

Report of Patrick Looker (Head of Service Finance)

## **2024/25 Finance and Performance Monitor 2**

### **Summary**

1. This report sets out the projected 2024/25 financial position and the performance position for the period covering 1 April 2024 to 30 September 2024. This is the second report of the financial year and assesses performance against budgets, including progress in delivering the Council's savings programme.
2. This report outlines the Council's continued challenging financial position with a forecast overspend for 2024/25 of £2.7m which is a huge improvement on the c£11m forecast overspend we have previously seen at this stage in the financial year. There has also been an increase in the forecast for Adult Social Care, and the forecast also assumes we can release some earmarked reserves to offset the overall position.
3. However, this is still a forecast overspend and therefore, whilst it is incredibly positive that the position is much improved, there remains a great deal of work still to do. It remains clear that the Council cannot afford to keep spending at this level. The general reserve is £6.9m and, whilst we have other earmarked reserves that we could call on if required, continued overspending will quickly see the Council exhaust its reserves.
4. As outlined in previous reports, the existing cost control measures remain in place, and further action is needed to bring spending down to an affordable level, both within the current financial year and over the next 3 years, to safeguard the Council's financial resilience and stability. The impact that this work is having can be clearly seen in this latest forecast and the Council's track record of delivering savings, along with robust financial management, provides a sound platform to continue to be able to deal with future challenges.

5. If we continue to take action and make any difficult decisions now, this will ensure the future financial stability of the Council and that we can continue to provide services for our residents. It is vital that mitigations are delivered, and the forecast overspend is reduced.
6. The Council implemented a garden waste subscription scheme in August 2024 (this was charged on a pro-rata basis). In 2025, the garden waste subscription service will run for the full 40 week season for 40 weeks (operating from Monday 3rd March to Friday 5th December). The Council will contact subscribers early in the New Year to advise of the 2025 subscription fee and with instructions on how to purchase their licences. As this is before budget council it is necessary to agree the fee in advance. For the 2025/26 financial year, it is proposed that the charge for 2024/25 will be £49. This is expected to produce an additional £100k compared to the current fee which will support overall savings. The service also hope to expand the subscription scheme in 2025 to some new build housing estates that were never previously served by a kerbside garden waste collection service (e.g. Langley Gate development etc).
7. Local government continues to be in challenging times, with worsening performance in a number of sectors nationally. The majority of performance indicators chosen to support and monitor the Council Plan in York, continue to show a generally positive and stable trend against this difficult financial picture and shows the hard work from staff, partners and the city to tackle these challenges.
8. This set of indicators are the high-level measurable element of our performance framework, and in newly available data up to Q2 there has been positive performance in areas such as; **Health inequalities in wards** where we have seen further improvements in the expected level of development in children at 2-2.5 years, the number of **children in temporary accommodation** continues to be lower than previous years, our **building services indicators** continue to show a positive direction of travel with a high percentage of repairs completed on first visit alongside the low number of void properties and an increasing percentage of dwellings with an energy rating in the A-C band in the EPC register, and the **number of FOIs, EIRs, and Complaints** responded to in-time show positive performance at responding to customers in timely manner.
9. Alongside the Council plan indicators there are a number of areas of positive performance from across the Council. Nearly 39,000 eligible households in York have now subscribed to the new **Garden Waste Subscription scheme**, which is 55% of eligible households and above the

initial target of 33,000 households. The cities **Purple Flag Status** was renewed in Summer 2024, recognising the high standards in safety, diversity, cleanliness and vibrancy and recent **Tourism data** is very positive and shows that hotel room occupancy was 85% in July and footfall in the city centre was over 750,000 visits in August. The **Corporate Improvement Framework** which builds on existing strengths with a view to continuous improvement being central to how the council operates has shown recent positive trends in the continued reduced spend on agency staff, a high percentage of FOIs, EIRs, and Complaints responded to in-time, and a wide variety of ideas received in response to the new staff ideas system.

