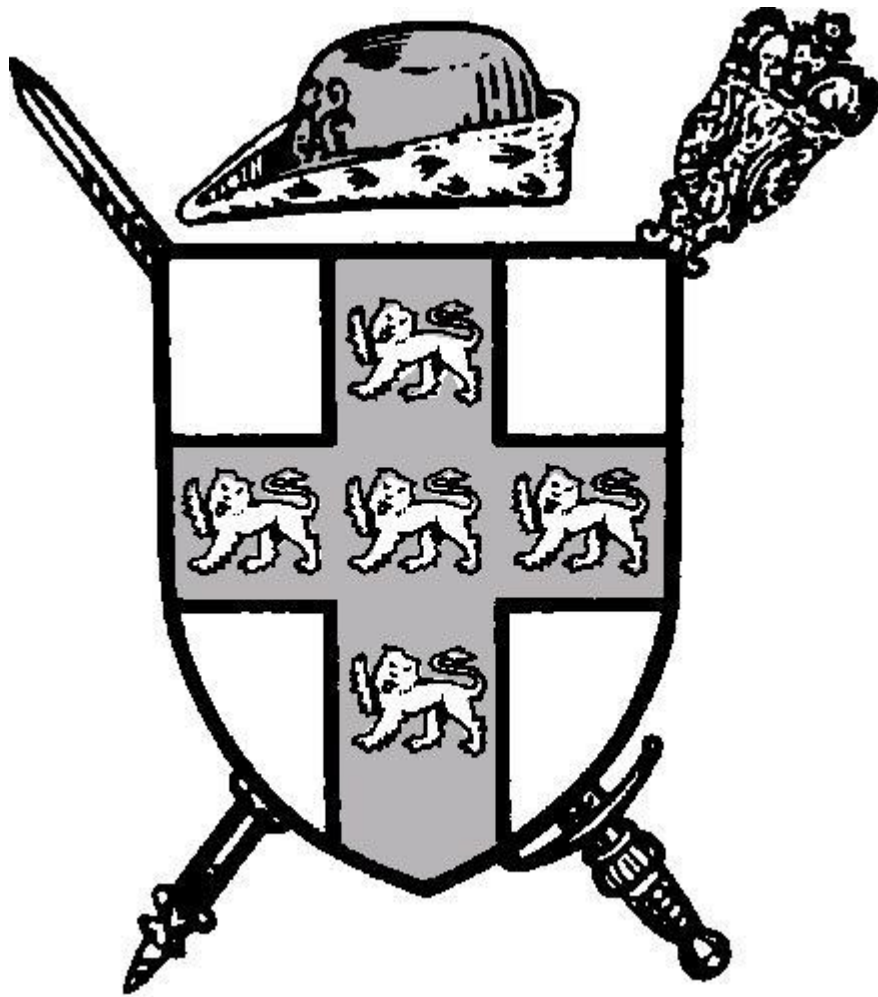




CITY OF YORK COUNCIL SUMMONS

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

Thursday, 17 September 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 15 - 16)

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. 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, 15 September 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.

4. Minutes (Pages 17 - 40)

To approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting and Ordinary Council meeting held on 16 July 2026.

5. Civic Announcements

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

6. Petitions

To consider any petitions received from Members in accordance with Standing Order B6.

Notice has been received of six petitions to be presented by:

- Councillor Taylor to present a petition on behalf of local residents, which calls upon City of York Council to urgently consider and propose traffic calming measures for Moorgate.
- Councillor Nicholls to present a petition which calls upon City of York Council to prevent HGVs from passing along Sim Balk Lane and Acaster Lane between 8:15am and 9.00am and 3.00pm and 3.30pm during Bishopthorpe Infant School and Archbishop of York's Church of England Junior School (AYJS) term time to ensure the safety of children and adults.
- Councillor Warters to present a petition which calls upon City of York Council to fly the Southampton flag in memory of Henry Novak from the Mansion House in York.
- Councillor Warters to present a petition in relation to Osbaldwick Lane road closure and loss of bus services.
- Councillor Warters to present a petition in relation to holding City of York Council accountable for the £34m York Station Gateway increase.
- Councillor Steward to present a petition which calls upon City of York Council to put up signage about the risk of loose deer covering the area of Tadcaster Road new houses to the junction by Askham Bog.

7. Report of the Leader of the Council and Executive
(Pages 41 - 68)

To receive a report from the Leader of the Council and Executive providing an update on key activity since the last Council meeting.

8. Questions to the Leader or Executive Members

To question the Leader and/or Executive Members in respect of any matter within their portfolio responsibility, in accordance with Standing Order B8.

9. Recommendations of Executive

To receive and consider for approval the recommendations of Executive.

(Recommendations arising from the Executive meeting held on 9 September 2026 will follow)

10. Scrutiny - Report of the Chair of Corporate Scrutiny Committee (Pages 69 - 74)

To receive a report from Councillor Fenton, Chair of Corporate Scrutiny Committee, on the work of Scrutiny.

11. Annual Report of the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee 2025/26 (Pages 75 - 78)

To receive a report from the Director of Governance presenting the Annual Report of the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee covering the 2025/26 municipal year.

12. Update to Pay Policy Statement 2026/2027 (Pages 79 - 92)

To receive a report from the Chief Officer for HR and Support Services presenting an updated Pay Policy Statement following the appointment of the new City of York Council (CYC) Chief Executive in April 2026.

13. Appointments and Changes to Membership (Pages 93 - 94)

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

14. Motions on Notice

To consider the following Motions on Notice under Standing Order B10:

1) Religious slaughter of animals

To be moved by Councillor Warters

Council notes that:

- The ritual slaughter of animals for the production of Halal and Kosher meat and meat products without prior full and un-recoverable stun is intolerably cruel, painful, unnecessary and should end.
- Recent undercover footage of activities at a Halal and Kosher slaughterhouse is utterly abhorrent and has no place in this country.

Council believes that:

- In a civilised country the unnecessary torture of animals should not be a matter of personal dietary choice nor be part of a religious exemption.
- Indeed, Sweden, Denmark, Slovenia, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Greece currently ban non stun animal slaughter.
- City of York Council should show compassionate and courageous leadership in dealing with this matter in much the same way as Lancashire County Council did some years ago.

Council resolves to;

- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Dame Angela Eagle MP and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Farming, Food and Fisheries stating the Council's concern over the production and sale of non and recoverable stun meat and meat products in the UK and to request removal of the religious exemption permitting slaughter without full, unrecoverable stunning to be removed without delay.
- Ban the procurement of non and recoverable stun ritually slaughtered meat and meat products by City of York Council.
- Ban the sale and consumption of non and recoverable stun ritually slaughtered meat and meat products on directly operated City of York Council premises.
- Draft future City of York Council catering contracts and leases for food outlets on City of York Council premises to prohibit the sale and provision of such meat.
- Inform representative hospitality venues in the city of the view of City of York Council.
- Inform all food outlets in the city of the view of the City of York Council.
- Instruct the relevant City of York Council officers to ensure that any procurement of meat and meat products by City of York Council aims to ensure supply is sourced locally and with due regard to the highest possible welfare standards being able to be demonstrated.

2) Tackling Fly-Tipping and Improving York's Public Realm

To be moved by Councillor Waller

Council notes:

- That residents rightly expect their neighbourhoods to be clean, safe and well maintained, and that the quality of York's public realm has a significant impact on residents' quality of life, the attractiveness of our city and the local economy.
- York recorded 2,954 reported fly-tipping incidents in 2024/25, an increase from 2,500 in 2023/24 and 2,368 in 2022/23.
- A further 2,807 incidents were recorded in the first nine months of 2025/26, demonstrating that fly-tipping remains a significant and persistent problem.
- The Council's own performance data shows that reported vegetation issues, including weeds and overgrown hedges, increased from 1,993 in 2021/22 to 2,711 in 2023/24.
- Only 50.8% of standard street-cleaning cases were resolved within the Council's three-day target in the latest available performance data.
- Residents should not have to repeatedly report the same problems or accept that visible deterioration of their neighbourhood is simply the way things are.

Council believes:

- That clean and well-maintained neighbourhoods should not be a luxury. Residents across York deserve a Council that is proactive in tackling fly-tipping and takes pride in the everyday appearance of the places where people live.
- That tackling these problems requires a proactive approach, rather than relying on residents to identify and report problems individually.
- That it is concerning that fly-tipping, litter, overflowing bins, graffiti, weeds and poorly maintained public spaces continue to be raised by residents across York.
- That the Liberal Democrat budget amendment would have

provided an opportunity to invest in practical improvements to York's neighbourhoods and to demonstrate that council spending can deliver visible benefits for residents. Including £300,000 additional into frontline services, a reduction to the Green Bin Tax, and the introduction of Community Skips.

Council therefore resolves to:

- To recognise the increasing scale and persistence of fly-tipping and public-realm problems across York, and the impact these have on residents and neighbourhoods.
- To reaffirm that stopping the decline in the cleanliness, appearance and condition of York's neighbourhoods should be a priority for the Council.
- To call on the Executive to bring forward proposals, as part of next year's budget, that would increase the resources available to tackle fly-tipping and improve the public realm across York's neighbourhoods.

3) Building a Care System That Works: York's role in the National Conversation on Care

To be moved by Councillor Coles

This Council notes:

- Adult social care is one of the biggest challenges of our time and the system is unsustainable – for patients, their families, communities and for the future existence of councils;
- The Prime Minister has committed to fixing the broken social care system by working across party lines, setting out a new approach to politics based on problem-solving rather than point-scoring, and drawing a line under decades of governments leaving this issue unaddressed;
- Baroness Louise Casey, who chairs the Independent Commission on Adult Social Care, has launched the Big Conversation on Care, giving the public the chance to help

shape the future of adult social care in England, starting with what values and principles a care system should be built on;

- In June 2026, a national average of 13,600 people a day were medically fit to leave hospital but unable to do so, partly due to the unavailability of social care, while around 3,000 instances of corridor care are occurring daily as a result of pressures on hospital capacity;
- A&E attendances by people aged 65 and over has risen from 3.3m in 2011/12 to 5.8m in 2024/25, growth far outstripping the increase in the older population, and cuts to adult social care funding between 2010 and 2018 are estimated to have driven around half a million additional A&E attendances a year among people aged 65 and over;
- In York, the situation reflects the national picture but with acute local pressures that are impossible to sustain:
 - **Demand:** a 28% increase in those eligible for adult social care support in only two years – up 350 to 1616 residents;
 - **Frailty and dementia:** the number of over 65s with dementia is forecast to increase by 10% between 2025 and 2029;
 - **Complex needs:** the number in long-term residential and nursing care has increased by 18% in just two years - up 104 to 671 residents;
 - **Workforce vacancy rate:** turnover and recruitment challenges remain some of the most significant risks to service stability.
- York Hospital is sometimes operating at extremely high capacity, with a small minority of its patients at times medically fit for discharge, but unable to leave;
- York's Neighbourhood Teams and Voluntary Sector organisations are making a positive impact, but the scale of need currently exceeds the capacity of the system, particularly in relation to unpaid carers, people experiencing multiple disadvantage, and those requiring intensive support to remain independent – up 23% in three years, or 22 to 102 residents.
- The Council continues to face huge financial pressures, with rising placement costs, increased demand for

safeguarding and community support, and a fragile provider market that requires sustained national reform rather than short-term fixes. York's safeguarding concerns numbers also rose substantially – up 27%, or 650 to 3,088 concerns in just two years.

This Council welcomes:

- The drive shown by the national Independent Commission on Adult Social Care in working to bring forward its reporting timetable, recognising the urgency felt by residents, carers, care workers, Unions and Local Government, who cannot afford to wait for lasting reform;
- The Prime Minister's willingness to engage opposition parties in this process, in the belief that a problem of this scale and longevity can only be solved through a settlement built to outlast any single Parliament.

This Council resolves to:

- Promote the Big Conversation on Care to residents, staff, carers, providers, trade unions and local partners to maximise participation;
- Commit its full support and participation in the national conversation through local engagement events, sharing local data and case studies, or any other means it's considered will support the Commission's work;
- Continue to work constructively with all political groups represented on this Council, and with neighbouring authorities, health and care partners, user representatives and trade unions, mirroring national efforts to build a cross-party consensus that will enable social care reform to endure;
- Ask the Executive Member for Adult Social Care to report back to Full Council on the outcomes of local engagement with the Big Conversation on Care, and on the Commission's findings as they are published.

