed up by a team of consultants in the Roger Tym report which was produced to help guide the City and developers in future projects, the latest being the Castle/Piccadilly planning brief that was agreed by the Council's Planning Committee in March this year. We are still receiving further updates and are due to receive two more later in April relating to the City Centre Economy and progress on improving the City's toilet facilities.

Cllr Keith Hyman
Chair, Economic Development and
Community Safety Scrutiny Board

Education Scrutiny Board

The Board has focused its attention in two key areas this year. Firstly in reviewing the progress of recommendations of the two earlier topics of Early Years Education and Post 16 Inclusion. Secondly the Board undertook the new topic of Extended Schools provision in York.

I feel it is important to undertake reviews of previous topics in order for the Board to learn from the process. It is key to understand the outcome of the work and that the recommendations of previous topics were practical and had made a difference to people and learning in the City.

A review of the progress of its recommendations made in the **Early Years Education** and the **Post 16 Inclusion** topics was undertaken, the Board had made recommendations for improvements in this vital area. I am pleased to report that great progress had been made on the recommendations and the Board were very satisfied with the outcomes.

During 2005/6 the majority of the Board's time was spent on the new **Extended Schools** topic. Extended schools are those that provide a wider range of services and activities, often beyond the traditional school day to help meet the needs of pupils, families and the community.

Extended schools are high on the agenda both nationally and across the City. There is an ever growing need

for extended schools. York has set itself challenging targets to ensure every school is an extended school by 2010.

The topic had clear objectives on how well York is performing in the provision and if it is meeting the needs of the pupils, families and the community. It was carefully scoped to consider Primary schools because this was considered the most vital area in terms of need and was generally the school nearest to the communities.

The Board undertook a significant amount of evidence gathering from a wide range of sources including; Officers' reports and presentations, considering extended schools research papers, attendance of the York Extended Schools Conference and visiting seven different Primary schools including one from another Authority. It was a great pleasure to meet all those involved with extended schools.

At the end of the 2005/6 Municipal year, the Board was considering its draft recommendations as an example the Board are likely to recommend supporting the policy that all schools are extended schools by 2010 and that a local clustering approach be taken where appropriate. I would like to recognise that York has made great progress on extended schools to date and thank all those who have worked so well together.

I trust that the recommendations will help make a difference across the City. I would finally like to give thanks to the people on the Board and those who helped with our evidence gathering for their commitment and hard work.

Cllr Glen Bradley
Chair, Education Scrutiny Board

Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Board

Since the last Annual Report the Board have completed four reports. The first report, "Powers of Enforcement – Take-Aways", aimed to enhance the ability of CYC Officers to crack down on Take-Away establishments that operate beyond the legitimate and established Licensing guidelines.

The report "Sustainable Energy in Council Buildings: Energy use the City of York Council and Display", was published as an interim report on 13 July 2005. This work aimed for a fundamental rethink about how we use and manage energy in our buildings (both old and new). It is hoped that an energy management policy and Energy Working Group will provide a more co-ordinated approach to monitoring energy efficiency measures and renewable generation. Initiatives such as setting aside 3% of budgets for new buildings, extensions or refurbishments will achieve better environmental results, with any savings being put back into that environmental agenda. It is hoped that a policy to publicly "display" the energy ratings of particular Council buildings to the public will raise awareness and show improvements as they happen. Important links between other UK Councils, Europe and the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly were established.

The report "Sustainable Energy in Council Buildings, Part Two – Generating the Future", completed the findings of the Board in this area. It marked examples of best practice from across Europe and other leading

UK Councils. Recommendations were made which helped include the adoption of renewable technologies to Council property and create the position of Energy Champion for the Authority.

“Street Lighting – Strategic Management and Procurement to Reduce Carbon Dioxide Emissions and Waste” was progressed as the Sustainable Street Lighting Sub Committee to the Executive on 25 July 2006. The report looked at how Street Lighting had been managed in the past and recommended ways in which this could be improved in the future. It was hoped that targets to use electricity supplied from renewable sources would be implemented, with any savings reinvested in the sustainability agenda. The Board reported the state of current technological advances and suggested that a bid be submitted to “Intelligent Energy Europe” with the aim of securing funding to install an intelligent lighting network. The report has stalled due to the current PFI bid for Highways and Maintenance, which includes street lighting issues. Officers are timetabled to include the implications of the PFI bid for the scrutiny to Executive before February 2007. It is hoped that the approach to Intelligent Energy Europe can be submitted before then.

Cllr Martin Lancelott
Chair, Environment and
Sustainability Scrutiny Board

Housing Scrutiny Board

The topic of Reducing CO2 Emissions from York’s Public and Private Sector Housing was selected at the end of the 2004-05 municipal year but only kicked off in 05-06.

In scoping the topic it was concluded that it should concentrate on improving existing housing stock rather than new build. The new build element was covered under the P&T topic. The topic was further refined during the scoping exercise to principally concentrate on private dwellings as the Council’s own stock had been subject to gradual improvement over a number of years.

The topic itself fitted in alongside the aforementioned P&T topic on sustainable development and also the E&S topic on energy use. All three topics having the support of the same scrutiny officer ensured a level of consistency and cross-board dialogue.

I write this as the former Chair of the Housing Scrutiny Board, having moved on to another position and as such I am not privy to the final reporting of the topic which is expected to take place soon.

Cllr Ceredig Jameison-Ball
Former Chair, Housing Scrutiny Board

Housing Scrutiny Board cont...

The Allocations Scrutiny Committee completed its work in April 2005 and its report was presented during the first months of the current council year. The Committee, which inherited this topic from the previous Housing Scrutiny Board, recommended a new banded system for allocating public housing in the City in place of the pre-existing number based ‘points’ system.

This system has now been in operation for a period longer than a full Council year and the staff of the

Housing Allocations department would be the most highly qualified people to comment on its effectiveness. It is our hope and belief that the new system is an improvement and is contributing to the current improved figures in this area.

Cllr David Livesley
Chair, Housing Scrutiny Board

Leisure and Heritage Scrutiny Board

During the year 2005/06 the Board concerned itself with the future of the City of York Archives. The scope of the review was to make recommendations for:-

- How the City Archives can reach its full potential to deliver effective services to the widest possible community.
- How it can engage those currently least likely to benefit from our archival heritage: the non-specialist, community groups and students in school.
- The key factors to be taken account of in creating satisfactory accommodation for the historic material.

From the start of the Scrutiny it was decided that due to the urgency of the situation the Board should report its recommendations as quickly as was possible. Consequently, the scrutiny was intense with at least one specialist in the archives field addressing the Board at each of its monthly meetings. These "expert witnesses" from as far afield as Hampshire and Chester, gave their views of best practice and what the City of York Archives might aspire to. At the end of June the Board held a

public conference at which all interested parties were invited to contribute.

A number of Board members visited the North Yorkshire County Records Office at Northallerton to see their facilities and discuss records management. The Board also visited York University's Borthwick Institute.

At the November meeting the Board drew up its recommendations which were presented to the Executive in January. The main thrust of the recommendations was that the City should find a partner in order to care for its collections and reach as broad an audience as possible.

An earlier scrutiny topic "Putting Libraries at the Heart of the Community" was agreed in November and delivered to the Executive at its December meeting. The majority of the work on this topic had taken place in 2004/05. In an effort to understand the City's present library practice the Board visited the Central Library, Clifton branch Library and a mobile library discussing with staff as to how the Council could be more pro-active in encouraging residents to use the libraries and improve access to services. They also visited an "Ideas Store" in Tower Hamlets where, in partnership with the Adult Education Unit, the Library Service has been re-focused and re-branded in order to provide a library learning service.

In total 17 recommendations were made in the final report including the

need to develop a plan to replace the Central Library.

