

**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 Citadel, Gillygate, York, YO31 7EA** to consider the business contained in this agenda on the following date and time

Thursday, 19 December 2019 at 6.30 pm

The Citadel

S Houlden,
Corporate
Director of
Health, Housing
and Adult Social
Care

D Steel,
Head of
Civic &
Democratic
Services

S Harrington
Monitoring
Officer

M Weastell
Chief
Executive

N Ferris
Corporate
Director of
Economy & Place

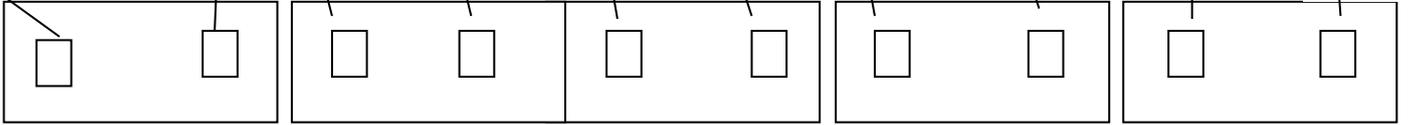
A Hatton,
Corporate
Director of
Children,
Education &
Communities

Democracy
Officer

Cllr J Looker
Lord Mayor

I Floyd, Deputy Chief
Exec/ Director of
Customer & Corporate
Services

S Stoltz,
Director
of Public
Health



Cllr I
Cuthbertson Cllr C
Runciman

Cllr D
Craghill Cllr A
D'Agorne

Cllr K
Aspden Cllr
Ayre Cllr
Waller

Cllr P
Widdowson Cllr D
Smalley

Cllr
Mason Cllr
D Taylor

Cllr
Fenton Cllr
Baker

Cllr
Pearson Cllr
Vassie

Cllr
Hollyer Cllr
Fisher

Cllr
Carr

Cllr
Galvin

Cllr
Hook Cllr
Wann

Cllr C
Cullwick Cllr
Waudby

Cllr
Barker Cllr
Hunter

Cllr
Orrell Cllr
Daubney

Cllr
Doughty Cllr M
Warters

Cllr
Rowley

Cllr K
Taylor Cllr
Fitzpatrick

Cllr
Barnes Cllr
Perrett

Cllr D
Myers Cllr
Pavlovic

Cllr
Douglas Cllr
Crawshaw

Cllr
Kilbane Cllr
Musson

Cllr
Webb Cllr
Lomas

Cllr
Heaton Cllr
Melly

Cllr
Norman Cllr
Wells

A G E N D A

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point, 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 - 22)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on 31 October 2019.

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 to ask a Member of the Council a question, on a matter directly relevant to the business of the Council or the City, may do so. The deadline for registering is **5:00pm on Wednesday, 18 December 2019.**

To register to speak please contact the Democracy Officer for the meeting, on the details at the foot of the agenda.

WEBCASTING NOTICE

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the internet - at the start of the meeting the Lord Mayor will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

Public seating areas will not be filmed by the Council.

The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at http://www.york.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/11406/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_of_council_meetings_20160809.pdf

5. Petitions

To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order No.15. Notice has been received of one petition to be presented by:

Cllr Douglas, on behalf of residents of Yearsley Crescent, Heworth, requesting an assessment for a Residents' Parking Scheme for their street.

6. Independent Remuneration Panel (Pages 23 - 48)

To consider the final report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to Members' allowances.

7. Report of Executive Leader and Executive Recommendations and Questions (Pages 49 - 58)

To receive and consider a written report from the Leader and, to answer questions on the work of the Executive, and the Executive recommendations for approval, as set out below:

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Executive	28 November 2019	Minute 74: Establishing an Investment Budget for a Strategic Commercial Property Acquisition

8. Report of Deputy Leader and Questions (Pages 59 - 62)

To receive and consider a written report from the Deputy Leader and to question the Deputy Leader thereon.

9. Motions on Notice

To consider the following Motions on Notice under Standing Order 22:

Motions submitted for consideration directly by Council, in accordance with Standing Order 22.1

(i) From Cllr Fisher

Autism-Friendly City

“Autistic people see, hear and feel the world differently to other people. Autism is a spectrum condition and all autistic people share certain difficulties, but being autistic will affect them in different ways.

Some autistic people also have learning disabilities, mental health issues or other conditions, meaning people need different levels of support. All people on the autism spectrum learn and develop. With the right sort of support, all can be helped to live a more fulfilling life of their own choosing.

Our vision is to make York an autism-friendly city where people with autism have the same opportunities as everyone else.

Council notes:

- Autism is much more common than most people think. There are around 700,000 autistic people in the UK - that's more than 1 in 100;
- Whilst many autistic people are able to live a full independent life, some find certain situations difficult to cope with;
- York is proud to have an Autism Strategy, which is designed to support all those with autism in the city, and an Autism Strategy Board, which is made up of people from health and social care organisations, education, the police, charities, people with autism and their families and carers.

Council resolves:

- That Council officers identify opportunities for frontline staff and Councillors, who have regular interactions with residents, to receive appropriate training to help residents with autism receive the best service from the Council and their ward Councillors;
- To encourage other organisations who interact with the public to take note of the Council's Autism Strategy and offer training in autism awareness to their staff;
- That Council officers produce a report for consideration by the Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Health, identifying opportunities where the Council can support young autistic people during their transition to adulthood, and raise awareness of the support already on offer in the city."

(ii) From Cllr Pavlovic

Affordable Housing Supply

"This Council agrees with Executive that the city has a housing crisis. But it goes further in stating that the city has a crisis in the availability of genuinely York-affordable homes, and notes:

- that the Executive's Housing Delivery Programme (HDP) will deliver 120 homes for social rent, 120 for shared ownership and 360 to be sold at full market rate;
- the absence of any published financial appraisal of the HDP necessary to justify this split of tenures, nor of any alternative delivery models explored in delivering York-affordable homes that protect against the failing right to buy (RTB) system;
- that council homes built as part of the HDP will be eligible for RTB at build cost for anyone with 3 years secure tenancy; and after 15 years at the usual discount levels;
- the loss of 331 social rented council homes over the past five years through RTB - 211 more than the HDP will create over the same five year period;
- £1.2m in RTB monies returned to the Government as a result of the previous administration failing to plan sufficient housing to spend them within a set period;
- a recent Bureau of Investigative Journalists' report

showing only 7 two bed flats available in York to those in receipt of Housing Benefit in the private rented sector.

Council requests that Executive:

- publishes a full economic appraisal of the HDP at an Executive meeting by April 2020;
- commissions an initial appraisal, to be reported at Executive by April 2020, of alternative options for delivering York-affordable homes, including options for co-development with Housing Associations, or novating or selling land to Housing Associations in return for sole nomination rights;
- reviews ways in which RTB receipts can be used in full to avoid them being handed back to Government, and reports this to a public Executive meeting within six months.”

(iii) From Cllr Wann

Tree Planting Policy

“Local Government has a critical role to play in an effective transition to zero carbon. Although considerable national effort is required to tackle the climate emergency, many solutions are best tackled locally with cities, towns and rural communities working together. A part of that solution is to embark on an ambitious programme of tree planting.

Council notes:

- As trees grow, they absorb and store the carbon dioxide emissions that are driving global warming, as well as removing pollutants from the air and improving our air quality;
- A study found that, worldwide, there is the potential for an extra 900 million hectares (2.2 billion acres) of tree cover in areas that would naturally support woodland and forests. As they grow and mature, the trees could absorb and store 205 billion tonnes of carbon, analysis published in the journal Science suggests;
- In York, all political parties have committed to new tree planting in the city as part of the efforts to tackle the climate emergency;

- That this administration has already invested £33K to support the Northern Forest initiative, £25K to produce zero-carbon supplementary planning guidance and £66K to create a Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Officer and capacity budget.

Council resolves:

- That Council Officers, as part of developing a new ‘tree planting policy’ for the city, should prepare a report for consideration of the Executive, to set out plans to:
 - Plant at least 50,000 trees across the city over the next three years;
 - Identify available and suitable green spaces in Council ownership for tree planting;
 - Identify where ‘green corridors’ can be created, to help animal life move through urban areas, which is essential for pollination and biodiversity.
- That a further report is produced for the Executive Member for the Environment and Climate Change on how to better improve maintenance of existing trees in the city.”

(iv) From Cllr Crawshaw

A Healthier, Greener York

“Council notes:

- Our cross-party declaration of a Climate Emergency;
- Our stated aim of York becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030;
- The negative health impact of poor air quality, particularly on children and the elderly;
- The negative impact of congestion on both the city’s economy and the emotional health and well-being of road users;
- The City’s adopted Local Transport Plan which places pedestrians at the top of its transport hierarchy, followed by those with mobility problems and then cyclists.

Council believes:

- York will not become carbon neutral by 2030 without taking sometimes difficult, often ambitious steps;

- Pro-actively managing congestion in the city's urban core (within and around the city walls) will help to reduce carbon emissions and increase the attraction and uptake of sustainable transport options, such as cycling and public transport, across the whole city;
- Fewer vehicles in the city's urban core will benefit those residents who genuinely depend on private vehicles to access the city centre, such as Blue Badge holders, as well as creating a healthier environment for residents, traders and visitors alike.

Council resolves:

- To request that Members and Officers work closely, collaboratively and constructively to achieve meaningful, measurable and significant change to our city's carbon emissions within the term of this current administration;
- To work across political parties to build a city-wide consensus around reducing and removing unnecessary car journeys throughout the city;
- To prioritise establishing walking, cycling and public transport as genuinely viable and attractive alternative transport options for residents living in all parts of York, particularly including the villages and outer areas.
- To request that the Executive Member for Transport:
 - develops and implements a plan, taking into account all financial and legal considerations, to restrict all non-essential private motor vehicle journeys “within the city walls” by 2023;
 - works closely with disability advocacy groups and Blue Badge Holders to ensure that access to the city centre is maintained and improved for people with mobility difficulties or who are otherwise unable to use public transport;
 - in collaboration with the Executive Member for Children, Young People & Education, explores opportunities to restrict all non-essential motor vehicles from accessing the roads immediately adjacent to the city's primary schools at drop-off and pick-up times;
 - works constructively with traders in any plans to ensure deliveries continue and businesses are not negatively impacted by any changes to city centre

access.”

10. Questions to the Leader or Executive Members

To question the Leader and/or Executive Members in respect of any matter within their portfolio responsibility, in accordance with Standing Order 20.

11. Report of Executive Member (Pages 63 - 80)

To receive a written report from the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities, and to question the Executive Member thereon, in accordance with Standing Order 19.

12. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee (Pages 81 - 86)

To receive a report from Councillor Crawshaw, Chair of the Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee, on the work of the Committee and to consider the Scrutiny recommendations for approval, as set out below:

Meeting	Date	Recommendations
Climate Change Policy & Scrutiny Committee	16 December 2019	Minute 24: Refreshing York’s Commitment to the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy <i>(Part B minute to be circulated at the Council meeting)</i>

13. Appointments and Changes to Membership (Pages 87 - 88)

To consider the appointments and changes to membership of committees and outside bodies set out on the list attached to this summons.

14. Designation of Monitoring Officer (Pages 89 - 92)

This report recommends removing the designation of the role of Monitoring Officer from the Interim Assistant Director of Legal & Governance and re-designating it to the Director of Governance.

15. Urgent Business

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

Democracy Officer

Fiona Young

Contact details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552030
- Email fiona.young@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democracy 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)

 (01904) 551550

City of York Council

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in The Citadal, Gillygate, York on Thursday, 31 October 2019, starting at 6.30 pm.

Present: The Lord Mayor (Cllr Janet Looker) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

Acomb Ward	Bishopthorpe Ward
Lomas S Barnes	Galvin
Clifton Ward	Copmanthorpe Ward
D Myers Wells	Carr
Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward	Fishergate Ward
Widdowson Fenton Mason	D Taylor D'Agorne
Fulford and Heslington Ward	Guildhall Ward
Aspden	Fitzpatrick Craghill
Haxby & Wigginton Ward	Heworth Ward
Pearson Hollyer Cuthbertson	Douglas Perrett Webb
Heworth Without Ward	Holgate Ward
Ayre	Heaton Melly K Taylor

Hull Road Ward

Musson
Norman
Pavlovic

Huntington and New Earswick
Ward

Cullwick
Orrell
Runciman

Micklegate Ward

Baker
Crawshaw
Kilbane

Osbalwick and Derwent Ward

Rowley
Warters

Rawcliffe and Clifton Without Ward

Smalley
Wann

Rural West York Ward

Barker
Hook

Strensall Ward

Fisher

Westfield Ward

Daubney
Hunter
Waller

Wheldrake Ward

Vassie

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Doughty and Waudby.

26. Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in the business on the agenda.

Cllr Crawshaw declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 8(i) – Motions on Notice: Protecting Live Music Venues in York, as he ran a small monthly music event at a local pub. He left the room during consideration of that item and took no part in the discussion or decision thereon.

27. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Special and Ordinary meetings of Council held on 17 July 2019 be approved and then signed by the Chair as correct records.

28. Civic Announcements

The Lord Mayor announced the recent death of Paddy Morrison, a former District Councillor for the Guildhall Ward, and invited Members to stand for a moment as a mark of respect.

Members later observed a minute's silence in remembrance of Hon. Alderman David Horton, twice a former Lord Mayor, and Hon. Alderman Keith Wood, a former Lord Mayor and former Sheriff, both of whom had sadly passed away in recent months.

