

Meeting:	Executive
Meeting date:	7 July 2026
Report of:	Debbie Mitchell, Director of Finance
Portfolio of:	Councillor Katie Lomas, Executive Member for Finance, Performance, Major Projects, Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion

2025/26 Finance and Performance Outturn

Subject of Report

1. This report provides a year end analysis of the overall finance and performance position for the year. This is the final report covering the financial year 2025/26.
2. There have been reports to Executive throughout the year that have outlined a challenging financial position for the council. A £2.2m overspend was forecasted in the Monitor 3 report in January which was an improvement on overspend forecast at Monitor 2 of £6.2m. At Monitor 3 there was a reported projected overspend across Adult Social Services totalling £7.25m.
3. This report details that the council outturn position was a budget underspend of £1.498m. This has been an improvement of £3.662m from the position forecast at Monitor 3 report.
4. As a result of the underspend there has been no need to draw on general reserves which stand at £7.4m.
5. The outturn position shows that most areas of the council are now broadly in budget. All service areas (with the exception of Adult Social Care) saw an improvement in the financial position at the end of the year and it is particularly pleasing following significant hard work within the service that Children's and Education service has delivered a year end underspend totalling £1.356m. The key area that requires

continued council wide focus is Adult Social Care where the overspend of £8.996m is putting pressure on the council's overall position.

6. As reported in the Financial Strategy report 2026/27 (Executive 27th January 2026) the financial outlook for the council over the coming few years is extremely challenging with government grants reducing at the same rate that council tax is increasing. To navigate these challenges, it will be necessary to strictly control expenditure to ensure that future savings requirements are at a manageable level.
7. Existing cost control measures therefore remain in place, and these need to continue in order to bring spending down to an affordable level in order to safeguard the Council's financial resilience and stability. The impact that this work is having can be clearly seen in this outturn position 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. The fully established Transformation Team is key in supporting the organisational changes needed to operate as efficiently as possible.
8. 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.
9. The Council Plan basket of supporting set of indicators are the high-level measurable element of our performance framework, at a Council operational and City Outcomes level, and in newly available data up to 2025-26 there has been positive performance in the below areas.
10. Key indicators around the number of children within services for **Children in Care** and **Child Protection Plans** are stable; the number of **children in temporary accommodation** and **homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation** have reduced, **health inequalities** in York wards/MSOAs have improved in some areas (the **gap in the % of Year 6 pupils recorded as overweight (incl. obesity)** between the highest and lowest York ward has **narrowed** in the latest data and the **gap in the % of children who reach the expected level of development at 2-2.5 years of age** between the highest and lowest York ward has also **narrowed**). Key indicators around **educational**

achievement at both Foundation stage and KS4 remain high and above national averages.

11. The % of adults that are **physically active** remains high, and **overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support** also remains stable and positive. For males, the **slope index of inequality in life expectancy at birth** has reduced and the **gap in years in Life Expectancy at birth for males and females** between the highest and lowest York MSOA has **narrowed**.
12. There has been a positive direction of travel over the last few years in **city centre performance measures**, with low shop vacancy rates and economic performance for **GVA (Gross Value Added)** continues to increase annually. The **workplace earnings gap has reduced** in the last year and the **% of the working age population in employment** remains high and above national and regional averages. **Newly born businesses** in York continue to thrive and **Park & Ride and local bus passenger journeys** have made a strong recovery post-covid.
13. Many of our **housing indicators** are showing a positive direction of travel, with a further increase in new **additional homes provided** and a high **% of repairs completed on the first visit**. The **% of tenants satisfied that their landlord provides a home that is well maintained** has **increased considerably** in the latest figures. The latest **Talkabout resident satisfaction measures** are positive with an **increase in resident satisfaction** with their local area as a place to live, a stable number of residents giving help to a group or club, and an **increase in the number who report an 'excellent' or 'good' experience** when they last contacted the council about a service.
14. Indicators around **air quality** are **positive**, with continued decreases in the annual mean Nitrogen Dioxide concentration recorded across three areas, and **reductions in carbon emissions** across the city and from council buildings and operations.
15. The Council Plan Progress Reports started in September 2023 which is when the Council Plan 2023-2027 was approved by Executive. The second annual report, providing an update of activity against each of the plan's seven priorities in the year from September 2024 to September 2025 was approved at the November 2025 Executive. The report is published on the Council's webpages: <https://www.york.gov.uk/CouncilPlanProgressReport2025> and sits alongside the six-monthly snapshot of progress. The report complements the Finance and Performance Monitor, providing a

narrative for the steps that the Council is taking to meet its ambitions.

Benefits and Challenges

16. This report is to note the outturn position for 2025/26. There are continuing challenges to deliver on approved savings agreed in previous years as well as future Transformation savings and efficiencies. The benefit of a balanced budget is that resources can be diverted into delivering Council priorities.

Policy Basis for Decision

17. This report is to note the outturn position for 2025/26. The ongoing financial resilience and stability of the council is essential in ensuring Council priorities can continue to be achieved.

Financial Strategy Implications

18. The report sets out that year-end financial position shows an underspend. This is a steady improvement on the position reported through the year. There remain overspends within Adult Social Care and some savings that are proving difficult to fully recognise in the short term. There continues a need therefore to focus on reducing expenditure and maximising income to safeguard financial resilience and stability.
19. It will be necessary therefore to continue with the successful cost control measures that have been in place over the last two years as we seek to deliver the savings outlined above.

Recommendation and Reasons

20. Executive is asked to:
 - a) Note the finance and performance information within the report and agree that the underspend of £1.498m will be added to council general reserves

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

b) Accept funding from the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority delegating authority to the Director of Children's Services to progress the below in consultation with the Deputy Leader inc. Children, Young People and Education:

- i) £1,448,630 Adult Skills Fund
- ii) £603,665 Connect to Work

c) Accept funding from the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority delegating authority to the Director of City Development to progress the below in consultation with the Executive Member for Transport:

- i) £1,120,000 Active Travel Fund

d) Accept funding from the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority delegating authority to the Director of City Development to progress the below in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy and Culture:

- i) £84,900 Vibrant and Sustainable High Streets
- ii) £206,000 for three years Local Growth Funding

Reason: To secure funding to progress programmes of work related to each funding stream to enable activity that will support a more prosperous, affordable, accessible and equal city.

e) Approve the York Learning Accountability Statement at the annex to this report ahead of publication.

Reason: To enable the council to receive funding in order to deliver courses through York Learning service.

Background

Financial Summary and Mitigation Strategy

21. The draft outturn position shows an underspend of £1.498m across service areas for the year compared to a comparable overspend of £2.164m at Monitor 3. The year end position has improved by £3.662m compared to Monitor 3.

22. As has been reported throughout the year the council continues to face spending pressures primarily around Adult Social Care. The year end overspend of £9m is concerning and it has taken significant work across other service areas in order to bring year end to a small surplus. This shows that the cost control measures in operation across the year has been successful. However, it is worth noting that some of the underspends have been one off such as windfall business rates income from the Leeds City Region pool (£2.3m) and reduced Treasury Management costs resulting from a lower than planned level of borrowing (£3.4m).
23. Members will be aware that whilst financial position of local government is a national challenge. Pressures are being seen across both Adult and Children’s Social Care across the country and are not something that is unique to York. The impact of the Fair Funding review on York’s funding over the coming years has placed York in a worse position compared to most other authorities. The number of authorities experiencing Exceptional Financial Support remains significant and most councils have increased council tax at the maximum level allowable which indicates that councils are under pressure to balance their budgets. It is essential therefore 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.
24. The delivery of savings plans and identifications continues to be a clear priority for all officers. Corporate Directors and Directors will keep Executive Members informed of progress on a regular basis.

Financial Analysis

25. The Council’s net budget for 2025/26 is £156.9m. The draft outturn on a Directorate basis is shown in the table 1 below.

Service area	Net budget* £'000	2025/26 Q3 Forecast Variation £'000	2025/26 Outturn Variation £'000	Change £'000
Children & Education	39,612	-502	-1,356	-854
Adult Social Care	58,533	7,246	8,996	+1,750
Env. Transport and Planning	23,855	-2,016	-2,864	-848
Housing and Communities	12,089	739	404	-335

Corporate & Central Services	22,332	-2,803	-6,178	-3,375
Sub Total	156,421	2,664	-998	-3,662
Contingency	500	-500	-500	0
Total including contingency	156,921	2,164	-1,498	-3,662

*Budgets include Support Service Charges totalling £21.7m with the offset being within Corporate and Central Services

26. The year end position shows that there has been an underspend across service budgets of £1.498m. This is an overall improvement of £3.662m compared to Monitor 3. This demonstrates that the council's cost control measures are working.

Reserves and Contingency

27. The February 2026 budget report to Full Council stated that the minimum level for the General Fund reserve should be £7.4m. At the beginning of 2025/26 the reserve stood at £7.4m.
28. In addition to the general reserve of £7.4m there are a range of other earmarked reserves where funds are held for a specific purpose. These reserves are subject to an annual review and will also be reviewed going forward on a quarterly basis. Where appropriate to do so they will be released to support the in-year position. Whilst this is a prudent approach that will ensure the financial resilience of the Council it is not a substitute for resolving the underlying overspends but instead allows time to develop future savings proposals in a planned way.
29. The report recommends that given the financial pressures facing the council in light of continued pressures across Adult Social Care, the result of fair funding review and wider economic factors it is prudent to add £1.498m to general reserves which will increase them to £8.898m.

Loans

30. Further to a scrutiny review, it was agreed that these quarterly monitoring reports would include a review of any outstanding loans over £100k. There is one loan in this category for £1m made to Yorwaste, a company part owned by the Council in June 2012. Interest is charged on the loan at 4% plus base rate therefore interest of between 8.5% and 7.75% was charged during the year. All repayments are up to date.

Funding Approvals

31. City of York Council has secured over £30m of funding from the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA).
32. In line with the council's Constitution and Scheme of Delegations, expenditure in excess of £500k is a Key Decision which requires a decision from the full Executive and will contain a delegation to the relevant Director(s) to expend the funding specified. Below that Key Decision limit, Directors have delegated authority to approve spend against these funds of up to £500k, subject to any full Executive or Individual Executive Member decision. Once authorised via an appropriate Decision, an Officer Decision Notice, detailing the purpose and the funding stream, will be completed. All approvals that are subject to either Planning considerations or resident consultation will require Executive oversight at an appropriate decision session. All officer decisions are in consultation with the relevant Executive Member.
33. Project delivery governance is in line with the council's code of governance, with projects reporting to the relevant internal governance boards and project highlight reports published on the Open Data Platform.
34. The council has been awarded the following grants over the last quarter.

Connect to Work

35. The Combined Authority has commissioned York Learning, as City of York's internal adult learning arm to deliver the Connect to Work employability programme to eligible York residents. This is a 5 year full costs recovery programme within an agreed funding envelope from Department of Work and Pensions. The total value of the programme over 5 years is £600k. The Corporate Director of Children's Services has delegated responsibility to deliver the programme in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Children's Services.

Adult Skills Fund

36. The Combined Authority have awarded £1,448,630 to City of York Council in respect of Adult Skills Fund and Free Courses for Jobs. The Corporate Director of Children's Services has delegated responsibility

to deliver the programme in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Children's Services.

Vibrant and Sustainable High Streets

37. The Combined Authority have awarded £89,400 for the York Riverside Lighting Improvement Project. The project involves installing permanent, sustainable lighting to creatively illuminate Ouse Bridge and to improve the vibrancy and accessibility of York's Riverside Quarter. The Director of Environmental and Regulatory Services has delegated responsibility to deliver the programme in consultation with the Executive Member for Transport.

Active Travel Fund

38. The Active Travel Fund is a £4m fund that aims to provide easier access to affordable and sustainable journeys. £1.12m has been awarded to CYC to fund active travel improvements to school and work journeys, Bootham Stray and Knavesmire Active Travel Route.

Local Growth Fund

39. The government set out a Local Growth Fund settlement for Combined Authorities to underpin the delivery of the region's Local Growth Plan in November 2025. Within this, a second strand of funding has been proposed to be provided directly to local authorities to sustain locality-based business support functions, recognising the strategic role they play alongside combined authorities. As a result, £206k per annum for the next three years has been allocated to CYC to support the Economic Growth team.

