

## 1 **Local Development Framework (LDF)**

2 The information included within this note covers the progress on the following components  
3 of the LDF:

- 4 ○ Core Strategy DPD;
- 5 ○ Allocations DPD;
- 6 ○ Statement of Community Involvement;
- 7 ○ City Centre AAP; and
- 8 ○ York Northwest AAP.

9 In the three year project plan (the Local Development Scheme) approved by GoYH in 2008  
10 we committed to developing the following documents: Core Strategy; the Statement of  
11 Community Involvement; Allocations DPD; York Northwest Area Action Plan; and City  
12 Centre Area Action Plan. In addition we also highlighted our intention to publish a range of  
13 documents to supplement our existing evidence base. Progress made in relation to each of  
14 these areas of work along with other information relevant to demonstrating progress is  
15 highlighted below.

### 16 ***Evidence Base***

17 This is the most comprehensive evidence base on planning in the city ever assembled. It  
18 has given us a firm foundation for developing an LDF that addresses local issues and  
19 needs. It helped to inform the comprehensive summary of key issues and challenges in the  
20 Core Strategy. This was one of the key strengths of the plan identified by CABI who  
21 concluded that York's Core Strategy was one of the best in the country they had seen,  
22 having reviewed over 50 plans. It was important to get the evidence base right - the  
23 robustness of the evidence base will be one of the key tests of soundness when the plan  
24 gets to public inquiry.

25 A range of major studies have been completed to support the production of the LDF to add  
26 to and update work previously undertaken for the Local Plan. These include:

- 27 • Strategic Flood Risk Assessment - York Engineering Consultancy (2007);
- 28 • Strategic Housing Market Assessment - Fordham Research (2007);
- 29 • Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Phase 1 - City of York Council (2008);
- 30 • Draft Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Phase 2 - City of York Council  
31 (2009);
- 32 • Employment Land Review Stage 1 - SQW (2007);
- 33 • Employment Land Review Stage 2 - Entec (2009);
- 34 • Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study - PMP Consultants (2008);

35 • Retail Study - GVA Grimley LLP (2008); and

36 • Biodiversity Audit - City of York Council (2009).

37 Work is currently underway on an Affordable Housing Viability Study (Fordham Research);  
38 a Biodiversity Action Plan (CYC); and a Renewable Energy Strategic Viability Study (AEA).

### 39 ***Core Strategy***

40 An initial Issues and Options consultation was carried out in June/July 2006. Information on  
41 the consultation was sent out to over 500 contacts and exhibitions and workshops  
42 organised. Officers also attended a number of local forums to discuss Issues and Options.  
43 Further to the comments and feedback received as part of the events, 124 separate replies  
44 were received in response to the consultation documents.

45 The Festival of Ideas 2 was held in Autumn 2007, a joint LDF Core Strategy and  
46 Sustainable Community Strategy review consultation. This was very successful with over  
47 2300 responses to a household questionnaire, a City Conference, well attended  
48 stakeholder workshops, and on-line responses giving a wealth of useful feedback. We also  
49 received a further 75 more detailed responses.

50 Consultation was carried out on a Core Strategy Preferred Options document in Summer  
51 2009. This included a city wide leaflet to which 2,250 responses were received. In addition a  
52 further 117 detailed responses were made to the main document. Officers are currently  
53 processing these responses with a report to the LDF Working Group imminent. These  
54 responses alongside the documents Sustainability Appraisal and any new emerging  
55 information will be used to produce a 'submission' draft document for the consideration of  
56 Members.

57 The Planning Inspectorate have been giving us informal advice on the Core Strategy and  
58 when they reviewed progress at the end of 2008 they were very positive about our work to  
59 date concluding that York seemed to be well on the way to creating a locally-distinctive  
60 vision and spatial strategy for the City.

61 The quality of York's document has recently being recognised by CABE who have  
62 highlighted it along with the work of three other authorities as representing national best  
63 practice in the way it communicates and defines its vision and spatial strategy.

### 64 ***Allocations DPD***

65 The Allocations DPD will identify sites for housing, employment, retail, transport, waste and  
66 minerals and a range of community facilities as well as setting the green belt and settlement  
67 boundaries.