The Lord Mayor also drew attention to the receipt of:

- 1,000 origami cranes, a gift from visitors from Nagasaki at the Hiroshima memorial event in St Helen's Square, which were available to view in the meeting room and
- A poppy brooch, given by the British Legion, which would be donated to the Civic office for the use of future Lord Mayors.

29. Public Participation

It was reported that eight members of the public had registered to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Drew Thompson, a member of the YPHA, had registered to speak on the council's licensing policy but was not in attendance.

Gwen Swinburn, a local resident, commented on the motion on Brexit at Agenda Item 8(ii), suggesting it alienated residents who voted 'leave', and on the motion at Item 8(i), submitted by Cllr Crawshaw, citing a conflict of interests.

Andreas Heinemeyer, of Extinction Rebellion, spoke on the importance of Askham Bog, urging the Council to protect it from potential damage in the light of the ongoing planning appeal. He then presented a symbolic lantern to the Lord Mayor.

John Cossham spoke in support of the petition to be presented under Agenda Item 5, on behalf of the 20's Plenty campaign.

Clara Cullen, of the Music Centre Trust, spoke in support of Motion (i) at Agenda Item 8: Protecting York's Live Music Venues.

Harkirit Boparai, of the Crescent Community Venue, also spoke in support of Motion (i), mentioning the recent loss of several venues and the potential threat to the Crescent of a nearby flat conversion.

Tom Franklin, Chair of York Green Party, spoke in support of the amendment to Motion (ii) at Item 8, relating to Brexit.

Hon Ald Brian Watson spoke against Motion (ii), on the grounds that it was politically biased.

30. Petitions

Under Standing Order 15, the following petition was presented by the following Member for reference to the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee, in accordance with the Council's petition arrangements:

- Cllr Fitzgerald - a petition signed by 368 residents, calling for a 20mph default speed limit extension for York.¹

Action Required

1 Add to petitions schedule for reporting to CSMC 1 SS
and relevant Executive Member.

31. Report of Executive Leader and Executive Recommendations and Questions

A – Executive Leader’s Report

A written report was received from the Executive Leader, Cllr Aspden, on the work of the Executive.

Prior to the responses from Opposition Group Leaders, it was moved by Cllr Rowley, and seconded by Cllr Warters, that Standing Order 16.2 be suspended to allow Cllr Rowley to respond to the Leader’s report in the absence of Cllr Doughty. On being put to the vote, this motion was declared LOST.

Members were then invited to question the Leader on his report. Questions were received from the floor from the following Members in relation to the subjects listed:

York Central

- Question from Cllr Rowley on when businesses were expected to move on site.
- Supplementary from Cllr Crawshaw on risk to the council in keeping the project moving forward.
- Supplementary from Cllr Perrett on priorities should the Housing Infrastructure Funding (HIF) bid not be successful.

The Leader responded, stating that matters would progress once the government released HIF funding for the infrastructure, the site risk was currently at its lowest level for 40 years and he would be happy to have further discussions with Opposition groups on the issues raised.

York Outer Ring Road (ORR)

- Question from Cllr Warters on whether dualling the ORR would facilitate over-development in the area.
- Supplementary from Cllr Warters on whether the Leader supported reducing the housing allocation in the Local Plan.
- Supplementary from Cllr Webb on whether the Deputy Leader had been involved in lobbying on the ORR.

The Leader responded, stating that dualling was needed to create space on the ORR, that sustainable transport must also be considered and that the Local Plan had been submitted and would

be tested on examination. The final question should be addressed to the Deputy Leader.

B – Executive Recommendations

Children in Care Residential Commissioning Plan

Cllr Aspden moved, and Cllr D’Agorne seconded, the following recommendation contained Minute 22 of the Executive meeting held on 18 July 2019:

Recommended: That Council allocate a capital budget of £1.36m, funded from prudential borrowing, to purchase 3 new buildings for the delivery of residential provision in York, with the revenue costs of the borrowing to be met from existing revenue budgets within Children’s Services.

Reason: In order to develop the city’s residential provision for children in care and ensure that the council meets its statutory sufficiency duty.

On being put to the vote, the recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendation, relating to the CIC Commissioning Plan, be approved.¹

Capital Programme Monitor

Cllr Aspden then moved, and Cllr D’Agorne seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 36 of the Executive meeting held on 29 August 2019:

Recommended: That Council approve the adjustments resulting in a decrease of £65.816m in the 2019/20 budget, as detailed in the report and contained in Annex A.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the council’s capital programme.

On being put to the vote, the recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendation, relating to the Capital Programme, be approved.²

Reducing York's Carbon Footprint with Electric Vehicles

Cllr Aspden then moved, and Cllr D'Agorne seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 49 of Executive meeting held on 26 September 2019:

Recommended: That Council approve an increase in the budget of £700k, including £400k additional prudential borrowing, to fund the increased cost of the Hyper hubs project.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the council's capital programme.

On being put to the vote, the recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendation, relating to Electric Vehicles, be approved.³

York Outer Ring Road Improvements

Cllr Aspden then moved, and Cllr D'Agorne seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 50 of Executive meeting held on 26 September 2019:

Recommended: That Council approve a budget of £7m for the 'enhanced option' upgrading of the Clifton Moor junction, to be funded from £2m West Yorkshire Transport Fund contribution and £5m prudential borrowing, the revenue costs of which will be incorporated in the 2020/21 Revenue Budget.

A named vote was then requested and taken on the recommendation, with the following result:

For	Against	Abstained
Cllr Aspden	Cllr Warters	
Cllr Ayre		
Cllr Baker		
Cllr Barker		

Cllr Barnes		
Cllr Carr		
Cllr Craghill		
Cllr Crawshaw		
Cllr Cullwick		
Cllr Cuthbertson		
Cllr D'Agorne		
Cllr Daubney		
Cllr Fenton		
Cllr Fisher		
Cllr Fitzpatrick		
Cllr Galvin		
Cllr Heaton		
Cllr Hollyer		
Cllr Hook		
Cllr Hunter		
Cllr Kilbane		
Cllr Lomas		
Cllr Mason		
Cllr Melly		
Cllr Musson		
Cllr Myers		
Cllr Norman		
Cllr Orrell		
Cllr Pavlovic		
Cllr Pearson		
Cllr Perrett		
Cllr Rowley		
Cllr Runciman		
Cllr Smalley		
Cllr D Taylor		
Cllr K Taylor		
Cllr Vassie		
Cllr Waller		
Cllr Wann		
Cllr Webb		
Cllr Wells		
Cllr Widdowson		
44	1	0

The recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendation, relating to the Outer Ring Road, be approved.⁴

The Council Plan 2019-23

Cllr Aspden moved, and Cllr D'Agorne seconded, the following recommendation contained in Minute 61 of Executive meeting held on 24 October 2019:

Recommended: That Council approve the draft Council Plan 2019-23 attached as Annex A to the [Executive] report.

Reason: To progress the development of the Council Plan for the next four years.

On being put to the vote, the recommendation was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above recommendation, relating to the Council Plan, be approved.⁵

Action Required

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Note the resolution in respect of the Children In Care Residential Commissioning Plan and take any further action required. | 1 AH |
| 2. Note the resolution in respect of the Capital Programme and take any further action required. | 2 DM |
| 3. Note the resolution in respect of Reducing York's Carbon Footprint with Electric Vehicles and take any further action required. | 3 DA |
| 4. Note the resolution in respect of the York Outer Ring Road Improvements Update and take any further action required. | 4 TC |
| 5. Note the resolution in respect of the Council Plan 2019-23 and take any further action required. | 5 WB |

32. Report of Deputy Leader and Questions

A written report was received from Cllr D'Agorne, in his capacity as Deputy Leader.

Members were then invited to question the Deputy Leader on his report and questions were received from the floor from the

following Members in relation to the subjects listed and responded to by the Deputy Leader as indicated:

Council Plan

- Question from Cllr Rowley, on cross-party involvement in developing the Council Plan.

The Deputy Leader responded, stating that both coalition groups had been involved and all Members had had the opportunity to respond to public consultation.

Deputising for the Leader (WYCA meeting)

- Question from Cllr Baker, on extending expert advice on carbon budgeting across all council areas.
- Question from Cllr Wann, on actions identified from low carbon workshops.
- Question from Cllr Warters, on how dualling the York Outer Ring Road would affect carbon emissions.

The Deputy Leader responded, indicating that all council processes should take account of the zero carbon target as well as financial considerations. The workshops aimed to spread that message to all local authorities and LEPs. Sustainable development and transport infrastructure designed around sustainable travel were part of this approach.

Budget

- Question from Cllr K Taylor, on the timetable for consultation on the budget proposals.

The Deputy Leader responded, confirming that Executive Members would consider budget proposals for their individual portfolio areas in January 2020, at least 2 weeks before the Budget Executive meeting in February.

33. Motions on Notice

(i) Protecting Live Music Space

Moved by Cllr K Taylor and seconded by Cllr Lomas.

“Council notes:

- that culture is in the eye of the beholder and can mean different things to different people or groups;

- that offering a broad and balanced mix of culture, available to all York residents, is a crucial part of creating ‘a city that works for all’;
- that a musical performance can take many forms and the lines between musician, DJ, artist and performer are becoming increasingly blurred;
- that the recently developed Cultural Strategy makes little reference to the cultural significance of live music venues and nightclubs;
- that several of York’s high-profile music venues, Working Men’s Clubs and nightclubs have closed in recent years, with several others under threat.

Council believes:

- that there is an inherent value in bringing people together and sharing experiences;
- that the enjoyment of music and rhythm – live or recorded – crosses all social, cultural and economic boundaries;
- that pre-existing music venues should be supported and protected, particularly where the changing nature of the city centre, with increasing residential development, brings them into conflict with new neighbours;
- that nightclubs and performance venues can vary significantly, but that any problems – whatever their nature - should not preclude a venue from delivering greater cultural value through a different incarnation in the future;
- that a thriving, vibrant, diverse and responsibly managed early-evening, evening and night-time offer is a crucial part of the city’s economy.

Council resolves to call on Executive:

- to support the establishment of a York Music Venues Network, building on the existing work of the national charity Music Venues Trust at a local level;
- to work closely with the York Music Venues Network to assist in supporting and developing this crucial part of the city’s night-time economy;
- to include the York Music Venues Network in all future discussions relating to the city’s cultural offer;
- to include the York Music Venues Network as statutory consultees on all future developments in the city;

- to proactively work with ‘problem venues’ to ensure they are adding value to the city, giving them every chance to develop and change before the cultural potential of the space they occupy is lost;
- to endorse recognition of nightclubs and other ‘non-traditional’ performance spaces alongside live music venues as ‘Cultural Spaces’ under Local Plan Policy D3;
- to endorse routinely applying relevant Planning Conditions, in line with the “Agent of Change” policies reflected in Paragraph 182 of the 2019 NPPF, to all development surrounding “Cultural Venues” as recognised under Policy D3;
- to lobby the Government for legislative change to ensure music venues are eligible for business rate relief in the future.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED unanimously and it was

Resolved: That the above motion be approved.¹

(ii) Brexit

Moved by Cllr Widdowson and seconded by Cllr Wann.

“Council notes that the Conservative Government’s disastrous Brexit strategy, despite suffering numerous defeats in the House of Commons, will have serious consequences for jobs, our economy, our NHS and our place in the World. Council also notes that the national Labour Party leadership has failed to provide effective opposition to the Government’s Brexit plans, unlike the Liberal Democrats and other opposition parties.

Council further notes the hard work of ‘York for Europe’ supporters who have campaigned tirelessly to highlight the adverse consequences of Brexit for York and its citizens.

Council regrets:

- The unlawful proroguing of Parliament, supported by York Outer’s Conservative MP, which led to the biggest constitutional crisis faced by this country in recent years;
- That according to research produced by think tank ‘The UK in a Changing Europe’, Boris Johnson’s new Brexit deal

could reduce UK GDP, per capita, over ten years by between 2.3% and 7%, when compared to remaining in the EU;

- That Conservative and some Labour MPs continue to risk crashing the UK out of the EU with no deal, as demonstrated by the votes against the recent and successful 'Letwin' amendment;
- That Boris Johnson's Brexit deal, if agreed, does not remove the threat of 'No Deal', for the reason that if the Government fails to negotiate a Free Trade Agreement with the EU, the UK will still crash out of the EU without a deal and any opportunity for parliamentary intervention;
- That the Labour Party has faced two ways on Brexit and have recently adopted a party policy which effectively abandons the 58% of York residents who voted Remain in the 2016 referendum; and
- That both private businesses and public-sector organisations, such as the NHS, are facing labour shortages, and that inflation caused by Brexit-related depreciation of the pound is further driving up living costs for York residents.

Council resolves:

- To continue its work to make preparations for the impacts of Brexit, including participating in the Local Resilience Forum; communicating with local stakeholders; investing £10K into Citizens Advice York to assist with EU Settlement Scheme applications and allocating a further £100K to create a Community Involvement Officer post, tasked with engaging EU nationals;
- To make clear in all that it does that citizens from the other 27 EU member states living and working in York are welcome and will continue to be welcome in our city;
- To lobby the Government to ensure that the rights of EU citizens living and working in the UK are protected; and
- That Group Leaders send a letter to the Government, lobbying for a final say to be given to the public in a referendum, before we leave, with the option to remain."