York Learning Accountability Statement

40. All providers in receipt of £1m or more of funding for post-16 provision have a statutory responsibility to produce and publish an annual accountability statement that reflects the needs of the local environment as determined by the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) in particular but should also detail how funding is most effectively used in a local context.
41. The accountability statement is a public facing document. Published on the York Learning Website allows the service to demonstrate how:

- we aim to align the service with the key aspirations of the Local Skills Plan and reflections of the council plan.
- we aim to support residents to live healthier and more economical impactful lives.
- we can support our local businesses to develop a pipeline of talent and to upskill and reskill their existing workforce in line with the aims of the LSIP.
- we are shaping our curriculum to also meet the aims, needs and aspirations of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA) economic framework, skills strategy and plans for Adult Skills Fund (ASF) (previously known as Adult Education Budget AEB).

42. Executive is asked to approve the accountability statement included at Annex 2.

Finance - Directorate Analysis

Children and Education

43. The directorate outturn position is an underspend totalling £1,356k. This is an improvement of £854k reported at Monitor 3. The table below summarises the position by service area.

	2025/26 Budget £'000	Outturn Variance £'000	Outturn Variance %
Children's Safeguarding	27,717	+102	+0.4
Education & Skills	15,666	-652	-4.2
School Funding & Assets	-5,952	-371	-6.2
Director and Central Budgets	2,181	-435	-20.0
Total Children and Education	39,612	-1,356	-3.4

* The above includes Support Services charges totalling £6,204k

44. The year end variance is an underspend of £1,356k compared to budget and represents a significant and continuing improvement in the financial position of the directorate. The projected unmitigated overspend peaked at £8.7m during 2022/23, reducing to £4.6m in 2023/24. This reflects the considerable progress that has been made within the directorate to manage spend in a number of key areas, particularly; agency staffing, high cost placements and home to school transport.

Children's Safeguarding £+102k

45. The number of Children Looked After (CLA) in York been reducing over the past few years. There were 262 CLA at the end of March 2023, however this has reduced to 230 by the end of the financial year.
46. Spend on Placements was £216k over budget but this needs to be compared to an overspend of £1.5m in 2024/25. This has been managed by a combination of growth being allocated to the service as well as proactively managing some high-cost placements.
47. There are currently 9 young people in residential, semi-independent or "Together We Can" placements (there were 17 placements as the end of March 2024/25). Of these placements 5 will become 18 during 2026/27. There are currently 41 Independent Fostering Agreement (IFA) placements, there were 41 at the end of 2024/25 (plus 20 that ended during the year). Due to changes in placement classifications 6 placements have moved to the Disabled Children's Service area from this area.
48. The Safeguarding Interventions and Assessment Teams delivered an underspend of -£30k in the year. Staffing & other budgets within Children's Social Work Services has overspent by £58k. This is primarily due to additional legal fees.
49. There was an underspend of -£127k in the MASH & Targeted Intervention teams. This has arisen from the time taken to fill vacancies in the area.
50. The Disabled Children's Services is reporting an overspend by £534k mainly due to overspends on direct payments/Early Help (£393k).
51. Innovation and Children's Champion has underspent by -£459k. This is due to the ability to fund some expenditure from the Early Help grant from the growth allocation received in 2025/26.

Education and Skills £-652k

52. The Home to School Transport budget, which has been in an overspend position for a number of years, has a year-end overspend of £167k an increase of £60k from Monitor 3. The main reason is the ongoing number of pupils requiring taxi transport during the academic year.

53. The Inclusive Education team has overspent by £230k, this is due to the year-end transfer to early years, outside of the services control.
54. Staff resourcing issues and turnover in the SEND Statutory Services Team, and the need to resource work to progress the Safety Valve targets have continued and resulted in the need to appoint a number of agency staff and also increase supporting resources. However, the outturn position shows an underspend of £42k, with agency staffing costs of £82k offset by savings in staffing budgets due to vacancies of £98k, and an underspend on other non-staffing budgets of £26k.
55. The Educational Psychologists Service overspent by £11k, due to the need to commission external agency support to clear a backlog of assessments, however this was offset by reduced staffing costs due to vacancies with the team.
56. Effectiveness and Achievement (£6k underspent) and the Skills Team (£57k underspent) were both affected by vacancies throughout the year and staff not yet at the top of grade.
57. There was an underspend of £87k within the Virtual School and Inclusion service as a result of vacancies, one-off savings in non-staffing expenditure and additional grant funding supporting already committed expenditure.
58. York Learning successfully increased income from £5.6m to £6.8m in 2025/26 which resulted in the service underspending by £214k for the year. Some of this increase was due to service undertaking work for the Trailblazers project.

School Funding and Assets £-371k

59. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is ahead of the target position set out in the Safety Valve recovery plan agreed with the DfE. The local authority is now in the third year of this four year agreement and has exceeded the financial targets for the first two years.
60. The brought forward balance on the DSG at 1 April 2025 was a surplus of £592k (deficit of £291k in 24/25). The outturn position for 2025/26 was an in-year deficit of £1,256k. However, included in this figure is an amount of £2,000k of Safety Valve funding, so without this the in-year position would have been a deficit of £3,256k. The result is a final position at the 31 March 2026 of a deficit of £664k.

61. 2025/26 was the final year of Safety Valve funding and the council received £2m funding this year. Going forward into future years the DSG will be under significant financial pressure.
62. In addition, due to the significant pressures on mainstream school budgets, it is becoming increasingly difficult for High Needs pupils to be supported in these settings. This situation is particularly difficult in York due to the low level of school funding which has a significant impact on these schools ability to adequately meet the needs of High Needs pupils.
63. One option that has been taken to assist the DSG (with significant High Needs pressures) has been the agreement transfer up to 0.5% of the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. In York the LA has secured the agreement of the Schools Forum for such a transfer in the financial year 2026/27.
64. General Fund budgets within School Funding and Assets underspent by -£371k for 2025/26, due to lower than budgeted interest charges £-78k, PFI contract costs -£57k and additional grant income of -£236k.

Director of C&E and Central Budgets -£435k

65. Education and Skills restructure was implemented from late 2025 so the full year's growth allocation is not required for 2025/26, this resulted in a one off underspend of £257k. A remaining amount of General Fund growth (£109k) to fund expenditure transfers from the DSG will not be required in 2025/26, although will be utilised in 2026/27.
66. The departmental redundancy budget provision underspent by £61k and other central budgets underspent by £42k.

Adult Social Care

67. The outturn position for Adult Social Care is an overspend of £8,996k and the table below summarises the reported position by service area. The position worsened by £1,750k since that reported at Monitor 3.

	2025/26 Budget £'000	Outturn Variance £'000	Outturn Variance %
Direct Payments	5,929	+1,218	20.5

Home and Day Support	3,203	+500	15.6
Supported Living	18,544	+2,890	15.6
Residential care	20,354	+2,387	11.7
Nursing care	6,040	+1,100	18.2
Short term placements	606	+565	93.2
Staffing (mostly social work staff)	8,156	+767	9.4
Contracts and Commissioning	1,821	-2	-0.1
In House Services	5,653	-530	-9.4
Be Independent & Equipment	1,177	+27	2.3
Other	-18,285	+20	0.1
Recharges	5,335	+54	1.0
Total Adult Social Care	58,533	+8,996	15.4

*The above includes Support Service charges totalling £5,349k

68. The table below highlights the main movements between Q3 and outturn.

	Outturn Vs Q3 Monitor £k	Reasons for Difference
Residential – Older People	+1,469	Package numbers have increased by 19 since Q3 monitor as well as the average weekly cost. Rates for new starters are higher than those ending. The number of packages funded by Health has also decreased.
Discharge Fund	+477	Increased volume of spot purchases to cover discharges from hospitals.
Transformation Investment	+434	In response to the CQC assessment, significant investment has been made to address the assessment outcomes and to provide dedicated resources to transformation and improvement projects within ASC.
Direct Payment - Audits	-462	Mitigation project to accelerate the audits of Direct Payment packages to ensure appropriate balances in the accounts of Direct Payment recipients.

69. ASC received total growth of £10m in 2025/26. £8m of this growth was allocated to fund inflationary and demographic pressures and £2m growth was set aside to address further care provider pressures from the changes to Employers' National Insurance contributions.

70. ASC has received £10.3m growth in the budget for 2026/27. Of this, £2.25m has been allocated to recruit resources to implement transformation and improvement projects, as well as responding to the

CQC assessment completed during the year. A further £4m to cover inflation pressures with £4m remaining to fund underlying pressures.

71. As the ASC outturn for 2025/26 is a reported £9m overspend, significant savings and mitigation plans are required throughout 2026/27 to bring the budget position back inline.

Savings and Mitigations

72. Budget Council approved £1,140k of savings for Adult Social Care with a further £358k of savings expected from ongoing business efficiencies. During the year ASC revisited these expectations based on in-year budget challenges and identified a list of mitigations totalling £1,312k expected to impact 2025/26 outturn.

73. The table below summarises the savings achieved by the yearend impacting the 2025/26 outturn and the full year effect on 2026/27 budget:

ASC ref	Project	Savings 25/26 (£k)	Actual Savings 25/26 (£k)	Full Year Effect 26/27 (£k)
	Total	1,312	1,597	2,023
ASC01	Community Support Assistant – Remove any duplication of care for individuals receiving in house and external support. Refocus service to provide short term intensive support to maximise independence.	tbc	17	62
ASC02	22 The Avenue – Maximise use of spare rooms and remodel service to maximise independence reducing length of stay in this setting.	33	0	163
ASC03	Reduce usage of Older People’s residential care. Several individuals have been identified as potentially moving from external care into spare capacity at the recently refurbished Glen Lodge.	35	47.8	218
ASC04	Section 117 funding. Approx 100 people are classified as receiving S117 aftercare for which Health are currently not contributing to what is ordinarily a joint package of care.	974	480	713

ASC05	Transport – Transformation and commissioners are reviewing transport journeys. No saving will be achieved in 2526 but likely to yield savings in 2627 and will be incorporated into the 2627 budget savings	0	0	0
ASC06	Reducing responder rota in Be Independent to make the rota as efficient as possible	11	0	33
ASC07	Investment in resource to undertake outstanding Direct Payment Audits and financial assessments to recover any unused funds	142	552	0
ASC08	Planned Review Team to undertake outstanding reviews. Recent investment in the team should improve volume of completed reviews.	35	465	412
ASC09	Learning Disability Service model. Several desktop reviews undertaken by Impower suggested some existing out of area placements can be brought back to York.	82	35	408
ASC10	Review of Personal Support Service staffing. Paper being developed appraising options for rationalising staffing rotas and minimising use of Agency staff	tbc	0	14

74. Some of the mitigation project overachieved the forecasted savings, however some did not yield any savings within the year. The service are continually reviewing opportunities to improve efficiencies and effectiveness of the service and have identified further mitigations to prioritise throughout 2026/27 to drive financial savings.

External Care

75. The Council purchases care from external providers who support individuals to meet their assessed needs. There are a variety of purchasing arrangements such as block contracts (purchasing a set number of beds/hours at a set rate), spot arrangements where prices are negotiated on an individual basis and frameworks where providers specify a rate and the Council will approach those providers but are not contractually bound to use.
76. The Council can also be a lead commissioner for a package of care where Health contributes an element towards the health needs of an

individual and current practice is for the Council to pay the provider and recover funding from Health.

77. The following sections describe the variations in costs, care package numbers and income to the 2025/26 budget. Some cost variations appear large due to having small numbers of individuals within those budgets where the needs of those entering and leaving care can vary significantly thus altering average costs.
78. The variations to budget do not quote the budgeted gross weekly costs due to confidentiality between The Council and the provider in our contracted price. The service is moving towards framework prices which will be published on our website when implemented.
79. The External Care budgets for Residential Care, Nursing and Home and Day Support were reset based on open care packages as at February 2025. Supported Living and Direct Payment budgets at that time had more commitments than budget available to rebase. These were the areas identified where work could be done to bring commitments back to a sustainable level.

Direct Payments (£1,218k overspend)

80. Direct Payments (DP) overspend is driven by increased weekly average cost of DP for care and transport. Detailed reviews of DP care packages have been completed throughout the year to ensure individuals are receiving the right level of DP in line with their support plan and to uplift rates where due.
81. Despite a reduction in care package numbers of 21 compared to budget for Learning Disability (LD) DPs, the average cost has increased by £193 per week for care and £23 per week for transport
82. Physical & Sensory Impairment (P&SI) DPs and Older People (OP) DPs package numbers have increased slightly to budget with rates increasing £145 per week for the cost of care.
83. Direct Payments were identified as an area of opportunity for mitigations and a project was led by Income Services to complete DP audits and financial assessments to recover any unused funds. This saw DP reclaims increase by £552k.
84. The Direct Payment working group continues to meet regularly to address issues and explore further opportunities in this area. Much

work has been done to ensure that all recipients are paying their employees and providers the agreed rates.