Cllr Chris Hogg
Chair, Leisure and Heritage
Scrutiny Board

Planning and Transport **Scrutiny Board**

During the year 2005/2006 the Planning and Transport Scrutiny Board continued its work looking at sustainability and planning guidance. In the autumn of 2005 the Board was involved in contributing to the debate on SPGs, with the result that the SPGs were withdrawn to be rewritten.

The Board spoke with Building Control who proposed that the Department would be happy to act as a promoter of sustainable construction methods. The issues raised by Building Control, in order to carry out this new function, were: staff training, the production of printed material, the requirement for an enhanced site presence to enable better enforcement and the investigation of best practice in other authorities.

In October 2005 the Board looked at the Developers' guidance for sustainable development produced in other Local Authorities, considering the drivers these authorities put in place to achieve change.

At the end of the Council year the Board put together a report containing over 20 recommendations that are still being finalised but have contributed hugely to Member understanding and are informing the sustainable planning guidance currently being drawn up by the Local Development Framework Team. It is understood that the SPG document will finally emerge for

consideration by the Planning Committee in the next five or six weeks.

Cllr Christian Vassie
Chair, Planning and Transport
Scrutiny Board

Resources Scrutiny Board

In this year the Resources Scrutiny Board concluded and approved its final report on Sustainability and Social Responsibility in Procurement for inclusion in the corporate procurement strategy. This was an exciting topic which looked at the various competing interests in procurement ranging from the barriers preventing the voluntary sector and smaller enterprises for tendering for procurement contracts to promoting a wide-ranging ethical procurement policy.

After concluding that scrutiny report the Scrutiny Board fulfilled its obligations in relation to the breaches and waivers which has been reported to it. With the restructure of the Resources Department and the constitutional change this function has now passed to the newly created Audit and Governance Committee. In the report to the Scrutiny Management Committee in March 2005, I expressed the desirability of continuity between the two committees to maintain the knowledge gained by the Scrutiny Board in the future.

The Scrutiny Board received an update on the recommendations of its report on Property Management. The Scrutiny Board were pleased with the progress that had been made.

Finally, the Scrutiny concentrated on the budget process and local

government finance in a fact finding education process.

I would like to thank Members and Officers for the hard work and support they have shown throughout the year. Their commitment to the scrutiny process in all its facets can be shown no better than in the work of the Resources Scrutiny Board in 2005/06.

Cllr David Scott
Chair, Resources Scrutiny Board

Social Services and Health Scrutiny Board

The year started with a scrutiny topic (Access to Services for Care Leavers) outstanding from the previous year. The final report and recommendations have since been agreed and presented to Executive.

The Board participated in the Healthcare Commission's new annual 'Health Check' reports for the NHS, Ambulance and Primary Care Trusts. As an introduction to the process, each Trust prepared a draft report in October last and discussed it with the Board before formally publishing it. To be able to comment on the draft report in this way was a useful exercise. The Board confirmed its earlier comments on the draft "health check" reports (with one minor change for the PCT report) when the final reports were submitted.

The Board has worked with the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) during the year and members have attended CfPS events. At one such event, the Chair and Scrutiny Officer were asked to give a presentation which described

the way the draft Health Check reports had been dealt with in York.

The Board responded to consultations on the reconfiguration of the SHA, Ambulance and Primary Care Trusts (we joined with N Yorks and E Riding in our response to the Ambulance Trust proposals). As expected, the result was that there would be no change to what had been proposed. The SHA and Ambulance Trust changes take effect from 1 July, while the PCT changes are effective from 1 October.

This year has seen the development of closer relationships with the PCT, Ambulance and Hospitals Trust; Members have visited the Ambulance Control Centre and the hospital. Progress has been made in developing links with the PPIFs and with voluntary sector organisations.

At the end of the year, the PCT was about to announce its financial recovery plan; the Board has considered this and has opened a dialogue involving the PCT and Hospitals Trust. Much has been said about the targets which the PCT will have to meet, but little about the content of the recovery plan proper. Some changed commissioning intentions have been signalled by the PCT but the impact and financial implications of these have yet to be assessed. Some very technical details of the plan (referral advice to GPs) have been given. The changes to provision which result from the recovery plan are likely to have a strong influence on any areas which are chosen for scrutiny.

Under the new Constitution, the Health Scrutiny Committee will continue the work of the Board. There is a slightly changed emphasis in that

its primary role is to scrutinise (NHS) health provision for York residents; the scrutiny of provision by Adult Social Services will take place as part of this.

powers to hold to account all public bodies serving the community. This would have a significant impact for Officers and Members involved in the Scrutiny service.

Cllr Ian Cuthbertson
Chair, Social Services and Health
Scrutiny Board

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES AND THE FUTURE

In April 2006 the Council reviewed its Constitution and decided to rationalise and streamline its scrutiny resources as a consequence.

For the 2006/07 Council Year scrutiny reviews and the scrutiny process will be managed by a Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC). Reviews will be undertaken by an Education or Health Scrutiny Committee or allocated to a specially convened Ad-hoc Sub-Committee, as appropriate. Progress will be monitored by SMC. Processes are currently being streamlined to better manage the allocation, monitoring and conclusion of scrutiny reviews.

As from 2006/07, to provide an effective channel for the statutory scrutiny call-in function, SMC will have an additional role. It will consider any business called in by the requisite number of Councillors in relation to decisions already taken by or about to be taken by the Executive or any Executive Member.

The Annual Report for 2006/07 will reflect these new constitutional arrangements, reporting on reviews undertaken and the number and nature of decisions or issues called in.

Moreover, Scrutiny's role will change considerably in the future. The Government may extend Scrutiny's

MEMBERSHIP OF SCRUTINY BOARDS 2005-2006

Scrutiny Management Committee

Chair	Cllr Madeline Kirk
Vice Chair	Cllr Paul Blanchard
	Cllr Glen Bradley
	Cllr Ian Cuthbertson
	Cllr Sandy Fraser
	Cllr Mark Hill
	Cllr Irene Waudby

Commercial Services Board

Chair	Cllr David Livesley
Vice Chair	Cllr Irene Waudby
	Cllr Bill Fairclough
	Cllr Alan Jones
	Cllr Ken King
	Cllr Martin Lancelott

Economic Development and Community Safety Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr Keith Hyman
Vice Chair	Cllr David Wilde
	Cllr Andy D'Agorne
	Cllr Tom Holvey
	Cllr David Merrett
	Cllr Jonathan Morley
	Cllr David Merrett
	Cllr C Vassie
	Cllr Richard Watson
Co-optee	Mr Don Parlabeau (Older People's Assembly)

Education Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr Glen Bradley
Vice Chair	Cllr Keith Aspden
	Cllr Janet Hopton
	Cllr Viv Kind
	Cllr David Livesley
	Cllr David Scott
Co-optee	Dr G M Clayton
Co-optee	Dr David Sellick
Co-optee	Miss C Duffy

Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr Martin Lancelott
Vice Chair	Cllr Brian Watson
	Cllr Andy D'Agorne
	Cllr Richard Moore
	Cllr Ruth Potter
	Cllr Christian Vassie
	Cllr Mark Waudby

Housing Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr Ceredig Jamieson-Ball
Vice Chair	Cllr Bill Fairclough
	Cllr Paul Blanchard
	Cllr Mark Hill
	Cllr David Horton
	Cllr Madeline Kirk
	Cllr David Livesley
Co-optees	Mildred Grundy
	Pat Holmes
	(Federation of Residents' Associations)

Planning and Transport Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr Christian Vassie
Vice Chair	Cllr Derek Smallwood
	Cllr Martin Bartlett
	Cllr Chris Hogg
	Cllr Ceredig Jamieson-Ball
Co-optee	Cllr Tracy Simpson-Laing
	Don Parlabeau (Older People's Assembly)