Cllr Perrett then moved, and Cllr Myers seconded, and amendment to the motion, as follows:

"In the first paragraph:

- In the first sentence, after 'Council notes that the', **insert** *'current'*
- In the second sentence, after 'Council also notes':

- **delete** 'that'
- **delete** all from 'national' to 'alongside' and **insert** *'ongoing efforts of'*
- **delete** all from 'the' to 'other and **insert** after 'opposition parties' *'nationally, in holding the Government accountable on the impact of its approach to Brexit.'*

In the second paragraph:

after 'citizens', **insert** *',' and who worked constructively, cross-party, on its recent concordat, in which all signatories committed to finding a way to heal the current divide.'*

Under the section 'Council regrets':

- in the 3rd bullet point, add *'the'* after 'That' and after 'Conservative' add *'Government'* and remove the words *'and some Labour MPs'*
- in the 5th bullet point, after 'That' add *'the opportunity to'* and remove from *'the' to ;and'* and add *'negotiate a final say referendum may be lost through short-term political posturing;'*
- Add a new 6th bullet point as follows:
'That the political leadership required to bring both sides of the Brexit argument together, respecting the democratic principles of this country and upon which far more than Brexit is dependent, has been largely absent'

Under the section 'Council resolves':

- Add a new 1st bullet point as follows:
'To seek common ground across the political spectrum and to do our part to avoid a damaging deal or no-deal Brexit';
- Add a new 2nd bullet point as follows:
'To commit to ending the divisive nature of the discourse surrounding Brexit by respecting those with whose views we may disagree, by working to end the current harmful polarisation and bring the city and country back together again;'
- Former bullet point 1 becomes bullet point 3. After the word 'applications', delete all of what remains of that bullet point;
- Former bullet point 2 becomes bullet point 4, after which add the following new bullet point 5:

‘To request that the Executive commits to details Brexit impact assessments on Council Departments without which, significant future costs to the Council could remain hidden and unplanned for’;”

The motion, as amended, now read as follows (amendments in italics):

“Council notes that the *current* Conservative Government’s disastrous Brexit strategy, despite suffering numerous defeats in the House of Commons, will have serious consequences for jobs, our economy, our NHS and our place in the World. Council also notes the *ongoing efforts of* opposition parties *nationally, in holding the Government accountable on the impact of its approach to Brexit.*

Council further notes the hard work of ‘York for Europe’ supporters who have campaigned tirelessly to highlight the adverse consequences of Brexit for York and its citizens, *and who have worked constructively, cross-party, on its recent concordat, in which signatories committed to finding a way to heal the current divide.*

Council regrets:

- The unlawful proroguing of Parliament, supported by York Outer’s Conservative MP, which led to the biggest constitutional crisis faced by this country in recent years;
- That according to research produced by think tank ‘The UK in a Changing Europe’, Boris Johnson’s new Brexit deal could reduce UK GDP, per capita, over ten years by between 2.3% and 7%, when compared to remaining in the EU;
- That *the Conservative Government* continues to risk crashing the UK out of the EU with no deal, as demonstrated by the votes against the recent and successful ‘Letwin’ amendment;
- That Boris Johnson’s Brexit deal, if agreed, does not remove the threat of ‘No Deal’, for the reason that if the Government fails to negotiate a Free Trade Agreement with the EU, the UK will still crash out of the EU without a deal and any opportunity for parliamentary intervention;
- That the *opportunity to negotiate a final-say referendum may be lost through short-term political posturing;*

- *That the political leadership required to bring both sides of the Brexit argument together, respecting the democratic principles of this country and upon which far more than Brexit is dependent, has been largely absent;*
- That both private businesses and public-sector organisations, such as the NHS, are facing labour shortages, and that inflation caused by Brexit-related depreciation of the pound is further driving up living costs for York residents.

Council resolves:

- *To seek common ground across the political spectrum and to do our part to avoid a damaging deal or no-deal Brexit;*
- *To commit to ending the divisive nature of the discourse surrounding Brexit by respecting those with whose views we may disagree, by working to end the current harmful polarisation and bring the city and country back together again;*
- To continue its work to make preparations for the impacts of Brexit, including participating in the Local Resilience Forum; communicating with local stakeholders; investing £10K into Citizens Advice York to assist with EU Settlement Scheme applications;
- To make clear in all that it does that citizens from the other 27 EU member states living and working in York are welcome and will continue to be welcome in our city;
- *To request that the Executive commits to detailed Brexit impact assessments on Council Departments without which, significant future costs to the Council could remain hidden and unplanned for;*
- To lobby the Government to ensure that the rights of EU citizens living and working in the UK are protected; and
- That Group Leaders send a letter to the Government, lobbying for a final say to be given to the public in a referendum, before we leave, with the option to remain.”

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared CARRIED and it was

Resolved: That the above motion, as amended, be approved.²

(iii) County Lines

Moved by Cllr Kilbane and seconded by Cllr Douglas.

“Council believes that increased county lines activity has amplified the problem of illegal drug use in York and exacerbated a public health crisis that is causing significant harm to some of York’s most vulnerable residents and their communities. Council believes it is now an urgent priority to take a public health harm reduction approach to tackling illegal drug use and work with those directly affected by the problem.

Council notes:

- the devastating impact that the trade in drugs has on individuals and communities, including the exploitation of vulnerable adults and children, increased crime and anti-social behaviour in our neighbourhoods and the ensnaring of people into a life of illicit drug dependency;
- that multiple agencies, individuals and communities have made great efforts to combat the problem, and have achieved progress in spite of the difficulties involved;
- that most people develop dependencies on illicit drugs for multiple complex reasons and that mental health difficulties can be a common factor;
- that all York residents, regardless of age or social status, have the right to live healthy lives free from the harm caused by such drugs.

It further believes that to effectively tackle such activity, North Yorkshire Police relies on the engagement of those on the ground who are embedded in their communities - residents, people working on the front line and those taking illicit drugs themselves.

Council resolves to request that Executive:

- building on existing work, commissions a comprehensive, evidence-based strategy with partners based upon a public health harm reduction approach to drug misuse that runs alongside the criminal enforcement activities of North Yorkshire Police;
- develops that strategy, informed by global best practice, in conjunction with drug recovery practitioners, the CCG, mental health services, social services, housing and those

who have lived or are living with the effects of illicit drug dependency;

- considers options for providing a package of support for those caught up in illegal drug use from drug outreach to specialist housing and social workers, mental health practitioners and/or other types of support workers;
- considers options to support those communities being targeted by drug dealers, such as community outreach workers;
- supports the inclusion of those working at street level in any partnership working approach between the council and other agencies;
- recognises the scale of the challenge and considers reversing cuts to substance misuse services.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared CARRIED unanimously and it was

Resolved: That the above motion be approved.³

Action Required

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Note approval of the motion on Protecting Live Music Space and schedule a report to Executive on the proposals in the motion. | 1 CC |
| 2. Note approval of the motion on Brexit and take action to co-ordinate a response to the proposals in the motion. | 2 IF |
| 3. Note approval of the motion on County Lines and schedule a report to Executive on the proposals in the motion. | 3 AH |

34. Questions to the Leader or Executive Members

In accordance with Standing Order 21, Members were invited to question the Leader and / or the other Executive Members in respect of any matters within their portfolio areas. Questions were received from the floor from the following Members in relation to the subjects listed and responded to by the relevant Executive Member as indicated:

(i) To Cllr Ayre, Executive Member for Finance & Performance:

- From Cllr Musson on why a decision had been taken not to purchase the Bootham Park Hospital site (*supplementary from Cllr Myers*).

Response: Purchasing the site would have incurred costs that risked cuts to front line services. Information on the risks and benefits would be put in the public domain. The council would do what it could, along with key partners, to see that the purchaser delivered a development in line with the masterplan for the site.

(ii) To Cllr Runciman, Executive Member for Health & Adult Social Care:

- From Cllr Douglas on concerns about a proposed budget cut to substance misuse services (*supplementaries from Cllrs Crawshaw and Pavlovic*).

Response: The proposal would be a matter for Council to decide as part of the budget process. The intention in the longer term was to focus on a public health approach, working with Health partners to put services in the community that could deal with issues at an early stage.

(iii) To Cllr Cuthbertson, Executive Member for Children, Young People & Education

- From Cllr Fitzpatrick, on derogatory comments he had allegedly made at a recent conference on social mobility (*supplementary from Cllr Crawshaw*).

Response: Cllr Cuthbertson denied making the comments as alleged; any comments he had made were not derogatory and did not allude to poverty or social status.

35. Report of Executive Member

A written report was received from Cllr D'Agorne, in his capacity as Executive Member for Transport.

Members were then invited to question Cllr D'Agorne on his report and questions were received from the floor from the following Members in relation to the subjects listed:

Dualling of the Outer Ring Road

- Question from Cllr Webb - why had the Executive Member not endorsed the project in a recent press release and (*supplementary*) what were his plans to ensure the city centre was not used as a short cut in years to come?

The Executive Member responded, stating that there was nothing in the press release that required endorsement and that a detailed strategy would be developed within the new Local Transport Plan.

Bus Services

- Question from Cllr Lomas on consideration given to the future development of public bus services in York. (*Supplementary from Cllr Myers*).

The Executive Member responded, confirming that the additional services tendered for in January had begun operating in September. A new contract for Park & Ride services had been awarded to First York, with a commitment to electric buses. Further development would require further advice from Officers.

Local Transport Plan (LTP)

- Question from Cllr Pearson, on what action had been taken to develop the LTP.

The Executive Member responded, stating that the policy inherited from the previous administration was to refresh the LTP after determination of the Local Plan.

36. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee

A written report was received from Cllr Crawshaw, Chair of the Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee, on the work of the Committee since the last report to Council, on 17 July 2019.

37. Appointments and Changes to Membership

Resolved: That the appointments set out on page 51 of the agenda papers be approved.

Cllr Janet Looker

LORD MAYOR OF YORK

[The meeting started at 6.30 pm and concluded at 10.07 pm]

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Council

13 December 2019

Report of the Interim Monitoring Officer

Independent Remuneration Panel

Summary

1. This report introduces the final report of the Independent Remuneration Panel tasked with looking into Members Allowances.

Background

2. The Council is legally obliged to consider a report from its Independent Remuneration Panel before making any changes to its scheme of allowances. It is good practice to have the scheme reviewed periodically to ensure that it reflects any changes in the Council's operation. Where the scheme allows for increases by reference to an index, there is a requirement for review of this index at least once every four years by an Independent Panel. (Local Authorities [Members' Allowances] {England} Regulations 2003)
3. The Independent Panel has made recommendations for changes to the scheme in respect of basic and special responsibility allowances, the changes are set out within the report and a summary of the recommendations is attached at Annex C to the IRP report.
4. Full Council must now consider the final report, have regard to the recommendations and decide whether to make any amendments to the existing scheme.

Options

5. Having considered the recommendations Council may:
 - a. Adopt the recommendations of the Panel in full

- b. Adopt the recommendations in part
- c. Choose not to adopt the recommendations

Analysis

- 6. The Panel have set out their rationale and justification within the report.

Implications

- 7. **Legal:** In accordance with the Local Authorities [Members' Allowances] (England) Regulations 2003, the Council is legally obliged to convene an Independent Remuneration Panel to review its members' allowances scheme. Any changes to the scheme or consequential changes to the constitution, must be approved by Full Council.

Financial: The total current budget for member's allowances is £652k per annum. If the Panel's recommendations are accepted, the budget will need to increase to around £770k per annum. The panel have also recommended that any changes are backdated to 22 May 2019 (Annual Council).

Equalities: Similar to previous years, the Panel noted its concern that those who may wish to stand for public office may be prevented from doing so for financial reasons and that the Scheme of Members Allowances should help to minimise this barrier.

Recommendations

- 8. Members are recommended to:
 - (1) Adopt the scheme of allowances now recommended by the Panel.
 - (2) Authorise the Interim Chief Executive to implement the changes and backdate to 22 May 2019 (Annual Council).
 - (3) Ask the Monitoring Officer to make any consequential constitutional changes.

Reason: To enable the Council to adopt a revised scheme of allowances having regard to its statutory obligations to receive and consider a report on allowances from an independent panel.

Author:
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Chief Officer responsible for the report
Suzan Harrington
Interim Monitoring Officer
Tel No. 01904 554587

Report
Approved

Date 13/12/2019

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Appendix 1 - Independent Remuneration Panel Report 2019

Annex A - The Panel's Terms of Reference

Annex B - Benchmarking Information

Annex C - Summary of Recommendations

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Independent Remuneration Panel

2019

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) was convened to advise the City of York Council on its scheme of Councillors' allowances. The IRP last met in 2015 and made a number of recommendations regarding basic and special responsibility allowances.
- 1.2 The report produced by the IRP in December 2015 and the associated Scheme of Allowances were confirmed by Full Council and came into effect on 1 January 2016.
- 1.3 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require Councils to appoint an IRP and to have regard to its recommendations prior to amending their scheme of allowances.
- 1.4 Under Regulation 10 (5) of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, Local Authorities 'cannot rely on an index for Councillor allowances for more than 4 years' before they invite the IRP to make further recommendations on the application and relevance of the index.
- 1.5 In York, local Council elections take place every four years, when the entire Council membership stands down. For many years, it has been custom and practice for an IRP to review the existing Scheme of Councillors' allowances following the formation of a new Council in an 'election year'.
- 1.6 This cycle presents real benefits in providing an IRP with a substantial period of time over which the existing scheme can be assessed and in providing opportunities for the Panel to learn from the experiences of newly elected and long serving Councillors.