Home and Day Support (£500k overspend)

85. Older People (OP) Community Support hours have increased by 667 hours per week with average rates in line with budget (£1,224k) which has been offset with 21 additional contributions to care and the average contribution increasing by £27.70 per week to budget (£963k).
86. LD Community Support is £511k underspent to budget this relates to one care package included in budget that has now been confirmed as fully funded by ICB and has therefore been removed from outturn.

Supported Living (£2,890k overspend)

87. Supported Living (SL) overspend comes from LD placements where, despite package numbers decreasing by 18, the weekly cost has increased compared to budget by £561 per week.
88. Where Supported Living schemes/ settings are not at full capacity, payments are made by CYC to providers for VOIDS. The VOIDS were overspent by £425k to budget. This is a priority area of ASC with a project in place to ensure all schemes are utilised to their full capacity, thus removing the need for a voids budget.
89. Supported Living was an area ASC were unable to rebase the budget. A business case is underway to investigate the longer-term needs within this area which may include building new provision and how to make the most effective use of SL schemes for individuals to live independently.

Residential Care (£2,387k overspend)

90. Residential Care outturn is £2,387k overspent, of which the majority relates to Older People (OP) Residential Care. This increase is driven by an additional 20% of people receiving care than in budget and at a higher average rate per week to budget (£5,128k). This is offset with additional income from contributions to care (£2,105k) with 47 more individuals contributing to their care compared to budget.
91. Residential Care for 18-64 year olds with Learning Disabilities has seen an increase in the number of care packages and average weekly cost impacting outturn by £998k versus budget; however, income from

health contributions increased to support care for individuals with health needs by £308k.

92. For 2026/27, projects have been identified to understand the increasing residential package numbers and to investigate if alternative forms of care would be more appropriate to keep individuals in their own homes and communities.

Nursing Care (£1,100k overspend)

93. The outturn overspend for Nursing care placements is due to increases in OP and PSI in both the package numbers and weekly rate compared to budget.
94. PSI Nursing average weekly cost has increased 24% to budget; however this is offset by increased Section 117 contributions received from health (£48k).
95. OP Nursing placements have increased by 8 placements to budget with the cost of care increasing by 15% on average (£1,766k). Contributions to care by individuals have increased in this area as financial assessments are completed with an additional 20 people making contributions than budgeted (£936k).

Short Term Placements (£565k overspend)

96. The overspend for Short Term Placements is driven by OP Residential emergency and respite placements and OP Nursing emergency placements. The demand for emergency short term placements had significantly increased throughout the year.

In House Services and Staffing

97. The Council employs a variety of staff to advise and assess residents' and individuals social care needs. We also directly provide care and support to individuals and have teams which provide home care both in the community overnight and in our Independent Living Schemes, as well as running day support activities for those with a learning difficulty and those experiencing poor mental health. We also operate short stay residential care for the same groups.

Social Work Staffing (£767k overspend)

98. Staffing overspend is driven by investment in the Planned Review Team to recruit additional staff to the project and expediate progress (£170k). Further investment (£434k) has been made to resource ASC transformation and improvement programmes to advance operational processes and address CQC assessment outcomes.
99. Several staffing teams are over established to budget including Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding (DoLS) team, Social Work Mental Health and in Heads of Service (£333k).

In House Services (£-530k underspend)

100. The underspend to budget is due to vacant hours in Personal Support Services team.

Other and Recharges (£74k underspend)

101. There is a small overspend recoded against this budget area.

Environment, Transport and Planning

102. The directorate outturn position is an underspend totalling £2,864k for the year which is an improvement of £848k compared to Monitor 3.
103. The table below summarises the year end variances by service area.

	Budget	Outturn	%
	£'000	Variance £'000	
Transport	8,037	-789	-9.8
Fleet	165	44	26.7
Highways	6,639	28	0.4
Parking Services	-9,279	-893	-9.6
Waste	10,873	-1,520	-14.0
Public Realm	4,284	-67	-1.6
Emergency Planning	173	57	32.9
Planning Services	1,425	436	30.6
Public Protection	1,538	-148	-9.6
Management	0	-12	n/a
TOTAL	23,855	-2,864	-12.0

*Note the budget includes Support Services charges totalling £5,684k

104. The Directorate has delivered a larger underspend than forecast primarily due to improved income delivered across Waste and Parking Services.
105. Within Transport there is an underspend of £789k across the service. There are underspends due to additional income levels of Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders, Streetworks permits and contributions from bus service contributions. These are offset from overspends on staffing the Foot streets (hostile vehicle mitigation measures), +£110k and racecourse traffic management (+£40k).
106. Revenue from ANPR has resulted in an underspend of £40k, as the camera equipment came back into operation during the year.
107. As previously reported, car parking tariffs were increased in April 2025 with the intention of incentivising more journeys by sustainable modes of travel. These were subsequently modified in some locations from July 2025.
108. Car park income from on-street and off-street car parks for the year was £11.0m which was a surplus income against the budget of £887k. This has meant total income was 20% higher than 2024/25. Additional resource of £100k was allocated to undertake reviews of the impact of the charges on businesses and economic activity. In 2026/27 additional income of £1.08m has been factored into the budget which also reflects the inflationary fee increases.
109. The net income from all parking sources which totalled £10.2m is utilised to support the council's highways and transport expenditure. This information is detailed in Annex 3.
110. There is an underspend of £1,520k across waste disposal and collection; a £723k improvement since monitor 3. This is in part due to an increase in the receipt of the new grant for Extended Producer Responsibility which was £385k higher than forecast.
111. As forecast, income from selling spare capacity at Allerton Waste Recovery Plant was higher than budgeted levels, as overall council waste tonnages remain relatively static (£375k). There was also additional income from non-performance deductions £124k and prior year adjustments (£108k). Income levels were ahead of budget in

areas including Garden Waste (£110k) recycling rebates (£231k), HWRC commercial waste fees (£32k) and general commercial waste service (£139k). The cost of introducing the booking system at Hazel Court Recycling Centre has been met from these underspends (+£20k).

112. Across Waste Collection operational costs were £141k above budget, as expected, as container stock and vehicle costs were ahead of profile. However, this pressure was offset by underspends on operational materials (£-70k), such as Personal and Protective Equipment (PPE).
113. Across Public Realm there was a net underspend of £67k. Although internal highways charges and maintenance budgets overspent, there was a saving from the creation of the neighbourhood caretakers service in year and additional charges to both the HRA and for external works more than offset these pressures.
114. Within Highways, although an underspend had previously been forecast the outturn position was a small overspend of £28k. The underspend on street lighting electricity was £418k, as electricity prices had reduced for unmetered supply to a lower level than assumed in the budget, although this was offset in part by the costs of a contract to remove flags across the city.
115. Drainage overspent by £88k on gully cleaning and basic maintenance overspent by £365k due to the cost of subcontractors and the increased demand to fill potholes during the Winter. Winter gritting underspent by £120k due to the milder conditions but conversely flooding emergencies overspent by £24k.
116. As previously reported, within Planning Services there has been a shortage of staff across Building Control during the year which has resulted in a minimal chargeable service being in operation. As a result, the shortfall in income was £384k. A recovery plan is underway to ensure a stable service is in place for next year. The forecast shortfall of income on general planning applications has improved during the year and by outturn a shortfall of £130k has occurred. This was further improved by staffing vacancies. Taking the overall overspend across Development Management and Building Control to £436k (£525k monitor 3).
117. The Emergency Planning budget suffered from a pressure on staffing, as cover was required during the year (£57k). Public Protection

reported an underspend of £94k largely from staffing underspends and the receipt of additional grant monies in year. Licensing services also underspent due to various fee income streams being ahead of budget (-£54k).

Housing and Community Services

118. The directorate outturn position is an overspend of £404k which is an improvement of £335k on the forecast at Monitor 3. The table below summarises the latest forecasts by service area.

	2025/26 Budget £'000	Draft Outturn Variance £'000	Draft Outturn Variance %
Housing Services	3,613	-77	-2.1
Healthy & Sustainable Homes	867	+1	0.1
Communities	7,490	+312	4.2
Customer Services	119	+168	141.2
TOTAL	12,089	+404	3.3

*Note the budget includes Support Services charges totalling £4,472k

119. There was a small underspend across Housing services general fund of £77k which was an improvement for the forecast position at Monitor 3 (£+52k).
120. There have been significant additional repair costs at the Gypsy and Traveller sites with repairs costing £140k more than budget. Actions are being taken through the Gypsy and Traveller site improvement capital scheme (£750k allocated) which will address the repairs backlog with long term solutions including energy efficiency improvements.
121. There has been additional funding provided by government to reduce and prevent homelessness and rough sleeping. This grant money has funded council housing services to provide accommodation and housing services to prevent rough sleeping. Some of the additional grant has been used to fund the introduction of a Housing First policy and is ring-fenced for schemes to avoid rough sleeping. An underspend has occurred due to vacancies in the Housing Options team (£73k) and underspends on the Housing related support budgets (£72k). There was also an underspend against the council's resettlement properties whilst staffing structures were being finalised.

122. As previously reported the main pressure in Communities relates to a £600k library saving that has been agreed in the budget. The council is reviewing options for what service reductions can be made which reduce the overall cost to the council. The options and timescale for delivery will be reported to Members during the year.
123. There was a saving delivered across Leisure services as the energy risk share payment was lower than budget as energy prices reduced from the peak prices experienced in 2023/24.
124. Within the Customer services area there has been an overspend of £168k. There was an overspend of £298k across Bereavement Services of which £216k related to an income shortfall. There is increased competition across the sector which is contributing to the position. The team are working to increase income through add on services to the basic funeral cost, but a shortfall is expected to continue in 2026/27. The Crematorium does continue to deliver £1.4m of surplus to CYC and with current investment this should still be an attractive option for York residents.
125. The Council has extended the operator contract for its leisure and stadium facilities with GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited) for a further 5 years, taking the end of the contract to 2034. The mechanism to extension the contract was approved as part of the original decision from full Council in 2017. This also delivers the savings as approved in 2025-26.

Housing Revenue Account

126. The Housing Revenue Account budget for 2025/26 was set as a net surplus of £2,023k prior to debt repayment at February 2025. There were carry forwards of £2,074k agreed as part of the outturn report meaning the revised budget stands at £51k deficit prior to £9,500k debt repayment and £9,551k deficit including the debt repayment. The outturn position is shown below

Activity area	2025/26 Budget £'000	Outturn Variance £'000	Outturn Variance %
Repairs & Maintenance	10,504	+721	6.9
General Management	7,800	-368	-4.7
Special Services	4,026	-200	-5.0
Other Expenditure	21,089	-2,007	-9.5
Dwelling rents	-39,056	+512	-1.3

Non-Dwelling Rents	-548	-12	2.2
Charges for Services	-2,444	-35	1.4
Other Income	-1,320	-302	-22.9
Total	51	-1,691	n/a
Debt Repayment	9,500	0	0
Total HRA Position	9,551	-1,691	-17.7%
Revenue Contribution to capital schemes slippage		+1,105	
Revised Position	9,551	-586	-6.1%

127. There was an overall underspend across the Housing Revenue Account totalling £1.7m although this was primarily due to slippage totalling £1.1m of capital expenditure funded by revenue contributions. Excluding that expenditure which is carried forward there was an overall underspend of £586k.
128. There has been an overspend on repairs and maintenance costs of £721k. External painting and repair has overspent by £193k as catching up from previous 2 years of underperformance. Electrical testing works costs this year have reached £630k (£361k over budget) which reflects the actual compliance activity required. The cost of empty home repairs this year were £2.1m, £120k above budget. Much of this overspend is represented by work undertaken by contractors and measures are being taken to reduce the level of external spend for 2026/27 however inflation in the building sector is higher than other areas meaning this level of spend could continue.
129. Across General Management there were a number of savings arising from vacancies across the asset management teams and the housing operations teams.
130. Across Special Services (which relate to the communal running costs and maintenance contracts for specific shared amenities (like lifts, shared boilers, caretaking, and stair lighting) the underspend is primarily due to lower than budgeted energy costs as prices were lower than budget however this is reflected in reduced service charges across income.
131. There was slippage of £1.1m within the capital programmes of schemes that are funded from revenue contributions notably Energy Efficiency and Housing Environmental Improvement Programme. There were also underspends totalling £334k on interest as slippage in the capital programme meant that assumed borrowing was lower than planned.