Resources Portfolio Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr David Scott
Vice Chair	Cllr Richard Moore
	Cllr Glen Bradley
	Cllr Tom Holvey
	Cllr David Livesley
	Cllr Janet Looker

Social Services and Health Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr Ian Cuthbertson
Vice Chair	Cllr Martin Lancelot
	Cllr Keith Aspden
	Cllr Sandy Fraser
	Cllr Janet Hopton
	Cllr Gil Nimmo
	Cllr David Wilde

Leisure and Heritage Scrutiny Board

Chair	Cllr Chris Hogg
Vice Chair	Cllr Tom Holvey
	Cllr Martin Bartlett
	Cllr Dave Evans
	Cllr Alan Jones
	Cllr Madeline Kirk

**Ad Hoc Inclusive Decision Making
Scrutiny Panel**

Chair	Cllr Paul Blanchard Cllr Ian Cuthbertson Cllr Madeline Kirk Cllr Ruth Potter Cllr Keith Aspden
Co-optee	Jack Archer
Co-optee	Lynn Jeffries
Co-optee	Rita Sanderson
Co-optee	Paul Wordsworth

REVIEWS COMPLETED AND REPORTS PUBLISHED
June 2005 – 25th May 2006

TITLE	SCRUTINY BOARD	DATE
Drugs Alcohol and Anti-Social behaviour	Economic Development and Community Safety	April 2006
Confidentiality and Transparency Ad-Hoc Panel	Economic Development and Community Safety	February 2006
Scrutiny of Housing Allocations Systems	Housing Scrutiny Board	May 2005
The Cleaning of Gullies, Gutters, Footpaths and Back Lanes on Terraced Streets	Commercial Services Scrutiny Board	May 2005
Sustainable Energy in Council Buildings: Energy Use, the City of York Council and Display	Environment and Sustainability	July 2005
Take-Aways; Powers of Enforcement	Environment and Sustainability	October 2005
Sustainable Energy in Council Buildings: Generating the Future	Environment and Sustainability	February 2006
Allocation of Police Resources in York and N. Yorks	Economic Development and Community Safety	May 2005
Sustainability and Social Responsibility in Procurement	Resources Scrutiny Board	July 2005
Putting Libraries at the Heart of the Community	Leisure and Heritage Scrutiny Board	November 2005
The Future of York City Archives	Leisure and Heritage Scrutiny Board	December 2005
Social Services Scrutiny Board	Services for Care Leavers in York	November 2005



**For more information about Scrutiny in
York please contact:**

**Scrutiny Services Office, City of York Council,
The Guildhall, York YO1 9QN
Telephone (01904) 552038**

Email: scrutiny.services@york.gov.uk

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Extract from Scrutiny Management Committee – 24 July 2006

Scrutiny Annual Report

Members received a report which set out the initial draft of the Annual Scrutiny Report for 2005/6 which constitutionally Scrutiny Management Committee was responsible for producing every year, as part of its performance reporting and monitoring function.

It was noted that some submissions from former Chairs for Scrutiny Boards were still outstanding and further deadlines had been given for completion of their outstanding contributions. The final Annual Report would be submitted to Council in October.

RESOLVED: That the progress to date with the preparation of the Annual Report be noted, the content as currently included be approved and the final proposed version be agreed in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, as previously approved, for onward submission to full Council in October.

REASON: To enable the Annual Report to be published and constitutional requirements to be met.

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NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

The Minutes of the meeting held at The Golden Lion Hotel, Northallerton on 29 June 2006.

PRESENT:-

Members: Mrs Jean Anderson, Mr Bill Baugh, Mr David Carter, Mr A Curry, Mr J Fender JP, Mr Tony Hargreaves JP, County Councillors Bill Hoult, Jane Kenyon, Carl Les and David Lloyd-Williams, Councillor Ruth Potter, County Councillor Jim Snowball, Mrs J H Ryan JP, Councillor Mrs Irene Waudby, and County Councillor Greg White.

Officers: Chief Constable Della Cannings; Deputy Chief Constable Ian McPherson; Assistant Chief Constable Peter Bagshaw; Assistant Chief Constable David Collins; Director of Human Resources Jon Porter; Director of Finance Joanna Carter; Force Head of Finance David Chefneux; Authority Treasurer John Kirman; Authority Clerk Jeremy Holderness; Force Solicitor Litigation Leonard Miller; Force Head of IT Russell Hadfield; Head of Force Risk Management Unit Mark Hamill; Deputy Clerk Susan Colville.

Also in attendance: North Yorkshire Police (NYP) Branch Federation Deputy Secretary/Treasurer Mal Taylor.

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK80. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN****RESOLVED –**

That County Councillor Jane Kenyon be elected Chairman of the Authority until the Annual Meeting in 2007.

81. **VICE-CHAIRMAN****RESOLVED –**

That Mr Jim Fender JP be elected Vice-Chairman of the Authority until the Annual Meeting in 2007.

82. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The chairman of Boroughbridge Tier 2 Community and Police (CAP) Group asked, firstly, for clarification of the position in terms of the Authority's financial surpluses and reserves and whether there was likely to be a change in the pensions situation. The Chairman of the Authority said that a response would be provided to these queries as part of the consideration of the Draft Statement of Accounts at Item 6 on the Agenda.

Secondly, in relation to his experience in the Harrogate Area, the questioner suggested that, whilst he understood that police forces had been given until 2008 to implement it, Neighbourhood Policing (NHP) had been “rushed through” in North Yorkshire, without consultation with the community and in a disorganised manner. He maintained that, in general, the NHP Teams were working over too many wards, and that there appeared to be no contact telephone numbers for the Harrogate NHP officers, who he suggested were too few in number and themselves unhappy about the current arrangements.

The Chief Constable set out the background to the development of Neighbourhood Policing since her arrival in North Yorkshire, emphasising how NHP was one stage in an “evolutionary” change from reactive to proactive community policing. Its early introduction in North Yorkshire had been made possible by, and followed on from, the achievements in reducing crime, and had been driven by the Force in advance of Government policy. From an original 80 Community Police Officers, there were now nearly 400 NHP officers, together with approximately 75 Police Community Liaison Officers (PCSOs). NHP was still developing, based on a team approach, and the Force website gave full details of all NHP officers. All her officers were in continual contact/consultation with their local communities and the Assistant Chief Constable (Territorial Policing) would speak to the questioner outside the meeting to discuss in detail the local issues he had raised.

83. **PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED –

That the draft Public Minutes of the meetings of the Authority held on 27 March 2006 and 7 April 2006, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

84. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

A Member expressed concerns about the proposed exclusion of the public from the Items shown on the Agenda, and especially Item 14 Appendix B (comprising the Corporate Risk Register), on the grounds that they did not in his view contain exempt information falling into the categories now defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006. Another Member also queried the need to take both the “covering” reports and appendices comprising Items 16 and 17 “in private”, and suggested that in similar situations in future, consideration should be given to retaining the covering reports in the public section of the Agenda.

The Chairman having confirmed the Authority’s commitment to an open and transparent approach in conducting its business so far as possible, the Clerk explained the basis on which Appendix B to Item 14 was considered to contain exempt information. He also reminded the Authority that even where exempt information was established, there remained a responsibility on the Authority to decide whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption and considering it in private was outweighed by the public interest in disclosing the information. In the Clerk’s view, the way in which the Corporate Risk Register explored the “vulnerability” of the police service and the chances of the information it contained being used by those who would exploit it, suggested that, on balance, the public interest was in maintaining the exemption. The Chief Constable, as Chairman of the joint Risk Management Group, confirmed that the matter had been discussed, and legal advice taken, by the Group in arriving at the same view as the Clerk.