- 1.7 Local Authorities can also convene an IRP at any time to respond to a specific issue or for an annual or biennial review.

Membership of the Panel

- 1.8 The Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel 2019 were as follows:

- David Dickson (Chartered Accountant, Deputy Chair of York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP, Former Treasurer of the University of York)
- Elizabeth Heaps (Vice Chair of York Archeological Trust, Board Member of York Civic Trust, Former Pro Vice-Chancellor of University of York)
- Andrew Scott CBE (President of York Civic Trust and Former Director of National Railway Museum)
- Neil Barnes (Former Elected Member of City of York Council)
- Stephen Upright (Clerk to the Company of Merchant Adventurers)

- 1.9 The Panel also received administrative support from officers of City of York Council.

Terms of Reference

- 1.10 The Panel's terms of reference are attached at Annex A to this report. They reflect the legal requirements governing the Panel.

- 1.11 The Panel has met on five occasions to consider information gathered by officers. The Panel also invited and received written and oral representations from a range of current Members of the

Council, including Executive Members, Chairs and backbench Members, representative of all political parties.

Context and Current Scheme of Allowances

1.12 All Councillors, irrespective of particular offices held on the Council, are entitled to the same level of basic allowance. Basic allowances are intended to recognise the expected time commitment of all Councillors. This includes, but is not limited to:

- attendance at Council meetings and committees
- meetings with residents and Council officers
- responding to and dealing with casework and enquiries

1.13 Basic Allowances should also cover incidental costs such as travel within the City and internet and phone provision. Currently, travel expenses can only be claimed outside of the City and when the purpose involves representing the authority at an external meeting or undertaking duties specifically associated with the role (for example as an Executive Member).

1.14 Between 2008 and 2015, there was no movement in the level of allowances for Councillors. In that time, Council declined the increases suggested by IRP panels and declined increases in line with Council pay awards. As a consequence, the real value of allowances fell well below that of comparative authorities.

1.15 The figure agreed by the IRP in 2015 as a basic allowance was £8,667 per annum. This figure was calculated by halving the median pay figure for York to reflect previous evidence that the workload involved in being a Councillor equated to around half a working week. This figure was then discounted by a third. This discount reflects that an important aspect of the role of a Councillor role is to serve the public and therefore, not all of what a Councillor

does, should be remunerated. The one third discount for public service is a standard widely applied across the country.

1.16 The Leader's Special Responsibility Allowance was calculated by multiplying the basic allowance by three. Statutory guidance also suggests that this is an appropriate methodology and one that previous IRPs in York have used in recent years.

1.17 Since 2015, the basic allowance has increased in line with staff pay awards. The current basic allowance at the time of writing this report is £9,198. It is worth noting that whilst basic allowances have been increased in line with pay awards, SRAs have not been recalculated on an annual basis with revised basic allowance figures.

1.18 In 2015, the panel heard from Councillors and officers of an ever-increasing workload and demand on the time of a Councillor and this played an important part in their recommendation.

2 Rationale

Basic principles

2.1 The Panel agreed the following principles on which the methodology and recommendations for its review in 2019 should be based:

- The level of allowances within the scheme should not discriminate or create barriers for those who may wish to stand for office
- The level and availability of travel allowances should not act as an obstacle to appropriate travel outside the City to promote the City's interests.
- The scheme of basic and special responsibility allowances should provide for an adequate level of reward that neither

encourages nor discourages those who may wish to stand for office.

- The scheme should be easily understood.
- The scheme should continue to move towards being easy to administer.

2.2 The Panel sought to account for the current context for Members, any changes in the workload since the last review and any changes to local or national context in that time.

Benchmarking

2.3 Details of benchmarking information and statistics considered by the Panel are attached at Annex B. This included evidence of allowances paid in other local authorities chosen based on a mixture of population size and locality. These figures were compared with those paid in York. The Panel also received information on annual York pay figures between 2015-19. The median figure for people working in York in 2019 was £29,631 (rising from £25,622 in 2015). Previous IRPs had used median pay figures as a basis for calculating allowances for Councillors.

2.4 In comparison to the other unitary authorities shown in Annex B, York's basic allowance is just above the mean, whilst it is appropriately above local districts and below metropolitan authorities.

2.5 In the interests of consistency and clarity, the Panel felt that the median pay figure for people working in York remained the most appropriate basis from which to calculate allowances and therefore adopted this figure for 2019 as its starting point.

Evidence Base

- 2.6 The Panel met with a selection of Councillors on two occasions. The first was a meeting with Group Leaders, the second was a selection of Committee Chairs and Backbench Scrutiny Members, both experienced and newly elected. The Panel also received written representations from the political groups.
- 2.7 The Panel heard that there had been a significant increase in the level of responsibility attached to the role of Councillors. Following a recent refresh to the approach to ward committees, Councillors now have additional responsibility with regard to available funding through the Housing Environment Improvement Programme and Highways Capital funding.
- 2.8 The frequency of Council meetings has also increased since 2015. Following a 2018/19 review into the Scrutiny function and with the new administration in place, an extra Scrutiny Committee (Climate Change) has been created and the meeting frequency of Scrutiny Committees has doubled (now monthly).
- 2.9 In its nature, the role of a Councillor has always been public facing, Elected Members are the spokespersons for their communities and this has not changed.
- 2.10 The Panel heard of the ever-growing presence of social media and electronic communication and how this has led to a significant increase in the level of engagement between Councillors and their residents. It was also noted that there had been an increase in the range of issues that are being reported through Ward Councillors. Within this heightened level of communication, it was reported that Councillors are finding the day-to-day activities of the role increasingly time-consuming and complex.

- 2.11 The panel noted the requirement for an increased level of expertise and knowledge expected of Councillors and the need for this knowledge to be current and maintained. The complexity of issues being presented in committees such as Audit and Governance, Licensing and Regulatory Committee and both Planning Committees has required an increased number of briefings and a more detailed understanding of legislation and policy.
- 2.12 The Panel heard that the role of a Committee Chair had continued to be a challenging time commitment and noted that the role of a vice-chair is an important and, to some extent, unappreciated role.

3 The Panel's Recommendations

Basic Allowance

- 3.1 Taking into account the statistical information reviewed, the Panel agreed that a similar method of calculation to that used in 2015, should be used again. The basic allowance was calculated by halving the median pay figure for people working in York and that figure had increased significantly since 2015 (see paragraph 2.3). The Panel was content that Councillors' allowances should therefore rise commensurately.
- 3.2 The Panel was also convinced that the workload associated with being a Councillor had increased since the last review. In response, the Panel calculated the basic allowance by taking 52.5% of the median pay figure for York (an increase from 50% previously), to reflect the changing nature of Members' roles. This figure being then reduced by a third in respect of the public sector voluntary discount (see paragraph 1.15).
- 3.3 This calculation results in a basic allowance of £10,371 per annum.

Special Responsibility Allowances

- 3.4 As is stated above, all SRAs are calculated as a percentage of the Leader's, which has traditionally been considered by Panels to be three times the basic allowance. The Panel saw no reason to alter that assessment. Following extensive deliberation however, the panel decided to alter the percentage of the Leader's SRA currently attributed to the following roles:
- Chair of Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee
 - Chair of Area-Sub Planning Committee
 - Chair of Licensing and Regulatory Committee; and
 - Chair of Audit and Governance Committee
- 3.5 Annex C shows the current and recommended basic allowance and list of Special Responsibility Allowances, taking into account the changes recommended in paragraph 3.2 and 3.4.
- 3.6 After some debate and hearing a range of representations from Councillors, the Panel decided not to recommend an SRA for Vice-Chairs, feeling that the role only resulted in chairing a minimal number of meetings on an ad-hoc basis. As such, the Panel did not believe that the role required an amount of time and effort equal to or greater than any of the SRAs set out in Annex C.
- 3.7 Additionally, the Panel concluded that, subject to any legal or financial considerations, any annual or other pay award increases applied to the basic allowance should also be applied to Special Responsibility Allowances.
- 3.8 The Panel also agreed that any changes to Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances should be backdated to the 22 May 2019, to coincide with the start of a new administration and a new Council year.

Additional Recommendations

- 3.9 In response to concerns raised by some Councillors, the Panel recognised that the effectiveness of Councillors was in part dependent on the level of support made available by the Executive. Increasing expectations of Councillors mean that additional support is required if they are to remain effective. The Panel therefore recommends that Council request a review into the support that Councillors receive around the handling and tracking of their casework and any policies currently in place.
- 3.10 The Panel believes that Councillors should have access to a similar level of Welfare Support to that of a City of York Council employee. Work related and personal stress affects Councillors as it affects staff and whilst the Panel recognise that Councillors are not employees, they considered it both a reasonable and appropriate gesture to open the existing offer to Councillors as well, wherever possible.
- 3.11 Public expectations of Councillors are high and, as the Panel heard, often significantly higher than candidates had expected prior to taking office. It was noted by a number of newly elected Councillors, that whilst they would not have changed their minds, they were surprised by the workload with which they were confronted. The Panel, therefore, recommends that both the Council (at pre-election stage) and political groups make potential candidates aware of all that would be expected of them upon election.
- 3.12 Although outside its formal remit, it was the Panel's clear view that support for the office of the Lord Mayor and Civic Party appears seriously under-resourced both in absolute terms and relative to that provided in comparable cities, at home and abroad. Apart from making the task of the Civic Party much more difficult, the Panel felt in the strongest terms that it did not reflect well on a City, which

must compete with others for inward investment. In the Panel's view, the support package must change if the role of the Lord Mayor is to retain its significance as an ambassador for the City and in providing a ceremonial role for communities. The Panel recommends that the Council undertake a review of the support package and that recommendations are acted upon.

3.13 The Panel was made aware of the recent decision of the IRP for the North Yorkshire County Council to recommend that a small allowance (in the sum of £1,697 per annum) be awarded to each Councillor appointed by Local Authorities across the region to represent them on the Police, Fire and Crime Panel. Having been asked to consider the position for York, the Panel looked at the issues in some detail and, in principle, agreed to support and endorse the recommendations suggested by North Yorkshire County Council's IRP. However, the Panel advises that Council would need to have due regard to its practice of awarding only one SRA per Councillor.

4 Other issues considered

- 4.1 In their meeting with Group Leaders, the IRP was asked to clarify the number of Councillors needed to define a 'minority group'. The IRP are content with this number remaining at four members.
- 4.2 The IRP was asked to look into the idea of a group whip or administrative allowance. Whilst the Panel understood the idea, it concluded that this related to political administration and that the current provisions within suggested allowances were sufficient in this respect.
- 4.3 The Panel reviewed the potential to award an SRA to members of the Shadow Executive and concluded that the current scrutiny and proportionality arrangements, offering a number of key chairing SRAs to the main opposition, were sufficient.

Independent Remuneration Panel 2019 Report

- 4.4 The Panel reviewed the current provision for childcare/dependent carer allowances and made no recommendation for change.
- 4.5 The Panel was also asked to consider into the potential of adding maternity/paternity provision for Councillors in parallel with the current policies covering staff. However, it was mindful that Councillors were not employees with contractual employment obligations, unlike staff. The Panel therefore suggested that the Council set up a working group to look into the position further and gather more information from other local authorities who might have successfully implemented such an arrangement.
- 4.6 The Panel had been asked to review whether the current arrangements for reimbursing Councillors' travel and subsistence claims, for Council related duties outside of York, remained fit for purpose. Having looked at the information with which it was provided, the Panel was content with current practices and with the approach of continuing to adjust to HMRC and national guidance on payable rates. However, it recommends that the Council check that its current rates of pay are up to date with national rates yearly.
- 4.7 The Panel was content that travel expenses with York boundaries, telephone and internet costs remain covered under the basic allowance.

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Independent Remuneration Panel 2019

Terms of Reference

The purpose of the Independent Remuneration Panel is as follows:

- To make recommendations to the authority as to the amount of basic allowance that should be payable to its elected members
- To make recommendations to the authority about the responsibilities or duties which should lead to the payment of a special responsibility allowance and as to the amount of such an allowance
- To make recommendations to the authority about the duties for which a travelling and subsistence allowance can be paid and as to the amount of this allowance
- To make recommendations as to the amount of co-optees' allowance
- To make recommendations as to whether the authority's allowances scheme should include an allowance in respect of the expenses of arranging for the care of children and dependants and if it does make such a recommendation, the amount of this allowance and the means by which it is determined
- To make recommendations on whether any allowance should be backdated to the beginning of a financial year in the event of the scheme being amended
- To make recommendations as to whether annual adjustments of allowance levels may be made by reference to an index, and, if so, for how long such a measure should run
- To make recommendations as to which members of an authority are to be entitled to pensions
- As to treating basic allowance and special responsibility allowance as amounts in respect of which such pensions are payable.

The IRP will make its recommendations in the form of a report to Council.