132. Across income there was a shortfall of £512k across general rent. Void levels were higher than budgeted across the year. Some of this was planned as capital schemes at Bell Farm and Glen Lodge were completed but general voids were also higher than budgeted as capital schemes took longer to complete. There was additional income from interest income (£268k) as interest rates remained higher than budget and HRA balances remained high.
133. The levels of working balance has allowed for the initial repayments £121.5m debt that the HRA incurred as part of self-financing in 2012. The first repayment of £1.9m was paid in March 2024 and a second payment on £8.4m was repaid in March 2025 and a further payment of £9.5m was repaid in March 2026. This repayment has been funded from general HRA reserves.
134. The HRA working balance position as at 31st March 2025 was £25.8m and following the outturn position this position has reduced to £18.0m

Corporate and Central Services

135. The forecast outturn position for the remaining areas of the Council is a net underspend of £149k and the table below summarises the latest forecasts by service area.

	2025/26 Budget £'000	Outturn Variance £'000	Outturn Variance %
Director of Finance	7,155	-1,199	-16.8
CO HR & Support Services	12,248	+127	+1.0
Director of Governance	4,624	+43	+0.1
City Development	1,497	+530	+35.4
Public Health	1,074	-102	-9.5
Other Corporate & Treasury Mgt	20,142	-5,577	-27.7
Support Services Net Income	-24,408	0	0.0
Total	22,332	-6,178	-27.7

*The above includes £2,700k of Support Service Charges and £24,408k of support service income

136. Within the corporate services directorates have generally delivered an improved position at outturn for the year.
137. Within Finance there was a year end underspend of £544k across housing benefits. Work in the team has reduced the cost to the council

of housing individuals in temporary accommodation. The homelessness grant also allowed the cost to taxpayers to be minimised.

138. Within Property there has been additional income across the commercial portfolio totalling £252k. There was one off back dated income relating to the Barbican as well as improved income across other properties in the portfolio.
139. The council has been successful in further letting out office space within West Offices and income from tenants was £197k above budget.
140. There was a small overspend across Governance primarily due to one off costs updating the Legal Services casework system.
141. There was an overspend in HR and Support Services totalling £127k which is predominately due to additional postage costs in Business Support (£+88k), additional occupational health charges across the council and staff support budgets.
142. In City Development the saving identified to increase advertising revenue was not achieved in 2025/26 as there is a need to replace the bus shelters in order to fit new digital screens as well as gain planning permission where relevant. This process is ongoing. Revenue from the new agreement is expected to start later in 2026/27. The position since Monitor 3 has improved further due to staffing underspends, funding allocated from the MCA and other unused budgets (£-137k).
143. Public Health (PH) reported a year end underspend of £444k within services funded from the Public Health Grant, representing an increase of £40k compared to the Q3 projected underspend of £403k. This amount has been transferred to the earmarked Public Health reserve, resulting in a remaining reserve balance of £634k.
144. The main underspends have come from staffing underspends across senior roles within the team (£-206k) and vacancies across the Health Child Service (£-153k). There were also underspends across substance misuse (£-33k) and Health Trainer service (£-54k).
145. Across the General Fund elements of Public Health there were savings from Local Area Coordinators (£-88k) as there were vacancies across the service as well as utilising external funding to support the posts. There was also a small underspend across sport and leisure team (£-18k). The total underspend was £106k,

146. The Treasury Management budget underspent by £3,424k (£1,500k at Monitor 3). The underspend on borrowing costs is largely due to lower spending on the capital programme than was budgeted for. The original budget was based on needing an additional £78m of loans to cover the projected capital spend; in the event we only took out £20m of new loans (excluding replacement finance). There is also a policy of delaying borrowing for as long as possible which meant that loans were taken out later in the year than was originally assumed, reducing interest costs in year. The treasury budget will be required in the medium term as borrowing takes place through that capital programme.
147. There was also a lower than budgeted payment made to HRA which recognises credit balances within the HRA. This is primarily due to HRA debt repayments that have been occurring since 2023/24.
148. Within corporate budgets there was a one receipt of £2.28m from the Leeds City Region Business Rates pool covering the period 2021/22 to 2024/25. This represents the councils share of the surplus on the Business Rates pool over the period. The delay in receiving the funding was due to Leeds City council awaiting audited accounts from all the constituent authorities. Some of the authorities had been held up by the severe local authority audit backlog which has been addressed through statutory backstop process.

Performance – Service Delivery

149. 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.
150. 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.

151. A summary of the city outcome and council delivery indicators by council plan theme are shown in the paragraphs below, and the latest data for all of the core indicator set can be seen in Annex 1.

Performance - Health and Wellbeing: A health generating city

152. **Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI)** – This score (between 0 and 1) measures the proportion of all children (aged 0 to 15) living in income-deprived families in LSOAs. In 2025, York's score of 0.24 means that 24% of children (aged 0 to 25) live in income-deprived families, which has increased from 2019 when it was 10% of children. Across Upper Tier Local Authorities (UTLA), nationally (out of 153 UTLAs), York is the 16th lowest score and regionally (out of 15 UTLAs), York's is the lowest score.
153. **Number of children in temporary accommodation** – The number of households with dependent children living in temporary accommodation rose steadily from 26 at the start of 2024-25 to 35 by Q2 2025-26. At Q3 2025-26 (latest data) this number has reduced to 29 households with the number of children also subsequently reducing from 76 in Q2 to 50 at Q3.
154. The total number of households in temporary accommodation has remained consistent throughout 2025-26 demonstrating there is now a smaller proportion of households with dependent children in this accommodation. This has reduced from 55% of households in Q2 to 46% in Q3 and is below the latest national rate of 64%. The majority of these children in York are in stable family setups, do not show evidence of achieving worse outcomes, and York continues to report no households with children housed in Bed and Breakfast accommodation at quarter end. Q4 2025-26 data will be available in August 2026.
155. **%pt gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers achieving 9-4 in English and Maths at KS4** – Data shows that the gap at age 16 has remained the same in York (31%) but has widened Nationally (29%) in summer 2025, compared to the previous year, meaning the gap for York is now closer to the National average.
156. **% of reception year children recorded as being overweight (incl. obese)** – The participation rates for the National Child Measurement Programmes (NCMP) in York for 2024-25 were 97.2% for reception aged children and 95% for Year 6 pupils. Data for 2025-26 will be available in November 2026.

- The 2024-25 NCMP found that 23.2% of reception aged children in York were overweight (including obese), compared with 23.5% in England and 25.9% in the Yorkshire and Humber region. York has the lowest rate of overweight (including obese) for reception aged children in the Yorkshire and Humber region. The rate in York has increased compared with 2023-24 (from 22.8% to 23.2%).
- Of Year 6 children in York, 34.7% were overweight (including obese) in 2024-25 compared with 36.2% in England and 37.9% in the Yorkshire and Humber region. York has the second lowest rate of overweight (including obese) for Year 6 children in the Yorkshire and Humber region. The rate in York has increased compared with 2023-24 (from 33.5% to 34.7%).

157. **Slope index of inequality in life expectancy at birth** – Average Life Expectancy for men in York (80.1 years) is above the England average (79.7 years). For women (84.0 years) it is also above the England average (83.5 years).

- Healthy Life Expectancy for men in York (60.8 years) is below the England average (60.9 years). For women (61.4 years) it is above the England average (61.3 years).
- The Slope Index of Inequality in life expectancy at birth measures the difference in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas within a population. A higher value indicates a greater difference in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas, suggesting greater health inequalities. The first published values were for 2011-13.
- Between 2011-13 and 2022-24 the inequality in life expectancy for women, in York, has increased (worsened) from 6.2 years to 6.6 years. The English average is currently 8.0 years.
- Between 2011-13 and 2020-22 the inequality in life expectancy for men, in York, increased (worsened) from 6.6 years to 10.6 years. However, in the two most recent periods up to 2022-24 it has fallen (improved) to 8.9 years. The English average is currently 10.4 years.

158. **% of adults (aged 16+) that are physically active** – The latest data from the Adult Active Lives Survey for the period from mid-November 2024 to mid-November 2025 was published in April 2026. In York, 421 people aged 16 and over took part in the survey, and they reported higher levels of physical activity, and lower levels of physical inactivity, compared with the national and regional averages. Positively:
- 72.7% of people in York did more than 150 minutes of physical activity per week compared with 64.6% nationally and 63.7% regionally. There was a reduction in physical activity in York compared with the previous year (76.5%).
 - 18.6% of people in York did fewer than 30 minutes per week compared with 24.7% nationally and 26.5% regionally. There was an increase in physical inactivity in York compared with the previous year (12.9%).
159. **Percentage of people who use services who have control over their daily life** – In 2024-25, 75% of all York’s respondents to the Adult Social Care Survey said that they had “as much control as they wanted” or “adequate” control over their daily life, which was lower than the percentage from respondents in the Y&H region as a whole (78%). It is also lower than the corresponding percentage who gave one of these responses in England as a whole (77%). It has decreased in York from the 2023-24 figure (76%).
160. **Percentage of people who use services who have control over their daily life – Older People** – In 2024-25, 68% of older people in York that responded to the Adult Social Care Survey said that they had “as much control as they wanted” or “adequate” control over their daily life. This is lower than the corresponding percentages experienced by older people in the Y&H region and lower than for older people in England as a whole (both 74%). It has decreased in York from the 2023-24 figure (76%).
161. **Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support** – Data at LA and national level for 2024-25 was published in October 2025, and the data shows that there has been a slight increase in the percentage of York’s ASC users who said that they were “extremely” or “very” satisfied with the care and support they received from CYC compared with 2023-24 (up from 65% to 67%). The levels of satisfaction experienced by York’s ASC users in 2024-25 were similar to those in the Y&H region (where 67% said they were “extremely” or “very” satisfied with the care and support from their LA)

but higher than those in England as a whole (where 65% gave one of these answers).

162. **Health Inequalities in wards/MSOAs** – The ‘health gap’ indicators show the difference between the wards/MSOAs with the highest and lowest values. A lower value is desirable as it indicates less variation in health outcomes based on where people live within the City. Trend data for these indicators helps to monitor whether the gaps are narrowing or widening over time.

- Absolute gap in mortality ratio for deaths from circulatory disease (under 75) between highest and lowest York MSOA (5 year aggregated) – The value for this indicator for the 5 year period 2019 to 2023 was 145 (the gap between the mortality ratio of 182.4 in Clifton North and 37.4 in Bishopthorpe & Copmanthorpe). The gap has increased compared with the previous reporting period of 2016 to 2020 (from 141.1 to 145).
- Gap in years in Life Expectancy (LE) at birth for Males between highest and lowest York MSOA (5 year aggregated) – The value for this indicator for the 5 year period 2019 to 2023 was 10.4 (the gap between the LE of 84.4 years in Bishopthorpe & Copmanthorpe and 74.0 years in Heworth South and the Groves). The gap has narrowed compared with the previous reporting period of 2016 to 2020 (from 11.7 years to 10.4 years).
- Gap in years in Life Expectancy (LE) at birth for Females between highest and lowest York MSOA (5 year aggregated) – The value for this indicator for the 5 year period 2019 to 2023 was 8.1 (the gap between the LE of 86.9 years in Heworth North and Stockton and 78.8 years in Westfield, Chapelfields and Foxwood). The gap has narrowed compared with the previous reporting period of 2016 to 2020 (from 11.1 years to 8.1 years).
- Absolute gap in % of Year 6 recorded overweight (incl. obesity) between the highest and lowest York ward (3 year aggregated) - The value for this indicator for the 3 year period 2022-23 to 2024-25 was 18.5 percentage points (the gap between 43.1% in Westfield and 24.6% in Micklegate). The gap has narrowed compared with the previous reporting period (from 22.8% to 18.5%).
- Absolute gap in % of children who reach expected level of development at 2-2.5 years of age between highest and lowest

York ward (4 yr aggregated) - The value for this indicator for the 4 year period 2021-22 to 2024-25 was 9.6% (the difference between 95.5% in Haxby & Wiggington and 85.9% in Clifton). The latest value represents an improvement (a narrowing of the gap in York) compared with the previous values of 10.5% for 2020-21 to 2023-24 and 13.7% for 2019-20 to 2022-23.

- Absolute gap in % of children totally or partially breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks between highest and lowest York ward (4 year aggregated ward data) - The value for this indicator for the 4 year period 2021-22 to 2024-25 was 36.4% (the gap between 80.5% in Heworth Without and 44% in Westfield). The latest value represents an improvement (a narrowing of the gap in York) compared with the previous values of 39.3% for 2020-21 to 2023-24 and 39% for 2019-20 to 2022-23.

