

**CITY OF YORK COUNCIL
SUMMONS**

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

Thursday, 12 February 2026 at 6.30 pm

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive and note apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest (Pages 9 - 10)

At this point in the meeting, Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest, or other registerable interest, they might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

(Please see attached sheet for further guidance.)

3. Minutes (Pages 11 - 40)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting and the Ordinary Council Meeting, both held on 6 November 2025.

4. Civic Announcements

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

5. 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 Tuesday, 10 February 2026.**

To register to speak please visit www.york.gov.uk/AttendCouncilMeetings to fill in an online registration form. If you have any questions about the registration form or the meeting please contact Democratic Services. Contact details can be found at the foot of this agenda.

Webcasting of Public Meetings

Please note that, subject to available resources, this public meeting will be webcast including any registered public speakers who have given their permission. The remote public meeting can be viewed live and on demand at www.york.gov.uk/webcasts.

6. Petitions

To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order B5.

(There are no petitions to consider on this occasion.)

7. Recommendations of Executive in relation to the Capital Programme - Monitor 3 2025/26 (Pages 41 - 42)

To consider recommendations made by Executive at its meeting held on 27 January 2026 in relation to the Capital Programme - Monitor 3 2025/26.

The recommendations are set out in the attached document and will be moved by the Executive Leader.

Details of the agenda and papers for the Budget Executive meeting held on 27 January 2026 can be viewed by accessing the link below:

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MId=15178&Ver=4>

8. Recommendations of Executive in relation to the Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31, Capital Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30, Capital Financing and Investment Strategy, and the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2026/27 - 2030/31 (Pages 43 - 58)

To consider recommendations made by Executive at its meeting on 27 January 2026, in relation to:

- i) The Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31
- ii) The Capital Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30
- iii) The Capital Financing and Investment Strategy
- iv) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2026/27 to 2030/31.

The recommendations are set out in the attached document and will be moved by the Executive Leader.

Details of the agenda and papers for the Budget Executive meeting held on 27 January 2026 can be viewed by accessing the link below:

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=733&MId=15178&Ver=4>

9. Council Tax Resolution 2026/27 (Pages 59 - 72)

To receive and consider a report from the Director of Finance asking Members to approve the rate of council tax for 2026/27.

10. Pay Policy Statement 2026/2027 (Pages 73 - 90)

To receive and consider a report from the Director of Governance presenting for approval the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2026/2027.

11. Appointments and Changes to Membership (Pages 91 - 94)

To consider and agree appointments and changes to membership of committees and outside bodies.

12. Urgent Business

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

Contact details:

Guy Close, Democratic Services Manager

Mobile – (07922) 517103

E-mail – guy.close@york.gov.uk

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

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

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

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 (01904) 551550

Cllr Waudby	Cllr Knight	Cllr Smalle	Cllr Wann	Cllr Orrell	Cllr Hook	Cllr Cullwick	Cllr Fisher	Cllr Cuthbertson	Cllr Watson
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Cllr Hollyer	Cllr Mason	Cllr Fenton	Cllr Healey	Cllr Ayre	Cllr Widdowson	Cllr Waller	Cllr Runciman	Cllr Vassie
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Cllr Nicholls
Cllr Steward

Cllr Warters

Cllr Wells
Cllr J Burton

Cllr Taylor
Cllr Baxter

Cllr Coles
Cllr Wilson

Cllr Myers
Cllr Melly

Cllr Whitcroft
Cllr Rose

Cllr Crawshaw
Cllr Perrett

Cllr Merrett
Cllr Nelson

Cllr Moroney
Cllr Clarke

Cllr Webb

Cllr Kent
Cllr Lomas

Cllr Kilbane
Cllr Dougl
Cllr Steels-Walshaw

Cllr Pavlovic
Cllr Ravilious

D Mitchell,
Chief Finance
Officer

I Floyd, Chief
Operating
Officer

Cllr Rowley
BEM, Lord
Mayor

B Roberts,
Monitoring
Officer

J Gallagher,
Head of Democratic
Services

G Close,
Democratic
Services

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At this point in the meeting, Members and co-opted members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest, or other registerable interest, they might have in respect of business on this agenda, if they have not already done so in advance on the Register of Interests. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

(1) *Members must consider their interests, and act according to the following:*

Type of Interest	You must:
<i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i> OR <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Directly Related)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; speak on the item <u>only</u> if the public are also allowed to speak but otherwise not participate in the discussion or vote; and leave the meeting <u>unless</u> you have a dispensation.</i>
<i>Other Registrable Interests (Affects)</i> OR <i>Non-Registrable Interests (Affects)</i>	<i>Disclose the interest; remain in the meeting, participate, and vote <u>unless</u> the matter affects the financial interest or well-being:</i> <p>(a) <i>to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward; and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest, in which case speak on the item <u>only</u> if the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise not do not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the</i></p>

meeting, unless you have a dispensation.

- (2) Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to the Member concerned or their spouse/partner.*
- (3) Members in arrears of Council Tax by more than two months must not vote in decisions on, or which might affect, budget calculations, and must disclose at the meeting that this restriction applies to them. A failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence under section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*

Extraordinary Council Meeting

Resolutions and proceedings of the Extraordinary Meeting of the City of York Council held at the Citadel, York on Thursday, 6 November 2025, starting at 6.00 pm.

Present: The Lord Mayor (Councillor Martin Rowley BEM) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

Acomb Ward	Bishopthorpe Ward
Lomas Rose	Nicholls
Clifton Ward	Copmanthorpe Ward
Myers Wells	Steward
Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward	Fishergate Ward
Fenton Mason Widdowson	Whitcroft Wilson
Fulford and Heslington Ward	Guildhall Ward
Ravilious	Clarke Melly Merrett
Haxby & Wigginton Ward	Heworth Ward
Cuthbertson Hollyer Watson	B Burton Douglas Webb
Heworth Without Ward	Holgate Ward
Ayre	Kent Steels-Walshaw Taylor

Hull Road Ward

Baxter
Moroney
Pavlovic

Huntington and New Earswick
Ward

Cullwick
Orrell
Runciman

Micklegate Ward

J Burton
Crawshaw
Kilbane

Osballdwick and Derwent Ward

Rawcliffe and Clifton Without Ward

Strensall Ward

Fisher
Healey

Rural West York Ward

Hook
Knight

Westfield Ward

Coles
Nelson
Waller

Wheldrake Ward

Vassie

45. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Smalley, Wann, Warters and Waudby.

46. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

47. Appointment of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service)

The Chief Officer (HR and Support Services) submitted a report which invited Council to approve the recommendation of the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee's Appointments Panel to appoint Richard Webb to the role of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service).

A brief summary of Richard Webb's biography and employment history was included as an annex to the report for members' information.

Following the recommendations having been moved and seconded the Lord Mayor invited responses from the Leader of the Council and Opposition Group Leaders.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Douglas, reported on her role as Chair of the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee. That it had been a productive and collaborative process that started back in mid-August as part of the pre-application process. There were 39 applicants that came through the process and that was shortlisted to five, then four, then one. The process involved various panels comprising young people, trade unions, partners, equalities and corporate management team. It was with great pleasure that a collective decision had been made to offer the role to Richard Webb, currently Director of Health and Adult Services at North Yorkshire Council. He was an excellent candidate who brought a wealth of experience from across local government. It was noted that the next step was for Council to consider the recommendations to proceed with the appointment and subject to approval for human resources to undertake final checks.

The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor Ayre, wished to place on record his thanks to the outgoing Chief Executive, Ian Floyd, particularly highlighting his work in relation to

development of York Community Stadium, one of the largest capital schemes in the city's history. He also thanked all those involved with contributing their time and expertise to assist the panel, which included, members of the public, young people and partners. The incoming Chief Executive, Richard Webb, had demonstrated enthusiasm, passion and knowledge and would be a huge asset to the city.

The Leader of the Conservative Group, Councillor Steward, thanked the outgoing Chief Executive, Ian Floyd, who he had always considered a pleasure to work with. He was fair and balanced in his approach and undertaken a great job. He welcomed the appointment of the incoming Chief Executive, Richard Webb, who had demonstrated all the necessary skills to be a great Chief Executive at City of York Council. He particularly highlighted his skills in relation to adult social care, which was despite some of the difficult and challenging circumstances faced by Councils.

Resolved (unanimously) –

That Council

- a) Notes the recruitment process which has been followed for the appointment of the Council's Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service); and
- b) Approves the recommendation of the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee's appointment panel to appoint Richard Webb to the post of Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service), subject to satisfactory completion of appropriate recruitment checks.

Reasons: The recommendations are supported to enable the Council to appoint a Chief Executive to discharge the duties and functions assigned to the role and for the Council to remain compliant by employing a Head of Paid Service at all times. The mechanism to do so is pursuant to the Constitution and Officer Employment Procedure Rules. It was essential for the Council to undertake a robust and thorough recruitment and selection process upon announcement of the Chief Operating Officer's retirement ahead of Easter 2026. The Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee's appointment panel, the Chief Officer HR and Support Services and Penna (the Council's appointed recruitment

consultants) have worked closely to ensure that the Council has been able to attract and appoint exceptional talent to the role.

Councillor Martin Rowley BEM
LORD MAYOR OF YORK

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm and concluded at 6.15 pm)

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Council Meeting

Resolutions and proceedings of the Council Meeting held at the Citadel, York on Thursday, 6 November 2025, starting at 6.30 pm.

Present: The Lord Mayor (Councillor Martin Rowley BEM) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

Acomb Ward	Bishopthorpe Ward
Lomas Rose	Nicholls
Clifton Ward	Copmanthorpe Ward
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Heworth Without Ward	Holgate Ward
Ayre	Kent Steels-Walshaw Taylor

Hull Road Ward

Baxter
Moroney
Pavlovic

Huntington and New Earswick
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Runciman

Micklegate Ward

J Burton
Crawshaw
Kilbane

Osbalwick and Derwent Ward

Rowley

Rawcliffe and Clifton Without Ward

Strensall Ward

Fisher
Healey

Rural West York Ward

Hook
Knight

Westfield Ward

Coles
Nelson
Waller

Wheldrake Ward

Vassie

48. Lord Mayor's Opening Remarks

The Lord Mayor welcomed all in attendance to the November Council meeting.

It was advised that there was to be a minor change to the agenda running order. Agenda item 13, Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report was to be brought forward and considered after agenda item 5, Public Participation.

49. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Smalley, Wann, Warters and Waudby.

50. Declarations of Interest

A declaration of interest was made at a later point in the meeting. (Minute No. 62 refers)

51. Minutes

Councillor Steward, reported that at the September Council meeting a motion in relation to the S106 process had been submitted by the Conservative Group, amended by the Labour Group and approved by Council. The Conservative Group objected to the removal of consultation with members, which it was reported had reflected officer advice. It was understood that there had since been some clarification on this advice, and it was hoped that this key aspect in relation to consulting with members could be reintroduced.

The Executive Member, Councillor Pavlovic, advised that having sought advice, members could be consulted on S106 proposals where there was discretion on how funding could be allocated. Whilst not wishing to amend past motions and amendments, the Executive Member was happy to ensure a suitable way forward that enabled consultation with members to take place.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 September 2025 and the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 16 October 2025 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

52. Civic Announcements including Lord Mayor for the 2026/27 Municipal Year

The Lord Mayor reported that following consideration of the points allocation at the Executive meeting on 4 November 2025, the Lord Mayor for the 2026/27 municipal year had been allocated to the Labour Group. The Leader of the Labour Group, Councillor Douglas, reported that Councillor Wells had been nominated to serve as Lord Mayor in 2026/27. Councillor Wells was invited to comment and stated that it was a huge honour. She looked forward to championing and highlighting the work of all the unsung heroes as well as celebrating the work of the many volunteers in York.

The Lord Mayor highlighted the positive difference made by volunteers and residents who did extraordinary things for their communities. Linked to this, a Lord Mayor's Commendation Scheme was to be introduced to recognise the very best of ordinary and extraordinary individuals and groups in local communities. Further information was to follow in due course.

53. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been eight registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Gwen Swinburn spoke in relation to general governance matters within the remit of the Council. She expressed concern about having been denied a public speaking opportunity at the Extraordinary Council Meeting to appoint a new City of York Council (CYC) Chief Executive. It was stated that the Statutory Officer had altered the public participation protocol in the Council's Constitution without liaison with the Audit and Governance Committee or consultation with Council group leaders. She welcomed the appointment of the new CYC Chief Executive from North Yorkshire Council. That North Yorkshire Council was a beacon of good governance in many ways. She expressed the view that in contrast, fewer decisions at CYC were taken in public, with minimal recording of delegated decisions, which had resulted in Councillors lacking the information and influence that was required of them. She hoped that the new Chief Executive was able to address these issues.

Flick Williams spoke remotely in relation to agenda item 7, Report of the Leader of the Council, and agenda item 14.1, Motions on Notice – Access to Transport for All. In relation to Dial-a-Ride, it was considered a travesty that there were continued delays after 22 months. That since its demise, changes to eligibility for hospital patient transport meant that people were declining medical appointments because they had no means of getting to them.

