

Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods
Date	4 April 2016
Present	Councillor Carr

37. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, the Executive Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests he may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

38. Public Participation

It was reported that there were no registrations to speak under the Councils Public Participation Scheme.

39. Request to consult about the introduction of a Public Space Protection Order at West Bank Park and Acomb Green.

The Executive Member considered a report that asked him to agree to a public consultation on the potential implementation of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO) to tackle the problems caused by youths in West Bank Park and Acomb Green.

Officers gave an update and confirmed that:

- West Bank Park was managed by the council and during the course of 2015 there were 34 Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents that North Yorkshire Police (NYP) were called to of which 27 were classified as youth related.
- NYP were called to 49 incidents at Acomb Green, 44 were related to ASB and a further 5 criminal incidents were also reported.
- Both locations received a higher number of incidents reported in the summer months but there were ongoing problems in both areas throughout the year from groups of young people.

The Executive Member noted the issues highlighted in both areas and in answer to his questions officers confirmed that:

- There were no statutory requirements on the length of a consultation process and although a 6 week process had been previously used, 4 weeks would allow officers to actively address the issues.
- The consultation process would be advertised on the council's website and at the two locations.
- It was not practical for officers to write to all users of the parks but representation from the public could be made via the council's website and by phone, email or letter.
- The results would be brought back to a future Executive Member for Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods Decision Session.
- The 4 week process would start mid April 2016.

The Executive Member thanked officers and welcomed the results at a future meeting.

Resolved: That Option 1 be agreed:

- That a 4 week consultation process be undertaken with local residents and interested stakeholders to determine whether to introduce a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for West Bank Park and Acomb Green.

Reason: To ensure that the council actively addresses the issue of anti-social behaviour in our communities.

40. Mortgage Rescue Scheme - Mortgage Breathing Space

The Executive Member considered a report that asked him to agree to an extension of the Breathing Space Mortgage Rescue Scheme to home owners aged 55+ who were not being repossessed as a result of a recent and significant change in circumstances, but who were in danger of losing their owned home because their mortgage term was coming to an end and they had not repaid all of the capital borrowing and did not have the means to do so.

Officers gave an update and confirmed that the 'Mortgage Breathing Space' scheme was developed regionally and there was no financial liability to City of York Council since Wakefield Borough Council administered the loans on behalf of other local authorities.

The Executive Member noted the officers update and agreed this was an excellent initiative.

Resolved: That option 1 be agreed.

Reason: To extend the Breathing Space Mortgage Rescue Scheme to home owners aged over 55 to continue interest only mortgage repayments to prevent the loss of their home.

Councillor Carr, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 3.06 pm and finished at 3.15 pm].