163. **Children and young people in care per 10k, excluding short breaks** – At the end of March 2026, 230 children and young people were in York’s care. As a rate per 10k population, this is just below the National average (2024-25) and within York’s expected range. Separated children (also known as ‘UASC’), a sub-group of children in care, are expected to increase in number in York due to the National Transfer Scheme. The scheme mandates that “*the Home Office will not transfer UASC to an authority that is already looking after UASC in line with, or greater than, 0.1% of their child population*”. For York, this is equivalent to approximately 34 young people based on current population. At the end of March 2026, 15 separated children were in York’s care, compared to 15 at the same point in 2025.
164. **Children subject to a Child Protection Plan** – 159 children were the subject of a Child Protection Plan at the end of March 2026, which is higher than York’s expected range. As a rate per 10k population, York (at 45.4) is above the National average (40.6 in 2024-25). Quarter 4 saw 44 children starting on plan, which was average for the year. However, only 25 plans ended in the quarter, which is lower than average.

Performance - Education and Skills: High quality skills and learning for all

165. **% of working age population qualified to at least L2 and above** – In 2025-26, 93.9% of the working age population in York were qualified to at least L2 and above (GCSE grades 9-4), which is higher than the national and regional figures (87% and 86% respectively). This result

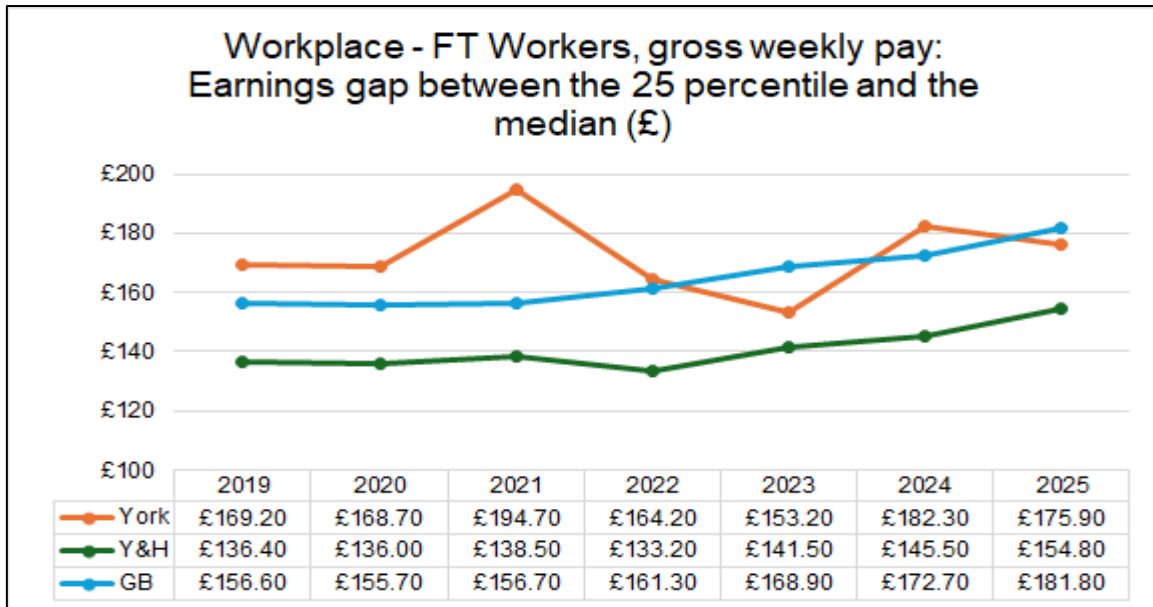
ranks the city of York first regionally. This latest figure is an increase from 2024-25 (93.3%).

166. **% of working age population qualified to at least L4 and above –** In 2025-26, 53.8% of the working age population in York were qualified to at least L4 and above (certificate of higher education or equivalent), which is higher than the national and regional figures (48.6% and 41.1% respectively). This result ranks the city of York fourth regionally. The 2025-26 figure is a decrease from 2024-25 (59.6%).
167. **% of pupils achieving 9-4 or above in English and Maths at KS4 –** Data shows that 74.4% of Year 11s in York achieved grade 4+ in English and Maths in summer 2025, compared to 65.2% of pupils Nationally.
168. **% of children who have achieved a Good Level of Development at Foundation Stage –** Data shows that 71.4% of 5-year-olds in York achieved a Good Level of Development in summer 2025, compared to 68.3% of pupils nationally and 66.3% in Yorkshire and Humber.

Performance - Economy: A fair, thriving, green economy for all

169. **Universal Credit Claimants –** At the end of March 2026 there were 15,744 people, in York, on Universal Credit. This is the highest figure to date, surpassing the previous high of 13,236 in February 2021. The figures dropped to a low of 11,054 in May 2022 but they have steadily increased since then. This (claimant total) represents 12% of the working population in York, compared to 23% regionally and 20% nationally.
170. There are two types of claimant: those in employment (PAYE) or self-employment and those not in employment. Both types have been gradually increasing in the last 12 months. The percentage of claimants in employment or self-employment has consistently been higher than both regional and national percentages. This may be a result of a higher prevalence of employees in the lower paid sectors such as retail, care and hospitality, with York's percentage of employees within these sectors (c20%) being higher than 16% nationally and 15% regionally. The number of those not in employment has increased as claimants of health-related legacy benefits (e.g. Employment and Support Allowance) have migrated across to Universal Credit. This picture will become clearer later on in 2026 as DWP will close all legacy benefits on 31st March 2026 with all recipients moved across to Universal Credit.

171. **Earnings gap between the 25 percentile and the median (£)** – In York, the latest figures suggest that median earnings have increased by 4.7% and the 25 percentile earnings have increased by 7.4%, and this means that the earnings gap has decreased by 3.5%, in 2025, to £175.90. Nationally, there has been an increase of 5.3% to £172.70 and regionally an increase of 6.4% to £154.80.



172. **Housing affordability (median house prices to earnings ratio)** – Owning a home in York remains largely unaffordable. In 2024, full-time employees, in York, could expect to spend around 7.5 times their annual earnings buying a home which is at the same level to England and 5.5 times annual earnings in the region. In York this has decreased by around 11% on last year and national levels also fell by around 2% whilst regional levels remained constant. Data for 2025 will be available in March 2027.

173. **% of vacant city centre shops** – At the end of March 2026, there were 33 vacant shops in the city centre which equates to 5.3% of all city centre shops. This is 8 shops lower than at the same point in 2025 and much lower than the latest national benchmark in 2025-26 of 13.4%.

174. **GVA per head (£)** – In 2023-24, the GVA per head in York was £41,162 which was the second highest figure regionally. This latest figure is an increase from last year (£37,748). Annually since 2009-10, the GVA per head has generally been increasing (from £25,976 per head). Data for 2024-25 will be available in July 2026.

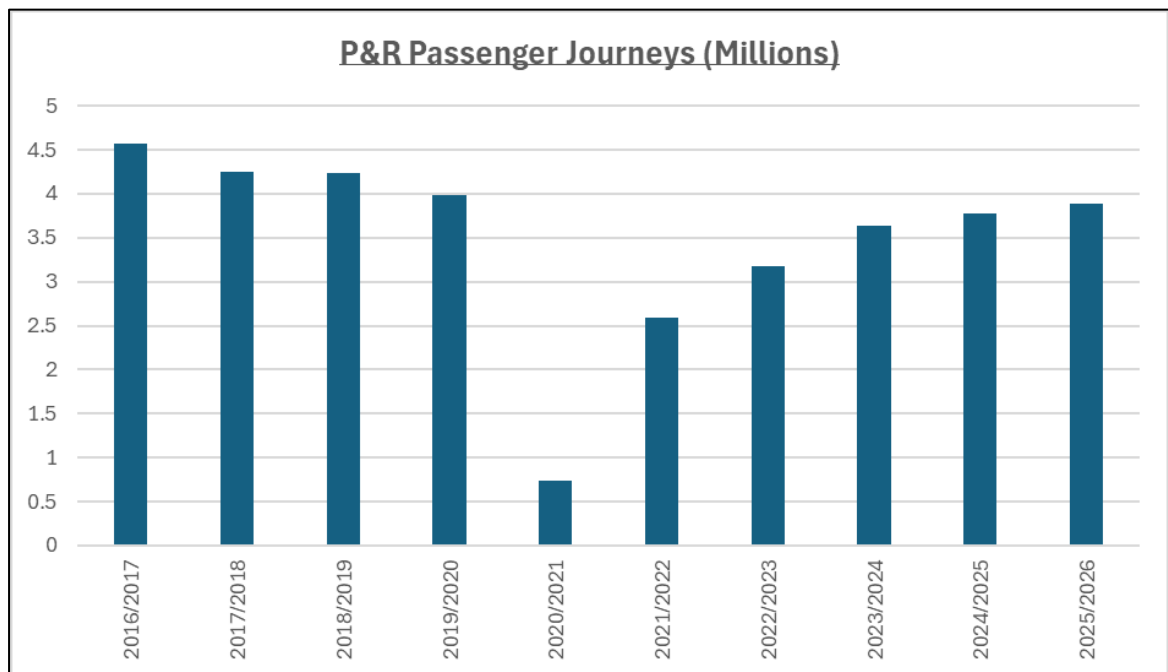
175. **% of working age population in employment (16-64)** – In Q3 2025-26, 78.7% of the working age population were in employment, which is higher than the national and regional figures (75.5% and 73.2% respectively) and the York performance gives the city a ranking of first regionally. The figure for Q3 2025-26 in York remains high compared to previous years.
176. **% of Total Employees working for an Accredited Living Wage/Good Business Charter employer** – 16% of employees worked for an Accredited Living Wage employer in 2024-25, which is at the same level as the previous year. 11.3% worked for an Accredited Good Business Charter employer, which is at a lower level from the previous year (13.5%). The number of businesses with GBC accreditation reduced in 2024-25 but has increased in 2025-26. Employee data for 2025-26 will be available in November 2026.
177. **Survival of Newly Born Businesses post 1 year** – The survival rate post 1 year has been consistently around 94% in York for the last 4 years, with the latest figure of 95.0% in 2023-24. The York figures have been consistently higher than the National and Regional rates (93.4% and 92.5% respectively).

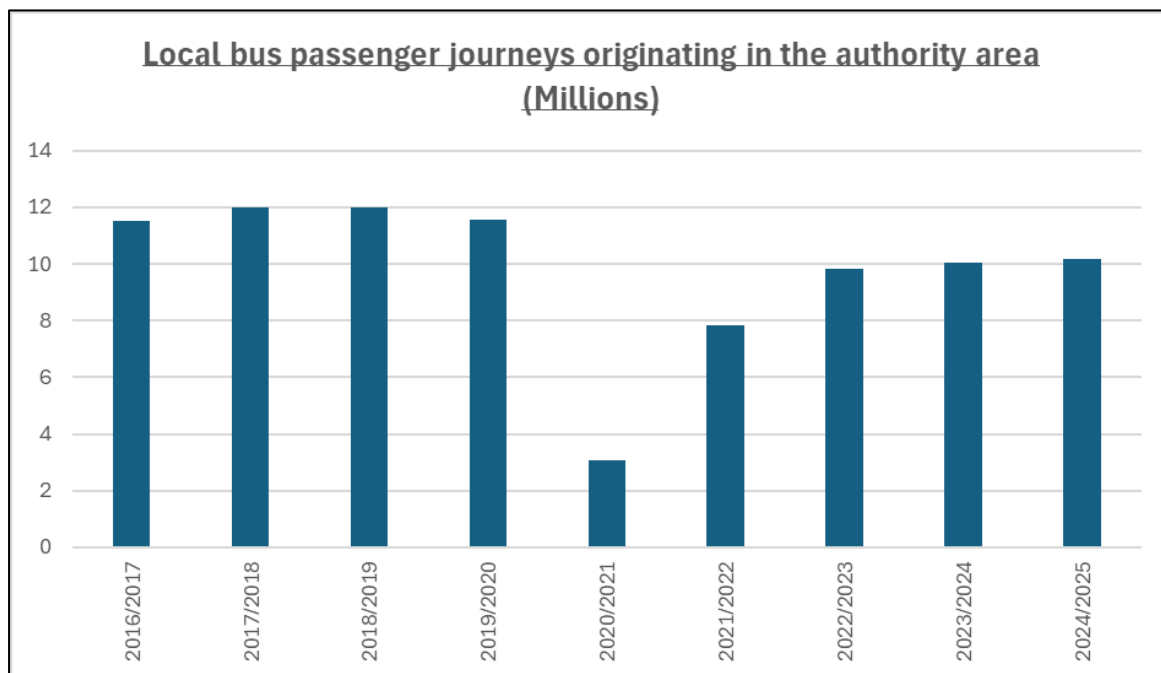
Performance – Transport: Sustainable accessible transport for all