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ANNEX B

Comparative Allowance Data							
Authority	Type	No of Cllrs	Population size	Allowances:			
				Basic	Leader	Deputy Leader	Exec / Cabinet Member
York	Unitary	47	208,200	£9,198.39	£26,001	£18,201	£15,600
Cheshire West and Chester	Unitary	70	340,502	£11,689	£29,220	£14,611	£12,857
Warrington	Unitary	58	208,800	£8,230.38	£20,015	£15,012	£10,008
Bath and North East Somerset	Unitary	59	198,106	£7,993	£32,445	£19,484	£19,484
Swindon	Unitary	57	182,441	£8,552	£25,656	£14,966	£12,828
East Riding	Unitary	67	339,614	£11,732	£37,777	£23,464	£15,252
North Lincolnshire	Unitary	43	172,005	£6,874	£16,799	£11,127	£10,162
North East Lincolnshire	Unitary	42	159,826	£8,159	£22,500.00	£16,875.00	£11,250.00
Stockport	Metropolitan	63	284,500	£10,430.10	£31,290.33	£17,209.68	£15,645.17
Leeds City	Metropolitan	99	789,194	£15,533	£40,207.25	£26,134.71	£24,124.35
North Yorkshire	County Council	72	604,900	£9,885.00	£32,243.00	£16,970	£15,273

ANNEX B

Authority	Scrutiny Chair	Chair of A&G	Chair of Licensing	Planning Chair	Area Planning Sub Chair
York	£5,200	£5,200	£5,200	£7,800	£5,200
Cheshire West and Chester	£5,844	£7,596	£7,596	£8,766	N/A
Warrington	£8,506	£8,506	£8,506	8,506	N/A
Bath and North East Somerset	£7,952	£7,952	£5,052	14,314	N/A
Swindon	£6,414	£6,414	£6,414	£6,414	N/A
East Riding	£10,089	£3,871	£3,871	£10,089	£5,866
North Lincolnshire	£8,637	£5,312	£8,130	£9,146	N/A
North East Lincolnshire	£5,625.00	£4,500.00 (independent)	£4,500.00	£6,750.00	N/A
Stockport	£6,258.07	£3,754.83	£4,693.55	£7,822.58	£4,693.55
Leeds City	£20,104	£8,041.45	£9,046.62	£14,072.54	5,025.91
North Yorkshire	£5,091 (£10,182 for Health Scrutiny Chair)	£3,394	Chair of 'Regulatory Functions' is also Planning Chair	£4,243	N/A

ANNEX B

Authority				
	Standards Committee	Leader of Opposition	Deputy Leader of Opposition	Shadow Exec / Cabinet Member
York	N/A	£11,700	£5,200	N/A
Cheshire West and Chester	N/A	£8,766	£5,844	N/A
Warrington	2,002	£8,506	N/A	N/A
Bath and North East Somerset	N/A		N/A	N/A
Swindon	£6,414	£6,414	N/A	N/A
East Riding	N/A	£7,039	N/A	N/A
North Lincolnshire	N/A	£8,400	5,563	N/A
North East Lincolnshire	£4,500.00	£2,250.00	N/A	N/A
Stockport	Independent at Stockport	£9,387.10	N/A	N/A
Leeds City	2.613.47	£24,124.35	N/A	N/A
North Yorkshire	£1,697	£5,091	£5,091	N/A

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ANNEX C

Summary of Recommendations

Basic Allowance: **£8,667 (£9,198)** → **£10,371**

Special Responsibility Allowances:

Special Responsibility	Current SRA	% of Leaders allowance	Movement	rec % of Leaders allowance	Recommended SRA
Leader	£26,001.00	100	↔	100	£31,113.00
Deputy Leader	£18,201.00	70	↔	70	£21,778.00
Group Leader (Main Opposition)	£11,700.00	45	↔	45	£14,001.00
Deputy Leader (Group of more than ten members)	£5,200.00	20	↔	20	£6,223.00
Group Leader (Minority Party) [min 4]	£5,200.00	20	↔	20	£6,223.00
Executive Member	£15,600.00	60	↔	60	£18,668.00
Chair of CSMC	£5,200.00	20	↑	25	£7,778.00
Chair of Scrutiny	£5,200.00	20	↔	20	£6,223.00
Chair of Main Planning	£7,800.00	30	↔	30	£9,934.00
Chair of Area Planning Sub Committee	£5,200.00	20	↑	25	£7,778.00
Chair of Licensing and Regulatory Committee	£5,200.00	20	↑	25	£7,778.00
Chair of Audit and	£5,200.00	20	↑	25	£7,778.00
Chair of Full Council (LM)	£2,600.00	10	↔	10	£3,111.00

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19 December 2019

Report to Full Council from the Leader of the Council

Council Budget

A considerable amount of work is taking place to set the 2020/2021 Council budget. This year, the budget setting process has been brought forward to allow councillors and residents to have a longer period of time to read the budget papers and have their say on the administration's proposals.

A number of decision sessions will be held by Executive Members in January, in which they will discuss and agree, for Executive, their relevant sections of the 2020/21 Council Budget. This will provide an earlier chance to speak on the draft budget proposals before they are sent to Full Council for consideration.

The decision sessions will take place on the following dates:

Portfolio(s)	Date
Leader + Finance/Performance	15/01/20 – 5.30pm
Children & Young People + Culture, Leisure & Communities	14/01/20 – 4.00pm
Health & Adult Social Care	15/01/20 – 12pm
Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods	16/01/20 – 2pm
Economy & Strategic Planning + Environment & Climate Change + Transport	13/01/20 – 5.30pm

Devolution and LEP Review

Discussions around devolution continue to take place with a wide range of stakeholders across the region. As ever, I am continuing to seek a set of arrangements which recognise York's links north and

west, whilst simultaneously pushing the need for us to work collectively as a region to achieve the best for our residents.

One Yorkshire scale remains the best outcome for York. However, the Government continues to communicate that they require smaller interim arrangements on the journey towards wider devolution.

Artificial boundaries are unhelpful and any future arrangements must allow York to work with all our regional partners, on the issues that are best addressed regionally.

The future LEP arrangements are, of course, linked to potential devolution. York, North Yorkshire and East Riding, and Leeds City Region LEPs continue to work together to ensure we can secure future investment for our region.

Transforming Cities Fund

Alongside our partners in the Leeds City Region and North Yorkshire County Council, I am pleased to report that we have submitted our bid to the Department for Transport for the Transforming Cities Fund.

Our submission, if successful, will:

- Transform access for our communities of persistent poverty to employment opportunities and skills centres;
- Create smart, clean and liveable places which make cycling and walking the obvious choice for accessing town and city centres – improving air quality and reducing car dominance;
- Transform the public transport and active travel offer from housing and employment sites, ensuring that people are enabled to make sustainable travel choices from day one;
- Make travel by bus an attractive and more reliable offer for commuters.

A 21st century transport network is key to creating economic growth around the region, helping our residents to access employment and wider education opportunities. If we are successful in our bid, our proposals will deliver a real step change, connecting people to economic and education opportunities through affordable, sustainable transport.

The Local Plan

The public examination of the draft Local Plan is currently underway and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Planning Inspectors, the Programme Officer and our Council officers for carrying out the work behind the scenes to get us this far and in facilitating the hearings.

I would also like to thank everyone who has taken part during the public examination process, as it is of course important that residents and groups are able to feed into this important strategic plan, which will drive future growth the city.

The Council is keen to adopt the Local Plan and begin to implement policies that will benefit the city and achieve our aspirations: to build more homes, create a sustainable city, foster new communities and ensure the special character of York remains protected for many years to come.

The Community Stadium

I am pleased that LNER have become the main corporate sponsor of the Stadium and that from now on, the Community Stadium will become the LNER Community Stadium. This new sponsorship deal will help ensure that the LNER Community Stadium remains financially sustainable for years to come.

York has a proud connection with the rail industry, and it is entirely fitting that such a large rail company based in the city would put themselves forward to sponsor the Community Stadium.

With the Stadium due to open early 2020, it is an exciting time in the development of York's Community Stadium, and although I completely understand the frustration caused by delays in its completion, it will be an excellent venue for all residents and visitors to enjoy.

The Guildhall

Works to restore the historic Guildhall are now underway. Vinci, the contractor appointed to carry out the restoration works, are now making preparations to install a crane at their river site.

These works mark the first major restoration to the Guildhall in 60 years and in turn, will restore the Guildhall's role at the heart of York's civic, social and economic life.

Once the works are completed, it will improve access to the building, providing residents a greater opportunity to step inside and see the Guildhall. Crucially, it is estimated that the Guildhall project will provide a £117m boost to our local economy by providing office space to give new companies room to grow in York.

Children's Social Work Academy

The Council's new Children's Social Work Academy has now been up and running for over a month now. The academy provides a bespoke 12-month learning and development programme for all social workers joining York's Children's Services team. With three cohorts per year, the academy will ensure high standards in social care practice, enabling our social workers to develop their skills, knowledge and professional confidence.

The academy is open to those returning to social work after a career break, newly qualified social workers completing their Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE), as well as social workers who are new to City of York Council.

The social workers have initially taken part in two weeks' induction and training as a group before joining one of the council's Children's Services teams. The academy groups will come together every three months to share their experiences, reflect on their learning and carry out more specialist training.

York Learning inspection

York Learning was recently visited by Ofsted as part of a full inspection into the service. Overall, I am pleased to say that the service was rated 'good' by Ofsted, with particularly positive feedback on the coordination of the curriculum, strong partnerships between key organisations and also robust leadership and management of the service.

New Director of Governance

I am pleased that, following an extensive recruitment process, the Members Appointment Sub Committee appointed Janie Berry as the new Director of Governance at the Council. This post will also become the Council's Monitoring Officer.

Janie was recently working for Derbyshire County Council as Director of Legal and Democratic Services and will start work in mid-December. This is a fantastic appointment for the Council and I would like to take this opportunity to wish Janie all the best in her new role.

Suzan Harrington will continue in the interim Assistant Director of Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer until 31 December 2019. Suzan is continuing to do an excellent job in ensuring the Legal and Governance activities of the Council are running very effectively, and I would like to thank her for her significant contribution to the Council.

New Chair of Make it York

It has been announced that Greg Dyke, former Director General of the BBC and Chancellor of the University of York, has been appointed Chair-elect of Make It York, succeeding founding Chair, Lady Jane Gibson.

It has been proposed that Greg will lead Make It York's Board of Directors as the company continues to evolve, following the appointment of new Managing Director Sean Bullick at the beginning of 2019.

Greg's experience in a variety of key areas, his knowledge of York, and his networks nationally and internationally will be enormously helpful to Make It York and to the city. I am looking forward to working with him in promoting the city to investors and helping York to continue in going from strength to strength.

The Council's approach to equalities

The Executive have agreed a new series of recommendations to improve and strengthen the Council's approach to equalities in the city. The decision, taken by the Executive on Thursday 28th November 2019, will result in a stronger and more consistent approach to supporting equalities across both the Council and York itself, particularly through the introduction of a new action plan.

MOD Gold Award

The Council was recently awarded Gold Award in the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS). The award is the top accolade an organisation can receive and acknowledges the contribution the authority makes in going the extra mile in support of the armed forces community.

It was a privilege to attend the award ceremony at the National Army Museum on 12th November. The Council is only the seventh employer in the whole of the Yorkshire and Humberside region to have won the award, which was launched by the Government five years ago.

Council Constitution and Governance Review

As most members will know, the Council is undertaking a review of the Constitution. The initial consultation period for councillors was due to run until 29th November 2019, however, this was extended until Tuesday 31st December 2019, in order to give councillors more time to have their say.

Residents need to be confident that decisions taken at the Council are evidence based and considered openly and accountably. Good governance is essential to ensure decision-making is effective and therefore, the Council must regularly review its governance arrangements.

This review will undergo a programme of consultation with the Executive, members of Council, officers, the public and partners to understand how the different structures impact on their engagement with the Council. This feedback will then be used to form a set of recommendations to the recommendations to the Executive, Audit and Governance Committee and to Full Council.

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Meeting	Executive
Date	28 November 2019
Present	Councillors D'Agorne (Vice Chair, in the Chair). Ayre, Craghill, Cuthbertson, Runciman, Smalley, Waller and Widdowson
Apologies	Councillor Aspden
In Attendance	Councillor Myers

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

74. Establishing an Investment Budget for a Strategic Commercial Property Acquisition

[See also under Part A]

The Assistant Director for Regeneration, Growth & Asset Management presented a report which sought to establish a capital budget to fund the acquisition of the freehold interest in a York city centre asset.

A non-binding, subject to contract offer had been made on the property, which was currently let to a commercial tenant. The council was now the preferred bidder. The purchase would be a strategic lever in future consideration of how the city centre would adapt to the changing retail environment, as well as adding to the rental income stream generated by the council's existing commercial portfolio, and was in line with the budget strategy. The property also had development potential for increased public access, and possible residential conversion of the upper floors.

In response to Members' questions, and comments made under Public Participation on this item, officers advised that:

- Keeping the details confidential was a condition of the vendor accepting the council's offer.
- The property strategy to date had been driven by opportunities arising; the My City Centre project would explore the potential for a more interventionist approach.

- The former Post Office building was not public sector owned and had no viable business case or strategic function.
- A report on Bootham Park would be brought in the new year.

Recommended: That a capital budget of £2.85 million be established to fund the acquisition of the freehold interest in a York city centre asset, as set out in the exempt annex to the report.

Reason: To ensure the ongoing economic vibrancy of the city centre, whilst increasing the income from the council's commercial portfolio in line with budget targets.

Cllr A D'Agorne, Chair

[The meeting started at 5:30 pm and finished at 6:46 pm.].