RESOLVED -

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items of business listed in column 1 below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of

exempt information as defined in the paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as specified in column 2:

<u>Item no</u>	<u>Paragraph No</u>
14 (Appendix B only)	3
15	3
16	3
17	3
18	2

85. **DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

CONSIDERED –

The joint report of the Chief Constable and the Treasurer presenting the draft Statement of Accounts 2005/2006 for the approval of the Authority, for submission to the external auditors.

Replacement pages 39 and 45 from the Statement of Accounts were circulated at the meeting, which reflected the updated position on the treatment of creditors and debtors, and further actuarial information on pensions.

Other issues drawn to the attention of, and discussed by Members, included:

- Summary of Revenue Account: within overall net spending of £125.989m:
 - £2.221m was appropriated to provisions reserve, including £1.4m of development revenue not spent due to capital projects not being completed (which was being carried forward as an underspend)
 - £1.452m to enhance the General Reserves, thereby bringing the latter to £7.442m ie close to the 6% revenue reserves recommended as prudent.
- Capital budgeted programme: out of a total of £8.315m, expenditure had totalled £6.665m:
 - representing 80% of planned expenditure.
 - leaving an underspend of £1.6m, of which £1m was committed.
 It was anticipated that development expenditure would rise substantially in the immediate future.
- Pensions: Under the new Police Pension Scheme which came into force in April 2006, the Home Office would be taking on financial liability for accrued pension rights, and holding the vast majority of funds. It was anticipated that the transfer would take place at the end of 2006/2007 although no confirmation had as yet been received.
- Earmarked reserves: The Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) showed an overall reduction in these funds (totalling £27.365m at 31 March 2006) of £10m during 2006/2007 and £5m during 2007/2008. Most of the remainder was expected to have been committed if not spent by the end of 2008.

The Chairman of the Performance Monitoring Board and the Finance and Resources Thematic Group congratulated and thanked the Finance staff for putting together the Accounts, and especially the Force Head of Finance, David Chefneux, who was attending his last Authority meeting before leaving the Force. The Statement of Accounts as presented for approval contained nothing that had not been anticipated, with levels of reserves in line with the forecasts made earlier in 2005/2006 when consideration was being given to the draft MTFP and the level of the 2006/2007 precept.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the draft Statement of Accounts 2005/2006, as appended to the report, be approved.

-
- (b) That the position in respect of the audit process be noted.
 - (c) That approval be given to the changes to Financial Regulations Section 11 made necessary as a consequence of the changes to the Policy on Financial Provisions and Reserves approved as part of the above-mentioned statements.

86. **PRIORITY SPENDING INITIATIVES**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Chief Constable highlighting and seeking approval to proceed with the delivery of a number of priority developments through the allocation of funding.

The report identified £757k of proposed priority spending for 2006/2007 comprising items previously reported to Strategic Planning and Best Value Board as priority spending initiatives, two subsequently identified, new items (Email archiving and Single Sign-on), a number of “carry forward” items which could not be completed in 2005/2006, and additional funding for the Local Criminal Justice Board. Totalling £1.509m, the items had been selected on the basis that they would contribute to neighbourhood policing, reduction in bureaucracy and increased time spent on operational activities. The report set out proposals for funding the initiatives in 2006/2007, from funds available from the 2005/2006 outturn, the Police Authority’s Development Reserve and the 2004/2005 development reserve.

Members discussed and queried a number of issues, and noted particularly that, although business cases for four projects (Workforce Modernisation, Resource Fit Consultancy, Workplace Attendance and Mobile Police Stations) had been considered and agreed at Strategic Planning Board on 6 March 2006, similar detailed cases for the two new items remained outstanding. It was agreed that the Members’ Seminar scheduled for 10 July would provide an opportunity for preliminary consideration of these, together with further detail on the emerging Management of Information Project, to be followed by formal consideration and determination of Email archiving and Single Sign-on at the special Strategic Planning Board meeting arranged for the afternoon of 31 July 2006.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That, subject to the approval of detailed business cases for the Email Archiving and Single Sign-on projects at the special meeting of the Strategic Planning and Best Value Board on 31 July 2006, approval be given to the utilisation of the following, in order to fund these and the other initiatives set out in the report:
 - (i) £757k priority spending initiatives reserve.
 - (ii) £590k NYPA development Reserve.
 - (iii) £162 from the 2004/2005 development reserve.
- (b) That the following be noted:
 - (i) The further requirements into 2006/2007 and beyond in relation to mobile data utilisation.
 - (ii) The emerging requirements to support Management of Information (MOPI).
 - (iii) The emerging requirements to enhance the management of lost/found property and evidence.

87. GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR JOINT WORKING AT REGIONAL LEVEL

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Clerk suggesting how the Authority could exercise appropriate oversight of joint activity being undertaken to strengthen the delivery of protective services within Yorkshire and Humberside and to remit work to design suitable structures to the clerks of the four authorities concerned.

The Clerk confirmed that the Members of the four regional authorities who had met on 22 June had indicated their support for progressing towards joint governance arrangements, and work was already underway to that end, with a view to having some draft proposals ready by the end of July. He suggested it might be necessary to hold a special meeting of NYPA before the end of July.

The Chief Constable emphasised the need for any joint body to have clear terms of reference, bearing in mind the existence of other collaborative arrangements in the region, and the need for wise use of resources towards the provision of the best possible police service. She called for dynamic working together, with true accountability. At the same time, it needed to be remembered that hers and the other three Chief Constables' direction and control of their forces, and their accountability to their respective authorities, ought not be inhibited in any way.

Mention was also made of exiting relationships with adjoining and nearby forces outside the region, and the need to ensure their continued cooperation as any new Yorkshire and Humberside regional arrangements moved forward.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Clerk be instructed to work with counterparts in the other three authorities to design a structure that facilitates joint scrutiny and decision-making over joint working taking place currently on a regional basis.
- (b) That Members meet again, informally, at the Seminar on 10 July to consider emerging proposals under (a) above, and note the possible need for a subsequent special meeting of the Authority before the end of July.

88. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BOARD – DRAFT MINUTES

With reference to Minute 145 concerning Police Restructuring, the Clerk reported that the Association of Police Authorities had, that morning, advised that the Home Secretary had not withdrawn, but had extended the deadline for, the statutory objection period, and that public consultation should therefore continue. Should the Home Secretary decide to reconvene a meeting of the four regional authorities, he was likely to give three to four weeks notice. In the meantime, Members would be kept informed of the up to date position.

RESOLVED –

That the draft Minutes of the meeting of the Community Engagement Board held on 24 April 2006 be noted and accepted.

89. **PERFORMANCE MONITORING BOARD (OPERATIONAL BUSINESS) – DRAFT MINUTES**

RESOLVED –

That the draft Minutes of the meeting of the Performance Monitoring Board (Operational Business) held on 8 May 2006 be noted and accepted.

90. **PERFORMANCE MONITORING BOARD (FINANCIAL BUSINESS) – DRAFT MINUTES**

RESOLVED –

That the draft Minutes of the meeting of the Performance Monitoring Board (Financial Business) held on 8 June 2006 be noted and accepted.

91. **STRATEGIC PLANNING BOARD – DRAFT PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Public Minutes of the special meeting of the Strategic Planning Board held on 31 May 2006 be noted and accepted.
- (b) That the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2006 be noted and accepted.

92. **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Treasurer providing details of allowances and expenses claimed by Members of the Authority for the financial year 2005/2006.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted and accepted.

93. **REPORT OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Risk Management Group (on behalf of the Force and the Authority) informing of progress on risk management since the adoption of the Risk Management Strategy in March 2005, presenting the updated Strategy (at Appendix A) for endorsement, and seeking approval to, and the adoption of, the Corporate Risk Register at Appendix B.

One of the two Members representing the Authority on the Risk Management Group (together with the Clerk) emphasised the importance of embedding risk assessment/management into all processes. He commended the new Risk Management software tool (RisGen), and urged all Members to take up the offer of a demonstration.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the progress made in Risk Management since the endorsement of the Strategy in March 2005 be noted.

