

Meeting	Communities and Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Date	16 November 2016
Present	Councillors Gunnell (Chair), Richardson (Vice-Chair), Funnell, Hunter, Kramm, K Myers (Substitute for Councillor Dew) and Fenton (Substitute for Councillor Mason)
Apologies	Councillors Mason and Dew

26. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda.

Councillors Kramm and Richardson declared that they were both members of the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority.

27. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the of the Committee meeting held on 21 September 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

28. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's public participation scheme.

29. Attendance of North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service and Update on the Fire Authority

Members considered a report regarding Service Delivery activity involving North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) that had occurred between 1 April and 30 September 2016. It

also provided an update on other relevant issues from within the York and Selby District.

A representative from NYFRS gave a brief background to the report. In response to Member questions he stated:

- 'Matrix deployment' referred to mobile radar boxes set up in order to assist Police and Road Safety Task Groups with logging speeds in areas where complaints had been made.
- In order to promote the use of smoke detectors the Fire Service had undertaken a range of advertising, particularly in areas where fires had recently occurred. New software would shortly be available which would assist by pinpointing those most vulnerable to fire.
- The Fire Service were not legislated to attend water related incidents however, as there were more water than fire related deaths in York, the Fire Service were well equipped to deal with incidents.
- The Fire Service were working with the Safer York Partnership to set up a Water Safety Forum in order to harness the benefits of joint working.

Members agreed it would be worthwhile to have an update from the NYFRS on a six monthly basis. This would be added to the Work Plan.

Resolved: That Members noted the report and update.

Reason: To update the scrutiny committee on the activities of the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and the Fire Authority.

30. Update on the 2016 Work of AVANTE & Operation Erase

Members received an update on the work of the Operation Erase (Saturday daytime alcohol-related disorder) and AVANTE (Alcohol, Violence and Night-time Economy) Task Groups.

Officers briefly discussed the background to this report and highlighted some of the work being done.

In response to Member questions they confirmed:

- Whilst not criminality, the level of ‘unacceptable’ behaviour on Saturday afternoons did have an impact on the public perception of York.
- There had been a reduction of 3% in Alcohol related occurrences in the Cumulative Impact Zone (CIZ).
- BID rangers had been well received and were proving effective. They were tackling incidents that fell below the level of criminality, such as nuisance begging, without having to escalate to the point of contacting police officers.
- In relation to attacks on Accident and Emergency (A&E) Staff, if someone had been arrested and brought to A&E a Police Officer would remain during treatment.

The North Yorkshire Police representative stated that whilst Operation Erase had seen a reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) figures it was increasingly hard to ‘hold the line’ when new licences were still being granted within the CIZ. Members suggested that a scoping report could be produced looking at the CIZ as a Scrutiny topic.

Members requested that the Community Safety Manager circulate comparative figures for last three years of the number of licensed premises within the Cumulative Impact Zone, including off-licenses.

Resolved: That Members noted the contents of the report.

Reason: To update the scrutiny committee on the work of the Operation Erase and AVANTE Task Groups.

31. Update on the 2017-19 Hate Crime Strategy

Members received a report which provided an update on the delivery of the current Hate Crime Strategy for York, and an outline of the planned work for delivery of a new Hate Crime Strategy for 2017-19.

Officers gave a brief background to the report and the work of the Community Safety Unit, based at West Offices.

In response to Member questions Officers stated:

- In relation to third-party reporting centres, community groups had confirmed they were happy with the current provision.
- Looking at the use of online reporting, such as Stop Hate UK and the NYP website, was a way of being responsive to the needs of individuals.
- When crimes were reported and indicated an aggravating factor, they would be logged as a hate crime which could lead to a more severe sentence.

The Hate Crime Task Group would be holding an initial meeting on 29 November, in order to feed in to the draft Hate Crime Strategy 2017-19. Officers confirmed this would be delivered by April 2017. It was agreed that Cllr Kramm should join the Task Group.

Resolved: Members considered the report and noted both the progress in delivery of the previous strategy and the timescale for the new refreshed document.

Reason: To update the scrutiny committee on the delivery of the current strategy and progress with the strategy for 2017-19.

32. Work Plan 2016/17

Consideration was given to the Committee's work plan for the municipal year 2016/17.

The Chair expressed disappointment that the Committee had still not received a report on Domestic Violence and Drug Related Crime and Disorder and asked Members for a show of support. The Committee voted unanimously in favour of receiving this report at the next meeting.

January

- Update report on Ward Funding Scrutiny Review
- Update report on flooding and investment for floods. (Independent Flood Inquiry Report is to be considered by Executive on 26 January 2017)
- Update report from Executive Member for Environment on mixed recycling and waste collection, including tangible timelines.

- Update on Domestic Violence and Drug Related Crime and Disorder (requested 18 months ago by Committee)

May

- Six-monthly update report from North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

It was agreed that;

- the Community Safety Manager would circulate comparative figures for last three years of number of licensed premises in Cumulative Impact Zone, including off-licenses.
- the Scrutiny Officer would circulate the Corporate & Scrutiny Management Policy & Scrutiny Committee report on Section 106 Agreements.

Resolved: That the work plan be approved subject to the above amendments.

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

Councillor Gunnell, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.35 pm and finished at 7.10 pm].