19 December 2019

Report to Full Council from the Deputy Leader

As I write this report it is not known whether Boris or Jeremy will be leading the country forward and the first day of the Local Plan inquiry is just taking place. In both instances, the question of Housing provision and more specifically affordable housing are key to the debate, along with Planning for a sustainable future, within the context of the climate emergency. The cross-party Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and this administration are both working towards an action plan to cut emissions from council activities – everything from investing in low emission new fleet, building new zero carbon houses, increasing insulation, building electric charging points to increasing provision for pedestrians and cyclists.

While the Leader has been restricted in public activities by purdah rules I have represented the authority where needed and chaired the Executive Meeting in addition to dealing with issues within my portfolio and working up budget proposals which will be publicly available well in advance of final budget decisions in February.

The temporary anti-terror measures protecting the Christmas market have inevitably caused some concern, although visitors largely seem to accept them as being comparable with such measures in other major UK centres. In many ways we have to acknowledge the ‘no win’ reality that such measures have been strongly advocated by the security services since Oct 2018. The permanent measures will be installed next year, with a system in place to enable permitted access for emergency services and other authorised services through video and intercom connections. We will also work closely with the Minster to look at robust measures that might be incorporated with changes coming forward as part of their neighbourhood plan for the Minster precinct and Duncombe Place.

One of the ‘casualties’ of the security measures combined with the later hours for the Christmas Market has been the impact on Shambles Market traders effectively facing being ‘locked in’ until 8pm. Executive members worked behind the scenes to broker a meeting between Make it York, councillors from the ruling coalition including myself and the opposition together with the market traders. Cllrs Waller, Craghill, Dave Taylor and Ashley Mason made representations to Make it York following protests by the market traders leading to a reviewed risk

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assessment and a compromise arrangement enabling traders to leave from 6pm onwards in a safe manner. There is a commitment from Make it York to establishing a consultative forum which I would hope will be able to avoid such situations arising in future years.

As a council nominated director of the Business Improvement District (BID) I attended a recent presentation outlining the work over the coming year leading up to the renewal vote. Early discussion has taken place about the focus for the new 'prospectus', options for size of business to be included within scope and scale of the levy required. All businesses and organisations in the BID area will be engaged in the process and have the opportunity to shape the ambition for its work in future.

Castle Gateway planning applications are now live for consultation in respect of the St Georges Fields multi storey car park, Castle Mills site accommodation and the new pedestrian and cycle bridge over the River Foss. These are all linked to the exciting prospect of enhancements to the whole area around Clifford's Tower with the removal of the car park, extension to Castle Museum, internal works to the tower and the creation of public open space. As work continues along Piccadilly this new area of the city centre will provide opportunities to spread the focus beyond Parliament St and offer new and exciting reasons for residents and visitors to spend time in our fantastic city centre.

Transport issues are never out of the headlines for long in York, and residents continue to engage with the issue on both local and citywide level. I have met with York Civic Trust, York Environment Forum Transport Group and York Bus Forum representatives and been updated on their citywide transport consultation. In recent months the annual round of parking restrictions has been through one of my 'decision sessions' allowing individual representation on each location. Officers are now working on these along with the next batch of residents parking zone requests. The Executive recently gave approval to work on streamlining the administration of parking services and issuing of respark permits. Over the coming year we will see provision to allow monthly payments and online administration with a gradual shift to card and phone payment for city centre parking. With additional staffing I am hopeful that we will start to see more timely processing of new areas being added to respark zones to tackle the growing challenge of commuter parking in residential areas. I very much hope to be able to work with ward councillors and organisations such as York Hospital and

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University of York to reduce congestion problems as well as the pain for residents in nearby streets.

Ward funding for highways, walking and cycling is being allocated in consultation with ward councillors and I am working with officers and Cllr Smalley to try to ensure our systems are working effectively so that this money can be spent for the benefit of local residents, but linking in to any wider council priorities. As discussed at the recent Economy and Place scrutiny committee, we do face a challenge in the state of roads and footpaths in spite of additional investment from this administration. This is by no means unique to York with government funding failing to match up to the impact of wear and tear on our highways. I very much hope that the new Highways Asset Management Plan will allow a more transparent process through which officers and members can deliver improvements for the benefit of residents across the city. I continue to respond to residents' concerns about everything from bus timetables to cycle routes, potholes and parking and hope to shortly bring forward details of several schemes that will complete missing links on the strategic cycle network. I am also pleased to see several routes being treated in icy weather for the first time ever although we still have a long way to go to ensure that they are all swept and cut back to provide high quality all year round walking and cycling routes.

In the coming year I would expect there to be significant consultation on the refreshed local transport plan that looks forward to seriously tackle congestion, developing modern public transport and enhancing the cycle network as well as creating a more people-friendly residential environment for more of our residents. I would also expect to see more activity focussing on residents and businesses making imaginative use of public spaces – Micklegate, Fossgate and Bishy Road have their events to build on, and other areas of the city such as the Groves could be doing more of this to foster community and celebrate car free events

Our bus-based Clean Air Zone is due to come into effect from next month, although difficulties within the bus industry have delayed the supply of the new double deck electric vehicles which will start appearing in service shortly. The first of the single deck buses in the new dark blue livery is in service and I will be watching closely to see how quickly we can achieve 100% low emission vehicles on the park and ride service. I am also aware of the need to promote evening services more effectively in conjunction with operators (through the quality bus partnership), parish councils and York Bus Forum. Although not strictly

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my portfolio area I am keen to keep up the anti-idling message for bus stops, coach parks, outside schools, and taxi ranks, both from the perspective of health but also cutting unnecessary burning of fossil fuels and CO2 emissions – To achieve 13% year-on-year reduction to work towards our 2030 target is going to be a real challenge so we should start with quick wins such as turning engines off!

Cllr Andy D'Agorne

Deputy Leader

Report to Council from the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities

Since being appointed to the Executive for this portfolio, I have tried to be as open as possible, to meet as many organisations as possible and to push forward with the new administration's ambitions within Culture, Leisure and Communities.

On 23rd July, I reported to the Children, Education and Communities Scrutiny committee about progress in this portfolio. I have tried where possible to avoid repetition, and focus on what has changed since that report. My July report is available at <https://democracy.york.gov.uk/mgChooseDocPack.aspx?ID=11377>. I am as ever happy to answer questions, clarify and expand on any points where members wish – please do get in touch.

I would like to thank Charlie Croft, Laura Clark, Andy Laslett, Paul Ramskill, Ian Cartwright, Angie Padfield, Simon Brereton and Will Boardman for their assistance in compiling this report.

Community Venues and Hubs

Since taking on this portfolio, I have visited a number of community venues and met the wonderful volunteers who have taken on the responsibility of managing these buildings from the Council. These community venues are providing the backbone to some exciting development projects and activities across the city.

The new Community Venues Coordinator is now in post, and continues to support the voluntary groups that do an excellent job running the centres and hubs. The sustainability of community venues is a key focus for us and I am pleased to see how effective the Council's small grants process is at empowering the management committees to make investments and deliver projects. This balanced with commercial lettings gives the venues a solid financial basis moving forward.

At my Decision Session on 22 November I approved the report *Connecting People and Places - A Community Hub Approach*. The development of community hubs as a vehicle for supporting and

engaging with York's communities is a priority for the Council. The 4Community Growth Area-Based Financial Inclusion Project (4CGY) tested out a particular approach to developing community hubs over a 30 month period from 2017 onwards. This paper highlighted the learning from that project and applied that learning in order to deliver a wider programme of developing community hubs over the next two years.

Through intervening early and recognising the power of 'people and place' we will continue to build new relationships with communities and citizens and reform public services. Critically residents are at the heart of this process, and are being supported to lead change on the ground and to create more resilient communities.

Human Rights and Equalities

I again chaired the Human Rights Board on 2nd December. We received the final report on the board's first piece of work, on young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). The report draws on the voice of young people, as well as employers and professionals who work in this area. The report makes a range of recommendations aimed at ensuring that all young people should be able to access suitable education, training and employment.

The board also received four updates on work strands related to homelessness in the city, all of which explore homelessness from a human rights perspective.

I had the pleasure of meeting Laura Mingins, Head of Stakeholder Engagement at Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC). Among many matters, we discussed how as a Council we are promoting human rights and how we can work more closely with EHRC on delivering projects and sharing best practice from York.

On 28 November, Executive approved the *Refreshing the Council's Approach to Equalities* report. The report aimed to set the scene for a renewed vision, pushing forward to ensure York is a beacon of equality, where human rights are championed and seekers of sanctuary are welcomed.

In order to further strengthen the Council's approach to equalities, the report set out an action plan, it endorsed the key elements of York's

equalities system and noted progress against the Council's equality objectives. The report also resolved to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism. This resolution was in part as the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government wrote to local authorities asking them to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism. This definition is a tool for public bodies to understand how antisemitism manifests itself and to demonstrate a commitment to engaging with the experiences of Jewish communities and supporting them against the contemporary challenges they face.

Leisure Facilities

The following are a few highlights of leisure facilities across York in the last few months. In the summer, GLL replaced the All Weather Pitch surface and shock pad at Energise, which was due for replacement. Customer feedback has been excellent and the investment welcomed by regular pitch users.

GLL have been working hard to implement its Energy Management strategy which includes replacing 40 main pool hall lights at Yearsley Pool to new LED low energy lighting, installation of a pool cover and other LED lights at Energise.

GLL continue to reach out to communities by hosting 'Community Foundation Workshop' training to promote the foundation and crowdfunding model to seven external organisations, please see www.gll.org/b2b/pages/community-foundation for more information on this.

GLL are continuing to work alongside York City Football Foundation to deliver walking football which is growing in popularity, and additionally GLL's Sports Foundation continues to raise its profile with over 20 local athletes benefiting from this national scheme (see www.gll.org/b2b/pages/about-the-gll-sport-foundation)

After £2.45m investment by CYC, the Burnholme Sports Centre will open to the general public from 8 January 2020, please see website for details: www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/york/burnholme. Burnholme boasts a 25 station gym with a range of state-of-the-art Technogym equipment. Two fitness studios will offer classes such as circuits, group

cycle and each studio will also offer virtual classes. There are outdoor pitches for either training or matches. The sports hall will host a range of activities such as gymnastics.

Explore Libraries

This is a fantastic time for our city's libraries and archives service, with the appointment of the new 15-year service contract to Explore.

Since being appointed, I have visited York Explore, Acomb Explore, Clifton Explore, Poppleton Library, Bishopthorpe Library, the Centre@Burnholme, Rowntree Park Reading Café, the Haxby Mobile Library and have even had a ride in the Mobile Library. That still leaves eight Explore sites to visit, which I intend to do as soon as possible. It's clear when visiting York's libraries just how much residents love what they offer, and how integral they are to the communities they serve.

I am very optimistic about the future of libraries in York with the focus on co-locating libraries at the heart of our communities to create hubs, which provide vital advice and information to those who need us most. The vision that was co-produced with residents is clear, simple and one that will see our library service become stronger in the future.

The "On the Drawing Board' Archive" project has just been completed. The collection includes thousands of plans from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries deposited by the Architects' and Engineers' Office of the City of York Council making them readily available to staff currently working on our streets as well as the public.



I had the privilege of cataloguing a couple of the historic plans on a visit to the see the volunteers in action at the old Tang Hall Library site.

The Council has made commitments to improve the Library Learning Centre's at Acomb and Clifton. Similar to the Centre@Burnholme, this is

likely to involve co-locating with other like-minded partners to provide centres with multiple services.

This commitment took a great leap forward on 24th October when Executive approved the Future Libraries Investment Programme report. As part of the report, Executive approved the approach, scope, and governance arrangements for the programme, as well as approving a budget of £150k to appoint a project manager, an operational budget for the first two years of the programme and commissioning of the required professional services. I'm proud that at a time when library services across the country are being cut, this administration is investing millions into producing world-class facilities that will make a real difference in our communities.

Our successful partnership with Explore provides us with an opportunity to bring our existing library facilities even closer to communities by locating them with other local services, while the Gateway libraries will be enhanced, to continue to provide a gold standard for library provision in York.

Looking ahead, I am excited to note that two new library facilities will be opening in the next 12 months:

The York Community Stadium, Community Hub - This will be an innovative type of library aimed at attracting individuals and groups who would not traditionally use libraries, and giving users access to books, IT equipment, free Wi-Fi and a range of learning opportunities, whilst enjoying a drink or snack from the community hub café.

It will be based alongside other community partners in the Community Hub, which is a large atrium in the East Stand that links the stadium to the new leisure centre entrance.

Explore have already started working closely with the York City Football Club Foundation and York City Knights Foundation and have secured a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund of £57,500. This will fund a one-year joint project based around the importance of sport to our communities.

Haxby and Wigginton Library - I am pleased that we are close to securing a partnership with the 2nd Haxby and Wigginton Scout Group to develop and extend the scout headquarters building to include a new reading café, looking out onto Ethel Ward play park and playing fields. I

feel this will provide residents with a fantastic new facility and be as successful as other reading cafés in York.

A few figures from Explore to demonstrate continued success:

- The summer reading challenge was again massive success, 16% of local children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge which made Explore joint top of the Yorkshire region once again.
- Footfall is up across all libraries (Apr-Nov 19 vs Apr-Nov 18), and is particularly strong at Explore libraries with newly appointed managers: Huntington +13% & Strensall +15%.
- Volunteer hours YTD (Apr-Nov) are +17% up compared with 2018.

As a last note on libraries, I would like to once again wish Acomb and Clifton Explore Centre's very happy 50th birthdays. Many thanks to all the staff, volunteers and residents over the last 50 years who have made these libraries the successful and vibrant spaces they are today.