In relation to concessionary bus passes for disabled people there was agreement with the issues identified by the Liberal Democrat motion. That the cost was relatively low as it affected less than 10% of concessionary passes and did not affect holders of blind persons passes as these were already valid at any time of day. That bus operators should properly train their drivers because many were not aware, and visually impaired people were regularly challenged if they tried to use their pass before 9.00 a.m.

Another local anomaly was that concessionary passholders who boarded a bus at a park and ride site did not enjoy free travel between the specified times, merely a discounted ticket. There was disappointment that this was missing from the motion. That with the demise of the Bus Enhanced Partnership, individuals had lost the ability to raise issues such as these affecting disabled bus users and the promise of monthly reports on the tracker created by the Bus Accessibility Task and Finish Group was also lost.

Ben French spoke in relation to agenda item 14.2, Motions on Notice – Tackling Pollution in York's Rivers. He spoke as a representative of York Green Party in support of the Labour Group motion proposed by Councillor Kent. He highlighted the need for a modern and fit for-purpose drainage system and proper pollution reduction. He also highlighted support for the Conservative Group amendment proposed by Councillor Steward in relation to locally driven action on pollution in rivers. That it was right to listen to partners and officers for direct practical solutions. There was a need for York's leaders and wider regional leaders to keep holding corporate bosses to account because ultimately taxpayers paid the price with the water system when things went wrong.

Christopher Copland spoke in relation to agenda item 14.2, Motions on Notice – Tackling Pollution in York's Rivers. He spoke as a representative of York Friends of the Earth Group. That this motion was not only about sewage as the main issue with the poor state of rivers, water bodies and coastal waters related to a complex mix of chemicals and substances often masked by

sewage. Run off from roads, engine oil, brake dust, fluids, tire particles. Run off from pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides from farmed fields. The spreading of sewage on farmland passed off as fertiliser. And the breakdown of litter, packaging, and other consumer items.

The fact that rivers remained in a heavily engineered state was also considered an issue. Concrete channels and infrastructure prevented rivers from being resilient to pollution as well as to the swings between flooding and drought, which had become more frequent, and resulted in rivers playing less of a part in natural flood management.

Michael Gray spoke in relation to agenda item 14.2, Motions on Notice – Tackling Pollution in York's Rivers. He spoke as a representative of The River Society. It was highlighted that the Foss was not a healthy river. Water quality had been monitored, particularly organic pollution, by measuring nitrate, phosphate, and dissolved oxygen levels along the river. The river had always suffered from low flows which compounded the effect of pollution. The intensively drained farmland through which it flowed, and the extensive hard surfaces of its suburban areas all led to rapid run off so that water levels rise and fall rapidly. Monitoring had shown that both nitrate and phosphate levels caused problems in the Foss. According to University of York's published research, many other chemical pollutants were present in the river. There were long-term detrimental effects of dredging which destroyed the biological communities that mitigated pollution. It was agreed that phosphate loadings need to be reduced significantly, but it was nitrate that was the principal problem. Reducing nitrate concentrations would go a long way to improving water quality.

Heather Disley spoke in relation to York unity and safety. That York had always been one of the happiest and most welcoming cities in the country. But there was some concern that in recent months, certain groups had sought to intimidate. That their actions had coincided with a rise in hate crimes, leaving international students, visitors, and lifelong residents feeling unsafe to walk through the city at night. There was concern that too often actions had gone unchecked. That silence emboldened these types of groups and sent out the wrong message that intimidation was tolerated. After undoubtedly costing City of York Council more than the initially quoted £250,000 in removals and repairs, groups had changed their approach. They were now misusing the image of the remembrance poppy and placing cheap plastic poppies on lamp

posts without permission from the Royal British Legion. The poppy was not a weapon of intimidation. It was a symbol of remembrance and unity, honouring all those who gave their lives, not just white British servicemen, but the millions of soldiers from every background and corner of the Commonwealth who stood together in defence of freedom. That we must remember, reclaim, and defend the poppy's true meaning of respect, solidarity, and the hope for a peaceful world.

Geoff Beacon spoke in relation to agenda item 11, Recommendations of Executive. He reported on the effect of housing costs on poverty. That one solution to this was the development of eco-park homes, which given the level of biogenic carbon stored in them, could be carbon negative and provide an affordable alternative. This would help poor people in York who were paying a significant proportion of their income on housing costs.

Dr John Wilkinson spoke in relation to agenda item 14.2, Motions on Notice – Tackling Pollution in York's Rivers. Dr John Wilkinson informed Council that he was a research scientist and studied chemical pollution in rivers around the world at the University of York. It was reported that research at the University of York had shown that the River Foss was amongst the most polluted for pharmaceutical contaminants across Europe. As part of his role he led the Aqua Project, Action for Quality Aquatic Environments. It brought together over 1,700 members of the public along with local charities, businesses, community groups, all to better understand and to reduce chemical and microbial pollution that threatened York's rivers. There was a shared mission as part of the Aqua Project towards a non-toxic aquatic environment. That just as the beauty of our city reflected the generations who cared for it, the pollution in our rivers reflected the many pressures of modern life. The motion to tackle pollution in York's rivers, was a vital step in changing that reflection. It's one that acknowledged the science, empowered communities, and looked towards a future non-toxic aquatic environment. This was not an issue that should be divided by politics. Clean water united us all and was essential to our health, to our environment, and to our city's identity.

54. Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2024-25

The Corporate Director of Children and Education submitted a report which presented the Corporate Parenting Annual Report for 2024/25.

Having been moved by Councillor Webb and seconded by Councillor Steels-Walshaw, Councillor Webb, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education then introduced the report. Members were reminded that November was Care Leavers month. That over the course of the last year sub-groups had been introduced in relation to housing, health and education. These were attended by children, young people and care leavers as well as relevant officers.

Care was now treated as a protected characteristic. Work had been undertaken with care leavers to co-produce what the key areas of focus should be. And there was now an improved offer for foster carers in York. In addition, an employment and opportunities broker had been employed to support care leavers into jobs.

Lauren, Co-Chair of Corporate Parenting Board was then invited to present her update to Council. Lauren was keen to emphasise the importance of the relationship and collaboration between young people and corporate parents.

Lauren explained that as a care experienced young person and Co-Chair of Corporate Parenting Board, it was about how the city cared for children and young people when they needed it the most. Over the past year work had been undertaken to ensure that young people's voices were not just heard but truly listened to. The Board was now co-chaired by care experienced young people alongside Councillor Webb, Executive Member for Children Young People and Education, which had made decisions grounded in real experience and lived insight.

In total, more than 50 young people had shared their views this year and their feedback had influenced key areas such as foster carer recruitment and training, mental health support, housing, and a new leaving care offer. The 'mind your language' campaign had also been launched because how people talked about care experienced young people really mattered. The words that were used shaped attitudes and the attitudes shaped opportunities.

The shift in awareness had encouraged professionals across the city to think differently, to see potential not pity, strength and not stigma. The partnership between young people and the Council had become more than consultation. It was collaboration. Together, services had been redesigned to reflect what young people needed. From creating new fostering recruitment videos to

co-producing housing pathways and mental health initiatives, work was rooted in shared purpose and accountability. It was also about aspirations. Every child in care deserved to dream big. To believe that university, apprenticeships, stable homes, and strong relationships were within reach.

Corporate parenting was one of the most important responsibilities the council held. When a child came into care, the council became their corporate parents. This meant shared responsibility for well-being, education, housing, health, and the future. It was not just a role for social workers or children services. Every decision had the power to open doors, create opportunities, and change lives.

November was Care Leaver's month, a time to recognise the achievements of care experienced young people across the city. To show every young person that no matter where you start, your goals and dreams were possible. That's what being a good corporate parent was about. Helping children and young people believe in themselves, aim high, and know that they were valued, supported, and capable of achieving great things.

Since the previous annual report, the progress that had been made together was clear. Care experience was now treated as if it was a protected characteristic, recognising and challenging the barriers that some people continued to face. New sub-groups had been piloted focusing on health, education, and housing to drive better outcomes. An enhanced offer for care leavers had been launched, ensuring that young people were supported as they moved into adulthood and independence. Decisions were no longer made for young people. They were made with young people. That was real progress.

Resolved (unanimously) – That the Corporate Parenting Annual Report for 2024/25, be noted.

Reason: So that members are updated on the work of the Corporate Parenting Board.

55. **Petitions**

There were no petitions to consider on this occasion.

56. Report of the Leader of the Council and Executive

A report from the Leader of the Council and Executive was submitted which provided an update on key activity since the last Council meeting.

(The meeting then adjourned for a short break at 7.35pm and reconvened at 7.45pm)

57. Questions to the Leader or Executive Members

The Lord Mayor invited members to ask questions of the Leader of the Council and Executive in relation to matters within their portfolio responsibility.

Details of questions and subsequent responses were provided as follows:

Councillor Whitcroft

Please could the Executive Member outline how changes to ResPark would help residents in my ward get the resident parking that they need and what the new process was going to do as an improvement to the old scheme?

Response

The Executive Member for Transport reported that the ResPark process had been somewhat unwieldy resulting in communities sometimes waiting years for their application to be processed. That there was a double consultation process, but residents felt as though they had been consulted twice and led to many residents not realising when they had to respond to the final consultation.

The changes streamlined the process and the way that ResPark was dealt with. Previously, officers would only recommend implementing ResPark if more than 50% of the residents in the area responded and more than 50% of the residents were in support. And in areas where there were large numbers of rental properties, then this often resulted in a very low response rate and that led to residents just being caught in a loop of being unable to process a ResPark application for their area. That threshold had been removed for officers to move things forward. There had also been a change to the first consultation stage so that communities were given the opportunity to shape how the public highway was

used. Residents were to be asked to estimate how many parking spaces they might need and to consider what other ways they might like to see the highway being used, such as cycle shelters, EV charging and more seating. This provided local communities the chance to reshape their streets for the ways that worked for them.

As part of the second stage residents and businesses had the opportunity to object. Any objections received were to be taken into consideration and mitigations put in place in the same way that other traffic restriction orders were dealt with, such as double yellow lines. It was aligning the process with other traffic restriction orders. It was felt that the new process would result in a swift progression of applications so that a resolution was reached for communities whilst providing opportunities for communities to shape their neighbourhoods in a way that worked best for their local community.

Councillor Cullwick

Clarification was sought from the Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion, that in the original papers for the Executive meeting earlier this week it was stated that the green bin tax would rise to £52 next year, which would be a 12% increase since the charge was introduced. That paper was later withdrawn and replaced with all reference to the increase removed. So please could the Executive Member confirm whether it has been decided not to increase the green bin tax for the next financial year?

Response

The Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion responded that the paper had been entered on the system in error and was withdrawn because it should not have been included in that format. The paper that was considered at Executive and voted on did not have any reference to charging for green waste collection for the future financial year. That was because no decision had yet been made on charging for green waste collection. A decision was to be made transparently in the proper way, in public.

Councillor Nicholls

Please could I ask the Leader of the Council of the 20 motions passed by Council from the Labour Group what specific measurable achievements have been made on these motions?

Response

The Leader of the Council responded that when Labour came into administration there was no process for monitoring how motions were taken forward. That a process had since been established to track the progress of motions. A report had been submitted to Corporate Scrutiny Committee last week where it was acknowledged that there were still motions where progress was needed. An update on those motions had been provided, noting that whilst some had been achieved there was still more work needed on others.

Councillor Ben Burton

The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency was asked about the expansion of kerbside recycling, particularly the wider benefits for residents.

Response

The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency responded that ideally there would be doorstep collections for all types of waste. Items such as toothpaste tubes and Tetra Pak cartons had been two very difficult items to recycle or find places to recycle. The changes meant that there was no longer a need to go to the tip or elsewhere to get rid of them. It reduced congestion, reduced emissions from transport, with fewer trips to the tip and increased the amount that was recycled, which was good for the circular economy.

Councillor Fenton

The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency was asked to provide some assurance about the future continuation of the suburban recycling banks, for example at Askham Bar and elsewhere, which were well used particularly for cardboard and paper.

Response

The Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency responded that there was currently no indication either way. It was reported that Tetra Pak recycling banks were to be removed. These were outside of the Council's control and were to be removed, but there was to be doorstep recycling and therefore not a reduction.

Councillor Orrell

It was fantastic that York Knights were joining the Super League. It was a huge leap for the club and a brilliant opportunity to showcase the city. But with bigger crowds will come bigger traffic and parking challenges, particularly around Huntington. What steps had the Executive Member taken to manage this ahead of February? And would Ward Councillors be involved in the planning as they were before the Community Stadium first opened?

Response

The Leader of the Council acknowledged that on match days, there was heavy traffic around the Community Stadium. That during the Women's Rugby World Cup extra buses were provided, which were well used, and the traffic was well managed. By changing the approach to the area and providing different services, the traffic could be better managed in the Monks Cross area. Work was to be undertaken with York Knights and with any of the big events that were going on in that area to improve and enhance public transport. It would also form part of the work with the Mayor of York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority when bus responsibilities were transferred across to the Mayor.

Councillor Nelson

Please could the Executive Member explain so that Councillors are able to spread the word, how people are going to be able to access services at the new Community Well-being Hub at Acomb Garth and what types of support will be available?

Response

The Executive Member for Health, Well-being and Adult Social Care responded that this was the second Community Well-being

Hub that had opened in York. It provided a resource in the community where people were able to access help and support when and where they needed it. In terms of accessing the Community Well-being Hub the plan was for it to be open 24/7 with direct access. There was no need for a referral and multi-disciplinary teams were based there. What one person needed may be very different to what another person needed. There would be support from mental health services, community support services and advice services. This was not a timebound service. People would not be told there's a limit on the number of times they could attend.

Councillor Widdowson

At the Executive Member Decision Session on 22 April 2025, the Council approved plans to consult on a city centre sustainable transport corridor which included potential changes to traffic movement across the Ouse Bridge. Please could the Executive Member confirm when the consultation will begin and when the agreed scheme will be implemented? In addition, what co-ordination will take place with the planned works on Lendal Bridge to avoid overlapping disruption in the city centre?

Response

The Executive Member responded that consultation was starting next week. The expectation was for the consultation to run until early January. Following feedback received from the consultation, the aim was to start the scheme in the summer of next year with an 18-month experimental scheme. Throughout those 18 months, there was an opportunity for everyone to feedback on how the scheme was working and to make tweaks if needed. The plan was to make sure that Lendal Bridge works were completed prior to any implementation of the sustainable travel corridor with no overlapping. That was why works at Lendal Bridge had been scheduled to start as soon as the Easter holidays had finished. Lendal Bridge works were anticipated to take eight weeks and then move to implementing the sustainable travel corridor.

Councillor Crawshaw

Concerns were raised about community safety. That a public meeting had been held in the Micklegate Ward earlier in the week called by three Ward Councillors following a significant rise in the frequency and severity of anti-social behaviour. It was reported

that there had been a spate of arson attacks which were particularly concerning for the local community. That last week was the 13th shed that had been burnt down since September. Over 100 people attended the public meeting and one of the key messages was concern around communication between the different agencies that were involved, which included police and fire services, the council's community safety team, schools, youth services and the wider community. Clarification was sought about the role of the Council in ensuring good communication so that everyone was speaking from the same page.

Response

The Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities responded that concern about the spate of arson attacks and anti-social behaviour was happening across the city and was a concern for council departments as well as other agencies. That work had been undertaken to establish processes through the Safer York Partnership. That there was a multi-agency meeting taking place tomorrow with a particular focus on youth crime. That efforts would be made to ensure agencies engaged with Ward Councillors, community groups and stakeholders. That there was a role for Councillors across the city to be disseminating information to identify those individuals that may be involved with this level of offending.

58. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee

An update on the latest scrutiny activity was provided by Councillor Fenton, Chair of Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

59. Appointments and Changes to Membership

Resolved – That Councillor Waller be appointed substitute representative for Councillor Knight on North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel.

60. Recommendations of Executive

Recommendations of Executive arising from its meetings on 2 September, 7 October and 4 November 2025 were presented to Council and approved as follows:

Capital Programme – Monitor One 2025/2026 (Executive minute no. 135 refers)

Resolved – That the adjustments resulting in a reduction in the 2025/26 budget of £412k as detailed in the report to Executive, be approved.

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

Delivering More Affordable Housing in York – Update on the Housing Delivery Programme (Executive minute no. 149 refers)

Resolved – That a construction and delivery budget totalling £37.9m which includes HRA borrowing totalling up to £13.0m, be approved.

Reason: To ensure the continuation of a manageable pipeline of sites to deliver the Housing Delivery Programme whilst making best use of CYC assets to deliver capital receipts and social benefits.

Capital Programme – Monitor Two 2025/26 (Executive minute no. 163 refers)

Resolved – That the adjustments resulting in a decrease in the 2025/26 budget of £17.865m as detailed in the report to Executive, be approved.

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

Tackling Poverty Today and Turning the Tide to Create Lasting Change – A Strategy and Strategic Action Plan for addressing Poverty in York 2025-2035 (Executive minute no. 170 refers)

Resolved – That the 10-year strategy and action plan be adopted by Full Council on behalf of the City of York.

Reason: In alignment with the Council Plan and 10-year strategies, the anti-poverty strategy and action plan, reflects the views of residents, communities, partners and Members, sets a direction of travel for the council and partners over the next 10

years to tackle poverty in York helping to support the most vulnerable in society.

61. Community Infrastructure Levy

The Director of City Development submitted a report which recommended adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy, inclusive of the proposed modifications recommended by the Examiner.

The following annexes were included:

- Annex A – Submitted Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule (July 2025)
- Annex B – Examiner’s report including Appendix with proposed modifications schedule
- Annex C – Equalities Impact Appraisal.

The Executive Member wished it to be placed on record her thanks to all those involved with the development and subsequent adoption of the Council’s Local Plan through to a proposal for the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The CIL would bring much needed investment into the city, ensuring essential infrastructure was in place as part of future developments.

Resolved –

That Council

- i) Accepts the outcomes of the independent Examiner’s Report (Annex B to the report), including modifications proposed by the Examiner to ensure the Community Infrastructure Levy and proposed Charging Schedule can be soundly implemented.
- ii) Adopts the Community Infrastructure Levy (Annex A to the report), as proposed to be modified (Annex B to the report), for implementation on 1 February 2026.

Reason: To allow the CIL Schedule to be legally adopted and implemented effectively, in line with the recommendations of the independent Examiner and national planning guidance.

- iii) Delegates authority to the Director of City Development to

review the instalment policy and make any necessary further minor editorial changes to the Charging Schedule or a change to the implementation date, if necessary.

- iv) Delegates authority to the Director for Environment and Regulatory Services to agree publishing and necessary documentation for the introduction of CIL.

Reason: To enable timely and efficient progression of the CIL adoption process, ensuring operational readiness, sound implementation and regular monitoring.

- v) To note that a further report regarding the spending of CIL will be brought to a future Executive for consideration.

Reason: To allow Executive to consider how to spend the CIL monies received.

(The meeting then adjourned at 8.45pm and reconvened at 9.00pm.)

62. **Motions on Notice**

14.1 – Access to Transport for All

This motion was moved by Councillor Fenton and seconded by Councillor Runciman. It incorporated an amendment (as set out in the supplementary agenda pack), moved by Councillor Ravilious and seconded by Councillor Moroney.

Following a number of speakers, the motion, as amended and set out below was then put to the vote and carried.

Resolved – That with the addition and deletion of the appropriate words, the motion be amended to read as follows:

Council notes:

- That under the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme, disabled residents are entitled to free bus travel on local buses, but this is usually restricted to journeys made between 9:30am and 11:00pm on weekdays, unless local councils choose to extend the hours.
- That City of York Council currently allows disabled people's bus passes to be used from 9:00am, half an hour earlier than

the national minimum, but that many essential appointments, employment opportunities, and educational commitments require travel to take place before this time.

- That Liberal Democrat MP Tom Gordon has led a national campaign calling on the Government to remove time restrictions entirely, to allow disabled people to use their bus passes at any time of day, reflecting the principle that disability does not only occur between 9:00am and 11:00pm.
- That York's Dial & Ride community transport service – used by many older and disabled people – ceased operating at the end of December 2023 and that a cross-party Task & Finish Group made a number of recommendations which were approved by the Economy, Place, Access & Transport Scrutiny Committee in June 2024.
- That the Executive Member for Transport chaired a Task & Finish group on Bus Accessibility earlier this year, with valuable input from members of the disabled community, and that the outputs from this Task & Finish group are recorded and regularly updated in a bus accessibility tracker, with reports on progress being shared with the Access Forum.

Council believes:

- That the current time limits create unnecessary barriers for disabled residents, particularly for those needing to attend early morning medical appointments, commute to work or education.
- That local flexibility should not mean a postcode lottery, where disabled people in some areas have full access to public transport and others do not.
- That improving access to bus travel for disabled people supports the Council's wider commitments to equality, inclusion, and sustainable transport.
- That the quality of life of many older and disabled people has been adversely impacted by the absence of a replacement Dial & Ride service for the past 22 months, many of whom do not have access to a car and are unable to get to their nearest bus stop.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Support Tom Gordon MP's campaign to lift national time restrictions on the use of disabled bus passes.

2. Ask the Group Leaders to write to the Secretary of State for Transport urging the Government to amend the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme to make disabled bus passes valid 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and for the additional cost of this to be reflected in council settlements so other financial support for bus services is not impacted;
3. Ask for officers to work with the Access Forum prior to bringing a report to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee within 6 months, outlining cost implications, benefits and risks and potential partnerships with local bus operators of amending the start time for use of disabled bus passes, prior to making recommendations to the Mayoral Combined Authority, which now holds this specific responsibility;
4. Following an update due to be provided at Place Scrutiny this month, to ask the Executive Member for Transport to meet with the Dial & Ride Task & Finish Group members as soon as possible to discuss the progress made with identifying options for a replacement service.

14.2 – Tackling pollution in York’s Rivers

This motion was moved by Councillor Kent and seconded by Councillor Moroney.

In accordance with the Council’s Standing Orders an amendment (as set out in the supplementary agenda pack) was moved by Councillor Steward and seconded by Councillor Nicholls.

Following a number of speakers, the amendment was put to the vote and lost.

The original motion as set out below was then voted on and carried.

Resolved –

This Council notes:

- that in 2023, storm overflows discharged wastewater, including untreated sewage, into the River Ouse in and around York for a total of 16,357 hours, and into the Foss for 3,254 hours;
- that in England, serious pollution incidents by water companies rose by 60% in 2024, with almost 20% attributable to Yorkshire Water, and overall pollution

incidents climbed 29%, resulting in significant water company fines;

- that recent scientific monitoring by the Ecomix project at the University of York shows that rivers and freshwater waterways are becomingly increasingly polluted by a toxic mix of thousands of chemicals from agriculture, pharmaceuticals, household cleaning and personal care products and tyre additives, with only 14% of rivers meeting a good level of ecological status;
- that recent sampling for the ‘forever’ chemical Trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) across 19 locations in Yorkshire over one year detected the chemical in 99.3% of samples. Many locations had levels exceeding the safe concentration proposed for TFA by the Dutch Institute for Public Health;
- that while the EU’s revised Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive came into force on 1 January 2025, the UK continues to operate under the outdated 1991 framework, leading to a regulatory gap and lag in pollution control regulation, meaning our waterways and drinking water remain open to contamination from multiple sources.

Council welcomes and supports:

- the AQuA citizen science project at UoY inviting the public to help collect data from York waterways for both chemical and bacterial pollution with the aim to improve Yorkshire’s aquatic environments for biodiversity and people;
- the Independent Water Commission review by Sir John Cunliffe and the Labour Government’s response marking a pivotal moment for the UK water sector, including the government pledge to halve sewage pollution by 2030;
- The People’s Commission recommendations on the water sector;
- the EU Directive’s strengthened mandates, not limited to but including:
 - the Polluter-pays principle, energy-neutral operation for wastewater treatment plants and real-time public health monitoring.

This Council resolves to request the Leader to write to the Mayor of York and North Yorkshire and York’s MPs to ask them to join the Leader and Executive Member for the Environment in calling on the Government to:

- adopt legislation mirroring the EU's revised Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive, to prevent chronic pollution threatening public and environmental health;
- ban the use of recognised dangerous 'forever' chemicals as quickly as possible;
- Urge a national investment programme to modernise sewage and highway drainage infrastructure - including storage, treatment, and overflow controls - with priority given to areas serving York and the Rivers Ouse and Foss;
- Request implementation of local pollution reduction measures, such as installing upstream buffer zones, "first-flush" stormwater capture, and retrofitting sewage systems to reduce raw discharge events, while monitoring improvements through better reporting;
- Support and require the Environment Agency to more effectively monitor, understand and prevent water pollution and respond to incidents quickly;
- Develop a fit-for purpose chemical assessment and management system.
- Council further resolves to support AQuA and Ecomix in publicising their local efforts to increase public awareness of the water pollution challenge, and to share guidance on how residents can take small decisions to positively contribute to reducing pollution of our waterways.

14.3 – Enhancing the Benefits of Devolution for York

This motion was moved by Councillor Baxter and seconded by Councillor Whitcroft.

In accordance with the Council's Standing Orders an amendment (as set out in the supplementary agenda pack) was moved by Councillor Hollyer and seconded by Councillor Hook.

Following a number of speakers, the amendment was put to the vote and lost.

The original motion as set out below was then voted on and carried.

Resolved –

Council notes:

- the establishment of York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority in 2023, marking the long-awaited start of meaningful devolution of funding and powers to our region;
- after years of lagging behind devolution deals in other parts of the country, new funding of over £23m has already been approved for York, including:
 - £4.5m through the Brownfield Housing Fund to progress schemes delivering affordable housing, including at Ordnance Lane and Lowfield Green;
 - Almost £3m through the Net Zero Fund for renewable energy schemes such as those at Alex Lyon House and Honeysuckle House;
 - £9.57m to schemes and initiatives, including affordable housing delivered by businesses and other organisations in the city;
- the York and North Yorkshire Mayoral Investment Fund, worth £540m over 30 years, was unlocked through devolution, bringing lasting investment certainty to the region.

Council further notes the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill, brought forward by the Labour Government, paves the way for the biggest devolution of powers and funding in a generation through the creation of Strategic Authorities;

The Bill sets out a clear, long-term pipeline for regional investment, ending the region-by-region deal-making of the past and unlocking further opportunities for York and North Yorkshire.

Council believes:

- the Government's renewed focus on devolution represents a real shift of power and investment from Westminster that will help rebuild local economies and strengthen communities;
- local leaders know best what their regions need, and that bringing decision-making closer to York will help deliver better, faster outcomes for residents and businesses.

Council resolves to:

- Give its endorsement to greater devolution for York and North Yorkshire in the form of Strategic Authorities;

- Request the Council Leader joins Mayor Skaith and the Leader of North Yorkshire Council in writing to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, backing the Government's plans for greater devolution in England and making the case for expanded powers and investment for our Combined Authority area under future arrangements, such as the ability to raise a tourist levy and to introduce a registration and management scheme for short term holiday lets in constituent parts of the Combined Authority's area;
- Support the Mayor's and Council Leaders' shared ambition to progress to Established Mayoral Strategic Authority status at pace, to unlock further devolved decision making and funding to benefit York; and
- Request an all councillor briefing on Strategic Authorities so Members are fully informed on the opportunities the new authorities will bring.

(Councillor Baxter declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item on the basis that her partner was employed by York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.)

63. Urgent Business

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

Councillor Martin Rowley BEM
LORD MAYOR OF YORK

(The meeting started at 6.30 pm and concluded at 9.53 pm)

**Matters recommended to Council arising from the
Executive Meeting held on 27 January 2026**

Capital Programme – Monitor 3 2025/26

Resolved – That Executive

- a) Recommends to Full Council the adjustments resulting in a decrease in the 2025/26 budget of £23.432m as detailed in the report.

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

(The above is an extract of the notice of decisions taken at the Executive meeting held on 27 January 2026 and published on the Council's website. The minutes of the meeting will be published in advance of the Council meeting.)

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Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	12 February 2026
Report of:	Debbie Mitchel, Director of Finance
Portfolio of:	Councillor Katie Lomas, Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Equalities and Inclusion

Decision Report: Recommendations of Executive on the Council's Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31, Capital Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30, Capital Financing and Investment Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2026/27 to 2030/31

Subject of Report

1. This report presents to Council the recommendations of Executive for approval in respect of the revenue budget proposals for 2026/27, the Capital Budget for the period 2026/27 to 2029/30, the Capital Financing and Investment Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy for the period 2026/27 to 2030/31. This report should be read in conjunction with the reports presented to Executive on 27 January 2026.

Benefits and Challenges

2. The budget proposals outline some significant investment into social care to enable the Council to continue delivering vital support to our most vulnerable residents. This essential funding will deliver a financially sound budget, that reflects current pressures, whilst also ensuring a safe and effective service can be delivered across all statutory care services.
3. The Capital Budget report elsewhere on this agenda details the additional investment being made into a range of schemes including:
4.
 - i) £585k for improvements to the Crematorium.
 - ii) £200k in upgrades to fire protection in council hostels.

- iii) £625k fleet replacement programme
 - iv) £2,320k in repairs and modernisation of council homes.
 - v) £37m in anticipated additional funding over four years for Highway and Transport investment subject to decisions from the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.
5. The challenges continue to be increasing demand across all services, especially within social care, and the cost of delivering capital projects.
 6. The Local Government Finance Settlement, which incorporates the impact of the Fair Funding Review, shows an increase in core spending power of just 0.7% in 2026/27 and 0.1% in the following 2 years of the settlement. This is after an assumed maximum increase in council tax.
 7. The impact of the Fair Funding review leaves York with a reduced share of national funding and reduced funding due to the council's council tax levels being lower than the government assessment. This leaves the council facing significant funding gaps in future years. We face exceptional challenges to deliver our Financial Strategy, one that will affect residents, partners, members, and officers alike. The scale cannot be underestimated. Over the next few years, the level of savings required will be significant, and it is likely that some services will reduce — and, in some cases, stop altogether. We know these decisions will not be easy, and the impact on residents and our communities will be real. It is crucial we approach this together, with honesty, transparency, and a focus on what's important to support our most vulnerable communities. By focusing on priorities, maintaining strong financial management, with robust cost control measures, we can protect the services that matter most, support the people who rely on them, and ensure the council is best placed for a resilient and sustainable future.
 8. Whilst the local and national financial position for local government is clearly very strained, considerable work is ongoing to secure inward investment into the city to ensure that the Council's priorities can still be achieved.
 9. The budget proposals include continued investment in transformation to deliver the changes needed in the short, medium and longer term to ensure the continued financial resilience of the Council. As well as investment in staff to support and deliver change, additional funding is included to allow for investment in

technology and other innovation that will deliver improvements in council operations and efficiency savings.

10. The revenue budget report considered by the Executive detailed consultation that had occurred to that date. Since the Executive meeting there has been a further meeting with City Centre Traders particularly in respect of the cost of parking and the potential impact of this on footfall in the city centre. This consultation led to constructive recommendations to help achieve transport policy objectives to boost sustainable travel modes and reduce car journeys whilst continuing to support the city centre and officers will continue to engage with the local business community to explore these ideas in more detail.

Policy Basis for Decision

11. The Financial Strategy aims to ensure that, as far as possible, resources are aligned to the Council's priorities. It is vital that the Council sets a robust budget each year. Alongside the income generation and other savings included in Annex 2 to this report, the Council's transformation programme is key to the delivery of a balanced budget. The cross-cutting transformation programme will coordinate activity that ensures the Council has a sustainable and more efficient operating model, prioritising the delivery of statutory services alongside those initiatives that will contribute to the achievement of the Council Plan.

Financial Strategy Implications

12. The reports outline the budget proposals for the year ahead and ensures the Financial Strategy is delivered.

Recommendation and Reasons

Revenue Budget

13. Executive recommends that Council:
 - i. Approves the budget proposals outlined in the Financial Strategy report and in particular;
 - The net revenue expenditure requirement of £187.009m
 - A council tax requirement of £127.181m
 - The revenue growth proposals as outlined in paragraphs 75 to 77

- The 2026/27 revenue savings proposals as outlined in annex 2
 - The fees and charges proposals as outlined in annex 3
 - The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 2026/27 budget set out in annex 5
 - The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) proposals outlined from paragraph 168
 - The Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Policy set out in annex 7, including delegation to the Director of Finance to determine the costs that can be charged to the transformation programme
- ii. Notes that the effect of approving the income and expenditure proposals included in the recommendations would result in a 4.99% increase in the City of York Council element of the council tax, 2% of which would relate to the social care precept.

Reason: To ensure a legally balanced budget is set.

Capital Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30

14. Executive recommends that Council approves the budget proposals outlined in the Capital Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30 and in particular:
- i. Agree to the revised capital programme of **£382.998m** that reflects a net overall increase of **£42.180m** (as set out in table 2 and in Annex 1). Key elements of this include:
- New schemes funded by prudential borrowing totalling £0.785m as set out in table 3;
 - Extension of prudential borrowing funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £1.125m as set out in table 4;
 - Extension of externally funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £37.950m as set out in table 7;
 - An increase in HRA funded schemes totalling £2.320m funded from a combination HRA balances/capital receipts as set out in table 8;
- ii. Note the total increase in Council borrowing as a result of new schemes being recommended for approval is £0.179m the details of which are considered within this report and the financial strategy report

- iii. Approve the full restated programme as summarised in Annex 2 totalling **£382.998m** covering financial years 2026/27 to 2029/30 as set out in table 13 and Annex 2.

Reason: To ensure a legally budget is set and that the capital programme is fully funded.

Capital and Investment Strategy

15. Executive recommends that Council:
 - i. Approve the Capital and Investment Strategy at Annex A

Reason: To meet the statutory obligation to comply with the Prudential Code 2017.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators

16. Executive recommends that Council approve;
 - i. The treasury management strategy for 2026/27 including the annual investment strategy and the minimum revenue provision policy statement;
 - ii. The prudential indicators for 2026/27 to 2029/30 in the main body of the report;
 - iii. The specified and non-specified investments schedule (annex B)
 - iv. The scheme of delegation and the role of the section 151 officer (annex D)

Reason: To enable the continued effective operation of the treasury management function and ensure that all council borrowing is prudent, affordable and sustainable.

Background

17. On 27 January the Executive met to consider the revenue and capital budgets and the Treasury Management Strategy. The following reports, copies of which Members have previously received, were considered.
 - i) Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31
 - ii) Capital Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30
 - iii) Capital Financing and Investment Strategy

iv) Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators 2026/27 to 2029/30.

Options Analysis and Evidential Basis

18. Options open to the Council are to approve Executive's recommendations or to approve any amendments that may be moved by other Members of Council.

Organisational Impact and Implications

19. Implications in respect of setting the budget are contained in the Executive reports. Member's attention is drawn in particular to the legal advice of the Council's Monitoring Officer and the statutory advice of the Section 151 officer as set out in the Financial Strategy report and repeated in the following sections.

Legal

20. The council is required to set a council tax for 2026/27 before 11 March 2026. It may not be set before all major precepts (i.e. precepts from the Police and Fire Authorities) have been issued or before 1st March 2026, whichever is the earlier. The decision to set the level of council tax is reserved to Council and cannot be taken by Executive or delegated to officers, although Executive has to recommend a budget to Council. These comments are intended to apply to both the Executive meeting and the subsequent Council meeting.
21. There is no statutory requirement to set a detailed budget in any particular form. They are produced as an important tool to assist the Council in setting the council tax precept and managing its finances effectively with a view to balancing its budget.
22. Before determining the level of the tax, the Council must estimate its proposed revenue expenditure, taking into account amounts required by way of contingency, any need to raise reserves and any other amounts which the Council is legally required to transfer between funds. It must also estimate its anticipated income, any relevant transfer between funds and any proposed use of reserves. It must then calculate the difference between the two which is the council tax requirement.
23. The Council's Chief Financial Officer (under s151 Local Government Act 1972) is required to report to the Council on the

robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the calculations, and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves. The Council must have regard to the report when making decisions about the calculations in connection with which it is made. The Chief Financial Officer has a statutory duty under section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 to issue a written report if she considers that a decision taken by the Council would be unlawful and likely to cause a financial deficiency.

24. In reaching decisions on these matters, Members are bound by the general principles of administrative law. Lawful discretions must not be abused or fettered and all relevant considerations must be taken into account. No irrelevant considerations may be taken into account, and any decision made must be one which only a reasonable authority, properly directing itself, could have reached. Members must also balance the interests of service users against those who contribute to the Council's finances. The resources available to the Council must be deployed to their best advantage. Members should also be conscious that, whilst Council is responsible for setting the budget envelope for the relevant financial year, Executive is responsible for individual spending decisions within that budget envelope.
25. Members must also bear in mind the Council's other statutory duties to have regard to certain matters when making decisions. The report identifies proposals which, if approved, may potentially have an impact on children, older adults and persons with disabilities all of which groups are statutorily protected under the Equalities Act 2010. In making their decision, Members must have due regard to their public sector equality duty and the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. Members must also take into consideration any crime and disorder implications of the decision. A failure to follow these principles could open the Council to judicial review.
26. There is legal authority for the proposition that if there is discretion left as to how budget envelope is spent, or if the envelope itself can be changed (virement etc) any relevant statutory duties (such as the Public Sector Equality Duty) can be discharged when spending decisions within the envelope are taken. The early consideration of potential equalities impact on service changes is however advised as set out in this report.

27. Members have a fiduciary duty to the council tax payers and others in the local authority's area. This means that members must behave responsibly in agreeing the budget. Members have no authority to make anything other than a balanced budget.
28. Among the relevant considerations which Members must take into account in reaching their decisions are the views of business ratepayers and the advice of officers. The duty to consult representatives of non-domestic ratepayers on the Council's expenditure plans is contained in Section 65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
29. In considering the advice of officers, and the weight to be attached to that advice, Members should have regard to the personal duties placed upon the s151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer. The Council may take decisions which are at variance with their advice, providing there are reasonable grounds to do so. However, Members may expose themselves to risk if they disregard clearly expressed advice, for example as to the level of provision required for contingencies, bad debts and future liabilities. In addition, if Members wish to re-instate savings recommended by the Chief Finance Officer in order to balance the budget, they must find equivalent savings elsewhere.
30. The Chief Finance Officer is required by Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 and by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended) to ensure that the council's budgeting, financial management, and accounting practices meet relevant statutory and professional requirements. This is in addition subject to the requirements set out above.
31. Members must also have regard to, and be aware of, the wider duties placed upon the council by various statutes governing the conduct of its financial affairs. These include the distinction between revenue and capital expenditure and the requirement to set prudential indicators in line with capital investment plans that are prudent, affordable and sustainable.
32. Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 makes it a criminal offence for any Member with arrears of council tax which have been outstanding for two months or more to attend any meeting at which a decision affecting the budget is to be made, unless the Member concerned declares at the outset of the meeting that he or she is in arrears and will not be voting on the decision for that reason. The Member concerned must not vote

but may speak. The application of Section 106 of the 1992 Act is very wide and Members should be aware that the responsibility for ensuring that they act within the law at all times rests solely with the individual Member concerned.

33. If a referendum is held after the beginning of the relevant financial year, the higher rate of council tax will be payable unless and until it is overturned by a 'no' vote in the referendum. It must also provide "substitute calculations" which need to be presented to Council setting out what the alternative budget would be. This means that that if a party proposes a council tax above the referendum limit they must also produce "substitute calculations" within the referendum limit, to be used in the event that the referendum would reject the increase. In the event that a referendum rejects the increase, the billing authority would be able to issue new bills, offer refunds at the end of the year or allow credits against liability the following year, although individual council taxpayers would be entitled to a refund on demand.

Statutory Advice from the s151 Officer

Introduction

34. The Local Government Act 2003 places responsibilities upon the council's Chief Finance Officer to advise the council on the adequacy of its reserves and the robustness of the budget proposals including the estimates contained in this document. This section also addresses the key risks facing the council in relation to current and future budget provision. The following paragraphs outline my assessment of the budget proposals outlined in this report, including reserves and general robustness of the process. Section 25 (2) of the 2003 Act requires the council to have regard to this assessment in approving the annual budget and setting the council tax.

Robustness of proposals and process

35. The preparation of a budget relies on estimates, which are made at a point in time, and clearly there are several factors that can influence actual expenditure throughout the year. However, there are processes in place to ensure that assurance can be given that this budget has been constructed using the best available information and assumptions at the time of preparation. These include:

- regular budget monitoring to ensure known pressures are reflected
 - involvement of directorate management teams in development of the proposals
 - regular scrutiny of the proposals by Executive members.
36. Considerable reliance is also placed on budget managers having proper arrangements in place to identify issues early, project the likely demand for services, and consider value for money and efficiency.
37. To provide assurances that the budget estimates are robust the following factors have been considered:
- overall funding available including specific grants and other funding available from central government, along with locally raised income from council tax and business rates,
 - progress made in delivering 2025/26 savings
 - whether the budget decisions outlined in this report are achievable
 - the current and anticipated budget pressures arising from services such as social care
 - the forecast impact of inflation and pay awards
 - the financial sustainability of the council and the effectiveness of the financial management arrangements in place
 - the affordability and sustainability of the capital investment plans outlined in the capital programme report elsewhere on this agenda and the revenue impact of this expenditure
38. The council has a demonstrable track record of delivering budget savings and has sound financial management procedures in place. This has been recognised by favourable audit reports in respect of financial management and processes and overall, the financial planning process is sound and effective.
39. A range of pressures have been identified and built into the budget presented in this report, including a contingency sum of £500k as in previous years.

Risks

40. The report outlines the key risks to the 2026/27 budget, and these are considered further in the following paragraphs.

41. Continued increasing costs across all areas of spend remains an area of concern. Whilst inflation levels have reduced, this only means that prices are not increasing as much – they remain at the previously high levels. Given the Council's significant capital programme, rising costs are to be expected and may result in some schemes being delayed or costing more than estimated and there continue to be concerns over the rising costs of some major schemes.
42. Therefore, the number of complex capital schemes currently being undertaken remains a key risk for the Council. Where there is a gap between the initial proposal and the start of works, there is an even greater risk that costs will increase from those originally estimated. Should schemes not progress to full completion there remains a risk that costs currently assumed to be capable of being capitalised must be written off to revenue. There are also increased borrowing levels resulting in increased revenue costs of debt in coming years. This is highlighted in the medium term plan figures.
43. A further key risk in relation to the capital programme is that some major capital projects may have short/medium term cash flow impacts. For example, York Central will result in additional business rates but will require short term borrowing prior to income being received to cover the costs. As identified in previous budget reports, the Venture Fund will be used to support early years cash flow deficits on major strategic capital projects but given the current economic outlook and higher than previously expected interest rates, this borrowing will be more expensive than previously expected.
44. The current pressures being experienced within Adult Social Care are hugely concerning and the ongoing action being taken will need to continue and be given a high priority. Specific attention is drawn to the national picture regarding these services, which are recognised as being under increased pressure.
45. Whilst this council has invested in these services in recent years, the risks remain, and it is essential the council continues to make adequate budgetary growth provision to deal with the significant cost pressures these services are experiencing, along with savings programmes to mitigate pressures.
46. However, the Council cannot continue to invest at these levels indefinitely and therefore costs will have to be managed over the next year.

47. To balance the 2026/27 budget there is a continued reliance on generating income, especially from car parking charges. This income therefore relies on a continued strong local economy. The figures proposed are achievable and an allowance has been made for reduced activity. However, there is a risk that activity drops off more than assumed which would result in the savings not being achieved. In addition, any future proposals to reduce the provision of Council car parks would have a higher financial impact with the increased charges.
48. The bulk of the 2026/27 savings proposed rely on the Council delivering its Transformation Programme and improving the efficiency of the Council. Change and transformation can be challenging. Councillors and Chief Officers play a key role through ensuring robust governance, sufficient capacity and capability, maintaining strategic oversight and setting risk appetite. To achieve these savings, all parts of the Council will need to work together to deliver change, creating the necessary conditions for success.
49. It will be vital to have a sound governance structure so that the investment being made in transformation delivers lasting change and ongoing budget savings. Whilst further savings may be available in future years, the proposed transformation savings cannot be stretched further beyond those sums already assumed.
50. Clearly, there are risks in the achievement of some of the proposed savings and, in assessing this risk, I cannot guarantee that every single proposal will be achieved. I do however consider the overall package to be prudent. As outlined earlier, processes are in place to ensure the robustness of the proposed savings. A risk assessment of the individual savings proposals has been conducted and discussed with senior management. Where savings are not delivered, services are fully aware of the need to find compensating savings.
51. The completion of the Fair Funding Review and the return of to a 3 year local government finance settlement does remove the uncertainty we have experienced in recent years. Whilst there has been a significant, negative impact on the financial resilience of the Council, there is now at least some certainty of the challenge ahead.

Reserves

52. CIPFA guidance states that, in order to assess the adequacy of reserves when setting the budget, chief finance officers should take account of the strategic, operational and financial risks facing the authority and that the many factors involved when considering appropriate levels of reserves can only be assessed properly at a local level.
53. Determining the appropriate levels of balances is therefore a professional judgement based on local circumstances including the overall budget size, risks, robustness of budgets, major initiatives being undertaken, budget assumptions and other earmarked reserves and provisions. Based on the range of factors and risks outlined in this report it is my view that the general reserve can remain at £7.4m in 2026/27. However, I expect this figure will need to be increased in future years in light of ongoing impact of the Fair Funding Review and the significant financial challenge the Council is facing and to mitigate against the risk of overspends and non-delivery of savings.
54. The proposed 2026/27 budget does not use the general reserve to balance and therefore reserves remain sufficient for the year ahead.

Summary

55. Whilst the uncertainty of recent years has now been removed, the financial challenge facing this Council is now clear. As expected, there remains a significant budget gap in 2027/28 and 2028/29.
56. Identifying and subsequently delivering recurring budget savings remains the key to balancing the financial strategy. The medium term outlook clearly demonstrates the need for future savings to be delivered.
57. For future budget planning, further action will be needed to continue to focus resources on the highest priority services to reduce demand, as well as creating capacity to make investment in key front line services and essential capital investment. Therefore, the major financial challenge facing the council in coming years remains the need to secure further savings and for cost pressures to be managed effectively. There will need to be continued careful monitoring of the achievement of the savings outlined in this report.

58. Considering all the factors and risks outlined in this report, I continue to advise against the use of one off reserves, or any other one off funding, to delay the need to identify and deliver recurring savings without a clear strategy for how we will tackle the known financial challenges. Whilst Council is only required, statutorily, to balance the budget for the year ahead, not acting now could result in unmanageable savings requirements in future years and I would caution Council against this.
59. I have given careful consideration to the proposals outlined in all the budget reports on this agenda and particularly the risks associated with the proposals. Prudent and realistic assumptions have been made, and the financial implications of known pressures have been included. With the savings identified in this report, I am satisfied that this report represents a robust budget on which the council can rely in setting council tax.
60. I am aware that, as with all budgets, there is the potential for amendments to be proposed/agreed which could change the overall package of proposals. In that respect, I would highlight that I would amend/add to my statement if a decision was proposed that lead to the council's reserves falling below the minimum level (assuming the current budget comes in line with budget). In addition, any other amendments I would consider against the scale of the overall budget and depending upon the extent of the amendment I may revise my statement.

Risks and Mitigations

61. An assessment of risks is completed as part of the annual budget setting exercise and further details are included in annex 6 of the Executive report. These risks are managed effectively through regular reporting and corrective action being taken where necessary and appropriate.
62. As the Council's Section 151 Officer, the Director of Finance has a statutory responsibility for ensuring that the Council makes arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs. Section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 requires a report to all Council members to be made by the s151 officer, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, if there is or is likely to be an unbalanced budget.

Wards Impacted

63. All

Contact details

For further information please contact the authors of this Decision Report.

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Report approved:	Yes
Date:	04/02/2026

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Report approved:	Yes
Date:	04/02/2026

Background Papers:

Reports to Executive meeting held on 27 January 2026:

- Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31
- Capital and Investment Strategy
- Capital Budget 2026/27 to 2029/30
- Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Prudential Indicators for 2026/27 to 2030/31

Annexes:

None

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Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	12 February 2026
Report of:	Debbie Mitchell, Director of Finance
Portfolio of:	Councillor Katie Lomas, Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Equalities and Inclusion

Decision Report: Council Tax Resolution 2026/27

Subject of Report

1. This report asks Members to approve the rate of council tax for 2026/27. Although the legal requirement is that the Council must have set a balanced budget and the council tax charge by 11 March it is important that council tax rates are approved at this meeting to allow sufficient time to produce and post council tax bills and meet all statutory deadlines.
2. This report sets out the resolution based on the assumption that the budget proposals recommended by Executive on 27 January 2026 are approved.
3. Members are reminded that the individual council tax bill is comprised of four elements - the amount levied for City of York Council, the amount precepted by the Mayor in regards Policing, the Mayoral General Precept (including Fire and Rescue Services) and, for properties in a parished area of the city, the amount precepted by the individual Town or Parish Council.
4. Any authority proposing an excessive increase in council tax must hold a local referendum and obtain a 'yes' vote before implementing the increase. An authority proposing an excessive increase must also make substitute calculations, based on a non-excessive council tax level. This is implemented if the excessive increase is rejected in the referendum.
5. In 2026/27, local authorities with social care responsibilities (county and unitary authorities) will have a total threshold of 5% or

more. Of this, 2% is available for adult social care and 3% for general spending. District councils have a threshold of 3% or £5.00 on a band D bill; and for Police and Crime Commissioners, the threshold is £15 on a band D bill. No thresholds were applied to parish and town councils or to mayoral combined authorities.

6. Therefore, City of York Council may charge a maximum of 2% social care precept in 2026/27, in addition to the 3% for general spending. The additional social care precept must be used to fund adult social care.

Financial Strategy Implications

7. Alongside the requirement to set a balanced budget as part of the financial strategy, the Council must also set a Council Tax charge for the forthcoming year.

Recommendation and Reasons

8. Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

It be noted that on 28 November 2025 the Chief Finance Officer, under her delegated authority, calculated the council tax base for the year 2026/27:

(a) for the **whole Council area** as 69,978.60 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”)]; and

(b) for those dwellings in those parts of its area to which a **Parish** precept relates as in column 1 in the attached Schedule A.

9. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2026/27 (excluding Parish precepts) is £127,181,207.
10. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2026/27 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - (a) £605,666,340 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.

- (b) £477,278,872 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) £128,387,468 being the amount by which the aggregate at 10(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 10(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. [Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act].
- (d) £1,834.67 being the amount at 10(c) above [Item R], all divided by Item T (8(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- (e) £1,206,261 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the attached Schedule A).
- (f) £1,817.43 being the amount at 10(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 10(e) above by Item T (8(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.
11. To note that the Mayoral Combined Authority (including Fire and Rescue Services) and the Mayor in regards to Policing has issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the tables below.
12. That the Council, in accordance with sections 30 and 36 of the Act, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below, and at Schedule B for Parished areas, as the amounts of council tax for 2026/27 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

City of York Council

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,211.62	1,413.56	1,615.49	1,817.43	2,221.30	2,625.18	3,029.05	3,634.86

Mayoral Policing Precept

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
223.91	261.22	298.54	335.86	410.50	485.13	559.77	671.72

Mayoral General (including Fire and Rescue)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
77.75	90.70	103.66	116.62	142.54	168.45	194.37	233.24

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements (excluding Parished Areas)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1,513.28	1,765.48	2,017.69	2,269.91	2,774.34	3,278.76	3,783.19	4,539.82

13. Determine that the Council's basic amount of council tax for 2026/27 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under section 52ZB of the Act. As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2026/27 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.
14. **Reason:** In order to set a balanced budget and council tax charge by the statutory deadline"

Background

15. The Council's net revenue budget and capital programme were recommended by the 27 January 2026 Executive for approval by Council. Details appear earlier on this agenda.
16. The council tax levels to be proposed will include the precepts received from the parish councils, the Mayor in regard to the Policing service and the Mayoral Combined Authority in regards

the Fire & Rescue service. Members are reminded that the Council must word the resolution in precise language, as directed by legislation.

Parishes

17. The total parish funding has increased by £92,464 (8.02%) to £1,245,316 from £1,152,852 in 2025/26. This figure includes grants totalling £39,055 provided by the council to parishes to protect against the effects of the localised council tax support scheme. Therefore, the total amount of council tax to be levied by parishes in 2026/27 is £1,206,261. The percentage increases vary from -13.04% to 98.41%, with an average increase overall of 9.10%. 8 parishes have frozen their funding. The individual precepts are only charged to the residents in that parish. The total rise in parish precepts over the last three years has been £287k (30%).
18. Schedule C details the individual parish precepts and equivalent Band D levels.

Mayoral Combined Authority

19. From 1st April 2025 responsibility for both police and fire and rescue services in North Yorkshire has transferred to the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.
20. The York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority has set a Mayoral Policing precept at £23,503,013. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £335.86 in 2026/27, an increase of £15 (4.67%).
21. The York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority has set a Mayoral General Precept (including Fire and Rescue services) at £8,160,904. This results in a Band D Council Tax of £116.62 in 2026/27, an increase of £9.60 (8.97%).

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

22. City of York Council is currently a member of the Leeds City Region (LCR) Business Rates Pool. The pool was formed for 2021/22 and retains 50% of business rates, in line with national policy. However, following the governments business rates reset, analysis suggests there is unlikely to be a financial advantage to pooling in 2026/27, with an increased risk of financial loss to the region. In the light of this, all six members have collectively agreed not to continue with the pool in 2026/27.

23. The council is projecting retained business rates income in 2026/27 of £22.977m, a reduction of £13.2m from 2025/26. This is partially offset by funding which was previously included in business rates being rolled into the Revenue Support Grant in 2026/27.

Consultation Analysis

24. Not applicable

Options Analysis and Evidential Basis

25. Not applicable

Organisational Impact and Implications

26. The implications have been set out in the Financial Strategy report, earlier on this agenda.

Risks and Mitigations

27. Not applicable

Wards Impacted

28. All

Contact details

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Report approved:	Yes
Date:	4 February 2026

Background papers

Report of the Director Finance, Financial Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31;
Executive, 27 January 2026

Annexes

- Schedule A – 2026/27 Basic City of York Council and Parish element of Council Tax by parish area
- Schedule B – Total aggregate Council Tax (City of York Council, Police, Fire and Parish) by parish area
- Schedule C – Precepting information by parish area.

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SCHEDULE A

Parts of the Council's Area

	1. Council Tax Base	2. Basic Amount of Tax £	3. Valuation Bands							
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Acaster Malbis Parish Council	349.69	1,834.45	1,222.97	1,426.80	1,630.62	1,834.45	2,242.10	2,649.75	3,057.42	3,668.90
Askham Bryan Parish Council	210.01	1,870.16	1,246.77	1,454.57	1,662.36	1,870.16	2,285.75	2,701.34	3,116.93	3,740.32
Askham Richard Parish Council	100.61	1,878.53	1,252.35	1,461.08	1,669.80	1,878.53	2,295.98	2,713.43	3,130.88	3,757.06
Bishopthorpe Parish Council	1,296.24	1,846.72	1,231.15	1,436.34	1,641.53	1,846.72	2,257.10	2,667.48	3,077.87	3,693.44
Clifton Without Parish Council	2,071.27	1,838.45	1,225.63	1,429.91	1,634.17	1,838.45	2,246.99	2,655.53	3,064.08	3,676.90
Copmanthorpe Parish Council	1,704.17	1,841.56	1,227.71	1,432.33	1,636.94	1,841.56	2,250.79	2,660.02	3,069.27	3,683.12
Deighton Parish Council	138.10	1,855.45	1,236.97	1,443.13	1,649.29	1,855.45	2,267.77	2,680.09	3,092.42	3,710.90
Dunnington Parish Council	1,373.14	1,856.61	1,237.74	1,444.03	1,650.32	1,856.61	2,269.19	2,681.76	3,094.35	3,713.22
Earswick Parish Council	435.64	1,884.59	1,256.39	1,465.80	1,675.19	1,884.59	2,303.38	2,722.18	3,140.98	3,769.18
Elvington Parish Council	492.76	1,847.35	1,231.57	1,436.83	1,642.09	1,847.35	2,257.87	2,668.39	3,078.92	3,694.70
Fulford Parish Council	1,304.97	1,873.54	1,249.03	1,457.20	1,665.37	1,873.54	2,289.88	2,706.22	3,122.57	3,747.08
Haxby Town Council	3,256.36	1,884.46	1,256.31	1,465.69	1,675.07	1,884.46	2,303.23	2,721.99	3,140.77	3,768.92
Heslington Parish Council	360.63	1,881.35	1,254.23	1,463.28	1,672.31	1,881.35	2,299.42	2,717.50	3,135.58	3,762.70
Hessay Parish Council	118.33	1,859.05	1,239.37	1,445.93	1,652.49	1,859.05	2,272.17	2,685.29	3,098.42	3,718.10
Heworth Parish Council	837.83	1,842.92	1,228.61	1,433.39	1,638.15	1,842.92	2,252.45	2,661.99	3,071.53	3,685.84
Holtby Parish Council	102.89	1,851.28	1,234.19	1,439.89	1,645.58	1,851.28	2,262.67	2,674.06	3,085.47	3,702.56
Huntington Parish Council	3,541.55	1,870.79	1,247.19	1,455.06	1,662.92	1,870.79	2,286.52	2,702.25	3,117.98	3,741.58
Kexby Parish Council	104.75	1,857.30	1,238.20	1,444.57	1,650.93	1,857.30	2,270.03	2,682.76	3,095.50	3,714.60
Murton Parish Council	211.88	1,833.74	1,222.49	1,426.25	1,629.99	1,833.74	2,241.23	2,648.73	3,056.23	3,667.48
Naburn Parish Council	226.65	1,841.87	1,227.91	1,432.57	1,637.21	1,841.87	2,251.17	2,660.47	3,069.78	3,683.74
Nether Poppleton Parish Council	889.26	1,858.10	1,238.73	1,445.19	1,651.64	1,858.10	2,271.01	2,683.92	3,096.83	3,716.20
New Earswick Parish Council	808.56	1,849.83	1,233.22	1,438.76	1,644.29	1,849.83	2,260.90	2,671.97	3,083.05	3,699.66
Osbalwick Parish Council	1,351.41	1,840.78	1,227.19	1,431.72	1,636.25	1,840.78	2,249.84	2,658.90	3,067.97	3,681.56
Rawcliffe Parish Council	2,298.19	1,841.84	1,227.89	1,432.55	1,637.19	1,841.84	2,251.13	2,660.43	3,069.73	3,683.68
Rufforth and Knapton Parish Council	464.33	1,848.15	1,232.10	1,437.45	1,642.80	1,848.15	2,258.85	2,669.54	3,080.25	3,696.30
Skelton Parish Council	655.09	1,859.19	1,239.46	1,446.04	1,652.61	1,859.19	2,272.34	2,685.49	3,098.65	3,718.38
Stockton-on-the-Forest Parish Council	536.48	1,839.56	1,226.37	1,430.77	1,635.16	1,839.56	2,248.35	2,657.14	3,065.93	3,679.12
Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council	2,136.12	1,841.93	1,227.95	1,432.62	1,637.27	1,841.93	2,251.24	2,660.56	3,069.88	3,683.86
Upper Poppleton Parish Council	1,045.34	1,854.78	1,236.52	1,442.61	1,648.69	1,854.78	2,266.95	2,679.12	3,091.30	3,709.56
Wheldrake Parish Council	859.51	1,867.67	1,245.11	1,452.64	1,660.15	1,867.67	2,282.70	2,697.74	3,112.78	3,735.34
Wigginton Parish Council	1,372.99	1,870.51	1,247.01	1,454.84	1,662.67	1,870.51	2,286.18	2,701.84	3,117.52	3,741.02
	30,654.77									
All other parts of the council's area	39,323.83	1,817.43	1,211.62	1,413.56	1,615.49	1,817.43	2,221.30	2,625.18	3,029.05	3,634.86
	69,978.60									

Note: This schedule shows the basic City of York Council + Parish element of Council Tax for each area.

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SCHEDULE B

Parts of the Council's Area

Valuation Bands

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Acaster Malbis Parish Council	1,524.63	1,778.72	2,032.82	2,286.93	2,795.14	3,303.33	3,811.56	4,573.86
Askham Bryan Parish Council	1,548.43	1,806.49	2,064.56	2,322.64	2,838.79	3,354.92	3,871.07	4,645.28
Askham Richard Parish Council	1,554.01	1,813.00	2,072.00	2,331.01	2,849.02	3,367.01	3,885.02	4,662.02
Bishopthorpe Parish Council	1,532.81	1,788.26	2,043.73	2,299.20	2,810.14	3,321.06	3,832.01	4,598.40
Clifton Without Parish Council	1,527.29	1,781.83	2,036.37	2,290.93	2,800.03	3,309.11	3,818.22	4,581.86
Copmanthorpe Parish Council	1,529.37	1,784.25	2,039.14	2,294.04	2,803.83	3,313.60	3,823.41	4,588.08
Deighton Parish Council	1,538.63	1,795.05	2,051.49	2,307.93	2,820.81	3,333.67	3,846.56	4,615.86
Dunnington Parish Council	1,539.40	1,795.95	2,052.52	2,309.09	2,822.23	3,335.34	3,848.49	4,618.18
Earswick Parish Council	1,558.05	1,817.72	2,077.39	2,337.07	2,856.42	3,375.76	3,895.12	4,674.14
Elvington Parish Council	1,533.23	1,788.75	2,044.29	2,299.83	2,810.91	3,321.97	3,833.06	4,599.66
Fulford Parish Council	1,550.69	1,809.12	2,067.57	2,326.02	2,842.92	3,359.80	3,876.71	4,652.04
Haxby Town Council	1,557.97	1,817.61	2,077.27	2,336.94	2,856.27	3,375.57	3,894.91	4,673.88
Heslington Parish Council	1,555.89	1,815.20	2,074.51	2,333.83	2,852.46	3,371.08	3,889.72	4,667.66
Hessay Parish Council	1,541.03	1,797.85	2,054.69	2,311.53	2,825.21	3,338.87	3,852.56	4,623.06
Heworth Parish Council	1,530.27	1,785.31	2,040.35	2,295.40	2,805.49	3,315.57	3,825.67	4,590.80
Holtby Parish Council	1,535.85	1,791.81	2,047.78	2,303.76	2,815.71	3,327.64	3,839.61	4,607.52
Huntington Parish Council	1,548.85	1,806.98	2,065.12	2,323.27	2,839.56	3,355.83	3,872.12	4,646.54
Kexby Parish Council	1,539.86	1,796.49	2,053.13	2,309.78	2,823.07	3,336.34	3,849.64	4,619.56
Murton Parish Council	1,524.15	1,778.17	2,032.19	2,286.22	2,794.27	3,302.31	3,810.37	4,572.44
Naburn Parish Council	1,529.57	1,784.49	2,039.41	2,294.35	2,804.21	3,314.05	3,823.92	4,588.70
Nether Poppleton Parish Council	1,540.39	1,797.11	2,053.84	2,310.58	2,824.05	3,337.50	3,850.97	4,621.16
New Earswick Parish Council	1,534.88	1,790.68	2,046.49	2,302.31	2,813.94	3,325.55	3,837.19	4,604.62
Osbaldwick Parish Council	1,528.85	1,783.64	2,038.45	2,293.26	2,802.88	3,312.48	3,822.11	4,586.52
Rawcliffe Parish Council	1,529.55	1,784.47	2,039.39	2,294.32	2,804.17	3,314.01	3,823.87	4,588.64
Rufforth and Knapton Parish Council	1,533.76	1,789.37	2,045.00	2,300.63	2,811.89	3,323.12	3,834.39	4,601.26
Skelton Parish Council	1,541.12	1,797.96	2,054.81	2,311.67	2,825.38	3,339.07	3,852.79	4,623.34
Stockton-on-the-Forest Parish Council	1,528.03	1,782.69	2,037.36	2,292.04	2,801.39	3,310.72	3,820.07	4,584.08
Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council	1,529.61	1,784.54	2,039.47	2,294.41	2,804.28	3,314.14	3,824.02	4,588.82
Upper Poppleton Parish Council	1,538.18	1,794.53	2,050.89	2,307.26	2,819.99	3,332.70	3,845.44	4,614.52
Wheldrake Parish Council	1,546.77	1,804.56	2,062.35	2,320.15	2,835.74	3,351.32	3,866.92	4,640.30
Wigginton Parish Council	1,548.67	1,806.76	2,064.87	2,322.99	2,839.22	3,355.42	3,871.66	4,645.98
All other parts of the council's area	1,513.28	1,765.48	2,017.69	2,269.91	2,774.34	3,278.76	3,783.19	4,539.82

Note: This schedule shows the total aggregate Council Tax (City of York Council, Police, Fire and Parish) for each area.

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Schedule C

Parts of the Council's Area

	Council Tax Base	Precept Value £	Support Grant £	Total Funding Value £	Basic Band D £	% Increase in Total Funding
Acaster Malbis Parish Council	349.7	5,953.00	215.00	6,168.00	17.02	0.0%
Askham Bryan Parish Council	210.0	11,073.00	247.00	11,320.00	52.73	-0.1%
Askham Richard Parish Council	100.6	6,147.00	53.00	6,200.00	61.10	8.8%
Bishopthorpe Parish Council	1,296.2	37,973.00	1,027.00	39,000.00	29.29	8.3%
Clifton Without Parish Council	2,071.3	43,534.00	1,750.00	45,284.00	21.02	5.0%
Copmanthorpe Parish Council	1,704.2	41,117.00	783.00	41,900.00	24.13	0.0%
Deighton Parish Council	138.1	5,251.00	104.00	5,355.00	38.02	14.6%
Dunnington Parish Council	1,373.1	53,799.00	1,366.00	55,165.00	39.18	14.9%
Earswick Parish Council	435.6	29,256.00	387.00	29,643.00	67.16	2.0%
Elvington Parish Council	492.8	14,742.00	398.00	15,140.00	29.92	5.8%
Fulford Parish Council	1,305.0	73,223.00	3,418.00	76,641.00	56.11	21.6%
Haxby Town Council	3,256.4	218,274.00	5,466.00	223,740.00	67.03	20.2%
Heslington Parish Council	360.6	23,051.00	733.00	23,784.00	63.92	11.3%
Hessay Parish Council	118.3	4,925.00	75.00	5,000.00	41.62	11.1%
Heworth Parish Council	837.8	21,353.00	462.00	21,815.00	25.49	0.0%
Holtby Parish Council	102.9	3,483.00	17.00	3,500.00	33.85	98.4%
Huntington Parish Council	3,541.6	188,978.00	7,649.00	196,627.00	53.36	4.0%
Kexby Parish Council	104.8	4,176.00	24.00	4,200.00	39.87	0.0%
Murton Parish Council	211.9	3,455.00	45.00	3,500.00	16.31	0.0%
Naburn Parish Council	226.7	5,539.00	161.00	5,700.00	24.44	0.0%
Nether Poppleton Parish Council	889.3	36,170.00	830.00	37,000.00	40.67	0.0%
New Earswick Parish Council	808.6	26,198.00	4,802.00	31,000.00	32.40	3.3%
Osbalwick Parish Council	1,351.4	31,551.00	1,193.00	32,744.00	23.35	35.0%
Rawcliffe Parish Council	2,298.2	56,107.00	1,368.00	57,475.00	24.41	4.5%
Rufforth and Knapton Parish Council	464.3	14,264.00	236.00	14,500.00	30.72	6.1%
Skelton Parish Council	655.1	27,356.00	1,153.00	28,509.00	41.76	0.5%
Stockton-on-the-Forest Parish Council	536.5	11,873.00	406.00	12,279.00	22.13	8.0%
Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council	2,136.1	52,337.00	1,663.00	54,000.00	24.50	0.0%
Upper Poppleton Parish Council	1,045.3	39,043.00	957.00	40,000.00	37.35	-13.0%
Wheldrake Parish Council	859.5	43,183.00	544.00	43,727.00	50.24	7.0%
Wigginton Parish Council	1,373.0	72,877.00	1,523.00	74,400.00	53.08	4.8%

Note: This schedule shows precepting information for each parish area.

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Meeting:	Budget Council
Meeting date:	12 February 2026
Report of:	Director of Governance
Portfolio of:	Councillor Katie Lomas, Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion

Decision Report: Pay Policy Statement 2026 - 2027

Pay Policy Statement and Transparency Information

1. The purpose of the report is to present for approval the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2026-2027.
2. In addition, to provide the information required under The Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015.

Pros and Cons

4. The Council is required to produce and publish a Pay Policy Statement annually.

Policy Basis for Decision

5. To comply with the statutory guidance issued under Section 40 of the Localism Act 2011. Approval of the Pay Policy Statement is required by full Council.

Recommendation and Reasons

6. For the Council to approve the Pay Policy Statement for 2026 – 2027.

Reason: In order to fulfil the requirements of Section 38 – 43 of the Localism Act 2011 for the Council to produce and publish an annual policy statement that covers a number of matters concerning the pay of the Council's senior staff, principally Chief Officers and relationships with the pay of the rest of the workforce.

7. Note that there will be a revised pay policy statement presented to full council after the appointment of the new Chief Executive in April 2026.

Reason: The Council is required to republish a pay policy statement where there are significant changes to pay structures or management arrangements. This ensures compliance with the statutory requirements of the Localism Act 2011

8. Note that on approval the Pay Policy statement will be published on the Council's website

Reason: For compliance with the statutory requirements of the Localism Act 2011

Background

7. Section 38 – 43 of the Localism Act 2011 introduced a requirement for the Council to produce and publish an annual policy statement that covers a number of matters concerning the pay of the Council's senior staff, principally Chief Officers, and relationships with the pay of the rest of the workforce.
8. The Pay Policy Statement has been produced following the requirements of the Act and guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Communities. It has to be published before 31 March each year.

9. The Council is continually looking at how it can improve the information it provides, building on the changes made in 2022 to consolidate the Pay Policy Statement and additional reports for organisation and senior salary information required by The Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015. This format aims to provide improved transparency, consistency and clear presentation of data which can easily be accessed by the public.

Consultation Analysis

10. Approval of the Pay Policy Statement for 2026-27 is by full Council, consultation with other management bodies is not required.

Options Analysis and Evidential Basis

11. Whilst Members have the option to approve or not approve the report the report merely provides factual information required by the Act and Code.
12. It should be noted that apprentices have been excluded from the calculation for the pay multiple in the statement as they are employed on training contracts and paid outside of the Council's grading structures. School staff are also excluded from this statement.
13. The Council is a Living Wage employer and follows the wage level set by the Living Wage Foundation for 'Outside London'. The Council will apply the new 2026/2027 rate of £13.45 per hour from 1st April 2026. The new rate is equivalent to an annual salary of £25,948.86 per annum. For the majority of staff in the Council their basic pay will be above the Living Wage rate but the Living Wage supplement is in place if needed, to bridge any gap between basic pay and the Living Wage.
14. The Council is required to publish its pay multiple (the ratio between the highest paid base salary in the Council and the median salary) as part of the Pay Policy Statement. The ratio is based on the salary of the highest paid permanent role: that of the Chief Operating Officer. The median average has been used for calculating the pay multiple from pay data taken on 2nd January 2026.

15. The current pay multiple is 5.002:1. This is a small decrease of 0.001 from the pay multiple reported from pay data in January 2025.
16. The reporting requirements for salary information in the Pay Policy, under the Localism Act 2011, and for Transparency reporting, under the Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015, vary. It is important to be aware of these different reporting criteria as it means the data published in the different sections of the Pay Policy Statement and Transparency Information report cannot be compared on a like for like basis. Further explanations of the reporting criteria have been added to the report to provide further clarity and help the understanding of the reader.

Organisational Impact and Implications

17. **Financial** – There are no financial implications.
18. **Human Resources (HR)** – There are no human resources implications.
19. **Legal** – The Pay Policy Statement meets the requirements of the Localism Act and also meets the requirements of guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to which the authority is required to have regard under Section 40 of the Act.
20. **Procurement** – There are no procurement implications.
21. **Health and Wellbeing** – An approach to council pay which aims to support staff on lower incomes through the real living wage will have positive health and wellbeing impact on the public's health, as will a transparent and cautious approach to the 'pay multiple', which is in line with reducing inequalities in the city and our goals in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
22. **Environment and Climate action** – There are no implications as there is no policy change.
23. **Affordability** – If the Living Wage is to continue then this report will have a positive effect on those employees on a lower income.

24. **Equalities and Human Rights** – The Council recognises, and needs to take into account its Public Sector Equality Duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other prohibited conduct; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it in the exercise of a public authority’s functions). The information provided in this report is required by the stated Act and Code. However, further information on equalities in pay can be seen in the Council’s Gender Pay Gap reports published annually. [CYC Gender Pay Gap - Datasets - York Open Data](#)
25. **Data Protection and Privacy** – Data protection impact assessments (DPIAs) are an essential part of our accountability obligations and is a legal requirement for any type of processing under UK GDPR. Failure to carry out a DPIA when required may leave the council open to enforcement action, including monetary penalties or fines. DPIAs helps us to assess and demonstrate how we comply with all of our data protection obligations. It does not have to eradicate all risks but should help to minimise and determine whether the level of risk is acceptable in the circumstances, considering the benefits of what the council wants to achieve. As there is no personal data, special categories of personal data or criminal offence data being processed to inform the decision in this report, there is no requirement to complete a DPIA for it. This is evidenced by completion of DPIA screening questions. However, there will need to be consideration and completion of DPIAs where required, within the work required to implement the approved decision(s) from this report.
26. **Communications** – The Council’s Pay Policy Statements and Transparency information is published on the Council’s website at: <https://data.yorkopendata.org/group/transparency> This year’s information will be published following approval by Full Council.
27. **Economy** - Whilst there are no direct economy implications relating to the publication of the Pay Policy Statement, it is positive to note that the Council is a Living Wage Foundation accredited employer. This enables the Council, as a key employer in York, to lead by example in encouraging other local employers to consider

paying their staff the Real Living Wage. This supports ambitions within the York Economic Strategy 2022-2032 to improve living standards and livelihoods for all of York's residents and businesses and to promote 'an economy driven by good business'.

28. **Specialist Implications Officer** – Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer. There are no further implications.

Risks and Mitigations

29. There are no significant risks associated with production of the Pay Policy Statement.

Wards Impacted

30. There are no wards impacted by this report.

Contact details

For further information please contact the authors of this Decision Report.

Author

Name:	Judith Bennett
Job Title:	Pay, Reward and Policy Manager
Service Area:	Human Resources
Telephone:	(01904) 551716
Report approved:	Yes
Date:	23 January 2026

Background papers

None

Annexes

Pay Policy Statement and Transparency Information 2026-27.



**Pay Policy Statement
and
Transparency Information**

1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027

Contents

Introduction	3
Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement	4
Definition of officers covered by the Policy Statement.....	5
Policy on remunerating Chief Officers	6
Salary on Appointment of Chief Officers.....	7
Bonus and Performance related payments	7
Pension Contributions	7
Benefits in Kind	7
Travel and other expenses	7
Election Duties undertaken by Chief Officers	7
Termination payments of Chief Officers including redundancy and pension discretion	7
Remuneration of other non-chief officer staff.....	8
Policy on remunerating the lowest paid in the workforce	8
Apprenticeship Pay.....	8
Policy on the relationship between Chief Officer Remuneration and that of other staff	9
Amendments to the policy	9
Policy for future years.....	9
Transparency Information	9
Organisation Chart (See further notes below)	10
Notes for the Organisation Chart.....	11
Employees with remuneration over £50,000.	12

Introduction

This document contains information about the Council's workforce, in particular the annual Pay Policy Statement for 2026/27 as required by the Localism Act 2011, and other information required under the Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015.

The Council has taken the following action to ensure that this Policy Statement is easily accessible to the public:

- it is published on the Council's open data website in a readily accessible place - Senior Salary information, under Governance and Transparency.
- it can also easily be found under global web searches.

Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement

The following section sets out the Council's Pay Policy in relation to the remuneration of its Chief Officers and employees - in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011.

The policy is subject to annual review and must be approved by the Council each financial year. This statement is valid from 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027. The structures and pay rates quoted are correct as of 31st January 2026.

Subject to specific circumstances it may be necessary to amend the Pay Policy statement during the financial year. Any changes or amendments made will be subject to full Council approval.

The policy will be published on the Council's website as soon as reasonably practicable after Council approval or amendment.

The arrangements set out within this document do not extend to those members of staff who are employed within schools. This is because the scope of the Localism Act does not require Councils to consider individual schools.

The Council is mindful of its duty as defined in the Equality Act 2010. This Pay Policy Statement forms part of a range of pay policies to promote equality in pay practices and assists in ensuring that the Council is promoting transparency of senior managers' pay and a fair approach to pay related equalities objectives.

Definition of officers covered by the Policy Statement

This Policy Statement covers the following posts:

Statutory Chief Officers:

- Head of Paid Service - Chief Operating Officer
- Returning Officer - Chief Operating Officer
- Monitoring Officer - Director of Governance
- Director of Children's Services – Corporate Director Children & Education
- Director of Adult Social Services - Corporate Director Adult Social Care & Integration
- Chief Finance Officer (S151) – Director of Finance
- Director of Public Health - Director of Public Health

Non-statutory Chief Officers:

- Director Environment & Regulatory Services
- Director City Development
- Director Housing & Communities
- Director of Children's Safeguarding
- Assistant Director Finance
- Assistant Director Housing
- Assistant Director Adult Social Care (two posts)
- Assistant Director Education & Skills
- Assistant Director (Consultant) in Public Health (vacant)
- Assistant Director Customers, Communities & Inclusion
- Chief Officer HR & Support Service
- Chief Officer Transformation
- Chief Strategy Officer

Policy on remunerating Chief Officers

The Council has a policy for remunerating Chief Officers based on job evaluation and a grade structure. No changes to this are proposed during 2026-2027.

The grade and salary structure for Chief Officers and the Chief Operating Officer, as at January 2026, is:

Chief Operating Officer	4	£168,731
	3	£166,459
	2	£164,187
	1	£159,643
Corporate Directors	4	£126,641
	3	£122,648
	2	£118,804
	1	£115,078
Directors	4	£113,034
	3	£109,282
	2	£105,658
	1	£102,156
Assistant Directors	4	£92,834
	3	£89,561
	2	£86,670
	1	£83,772

Note: these rates are the pay rates effective from 1st April 2025

Any annual increase to the salary scales is in accordance with awards negotiated nationally by the respective National Joint Councils and applicable from 1st April annually.

Progression through the salary scale for the Chief Operating Officer is dependent upon performance and approval by the Leader of the Council.

Progression through the salary scale for Chief Officers is dependent upon performance and achievement of objectives, approved by the line manager.

Salary on Appointment of Chief Officers

The appointments sub-committee, subject to Pay Policy and job evaluated range for the post, determines the salary level and package offered to the successful candidate.

Statutory Chief Officers' pay packages are subject to approval by the Council's Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee.

Bonus and Performance related payments

The Council does not make any such payments.

Pension Contributions

Employer pension contributions are set by the relevant pension fund.

Benefits in Kind

There are no benefits in kind to which officers are entitled as a result of their employment.

Travel and other expenses

Any necessary travel and expenses are reimbursed through normal Council procedures.

Election Duties undertaken by Chief Officers

Fees for election duties undertaken by Chief Officers are not included in their salaries. The Chief Operating Officer is the Returning Officer and receives payments for elections. For local elections, fees are set locally. For national elections, fees are set by the Cabinet Office.

Termination payments of Chief Officers including redundancy and pension discretion

The Council applies its normal redundancy payments arrangements to Chief Officers and does not have separate provisions for them. The Council also applies the appropriate Pensions regulations when they apply. The Council has agreed policies in place on how it will apply any discretionary powers it has under Pensions regulations. Any costs that are incurred by the Council regarding Chief Officers are published in the authority accounts as required under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015.

Approval of any pension discretions are made by the Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee.

Non-contractual Chief Officers and officer Special Severance Payments over £100k in value are subject to approval by the Council's Staffing Matters and Urgency Committee.

Remuneration of other non-chief officer staff

In addition to the separate arrangements for the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Officers, the Council has staff employed under terms and conditions set for the following groups:

- Local Government Services Employees
- Soulbury Officers
- Educational Psychologists
- Workshop for the Blind
- Teachers (non-school based)
- The council also employs staff who have separate terms and conditions subject to the Transfer of Undertaking and Protection of Employment (TUPE) Regulations.

Increases to the Council's salary scales are in line with annual salary awards negotiated nationally by the respective National Joint Councils.

Policy on remunerating the lowest paid in the workforce

The Council applies terms and conditions of employment that have been negotiated and agreed through appropriate collective bargaining mechanisms (national or local) or as a consequence of Council decisions. These are then incorporated into contracts of employment.

The Council operates a grading structure for Local Government Services employees. This runs from Grade 2 to 13 and the lowest paid employees, excluding apprentices, are situated within this structure at Grade 2.

The Council is a Living Wage Foundation accredited employer which means its lowest pay point complies with its outside London Living Wage rate. From 1st April 2026 this rate of pay will be £13.45 per hour (£25,948.86 per annum). A Living Wage supplement is in place if needed to bridge any gap between basic pay and the Living Wage rate.

Apprenticeship Pay

The Council's pay rates for apprentices are:

- Year 1 (regardless of age) – the equivalent of the National Minimum Wage for 18- to 20-year-olds.
- Year 2 and any subsequent years (regardless of age) – the National Living Wage for those aged 21 and above.
- Rates increase annually in April following any changes made to the National Minimum and National Living Wage rates.

Policy on the relationship between Chief Officer Remuneration and that of other staff

At the time of this report the highest salary in this Council is £168,731 which is paid to the Chief Operating Officer. The median salary in this council is £33,727 (Apprentices have been excluded from the calculation for the median.) The ratio between the two salaries, the 'pay multiple' is 5.002:1. This Council does not have a policy on maintaining or reaching a specific 'pay multiple', however the Council is conscious of the need to ensure that the salary of the highest paid employee, whilst reflecting the responsibilities of that role and reflecting the overall market, is not excessive and is consistent with the needs of the Council as expressed in this Policy Statement.

Amendments to the policy

No amendments to the Pay Policy are anticipated during the year. If changes are made these will be presented to full Council for approval as appropriate. Any relevant changes involving the senior structure impacting on this Statement will be reported to full council.

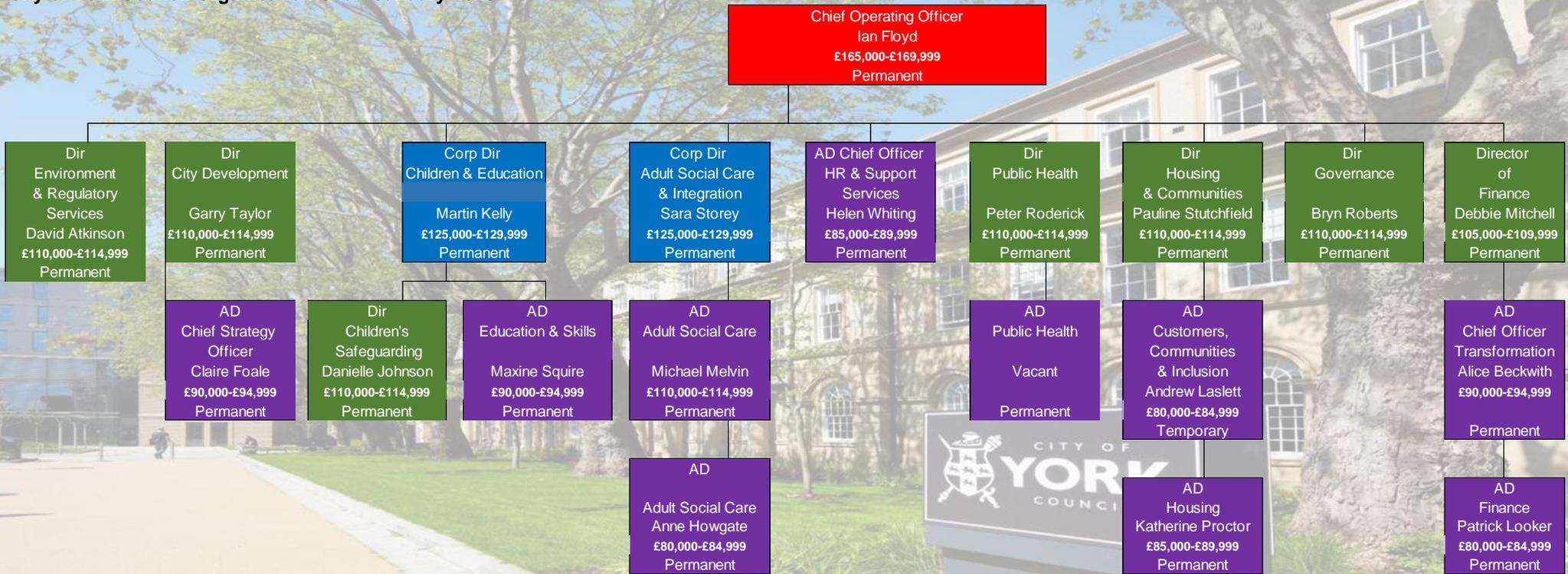
Policy for future years

This Policy Statement will be reviewed each year and presented to full Council for consideration.

Transparency Information

The following section provides the mandated information as required under the Local Authorities (Data Transparency) Code 2015.

City of York Council Organisation Chart January 2026



Organisation Chart (See further notes below)

Notes for the Organisation Chart

The chart shows the council's senior staff. The information shown is in the order of:

Job Title
 Department
 Name of job holder
 Salary level of job holder within £5,000 brackets
 Contract status

The grades of the roles in the organisation chart are colour coded as shown below, the current salary ceilings for the grades are also shown below, the full salary scales for these grades are detailed in the earlier section titled 'Policy on Remunerating Chief Officers':

COO	up to £168,731
Corp Dir	up to £126,641
Dir	up to £113,034
AD	up to £92,834

To show how the different salary information reported applies we can take the Corporate Director for Adult Social Care as an example. The information shows: That this role has a salary ceiling of £126,641, this is the maximum salary for the grade. In accordance with transparency guidance, the organisation chart shows where the actual salary of the job holder sits within the appropriate £5,000 salary banding. In this example the job holder's salary would fit within a salary band of £125,000 to £129,449.

The senior staff can be contacted by:

 Email using: firstname.lastname@york.gov.uk

 Telephone: 01904 551550

More information on service responsibilities can be found at: [Council Management Team – City of York Council](#)

Employees with remuneration over £50,000.

The data in the table below shows the total remuneration received in the year from January 2025 to December 2025. Remuneration includes actual basic salary, so the pro-rata salary for any part time employees, plus any additional allowances paid. This information cannot be directly compared to that provided in other sections of this document due to the difference in reporting criteria and data.

The Council has 210 employees with remuneration over £50,000. This includes the roles reported in the organisation chart.

The employees included in this count are covered by the national pay arrangements for Chief Operating Officers, Chief Officers, Soulbury Officers, Educational Psychologists, Teachers (non-school based) and Local Government Service Employees.

No of employees with remuneration over £50,000 in £5,000 brackets:

Pay Bands £	Count of Job Holders
50,000 - 54,999	62
55,000 - 59,999	83
60,000 - 64,999	17
65,000 - 69,999	24
70,000 - 74,999	4
75,000 - 79,999	3
80,000 - 84,999	3
85,000 - 89,999	2
90,000 - 94,999	2
100,000 - 104,999	1
105,000 - 109,999	2
110,000 - 114,999	4
120,000 - 124,999	1
135,000 - 139,999	1
165,000 - 169,999	1
Grand Total	210



Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	12 February 2026
Report of:	Bryn Roberts, Director of Governance
Portfolio of:	Councillor Claire Douglas, Leader of the Council

Appointments and Changes to Membership

Subject of Report

1. This report provides an update on appointments and changes to membership following the recent Heworth by-election.

Recommendations

2. Members are asked to:
 - (i) Agree the appointment of Councillor Moroney to the Fostering Panel
 - (ii) Note the group nominations to Committees and other bodies, as well as appointments to the Chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee, as set out in this report to give effect to Group Nominations
 - (iii) Note the appointment of Parish Councillor, Pam Mullen to the Kyle and Upper Ouse Internal Drainage Board

Executive Summary

3. At its Annual General Meeting, Full Council considers the allocation of seats on Committees and other bodies every year and makes appropriate appointments for the coming Municipal Year.
4. The distribution of seats on committees is allocated in accordance with the proportionality principles set out in the Local Government

and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

5. This report provides an update on appointments and changes to membership following the recent Heworth by-election.
 - Appointment of Additional Member to the Fostering Panel – Councillor John Moroney
 - Appointment of Chair of Place Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Danny Myers
 - Appointment of Councillor Anna Perrett, to both the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Licensing Committee
 - Councillor Margaret Wells to move from the Corporate Scrutiny Committee to the Place Scrutiny Committee
 - Councillor Anna Baxter to move from the Place Scrutiny Committee to the Planning Committee
 - Councillor Tony Clarke to move from the People Scrutiny Committee to the Place Scrutiny Committee.
 - Appointment of Councillor Danny Myers to the People Scrutiny Committee.
 - Appointment of Parish Councillor, Pam Mullen (representing Skelton Parish Council) to the Kyle and Upper Ouse Internal Drainage Board.

Council Plan and Policy Framework

6. There are no implications for the Council Plan or Policy Framework.

Legal Implications

7. Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 imposes a duty on the Council to allocate seats on its ordinary and advisory committees to party groups, giving effect, “so far as is reasonably practicable”, to principles set out in the Act.
8. These principles are:
 - a) Not all the seats on the body are allocated to the same political group;

- b) That the majority of the seats on the body is allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership;
 - c) Subject to (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary committees of a relevant authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority;
 - d) Subject to (a) to (c) above, that the number of the seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority.
9. The Council is statutorily obliged to make appointments to committees, advisory committees, sub-committees, and certain other prescribed bodies in accordance with these political balance rules.

Consultation Analysis

10. Not applicable

Options Analysis and Evidential Basis

11. Not applicable

Organisational Impact and Implications

12. Not applicable

Risks and Mitigations

13. Not applicable

Wards Impacted

14. All

Contact details

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Report approved:	Yes
Date:	4 February 2026

Background papers

No background papers

Annexes

No annexes.