68 Consultation on the Allocations Issues and Options document was carried out from March to  
69 May 2008. This sought views on sites put forward and also acted as a 'call for sites'.  
70 Comments were received from 211 respondents. Following the consultation, any new sites  
71 put forward for housing and employment have been assessed through the Strategic  
72 Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) and Employment Land Review (ELR)

73 respectively. Site assessments for other uses are currently being undertaken. These  
74 assessments will consider a number of elements including: comments received at the  
75 Issues and Options stage; the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal; conformity with the  
76 Core Strategy; and information from the evidence base. This will inform the production of a  
77 Preferred Options Allocations document which we intend to make available to support the  
78 submission of the Core Strategy.

### 79 ***City Centre Area Action Plan***

80 17. A City Centre Area Action Plan Issues and Options document was subject to public  
81 consultation between July and September 2008. 127 detailed responses were received  
82 containing over 1700 separate comments. We ran a range of workshops with 48 attendees.  
83 There were over 100 attendees at public exhibition and events and questionnaires  
84 completed by both Universities. The Preferred Options document is currently in preparation.

85 progress report is being presented to LDF Working Group in December that will outline  
86 progress on the AAP, including:

- 87 ○ appraisals of options and emerging preferred options;
- 88 ○ a revised vision and place-making objectives presented in the form of a Vision  
89 Prospectus to be used for early stakeholder engagement;
- 90 ○ work on background documents; and
- 91 ○ a proposed format for the Preferred Options document.

92 The Issues and Options document contained brief descriptive summaries of character areas  
93 within the Central Historic Core Conservation Area and consulted on the content of these  
94 and the boundary of the Area. The responses to the consultation will feed into the  
95 production of the Conservation Area Appraisal. Consultants are being commissioned by the  
96 Conservation, Design and Sustainable Development team in partnership with English  
97 Heritage. The aim is to consult on a draft of the Appraisal alongside the AAP Preferred  
98 Options document. The AAP will contain draft policies and actions based on the findings of  
99 the Appraisal.

100 The York Renaissance Team will lead on the delivery of major developments in the City, in  
101 line with the economic masterplan that is being developed as a part of the Renaissance  
102 project. It will also help to deliver the key projects emerging from the work on the AAP,  
103 including public realm, accessibility improvements and proposals to enhance gateway  
104 streets. This team will work closely alongside existing staff. It will add value by bringing in  
105 additional capacity and additional design skills (architecture, urban and landscape design).

106 The Visioning and Economic Master Planning commissioned as part of the Renaissance  
107 project will also include a 'critical friend' role for the City Centre AAP. This will involve acting  
108 as an advocate and a 'stimulator' in terms of the work carried out to date on the AAP flowing  
109 out of workshops, including advice on how to embed its aspirations with key stakeholders in  
110 the city, raise its profile and ensure that it is led by a clear vision.

111 The Council has been successful in gaining additional expert support from the consultants  
112 appointed to carry out the Economic Masterplan to also act as a 'critical friend' role in  
113 relation to the City Centre Area Action Plan. Alan Simpson and his team have been  
114 impressed with the amount of work and creative thinking that has gone into the City Centre  
115 AAP to date and were impressed with the presentational style used for the Vision  
116 Prospectus which will be considered by the LDF Working Group in December.

117 Other key strands of work underway to support the City Centre AAP include:

- 118 ○ Placecheck – to analyse the existing character and quality of public spaces in the  
119 city.
- 120 ○ The People Changing Places project focussed on Museum Gardens and Exhibition  
121 Square - this is helping to develop new ways of involving local people in 're-  
122 imagining' how our public spaces could be. We have developed a significant level of  
123 interest, engagement and press publicity through this process, raising awareness of  
124 what we are trying to do in the wider city centre.
- 125 ○ Accessibility study – Transport Planning Unit have started a piece of work to analyse  
126 transport and movement in the city centre to 2030 and identify some potential  
127 measures to improve accessibility and address pedestrian vehicle conflicts to  
128 improve the pedestrian environment of the city centre. Yorkshire Forward are  
129 supporting further work on this as part of the Renaissance York Project. This will help  
130 to inform Preferred Options for the city centre next Spring.