10. To support our most vulnerable residents we have been **Preparing for statutory inspections** such as any future CQC inspection of the Adult Social Care system in York. New performance management information has been made available to the service on waiting lists and timescales for assessments to help the service on its improvement journey, and there has been positive feedback from customers shown by the **low numbers of complaints** received in this area and improved **Joint working**, where there has been an increase this financial year in the number of people in receipt of adult social care packages that are jointly funded under Continuing Health Care or Vulnerable Person Unit provision by the NHS and CYC, to around 250 people.
11. **Population predictions** and data from POPPI/PANSI show that there is going to be a higher % of older people and individuals with learning needs in York in forthcoming years. In response to this and other challenges, City of York Council has agreed **Specialist housing for disabled adults or adults with learning disabilities** where 14 new homes in Acomb to meet the need for specialist housing for disabled adults or adults with learning disabilities in the community have been agreed, and a new **SEND Hub** for children and young people with special educational needs at Clifton Children's Centre was approved in September. The hub will bring together professionals from education, health and social care to provide families with advice and support, reducing unnecessary assessments and waiting times, and help to tackle the rising requests for EHCP assessments in York (188 in the first 5 months of 2024-25) and the number of children and young people with an EHCP (1,436 at the end of June 2024).
12. Over £2.4m has been secured to help fund a new 24/7 adults **Mental health hub** in York over the next two years, run by a team of NHS and volunteer staff, offering support with no referral required. This will help to tackle a number of areas; recent data shows a reduction in the number of

suicides in York in the most recent three-year period, compared to the previous period, and the overall number of households in temporary accommodation in York has reduced during 2023-24 with York continuing to perform positively compared to benchmarked authorities. **Childcare reforms** have been announced and a report was presented to Executive in September 2024 on the commissioning of new and expanded places for childcare reforms to help parents with early years childcare and provide more children with access to high quality early years education. In 2023, **KS4 data** showed strong performance for York pupils compared with national averages and a high proportion of 5 year olds achieved a good level of development compared to national and regional averages. However, challenges remain as the **gap between disadvantaged pupils** and their peers at KS4 widened in York and nationally, and a legacy of Covid-19 is that school attendance of disadvantaged groups continues to be slower to recover.

13. We are listening to residents within **Our Big Budget Conversation**, a consultation on budget priorities taking place over 4 stages during 2024-25 with stage 2 concluding at the end of Q2 with over 1000 responses. The annual **Tenant Satisfaction survey** was sent to all council tenants in September 2024, where over 7000 households have been asked about their views on services. York remains committed to improving stock condition and tenant experiences, and results from the 2023-24 Regulator for Social Housing return are due for publication on the York Open Data platform in November 2024.

## **Background**

### **Financial Summary and Mitigation Strategy**

14. The current forecast is that there will be an overspend of £2.7m. This is despite the additional budget allocated through the 2024/25 budget process and ongoing action being taken by managers across the Council to try and reduce expenditure. Of particular concern, is the increase in forecast overspend across Adult Social Care, where the predicted outturn has increased by £2.4m.
15. If the Council continues to spend at the current level, and no action is taken, then we will continue to overspend and will exhaust our reserves and any other available funding. The current level of expenditure is unaffordable and therefore we must continue the work started in the previous financial year to identify and take the necessary actions to reduce expenditure.

16. As outlined in previous reports to Executive, we have continued to see recurring overspends across both Adult and Children's Social Care. However, the underspends and mitigations that have allowed us to balance the budget at year end have generally been one off. Whilst the use of reserves to fund an overspend is appropriate as a one-off measure, it does not remove the need to identify ongoing savings to ensure the overall position is balanced. The budget report considered by Executive in February 2024 also included an assessment of risks associated with the budget, which included the need to secure further savings and effectively manage cost pressures.
17. Members will be aware that the financial position of local government is a national challenge and that the pressures being seen across both Adult and Children's Social Care are not something that is unique to York. Many Councils are experiencing significant financial pressures and struggling to balance their budgets now, so it is vital that we continue the work started last year to reduce our expenditure down to a sustainable level both within the current financial year and over the medium term.
18. On 30<sup>th</sup> October, the Chancellor announced the first budget of the new Government. Whilst we will need to await the draft local government settlement in December for detailed allocations of any funding to York, there was a confirmation that there are plans to reform local authority funding (especially distribution) in 2026/27 "to ensure it reflects an up to date assessment of need and local revenues". This is both an opportunity and a risk to our medium term finances, given our position as one of the lowest funded councils in the country.
19. Given the scale of the financial challenge, and the expected impact on budgets in future years, it is vital that every effort is made to balance the overall position. It is recognised that this will require difficult decisions to be made to protect services for vulnerable residents.
20. Corporate control measures are in place, but it is possible that they will not deliver the scale of reduction needed within the year. Other savings proposals, including service reductions, may also be needed. Officers will continue to carefully monitor spend, identify further mitigation, and review reserves and other funding to make every effort to reduce this forecast position. However, it is possible that it will not be reduced to the point that the outturn will be within the approved budget. The Council has £6.9m of general reserves that would need to be called on if this were the case. As outlined in previous reports, any use of the general reserve would require

additional savings to be made in the following year to replenish the reserve and ensure it remains at the recommended minimum level.