178. The transport data within this report is mainly a number of existing annual measures, and while high-level datasets provide a general understanding of the challenges and direction in the city, they are not detailed enough to draw full conclusions for Transport Policy and local schemes. Therefore collectively, across departments, the Council are looking into improving data provision from its existing network of cameras and assets to help assist policy decisions, as well as exploring the cost and accuracy of providers of new technology. This data will be surfaced in other transport documents and on York Open Data where appropriate rather than detailed within the main Council Plan performance framework.
179. **Bus Passenger Journeys** – Passenger journeys for park and ride customers totalled 3.88m during 2025-26, which is higher than 3.78m in 2024-25 and 3.64m in 2023-24. Full financial year figures for passenger journeys on other local providers are not yet available however, at Q3 for the year to date there had been 7.43m journeys in 2025-26 compared to 7.69m at the same point in 2024-25. The reduction in journeys occurred during most months throughout Q1-3 with Q1 having the largest difference (2.54m journeys in Q1 2024-25,

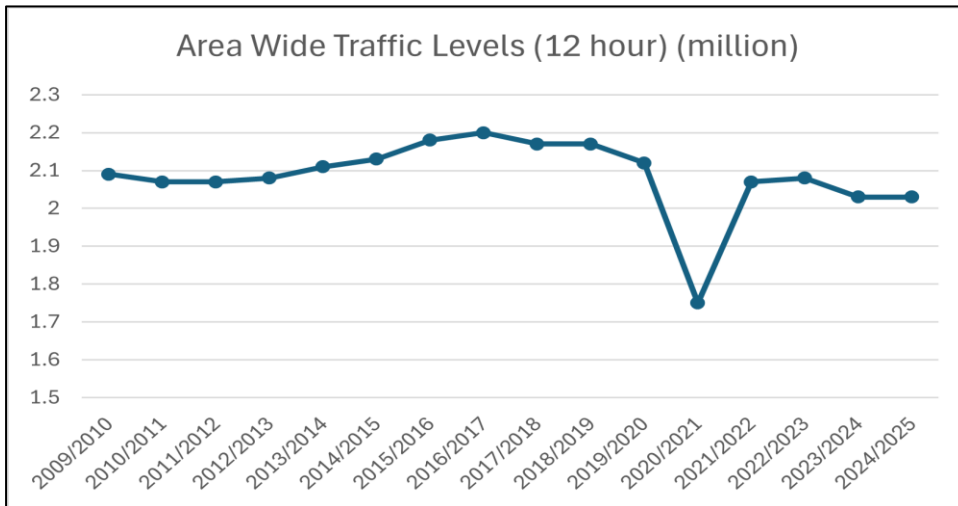
2.35m journeys in Q1 2025-26). A recent data refresh provided a slight uplift to journeys across recent years as more up to date route and passenger information was received.

180. Although a strong recovery has been made to bus usage post-covid, the long-term behavioural and lifestyle changes of increased online shopping and hybrid working are likely to continue re-shaping the use of public transport. In recent years, journeys appear to have stabilised, suggesting the emergence of a new baseline for demand. Bus passenger numbers are affected by a number of factors and the increase in the bus fare cap from £2 to £3 at the beginning of 2025 is likely to have had some impact. When looking at the latest national data for 2024-25, York services delivered 71.4 journeys per head of population compared to 62.4 nationally and 41.3 for the region.



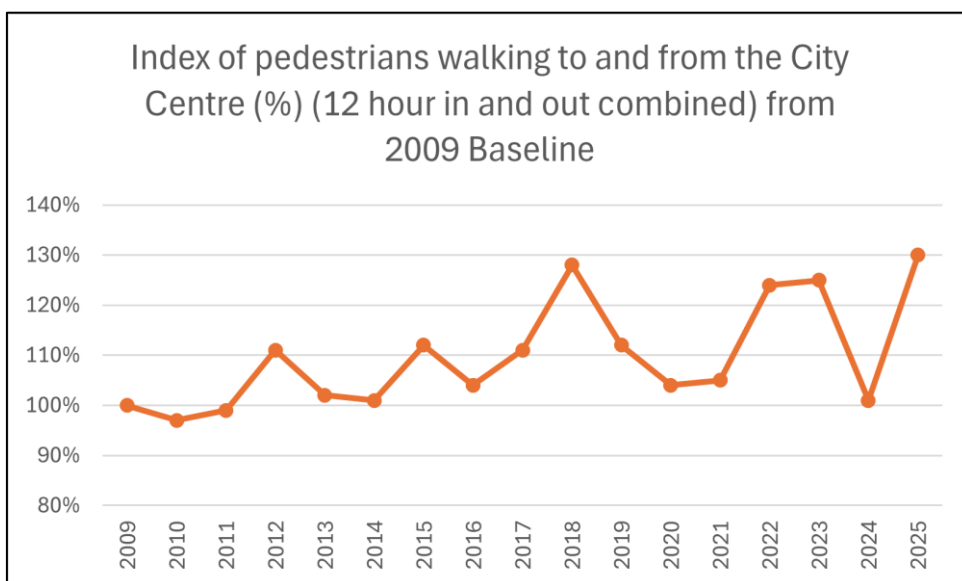


181. **Area Wide Traffic Levels** – Between 2011-12 and 2016-17, the number of vehicles on the city’s roads increased year on year to a high of 2.2 million. Following this, the numbers decreased to a low of 1.75m in 2020-21. However, the covid pandemic brought with it numerous national lockdowns and local restrictions so the decrease in traffic levels was to be expected. Since then, figures increased to 2.08m in 2022-23 and have remained fairly comparable since. The latest figure is 2.03m vehicles in 2024-25. Data for 2025-26 will be available in July 2026.
182. The area wide traffic levels come from CYC’s network of automatic traffic counters, covering 15 sites (main A and B roads in York, but not including the A64). Further information for this indicator can be accessed on the York Open Data platform. This data is different from the public DFT data on traffic levels, which is collected on an annual or bi-annual basis by the National Data Company NDC and subsequently published by the DFT on its website.



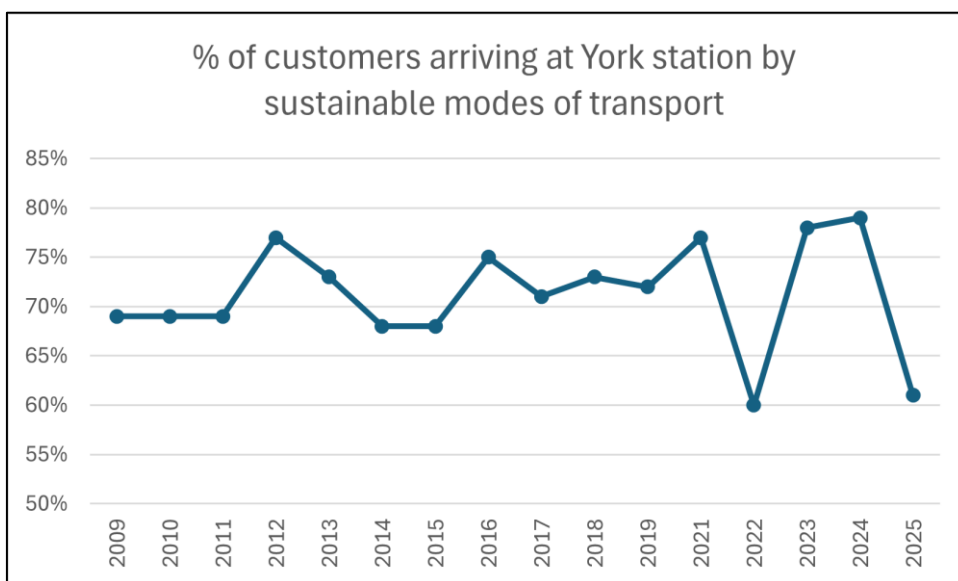
183. **Index of pedestrians walking to and from the City Centre** – From a baseline in 2009 (36,919), there has been a 30% increase in the number of pedestrians walking to and from the city centre in 2025. This is 29 percentage points higher than in 2024. This increase is likely to be because the survey took place on a mainly fine and dry day in 2025, whereas in 2024 there was heavy rain.

184. Walking data is collected over a 12 hour period once per year (a count of pedestrians crossing an inner cordon set just beyond the inner ring road and includes off-road routes such as riverside paths) and there is a valuable record going back many years. Whilst this provides us with part of the picture, the limited nature of the data (that it is only collected on one day) mean that other variables such as the weather and roadworks can have undue influence. In response to this we are exploring other methods to monitor walking, wheeling and cycling across the network, including modern counters.



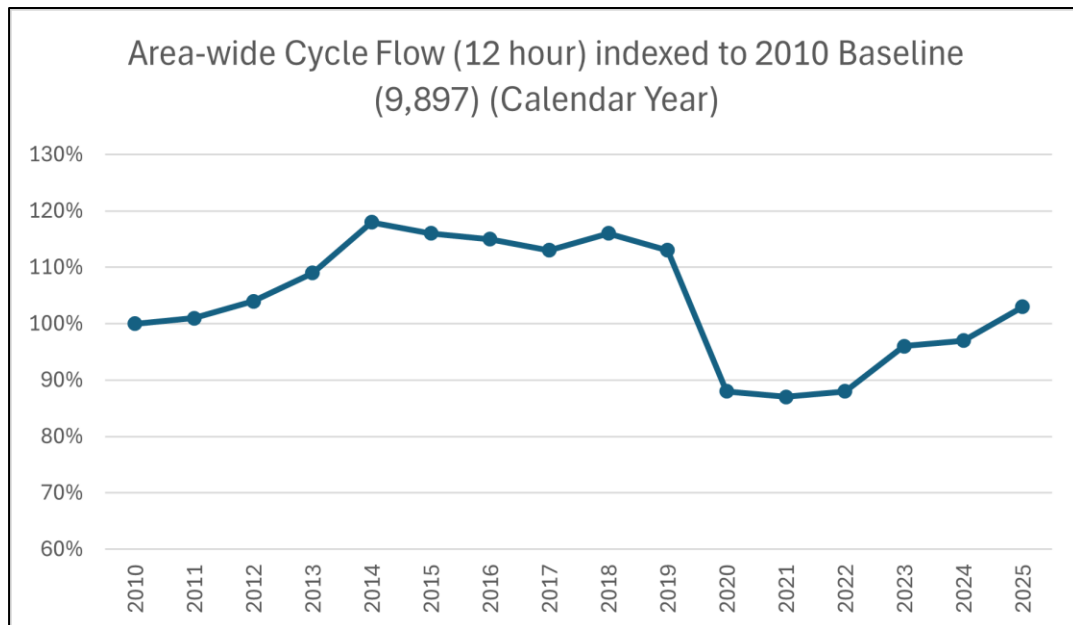
185. **% of customers arriving at York station by sustainable modes of transport** – In 2025, 61% of customers arrived at York station by sustainable modes of transport which is a large decrease from 79% in 2024. The drop could be due to the ongoing works taking place at the front and back of the station.

186. 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. To support this survey, which can be impacted by weather and other factors, we are exploring further methods to monitor sustainable travel to the station including modern counters.



187. **Area Wide Cycle Flow** – Cycling data is collected via automatic traffic counters (19 off-road and 5 on-road sites) across a 12-hour period on school days during 5 traffic neutral months each year. The City-wide Cycle Flow Performance Indicator has been recalibrated to firstly use permanent counters where there are no known issues with the monitoring equipment and secondly remove the one-day counts out of the indicator equation, as they tend to be weather-affected. These changes mean that cycle levels are monitored off approximately 24 counters, and by removing the one-day counts the indicator is a better reflection of the whole years' cycling activity. Traffic neutral months are used for analysis because of the influence of the weather and school holidays, and this is standard for most Department for Transport indicators

188. From a baseline taken in 2010, cycling figures increased year on year until 2014, where a high of 18% above baseline was achieved. Annual figures from 2014 then slowly started to fall until prior to the pandemic (2019) where cycling levels in the city were around 13% above the baseline. During the pandemic, figures then fell significantly then remained comparable until 2022. The latest data for 2025 shows an increase in cycling activity to 3% above the baseline.