-
- (b) That the latest revision of the Risk Management Strategy, as at Appendix A to the report, be endorsed.
 - (c) That, as agreed earlier in the meeting (Minute 84), the Corporate Risk Register comprising Appendix B to the report, be deferred for consideration in private session.
-

The public was excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business and have no right to inspect the relevant documents.

94. **RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE – APPENDIX B**

CONSIDERED –

Appendix B to the above-mentioned report of the Risk Management Group, comprising the draft Corporate Risk Register for the Force and the Authority at strategic level.

It was noted that the Register contained risks, controls and risk management actions which in the opinion of the Risk Management Group represented the strategic layer of risk within the body corporate and the Force, and that as the Risk Management model matured, additional risks, identified at departmental and Area Risk Management Workshops, would be added as the Risk Management Group saw fit. Existing risks might also be closed off if considered no longer applicable.

The Head of the Force Risk Management Unit provided additional detail, and answered questions, on the process of compiling the Register, including the use of the new software tool, RisGen, which he offered to demonstrate at the earliest, appropriate Members' Seminar.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the draft Corporate Risk Register be approved and adopted.
- (b) That arrangements be made for a demonstration of the Risk Management software tool, RisGen, at a Members' Seminar as soon as possible.

95. **STRATEGIC PLANNING AND BEST VALUE BOARD – PRIVATE MINUTES**

The Force Director of Finance provided the up to date position on the procurement of the relevant accommodation, including the amount of the bid made by the Force, and the outcome of that bid. She confirmed that in accordance with the Minute, work was underway to provide the full business case for acquisition, together with an outline draft Estates Strategy and other outstanding business cases, initially to the Members' Seminar on 10 July, and subsequently for formal consideration at the special meeting of the Strategic Planning Board planned for 31 July 2006. The draft outline Estates Strategy would be circulated to Members in advance of the Seminar.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the private Minutes of the special meeting of the Strategic Planning and Best Value Board held on 31 May 2006 be noted and accepted.

- (b) That the up to date position on the procurement of the accommodation concerned, and the plans for submission to Members of the relevant business case, together with the draft outline Estates Strategy, be noted.

96. **ANNUAL PROCUREMENT REPORT AND DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Chief Constable outlining the activities of the Procurement Department during 2005/2006.

This included:

- Government, national and regional initiatives/direction
- Procurement Team Activity
- Collaboration and utilisation of pre-tendered contracts
- Contract and tender administration
- Supplies
- Print and Design Unit
- Extract detailing additions or amendments to the Contracts Register from April 2005
- Notification of direct cashable efficiencies recorded for procurement activity for 2005/2006 of £208,800.

The Force Director of Finance drew particular attention to two aspects. Firstly, there had been two specific instances in which Procurement had recommended the withholding of payments during implementation of systems, at specific payment trigger points where the contract service levels have not been met. Secondly, the above-mentioned efficiency gains, as collected for Government purposes, did not capture all the added value.

RESOLVED –

That the Annual Procurement Report be noted and accepted, including:

- (i) The activity of the Procurement Department during 2005/2006
- (ii) The changes to the Contract Register during 2005/2006.

97. **RELOCATION OF COUNCIL STAFF ON A TEMPORARY BASIS TO EASINGWOLD POLICE STATION**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Chief Constable providing an update on the position following a decision made by the Strategic Planning and Best Value Board on 16 June 2003, as part of the relocation of policing services, that Easingwold Police Station could be declared surplus and the Police Office relocated to a "One Stop Shop" on a licence-to-occupy basis in the Galtres Community Centre in Easingwold.

The report confirmed that for a number of reasons that proposal could not be progressed, and that NYP was now a partner in the Easingwold Community Project being developed by North Yorkshire County Council on two sites in Easingwold. Phase 2 of the project was planned to be on the Tanpit Lodge site or former Health Clinic site, and would include NYP along with several other potential partners in providing a range of local services, including a District Council One-Stop Shop. Library, Easingwold Town Council, Citizens' Advice, a Police Office and a shared information access point for the Police, NYCC, the Primary Care Trust, the National Health Service and Hambleton District Council, with IT access and a staffed reception.

In order to enable construction to commence on Phase 1 of the project at Manor Road, Easingwold, and to assist with accommodation until Phase 2 is completed, NYP have made space available at Easingwold Police Station for 3 years for Hambleton District Council, Easingwold Community Care Association and Easingwold Town Council, who commenced their temporary occupation there on 27 February 2006.

Members agreed that these arrangements illustrated a “true spirit of collaboration with local authorities and other agencies”, enabling Phase 1 of the Easingwold project to proceed whilst still maintaining a high profile Police presence in Easingwold and an enhanced public enquiry facility.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That, in the light of the Easingwold Community Project, progress on the proposed sale of Easingwold Police Station be noted and accepted.
- (b) That the temporary occupation by Hambleton District Council, Easingwold Community Care Association and Easingwold Town Council on a Licence-to-Occupy basis entered into with NYCC as licensee, be noted and accepted.

(In accordance with the Authority’s Code of Conduct, County Councillor Carl Les declared a personal interest in the above item as a Member of Hambleton District Council, and a personal and prejudicial interest as a Member of NYCC Cabinet. He left the meeting for the duration of the consideration of this item of business.)

98. **APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR POLICE OFFICERS IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Clerk which requested the Authority, after taking into account of the Chief Constable’s views, to determine an application made for financial assistance for the legal representation of officers of the Force who were involved in legal proceedings.

The report outlined the provisions of Home Office Circular 43/2001 which confirmed the discretionary powers available to police authorities to enable such financial assistance to be given, and provided guidance on the circumstances of their use. Full details of the background to the legal proceedings concerned, the application for funding, together with the Chief Constable’s views, were given in the report, and a representative of the Force Legal Services Department was present at the meeting to provide supplementary advice and/or information as required.

Members queried and discussed various issues and aspects of the application.

RESOLVED –

That the application be refused.

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MINUTES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 14 JULY 2006

Present/Apologies: See Attached

ACTION

1. Apologies

These were noted.

2. ALA Draft Annual Report and Summary Accounts

Stephen Parnaby introduced the Draft Annual Report for the period 2005/6 and advised Members that the content was agreed at the Association of Local Authorities/Local Government Management Board meeting on 25 May 2006. Members **approved** the copy content.

He explained that the merger of the ALA/LGMB, to form Local Government Yorkshire and Humber, had been successful. As a result, the organisation was better able to represent local authorities within Yorkshire and Humber.

It was **agreed** that the Annual Report would be published via the website.

Business and
Communications
Manager

3. LGMB Draft Annual Report and Summary Accounts

Tony Cairns outlined the activity undertaken by the LGMB and the Employers' Forum during the period 2005/6. In particular, he referenced work undertaken as a result of equal pay negotiations.

4. Statement of Accounts 2006/07

The consolidated YHA/ALA Statement of Accounts was presented for approval. Cllr Parnaby advised members that the Accounts related to the period prior to the merger, which was why they were presented as YHA/ALA consolidated accounts.

In line with the YHA/ALA Constitution, the accounts had previously been agreed by the Assembly Executive Board who had recommended that these be presented to Members for approval. Members **approved** the accounts.

Business and
Communications
Manager

It was reported that the LGMB Statement of Accounts had been approved by the Employers' Committee earlier in the day.

5. LGYH Workplan – 2006/7

All Members and Chief Executives in the region had been consulted about the proposed workplan for Local Government Yorkshire and Humber.

As a result, the Business Plan was produced. This highlighted:

- The promises made by Local Government Yorkshire and Humber.
- The priorities to be worked on.
- How the promises would be delivered.

Members **agreed** the Business Plan for the period 2006-07.