131 We hope to start a significant process of public consultation and engagement on the Vision  
132 Prospectus starting with a major event to launch it in early 2010. This is intended to raise  
133 the profile of the AAP work and gain the 'buy in' of key stakeholders in the city and those  
134 parties who will ultimately be involved in its implementation.

### 135 ***Statement of Community Involvement***

136 Following a three year process and three stages of city wide consultation our Statement of  
137 Community Involvement was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and deemed 'sound'.

138 The Statement of Community Involvement was formally adopted in December 2007. We are  
139 ensuring that all subsequent LDF documents are produced in compliance with this  
140 statement.

141 We have used the Statement of Community Involvement to structure and inform all of our  
142 consultation work to date. We have carried out five major public consultation exercises to  
143 date to take the various LDF documents forward. These have been multi-faceted and have  
144 generated significant interest and responses. The Council have utilised the experience we  
145 have gained to help develop the wider corporate approach to public consultation.

146 A key issue at the public examination will be that we have taken a 'sound' approach to  
147 public consultation. We have developed a comprehensive consultation database, recorded

148 and summarised all responses and can provide a detailed audit trail of these responses and  
149 how these have influenced policy choices

### 150 ***York Northwest Area Action Plan***

151 An Issues and Options report was published in November 2007. Consultation on this was  
152 carried out between November and January 2008. The consultation responses were  
153 reported to members in May 2008. A vision and number of spatial objectives for the area  
154 (with spatial arrangement of uses within the site) were agreed by members in July 2008.

155 During the Issues and Options consultation we received 49 detailed written responses, held  
156 workshops with over 100 attendees and held exhibitions with nearly 250 attendees

157 Since that time work has progressed on producing specific evidence base documents,  
158 including Option Appraisal, Financial Appraisal, Transport Modelling, Land Use Model  
159 (produced by officers and used for the development of preferred options), Background  
160 Papers on Open Space and Transport and site specific ecological studies. Some of these  
161 documents have been produced in house, with others produced by specialist consultants.

162 Four options have been produced based on differing land uses for the areas. Subsequently  
163 work has been undertaken to establish the sustainability, transport and viability impacts  
164 arising from these scenarios.

165 Officers have liaised on an ongoing basis with the key stakeholders, including both the main  
166 landowners and key organisations/groups to ensure their involvement in the project.

167 Work at the city region level has focused on the prioritisation of York Northwest as part of  
168 the City Region Urban Eco Settlement proposal. Funding is being sought for a range of  
169 sustainability measures through this programme. The York Central site has also been put  
170 forward to be considered as a pilot accelerated development zone. Decisions are awaited  
171 on both these initiatives from the CLG.

172 We have been successful in promoting the idea of an Urban Eco-settlement on the York  
173 Northwest site, one of only 4 identified in the Leeds City Region. A 'pilot' scheme for the  
174 British Sugar site to deliver 60 houses to the highest eco-standards and a raft of other  
175 sustainability measures has been submitted to the DCLG and is likely to be given approval  
176 soon. This will provide York with a national exemplar for developing sustainable  
177 communities and will help us to develop a robust delivery strategy for the York northwest  
178 AAP.

179 The competitive dialogue process for the York Central site has recently been suspended  
180 due to the current economic situation. In view of this officers will now be working with  
181 the York Central Consortium (Yorkshire Forward, Network Rail and the National Railway  
182 Museum) to review the position and see how best we can deliver development in this area.  
183 Alongside this, work is progressing on the former British Sugar site and regular liaison takes  
184 place with the consultant team engaged by Associated British Foods.

185 The Council also submitted a bid for the York Central site to be considered as an  
 186 Accelerated Development Zone (ADZ) where Tax Increment Financing (TIF) would be  
 187 piloted. This would help to front-fund infrastructure costs. This is currently being considered  
 188 by the Treasury, alongside a range of other bids from across the country.