21. The delivery of savings plans continues to be a clear priority for all officers during the year. Corporate Directors and Directors will keep Executive Members informed of progress on a regular basis.

### Financial Analysis

22. The Council's net budget is £149m. Following on from previous years, the challenge of delivering savings continues with c£14m to be achieved to reach a balanced budget. The latest forecasts indicate the Council is facing net financial pressures of £2.7m and an overview of this forecast, on a directorate by directorate basis, is outlined in Table 1 below.

Service area	Net budget £'000	2024/25 Forecast Variation £'000
Children & Education	28,659	1,111
Adult Social Care & Integration	45,307	3,286
Transport, Environment & Planning	23,464	-610
Housing & Communities	6,614	790
Corporate & Central Services	44,648	-132
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>148,692</b>	<b>4,445</b>
Contingency	576	-576
Use of earmarked reserves		-1,089
<b>Total including contingency</b>	<b>149,268</b>	<b>2,780</b>

Table 1: Finance overview

### Directorate Analysis

#### Transport, Environment and Planning

23. The directorate is forecasting an underspend at quarter 2 of £610k and the table below summarises the latest forecasts by service area.

	2024/25 Budget £'000	Forecast Outturn Variance £'000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
Transport	7,078	-381	-5
Fleet	-127	0	0
Highways	5,008	-100	-2
Parking Services	-8,348	-70	-1
Waste	14,536	-139	-1
Public Realm	3,422	-23	-1
Emergency Planning	145	0	0
Planning Services	89	97	109
Public Protection	809	12	1
Community Safety	715	-6	-1
Management	137	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,464</b>	<b>-610</b>	<b>-3</b>

24. Within Transport there was an underspend of £381k across the service. There is a forecast underspend against the Concessionary Fares budget of £325k as numbers of concessionary passengers have not fully returned to pre pandemic levels although the saving is lower than 2023/24.
25. Car park income at the end of August remains within 1% of budget as transactions have reduced by 7% but income per transaction increased by 12%. This has meant total income is c4% higher than 2023/24 in line with budget. Respark and season ticket income is ahead of budget and therefore the current forecast is that total income will be on budget. This will continue to be monitored closely as the budget is c £2m higher than last year.
26. There is a forecast underspend of £139k across waste disposal and collection. Income from selling spare capacity at Allerton Waste Recovery Plan is forecast to be £200k higher than forecast as overall council waste tonnages remain relatively static.
27. Across Waste Collection operational costs are forecast to be £50k below budget as vehicle repairs and the cost of hire was below budget as the fleet is relatively new.
28. The garden waste subscription service was introduced in August 2024. There have been over 36,600 subscribers to the new scheme which has

given revenue of £736k which is £164k below budget but given the part year impact, the performance is very strong.

29. Within the Highways area there is an anticipated underspend of £100k as electricity prices have reduced for unmetered supply to a lower level than assumed in the budget.
30. Across planning services there is a shortfall in income from building control as the service has at this time very limited staffing resources and primarily only able to provide the statutory service.

### **City Development**

31. Across City Development Directorate which covers Local Plan, Regeneration and Economy Teams it is assumed that the revenue budget of £710k will be on target. There are no reported variances at Monitor 2.

### **Performance – Service Delivery**

32. This performance report is based upon the city outcome and council delivery indicators included in the Performance Framework for the Council Plan (2023-2027) which was launched in September 2023. Wider or historic strategic and operational performance information is published quarterly on the Council's open data platform; [www.yorkopendata.org.uk](http://www.yorkopendata.org.uk)
33. The Executive for the Council Plan (2023-2027) agreed a core set of indicators to help monitor the Council priorities and these provide the structure for performance updates in this report. Some indicators are not measured on a quarterly basis and the DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three results whether they are annual or quarterly.
34. A summary of the city outcome and council delivery indicators by council plan theme are shown in the paragraphs below along with the latest data for all of the core indicator set.