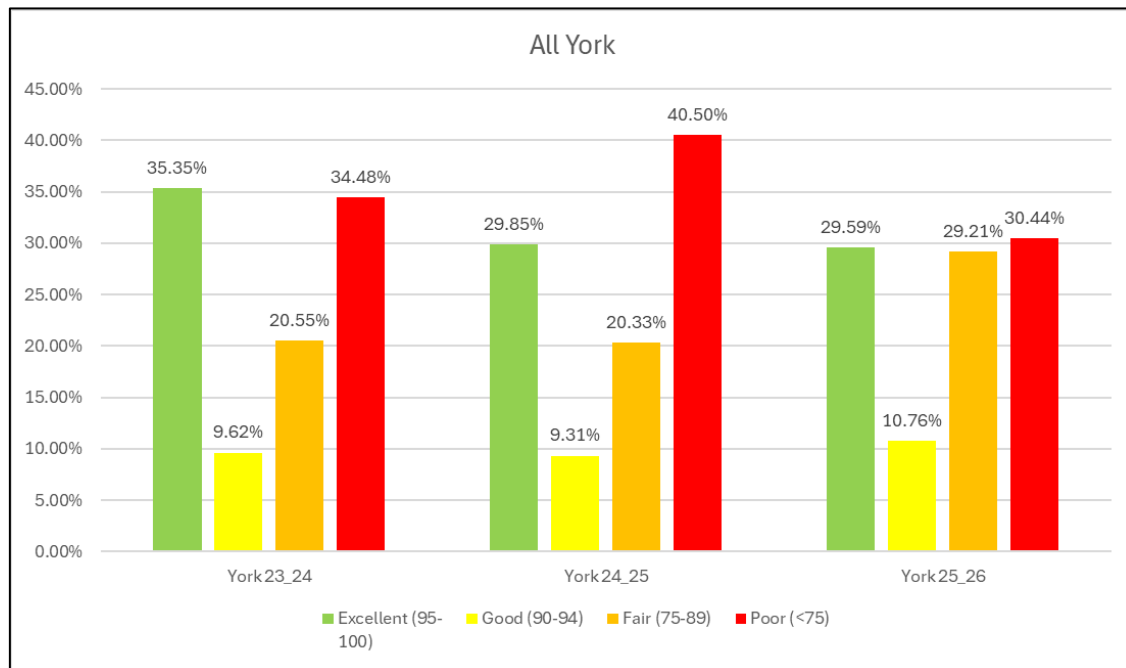
189. **The number of CYC electric vehicle recharging points** – There were 103 CYC electric recharging points at the end of 2025-26, which is the same as at the end of 2024-25.

190. 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 165 at the end of Q3 2025-26 which is an increase from 159 the previous quarter. The number of those which were rapid chargers was 57 at the end of Q3 which is an increase from 50 from the previous quarter. These counts exclude any non-operational devices undergoing maintenance work. Although numbers can fluctuate slightly throughout the year, latest data for Q3 shows an increase in capacity compared to the previous year.

191. 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 78.8 for York compared to 74.2 Regionally and 129.3 Nationally. With 27.2 rapid chargers per 100,000

population, York was above both the Regional rate of 23.3 and National rate of 25.6 at Q3.

192. **% of Principal/Non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered** – In 2025-26, the percentage of principal roads in York, from local figures, where maintenance should be considered was 9% (a decrease from 14% in 2024-25). 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 3% for principal roads in 2024-25 and this is slightly lower than the latest available benchmarks in 2023-24 (National average 4% and Regional average 3%).
193. The percentage of non-principal roads in York, from local figures, where maintenance should be considered was 20% in 2025-26 (a large decrease from 33% in 2024-25). 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 in 2024-25 which is lower than the latest benchmarks in 2023-24 (National average 7% and Regional average 4%).
194. There has been a minor change in the survey methodology in that we are now using the latest model 'asphalt condition', which has replaced or refined the previous 'road surface condition' model. Road condition is split into Excellent/Good/Fair/Poor categories and essentially the new model tries to better distinguish Poor roads where the score has deducted down to zero – i.e. some Poor roads are better than others. The new model (2025/26) has slightly affected the proportions with a general 'damping down' of overall figures for Excellent/Good, but more strikingly a very different relationship (more realistic) between Fair and Poor which causes the changes in figures between 2024/25 and 2025/26. We have confidence in the newest version of the model and highways feel this is more representative of the network. A graph which shows more detail on the road condition splits is included below.



Performance – Housing: Increasing the supply of affordable housing

195. **Number of new affordable homes delivered in York –** An acceleration in affordable housing completions was seen in the second half of 2025-26, with a combination of the council’s Housing Delivery Programme and section 106 completions providing much needed, high quality new build homes for residents in housing need. Nevertheless, during 2025-26, affordable housing completions remain significantly below the identified level of need (154 affordable homes have been delivered in 2025-26). National scale challenges are facing many areas with buoyant housing markets such as a shortage of sites for affordable housing and labour and supply chain constraints, and these have affected delivery in York. The council itself is maximising delivery opportunities currently and will access a range of funding opportunities for direct delivery in addition to maximising provision through Section 106 planning agreements.
196. There is a significant and growing future pipeline of affordable homes with planning permission in place across the council's own newbuild development programme and section 106 planning gain negotiated affordable housing. This has been supported by the implementation of the council’s Adopted Local Plan. The work to accelerate delivery at the York Central site further enhances the future delivery pipeline.
197. The Government and Combined Authority have stated that housing supply, and affordable homes in particular, are amongst its key delivery

priorities and the council will take advantage of new opportunities in this climate wherever possible.

198. **% of dwellings with energy rating in A-C band in the EPC register**
– An Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) gives a property an energy efficiency rating from A (most efficient) to G (least efficient) and is valid for 10 years. Apart from a few exemptions, a building must have an EPC assessment when constructed, sold or let. Whilst the EPC register does not hold data for every property, it can be viewed as an indication of the general efficiency of homes. The rating is based on how a property uses and loses energy for example through heating, lighting, insulation, windows, water and energy sources. Each area is given a score which is then used to determine the A-G rating and a rating of A-C is generally considered to be good energy performance.

The % of properties on the register for York with an EPC rating of A-C at year-end was 47.2%. This measure has increased incrementally month on month since CYC began reporting on the information in March 2023 when 42% of properties were rated A-C. The largest changes in York continue to be in the middle categories with around 5% less properties rated D-E and around 5% more rated C. Data is based on the last recorded certificate for 64,744 properties on the register for York, some of which will have been last assessed more than ten years ago. When looking at certificates updated in the last year only (2025-26), 5,189 new certificates were lodged for York and 59% of these were rated A-C compared to 60% for the region and 64% nationally for the same period.

199. Due to new data processes being put in place by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, there has been a temporary interruption to the supply of EPC certificate information while internal processes align to new data sourcing. These new processes should be in place by June with an update on data available at that time.

200. **Net Additional Homes** – Between 1st April 2025 and 30th September 2025, a total of **549 net additional homes** were completed. Data for the full year 2025-26 will be available in July 2026.

- This includes the following:
 - 541 new build homes
 - 10 were a result of changes from other uses to residential homes
 - 2 homes were demolished during the monitoring period

- In terms of the type of sites that were developed:
 - 227 homes were completed on housing sites (Use Class C3)
 - 21 homes were over 55s accommodation
 - 300 were additional off campus, privately managed student accommodation

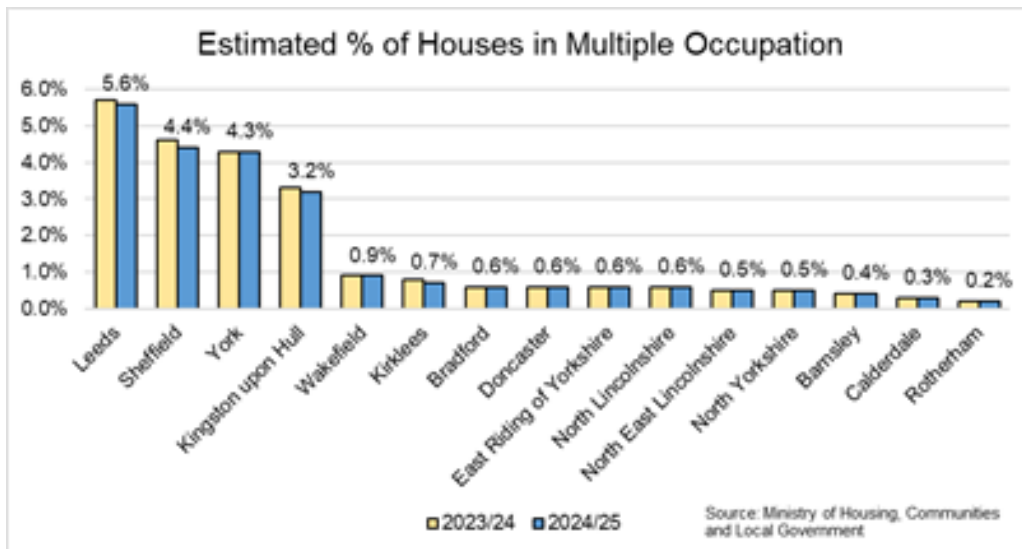
201. **Net Housing Consents** – Planning applications determined during the monitoring period of 1st April 2025 to 30th September 2025 resulted in the approval of **162 net additional homes**. Data for the full year 2025-26 will be available in July 2026.

- The main features of the housing approvals are:
 - 143 of all net homes consented were granted on housing sites (Use Class C3).
 - 19 consents were due to the relaxation of Permitted Development Rights

202. **Number of homeless households with dependent children in temporary accommodation** – The number of households with dependent children in temporary accommodation rose steadily from 26 at the start of 2024-25 to 35 by Q2 2025-26 but reduced to 29 at Q3 (latest data). The overall number of households in temporary accommodation has remained consistent throughout 2025-26 at around 63 households which is a reduction from 70 at year end 2024-25. Latest numbers reflect a slightly smaller proportion of families with children housed in temporary accommodation which has reduced from 55% of households in Q2 to 46% in Q3 and is below the latest national rate of 64%.

203. Of the 29 households with children in temporary accommodation at quarter end, 27 were recorded as accommodated in hostels, this will generally be James House which is designated accommodation for families. Two households were in other private landlord or supported accommodation. Everyone who is homeless and in temporary accommodation will have a support worker to guide them through the process of finding and keeping future accommodation along with help for budgeting, debt advice, independent living skills, tenancy management and completion of actions on a personal housing plan. York continues to report no households with children housed in Bed and Breakfast accommodation at quarter end.

204. When looking at the total number of households in temporary accommodation per households in area (000s), York continues to perform positively compared to benchmarks at Q3 (0.72 in York compared to 5.49 Nationally and 1.67 Regionally). Q4 2025-26 data will be available in August 2026.
205. **Number of people sleeping rough** – A monthly count of people sleeping rough takes place on the last Thursday of each month. Navigators carry out an early morning street walk checking known rough sleeping hot spots and responding to intelligence or reports of rough sleepers.
- The latest figure shows that there were 33 people sleeping rough in York in March 2026, which is higher than the 14 people in March 2025.
 - Of the 33 people, 17 had no local connection (those who have no family or friends connection to York)
 - 2 people were in the category of ‘Accommodation Available (Local Connection)’ – those where accommodation is available but hasn’t been returned to, this can be for a number of reasons including: substance abuse, intoxication, mental health, socialising/street drinking or seeking public donations in the night-time economy. The majority are from York or at least have a Local Connection to York via a family member.
 - A further 14 people were in the category of ‘Actual Rough Sleeping (Local Connection)’ – those who are from York with no accommodation available or are not willing to accept accommodation.
206. **HMO’s as % of properties in York** – The estimate of the proportion of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) divided by the total number of dwellings within York in 2024-25 has remained comparable to last year **at 4.3% which is the 3rd highest in the region, behind Leeds and Sheffield**. The average for England is 1.5% and regionally it is 1.6%. It is not surprising that the levels are higher in university cities as a recent survey suggests that 7 in 10 students live in a privately rented HMO house while studying in the UK. A HMO is defined as an entire house, flat or converted building which is let to three or more persons who form two or more households and who share facilities such as a kitchen, bathroom and toilet. Data for 2025-26 will be available in June 2027.