### 189 ***Sustainability Appraisal***

190 We have completed Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Reports and statements for all the  
 191 LDF documents highlighted. In addition a full sustainability appraisal was produced to sit  
 192 along side the Core Strategy Preferred Options document.

### 193 ***Evidence Base***

194 A range of major studies have been completed to support the production of the LDF to add  
 195 to and update work previously undertaken for the Local Plan. These include:

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- 205 • Biodiversity Audit - City of York Council (2009).

206 Work is currently underway on an Affordable Housing Viability Study (Fordham Research);  
 207 a Biodiversity Action Plan (CYC); and a Renewable Energy Strategic Viability Study (AEA).

### 208 ***Timetabling***

209 This section essentially explains the delays in LDF process compared to the LDS submitted  
 210 to the government office in late 2008. Officers have only just completed this latest projection  
 211 work and has not been reported to the LDF working group yet.

|   | LDS (Nov 2008) | Latest projection (Nov 2009) | Reason   |
|---|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| <b><i>Core Strategy</i></b>                 |                |                              |  |
| Publication for pre-submission consultation | Sept 2009      | April 2010                   | Evidence base work on housing, employment and open space needed more time.<br>Time to progress Preferred Options |

|  | LDS (Nov 2008) | Latest projection (Nov 2009) | Reason  |
|--|----------------|------------------------------|---|
|  |                |                              | document from draft to final stage. Level of response to Preferred Options consultation was very high.  |
| Submission to Secretary of State for Examination | December 2009  | August 2010                  | Note: We will achieve York's first adopted plan for 50 years by the end of 2010 - as projected.   |
| <b><i>Allocations DPD</i></b>                    |                |                              |   |
| Publication for pre-submission consultation      | Jan 2010       | October 2010                 | Re-aligning our Allocations DPD programme so that we publish Preferred Options when we publish our Submission Core Strategy – so that a full picture on sites is available.   |
| Submission to Secretary of State for Examination | April 2010     | January 2011                 | Note: We will achieve York's first adopted allocations plan for 50 years by the early 2011, a minor slippage in the overall programme.  |
| <b><i>City Centre AAP</i></b>                    |                |                              |   |
| Publication for pre-submission consultation      | Feb 2010       | Jan 2011                     | We have re-aligned timescales to allow the Central Historic Core Appraisal work to be fed into the plan.  |
| Submission to Secretary of State for Examination | May 2010       | March 2011                   | Note: We will achieve York's first comprehensive plan for the city centre since the late 1960's by the middle of 2011.  |
| <b><i>York Northwest AAP</i></b>                 |                |                              |   |
| Publication for pre-submission consultation      | Feb 2010       | Under review                 | We have shifted work from strategy to delivery in the light of the York Central procurement being terminated – three month work programme agreed with the YC partners. This up-front work now (rather than at pre-submission) will inform a deliverable plan. |
| Submission to Secretary of State for Examination | May 2010       | Under review                 | Note: This focus on delivery is positive: Bid for an ADZ/TIF on York Central Likely Urban Eco-settlement on York Northwest with pilot on British Sugar.   |

|  | LDS (Nov 2008) | Latest projection (Nov 2009) | Reason   |
|--|----------------|------------------------------|--|
|  |                |                              | Work focussing on a deliverable AAP is the key priority. |

212 Changes to the programme are essentially the result of the considerable amount of  
 213 evidence base work we have undertaken and changes to guidance. As you would expect  
 214 we have been closely monitoring the progression of other plans. The failure of plans has  
 215 underlined the need for a robust evidence base to support any approach and led both to a  
 216 requirement for further evidence base work and in some cases a different approach to be  
 217 taken. For example a legal challenge to the approach taken by Blyth Council to affordable  
 218 housing has established the need for full viability assessments to be carried out.

219 Key changes to national guidance include the changes to PPS 12 which was revised and re  
 220 published in June 2008. The revised guidance was less prescriptive than previously, made  
 221 changes to the process of consultation and significantly increased the emphasis on  
 222 deliverability.