6. Schedule of Meetings 2006/7

Members **agreed** the schedule of meetings for 2006/7.

7. Appointment of Honorary Officers – 2006/7

The following appointments were **approved**:

- Treasurer – Steve Walmsley, Local Government Yorkshire and Humber.
- Secretary – Stella Jackson, Local Government Yorkshire and Humber.
- Auditor – Ian Pickup & Co.
- Regional Secretary – Steve Walmsley, Local Government Yorkshire and Humber.

8. LGYH Executive Board

Members **agreed** the following sub-regional appointments:

- Humber – Stephen Parnaby (Conservative)
- North Yorkshire – Arthur Barker (Conservative)
- West Yorkshire – Kris Hopkins (Conservative)
- South Yorkshire – Roger Stone (Labour)
- Plus the Chair of the Assembly – Peter Box (Labour)

To comply with the constitution, a Liberal Democrat balancing place had been sought. Carl Minns from Kingston-upon-Hull had been appointed. This appointment was **confirmed**.

Business and
Communications
Manager

Business and
Communications
Manager

Business and
Communications
Manager

It had previously been agreed that for continuity and consistency purposes, Stephen Parnaby would continue as Chair of LGYH for a further year and Arthur Barker would continue as Vice Chair. This was **confirmed**.

It was reported that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Employers' Committee also had a seat on the Executive Board. The following appointments were, therefore, **confirmed**:

- Tony Cairns (Chair)
- Mark Crane (Vice Chair)

The name of the Fire Authority representative was awaited.

10. YHA Regional Executive Board – Local Authority Rural Nomination

Following a request to LGYH by the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, local authority Leaders and Chief Executives were invited to nominate a local authority Leader to represent rural interests on the new YHA Regional Executive Board.

One nomination was received for Cllr John Weighell, North Yorkshire County Council, to undertake this role. This was **agreed**.

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ASSOCIATION OF NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCILS

**MINUTES OF THE TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION
HELD ON MONDAY, 10 JULY 2006
AT RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES,
SWALE HOUSE, FRENCHGATE, RICHMOND**

Start: 2.00 pm

Finish: 3.55 pm

PRESENT:

Council

Representatives

North Yorkshire County Council

Councillor J K Weighell
Councillor Bill Hout
John Marsden (Chief Executive)

Craven District Council

Councillor C H Lis
Mrs Gill Dixon (Chief Executive)

Hambleton District Council

Councillor Brian Phillips
Peter Simpson (Chief Executive)

Harrogate Borough Council

Peter Jordan (Head of Legal and Democratic Services)(as Substitute for Mick Walsh (Chief Executive))

Richmondshire District Council

Councillor John Blackie
Harry Tabiner (Chief Executive)

Ryedale District Council

Councillor C R Wainwright
Harold Moseley (Chief Executive)

Selby District Council

Martin Connor (Chief Executive)

City of York Council

Councillor Keith Orrell (as Substitute for Stephen Galloway)

Yorkshire Local Councils' Association

Councillor Gaynor de Barr

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM:

Council

Representatives

North Yorkshire County Council

County Councillor David Billing
County Councillor C Metcalfe

Harrogate Borough Council

Councillor R Cooper

<u>Council</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
Scarborough Borough Council	Councillor Mrs Eileen Bosomworth Jim Dillon (Chief Executive)
Selby District Council	Councillor M Crane
City of York Council	David Atkinson (Chief Executive)
Yorkshire Local Councils' Association	Ian Strong (Chief Officer)
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Mr Jerry Pearlman David Butterworth (Chief Executive)
North York Moors National Park Authority	Councillor Helen Schroeder Andrew Wilson (Chief Executive)

COUNCILLOR JOHN BLACKIE IN THE CHAIR

1. CHAIR – APPOINTMENT FOR 2006/07

RESOLVED –

That County Councillor John Weighell be appointed as the Association's Chair for 2006/07.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR JOHN WEIGHELL IN THE CHAIR

2. VICE-CHAIR – POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF ANYC CONSTITUTION

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Honorary Secretary inviting the Association to amend its Constitution to provide that it may have two Vice-Chairs.

RESOLVED –

That the Constitution be amended to read as follows: "Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chairs – a Chair and up to two Vice-Chairs shall be elected for a term of 12 months at the Annual Meeting of the ANYC. The Chair shall rotate annually between a Member of the County Council, a Member of the District Councils, and a Member of the City of York Council. The Vice-Chair(s) shall also rotate annually, being drawn from the Members of the two types of Council not represented by the Chair for that year".

3. VICE-CHAIRS – APPOINTMENTS FOR 2006/07

RESOLVED –

That Stephen Galloway (City of York Council) and Councillor John Blackie (Richmondshire District Council) be appointed as the Association's Vice-Chairs for 2006/07.

4. HONORARY SECRETARY – APPOINTMENT FOR 2006/07

RESOLVED –

That Mr John Marsden be appointed as Honorary Secretary of the Association until the Annual Meeting in 2007.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Association held on 10 May 2006, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

6. MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION

CONSIDERED -

Report of the Honorary Secretary setting out the Association's membership for the 2006/07 municipal year.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted, subject to the membership list being amended by replacement of Councillor D S Murkett's name with the name of Councillor Gaynor de Barr in respect of the representative of the Yorkshire Local Councils' Association.

7. ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTIONS AND POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF ANYC CONSTITUTION

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Honorary Secretary asking the Association whether it wished to seek financial contributions from member Authorities for 2006/07 and amendment of the Constitution, if appropriate. It was noted that the Association's Statement of Income and Expenditure showed a net surplus of £105 and it was suggested that this might be donated to charity.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That no contributions be sought from member Authorities for 2006/07.
- (b) That the Association's Constitution be amended by deletion of the paragraph relating to subscriptions.

8. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES 2006/07

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Honorary Secretary inviting the Association to appoint representatives to various outside bodies for the period ending at the Association's Annual Meeting in 2007.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the decision, to appoint Councillor Arthur Barker (Hambleton) as the North Yorkshire sub-regional Leader on the LGYH Executive Board for 2006/07, be endorsed.
- (b) That an Alternate be appointed for Councillor Arthur Barker as the North Yorkshire sub-regional Leader on the LGYH Executive Board for the forthcoming couple of months, the Alternate to be identified on a meeting-by-meeting basis and selected depending on the nature of the business to be conducted at each meeting.
- (c) That the under-mentioned Members be appointed to serve on the bodies listed until the Annual Meeting of the Association in 2007:-

Body	2006/07 Representative
(NYCC) Pension Fund Committee – One Member and two Substitutes (all from the District Councils)	Member: Councillor John Blackie (Richmondshire) Substitutes: Councillors J Clark (Harrogate) and Pamela Anderson (Ryedale).
(YHA) Regional Planning and Infrastructure Commission Executive	County Councillor Peter Sowray (North Yorkshire County Council)
(YHA) Regional Energy Forum	Councillor Andrew Waller (York)
(YHA) Local Government Improvement and Innovation Partnership	Councillor Carl Lis (Craven)
Yorkshire and Humber Representation on the LGA Local Government Regional Forum – One Alternate Member. (The full Member on this Forum is the sub-regional Leader on the LGYH Executive Board (Councillor Arthur Barker) – see (a) above.)	Alternate: Councillor John Blackie (Richmondshire)
(Yorkshire Forward) Recycling Action Yorkshire Steering Board	County Councillor John Fort BEM
(YHA) Regional Planning Board	Member: County Councillor Peter Sowray Deputy/Substitute: To be nominated by the District Councils

(YHA) Regional Transport Board	Member: Councillor Carl Lis (Craven) Deputy/Substitute: County Councillor Clare Wood
(YHA) Sustainable Development Board	Member: Councillor Arthur Barker (Hambleton) Deputy/Substitute: Councillor Andrew Waller (York)

- (d) That the representatives on outside bodies be asked to submit, to future meetings of the Association, regular written reports not exceeding one sheet of A4, on the work of the organisations to which they have been appointed.

9. RICHMOND STATION GROUP – PRESENTATION

On behalf of Richmondshire Building Preservation Trust Ltd, Donald Cline, accompanied by Councillor Sheila Clarke (Richmondshire District Council's representative on the Trust), gave a presentation about the Richmond Station Regeneration Project. The project aimed to redevelop Richmond's former railway station, which included a Grade II* listed building, to provide facilities including an auditorium, restaurants, public meeting rooms and office space. Significant funding had been agreed by the County Council, District Council, Town Council, Yorkshire Forward and from the Heritage Lottery and ERDF. However, the funding package was subject to timely completion of the current legal negotiations which required agreement by four chargeholders.

10. THE RURAL FRAMEWORK AND YORK/NORTH YORKSHIRE RURAL PARTNERSHIP

CONSIDERED –

Report by Harry Tabiner which provided an update on the emerging Rural Partnership for York/North Yorkshire. The "sixth theme" group set up as part of the LAA was developing into a Rural Partnership to mirror those which already existed in South and West Yorkshire and the Humber. The development of a Rural Partnership had been strongly supported by the GOYH and Yorkshire Forward and followed developments on rural issues at national and regional level, including the recent adoption of the Yorkshire/Humber Regional Rural Framework (RRF). The aim, governance arrangements and priorities of the RRF were set out in the report. It was emphasised that the RRF aimed to provide "added value" by ensuring that current delivery organisations addressed rural issues and priorities; in 'rural proofing' activity; and in making the best use of available resources using the principle of aggregation. The RRF had no funding directly allocated to it, although there were potentially significant sums of current funding streams involved and examples of these were set out in the report. The Humber Rural Pathfinder Group, which was trialling sub-regional partnerships working, had provided a presentation to the Group.

Members commented that it was important to replicate the arrangements seen elsewhere within the region if North Yorkshire was to play a full part in, and gain access to, a fair share of any funding available as part of the regional rural agenda.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the action taken to date be noted and the development of a Rural Partnership be supported.
- (b) That Mr David Frazer of GOYH be invited to give a presentation at the Association's next meeting to explain how the process was operating across the region and how York/North Yorkshire could fit into those arrangements.

11. LAA – UPDATE ON PROGRESS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

CONSIDERED –

Report by Bill Cross which provided an update on progress on the development of the LAA for North Yorkshire, together with an oral report by John Marsden concerning financial matters.

Bill Cross's report advised that the outcomes framework had been sent to GOYH, having previously been discussed, on 15 June 2006, by the LAA Management Group/NYSP Steering Group. The next stage was for the consultation draft of the outcomes framework to be published and comments sought from the NYSP wider partnership. The results, and other on-going technical work, would form the basis of the next GOYH submission which was due by 15 September 2006. That would be an initial draft of the LAA and the final report was scheduled for 1 December 2006. In the meantime, workshops, to be attended by representatives of LSPs, were being held during July and the County Council was planning to provide funding for an officer to support the work required of the voluntary and community sector for the LAA.

John Marsden advised that approximately 50 targets and approximately 12 stretch targets, needed to be identified. Around £1.3m was available to pump-prime the stretch targets and partners were also expected to contribute their own resources. £14m - £16m reward grant was potentially available depending on performance against the stretch targets. Chief Executives intended to debate the level of resources which Councils could contribute towards the stretch targets and how any funding which was received would be used. Chief Executives would ensure the Association was kept informed of progress.

Members expressed the view that there appeared to be duplication of activity, although it was acknowledged that the process had resulted in a new level of maturity in partnership working.

In relation to CDRPs, Harold Moseley reported that, as Chair of the Pan North Yorkshire Group, he was arranging a series of forthcoming meetings with key partners to discuss closer co-operation. He asked colleagues to let him have, within the forthcoming few weeks, ideas on how closer co-operation might be achieved.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the following be noted:-
 - (i) the good progress to date;
 - (ii) the arrangements made to ensure the involvement of the wide range of interested parties who need to be involved in the development of the LAA; and

- (iii) the tight timescale for the development of the initial submission on 15 September 2006.

(b) That the Association receive the final report at the November 2006 meeting.

12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER AND IMPROVED TWO-TIER WORKING

CONSIDERED –

Joint report by Peter Simpson and John Marsden advising of discussions between District and County Leaders and Chief Executives on improved two-tier working as an option against the anticipated content in a Local Government White Paper on further reorganisation. There were a number of existing areas of joint working on matters of common interest and it was expected that those partnership arrangements would continue to develop. However, it was also recognised that there were some priority areas where improvements could be made. The report set out the principles which it was felt were important to underpin partnership or collaborative working. Possible areas for enhanced two-tier working were also identified in the report, namely, waste management; customer access; and transport. It was appreciated that the two National Parks had an interest in these topics and that they should be invited to be part of any joint initiatives. It was emphasised that the list which had been put forward was not exclusive but recognised a small number of priority areas where some stretch would enhance both tiers' responsibilities.

Copies of the speech made by Ruth Kelly MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, to the LGA Conference on 5 July 2006 were circulated at the meeting. It was noted that the speech hinted that any reorganisation to achieve unitary government would not be universal. However, there was a clear expectation that Councils should work more effectively together and with other public services to make efficiencies and improve outcomes. The Association discussed the possible implications of the content of the speech.

Councillor Gaynor de Barr stressed the importance of Districts and County Councils considering how they could work more effectively with Town/Parish Councils.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That each Authority take a paper, based on the discussions by the District and County Leaders and Chief Executives, to its own Executive to seek endorsement on how two-tier working could be enhanced at this stage ahead of publication of any White Paper.
- (b) That, subject to (a) above, the Chief Executives' Group put together more detailed proposals and timed actions for further consideration.
- (c) That the National Parks take a view on how they might like to be involved in the topic areas.

13. REPORTS OF NORTH YORKSHIRE MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

CONSIDERED –

Reports from the Association's representatives on:-

- Yorkshire Regional Energy
- Regional Economy Commission
- Regional Forum on Ageing and Scrutiny of the Northern Way

- Arts Council
- North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee

RESOLVED –

That the reports be noted.

14. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED –

That the following business be brought to the next meeting:-

- (a) Presentation by Mr David Frazer, GOHY (as recorded at Resolution (b) of Minute 10 above).
- (b) Developments with regard to a White Paper on further Local Government reorganisation and Kersten England, GOYH, be invited to attend.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED –

That the next meeting be held on Monday 13 November 2006 at 2.00pm (with lunch at 1.00pm), if possible at the offices of Selby District Council.

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NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 14 June 2006 at North Yorkshire Fire Training Centre, Oaklands Way, Easingwold.

PRESENT:-

County Councillor Graham Gatman (in the Chair); County Councillors Andrew Backhouse, William F Barton OBE, Eric Broadbent, John Fort BEM, D L Ireton, J W Marshall, Chris Metcalfe, Chris Pearson (as Substitute for P G Brown), John Savage, Caroline Seymour and John Wren.

City Councillors Keith Aspden, Kenneth King, Jonathan Morley and Mark Waudby.

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK

952. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2006 and the special meeting held on 27 March 2006 be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

953. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no representations from members of the public.

954. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS – YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking approval to the Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2006.

County Councillor John Fort BEM advised that he was pleased that the accounting treatment of operational leases was being considered and also about the situation relating to income.

County Councillor Mrs Caroline Seymour commended the officers for the quality and prompt preparation of the accounts. Others Members agreed with those comments.

RESOLVED –

That the Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2006 be approved.

955. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN 2006-2007

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking approval of the Performance Plan for 2006-2007. Copies of the draft Plan had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED –

That the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority Performance Plan for 2006-2007 be approved.

956. IRMP 2007/08 DRAFT ACTION PLAN

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer advising Members of proposals to be included in the 2007/08 Action Plan in support of the Authority's five year Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP).

City Councillor Kenneth King advised that he was concerned about recent comments by the FBU which had been reported in the local press. The Chief Fire Officer suggested that there would be an opportunity, during consideration of a later item on the agenda for this meeting, to discuss the FBU comments and emphasised that the IRMP 2007/08 Draft Action Plan was submitted to this meeting for approval for the purpose of consultation which would include members of the public and staff.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposals outlined in Appendix B to the report be accepted and form the basis of the IRMP 2007/08 Action Plan for consultation purposes.
- (b) That a comprehensive consultation strategy be developed to fulfil the Authority's statutory obligations with the results of that process being reported back to Members via a Seminar in November 2006, with a final Action Plan being submitted for approval to the Authority meeting in December 2006.

957. REGIONAL FIRE CONTROL CENTRE - UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer/Director of Community Safety updating Members on the Regional Fire Control project.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the draft consultation response, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved as the Authority's response to the national consultation process.

958. DRAFT REGIONAL PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking endorsement of the Draft Regional Procurement Strategy prior to its referral to the Regional Management Board for approval and adoption.

The Director of Corporate Services, in presenting the report, advised that the figures within the draft Regional Procurement Strategy needed be treated with caution

because work was currently being undertaken to ensure a consistent method of data collection between Fire Services.

County Councillor Eric Broadbent advised that he had been invited to attend meetings to oversee this work.

RESOLVED –

That the Authority respond to the consultation exercise by expressing its support for the draft Regional Procurement Strategy.

959. RMB PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT BOARD

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Chief Fire Officer informing Members of the establishment of a Programme Management Board (PMB) within the Regional Management Board (RMB), seeking endorsement of the Authority's contribution to the cost of establishing effective Programme Management arrangements within the RMB, and seeking nomination of a Member and Substitute to the PMB.

County Councillor Mrs Seymour nominated the Chairman for appointment to the PMB.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the establishment of a Programme Management Board within the Regional Management Board be endorsed.
- (b) That the Authority's Chairman be nominated as a Member of the Programme Management Board.
- (c) That the Authority's financial contribution to the cost of letting a contract to establish effective programme management of the six key functions for which the RMB is responsible be endorsed.

960. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Secretary seeking the Authority's approval of any nominations which Political Groups submitted orally to this meeting concerning changes to Committee memberships.

No nominations were submitted to the meeting by Political Groups.

RESOLVED –

That no changes be made to Committee memberships.

961. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Secretary asking the Authority to appoint its representatives to serve on outside bodies for 2006/07.

In presenting the report, the Secretary asked the Authority also to appoint one Member to the LGYH Employers' Committee and to indicate whether it had any views on the suggestion that the existing Chair and Vice-Chair of the LGYH Employers' Committee should continue in post.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the following Members be appointed to represent the Authority on the under-mentioned bodies to serve until the Authority's meeting to be held in June 2007:-
- (i) LGYH – Chairman of the Authority. (Substitute – Vice-Chairman of the Authority).
 - (ii) LGYH Employers' Committee – Chairman of the Authority.
 - (iii) Yorkshire and Humberside Fire Authorities' Advisory Committee and Examination Board - City Councillor Kenneth King and County Councillor John Wren.
 - (iv) Local Government Association:- Fire Service Forum – Chairman; Urban Commission - City Councillor Mark Waudby and County Councillor Eric Broadbent; Rural Commission - County Councillor Caroline Seymour and County Councillor W J Fort, BEM; General Assembly - County Councillors W J Fort, BEM and Caroline Seymour and City Councillors Kenneth King and City Councillor Jonathan Morley.
- (b) That the LGYH Employers' Committee be advised that this Authority is happy for its existing Chair and Vice-Chair to continue in post.

962. APPOINTMENTS TO CHANGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME WORKSTREAMS

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Secretary seeking the Authority's approval of any suggested changes which Members submitted orally to this meeting concerning memberships of the Change Management Programme Workstreams.

No changes were submitted to the meeting by Members.

Members commented that they needed to get more involved in the work of the Change Management Programme Workstreams.

RESOLVED –

That no changes be made to Change Management Programme Workstream memberships.

963. MONITORING OFFICER

CONSIDERED –

Joint report of the Monitoring Officer and the Secretary seeking approval of the appointment of Stephen Knight (Secretary to the Authority) as Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED –

That Stephen Knight be appointed as Monitoring Officer with effect from when the current Head of Legal Services leaves her post until the Authority appoints the new Head of Legal Services as its Monitoring Officer.

964. 2006 COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (CPA) - OPERATIONAL ASSURANCE UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer updating Members on the 2006 Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Project relating to operational assurance.

Members questioned the Officers in relation to the scoring and assessment procedures.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

965. LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - 2005/06 MONITORING

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director Corporate Services advising of the position regarding the operation of the Local Code of Corporate Governance.

RESOLVED –

That current progress against the Local Code of Corporate Governance, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be noted.

966. ACCESS TO INFORMATION – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION) ORDER 2006

CONSIDERED -

Report of the Secretary advising that the 15 categories (with qualifications) of exempt information had been replaced with seven categories (with qualifications) of exempt information by virtue of the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

967. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer updating Members on prevention activities and developments; protection activities and developments; notable incidents and Intervention Developments which had occurred since the Authority's previous meeting.

Members commended the Officers for on the success of the Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE) and asked that arrangements be made to publicise this work.

In response to questions from County Councillor Andrew Backhouse, the Chief Fire Officer reported on the success of the Vector Ion Software which had been used in the Gold Command Exercise on 29 March 2006.

In response to a question from County Councillor D L Ireton, the Officers confirmed that they were investigating the increase in the number of road traffic accidents.

The Chief Fire Officer confirmed that discussions would be held with the North Yorks Moor Railways with a view to preventing any further incidents of fire on moorland as a result of sparks from locomotives.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

968. HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer/Director of Human Resources providing an update on human resource projects, policy developments and relevant legislative changes.

At the request of City Councillor Kenneth King, the Chief Fire Officer commented on FBU reports, published recently in the local press, which had suggested that the Fire Service was putting lives at risk.

At the request of County Councillor Mrs Caroline Seymour, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer/Director of Human Resources reported on the work being undertaken with regard to the recruitment of female firefighters.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

969. COMMITTEE MINUTES

CONSIDERED –

Minutes of the following meetings:-

- (a) Yorkshire and Humberside Fire Authorities' Regional Management Board – 6 April 2006.
- (a) Audit and Performance Review Committee – 24 May 2006.
- (b) Standards Committee – 10 February 2006.
- (c) Appointments Committee – 6 February and 13 and 24 April 2006.

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes be noted.

970. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH
STANDING ORDER 5**

No questions were raised.

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Membership of Committees, Working Groups and Outside Bodies

COMMITTEES

Standards Committee

To appoint Christine Bainton as Independent Chair of Standards Committee

Planning Committee

To replace Cllr Mark Waudby (1st Sub) with Cllr David Livesley
To replace Cllr David Livesley (2nd Sub) with Cllr Sue Galloway

PARTNERSHIP AND OTHER BODIES

Economic Development Partnership Board

To appoint Jez Willard from the Japanese Shop as the Retail Sector representative, in place of Brian Littlejohn from Marks and Spencer.

To appoint Julie Hutton as representative of Yorkshire Forward, in place of Don Stewart.

OUTSIDE BODIES

Fire Authority

To replace Cllr Mark Waudby with Cllr Keith Hyman

The University of York Council

To remove council representation on the above outside body following information received from York University regarding changes to the reduced size of the make up of the University Council.

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