York Learning

York Learning continues to deliver a range of learning programmes to support people into employment, to improve their skills and to support their personal development.

The service continues to be funded almost exclusively from external contract funding and fee income. For the academic year 2018/19 this is in the region £3.1m, an increase of about £300k on the previous year. Partnership and sub-contractor working is strong and has good development routes for learners into and from the programmes, enabling the service to meet a wide range of learners interest and needs.

Over the past 12 months York Learning has been working with North Yorkshire County Council and East Riding County Council. This was first formalised during the academic year with the Head of Service being seconded to North Yorkshire for 4 days a week, to support service developments and to enhance collaboration.

On 23rd September 2019, I was pleased to approve the *York Learning: Future Direction* report at my Decision Session. York Learning's

Strategic Service Plan, approved at my decision session in July, included the objective to *Consolidate partnership working with North Yorkshire County Council and agree a strategy for future collaborative working*. This reflects the view of both services that the two services would be stronger, more capable of taking a strategic approach, and better able to respond to change and deliver service improvement if there were in place formal arrangements for wider collaboration in the management of the two services. It was therefore proposed that the new, joint Head of Services was asked to investigate the potential for further sharing of management functions. There is no proposal at this stage to join the two services, they will remain separate, continue to be accountable separately to their respective authorities and retain separate Skills Funding Agency contracts.

I'm pleased that the new Head of Service, Harriet Serra is now in post and has made a flying start to the role in the last few weeks.

The Family Learning team were invited to lead on the community strand in the Social Mobility project which is running in the west of the city. This is aimed specifically at closing "The Word Gap" between disadvantaged children's outcomes and their peers at age 5, which has been a persistent problem in York. The service has been successful in securing a grant of £50,613 over three years from Shine, an education charity based in Leeds. York Learning propose to build capacity by identifying and training "Community Learning Champions" such as mid-day supervisors and TAs as well as "experienced" volunteers and Family Learning learners. The service will be providing them with networking opportunities and basic IAG (information, advice and guidance) training. This will promote engagement with families, recruiting them onto bespoke Family Learning provision and other appropriate learning paths.

York Learning has been successful in a funding bid relating to Digital Inclusion from the Good Things Foundation to target low digital skills and entry level skills into the workplace. The award is for £10,000, and will fund 250 learners for the programme.

Ward Committees

A report '*Refresh of Ward Committees*' was approved by the Executive in August setting out, amongst other things, how the additional funding provided to wards is to be allocated.

The next four years will be an exciting period for ward committees. From implementing the Safer Communities Fund to additional litter bins, I'm keen to see continued innovation in this area, learning from other authorities and ensuring greater power and decision making is devolved to communities.

I'm pleased that many wards have already had their first ward committee meetings since the May election. I'd welcome any feedback from members on what their thoughts are on the ward committee structure and implementation. I had the pleasure of attending the Haxby & Wigginton Ward Committee meeting this September. It was great to see how residents and local organisations fed into local decision making, ensuring that local issues are higher on the agenda at the Council.



Cllr Hollyer speaking at the Haxby & Wigginton Ward Committee

The *'Refresh of Ward Committees'* report approved by Executive in August set out the future direction of ward working. This report and recommendations aim to reduce and remove unnecessary bureaucracy and delay in the council's processes whilst ensuring that effective governance, clarity of role and accountability in the use of public money are in place. The recommendations aimed to:

- Empower local communities by devolving more budgets to wards.
- Introduce a Safer Communities Fund to meet residents' expressed priorities.
- Give wards more control of spending on highways to ensure that residents' priorities are met within wards.
- Ensure timely delivery of Housing Environmental Improvement Schemes (HEIP).
- Engage local residents so that their views shape the council's priorities.
- Supports the local community and voluntary sector investing in its capacity as a source of expertise and as service providers.
- Enables ward members, as informed community champions, to lead ward teams in delivery of well-informed local priorities.
- Gets residents increasingly involved in local initiatives and volunteering, increasing local pride.

- Creates strong links to service and partner organisations e.g. Residents Associations and Parish Councils.
- Increases community capacity so that all communities are able to take up the opportunities open to them.

Sport and Active Leisure

➤ Active Lives Survey

Sport England's latest Active Lives Survey published in October 2019 shows that York again has one of the highest percentages of people who are achieving the Chief Medical Officers guidelines for 150 minutes physical activity a week. In April 2019, 73.1% of the York adult population met these guidelines; this has increased to 74.9% this October, compared with the national figure which has increased from 62.6% to 63.2% and regionally from 60.6% to 65.1%.

York has reduced the numbers of the adult population doing less than 30 minutes of activity per week from 14.4% in April to 14.2% in October compared with the national figure which has dropped from 25.1% to 24.8% since April and regionally from 26.9% to 23%. This ranks York as one of lowest in the country.

➤ Burnholme Sports Centre

The team have continued to manage the sports facilities at Burnholme Sports Centre, offering continued access in the evenings and at weekends throughout the year. Works to the sports centre started in March this year.

The new sports centre is being developed around the former school sports hall and gym on the Burnholme site. This will complement the facilities at the new Community Stadium, Energise Leisure Centre and Yearsley Swimming Pool. I had the pleasure of visiting the site under construction on the 16th October.

The works were completed and the Council received the site back from the contractor on 2nd December 2019, it will have a new gym with 25 pieces of cardiovascular and resistance fitness machines, upgraded

changing for indoor and outdoor activities, a refurbished sports hall, as well as 2 new studios for spinning classes and aerobic fitness classes.

The multi-use games area (MUGA) has also seen the surface infilled with rubber crumb and the football goals. The site will be worked on by GLL throughout December and will transfer to them on 1 January 2020, with the site opening the week after. The relayed and drained grass sports pitches will be available for use from September 2020.

➤ **Community Health Champions**

There are currently 76 volunteer Community Health Champions registered with the programme that are actively having 'healthy conversations' across the city. A number of these Champions have also developed health promotion activities within their respective local communities. Examples include a walking group set up in partnership with Kyra Women's Project to get women who have had to overcome serious challenges to be more active, The Big T - a community meal for those that may be suffering from loneliness and isolation, a Mental Health Top Tips booklet and 'Food of the Fortnight' – a project to raise awareness of healthy eating at the Red Tower Food Bank.

Capturing the impact of this programme is a priority for the team. There is initial evidence that the programme is having a positive effect on the health of both the volunteers and beneficiaries as anticipated. A powerful example is one Champion who joined the programme because she wanted to support other parents who were dealing with children with mental health issues. When her daughter reached crisis point she knew how to help because of the training she had received through the programme. Her daughter now has the help she needs and this has had a significant impact on both their lives; *"Health Champions is such a positive thing in my life, it's been life changing"*. It is estimated the programme has already helped over 1300 people across the city to improve their health and wellbeing.

➤ **Community Sports Development**

Successful sports development depends largely on effective partnership and networking with a wide range of community groups. The Council's sports development officers have been working with community groups generating interest and increasing participation in sports.

Learn to Ride: During the summer, the team supported a 4 week learn to ride in partnership with United Bikes at York Mosque, this group was well attended each week and the participants are now riding confidently around the City of York.

Swimming: During these sessions women involved discussed wanting to swim, and many had teenage daughters and felt that as the girls had learnt to swim while in infant school many have not continued due to modesty issues and the girls do not engage in any form of physical activity outside of school. The sports development officers took away a list of the barriers preventing the ladies attending swim sessions and worked with GLL to see how these barriers could be broken down. A final meeting was arranged with a group from the Mosque, GLL and officers to visit Energise to view the facilities. The first swim is due to commence next week.

Sporting Memories: The Community Sports Development Officers have been engaging The Sporting Memories Foundation (funded by Sport England) to introduce them to other partner agencies in York. This work aimed to set up and deliver a dedicated sporting reminiscence and physical activity session to support older people with dementia, depression and loneliness by engaging them socially and helping to recall memories of watching or playing sport. Sporting reminiscence groups have run for many years, but with support from Sport England's Active Aging Programme, they are able to get more people over 50 physically and mentally active and fit. Working in partnership with the sport and active leisure team and JRHT, there is now a commitment to train volunteers and staff to deliver this programme in New Earswick and Foxwood starting in the new year.

National Sportspeople: We have launched the Free Access for National Sportspeople (FANS) programme, giving opportunity for free training for national sportspeople at either Energise Leisure Centre or University of York Sports Village. So far, there have four people supported through the scheme, whose sports include duathlon, triathlon, athletics and Ultimate Frisbee.

Grants scheme: The Sport and Active Leisure grants scheme has opened. The first option is the £500 small grants fund and the second is the £1000 hub club. We are currently advertising the funding pots through all networks. As part of the funding application we are encouraging sports clubs to sign up to support the mental health

recreation alliance charter, to encourage more people who suffer with mental ill health to get into sport and physical activity.

Disabilities: In December there is Disability Awareness Week in which the team are hosting several different sports in New Earswick and Acomb. Boccia tasters, indoor bowls, danceability, swimming and walking football are all taking place as part of the programme. At the New Earswick Folk Hall the team have worked in collaboration to set up some new chair-based exercise classes starting in the new year.

Volunteering

York's decision to adopt the internationally recognised Cities of Service impact volunteering model has continued to help us to address shared city priorities including loneliness and social isolation, health and wellbeing and young people achieving their potential. The cross sector 'People Helping Partnership' is embedding social action across the city, through volunteers helping to augment the design and delivery of public services. Our city-wide approach to catalyse greater levels of impact volunteering has in particular enabled us to address loneliness and is demonstrating measurable results.

Building on the success of the pilot Community Health Champions project and funded through the Nesta Connected Communities Innovation Fund, we are now entering year two of the programme. Please see evidence above in the Sport and Leisure section of my report, on the benefit and number of volunteer Community Health Champions.

York is taking part in the "Enabling Social Action Programme" as part of our programme of growing volunteering in the city. This is a partnership between the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and the Universities of Sheffield and Hull in collaboration with local authorities to support them to design and deliver services with local people, service users, and civil society organisations. In York, we have been working with others on ways of measuring our progress through the development of a "Good Life Scale" which invites people to think about where they are against a number of statements including "I feel connected to my community", "I am able to cope with life's ups and downs", and "I am helping other people in my community".

The Environment and Community team have launched a new Volunteer Leaf Clearer role for York residents and businesses. The purpose of the role is to clear leaves on council owned, or maintained, land to keep pavements and paths slip free, keep gullies clear to reduce localised flooding and to reduce leaf mould buildup. The team have run a series of training sessions for everyone wanting to get involved and have provide insurance and equipment.

Make It York

I continue to work with Make It York on their strategic priorities:

- City positioning and profile-raising to strengthen York's brand
- Attracting new business and inward investment
- Ensuring an exciting city-centre
- Delivering the cultural strategy

I am pleased that Helen Apsey has been appointed as the Head of Culture and Wellbeing, a newly created post that is jointly funded by the Council. Helen will be in post from mid-January.

In the area of tourism, Make It York are currently in the final stages of a new destination management plan for the city, building on the successful initiatives taken last year, including the *Only in York* campaign. As the council undertakes a refresh of its economic strategy, I will be working with Make It York to develop this work into a full tourism strategy for the city.

Since being appointed to the Executive, Cllr Waller and I have increased the frequency and structure of our client meetings with Make It York.

Tourism



The excellent Northern Lights event gives York Minster their best October on record

The latest Visit York analysis for November shows that visits to big attractions continue to go down (-4% vs October 2018), while small attractions still report an increase, by 1% vs last year. Year to date the results are still very polarised, with big attractions down -7% and small attractions up 11% vs 2018. York Minster has seen a significant increase in visitors due to a hugely successful Northern Lights event, making it as the best October on record. Visits to attractions with the York Pass have gone down by -19% vs October 2018.

The number of hotel room nights sold continue a growing trend with 5% increase vs October 2018, the result of room occupancy and the number of available rooms both growing by 3% and 2% respectively year-on-year. This equates to almost 4,450 more hotel room nights in October and almost 48,000 more for the whole year to date. Average room rates were very slightly down vs 2018, to £106.90, but remain 2% up YTD.

Sessions on the VisitYork website continue to show positive results with 12% increase compared to October 2018. From September, the Christmas webpage continues to be the most visited page on the whole website. Last Year VisitYork has gained a significant number of new followers across all social media channels and especially Facebook with the success of the Christmas Facebook event.

The new Liberal Democrat/Green administration is keen to listen to residents concerns in relation to how visitors contribute to the city, whilst acknowledging the benefits of a thriving tourism industry in York. From Purple Flag to exploring future consideration for a tourism levy/tax, this administration is taking an active lead in finding innovative ways to improve resident engagement, whilst also tackling the underlying challenges such as anti-social behaviour.

Cultural Strategy

The Cultural Strategy is a citywide plan that will see York's cultural infrastructure and its heritage assets transformed by 2025, with local residents proudly supporting and engaging in the diverse cultural life of the city.

The strategy sets out to evolve how York's cultural offer is experienced locally and perceived globally. It seeks to position York as a city where outstanding, internationally renowned heritage come together with a cutting-edge contemporary approach to creativity.

As mentioned under Make It York, Helen Apsey has been appointed as the Head of Culture and Wellbeing. Helen, alongside the Council and city actors, will drive forward and help implement the cultural strategy, alongside the devised working groups.

I look forward to the launch of the strategy. I am keen to ensure that all residents can see tangible ways in which this work will benefit them, from the 'every child an artist' aspiration feeding into the cultural passport work, to looking at how resident's weekend might evolve in the future to ensure wider and broader engagement in York's culture and arts.



I am pleased to say I have attended every Cultural Leaders Group (CLG) meeting since May, and I am confident that CLG will have a key role in ensuring the strategy continues to evolve, and that all residents will see the fruits of the hard work put in so far.

The Armed Forces Covenant

The Armed Forces Community Covenant Forum continues to be active and is progressing with the action plan development and implementation. Following detailed and careful research with our armed

forces community and partners, the action plan aims to meet the community's needs. This will include a focus on:

- Improving our understanding of our armed forces community and their needs
- Improving the training of our staff and partners in the business and charity sectors in order to better meet those needs
- Working with employers to encourage them to sign the covenant and encourage them to begin the journey through the employer recognition scheme.
- Working with our schools to better meet the needs of armed forces community families
- Working with health professionals and organisations to ensure suitable care packages are in place to meet the needs of the armed forces community and by encouraging GP practices to become members of the 'Recognised Armed Forces Accredited GP Practice Scheme'
- Continuing to improve our response to the housing needs of the armed forces community
- Helping to improve the transition from military to civilian life

As part of the development of the action plan, there was a development workshop for key partners and covenant signatories across York hosted by York CVS on 30th July. The workshop included group working, speakers from industry and the MOD, as well as a fish and chips supper for all delegates.

Armed Forces Day (29th June) was celebrated with a programme included free activities for the armed forces community including tickets to attractions, a family film showing and a meal for the armed forces community at the Mansion House hosted by the Lord Mayor. Free bus travel was provided and a range of other discounts. The Lord Mayor additionally hosted a reception at the start of the week at the Mansion House where we raised the AFD flag and presented the AFD standards to veterans.

I attended the North Yorkshire Armed Forces Covenant Conference on 11th October in Harrogate. It was good to share and learn from best practice, and it was great to see how City of York Council sets an example among North Yorkshire local authorities.

City of York Council were awarded Gold Award in the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS). The award is the top accolade an organisation can receive and acknowledges the contribution the authority makes in going the extra mile in support of the armed forces community. The Council is only the seventh employer in the whole of the Yorkshire and Humberside region to have won the award, which was launched by the Government five years ago.

There is an AFC business breakfast planned for Monday 20th April 2020 in the Hudson Room. The event is a partnership event between CYC and The RFCA. The ambition is that all the business in York who have signed the covenant, and those that have achieved the bronze, silver or gold award, will be invited to the breakfast and encouraged to bring a business who has not yet signed the covenant with them. The Chamber, FSB and our Business Friendly Council team will also be present.

On 21st October, the York Community Covenant Action Plan was approved at my decision session. The report agreed the new priority areas for action and approved the terms of reference for the Armed Forces Community Forum and for the new Delivery Group.

I am delighted that the city is continuing its close partnership with the armed forces.



Ian Cartwright (CYC) speaks about York and North Yorkshire's progress on the Covenant to a packed room of delegates at the North Yorkshire AFC conference

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Report of the Chair of Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee

19 December 2019

1. This report is submitted by the Chair of Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC), in accordance with the constitutional requirements set out in Standing order 8.3 (m) to update Council on scrutiny work and to set out any recommendations such as may be made to Council in relation to that work.

Finance and Performance

2. In July 2019 the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the newly reconstituted Policy and Scrutiny Committees met to discuss a common approach to scrutiny as the Council moved into the new municipal year under a new administration. At the meeting the Chairs and Vice-Chairs agreed that Finance and Performance monitoring reports would be presented to scrutiny committees on a six-monthly basis with the exception of the Health and Adult Social Care Policy and Scrutiny Committee which will continue to receive these reports quarterly. Scrutiny Committees receive their Finance and Performance Monitoring Reports after they have first been considered by Executive, but the scheduled Executive meeting on 12 December was cancelled due to the General Election and the Executive until 21 January. So, since the last report to Council on 31 October, none of the standing scrutiny committees have received any Finance and Performance Monitoring Reports.

Attendance of Executive Members

3. No Executive Member has attended any scrutiny committee meetings since the last report to Council on 31 October.

Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs

4. The switch to monthly meetings for all scrutiny committees presents the opportunity for a more in-depth scrutiny of issues affecting the city. To ensure this opportunity is not lost Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs now meet on a six-monthly basis to coordinate the way scrutiny works and to increase collaboration and cooperation across committees. The latest of these meeting was held in early December. As it is part of CSMC's role to oversee the scrutiny function scrutiny Chairs now attend CSMC on a rolling six-monthly basis to report on their committee's activities. The Chair of the Children, Education and Communities Policy and Scrutiny Committee presented his report November and the Chair of the Health

and Adult Social Care Policy and Scrutiny Committee presented in December.

5. Reflecting on the move away from Pre-Decision Call-ins, Scrutiny Chairs are now meeting with the Chair of CSMC and their relevant Corporate Directors on a quarterly basis to “horizon scan” and receive outline briefings on items which may not yet have reached the Forward Plan.

Post-Decision Call-Ins

6. There have been no Post-Decision Call-ins since the last report to Council.

Corporate Review

7. At the beginning of this municipal year CSMC agreed to undertake a scrutiny review into food poverty with the aim of understanding the issues around the apparent increasing levels of food poverty in York.
8. After that review began the Economy and Place Policy and Scrutiny Committee started to investigate in-work poverty as part of an ongoing exercise to further develop the committee’s work programme for the year.
9. CSMC agreed at its November meeting that rather than individual scrutiny committees independently picking up individual aspects of poverty, it makes sense to look at poverty as a whole, with each scrutiny committee focusing on a separate element of poverty to feed into a final corporate report to be drafted by CSMC.
10. The Standing Scrutiny Committees have been invited to undertake a review into poverty elements which fall within the remit of the individual scrutiny committee, set their own remits for review, and feed into a corporate review of poverty in York.

Customer & Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee

Petitions

11. At each of its meetings, this Committee continues to receive its standing report on Council petitions providing details of new petitions received by the Council and the appropriate course of action. However, the way CSMC receives petitions is under review and discussions are ongoing, in particular with regard to petitions relating to Respark, about which the Committee has little need for comment, given that these are part of a specific process in their own right.

Scrutiny Work

12. The Customer and Corporate Services Scrutiny Management Committee has met twice since the last report to Council. In November, Members received an update report on the Council's Wellbeing Project and considered their Annual Complaints report from March 2018 to April 2019. They also considered the Annual Scrutiny review Support Budget.
13. In December Members received a report on Information Management within the Council and discussed a report and options for Managing Major Projects.

Health, Housing & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee

14. The Health, Housing & Adult Social Care Policy & Scrutiny Committee has held two meetings since the last report to Council. In November The Committee received a report setting out the reasons why a corporate Safeguarding Policy is deemed necessary for the Council and Members were asked to give their views on the proposed policy. Members considered a Health Protection Assurance Report which provided an overview of health protections systems nationally and the priorities in York and a report outlining the work that has been undertaken by the Oral Health Improvement Advisory Group in developing a strategy to improve oral health for children in York.
15. In December considered an Update report on Older Persons' Accommodation and welcomed representatives from the Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group who reported on the closure of the Primary Care mental Health Service. They also received an Update Report from the Multiple Complex Needs Network.

Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee

16. This Committee has met once since the last report to Council. In November Members received a report on the Cultural Entitlement for Young People to make sure that every child and young person in the city gets to take part in, enjoy and benefit from arts and culture opportunities. They considered an update report on Narrowing the Gap to improve the outcomes of disadvantaged pupils in York and discussed a feasibility report around Youth Mental Health.

Economy and Place Policy and Scrutiny Committee

17. This Committee has met twice since the last report to Council. Since the beginning of the new municipal year the committee has been working to

develop a balanced and effective work programme and agree on a series of round-table discussions with representatives from city partners and organisations to inform work plan development and offer advice on topics likely to add value to the scrutiny function. A second in this series of discussions was held during the Committee's November meeting when Members were joined by representatives from the University of York, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Yorkshire and Humber TUC and the retail sector for discussions around in-work poverty, the gender pay gap and low-pay industries. Members also discussed a report on the Implementation of recommendations from the Economic Health of York City Centre Scrutiny Review.

18. In December the Committee received an Update Report on Highways Maintenance in the city explaining the annual condition assessment and the repair and renewal process. Members also received an update report on the Implementation of recommendations from the Residents' Priority parking Scheme Scrutiny review and a Scoping Report on Apprenticeships and Skills.

Housing and Community Safety Policy and Scrutiny Committee

19. This Committee has met once since the last report to Council. In November Members received an information report advising what has happened during the first year of the extension of Houses in Multiple Occupation licensing of properties with five or more occupants forming more than one household irrespective of the number of storeys. They also received an information report on the work the Council is doing around empty properties in the private sector and an update report on the Older Persons' Accommodation Survey carried out to better understand the accommodation needs of the Council's older residents.

Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee

20. The Climate Change Policy and Scrutiny Committee has also met once since the last report to Council. The November meeting of this committee saw a report from Mike Bonsall, the Chair of One Planet York, updating the committee on their plans for the future. The substantive item in November was a round table discussion on the challenges and opportunities of operating a zero-carbon fleet and guests from Nestle, Frist Group and City of York Council were in attendance to add to the discussion. The committee also voted to co-opt four young people from 'Youth Strike 4 Climate' and Terry Smithson from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

21. The Committee meeting in December will largely focus on Carbon Budgeting with guests from the Stockholm Environment Institute at York University, Anthesis (Sustainability consultants) and the City of York Council joining a round table discussion to look at how Carbon Budgeting has been used in other Local Authorities and the potential challenges involved. The committee will also be discussing an Executive request to refresh the Council's commitment to the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. The committee meeting will take place on the 16th December and, if confirmed, a recommendation to approve the signing of the covenant will be submitted to Full Council on the 19th December.

Report Recommendation

22. Members are recommended to:

i. Note this report;

Reason: To comply with the Council's constitutional requirements

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**Appointments and Changes to Membership of Committees,
Working Groups and Outside Bodies 2019-20**

School Admission and / or Exclusion Appeals Panellists

To appoint the following new panellists:

David Read

Mark Taylor

Stephen Watkins

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Council**19 December 2019**

Report of the Interim Head of Paid Service

Portfolio of the Executive Leader

Designation of Monitoring Officer

Summary

1. Council is responsible for the designation of the statutory powers of the Monitoring Officer.
2. Currently at City of York Council (CYC) the designated Monitoring Officer is the Interim Assistant Director of Legal & Governance.
3. The Appointments Sub Committee has recruited permanently to the post of Director of Governance. The successful candidate is to commence employment with CYC on 16 December 2019.
4. Council are asked to designate the statutory role of the Monitoring Officer to the post of Director of Governance on 1 January 2020.

Background

5. Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires the Council to designate one of its officers as the Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer may not be the Council's Chief Finance Officer or the Chief Executive/Head of Paid Service.
6. Previously the Assistant Director of Legal & Governance at CYC was designated the Council's Monitoring Officer for the purpose of the statutory duty, as required by law.
7. Through the Customer and Corporate Services restructure, earlier in 2019, the post of Assistant Director of Legal & Governance was deleted and the new post of Director of Governance was approved.

8. Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee set up an Appointments Sub Committee to recruit for the permanent position of Director of Governance.
9. The selection process was successful and Janie Berry has been appointed, in line with the Chief Officer Appointments procedures in the Council's Constitution.
10. Ms Berry commences employment with CYC on Monday 16 December 2019.

Analysis

11. Council can remove the designation of Monitoring Officer from the current post and designate the statutory powers of the Monitoring Officer to the post of Director of Governance.
12. The Interim Assistant Director of Legal & Governance is in post until 31 December 2019; therefore it is recommended to re-assign the role of Monitoring Officer to the Director of Governance with effect from 1 January 2020.

Consultation

13. Appointment of the Director of Governance is a member appointment and the Appointments Sub-Committee agreed on a preferred candidate.
14. Executive Members were informed of the proposed decision of the Appointments Sub-Committee and made no objections to the appointment.

Options

15. Council is asked to remove the designation of Monitoring Officer from the Interim Assistant Director of Legal and Governance and re-assign to the Director of Governance effective from 1 January 2020.

Council Plan

16. Whilst the recommendation proposed in the report is not necessarily material to the new Council Plan, it is consistent with the operation of an efficient Council.

Implications

Legal

17. Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires the Council to designate one of its officers as the Monitoring Officer, therefore reassigning to the Director of Governance as of 1 January 2020 is required.

Risk Management

18. It is a legal requirement for the Council to have a Monitoring Officer.

Recommendations

19. It is recommended that Council remove the designation of the role of the Monitoring Officer from the Interim Assistant Director of Legal & Governance and re-designate it to the Director Governance on 1 January 2020.

Reason: To ensure that the Council is compliant with its legal obligations and is operating appropriately with the necessary advice and guidance required from a Monitoring Officer.

Contact Details

Author:

Trudy Forster, Head of
Human Resources

**Chief Officer Responsible for the
report:**

Ian Floyd, Interim Head of Paid Service

**Report
Approved**



Date 09/12/2019

Specialist Implications Officer(s):

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

None

Abbreviations

CCS – Customer and Corporate Services

CEX – Chief Executive

CMT – Corporate Management Team

SMU – Staffing Matters & Urgency