15. 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

Reasonable Adjustments and Alternative formats statement

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

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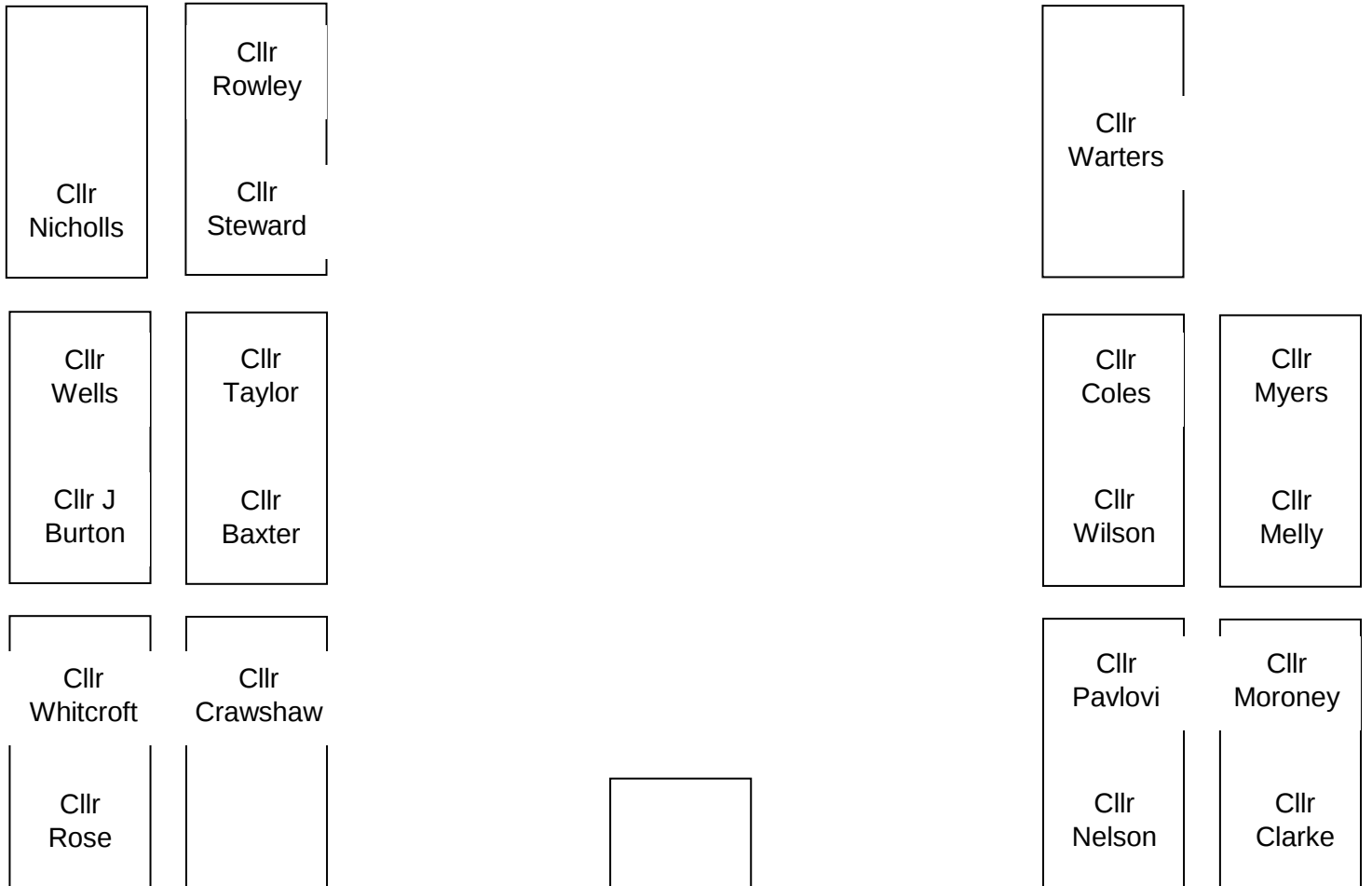
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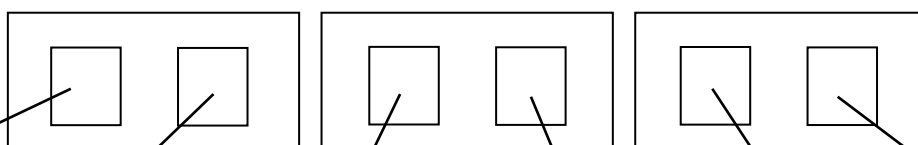
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Cllr Waudby	Cllr Knight	Cllr Smalle	Cllr Wann	Cllr Orrell	Cllr Hook	Cllr Cullwick	Cllr Fisher	Cllr Cuthbertson	Cllr Watson
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Cllr Hollyer	Cllr Mason	Cllr Fenton	Cllr Healey	Cllr Ayre	Cllr Widdowson	Cllr Waller	Cllr Runciman	Cllr Vassie
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Cllr Kilbane	Cllr Kent	Cllr Lomas	Cllr Webb	Cllr Dougla	Cllr Steels-Walshaw	Cllr Perrett	Cllr Merrett	Cllr Ravilious
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D Mitchell,
Chief Finance
Officer

R Webb,
Chief
Operating

Cllr Wells,
Lord Mayor

B Roberts,
Monitoring
Officer

J Gallagher,
Head of Democratic
Services

G Close,
Democratic
Services
Manager

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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 if</u> 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> <i>(a) to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of a majority of inhabitants of the affected ward; and</i> <i>(b) 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 if</u> the public are also allowed to speak, but otherwise not do not participate in the discussion or vote, and leave the</i>

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.*

City of York Council

Resolutions and proceedings of the Extraordinary Meeting of the City of York Council held in the Guildhall, York on Thursday, 16 July 2026, starting at 6.00 pm

Present: The Lord Mayor (Councillor Margaret Wells) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

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

Hull Road Ward

Huntington and New Earswick
Ward

Baxter
Moroney
Pavlovic

Cullwick
Orrell

Micklegate Ward

Osbalwick and Derwent Ward

Burton
Crawshaw
Kilbane

Rowley
Warters

Rawcliffe and Clifton Without Ward

Rural West York Ward

Smalley
Wann
Waudby

Hook
Knight

Strensall Ward

Westfield Ward

Fisher
Healey

Coles
Nelson
Waller

Wheldrake Ward

Vassie

14. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Cuthbertson, Hollyer, Mason, Melly and Runciman.

15. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

16. Public Participation

There were no registered speakers on this occasion.

17. Honorary Freedom of the City

The Lord Mayor declared that the purpose of the meeting under Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, was to confer the title of Honorary Freedom of the City upon Ken Cooke.

It was then moved by Councillor Rowley and seconded by Councillor Douglas:

“That pursuant to its powers under Section 249(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do confer the title of Honorary Freedom of the City upon:

Ken Cooke, in formal recognition of his exceptional services to the people and City of York.”

The motion was put to the vote and it was

Resolved (unanimously): That the above motion be approved and that a Civic Ceremony be arranged at an appropriate time.

Councillor Margaret Wells

LORD MAYOR OF YORK

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

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City of York Council

Resolutions and proceedings of the Meeting of the City of York Council held in the Guildhall, York on Thursday, 16 July 2026, starting at 6.30 pm

Present: The Lord Mayor (Councillor Wells) in the Chair, and the following Councillors:

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

Hull Road Ward

Baxter
Moroney
Pavlovic

Huntington and New Earswick Ward

Cullwick
Orrell

Micklegate Ward

Burton
Crawshaw
Kilbane

Osballdwick and Derwent Ward

Rowley
Warters

Rawcliffe and Clifton Without Ward

Smalley
Wann
Waudby

Rural West York Ward

Hook
Knight

Strensall Ward

Fisher
Healey

Westfield Ward

Coles
Nelson
Waller

Wheldrake Ward

Vassie

18. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Cuthbertson, Mason, Melly and Runciman.

An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Hollyer.

19. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Coles declared a pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 13, 'North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Annual Report 2025/26' in her capacity as Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime of York and North Yorkshire. She left the meeting during the consideration of this item and did not vote.

Councillor Crawshaw declared a pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 9, 'Recommendations of Executive' in his capacity as a Trustee of York Museums Trust. He left the meeting during the consideration of this item and did not vote.

Councillor Clarke also declared a pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 9, 'Recommendations of Executive' in his capacity as a Trustee of York Museums Trust. He left the meeting during the consideration of this item and did not vote.

20. Public Participation

Ruth Pearson spoke in relation to agenda item 6, Petitions. Ruth spoke in her capacity as a Town Councillor for Haxby Town Council and on behalf of parents of Ralph Butterfield Primary School. It was reported that Haxby Town Council supported the petition for a zebra crossing outside the school. In addition, parents welcomed the steps that City of York Council (CYC) had taken to improve road safety around the school, particularly the introduction of single yellow lines and the recent appointment of a new crossing patrol officer. However, it was felt that these measures did not go far enough to fully address the risks. That the installation of a zebra or pelican crossing was necessary to properly safeguard children. This would encourage drivers to slow down and provide a clear, permanent safety measure. CYC was urged to give serious consideration to installation of a zebra or pelican crossing as a long-term solution to improve road safety for all children and families accessing the school.

Denise Craghill spoke in relation to agenda item agenda item 17 – Motions on Notice – Expanding Access to On-Street Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging in York. Denise spoke in her capacity as Vice Chair of York Green Party. It was stated that EV charging was an important issue affecting residents that lived in central wards in York who did not have a viable option to charge an electric vehicle at home. Concern was expressed about the lack of action on this issue. That the amendment only committed to some tentative progress with a promise of an updated strategy for cross party scrutiny in six months' time. It was felt that the most effective way of ensuring progress would be to identify different locations and work with residents to assess what worked. This could include shared learning from other cities and a review of progress to inform next steps.

Flick Williams spoke remotely in relation to agenda item 7 – Report of the Leader of the Council and Executive. Flick expressed concern that the report made no reference to Disability Pride. It was noted that whilst 39 elected members had now attended disability equity training, it was important that all elected members attended. Concern was raised that evidence of learning put into practice was still to be evaluated.

21. Minutes

The following amendments to the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 March 2026, were noted as follows:

- In relation to minute no. 83, Public Participation, it should refer to public speaker, Lars Kramm not Lars Crown.
- In relation to minute no. 86, Petitions, it should refer to a reduction in the speed limit from 60mph to 40mph on Sheriff Hutton Road, Strensall, not an increase in the speed limit.

Resolved: Subject to the above amendments, the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting and Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2026, together with the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 21 May 2026, were approved as a correct record.

22. Civic Announcements

The Lord Mayor provided an update on civic engagements that had taken place since the last Council Meeting.

23. Petitions

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule B6, eight petitions were presented for consideration by the relevant decision maker:

- a) Councillor Merrett presented a petition which called upon the York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and the City of York Council to work together to urgently undertake measures to address the serious and regular congestion and queuing back from the hospital car park into Wigginton Road.
- b) Councillor Waller presented a petition on behalf of local businesses, which expressed concerns at the current situation on Front Street in relation to anti-social behaviour which was deterring people from visiting local shops.
- c) Councillor Waller presented a petition on behalf of local residents which called upon City of York Council to reverse proposals for the loss of parking opposite Radford House, Windsor Garth with double yellow lines, or to provide replacement parking with additional eco-grid parking spaces.
- d) Councillor Orrell presented a petition which called upon City of York Council to carry out a consultation of Huntington residents where there was match day parking to determine whether local people would like further parking restrictions.
- e) Councillor Cullwick presented a petition which called upon City of York Council to allow Huntington Parish Council to pay for Vehicle Activated Signs on Strensall Road, Huntington, to help reduce speeding.
- f) Councillor Waller presented a petition on behalf of residents of Westfield which called upon City of York Council to bring back Community Skips / Tidy-Up Vans to help residents, particularly those without access to a car to dispose of bulky waste. It also called upon City of York Council to explore options for replacement of the much-missed Beckfield Lane tip.
- g) Councillor Watson (on behalf of Councillor Hollyer) presented a petition which advocated for the installation of a zebra crossing at the entrance to Wigginton Primary School.
- h) Councillor Watson (on behalf of Councillor Hollyer) presented a petition which proposed the installation of a well-marked pedestrian crossing with adequate signage and possibly traffic calming measures near the school entrance at Ralph Butterfield School.

Resolved – That the petitions log be updated accordingly and the level of progress tracked by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

24. Report of the Leader of the Council and Executive

The report of the Leader of the Council and Executive had been included as part of the agenda pack and published on the Council's website.

(Councillor Hollyer joined the meeting at 7.10pm during the consideration of this item.)

25. 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 Moroney

Please could the Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Stronger Communities, outline what progress had been made in helping York residents sleeping rough to get into more stable accommodation?

The Executive Member responded that the Labour administration was committed to ending street homelessness in York. That over the last four weeks there had been no individuals from York reported to be without housing. There was also recognition of the positive work undertaken by voluntary groups such as Hoping Street Kitchen and the Salvation Army to support some of the most vulnerable individuals in society.

Councillor Widdowson

Businesses had repeatedly warned that higher parking charges and related policies made it harder for people to visit the city centre, and that it damaged trade. Did the Executive Member for Economy accept that the Labour administration's approach had failed? And would it commit to introducing measures such as restoring low cost, 30-minute parking and taking other urgent action to bring shoppers and residents back into York?

The Executive Member acknowledged that these were tough times for businesses. One of the biggest challenges related to global pressures and the impact this had on businesses. There was a need to restore confidence with a focus on encouraging people to spend time and money in the city.

Councillor Nicholls

Please could the Executive Member for Transport provide an update on amendments to the 20mph speed limit in Bishopthorpe and provide an assurance that any changes were implemented within a reasonable timescale?

The Executive Member responded that there had been positive discussions with officers about this. It was advised that a gateway approach had been devised for all 20 and 30mph, villages and communities. There were four different gateway approaches. Officers were currently reviewing which gateway approach would work best for the entrances into Bishopthorpe. It was agreed to provide the ward member with an update on the gateway approach into Bishopthorpe.

Councillor Warters

Would the Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Major Projects offer a full and unreserved public apology to the council taxpayers of York over the outrageous overspend on the Station Gateway project and indicate how, along with the Executive Member, staff, both past and present will be held accountable?

The Executive Member responded that the Labour administration had inherited the contract and was liable for overspend and costs. The contract had not included essential features in relation to accessibility. Other, unexpected changes were also required. Issues had been discussed at Scrutiny Committee meetings and through the work of the Audit and Governance Committee. Measures had been put in place to ensure that similar issues did not arise in future. Some of the overspend was driven by international pressures, which CYC was unable to control, for example the cost of labour and materials. It was not considered appropriate to comment on individual staffing issues at full Council meetings.

Councillor Vassie

Concerns were raised about a large pile of fly tipped waste on Naburn Lane in Deighton. It was later discovered that the waste contained asbestos and had been subsequently labelled hazardous. The waste had been left there for eight weeks before it was removed. Did the Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency agree that it was unacceptable for fly tipped waste, whether it was hazardous or not to be left on a country lane for two months?

The Executive Member responded that fly tipping was a criminal offence and an assault on the environment, homes and wildlife. All fly tipping needed to be dealt with, especially when it contained hazardous materials. An assessment of the type of asbestos was needed. In relation to the case on Naburn Lane it was understood that an investigation and assessment was ongoing. A further update was to be sought from officers.

26. Recommendations of Executive

Recommendations of Executive arising from its meeting on 7 July 2026 were presented to Council as follows:

Capital Programme Outturn 2025/26 and Revisions to the 2026/27 - 2029/30 Programme

Resolved:

That Council

- a) In relation to the capital programme outturn:
 - i) Approves the restated 2026/27 to 2029/30 programme of £441.313m as summarised in Table 3 and detailed in Annex 1 to the report to Executive at its meeting on 7 July 2026.

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

- b) In relation to the funding from the Local Authority Housing Fund (round 4) from MHCLG:
 - i) Approves additional borrowing up to £938k to match fund the scheme.

Reason: To ensure the Council's acceptance of the funding is in line with the Council's Constitution and Financial Regulations.

(The meeting was adjourned at 8.00pm for a short break and reconvened at 8.10pm.)

27. Annual Scrutiny Report 2025/26

The Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer submitted a report which presented the Annual Scrutiny Report 2025/26, following its approval by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 6 July 2026.

Resolved: That Council notes the Annual Scrutiny Report 2025/26, following approval by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

Reason: To strengthen the scrutiny function and to fulfil the recommendation endorsed by Council in March 2025 in relation to reintroducing an annual report.

28. Joint Standards Committee Annual Report 2025/26

The Head of Democratic Services submitted a report which presented the Joint Standards Committee Annual Report 2025-26.

Resolved: That Council notes the Joint Standards Committee Annual Report 2025-26.

Reason: To maintain an overview of the Committee's work.

29. Director of Public Health Annual Report 2025/26

The Director of Public Health submitted a report which presented the Public Health Annual Report 2025/26: You Bet, They Win: Gambling Harms in York.

Resolved: That Council approves publication of the Public Health Annual Report 2025/26: You Bet, They Win: Gambling Harms in York.

Reason: To fulfil its duty under the Health and Care Act 2012, and to progress work on improving the health of young people in the city.

30. North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Annual Report 2025/26

The Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer submitted a report which presented the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Annual Report for 2025/26.

Resolved: That Council notes the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Annual Report for 2025/26.

31. City of York Council Boundary Commission - Phase 2 - Ward Boundaries Council Submission

The Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer submitted a report which presented the Corporate Scrutiny Committee's formal response arising from the work of the Task and Finish Group on phase two of the Boundary Commission in relation to ward boundaries.

Resolved: That Council approves Corporate Scrutiny Committee's formal response as follows:

The Boundary Commission Task and Finish Group welcomed the work undertaken by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) and considered the proposals in order to establish whether there was 'common ground' in respect of some or all of the proposals which would facilitate the submission of an agreed response from Council.

As a result of the Boundary Commission Task and Finish Group's considerations, the Corporate Scrutiny Committee recommended and endorsed the report to Council for consideration and decision, as the following represents the agreed position of all the groups present at the Boundary Commission Task and Finish Group:

- The Council expresses its disappointment that the LGBCE proposals resulted in an even number of Councillors, but in light of the major changes required to a wide variety of wards which a decision to resile from the recommended number would cause, the Council does not consider that the proposals should be reconsidered.
- The Dunnington ward (including Dunnington, Holtby, Kexby and Scoreby Parishes and part of Murton Parish) to be

maintained as a standalone ward rather than being included within the Derwent ward.

- The Wheldrake ward (including Wheldrake, Elvington, Deighton and Naburn Parishes) to be maintained as a standalone ward rather than being included within the Derwent ward.
- Derwenthorpe is a recognisable single community and should not be split up in the way that LGBCE proposed. Tang Hall and the entirety of Derwenthorpe should together form a separate two member ward.
- Osbaldwick ward should include the southwestern part of Murton Parish, up to the Osbaldwick Link Road, including the area incorporating Tranby Avenue and Redbarn Drive labelled “A” on the LGBCE Proposals Map.

32. Changes to the Scheme of Delegation

The Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer submitted a report which presented amendments to the Scheme of Delegation.

The Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer advised that following publication of the report, feedback had been received from members about some of the proposed changes. The changes related to the following areas:

- The receipt and approval of grants by officers. It was agreed to include an amendment to ensure quarterly reporting of all such grants received.
- Delegation from the Head of Paid Service to allow the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer to take any decision that they were legally capable of undertaking. It was agreed to defer this aspect for further consideration by Audit and Governance Committee.
- The powers of the Monitoring Officer to attend meetings as considered appropriate for the purposes of investigation. It was agreed to defer this aspect for further consideration by Audit and Governance Committee.
- The threshold in relation to the Head of Paid Service and Chief Human Resources Officer to be raised from £120,000 to £150,000. It was reported that whilst the consensus from Members was to agree to the increase, there was a need for further explanation in relation to the broader principles. A report back was to be provided to Audit and Governance Committee.

Resolved: That subject to the amendments set out above, changes to the Scheme of Delegation contained in the annexes to the report, be approved.

Reason: To ensure the Council's Constitution is up to date and widely available.

(Councillor Warters left the meeting at 8.35pm at the conclusion of this item.)

33. Appointments and Changes to Membership

Resolved: That Council notes and confirms the following changes to membership of committees and outside bodies for 2026-27:

Committees

Planning Policy and Local Plan Advisory Group

Councillor Rose to replace Councillor Pavlovic.

Health and Wellbeing Board

Lisa Pope, Director of Commissioning and Partnerships at York and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) to replace Sarah Coltman-Lovell. Lisa Pope to be appointed Vice-Chair.

Outside Bodies

Local Government Association – General Assembly

The Local Government Association (LGA) advised that City of York Council (CYC) was entitled to an additional place. Currently there were four members comprising two Labour and two Liberal Democrat members. In accordance with political proportionality, the Labour Group nominated Councillor Lomas to serve as an additional member on the LGA General Assembly.

Ouse and Derwent Internal Drainage Board

Due to a change in the Board's constitution, there was now only a requirement for four City of York Council representatives to serve on this Board (previously five). Councillor Rowley agreed to step down as a representative on the Board.

34. Motions on Notice

1) Expanding Access to On-Street Electric Vehicle Charging in York

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

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:

- The Government announced a £25 million Electric Vehicle Pavement Channels Grant in August 2025 to support local authorities in installing cross-pavement charging solutions, including pavement channels and gully systems, enabling residents without off-street parking to safely charge electric vehicles from their homes. The fund is now closed and York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority received £250,000.
- Thousands of York households, particularly those living in terraced streets and properties without driveways, are unable to benefit from the convenience and currently lower cost of home electric vehicle charging.
- City of York Council officers carried out an assessment showing that a significant proportion of terraced properties in York can't currently install cross-pavement charging infrastructure. This is because many properties front directly onto a pavement and significant challenges remain in overcoming this problem.
- Many of the challenges around on-street residential charging clearly outlined in Annex A of the previous administration's 2020 adopted Public EV Charging Strategy still exist.
- York has established itself as a national leader in public rapid charging through the successful HyperHub sites at Monks Cross and Poppleton Bar Park and Ride, demonstrating the Council's ability to deliver innovative charging infrastructure.
- The Council's Public EV Charging Strategy prohibits private cross-pavement charging infrastructure because of legitimate

highway safety and accessibility concerns, hidden maintenance and legal costs associated with the infrastructure and the inequity it creates on terraced streets where it wouldn't always be possible to provide all households with a private EV charging connection.

- Advances in cross-pavement charging technology, alongside the creation of a dedicated Government funding programme, now provide an opportunity to address some of these concerns, however the issue of addressing maintenance costs and the challenge of delivering universal coverage for all properties remain obstacles to overcome.
- The Executive report on the replacement EV back-office contract confirms that future expansion of York's public charging network will come forward through separate Executive decisions, providing an opportunity to consider new forms of neighbourhood charging.
- There are widespread concerns about the reliability of the existing public charging infrastructure.

Council believes that:

- Residents without driveways should not be disadvantaged in making the transition to electric vehicles.
- Expanding access to affordable and accessible EV charging and EV car club and car share cars will support York's climate ambitions while helping residents reduce the cost of motoring.
- Public rapid charging infrastructure alone cannot meet the needs of every resident, and a successful electric vehicle network requires a range of charging solutions.
- Accessibility and highway safety must remain paramount. However, the existence of legitimate concerns should not prevent the Council from investigating new technologies specifically designed to address those concerns.
- York should be proactive in pursuing external funding opportunities wherever they exist, particularly where they support the Council's climate, transport and affordability objectives.

Council therefore resolves to request that the Executive:

- Welcome all of the Government's Electric Vehicle Charging Grants and commits to exploring opportunities for York to benefit from all of these sources of funding.

- Request officers to undertake a review of commercially available on-street charging technologies, including pavement channels, lamppost chargers, dedicated public charge points and gully charging systems, assessing their suitability for use within York's historic streetscape, together with their safety, accessibility, equity, maintenance and legal implications.
- Lobby Government to introduce a public charging tariff equivalent to the cost of domestic charging, to provide citywide charging options comparable to the cost of charging EV vehicles at home.
- Review the City of York Public EV Charging Strategy in light of recent Government policy and funding relating to cross-pavement charging and other on-street charging technologies.
- Investigate whether suitable residential locations can be identified where a pilot scheme for neighbourhood EV charging, including on-street and cross-pavement charging, where appropriate could be introduced, subject to appropriate technical and legal assessment and local consultation.
- Work with the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, Government, distribution network operators and industry partners to maximise opportunities to secure external funding for neighbourhood electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
- Bring the updated EV Charging Strategy to Place Scrutiny within six months setting out;
 - available funding opportunities for EV charging;
 - potential pilot locations for all forms of neighbourhood EV charging, including on-street and cross-pavement charging, where appropriate;
 - estimated costs to both the council and residents;
 - technical and legal considerations;
 - accessibility, maintenance, highway use and equitable access considerations; and
 - recommendations for the future rollout of neighbourhood EV charging, including on-street and cross-pavement EV charging, where appropriate in York.
- Include progress on neighbourhood and residential on-street charging as part of future updates on the implementation of the Council's EV Charging Strategy.

2) Reaffirming York's Support for Corporate Parenting

This motion was moved by Councillor Coles and seconded by Councillor Nelson.

Following a number of speakers, the motion as set out below was voted on and carried.

Resolved: That the motion be approved as follows:

Council welcomes:

- The Government's ambition for all children - regardless of background or start in life – to thrive and do well;
- Its introduction of initiatives such as 'Best Start in Life', with the aim to improve levels of child development by age 5, and the 'Families First Partnership Programme', with the commitment to improve outcomes by moving away from crisis response and into early intervention;
- The Government's direct investment in young people with experience in the care system which includes: free dentistry, free ophthalmology and free prescriptions beyond 18 and up to age 25;
- The Government's stated intention to cap profiteering in the children's care market.

Council notes:

- Its Inclusion and Belonging Strategy, approved last year, including detailed strategies to support and promote inclusion in school for all children, and further notes this Strategy gained greater validity by creating space to hear the voice of the child;
- The positive transformation of York's Corporate Parenting Board since 2023;
- The transition from a Children's Services that received an Ofsted inspection result of 'Requires Improvement' under the previous Liberal Democrat-Green administration to one of 'Outstanding' under the current Labour administration;
- That a functioning and highly effective Corporate Parenting Board was cited as a contributing factor to that 'Outstanding' Ofsted judgment;
- The MacAllister Report and what it says about Corporate Parenting and championing the voice of children in care;

- York's Corporate Parenting Board has a crucial role in championing children in care through strengthening their voice and connecting it with their corporate parents in the local authority, health, police, education and other public bodies;
- Corporate Parenting is one of the most important roles local councillors perform, including the duty to do everything they can to support both children who are in the care system and those on the edge of it;
- York's Corporate Parenting Board exists to maintain independent, critical oversight for the care of our children and young people;
- That one of the first acts of Reform-led Wakefield Council was to cut their Corporate Parenting Committee in the name of 'cutting waste'.

Council resolves to:

- Commit to maintaining a Corporate Parenting Board;
- Ask People Scrutiny Committee to consider creating a Task and Finish Group focused on Corporate Parenting in order to explore what is working well in York and suggest any measures that could further improve the support offered;
- Condemn Reform UK's view that councillors' work supporting children in care is a 'waste';
- Request the Council Leader write to Children and Families Minister Josh McAllister MP, to request that Corporate Parenting Boards be made statutory for all Local Authorities with responsibilities for Children's Services;
- Request that its representatives at the LGA work with that organisation to encourage councils, regardless of political balance, to join City of York Council in campaigning to make Corporate Parenting Boards a statutory obligation for all Local Authorities.

3) Enhancing services for Young People in York

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

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

Resolved: That the motion be approved as follows:

Council welcomes:

- The successful rollout of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme in York, which in 2025 saw significantly higher take-up than the national average;
- The setting up of York Youth Partnership last year – and its express aims to ensure young people have safe places to be with their friends; a range of activities to take part in; are supported by people with the right skills;
- The Government's actions to tackle the threat faced by children online, through the Online Safety Act 2023 and its 2025 provisions;
- The more recent announcement last month of the Government's intention to ban social media for under 16s in 2027;
- The Government's commitment to Youth Hubs across the whole country and its 'Youth Guarantee', with £1bn to be invested to unlock over 200,000 paid jobs for young people, with a 'Jobs Guarantee' to be expanded to ages 18-24;
- A National Youth Strategy - the first in two decades,- including: investing in youth workers, volunteers and trusted adults (£15m over 3 years); improving youth work qualifications and access to youth work apprenticeships; and providing £70m over 3 years to help local councils rebuild and improve Youth Services.

Council notes:

- That between 2010 and 2023 local spending on Youth Services across England fell by 73%, to £1.2bn lower than in 2010, resulting in the closure of more than a 1,000 Youth Centres and the loss of more than 4,500 youth workers;
- That the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) is financially stretched and cannot be expected to deliver youth services without financial support, but that York does have good examples of partnership working such as 'The Place' in Westfield;
- That a lack of activities and positive role models outside the family unit can lead to children being exploited both in physical and online spaces, and also to antisocial behaviour;
- The excellent work of Art of Protest in Acomb and Westfield supporting children and young people's activities there, while fostering a sense of belonging in their communities;

- The Millburn Review highlighting issues faced by young people trying to enter the workforce and an appreciation of how Youth Services can support young people to develop skills to help them in a competitive jobs market;
- That whilst York has low numbers (3.3%) of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) relative to national and regional averages, we should do all we can to reduce this number.

Council resolves to ask the Council Leader, together with the Mayor of York and North Yorkshire, to write to the Government seeking a commitment to:

- Scale up Young Futures Hubs to deliver the Government's manifesto commitment to open access support in every community – integrating therapeutic interventions, GPs, family support, employment advice, and youth programmes under one roof;
- Expand the new Richer Young Lives Fund into York communities that have so far missed out on Government investment, due to the current funding formulae;
- Accelerate plans to rollout Youth Hubs.

And requests People Scrutiny Committee convenes a Task and Finish group to investigate:

- The setting up of a Local Covenant Partnership Programme to support civil society, working with councils and providers, to expand provision for young people;
- Unlocking match-funding and encouraging place-based philanthropy to support more sustainable funding for youth services;
- Government investment in new and existing youth facilities, through the expansion of our Better Youth Spaces programme, working with communities and partners to make better use of underused spaces.

35. Urgent Business

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

Councillor Margaret Wells

LORD MAYOR OF YORK

(The meeting started at 6.35 pm and concluded at 9.42 pm)

Leader and Executive Report to Full Council, September 2026**Leader of the Council, Councillor Claire Douglas****Welcome and changes to Executive**

I would like to welcome Councillors Anna Perrett and Dave Merrett (job share Housing, Planning and Safer Communities) to my Executive team. They join us as I say a substantial thank you to Councillor Michael Pavlovic as he steps back from the Housing, Planning and Safer Communities Executive Member role. Michael has brought many years of valuable experience of dealing with both housing and homelessness in York. He leaves a strong legacy in the Council's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-29 and significantly reducing the incidence of rough sleeping in our city. He is a tough act to follow but Anna and Dave bring many valuable skills and experiences across the portfolio area.

Our City, Our Community

The long school summer holidays and good weather have seen a range of excellent community events across our fine city. An opportunity for young people and families across the city to celebrate the hard work and determination shown by both GCSE and A Level students who sat exams over the summer period. Congratulations to everyone who participated and will now move onto the next chapter of their lives be that employment, apprenticeship, college, Sixth Form or university. We are very fortunate to have such excellent schools in our city.

I was honoured to be invited to attend the York Youth Festival at Rowntree Park that was planned, organised and run by the York Youth Council. They did a fantastic job, had a strong turn out and gave a voice to young people from across York through the organisations they participate in and help run and through their performing skills. We have a highly talented group of young people. A big thank you to the many who contribute so much to our city.

It was also great to see Dodsworth Area Residents Association host the first Family Fun Day on King George's Field. It was fantastic fun, the turnout was great and was a great show of the importance of bringing people together. This is just one example of the community based events that is made possible by the Summer in York: Bring your

community to life initiative. Thanks to the Council's Communities team and local residents for everything they do for our communities.

Yorkshire Day was celebrated on 1 August across our city, the York BID's Play area on Parliament Street and Make it York's Seaside Fun Zone are all excellent examples of partnership working with the Council to celebrate our city, the summer holidays and bring visitors and York residents into the city centre.

I also want to acknowledge the huge impact the water main burst in July had on the Leeman Road community. This was a shock to everyone and devastating for some. The repair and clean-up process was protracted and painful. Holgate ward councillors worked tremendously hard alongside their community to get the action needed to put the damage to streets, homes and public spaces right.

I continue to work with Yorkshire Water to push them to show more care and respect for our communities across the city when dealing with bursts, repairs and making good.

On other matters:

The York Pride in Place partnership, hosted by Aviva and designed to bring large employers across the city together to take action to improve the lives of our residents held its first public event in July. The emerging themes are working collectively to support young people to maximise their potential. There is so much to do across our city in this respect, and I look forward to continuing to work with the organisations to drive volunteer action and investment into our communities through this partnership.

I spoke at APSE's Northern Region event and AGM on the subject of Graffiti to Grime: Local Solutions for Cleaner, Safer Neighbourhoods. It was a delight to be able to champion the excellent work of the Council's Neighbourhood Caretakers and the positive impact the team are having on the upkeep of the public realm in communities and neighbourhoods across the city. The response of local residents and the sense of job satisfaction in the team are testament to this new way of working. Responding to community priorities in their areas and restoring pride in our places.

The annual University of York summer graduation dinner was a chance for partners across the city, students and University of York staff to say farewell to Professor Charlie Jeffery, Vice Chancellor. He has now taken

up a new post as Vice Chancellor of the University of Southampton. I'd like to thank him for his focus, determination and immense progress on better integrating the University into the daily fabric of our city. An outward looking Vice Chancellor with the vitality, wellbeing and opportunities for people living in York being a key focus of his work. I look forward to following the recruitment of his successor. This is a hugely important role in our city and one that I would like to see remain as an outward looking champion for our city and its people.

It was a pleasure to welcome Minister for Climate, Katie White OBE MP on a recent visit to both the York Minster precinct and Nestle. She was given a comprehensive tour of the industry leading climate mitigation and adaptation measures implemented at both sites. York is a strong front runner on solar panel, heating system and climate adaptation across organisations in our city. We are showing how important heritage buildings, public spaces such as leisure facilities and commercial spaces can contribute not only to reducing carbon in our atmosphere but improving the financial viability of organisations and the comfort and wellbeing for the people who work in and use the facilities.

York Central Development Update

Milestones: Phase 1 of the project is in the planning system and is due to be considered by planning committee on 10th September. The Phase 1 application includes 1,000 homes, public realm, the central park, the western station entrance, a hotel and substantial commercial space. The replacement, fully accessible pedestrian and cycle bridge at Wilton Rise and St Paul's Terrace has been approved through Planning Committee.

The scoping of the Government Property Agency (GPA) civil service hub to accommodate 2,600 civil servants continues and the integration of the GPA building with the planned innovation hub to create a Places for Growth campus on York Central continues.

Given the pace of progress with the project, I am calling on all associated partners and organisations to think deeply about how the benefits of the project can be fully realised and felt for generations to come by the current and future residents of our city. The realisation of good quality job opportunities, economic benefits affordable homes, well planned green, social and event space. This an exciting time for our city but we must get this right and can't underestimate the responsibility we all hold and must respond to.

York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA)

It has been excellent news to hear that the application process for YNYCA to become an Established Mayoral Strategic Authority has been successful. Over time this will give the authority the Right to Request additional powers and move towards an integrated settlement. It is fantastic to see the York and North Yorkshire Bus Service Improvement Plan being considered by the Combined Authority on 11 September including the highly important commitment to the Wigginton Road corridor to develop an integrated scheme to understand how best to improve bus journey times and passenger interchange at York Hospital.

Delivering for our City

I continue to work alongside my York Labour MPs, Mayor and government Ministers to showcase the fantastic place that York is to do business. Working alongside our local organisations and businesses to push forward the vital investment in our city that will maintain and strengthen the infrastructure, systems, delivery of economic growth, homes and communities our city needs. We are a vibrant and optimistic city, attracting in both private and public investment, looking to the future and continually bucking the national trends on economic activity.

Having the strength in a Labour government, Mayor and Council that is aligned and pushing in the same direction allows me to push the case for a better funding settlement for York. Our revenue budgets in the Council are severely stretched particularly in the delivery of Adult Social Care. Complexity of cases and rising demand challenge the service every day. I will not rest until our city has access to the resources our public services need to deliver the standard of services the people of York require.

The following reports from the Executive Members will outline further activities and achievements for the people of York. Life in local government and authorities we all know is filled with challenges but York has a lot to be optimistic about and to celebrate. We are a city that pulls together during times of challenge and we continue to show our unerring commitment to our city, our people and our communities each and every day.

Executive Member for Education, Children and Young People,
Councillor Bob Webb

Grades, Achievements and Destinations

A key point in the annual cycle and in children's lives since the last report in July has been the initial outcomes of examinations taken by our young people, in May and June of the summer term. I am always in awe of everyone sitting exams, submitting coursework and demonstrating practical skills to prove their knowledge, understanding and abilities.

There is possibly more pressure to succeed than ever before, in what seems to be an increasingly competitive world but young people in York consistently rise to the occasion in all sorts of different ways. Some students will do this with straight A*s at A-level. Some students will do it with impressive first steps into work or other destinations after education. Some students refuse to be broken by a system that doesn't work for everyone and achieve huge milestones that are meaningful and right for them, ultimately getting them to a place in which they are proud of themselves. Some do all that and more.

Of course, stewarding our young people along this journey are our young carers, parents, guardians, foster carers and anyone else people call family alongside our educators and schools. Also, it is important not just to think of the ones who were there at the end of the journey but those that were there at the start as well. That nursery worker who supported that baby with learning to walk or that football coach is as important in a child's journey as the A-level tutor. Those people deserve our gratitude and support.

York learners continue to do well and early indications suggest above the national average for various measures in regard to outcomes, but this data isn't validated yet and I never think that this is what we should focus on. This shouldn't be a competition between schools, or even individuals; but about celebrating everyone's work and progress so far, and how they have prepared themselves for those vital next steps.

As corporate parents, I'm sure you'll be really pleased to hear that those achieving 5 GCSE grades above grade 4, including Maths and English, is considerably higher than last year and importantly almost all of this cohort already have firm plans about destinations and next steps in mind.

Interestingly, across the city we had a very slight reduction in the proportion of young people choosing the A-level route. It will be

something to track over time to see if young people are starting to look to different avenues for a successful future.

2026 Speak Up and Celebrate Event

As ever, this has become a staple part of the calendar in Children's Services and I'd like to thank our staff for taking the time to prepare such an excellent event and the Community Stadium for being such great hosts.

Yet again, this was probably bigger than the previous year's event and it was so nice to meet and chat with our young people and their families, friends, foster carers and social workers.

Public speaking competition - Primary Schools

As mentioned in the previous report, the Primary School York Young Citizens Public Speaking Competition will be taking place at the Merchant Adventurers Hall on the evening of 17 November. An email will be sent to all councillors with the details.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme:

York's HAF summer programme had 12,000 places available to book this summer, plus events such as the York Youth Festival which did not require pre-booking.

Activities included traditional out-of-school clubs, sports camps, arts and crafts, go-karting, climbing, trampolining, cooking workshops, gymnastics and dance, swimming, bushcraft, and much more. Though all our providers are inclusive, several of them offered additional SEND-focused sessions. For example, Oxygen Activeplay offered exclusive use of park space for SEND specific sessions, with a reduced capacity and a quieter atmosphere.

Within two weeks of the vouchers going live, activities were just over 80% booked. Prior to each school holiday period, schools receive a brochure with a list of available activities plus FAQs and contact information. Information for parents, providers, and schools can be found on Raise York at: <https://www.raiseyork.co.uk/directories/holiday-activities-food>

York Youth Festival

The second festival for young people in York was a roaring success with over 600 young people and children who turned up to enjoy the FREE

event aimed at teenagers, which featured live music from York's young musicians and youth bands, as well as lots of activities, food and fun.

There was a rugby inflatable course, footie kickabout, badge making, eco crafts, games to win prizes, table tennis, basketball, big Jenga and giant Connect Four, two youth vans, a drama corner as well as lots more!

The event was supported by the Communities Team with input from York Youth Council, and partnered with youth providers and information services from across the city to showcase the youth offer in York. The event was funded as part of the Holiday, Activities and Food Programme.

Executive Member for Economy and Culture, Councillor Pete Kilbane

Since our last Full Council Meeting, I am pleased to report that the applications for Cultural Passports for Young People have exceeded our expectations both in number and quality. We received 36 applications, any of which will open the door for our young people to a wide range of cultural immersion and engagement. This was a priority for our incoming Labour Administration, and it is gratifying to see yet another election promise fulfilled.

Heartfelt thanks to the Council staff who have made this happen. It was a new area of work for some of them and they have adapted brilliantly, ensuring a great outcome for our young people. They now have their work cut out scoring and assessing the many excellent applications that we have received. Not all will be successful but the funding round will open again in the new year. Thanks also to our partners in the cultural sector and the Labour Mayoral Combined Authority. As well as providing us with moments worth living for, culture is a growth industry. Labour, be it at National, Mayoral or at our Council level, shows its commitment to opening those career opportunities for all our young people, whatever their academic ability and with all their varied interests and abilities.

The other programme announced in my last report to this meeting was “Summer in York: Bring your community to life.” I am pleased to inform Council that so far Make it York have supported 15 events, of which only 8 needed grant funding. Many groups only needed advice and support, but the fund existing has enabled Make it York to work with those organisations to help bring residents together across the city. This has allowed us to stretch the project, with applications remaining open throughout the year.

We look forward to supporting more community projects than we expected. A key way to address the scourge of loneliness and isolation and counter the narrative of those who seek to drive communities apart, is to bring people together to celebrate and enjoy who they are and where they live. I am pleased that this project will continue to run beyond the summer as we intend an enabling approach to community gatherings becoming part of the Council's and Make it York's DNA.

Members will also be delighted to have seen that since we last met York has been nominated as Building Design's UK Design Capital of the Year 2026. The award is not about individual buildings but for places that

show strategic ambition in shaping the built environment. York has been nominated “for its balance of historic stewardship and forward-looking growth” as a “standard-bearer for progressive regeneration in historic places.”

This administration has consistently promoted ‘building the new out of the old’ and it is great to see the hard work of our planners, economic growth team and city partners being nationally acknowledged. This is also a clear message to potential inward investors that York is a great place to do modern business.

Talking of celebrating the old and embracing the new, I would also like to congratulate York Museums Trust (YMT) on the success of its summer exhibitions. The internationally renowned Aesthetica Art Prize for contemporary art, founded in York, celebrated its 20th anniversary with another wonderful show. And “Making Waves: The Art of Japanese Woodblock Print” was a runaway success with people travelling from near and far to enjoy 300 years of printing history from the 17th Century to our own times. I understand that visitor numbers greatly exceeded expectation, many of whom will have taken advantage of the opportunity to print their own version of Katsushika Hokusai's world-famous The Great Wave off Kanagawa that was on display.

I suspect I’m not the only Councillor proudly displaying their work on the kitchen fridge or hallway mirror. And we look forward to viewing Turner’s masterpiece “Ulysses deriding Polyphemus – Homer’s Odyssey” in the Gallery from tomorrow. This painting, along with the work of York-born artist, John Flaxman, whose work included designs used for Wedgwood pottery, is central to the curatorial narrative of the exhibition. And if that wasn’t enough to be going on with, there is a Dog Show in Museum Gardens on 20th September judged by none other than Yorkshire’s own Shepherdess, Author and TV personality Amanda Owen.

I want to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate CEO Kathryn Blacker and all the team at YMT for all that they achieve on a very tight budget. They continue to keep York firmly on the cultural map of the UK and beyond. Throughout years of austerity, York has managed to maintain and improve its culture and leisure facilities while many other parts of the country were closing theirs down. The recent announcement of a brand-new full-size FIFA standard 3G pitch at Burnholme Sports Centre shows our ongoing commitment. Where savings must be made, we have done so by working with partners and always with the needs of residents put first and foremost.

The council continues to face significant financial challenges. In responding to those challenges, we are creating a greater neighbourhood focus for delivery of council services. This will help improve the resident experience and generate vital savings, reduce costs and generate efficiencies in the years ahead. Sitting in the heart of our communities, Libraries will be a key part in how we develop our vision for more local services in the future across the city.

We have worked with Explore to look at options for delivering efficiencies and sustainable savings. These proved difficult to achieve while maintaining the key role that Libraries play in our communities and need to be considered within the evolving Neighbourhood Model. We look forward to continuing to work alongside Explore under current arrangements and take some pride in the culture and leisure facilities that we continue to provide for the benefit of residents.

In what have been difficult economic times York's overall picture, like that of the UK, is mixed. Some sectors are thriving, while others struggle. We perform well both regionally and against national comparator cities, though it might not feel this way if you are working in a difficult market. Confidence always matters in business, and it is incumbent on all elected members to talk up and promote our city at every opportunity. This we have done as an administration and will continue to do in the years to come. Ultimately, the reason York manages to ride out the economic storms is the optimism and brilliance of its people, magnificence of the place and the resilience of businesses. The latter is personified by the many organisations, including York BID, Indie York, the Chamber of Commerce, Make it York, CYC and YNYCA officers, and many more who work tirelessly to support each other and make the city the success that it is.

Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care,
Councillor Lucy Steels-Walshaw

This summer has focused on strengthening neighbourhood-level health, deepening resident involvement in decision-making, and continuing our work to improve adult social care for York. Across all areas, the emphasis remains on listening, acting, and ensuring that people's real experiences shape the future of health and care in our city.

A major development is the redesign of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Through recent development workshops, Board Members agreed that the Board must evolve into something more rooted in communities, with meetings held in neighbourhoods rather than civic buildings. This shift reflects our commitment to neighbourhood health and to understanding directly from residents what helps them to thrive in their communities, or what barriers there are to this outcome.

We are now building a citizen panel to support this work, with a particular focus on seldom-heard voices, trusted relationships, and diversity across geography and demographics. We are also exploring how children and young people can be meaningfully included. Our ambition is for the Board to become a space that listens, learns, and takes action on the health experiences of everyone in York.

Nationally, Baroness Casey has launched The Big Conversation on Care, and York will play an active role. This is a national discussion about what adult social care should look like in the future, open to anyone who receives care, provides unpaid care, works in the sector, or simply cares about how care should be delivered. York is already undertaking significant improvement work, making this conversation both timely and important.

The people of York should be right at the heart of this conversation. It's about every one of us and our families and friends. Everyone in York, from every perspective, can contribute by engaging honestly with the difficult questions that must be answered if we are to build the shared agreement needed for lasting reform. We are encouraging wide participation so that York's voice is clearly heard.

Work continues at pace on our CQC improvement programme. Over recent months we have stabilised safeguarding triage, strengthened front-door decision-making, reduced waiting lists, and introduced clearer risk management and performance oversight. The next phase is about

embedding these improvements so they are consistent and sustainable. The direction of travel is positive, and the system is now better placed to deliver safe, timely and person-centred care.

Finally, the Wellbeing Hub at Acomb Garth continues to expand its offer. Opening hours have now increased to 8am–8pm, six days a week, with the ongoing plan to move to a 24/7 model. New groups, including gardening and walking, are already proving popular. The Hub's growth reflects how crucial it is for people to have direct, local access to mental health support when they need it, without barriers or delays. We will continue building on the success of York's mental health hubs as part of our wider prevention-focused approach.

Across all areas, the direction is clear: deeper community involvement, stronger neighbourhood support, and a health and care system that listens and responds to the people of York.

Executive Member for Environment and Climate Emergency,
Councillor Jenny Kent

Recognition for York's Parks

I want to begin by formally celebrating our newest Green Flag award in Hull Road Park for the first time, a fantastic addition to our four other Green Flag parks in the city: Rowntree Park, West Bank Park, Glen Gardens, and Clarence Gardens, all of which have retained their status for 2026.

The Green Flag Award scheme sets the benchmark for park management internationally, acknowledging well-managed green spaces across the UK and beyond.

This award is a huge tribute to local Labour councillors who have worked on improvements and community activities there for several years, CYC staff, The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), St Nicks and other volunteer groups, and the new Friends of Hull Road Park. The improvements for our community and for nature, with endangered water vole now established in the cleaner water at Hull Road Park, are significant. Additional funding from our Parks Investment programme has enabled us to improve existing play equipment and add to it, as well as seating, painting and refreshing railings, and improved accessibility with handrail and footpath improvements.

Work on the footpath has incidentally uncovered an uncapped pipe linked to the sewer chamber some 30cm below the path surface, which explains previous repeated and very unpleasant sewage pollution, despite the chamber being checked by Yorkshire Water. I am really happy to say that CYC staff have sealed the pipe, and the new footpath is now finished.

August is a quieter month for Council business, but it has not been a quiet time for environmental concerns. We have had the hottest summer on record, having already passed the temperature records in 2024 to stay within the Paris Accord agreement of a 1.5 degree global temperature rise.

Disruption has occurred in my own Holgate ward and across the city due to burst pipes and failings in water infrastructure. Yorkshire Water has increased investment in the current 5-year cycle but decades of neglect are coming home to roost and we, the taxpayer, are footing the bill and

disruption. Profit has been privatised whilst loss is borne by us. It is not good enough, nor is the current response to the impact that these failings have on our communities in terms of clean up and making good our streets following repairs.

Public realm staff in York and across the country have had to deal with unprecedented hot and wet weather at different times over the past few months, when vegetation and weeds have grown at tropical rates. Additional staff in the Caretakers team have helped to keep active travel routes and paths clear, and all staff continue to work hard against unprecedented demand. They deserve our thanks and understanding.

A year on from the terrible destruction caused by the Fylingdales Moorland wildfires, we have seen wildfires much closer to home, in Hob Moor, Acomb, Clifton Ings and more. Much of Britain has been in drought. We cannot comfort ourselves that this a one-off – science tells us that these are the least extreme weather conditions any of us will see in our lifetimes, and as well as doubling down on efforts to cut emissions now, we need to take measures to adapt to extreme weather events.

A joint York and North Yorkshire report on Adaptation and Resilience will have been through Scrutiny by the time Full Council papers are published. It outlines the impacts on all areas of our lives – buildings, transport, insurance, food and water security, wildfires, flooding, power outages and biodiversity loss. York is very good at dealing with flooding and has well established networks in communities and the Local Resilience Forum.

We all need to build on these to support each other for the events to come. There is a fine line between scare mongering and practical planning, and we need to land firmly on the side of the latter, working together. Climate change will not be felt equally. It will impact our most vulnerable and poorest communities hardest and all elected members and community leaders need to play their part in addressing this and holding our city together.

Since screening the Peoples' Emergency Briefing in York City centre, more and more communities are showing the film in smaller venues. I hope this will galvanise all of us to demand urgent action from government on phasing out fossil fuels, on removing subsidies from polluting industries and enacting a Polluter pays principle for all aspects of our environment, and on taking the steps we can in our own lives and our city to make it genuinely sustainable. This is a worrying, but not a

hopeless time; a better, non-extractive future can emerge, but we need to shape it and shape it now.

On that note, the York Environment Festival runs from 3rd October to 1st November. We are supporting events via the Green Business Forum and at the Council's offices, on 13 and 14 October on 'Water quality and us; simple actions on healthier rivers', making 'York a Nature Park City', and on 29 October where residents who have opted out of chemical weed sprays will share how they manage weed control themselves, and are building communities in the process.

I encourage everyone to look at the programme and gain support and inspiration from the events, to take action in our own lives, and collectively.

Events I have attended or been part of since last Full Council:

- Volunteer thank you event at Rowntree Park where many of our wonderful volunteers and nature groups came together to share what they were doing, have a tour of the park, have a cup of tea, and celebrate successes. This followed on a citywide event to thank all our thousands of volunteers who have signed up to be litter pickers, leaf clearers, gardeners, snow wardens and more.

Thank you to all of you, you are a tribute to York. However, when it comes to litter, we should not need these wonderful people to give up their time to help keep our streets clean. We need a culture shift so the minority who drop litter in the first place, no longer do so. Seeing rubbish, often left a couple of yards away from a litter bin, is exasperating. I have a plea – find a bin or take your rubbish home. Our streets and parks are not a dustbin!

- Panel on clean Local Energy Production at the Yorkshire Show
- York Community Energy's first meeting at Hambleton exploring 'Riding Sunbeams' – a community energy project for solar powered rail at Hambleton Junction
- Various events celebrating Yorkshire Day and the first Nature and History within York's City Walls. Thank you to St Nicks for organising much of this.

**Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects,
Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion, Councillor Katie Lomas**

Budget

The Outturn for 2025/26 has now been published and due to significant efforts across the council the overspend that was projected was mitigated by further savings. This resulted in a modest underspend that has been added to the general reserve to support pressures that we are aware of in the current year.

The process for setting the budget for 2027/28 is underway with cross-party groups looking at the budget setting process and the adult social care budget specifically. It is important to understand that the budget pressures come from higher costs to deliver services and higher demand for services combined with what is effectively a flat settlement from Government.

The Fair Funding Review carried out last year will place York as the lowest funded local authority (per capita) by next year. This is because funding is distributed on the basis of levels of deprivation which means less for less deprived cities like York but also because it assumes that all councils charge the average level of council tax. The national funding model assumes a 2026/27 Band D Council Tax level of £1,968.10, whereas York's actual Band D charge is £1,817.43. This means that we lose national Government funding, which for 2027/28 is around £8m.

We have worked hard every year to identify efficiencies and savings to meet the budget gap we have faced. This work is ongoing with a transformation programme looking at ways that the Council can work differently to preserve frontline services to residents while reducing costs. The cross-party Budget Scrutiny task and finish group has been examining each budget area for further opportunities to make savings and maximise efficiencies.

Financial Inclusion

The financial inclusion and welfare benefits outturn report will have just been approved by the time of the Full Council meeting. The report shows that fewer families are living in poverty but we know that the ever rising cost of living is making it more and more difficult for people to manage their finances. There is excellent work happening in partnership across the city on financial inclusion, ensuring that we share intelligence, developments and support across all organisations involved in this important area of support.

We continue to use data to target households where we think we can support residents to claim more financial support, be that directly from the Council or through national benefits systems. It is important that residents understand that there is help available, including direct support through the Crisis and Resilience Fund which we operate, through our own York Financial Assistance Scheme and through our work to support residents to apply for benefits. Our Welfare Benefits Officers supported residents to claim £2.2m worth of benefits last year and we distributed £1.76m to residents most in need.

As part of the council's financial inclusion work we support digital inclusion. Digital Friendly York has now become a Community Interest Company to enable them to bid for more funding to support the work they do across the city on digital inclusion.

With so much of our daily lives now reliant on use of the internet and digital tools it is ever more important to support people not only to learn to use those tools and systems safely and to protect themselves online but also to support access to devices and of course internet access for those who are unable to afford it.

We run three 'York Talk Money' campaigns each year, to ensure that residents know what help and support is available to them. The next will run in November to coincide with National Talk Money week. These are city wide campaigns run in partnership and aim to ensure that people living in York find the support they need.

Human Rights and Equalities Board (HREB)

HREB will hold its annual public meeting on 23 September. This meeting will consider the recommendations in the Human Rights Indicator Report and will include partners from across the city in discussions on three of the recommendations in particular:

- **Inequality Among Children and Young People** – speakers will address differing aspects of the attainment gap in the city and explore the three elements of the recommendations in the report
- **Equality and Non-discrimination** – speakers will explore the rise in hate crime in the city and the recommendation to take a Human Rights Based Approach to community cohesion and inclusion
- **Gender Pay Gap** – speakers will address the ongoing wide gender pay gap across the city along with disability and ethnicity pay gaps and propose ways to move forward in co-producing solutions.

Major Projects

Work continues on the Station Gateway project. After inheriting a contract from the previous Liberal Democrat-Green administration that placed all liability for overrun costs with the Council and a lack of robust project management, we have worked to restore control over the project. Following extensive cross-party scrutiny and an independent audit report requested by the Council Leader we have introduced measures to ensure that this and other major projects will have the required levels of oversight, project management and governance.

Meanwhile, we have sought to move the project forwards despite the lack of work at planning stage to identify the risks and dependencies such as agreeing the design of the crucial power substation.

Work on the cycle infrastructure is currently delayed due to a delay to work on the existing substation which currently sits in the way. This cannot be removed until the new substation is brought into commission. This process is currently being delayed by Network Rail but we are working to move it forward and anticipate a complete continuous off-road cycle route will open in early 2027. But most cycle lanes will open next month.

Executive Member for Transport, Councillor Kate Ravilious

Mayor's Local Transport Plan

At the end of last month the Mayor of York and North Yorkshire, David Skaith, launched a public consultation on the Local Transport Plan for the region. The plan sets out the long-term vision for improving transport across the region, helping everyone to travel more easily, safely and sustainably. We've been working with the Mayor and our colleagues in North Yorkshire to help shape the draft version of the plan and now we encourage everyone to respond to the consultation before 4th November, when the consultation closes.

Bus Service Improvement Plan

This month the Combined Authority Cabinet are being invited to approve a new Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) for York and North Yorkshire, covering the period 2027 to 2032, and to develop a new Enhanced Partnership covering the geography of the Combined Authority. We have been working closely with the Mayor and our colleagues in North Yorkshire to help shape the BSIP, ensuring that it maximises the benefits of the bus improvements implemented by this administration and builds on the successes we have seen to date. It's great to see a wide range of positive commitments for York in the plan, including commitments to bus priority infrastructure on both the Fulford Road and Wigginton Road corridors.

Highways Maintenance Programme

Our Highways Maintenance Programme is flying along, with our record £16.5M investment starting to reverse the previous long-term decline in York's roads and pavements. Most recently the teams have resurfaced Beckfield Lane and improved bus stops and repaired pavements at the same time. As well as resurfacing schemes many areas of the city have received preventative treatments, such as surface dressing, which extends the life of roads and pavements by as much as ten years.

Some of the least visible but most important work that our teams do is clearing and repairing drains, and the additional funding this year has enabled us to carry out an extensive programme of drainage works, helping to make the city more resilient to heavy rain and flash flooding.

In addition to the planned programme the team have also had to deal with a significant number of emergency works this year. The combination of an extreme dry summer followed by a deluge of rain has put pressure on Yorkshire Water's aging infrastructure and resulted in emergency repairs and major disruption at a number of locations in the city including Leeman Road, Coney Street, Osbaldwick Lane and Paragon Street. I'd like to thank the officers who often had to work through the night and cancel leave in order to deal with these emergencies.

Cycle Parking

This month our teams have been upgrading cycle parking provision in the city centre, removing temporary stands and replacing with secure permanent cycle parking racks.

In some locations they have also installed inclusive cycle parking, suitable for trikes, cargo cycles and family cycles. This is all part of our commitment to make it easier for everyone to choose to cycle.

Drop in cycle theft

Cycle theft in York dropped by nearly a third in 2025 and has fallen to the lowest levels on record during the first quarter of 2026. This is great news and testament to the partnership working of the Secure Cycle York group, of which City of York Council is a part. Members have been proactive in organising regular bike security marking events, using the new BikeRegister system, and this has played a significant role in both reducing theft, but also helping to recover bikes and reunite with owners when they are stolen. There is still more work to do, but it is fantastic to see the impact that the Secure Cycle York group have had to date.

Launch of learn to Ride – adult cycle training

This month we launched our 'Learn to ride with us in York' scheme. This Mayoral funded project supports adults who want to learn to ride, or who would like to gain more confidence cycling. The first batch of sessions will be at Burnholme Leisure Centre and include the loan of a cycle if needed, and free cycle maintenance for those who have bikes that need a bit of TLC. I'm really pleased to see this programme start and helping people take those first daunting steps to learn to ride or get back in the saddle.

Walking Festival

York Walking Festival launches on Saturday, 19 September. Working with partners across the city, the festival offers dozens of group walks, taking in everything from snickleways to wild green spaces, and offering special insight into each area. From wildlife spotting to photography and history, there is something for everyone. The iTravel team have done a fabulous job in co-ordinating and promoting the festival and I warmly recommend joining a walk, discovering new places and making new friends.

**Executive Member for Housing, Planning and Safer Communities,
Councillor Dave Merrett and Councillor Anna Perrett (job share)**

Housing Update

Following the C2 rating issued by the Regulator of Social Housing (RSH) to CYC back in April, work has commenced to make the required improvements to achieve a C1 rating, which is the expectation from RSH for all social landlords.

The improvement actions being worked on include: completion of overdue fire safety actions, 100% of electrical testing completed on all social housing homes within a 5-year rolling programme, improving how we deal with complex repairs and update tenants, improving mechanisms to ensure effective and appropriate oversight/ scrutiny and intervention of housing performance. Improving complaints handling performance and ensuring that our tenants receive services that are tailored to their needs and that they have significant opportunities to be heard and have influence on shaping the services they receive from CYC.

The regulator will work closely with CYC, meeting on a bi-monthly basis, to ensure progress is being made and will assess and confirm when C1 status has been reached. The C2 was a fair reflection but as with all our services, we will continue to work to achieve the highest standards and ratings.

Planning Update

Local Plan

Having successfully secured government funding to support the process, officers are progressing York's new Local Plan under the new plan-making system, having published formal notice to commence plan-making at the end of July. The new Local Plan will set out the vision, spatial strategy and planning policies for York to 2045, and will include land identified for development.

A public scoping consultation and call for available development sites will launch imminently, before passing through 'Gateway 1' by the end of the year. Gateway 1 marks the formal start to the plan-making process and begins a strict 30-month timeframe within which the Plan must be prepared and adopted. Several key pieces of evidence are currently

being commissioned or prepared, including a housing needs assessment, economic needs assessment and green infrastructure study, as well as, in partnership with North Yorkshire Council, a green belt assessment, flood risk assessment and infrastructure capacity study.

National policy

In August the Government recently published a comprehensively updated National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which for the first time includes national development management policies. These policies will form a key part of determining planning applications across the country and apply with immediate effect. Where our adopted Local Plan policies are 'materially inconsistent' with the new national policies, our local policies would be given very limited weight in decision-making. Officers are reviewing the new policies to understand the implications for York.

Neighbourhood Plans

Officers continue to work closely with Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Forums working towards producing their own Neighbourhood Plans, which once adopted become part of the development plan for York. York currently has eight adopted Neighbourhood Plans, and a further 10 in preparation. Recent work has focussed on helping Neighbourhood Forums understand where existing or draft Neighbourhood Plans need updating to reflect the new NPPF.

Development Control

The York Central Planning reserved matters application has been successfully progressed by the team and will have been considered at Planning Committee on 10 September (after this report drafted). The application represents a huge milestone in the planning process as it's the first reserved matters that will deliver housing at the site, at least 20% of which will be affordable.

The team are also progressing a number of strategic housing sites, and it is expected that applications will be received this financial year, including ST15 at Elvington and ST14 at Clifton Gate. The Design and Conservation Team are involved in all the major schemes coming through planning, along with ensuring that changes with Biodiversity Net Gain are captured through the planning process. It was also good to see last year's performance figures showing increases in both the number of

housing permissions granted at 828 units, and, most importantly for York residents, the number of homes completed at 731.

Performance on planning application performance remains above the required national average and the planning enforcement team have served 8 enforcement notices so far this year.

A new national scheme of delegation is to be implemented from 31 October which will require changes in the way we operate and therefore to the Council's constitution.

Building Control

The Building Control team are continuing to deal with a range of cases and are steadily restoring their market share. The team are also working on the implementation of the Building Safety Levy.

Homelessness

The council is delivering its Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-29 through a partnership approach that brings together council services, the voluntary sector and public agencies to prevent homelessness and support people into sustainable housing.

Services such as Rough Sleeper Navigators, homelessness prevention casework and supported resettlement pathways provide trauma-informed support for people with complex needs, helping leverage additional government funding of £480,000 in 2025/26 and supporting the Government's ambitions for the future.

Alongside this, the council is increasing the supply of affordable homes through its own development, alongside planning obligations and partnerships with Registered Providers, delivering 113 new social rented homes in 2025/26 to help meet housing need and provide long-term solutions to homelessness.

Volunteering

Volunteering remains a key component of the council's communities agenda. Current work developing through the York Neighbourhood Model includes a specific focus on "Communities Helping Each Other" and is designed to strengthen community action, volunteering opportunities and neighbourhood networks. Across a range of programmes, including youth and community activities and wider

community initiatives, volunteers continue to play a significant role in supporting residents and building resilient communities.

I would like to focus in this report on the work of our Environment and Community Officers (ECOs) and how they support residents, community groups and corporate groups to volunteer, enhancing our local environment, green spaces and parks.

ECOs provide volunteers with training, equipment, supervision, support, practical help, expert knowledge and more - to empower communities to improve York for everyone's benefit. The following shows just what an amazing job volunteers do all over the city:

- **10,538 volunteer hours** improving green spaces across York April 2025 - July 2026. This total includes corporate action days through York Cares, Great British Spring Clean, and Big Community Challenge
- **5 green spaces** recognised as excellent and receiving Green Flag Awards
- **380 action days** - building community resilience, making a difference and new connections
- **1,817 environmental volunteers** registered with and supported by CYC
- **4,428 total volunteers** supported by the ECO Team: including action days, Great British Spring Clean, and corporate volunteering etc.
- **1157 Volunteer Litter Pickers** - Improving the appearance of areas that may otherwise be neglected
- **330 Volunteer Gardeners** - Help tend the city's green spaces, parks, wildlife areas and wildflower meadows
- **278 Volunteer Snow Wardens** - Keeping residential pavements clear of snow and ice
- **102 Park access volunteers** - Volunteers help keep parks secure by locking and/or unlocking the gates
- **51 Volunteer Leaf clearers** - Helping to keep drains and paths clear of leaves
- **11 Balsam basher** - Combatting the spread of this invasive non-native species; Himalayan balsam
- **36 Tree wardens Volunteers** - Taking care of the health of trees in York.

Community Safety and Safer Neighbourhoods

Significant work has taken place to refresh the Community Safety Strategy for 2026–29. Alongside this, officers are continuing to develop the joint Community Safety Hub and neighbourhood-based problem-solving arrangements to tackle crime, anti-social behaviour and environmental issues. The service is focussing on aligning with neighbourhood working and early intervention approaches, helping partners identify issues earlier and deliver coordinated responses in local communities.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Work to tackle anti-social behaviour has remained a significant focus over recent months. Officers continue to operate a joint council and police approach through the Community Safety Hub, supported by regular multi-agency reviews and problem-solving arrangements.

Consultation preparations have also been progressing on the review of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO), alongside wider work to address persistent nuisance behaviour and improve outcomes for affected communities.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to complete the current PSPO consultation survey available here: [Have your say in current consultations – City of York Council](#) to feed into an Executive decision in November around extending our current City Centre PSPO to cover five new conditions targeting a range of behaviours. The conditions would provide powers to act against the following behaviours:

1. Intimidation and Coercion: Pressuring or deliberately intimidating someone into giving money.
2. Persisting in Requests: Continuing to ask for money, for food, or pressure others to voluntarily do something, after an initial refusal.
3. Pestering or Pursuing: Following, nagging or blocking the path of an individual.
4. Invasion of Personal Space: Hinder free passage, impede a doorway, or stand uncomfortably close to someone, such as directly beside them at a cash machine.

5. Disorderly groups: groups of people collectively engaged in shouting, aggressive or disruptive behaviour, or alcohol-fuelled behaviour likely to cause someone nearby to fear that disorder, abuse or a confrontation may occur.

Under the proposals, engaging in these five behaviours in York city centre would be an offence punishable by a fine.

Community Cohesion

Community cohesion work is being delivered through the York Hate Crime Partnership, community tensions monitoring arrangements and wider equality, diversity and inclusion programmes.

Partners continue to monitor community concerns, support community dialogue and promote inclusive communities through coordinated partnership activity across York and North Yorkshire.

The Summer community events work supported by Make It York and the £50k Pride in Place funding approved in our last budget has supported a range of activities including Acomb Fest, bringing our communities together. The funding is now supporting year-round events within communities.

In late July, a firearms-related incident occurred at York Mosque on Bull Lane. North Yorkshire Police responded immediately following reports that shots had been fired from a vehicle in the area during the early hours of the morning. Thankfully, nobody was harmed.

I'm pleased at the way local agencies, including the Police, and councillors responded to this incident and provided reassurance to the local Mosque community in the days that followed.

Prevent

Regular assessments of local risks and emerging threats inform the work of the York Prevent Delivery Group, supporting targeted action plans, safeguarding activity and wider efforts to build resilient communities and prevent radicalisation. Our thanks to Leeds City Council for working with CYC colleagues on the recent councillor training on Prevent.

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**Report of the Chair of Corporate Scrutiny Committee
(September 2026)**

1. At July's Full Council I was pleased to propose the Annual Scrutiny Report, which included findings from a member survey which sought to gather views on the first year of operation of the revised scrutiny arrangements. I'd like to thank those colleagues who took the time to complete the survey and share their thoughts on what is working well and what needs to be improved.
2. The Scrutiny Review Working Group continues to oversee the implementation of the new Scrutiny arrangements and I'd like to thank officers and members of this Group for their efforts.
3. I'd like to thank members of the Boundary Commission Task and Finish Group for producing reports for the two phases of the consultation in quick succession and to a challenging timetable. Task and Finish Group work is underway on the budget and medium-term financial strategy, adult social care finance, housing repairs, section 106 agreement process improvements and the impact of changes to some sickness and disability benefits.
4. In my previous report to Council, I mentioned work that is underway to establish a formal process to centrally log recommendations arising from Scrutiny discussions and Task and Finish Group work, so that there is more visibility of these recommendations and a formal process to monitor actions arising. The output of this work is due to come to the Corporate Scrutiny meeting on 9 November.
5. I would like to welcome Councillor Baxter to her role as Vice Chair of Corporate Scrutiny and thank the outgoing Vice Chair Councillor Merrett for his support over recent years.

Corporate Scrutiny Committee

6. At the 11 May meeting members discussed progress with resolutions and actions approved by Council motions and the

status of petitions presented to Council. It was agreed to mark 13 motions as 'closed'.

7. The 22 June meeting had been arranged as an additional meeting in order to undertake pre-decision scrutiny on two items – the future management of Fulford Cemetery (on which members supported the proposed approach in principle) and the Gypsy & Traveller Action Plan (on which members supported the proposed next steps).
8. At the 6 July meeting members considered a report of the Chief Strategy Officer and the Head of Carbon Reduction in relation to the strategic energy partnership options appraisal for the York and North Yorkshire Local Net Zero Accelerator project. The approach set out in the report was supported. Members also considered the 'phase 2' report from the Boundary Commission Task and Finish Group and approved their recommendations to go to Full Council. The draft Annual Scrutiny Report was discussed and some amendments were agreed prior to its presentation to Full Council.
9. At the 7 September meeting members received the 2025/26 finance and performance outturn report and discussed its contents. It was agreed to arrange for a report to come to Committee, or to a briefing session, on the council's customer service function.

Corporate Scrutiny Committee (call-in)

10. At the 5 May meeting members considered the calling in of a key decision of the Executive at the meeting held on 14 April 2026 relating to the Housing Delivery Programme Delivery Strategy. With four members finding there had been a breach, and five members finding there had not been a breach, the call-in fell.

Place Scrutiny Committee

11. At the 24 March meeting members' views were sought on the emerging proposals for the operation of the Rougier Route bus priority corridor, including potential exemptions and ways of

addressing the issues highlighted by Bishophill and Micklegate residents and businesses. The committee asked that, in making a final decision on the scheme's operation, the Executive considers exemptions for private hire taxi vehicles, hackney carriage taxi vehicles and for Blue Badge holders.

12. Members also discussed the Local Transport Strategy within the context of the transfer of some responsibilities to the Combined Authority. Members resolved to consider the format and frequency of future updates on the Local Transport Strategy Implementation Plan.
13. At the 19 May meeting members received an update on the first seven months of implementation of the Neighbourhood Caretaker team and the future developments. Members recommended that details of the work undertaken is shared with ward councillors and that steps are taken to promote the ability for communities to get involved in future walkabouts. It was also recommended that for larger wards 'central planning meetings' are explored, recognising that it is not possible to walk around the entirety of a ward. Members also agreed to move ahead with a Task and Finish Group on Section 106 Agreements Process Improvements.
14. The 16 June meeting had been arranged as an additional meeting in order to undertake pre-decision scrutiny on two items – the independent review of car parking charges and the recycling review. Members recommended that the Executive consider all the recommendations within the independent review of parking charges. On recycling, members recommended that the Executive explore further the challenges relating to terraced streets, support for those who might struggle with large bins, and households that might need larger bins.
15. At the 21 July meeting members welcomed representatives from Yorkshire Water for a discussion on the management of the city's rivers and water infrastructure. Members also discussed a

report setting out the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's proposed creation of Mayoral Development Zones, including one for York Central.

People Scrutiny Committee

16. At the 17 March meeting members discussed the outcome of the Care Quality Commission's Local Authority Assessment and subsequent actions taken. Members expressed support for the action plan and approach outlined in the report. Members were also asked to review the draft York Carers Strategy 2026–2032 and recommended that officers explore ways to raise awareness of 'Employers for Carers' in order to receive better support and advice; and for ways to be found to support those who don't identify as carers and therefore do not receive the support available to them.
17. Members also discussed the proposed approach to ward funding allocations. Feedback was provided for the Executive to consider and members asked that details of ward expenditure be published to showcase what funding had been spent on.
18. At the 15 April meeting members discussed the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2024/25 and made recommendations for a number of issues to be covered in future reports.
19. At the 24 June meeting members discussed proposed updates to the Council's Housing Allocations Policy to ensure legal compliance, enhance transparency and consistency, and to support effective use of social housing stock. Members were supportive of the proposed policy changes and officer delegations. Members also undertook pre-decision scrutiny of York's Preparation for Adulthood Strategy 2026–2031 and expressed their support for the strategy.
20. At the 8 July meeting members provided feedback on the draft of the most recent three-year Community Safety Strategy for

York and approved the remit of the Housing Repairs Task and Finish Group.

21. At the 8 September meeting members discussed a report on York Learning's performance against their strategic aims for the academic year 2025/26 and towards the skills challenges in the city. Members also received an update on the Adult Social Care (ASC) Delivery Plan.

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FULL COUNCIL**17 September 2026**

Report of the Director of Governance

**Annual Report of the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee
2025/26****Summary**

1. To provide the Chair's annual report, for the 2025-26 municipal year, for members' consideration.

Background

2. Council will be recall that, at its meeting of 17 July 2025, it considered the annual report from the Chair of Audit and Governance Committee, for the years 2023-24 and 2024-25. Attached at Annex 1 is the annual report for the 2025-26 municipal year, for similar consideration.

Implications**Financial** – None directly arising from this report.**Human Resources (HR)** – None directly arising from this report.**Equalities** – None directly arising from this report.**Legal** – None directly arising from this report.**Crime and Disorder, Information Technology and Property** –
None directly arising from this report.**Recommendations**

3. It is recommended that Council notes the contents of the report.

Reasons for the Recommendation

4. To appraise Council of the Committee's activities over the previous municipal year.

Author and Chief Officer responsible for the report: Bryn Roberts, Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer

**Report
Approved**

X

Date 17
September
2026

Wards Affected:

- All

Background Papers:

- None

Annexes:

- Annex 1 – Annual Report

Audit and Governance Committee**Chair's Annual Statement****2025/26**

The past year's business for the Audit and Governance Committee has served to reinforce the importance of the audit function in maintaining good governance and proper democratic oversight of the key issues affecting the Council at the moment.