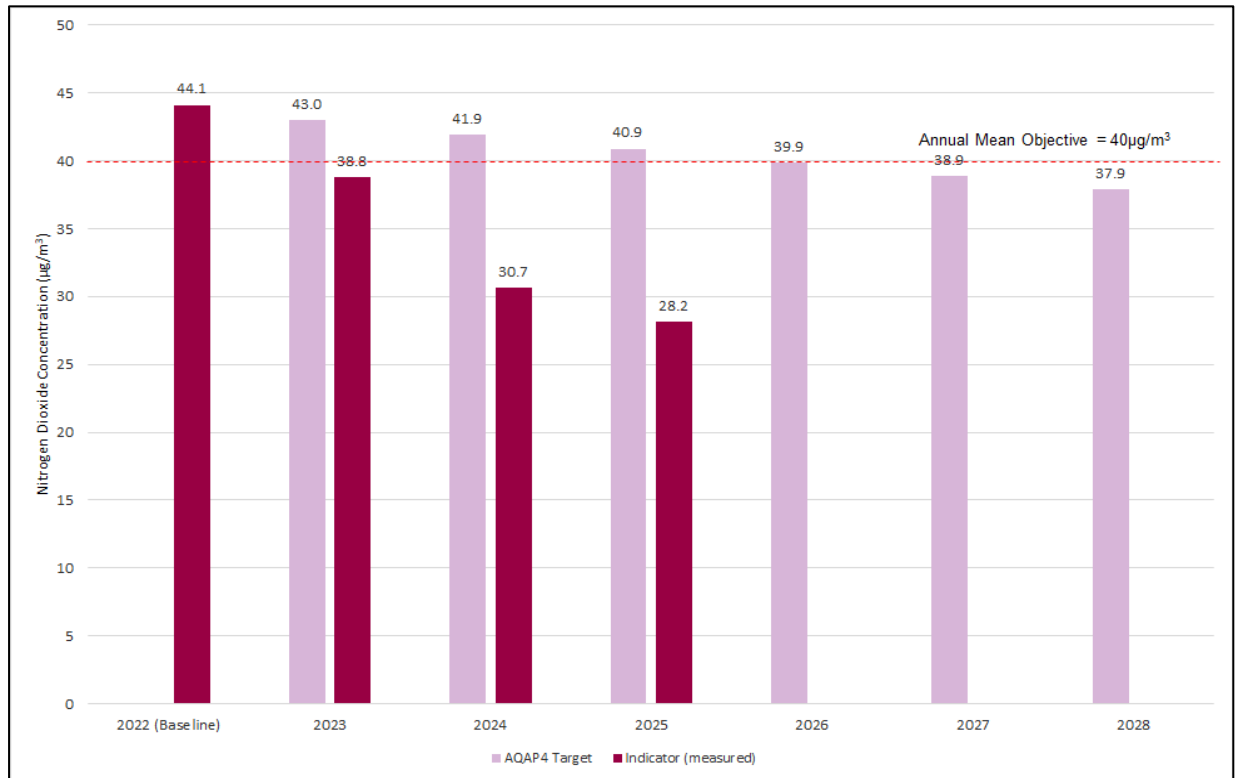
207. **% of dwellings failing to meet the decent homes standard** – At the end of 2024-25, 144 council properties were considered to be non-decent which is 2% of council housing stock. The 2024-25 figure is a slight increase from 1.9% of properties at the end of 2023-24, however this figure has come down in recent years and is below the national benchmark of 3.2% reported by the regulator for social housing for 2024-25. Year-end numbers for 2025-26 are still being processed and validated to ensure all latest home improvements have been included and are due to be submitted to the regulator in late June.
208. **% of repairs completed on first visit** – The percentage of repairs completed on the first visit was 81.2% in 2025-26, which remains high and is comparable with 80.4% in 2024-25.
209. **Number of void properties** – There were 55 void properties at the end of March 2025 but this has now increased to 118 at the end of March 2026.
210. Void properties form a critical part of the Council’s housing service, directly affecting housing supply, tenant wellbeing, and the efficient use of stock. Reducing void times remains a priority to maximise the availability of homes while ensuring properties are safe, compliant, and meet lettable standards.
211. Over recent months, void levels have remained higher than target despite a range of actions already taken, including the engagement of additional contractors and the offer of overtime to in-house operatives. Analysis shows that the factors driving void levels are structural and process-related, rather than solely a lack of resource.

212. Key pressures include a high proportion of unnotified void returns, workforce capacity constraints, limited availability of contractors for capital and major void works, and internal processes that are not always aligned with void delivery timescales. In parallel, the introduction of new-build and refurbished homes, particularly at sites such as Bell Farm, is creating additional secondary voids as existing tenants downsize from current Council-managed properties. The focus of future work is on reducing avoidable delay, improving early decision-making, and strengthening joint working between Housing, Procurement, and Building Services, to deliver a sustained reduction in void levels.
213. **% of tenants satisfied that their landlord provides a home that is well maintained** – Survey responses collected in 2025-26 reflected that 65% of tenants were satisfied that the council provided a well maintained home, increasing from 56% the previous year. This measure is one of the satisfaction measures collected for the Regulator for Social Housing (RSH). The latest national figures reported by the RSH for 2024-25 show that 68% were satisfied in this area. 2025-26 benchmarking is due in November 2026.
214. Results from the 2025-26 tenant survey reflected improved satisfaction with the services provided, of between 3-12% across all measures monitored by the regulator. York continues to focus on key compliance rates for gas, fire, lift, asbestos and water hygiene safety across housing stock.

Performance - Sustainability: Cutting carbon, enhancing the environment for our future

215. **Average of maximum annual mean Nitrogen Dioxide concentration recorded across three areas of technical breach** – With the exception of 2024 (and 2020 during the pandemic), CYC's air quality monitoring network has previously demonstrated sustained exceedances of the health-based nitrogen dioxide objective of 40µg/m³ in 3 areas of the city, namely Gillygate/Lord Mayor's Walk, Blossom Street/Holgate Road and Rougier Street/George Hudson Street. These are referred to as 'technical breach areas' and fall within CYC's Air Quality Management Area.
216. Whilst not all monitoring points within these areas are exceeding health-based standards, there has previously been at least one monitor at a point of relevant public exposure within each area that is above the annual mean objective of 40µg/m³. This indicator considers an

average of the maximum annual mean concentrations of NO₂ in these three areas.



217. As can be seen from the graph above:

- Projections undertaken during development of CYC's Fourth Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP4) suggested that it might take until 2026 for this indicator to fall below the health-based objective of 40µg/m³. The rate of improvement observed in York between 2022-2025 has significantly exceeded that observed in earlier years from 2012-2022 (which was around 2.5% improvement a year over 10 years).
- The AQAP4 target was met in 2025 and the indicator is well within the 40µg/m³ objective. This is a positive result.

218. Measures such as the introduction of electric buses (and other types of electric vehicle) across the network in recent years have undoubtedly contributed to this ongoing success. Additionally in 2025, air quality in Gillygate improved further as a result of the signal trial. In line with commitments in AQAP4, CYC aims to improve air quality further in all areas to improve public health.

219. **Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting** – The latest provisional data for the proportion of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting was 37.4% in Q3 2025-26, which is a small increase from 36.6% at the same point in

2024-25. The percentage of “dry recycling” (recycling excluding composting) of all household waste increased to 23.5% from 23.2% in Q3 last year and the percentage of composting also increased to 13.5% from 13.1% in Q3 last year. The total household waste collected (198kg per household) remained at a similar level from the same time last year (197kg), but there was a small reduction in reuse, recycling or composting waste per household (72kg from 74kg in 2024-25), whilst residual (approx. non-recycling) household waste remained stable at 125kg per household from 124kg last year.

220. **Level of CO2 emissions across the city and from council buildings and operations** – Emissions associated with the council’s scope 1 operations (heating and fleet) have reduced over the last 12 months, due to the work underway to improve the efficiency of our buildings and fleet electrification. However, as a result of the ongoing electrification of the fleet, emissions associated with electricity usage have increased. We continue to increase the volume and accuracy of data in our reporting methodology, with these improvements leading to an increase in our Scope 3 emissions. Fully understanding our emissions is an important step in managing and mitigating our impact. Further details are available here:
<https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s179414/Report.pdf>.
221. City-wide emissions have reduced by 16.4% over the last two years (up to 2023) and have halved since 2005. The latest available data shows that emissions are now below the lowest point during the COVID-19 pandemic. The positive downward trajectory demonstrates potential for decoupling economic growth and emissions; however, we still need to accelerate and expand our efforts to meet our net zero by 2030 ambition. Further details are available here:
https://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/s179439/EMDS_City%20Wide%20Emissions%202024.pdf
222. **% of Talkabout panel satisfied with their local area as a place to live** – The second bi-annual resident satisfaction survey taken by the Talkabout panel took place during Q3 2025-26. Results from the Q3 2025-26 Talkabout survey showed that 78% of the panel were satisfied with York as a place to live, a one percentage point decrease from the previous survey. 82% were satisfied with their local area, which is unchanged from the previous round, but higher than the Community Life Survey result from 2024-25 (73%).
223. **% of Talkabout panel who give unpaid help to any group, club or organisation** – Results from the Q3 2025-26 Talkabout survey found

that 63% of panellists had given unpaid help to any group, club or organisation within the last 12 months. The government's Community Life Survey 2024-25 recorded that 54% had taken part in either formal or informal volunteering at least once in the last 12 months.

224. **Number of trees planted (CYC)** – Between 2023 and 2025, the total number of trees delivered by CYC was 5,371, exceeding, ahead of time, the Council's commitment to plant 4,000 additional trees by March 2028 to address the climate and nature emergencies. During 2023-24, 150 standards (trees around 2-3 metre in height) and 2,516 whips (trees around 30-50 centimetre in height) were planted and during 2024-25, CYC planted circa 213 standards and 2,492 whips. Thirty of the standards were planted by the Council's Public Realm team with the remaining 183 standards and all whips delivered through the Council's 'Green Streets' initiative fully funded by external grants totalling £175,000.
225. During 2025-26, CYC planted 54 standards within the city's highway verges, parks and open spaces.
226. **% of Talkabout panel who think that the council are doing well at improving green spaces to help biodiversity and mitigate climate change** – The results for Q3 2025-26 showed that 40% of respondents agreed the Council and its partners are doing well at improving green spaces, a decrease from 43% in the previous round of the survey.

Performance – How the council will operate

227. **FOI and EIR – % of requests responded to in-time (YTD)** – 94.8% of FOI and EIR requests were responded to in-time during 2025-26. This figure remains high.
228. **% of 4Cs complaints responded to in-time** – There has been a large decrease in the number of corporate complaints received over recent years with 743 received in 2025-26 (compared to 1,054 in 2024-25 and 1,310 in 2023-24). However, the percentage of corporate complaints responded to in time during 2025-26 was 51.1% which is much lower than 70.1% in 2024-25.
229. **% 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 Q3 2025-26 show that the majority of the panel report having a 'good' (33%) or 'satisfactory' (37%) experience when they last contacted the Council,

with 13% reporting an 'excellent' experience (up from 12%) and 17% reporting a 'poor' experience (down from 25%).

230. **Average sickness days per full time equivalent (FTE) employee –** At the end of 2025-26, the average number of sickness days per FTE (rolling 12 months) was 12.1 days (compared to 11.9 days in 2024-25). The latest benchmarks show that the CIPD public sector benchmark is 13.3 days per FTE, putting us below national trends.
231. **York Customer Centre average speed of answer –** Phones were answered, on average, in 2 minutes and 11 seconds during 2025-26 by the York Customer Centre. This is slower than in 2024-25 (42 seconds) and in the previous few years.

Consultation Analysis

232. Not applicable

Options Analysis and Evidential Basis

233. Not applicable

Organisational Impact and Implications

234. 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.

Risks and Mitigations

235. 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.

Wards Impacted

236. All

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Annexes

Annex 1: Q4 Performance Tables - City Outcomes and Council Delivery Indicators 2023-2027

Annex 2: York Learning Accountability Statement

Annex 3: Parking Income and Expenditure and Highway and Transport Expenditure

Glossary of abbreviations used in the report

AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan
ASC	Adult Social Care
AEB	Adult Education Board
ANPR	Automatic Number Plate Recognition
ASF	Adult Skills Fund
C&E	Children and Education
CIPD	Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development
CLA	Children Looked After
CO	Chief Officer
CQC	Care Quality Commission
CYC	City of York Council
DFT	Department for Transport
DoLS	Deprivation of Liberty Service
DP	Direct Payments
DSG	Dedicated Schools Grant
DWP	Department for Work & Pensions
EIR	Environmental Information Regulations
EPC	Energy Performance Certificate
EV	Electric Vehicle
FOI	Freedom of Information
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
GVA	Gross Value Added
HMO	Homes in Multiple Occupation
HR	Human Resources
HRA	Housing Revenue Account
HWRC	Household Waste Recycling Centre
IFA	Independent Fostering Agreement
KS4	Key Stage 4
LA	Local Authority
LD	Learning Disability
LE	Life Expectancy
LSIP	Local Skills Improvement Plan

MASH	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
MSOA	Middle Layer Super Output Area
NCMP	National Child Measurement Programmes
NDC	National Data Company
OP	Older People
PH	Public Health
PFI	Private Finance Initiative
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PS&I	Physical & Sensory Impairment
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
SL	Supported Living
UASC	Unaccompanied Asylum Speaking Children
Y&H	Yorkshire & The Humber
YNYCA	York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority