



**Notice of public meeting of
Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

- To:** Councillors Douglas (Chair), Orrell (Vice-Chair), Fraser, Healey, Hodgson, King and Warters
- Date:** Wednesday, 4 June 2014
- Time:** 5.30 pm
- Venue:** The George Hudson Board Room - 1st Floor West Offices (F045)

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare:

- Any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests
- Any prejudicial interests or
- Any disclosable pecuniary interests

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

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 22 April 2014.

3. Public Participation

At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Committee's remit can do so. The deadline for registering is **5.00pm on Tuesday 3 June 2014**.

Members of the public may speak on:

- An item on the agenda
- An issue within the remit of the Committee

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4. Scrutiny Topics for Review in 2014-15 (Pages 5 - 8)

This report provides, for Members' consideration, introductory information on the possible topics for scrutiny review in the municipal year.

5. Update on the Implementation of Recommendations from Previously Completed Taxi Licensing Scrutiny Review (Pages 9 - 16)

This report provides Members with an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed Taxi Licensing Scrutiny Review and asks Members to sign off those which are fully implemented.

6. Work Plan (Pages 17 - 18)
Members are asked to give consideration to the Committee's draft work plan for 2014-15.

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

Democracy Officer:

Name: Jayne Carr

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

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

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

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

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City of York Council

Committee Minutes

Meeting	Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	22 April 2014
Present	Councillors Douglas (Chair), Orrell (Vice-Chair), Fraser, Healey, Hodgson, King and Warters

52. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare at this point in the meeting any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they may have in respect of the business on the agenda. None were declared.

53. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of 11 March 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

54. Public Participation

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

55. Quarter 3 Finance Monitor for Environmental Services and Public Protection

Members gave consideration to a report which provided an update on financial performance, service plan improvement actions and performance measures for Environmental Services and Public Protection. This item had been deferred from the previous meeting.

Members' attention was drawn to the main variations by service plan, as detailed in the report. Officers were questioned about the areas in which there was an overspend and the action that was being taken to address this situation.

Discussion took place regarding the forecast overspend within Parking Services, which was partly due to a shortfall of income from Penalty Charge Notices. It was noted that the income target in this area had been increased but there were also benefits to the city when parking offences were not being committed.

Referring to the shortfall in Commercial Waste, Members asked if consideration was being given as to ways in which the charges for the service could be made more competitive. Officers stated that this was being considered although no changes had currently been implemented. Members agreed that Commercial Waste may be an issue on which they would wish to carry out a scrutiny review.

Members requested further information on the following issues:

- A break down of the income received from Penalty Charge Notices and the increase that was set in respect of income generation
- Information in respect of recycling values¹

Resolved: That the financial and performance information provided in the report be noted.

Reason: To ensure that the Committee is kept updated on financial and performance issues.

Action Required

1. Circulate information requested

SK

56. Draft Work Plan for 2014/15

Members gave consideration to the draft work plan for 2014/15, including possible topics for scrutiny review in the coming year.

The following suggestions were put forward:

- Commercial waste
- Update report on changes regarding the Probation Service
- River safety (the committee would not, however, wish to overlap with the work that AVANTI were carrying out in respect of this issue)
- Update report on the work of the horse bailiff
- Overview report on flood defences
- The Anti-Social Behaviour Hub

- Council housing maintenance (including the upgrading and refurbishment programme)

Resolved: That the suggestions put forward be taken into account in the work plan and at the scrutiny work planning event as appropriate.

Reason: To ensure that the committee has a planned programme of work in place.

57. Work Plan and Verbal Update on Ongoing Reviews

Members noted the Committee's work plan for 2013/14.

A verbal update was given on the Domestic Waste Recycling Scrutiny Review.

Resolved: (i) That the work plan for 2013/14 be noted.

(ii) That the verbal update on the Domestic Waste Recycling Scrutiny Review be noted.

Reasons: (i) To ensure that the committee has a planned programme of work in place.

(ii) To enable the committee to monitor progress on the work of the task group.

Councillor Douglas, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 6.20 pm].

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Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Report of the Assistant Director Governance & ITT

4 June 2014

Scrutiny Topics for Review in 2014-15

Summary

1. This report provides introductory information on the possible topics for scrutiny review in this municipal year, for Members' consideration.

Background

2. At a meeting in early May 2014, the Committee agreed to submit the following possible topics to the annual Scrutiny Work Planning Event held on 12 May 2014:
 - i. Council House Maintenance & Refurbishment – to look at cost effectiveness
 - ii. Commercial Waste – issues around shortfall in income and reducing customer base
 - iii. Flood Defences – in light of the increased frequency and severity of extreme weather – identify improvements to protect residents from increased risks posed by climate change.
3. At the work planning event it was agreed that the views of Cabinet Members would be sought on the proposed topics relevant to their individual portfolios. Their views on the topics listed above are included below.
4. In addition, at the work planning event it was agreed that another corporate review would be undertaken during this municipal year. A number of possible scrutiny topics were discussed and the consensus was a corporate review around supporting elderly people. The Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee will formally agree the topic for corporate review at its next meeting on 23 June 2014.

Information Gathered

5. i. Council House Maintenance & Refurbishment – to look at cost effectiveness
The Cabinet Member for Homes & Safer Communities has confirmed that this is part of the transformational change programme and as the work is well underway, has suggested that a review of this topic would only duplicate ongoing work. She has also rightly pointed out that this topic falls within the remit of Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
6. ii. Commercial Waste – issues around shortfall in income and reducing customer base
The Cabinet Member for Environmental Services, Planning & Sustainability agrees this is an important issue. However the Leader feels this would largely turn into a members training event about the issues around why there is a shortfall, rather than addressing the issues that are already being worked on.
7. As an alternative, the Asst Director for Transport, Highways & Waste has suggested that the Committee consider reviewing 'Discretionary Charges in Waste Management'. This could include considering what other councils are doing with discretionary charges, possibly visiting other Councils to discuss the practical and political issues associated with their chosen regimes. Such a review would help the Council understand where it is in relation to other Authorities, and Members could consider their findings in light of the Place Based Services review due to be undertaken by officers during this municipal year. It would also be of value in respect of helping develop options for the Council to consider in 2015-16.
8. The appropriate officer(s) will be in attendance at this meeting to support Members' consideration of this proposal.
9. iii. Flood Defences – in light of the increased frequency and severity of extreme weather – identify improvements to protect residents from increased risks posed by climate change.
The Cabinet Member for Environmental Services, Planning & Sustainability has confirmed that the Environment Agency has agreed to undertake a new Ouse & Foss catchment study this financial year, which will provide an informed view on the adequacy of the city's river flood defences by the year end. The Cabinet Member has therefore

suggested that a decision on whether or not to carry out a review of this topic be deferred until the results of that study are known.

10. The council has recently appointed a new Flood Risk Manager who will be the lead on any flood risk matters for this committee. He has confirmed that once the Environment Agency has finished the study detailed above, he would be in a position to support a review looking at the long term future management of the city's river defences, as it is the role of his team to ensure that this is developed appropriately and to support any funding bids etc.
11. At some point there will be some key information and outputs for the scrutiny committee to review and although it is some way off it may be useful to add this to the Committee's work plan in advance, to give a heads up on the approach. It would also be useful for the Flood Risk Manager to hear the Committee's wider views and concerns with regard to flood risk management delivery so that he can ensure his team are developing approaches in the right areas to address any issues.
12. The Flood Risk Manager will be in attendance at this meeting to support Members' consideration of this topic.
13. 'Supporting Elderly People' Corporate Review
As this is likely to be the topic agreed by Corporate & Scrutiny Management Committee later this month, this Committee may wish to discuss some ideas for their contribution to this corporate review. This will enable the scrutiny officer to carry out some initial research and produce a scoping report for when this Committee meets again in July 2014.

Council Plan

14. Both the Commercial Waste topic and the Flood Defences topic would support the Council's corporate priority to protect the environment, as set out in the Council's Plan 2011-15.

Risk Management & Implications

15. There are no known risks, and there are no known Financial, HR, Equalities, Legal, Crime & Disorder, ITT, or Property implications associated with the recommendation in this report.

Recommendation

16. Members are asked to consider the information within this report and with the support of the officers present, agree:

- Which of the proposed topics should proceed to review
- A suitable review remit for each agreed review and the timeframe for their completion (bearing in mind the limited time available for carrying out review work during this municipal year due to the forthcoming elections)
- Whether the agreed reviews are to be carried out by a Task Group or the full Committee
- Ideas around a topic in support of the proposed corporate scrutiny review for 2014-15

Reason: To enable work to commence on the reviews that the Committee will be carrying out in this municipal year.

Contact Details

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Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Andrew Docherty
AD ITT & Governance

Report Approved



Date

27 May 2014

Wards Affected:

All



Background Papers: None

Annexes: None



Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee**4 June 2014**

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance & ICT

Update on Implementation of Recommendations from Previously Completed Taxi licensing Scrutiny Review**Summary**

1. This report provides Members with an update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed Taxi Licensing scrutiny review and asks Members to sign off those which are fully implemented.

Background

2. In coming to a decision to review the topic, this Committee agreed the following key objectives for the review:
3. To consider the future allocation of hackney carriage vehicle licences having regard to the Department for Transport's Best Practice Guidance for Taxi & Private Hire Licensing, in meeting the needs of all potential members of the travelling public
 - i) To examine the provision and usage of taxi ranks in the city
 - ii) To examine conditions attached to vehicle licences, in particular with regard to accessibility, emissions, vehicle colour and window tinting
 - iii) To look at innovative ways in which the licensed taxi and private fleet may enhance the public transport provision both within the city and in rural communities
4. A Task Group was set up to carry out the review and the full Committee signed off the Task Group's draft final report in March 2011
5. The review final report went to Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee in July 2011 and they approved recommendation 1 (subject to the wording being amended to reflect that the issuing of 2 additional licences for hybrid vehicles would be over and above licences issued subject to future unmet demand surveys) and recommendations 5 to 15.

They also agreed that the Taxi Licensing Policy should be re-drafted to take into account the recommendations approved by the Committee, together with the results of the Halcrow Unmet Demand Survey.

6. The remaining recommendations (2, 3, 4 & 16) were Officer delegated decisions. Finally, this Committee asked that the revised Taxi Licensing Policy be presented to them at a future meeting, which subsequently happened on 21 Nov 2011.
7. This is the first update on the embedding of the revised Taxi Licensing Policy following the revisions made as a result of the scrutiny review.

Consultation

8. City of York Council's Licensing Manager has provided the update information contained within Annex A, and will be in attendance at this meeting to answer any questions arising.

Options

9. Members may decide to sign off any individual recommendations where implementation has been completed, and can:
 - a. request further updates and the attendance of the relevant officers at a future meeting to clarify any outstanding recommendations relating to the review or;
 - b. agree to receive no further updates on this review

Council Plan 2011-15

10. The review supported a number of the aims of the Council Plan i.e. to make York a thriving city with a successful economy, and a safer city.

Implications

11. There are no known Financial, Human Resources, Equalities, Legal, ITT or other implications associated with the recommendation made in this report.

Risk Management

12. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with this report.

Recommendations

- 13. Members are asked to note the contents of this report and sign off all recommendations that have been fully implemented.

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which are still to be fully implemented.

Contact Details

Author:

Melanie Carr
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01904 552063

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Andrew Docherty
Assistant Director, Governance & ICT

Report Approved



Date

27 May 2014

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes: Annex A – Update on Taxi licensing Scrutiny Review

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Implementation Update on Approved Recommendations Arising from Taxi Licensing Review

Approved Recommendation	Update as of May 2014
i. Not to introduce deregulation. Future increases in the number of taxi licenses to be subject to the findings from future unmet demand surveys and the forthcoming quota to be set by the Government for wheelchair accessible vehicles. Outside of this, in an effort to introduce/ increase the number of environmentally friendly vehicles into the city's taxi fleet, two additional licences to be made available to applicants with a hybrid or electric vehicle every 6 months.	To date the government has not set a quota for wheelchair accessible vehicles. Committee agreed that no new licences would be issued until an unmet demand survey is carried out in 2014. That survey is currently been carried out and a report is expected in 2 – 3 months.
ii. CYC Planning Dept to encourage the siting of new/additional taxi ranks adjacent to major new developments e.g. outside the new stadium or near the new council offices or major retail centres / supermarkets.	Planning have been made aware of this recommendation.
iii. CYC to produce a map showing York's taxi ranks indicating times of use and incorporated into other local maps, to raise public awareness of little-used ranks in the city centre. Map to be made available on CYC website and hard copies to be provided to relevant external parties e.g. Visit York	Maps are now available on the councils website
iv. For a 12 month trial period, the rank at Duncombe Place to be made available for use on a full time basis.	The rank is now permanently open 24/7 - this was a cabinet member decision.
v. To reduce the emissions from hackneys and PHVs, the following European standards only to be accepted for replacement vehicles, as from 1 June 2012 for hackneys and 1 November 2012 for PHVs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ For petrol cars – Euro 4 petrol vehicle class ➢ For diesel cars – Euro 5 diesel vehicle class 	Not implemented awaiting unmet demand survey.

<p>vi. The number of low emission vehicles and to meet the forthcoming quota to be set by the government for wheelchair accessible vehicles, a hierarchy should be applied to issuing new licences in priority order as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ those applicants providing an electric car ➢ those applicants providing a hybrid car or euro 3 standard gas fuelled car ➢ those applicants providing a wheelchair accessible diesel car ➢ those applicants providing a petrol car 	<p>Not implemented awaiting unmet demand survey.</p>
<p>vii. No additional hackney carriage vehicle licences will be issued to 'non wheelchair accessible' diesel cars.</p>	<p>This is the council's current policy. At this time no new licence are being issued.</p>
<p>viii. Where there are a number of applicants with cars of the same type (i.e. types shown above) the order they are issued plates should be based on the length of time they have been on the waiting list in line with the council's current policy.</p>	<p>Not implemented awaiting unmet demand survey.</p>
<p>ix. CYC Taxi Licensing Unit to monitor emissions and the number of wheelchair accessible vehicles in York's taxi fleet (Hackneys and PHVs) by revising their annual inspection regime to ensure the gathering and recording of the relevant information, within the new Licensing Unit computer system (once its commissioned)</p>	<p>Will be in place once the new computer system is in place, due to be in place by August 2014.</p>
<p>x. Introduce as soon as is practicable, a requirement for new taxi drivers to undertake an Eco-driving course prior to the issue of a taxi licence.</p>	<p>Not yet in place. Will be a proposal taken to committee when unmet demand survey is done.</p>
<p>xi. Support for the council's current policy in regard to livery of the city's taxi fleet, but in the light of the court judgement, it be made advisory.</p>	<p>Hackney carriage vehicle must display the York crest on the front doors. They are also encouraged to be black.</p>

<p>xii. Subject to the adequate progression with new technologies making the application practical and the introduction of vehicle charging points as shown in the implementation plan at Annex D of the final report, introduce a zero tail pipe emissions policy similar to the Mayor's plan for London for hackneys and PHVs by 2021.</p>	<p>A number of charging points are now available throughout the city.</p>
<p>xiii. the council be sympathetic towards the introduction of taxi buses for use in rural areas and work with possible future providers to investigate how such services may be introduced.</p>	<p>This would have to be done at the request and in conjunction with the council's transport team.</p>
<p>xiv. In regard to taximeters, the policy to include a new specification - 'the taximeter must comply with the Measuring Instruments (Taximeter) Regulations 2006 and must be of the calendar control type which is locked and sealed by an approved manufacturer/ supplier and/or installer' The application of any GPS system must provide a comparable level of security for the customer.</p>	<p>Will be taken to committee following the unmet demand survey.</p>
<p>xv. The new specification to initially apply to new vehicle applications only and subsequently will apply to all existing vehicles, both hackney and private hire(where fitted) with effect from 1 April 2015.</p>	<p>Will be taken to committee following unmet demand survey.</p>
<p>xvi. The council to continue to assist in raising all drivers awareness of the training programme currently offered by Visit York.</p>	<p>This is done as part of the application process.</p>

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Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Draft Workplan 2014-15

Dates	Work Programme
4 June 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductory Report on Suggested Scrutiny Topics for Review in this Municipal Year 2. Update on the Embedding of CYCs Taxi Licensing Policy 3. Workplan 2014-15
30 July 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attendance of the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services, Planning & Sustainability (confirmed) 2. Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual Performance Report (Ian Cunningham) 3. CYC Year End Financial & Performance Monitoring Report (Patrick Looker) 4. Draft Final Report - A-boards Scrutiny Review 5. Draft Final Report – Domestic Waste Review 6. Workplan 2014-15
3 Sept 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CYC First Qtr Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Patrick Looker) 2. Update on the work of AVANTE (Alcohol, Violence & Night-Time Economy) (Tanya Lyon SYP) 3. Workplan 2014-15
5 Nov 2014 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on implementation of recommendations from previously completed scrutiny reviews 2. Update on changes in Probation Service 3. Update on work of Horse Bailiff 4. Workplan 2014-15 & Verbal Update on Ongoing Scrutiny Reviews
7 Jan 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safer York Partnership Bi-Annual Performance Report (Ian Cunningham) 2. CYC Second Qtr Finance & Performance Monitoring Report (Patrick Looker) 3. Workplan 2014-15 inc. Verbal Update on Ongoing Reviews
4 March 2015 @ 5:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CYC Third Qtr Finance & Performance Monitoring Report 2. Update on Anti-Social Behaviour Hub 3. Draft Workplan for 2015/16 – Discussion re Possible Topics for Scrutiny Review in coming Year

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