As part of its 'ordinary' work programme, the Committee has continued to receive regular updates on the Council's day-to-day activities, such as: the monitoring of Key Corporate Risks, with 'deep dives' to consider the details of individual KCRs; the Council's Treasury Management activities, through monitor reports and the Treasury Management Strategy; the Council's broader finance function, through the accounts approval process, culminating in the completion of the 2024/25 external audit of the Council's accounts; and both counter fraud and internal audit work, through regular progress reports for each. Throughout these, the Committee members have exercised unfailing challenge and independence, fulfilling their role in providing democratic oversight of the Council's operations.

Beyond this, however, the Committee has devoted substantial time, across three meetings, considering the challenges and issues arising from the internal audit report into major projects. The Committee sought reassurance on future arrangements for the monitoring and delivery of major Council projects, given the issues identified.

The Committee has also considered a number of changes to the Constitution, both those requiring full Council approval and those with delegated approval. Most notable have been: the wholesale revision of the Joint Standards Committee Procedures, approved by the Joint Standards Committee itself; and the revision of operating arrangements for Planning Committee at York, with the deletion of Planning Committee B and the clarification of call-in arrangements for planning applications, both of which were considered by Audit and Governance Committee before final approval by Council.

Once again, the committee has contributed to the Council's continuing drive for good governance, and continues to provide robust, appropriate challenge where it believes such challenge is necessary.



Meeting:	Full Council
Meeting date:	17 September 2026
Report of:	Helen Whiting, Chief Officer – HR and Support Services
Portfolio of:	Councillor Katie Lomas, Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion.

Update to Pay Policy Statement 2026 - 2027

Pay Policy Statement and Transparency Information

1. The purpose of the report is to update the Pay Policy Statement after the appointment of the new Chief Executive in April 2026.
2. In addition, the Council has taken this opportunity to update the Organisation Chart information to show the current senior management structure.
3. The Council is required to produce and publish a Pay Policy Statement annually and 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

Policy Basis for Decision

4. 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

5. For the Council to approve the update to 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.

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.

Consultation Analysis

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

Options Analysis and Evidential Basis

9. Whilst Members have the option to approve or not approve the report the report merely provides factual information required by the Act and Code.
10. 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.
11. The appointment of the new Chief Executive impacts on the calculation of the pay multiple (the ratio between the highest paid base salary in the Council and the median salary), as required in the Pay Policy Statement. The ratio is based on the salary of the highest paid permanent role: that of the Chief Executive. The median average has been used for calculating the new pay multiple from pay data taken on 31 July 2026.

12. The current pay multiple is 5.184:1. This is a small increase from the ratio of 5.002:1 reported in February 2026.
13. It should be noted that at the time of writing some pay awards had not been agreed. The data used for the update was taken from 31st July 2026 at which point only the pay award for Chief Officers had been agreed and applied. The awards for the Chief Executive, Local Government Services and Soulbury staff groups had not been agreed and applied, therefore the ratio is still based on 2025/26 pay rates for the majority of staff.
14. The Organisation Chart has been updated to reflect the appointment of the new Chief Executive and other recent changes to the senior officer structure. The changes are:
 - A new Chief Executive position to replace the Chief Operating Officer role
 - A new Assistant Director role for Culture, Growth and Infrastructure to repurpose the Chief Strategy Officer post.
 - A new Assistant Director role for Improvement (Temporary for 2 years in response to Care Quality Commission improvement recommendations)
 - A new Assistant Director role for Commissioning (formerly a joint post with Integrated Care Board)
15. 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 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

16. **Financial** - There are no financial implications.
17. **Human Resources (HR)** – There are no human resources implications.

18. **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.
19. **Procurement** – There are no procurement implications.
20. **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.
21. **Environment and Climate action** – There are no implications as there is no policy change.
22. **Affordability** - If the Living Wage is to continue then this report will have a positive effect on those employees on a lower income.
23. **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](#)
24. **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.

25. **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.
26. **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’.
27. **Specialist Implications Officer** – (Director of Governance and Monitoring Officer). There are no further implications.

Risks and Mitigations

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

Wards Impacted

29. There are no wards impacted by this report.

Contact details

For further information please contact the author of this report.

Author

Name:	Judith Bennett
Job Title:	Pay, Reward and Policy Manager
Service Area:	Human Resources
E-mail:	judith.bennett@york.gov.uk
Report approved:	Yes
Date:	7 September 2026

Background papers

Pay Policy Statement and Annex presented to Full Council on 27 February 2026

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s187327/Item%2010%20-%20Pay%20Policy%20Statement%202026-2027.pdf>

<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s187328/Item%2010%20-%20Pay%20Policy%20Statement%202026-2027%20-%20Annex%201.pdf>

Annexes

Pay Policy Statement and Transparency Information 2026-27 Update August 2026



**Pay Policy Statement
and
Transparency Information
April 2026 to 31 March 2027**

Update September 2026

Contents

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Introduction

This document serves to update the necessary sections of the Pay Policy Statement following the appointment of a new Chief Executive in April 2026. This update should be read in conjunction with the full Pay Policy Statement and Transparency Information published in February 2026. The data used for this update is taken from 31st July 2026.

The updated information in the Pay Policy Statement includes:

- Definition of Officers Covered
- Policy on Remunerating Chief Officers
- Policy on the Relationship Between Chief Officer Remuneration and that of Other Staff

To reflect this new appointment, and further changes within the senior officer structure, an amended Organisation Chart is also included in this update.

Definition of officers covered by the Policy Statement

This Policy Statement covers the following posts:

Statutory Chief Officers:

- Head of Paid Service - Chief Executive
- Returning Officer – Chief Executive
- 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 Adult Social Care Commissioning, Partnerships and Provision (Vacant)
- Assistant Director Adult Social Care Improvement (Vacant Temporary)
- Assistant Director Education & Skills
- Assistant Director (Consultant) in Public Health (vacant)
- Assistant Director Customers, Communities & Inclusion (vacant)
- Assistant Director Culture, Growth & Infrastructure (vacant)
- Chief Officer HR & Support Services
- Chief Officer Transformation

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 Executive is show below and is correct at the time of writing (31 July 2026), Note: at the time of writing the pay award for Chief Officers had been agreed but the pay award for the Chief Executive had not:

Chief Executive	6	£177,822
	5	£173,276
	4	£171,005
	3	£168,732
	2	£164,188
	1	£159,643
Corporate Directors	4	£130,820
	3	£126,695
	2	£122,725
	1	£118,876
Directors	4	£116,764
	3	£112,888
	2	£109,145
	1	£105,527
Assistant Directors	4	£95,898
	3	£92,517
	2	£89,530
	1	£86,536

Any annual increase to 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 Executive 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.

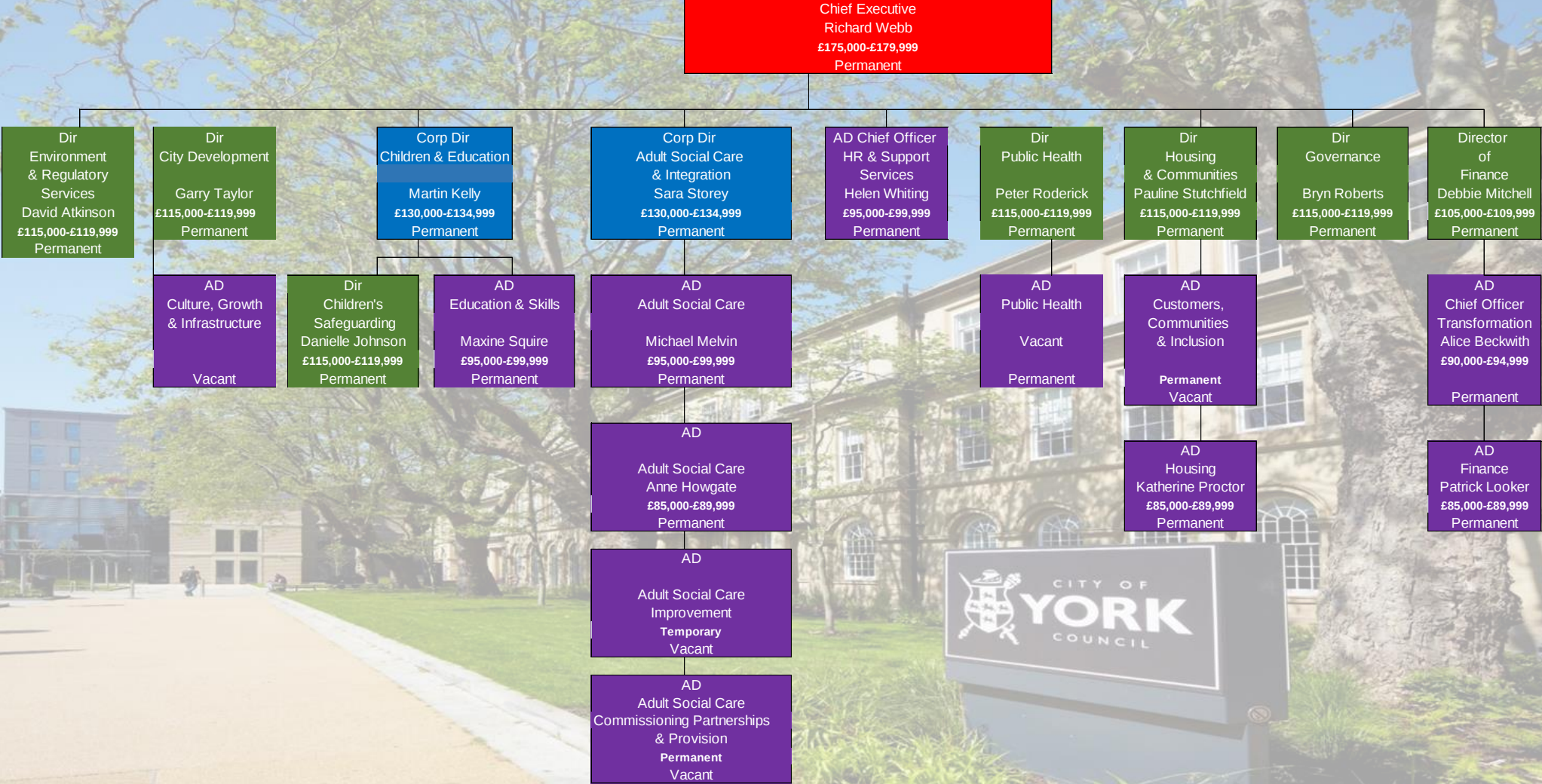
Policy on the relationship between Chief Officer Remuneration and that of other staff

At the time of this update the highest salary in this Council is £177,822 which is paid to the Chief Executive. The median salary in this council is £34,301. (Apprentices have been excluded from the calculation for the median.) Note, at the time of writing the 2026 annual pay awards had not been agreed for all groups of staff. The outstanding pay awards have subsequently been agreed but were not, at the time of writing applied to pay scales. Therefore, the data used to calculate the ratio does not include the 2026 pay award for some groups.

The ratio between the two salaries, the 'pay multiple' is 5.184:1.

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.

City of York Council Organisation Chart August 2026



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':

CEX	up to £177,822
Corp Dir	up to £130,820
Dir	up to £116,764
AD	up to £95,898

Note: the pay award at the time of writing had not been agreed for the Chief Executive pay scale.

To show how the different salary information reported applies we can take the Corporate Director for Adult Social Care and Integration as an example. The information shows: That this role has a salary ceiling of £130,820, 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 £130,000 to £134,449.

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](#)

**Appointments and Changes to Membership of Committees
and Outside Bodies 2026-27**

a) To approve the following appointment:

Committees

Planning Policy and Local Plan Advisory Group

Councillor Pavlovic to be appointed Chair of this group.

b) To note the following appointments:

Committees

Executive

Councillors Merrett and Perrett (job share) to replace Councillor Pavlovic

Audit and Governance Committee

Councillor Pavlovic to replace Councillor Merrett

Corporate Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Pavlovic to replace Councillor Merrett

Place Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Perrett to be removed from this Committee (replacement representative to be confirmed by the Labour Group)

Planning Policy and Local Plan Advisory Group

Councillor Pavlovic to replace Councillor Merrett

Outside Bodies

Migration Yorkshire Board

Councillor Perrett to replace Councillor Pavlovic

Minerals and Waste Plan

Councillor Merrett to replace Councillor Pavlovic

Safer York Partnership

Councillor Perrett to replace Councillor Pavlovic

Veritau Limited

Councillor Webb to replace Councillor Lomas

York and Humber Strategic Migration Group

Councillor Perrett to replace Councillor Pavlovic.

York and North Yorkshire Housing Partnership

Councillor Merrett to replace Councillor Pavlovic