Economy: A fair, thriving, green economy for all (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Universal Credit: Claimants	13,248 (Q1 2024/25)	13,714 (Q2 2024/25)	↑ Bad	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
Earnings gap between the 25 percentile and the median (£) (York)	£164.20 (2022/23)	£152.20 (2023/24)	↓ Good	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in December 2024
Housing affordability (median house prices to earnings ratio)	8.85 (2021/22)	9.3 (2022/23)	↑ Bad	Annual	National Data 2022/23 8.14	2023/24 data available in March 2025
% of vacant city centre shops	8.40% (Q1 2024/25)	7.94% (Q2 2024/25)	→	Monthly	National Data 2023/24 14%	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
Business Startups - (YTD)	796 (February 2023)	767 (February 2024)	→	Quarterly	Not available	TBC
GVA per head (£)	33,571 (2021/22)	37,313 (2022/23)	↑ Good	Annual	Regional Rank 2022/23: 2	2023/24 data available in May 2025
% of working age population in employment (16-64)	78.0% (2023/24)	77.8% (Q1 2024/25)	→	Quarterly	National Data Q1 2024/25 75.50%	Q2 2024/25 data available in January 2025
% of Total Employees working for an Accredited Good Business Charter employer	12.10% (2021/22)	13.40% (2022/23)	→	Annual	Not available	2023/24 data available in November 2024
% of Total Employees working for an Accredited Living Wage employer	14.5% (2021/22)	16% (2022/23)	→	Annual	Not available	2023/24 data available in November 2024
Survival of Newly Born Businesses post 1 year	94.00% (2020/21)	94.40% (2021/22)	→	Annual	Not available	2022/23 data available in November 2024
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

35. **Universal Credit Claimants** – At the end of September 2024 there were 13,714 people, in York, on Universal Credit. Although this is the highest figure to date, surpassing the previous high of 13,236 in February 2021, it is low compared to the region or nationally, and represents 10% of the working population in York, compared to 19% regionally and 17% nationally. The figures dropped to a low of 11,054 in May 2022 but they have steadily increased since then. This is a mixture of increased claimants and people who have been converting over from other schemes, with this picture becoming clearer in 2024-25 as DWP predicts/plans for all people to have moved over to Universal Credit.
36. There are two types of claimant: those in employment and those not. Both types have been gradually increasing in the last 12 months with the number of those not in employment increasing as claimants of health-related legacy benefits (e.g. Employment and Support Allowance) are migrated across to Universal Credit. The increase in the number of those in employment may be attributed to a higher percentage of part time workers (29.8% in York, 25% regionally and 23.6% nationally). Our partners within DWP have praised the Council for its positive housing

benefit performance over the last 12 months with processing times indicative of a positive customer experience.

37. **Earnings gap between the 25 percentile and the median (£)** – In York, the latest figures show that earnings continue to be low, although this gap has reduced by 7.3%, in 2023, to £152.20. This is the lowest gap since 2018-19. Nationally, there has been an increase of 1.4% to £163.20 and regionally an increase of 4.7% to £139.50. Data for 2024-25 will be available in December 2024.
38. **Housing affordability (median house prices to earnings ratio)** – Owning a home in York remains largely unaffordable. In 2023, full-time employees, in York, could expect to spend around 9.3 times their annual earnings buying a home, compared to 8.3 times annual earnings in England and 6.1 times annual earnings in the region. In York this has increased by 3.8% on last year whilst at the national and regional level, these ratios are similar to 2022, and represent a return to the pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic trend. Data for 2023-24 will be available in March 2025.
39. **% of vacant city centre shops** – At the end of September 2024, there were 50 vacant shops in the city centre which equates to 7.9% of all city centre shops. This is much lower than the latest national benchmark in 2023-24 of 14% and the York figures have remained stable for a number of years.
40. **Business start ups** – Figures for 2022-23 showed 870 new business start-ups for York, which is higher than in the previous year (746 in 2021-22). The York figure is at only a slightly lower level to that seen before the pandemic (932 in 2019-20). The year to date figure up to the end of February 2024 of 767 new start ups is at a similar level to last year. The monthly figures for business start ups in York came from a regionally paid for dataset but this has now come to an end. Alternative sources of this information are being sought.
41. **GVA per head (£)** – In 2022-23, the GVA per head in York was £37,313 which was the second highest figure regionally. This latest figure is an increase from last year (£33,571). Annually since 2009-10, the GVA per head has generally been increasing (from £25,976 per head). Data for 2023-24 will be available in May 2025.
42. **% of working age population in employment (16-64)** – In Q1 2024-25, 77.8% of the working age population were in employment, which is higher

than the national and regional figures (75.5% and 73.1% respectively) and the York performance gives the city a ranking of second regionally. The figure for Q1 2024-25 in York remains fairly high overall but is lower than the figures seen for the previous two years.

43. **% of Total Employees working for an Accredited Living Wage/Good Business Charter employer** – 16% of employees worked for an Accredited Living Wage employer and 13% worked for an Accredited Good Business Charter employer in 2022-23, which are both higher than in the previous year (14% and 12% respectively).
44. **Survival of Newly Born Businesses post 1 year** – In York, 175 businesses were created in Q3 2023-24, up 6% on a year ago. There were 160 business closures in the same quarter, down 8% on the year before. The survival rate post 1 year has been consistently above 94% in York for the last 4 years, with the latest figure of 94.4%. The York figures have been consistently higher than the National and Regional rates.

Transport: Sustainable accessible transport for all (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
P&R Passenger Journeys	2m (YTD Dec 21)	2.4m (Prov) (YTD Dec 22)	↑ Good	Quarterly	Not available	TBC
Local bus passenger journeys originating in the authority area (excluding P&R)	5.54m (YTD Dec 22)	7.26m (Prov) (YTD Dec 22)	↑ Good	Quarterly	Not available	TBC
Area Wide Traffic Levels (07:00 - 19:00) (Excluding A64) from 2009/10 baseline (2.09m)	2.08m (2022/23)	2.02m (2023/24)	→	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in September 2025
Index of cycling activity (12 hour) from 2009 Baseline (31,587)	115.00% (2022)	113.00% (2023)	→	Annual	Not available	2024 data available in June 2025
Index of pedestrians walking to and from the City Centre (12 hour in and out combined) from 2009/10 Baseline (37,278)	124.00% (2022)	125.00% (2023)	→	Annual	Not available	2024 data available in September 2025
% of customers arriving at York Station by sustainable modes of transport (cycling, walking, taxi or bus - excluding cars, Lift, Motorcycle)	60% (2022)	78% (2023)	→	Annual	Not available	2024 data available June 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

45. **Area Wide Traffic Levels** – Between 2011-12 and 2016-17, the number of vehicles on the city’s roads increased year on year to a high of 2.2 million. Following this, the numbers decreased to a low of 1.75m in 2020-21. However, the covid pandemic brought with it numerous national lockdowns and local restrictions so the decrease in traffic levels was to be expected. Since then, figures had increased to 2.08m in 2022-23 although the latest figures show a slight reduction to 2.02m vehicles in 2023-24.

46. **Index of Cycling activity** – Prior to the pandemic, cycling levels in the city were around 41% (2019) above the baseline taken in 2009. The latest data shows that cycling levels in 2023 were 13% above the baseline. The pandemic had a huge effect on how people travel around, and how much they travel. Other cities with high levels of cycling have also seen falls in activity. In York, cycling levels appear to have fallen because of a decline in commuting (as a result of more working from home), although travel patterns are still settling down. York has a strong walking and cycling heritage, but if we are to achieve our climate and traffic reduction targets and see a long-term, sustainable increase in rates of cycling, we need to enable more people to choose the bicycle as the primary way of getting around. There is much more to be done to encourage even more people towards riding, wheeling and walking in the future, and we have recently carried out an extensive consultation to better understand what changes we can make to help support residents to make the change to cycling, and how we can support our cycling communities. Data for 2024 will be available in 2025.
47. **Index of pedestrians walking to and from the City Centre** – From a baseline in 2009-10 (36,919), there has been a 25% increase in the number of pedestrians walking to and from the city centre in 2023-24. This is 1%pt higher than in 2022-23 and remains high compared to previous years. Data is gathered on an annual basis over the course of one day; it is a count of pedestrians crossing an inner cordon set just beyond the inner ring road and includes off-road routes such as riverside paths.
48. **% of customers arriving at York station by sustainable modes of transport** – In 2023, 78% of customers arrived at York station by sustainable modes of transport which is an increase from 60% in 2022 (the survey was delayed in 2022 so didn't take place until January 2023 which may have affected the result, and in addition, two of the usual counting locations were missed which may explain the lower than usual percentage). The data is usually gathered by an annual survey which takes place for a five-hour period in seven locations around the station. Members of the public are asked how they arrive at the station and the results are flow weighted to take into account the split of people arriving at each entrance. Data for 2024 will be available in mid 2025.

Transport: Sustainable accessible transport for all (Council)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
The number of CYC electric vehicle recharging points in York	103 (Q1 2024/25)	103 (Q2 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
% of Principal roads where maintenance should be considered (Local Recording)	11% (2021/22)	11% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in June 2025
% of Principal roads where maintenance should be considered (Scanner - NI - 130-01)	NC	2% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data (Scanner DfT Comparison) 2022/23 4%	2024/25 data available in June 2025
% of Non-principal classified roads where maintenance should be considered (Local Recording)	23% (2021/22)	25% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in June 2025
% of Non-principal classified roads where maintenance should be considered (Scanner - NI 130-02)	NC	4% (2023/24)	➡	Annual	National Data (Scanner DfT Comparison) 2022/23 6%	2024/25 data available in June 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

49. **The number of CYC electric vehicle recharging points** - There were 103 CYC electric recharging points at the end of Q2 2024-25, which is the same as at the same point in the previous year.
50. When looking at all providers of EV charging, the latest data collated by ZapMap, a charging locator app, shows that for York the total number of publicly available charging devices (all speeds) was 146 at the end of Q1 2024-25 which is a reduction from 221 at Q1 2023-24. The number of those which were rapid chargers was 36 at the end of Q1 2024-25 which is a reduction from 42 at Q1 2023-24. A charging device may have more than one connector and be able to charge more than one vehicle at a time so the figures do not show total charging capacity but are an indication of and can be used to compare York to national and regional rates. The rate of devices available (all speeds) per 100,000 population was 71.4 for York compared to 55.9 Regionally and 97.4 Nationally.
51. **% of Principal/Non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered** – In 2023-24, the percentage of principal roads in York, from local figures, where maintenance should be considered was 11% (the same as in 2021-22). There are two processes for collecting this indicator, a local one for providing the figures above, and a one-off SCANNER survey which is used by the DfT for benchmarking. The latest York figure for SCANNER is 2% for principal roads and this is slightly lower than the latest available benchmarks in 2022-23 (National average 4% and Regional average 3%).
52. The percentage of non-principal roads in York, from local figures, where maintenance should be considered was 25% in 2023-24 (slightly higher than 23% in 2021-22). Like the above indicator, there are two processes

for collecting this indicator, a local one for providing the figures above, and a one-off SCANNER survey which is used by the DfT for benchmarking. The latest York figure for SCANNER is 4% for non-principal roads which is lower than the latest benchmarks in 2022-23 (National average 6% and Regional average 3%). Data for 2024-25 will be available in June 2025. Please note SCANNER surveys were not carried out in York in 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Housing: Increasing the supply of affordable housing (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Net Additional Homes Provided - (YTD)	459 (2022/23)	528 (2023/24)	↑ Good	Bi-annual	Not available	2024/25 mid-year data available in December 2024
Net Housing Consents - (YTD)	1,559 (2022/23)	658 (2023/24)	↓ Bad	Bi-annual	Not available	2024/25 mid-year data available in December 2024
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

53. **Net Additional Homes** – Between 1st April 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, a total of **462 net additional homes** were completed. This total comprises two elements:

- There has been a total of 529 net housing completions. This represents 69 more completed homes compared to the previous twelve-month monitoring period. The main features of the housing completions that were carried out are:
  - 480 homes (90.9%) were completed on housing sites (Use Class 3). Of this, 390 were new build homes (81%).
  - 8 homes were demolished during the monitoring period.
  - Individual sites that saw the construction of five or less dwellings during the monitoring period contributed just 56 (10.6%) homes.
  - Significant sites providing housing completions (Use Class C3) over the monitoring period have been Germany Beck (117), The Cocoa Works, Haxby Road (Phase 1 Blocks B and C) (107), Former Civil Service Club, Boroughbridge Road (79) and the Former Vacant Site, Eboracum Way (62).
  - A net total of 29 (5.5%) off campus, privately managed student ‘cluster flats’ were completed at Aubrey House Foss Islands Road.
  - 143 (27.1%) net additional homes were a result of changes from other uses to residential homes.

- A loss of 66 net equivalent homes resulted from the closure of three care homes within the authority area during the twelve-month monitoring period.

54. **Net Housing Consents** – Planning applications determined during the full monitoring period of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 resulted in the approval of **658 net additional homes**. This compares to 1,559 net approvals granted the previous year. However, a further 513 homes were approved at Planning Committee during the monitoring period and are still awaiting legal agreement sign off.

55. The main features of the housing approvals are:

- 577 of all net homes consented (87.7%) were granted on housing sites (Use Class C3).
- Significant sites granted approval for housing (Use Class C3) includes Land at New Lane, Huntington (300), Os Field South of & Adjacent to 1 Tadcaster Road, Copmanthorpe (158), Land East of Middlewood Close, Rufforth (21) and Clifton Without County Junior School, Rawcliffe Drive (15).
- 59 homes were approved on sites of 5 or less homes.
- A net total of 33 new homes across three sites were granted 'prior approval', the most significant of which was at Gateway 2, Holgate Park Drive (31).
- 44 net new retirement homes were allowed on appeal at 11 The Village, Wigginton.
- A further 513 homes have been approved through a resolution to grant consent at Planning Committee over the last twelve months and are currently subject to the execution of a section 106 legal agreement. These sites include:
  - Land to the East of Millfield Industrial Estate, Main Street, Wheldrake (139).
  - Enterprise Rent-a-car, 15 Foss Islands Road (133).
  - Paddock lying between Park Lodge and Willow Bank, Haxby Road (117).
  - Land to the South-East of 51 Moor Lane, Copmanthorpe (75).
  - Tramways Club, 1 Mill Street (35).

Sustainability: Cutting carbon, enhancing the environment for our future (City)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	46.45% (Prov) (Q1 2023/24)	44.77% (Prov) (Q1 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	National Data 2022/23 41.70%	Q2 2024/25 data available in January 2025
% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live	79.68% (Q3 2023/24)	81.00% (Q1 2024/25)	➡	Bi-annual	Community Life Survey 2021/22 76%	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

56. **Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting** – The latest provisional data for the amount of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting was 44.8% within Q1 2024-25, which is a decrease from 46.4% during Q1 2023-24. The figures are broadly similar for total household waste collected (246.2kg per household from the same time last year (246.7kg)), reuse, recycling or composting waste per household (110kg from 111kg in 2023-24) and residual (approx. non-recycling) household waste has remained at 136kg per household. The increase in the number of households accounts for the decrease in the overall recycling figures.
57. **% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live** - The first biannual resident satisfaction survey taken by the Talkabout panel took place during Q1 2024-25. Results from the Q1 2024-25 Talkabout survey showed that 85% of the panel were satisfied with York as a place to live, up 5% from the previous survey. 81% were satisfied with their local area, consistent with results from Q3 2023-24. A slight decline in satisfaction with the local area can be seen over recent years but York continues to perform well against the latest national figure of 76% (Community Life Survey 2021-22). Data for Q3 2024-25 will be available in January 2025.

Sustainability: Cutting carbon, enhancing the environment for our future (Council)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
Level of CO2 emissions from council buildings and operations (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent)	3,633.3 (2021/22)	3,462.4 (2022/23)	➡	Annual	Not available	2023/24 data available in November 2024
Number of trees planted (CYC)	1,099 (2022/23)	1,240 (2023/24)	↑ Good	Annual	Not available	2024/25 data available in May 2025
% of Talkabout panel who think that the council are doing well at improving green spaces	36.84% (Q3 2023/24)	36.70% (Q1 2024/25)	➡	Bi-annual	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

58. **Level of CO2 emissions across the city and from council buildings and operations** – The City continues its journey to net zero by 2030 with



Carbon emissions across the city reducing over recent years, from 936 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2018, to 816 in 2020. Emissions from councils buildings and operations have also been reducing, from 3,658 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2020-21 to 3,462 in 2022-23.

- 59. **Number of trees planted (CYC)** – During 2023-24, CYC planted 40 standard trees in the city’s parks and on highways. In addition, 1,200 trees (whips) were planted by the council’s ‘York Green Streets’ project, fully funded by a grant from White Rose Forest (secured in February 2024) including three years aftercare to support successful establishment. This forms part of the Council Plan 2023-2028 commitment to support biodiversity and nature by planting 4,000 new trees. The YGS project team is itself 100% externally funded by a £150,000 Forestry Commission grant to 31 March 2025. A further £40,000 has been secured from DEFRA to plant two new micro-woods in York’s urban area in the 2024-25 planting season in Holgate and Clifton Without wards.
- 60. Full year data for 2024-25 will not be available until May 2025, but numbers are likely to be comparable to last year as York Green Streets planted c1,800 trees (whips and standards) in April 2024.
- 61. **% of Talkabout panel who think that the council are doing well at improving green spaces** - The results for Q1 2024-25 showed that 37% of respondents agreed the Council and its partners are doing well at improving green spaces, consistent with results from Q3 2023-24. Data for Q3 2024-25 will be available in January 2025.

How the Council will operate (Council)						
	Previous Data	Latest Data	DoT	Frequency	Benchmarks	Data Next Available
The % of the Talkabout panel reporting an 'excellent' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	10.92% (Q3 2023/24)	11.07% (Q1 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
The % of the Talkabout panel reporting a 'good' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	34.86% (Q3 2023/24)	29.07% (Q1 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
The % of the Talkabout panel reporting a 'satisfactory' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	34.51% (Q3 2023/24)	37.02% (Q1 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
The % of the Talkabout panel reporting a 'poor' experience when they last contacted the council about a service	19.72% (Q3 2023/24)	22.84% (Q1 2024/25)	➡	Quarterly	Not available	Q3 2024/25 data available in January 2025
The DoT (Direction of Travel) is calculated on the latest three data points whether they are annual or quarterly. All historic data is available via the Open Data Platform						

62. **% of the Talkabout panel reporting an excellent, good, satisfactory or poor experience when they last contacted the council about a service** – The results for this indicator for Q1 2024-25 show that the majority of the panel report having a ‘good’ (29%) or ‘satisfactory’ (37%) experience when they last contacted the Council, with 11% reporting an ‘excellent’ experience and 23% reporting a ‘poor’ experience. Data for Q3 2024-25 will be available in January 2025.

### **Consultation**

63. Not applicable.

### **Options**

64. Not applicable.

### **Analysis**

65. Not applicable.

### **Council Plan**

66. Not applicable.

### **Implications**

67. The recommendations in the report potentially have implications across several areas. However, at this stage
- **Financial implications** are contained throughout the main body of the report. The actions and recommendations contained in this report should ensure the continued financial stability and resilience of the Council both in the current year and in future years.
  - **Human Resources (HR)**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
  - **Legal** The Council is under a statutory obligation to set a balanced budget on an annual basis. Under the Local Government Act 2003 it is required to monitor its budget during the financial year and take remedial action to address overspending and/or shortfalls of income.
  - **Procurement**, there are no specific procurement implications to this report.

- **Health and Wellbeing**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
- **Environment and Climate action**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
- **Affordability**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
- **Equalities and Human Rights**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
- **Data Protection and Privacy**, there are no implications related to the recommendations.
- **Communications**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.
- **Economy**, there are no direct implications related to the recommendations.

### **Risk Management**

68. An assessment of risks is completed as part of the annual budget setting exercise. These risks are managed effectively through regular reporting and corrective action being taken where necessary and appropriate.
69. The current financial position represents a significant risk to the Council's financial viability and therefore to ongoing service delivery. It is important to ensure that the mitigations and decisions outlined in this paper are delivered and that the overspend is reduced.

### **Recommendations**

70. The Committee is asked to:
- a. Note the finance and performance information.
  - b. Note that work will continue on identifying the savings needed to fully mitigate the forecast overspend.

Reason: to ensure expenditure is kept within the approved budget.

## Contact Details

**Author:**

Patrick Looker  
Head of Service Finance  
Ext 1633

Ian Cunningham  
Head of Business  
Intelligence  
Ext 5749

**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

**Ian Floyd**  
**Chief Operating Officer**

**Report**  **Date**  
**Approved**

Ian Floyd  
Chief Operating Officer

**Report**  **Date**  
**Approved**

**Wards Affected:** *List wards or tick box to indicate all*

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers:** None.

**Annexes:** EPAT Q2 24-25 Scrutiny Committee Scorecard