223 In addition, some changes to the project plan have responded to local circumstance. For  
 224 example with regard to the production of the Core Strategy this process was deliberately  
 225 delayed by three months in the Summer of 2007 to allow for joint public consultation with  
 226 the Sustainable Community Strategy. This was done to accord with best practice and  
 227 government guidance and also to avoid public confusion which would a risen from the two  
 228 similar consultations being carried out close together. As highlighted above, the joint LDF  
 229 Core Strategy/Community Strategy consultation was very successful with over 2300 people  
 230 responding.

### 231 **Resources**

232 The original growth bid (circa £930k) to progress the LDF was a significant commitment  
 233 from the Council and enabled us to strengthen the team (with 4 three year fixed term  
 234 contracts), commission a significant evidence base, and carry out detailed consultations.  
 235 This has allowed us to make significant progress.

236 We will need further funding to complete the full suite of LDF documents. However, that will  
 237 give us York's first comprehensive planning framework for 50 years and one that is critical  
 238 to the future growth and economic competitiveness of the city.

### 239 **Conclusions**

240 It is worth emphasising that:

241 Significant progress has been made in assembling a comprehensive evidence base - this is  
 242 almost complete and is critical for achieving a sound plan.

243 The work we have done to date is receiving plaudits:



- 244       ○ on the Core Strategy from CABE; with a very positive relationship with government  
245       office who acknowledge our progress;
- 246       ○ on the City Centre AAP (in a national journal and from the consultant leading on the  
247       Economic Masterplanning).

248       We will have a full suite of LDF documents in place by 2011 with the critical Core strategy  
249       and Allocations documents adopted by late 2010 and early 2011 respectively; the City  
250       Centre plan will be the first comprehensive plan since the Esher Report of the late 1960's.

251       We are changing the reputation of York from an authority with a problem (no adopted plan  
252       for 50 years) to one that is gaining a national reputation for the quality of its plan-making  
253       (e.g. appearing in a national CABE publication on how to prepare effective Core Strategies).

### 254       ***LTP3***

255       York's Local Transport Plan 3 is currently within the Stage 1 consultation period. The city-  
256       wide questionnaire leaflet commenced distribution on 24<sup>th</sup> November and the return date for  
257       responses is 18<sup>th</sup> December. The LTP questionnaire is being distributed to all households  
258       within York along with the 2010 Budget consultation document.

259       In addition to the city wide questionnaire the LTP team are undertaking four stakeholder  
260       workshops in December, made up of a wide variety of stakeholders, and also consulting  
261       with the Quality Bus Partnership and the young people of York.

262       The purpose of the questionnaire and the workshops are to disseminate information about  
263       the start of the new Local Transport Plan and its context and to consult on some of the  
264       issues and priorities that York faces in the future.

265       Stage 1 consultation operates at a high strategic level. The aim is to gain information that  
266       will feed into the option development process. The consultation aims to find out about  
267       respondent's issues and priorities. This will be done by the team firstly identifying what the  
268       public and stakeholders feel are the main pressures in York. For example accommodating  
269       and locating more people, jobs and houses. The team will then relate and discuss these  
270       pressures to transport and find out how important and what transport's job is in terms of  
271       addressing these pressures and challenges. The final exercise will discuss solutions and  
272       actions for the role of transport. Put simply, discover what respondents feel should be done  
273       and what is most important such as improving public transport.

274       LTP3 is different from LTP2 in terms of there being no set time period that it must apply to.  
275       The Council is able to decide for itself how long it wants to plan ahead for, whereas  
276       previously an LTP was to run for five years. The LTP3 document will comprise of a strategy  
277       document and an implementation plan, where measures are identified for the way forward  
278       for York's transport.

279       In addition to the consultation period the LTP3 team are also currently gathering evidence to  
280       feed into the Local Transport Plan and establishing the indicators and targets that the team  
281       feel are relevant to York and its transport.

282 It is important that the new LTP is able to focus on serving the local needs and develop into  
 283 a locally relevant document whilst also incorporating the surrounding spheres of influence  
 284 such as North Yorkshire and Leeds. Also the plan seeks to be part of a much wider agenda  
 285 and link into the Local Development Framework and Sustainable Community Strategy,  
 286 amongst other key drivers.

287 The role of transport is also changing and the LTP3 calls for fresh thinking and ideas this  
 288 time around. It seeks to influence choices, tackling the problem at its cause through  
 289 influencing travel demand rather than simply mitigating its impact. The LTP must also  
 290 recognise that transport can help deliver on a wide range of objectives and interweave with  
 291 work on the economy, health, planning, social inclusion, education and carbon reduction.  
 292 This will be the key to its success.

293 ***Air Quality***

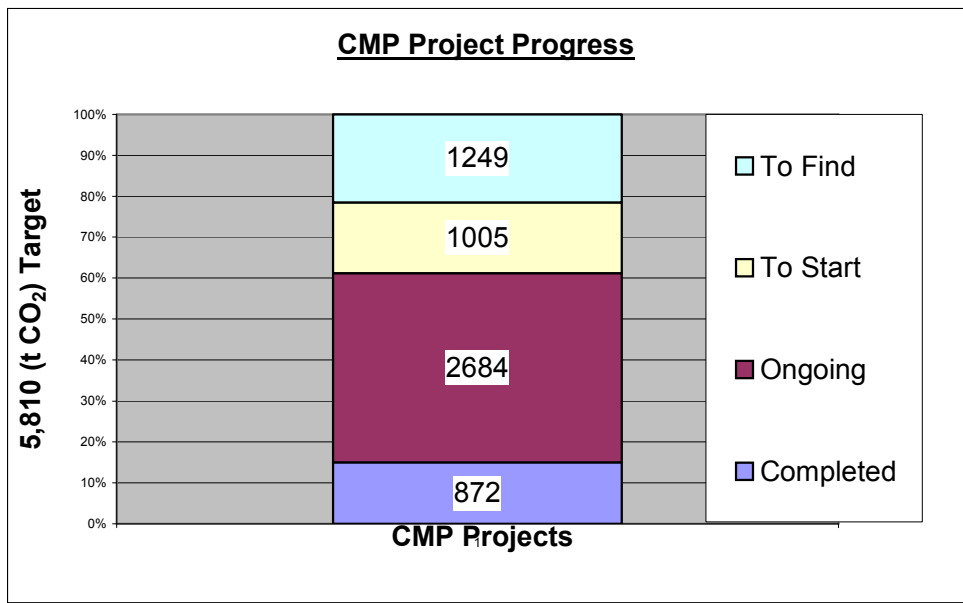
294 Responsibility for Air Quality Management Areas currently rests in the Neighbourhoods  
 295 portfolio. Progress was made towards achieving the, health based, air quality objectives for  
 296 nitrogen dioxide within the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) until 2005, after which  
 297 pollution began increasing. The environmental protection unit are currently producing a low  
 298 emission strategy to provide a comprehensive approach to reducing traffic and carbon  
 299 dioxide emissions through the planning, transport planning, carbon management and  
 300 procurement processes. These measures will feed into LTP3.

301 **Other Strategy Issues**

302 ***Carbon Management Board***

303 The last Board meeting on 11/11/09 heard that the Council is on target to achieve its 2013  
 304 objectives. Officers are relying heavily on “behaviour change” amongst Staff and Councillors  
 305 to achieve the new 10:10 carbon reduction programme targets.

306 **□ FIGURE 1: CMP PROJECT PROGRESS**



307

308 **Smart meters**

309 The installation of smart meters across CYC buildings is underway. CYC will pay the  
310 schools' costs associated with obtaining the data from the smart meters in year one. In  
311 subsequent years, each individual school will cover the cost of obtaining the data from the  
312 smart meters.

313 **Energy Saving Week**

314 Energy Saving Week took place from 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October. Carbon Management Team  
315 members conducted energy walkabouts across a selection of CYC buildings. Energy saving  
316 tips were provided to employees, and 'Save Us' posters / stickers were distributed across  
317 the majority of offices. Feedback on the whole has been positive. It is hoped that the  
318 activities conducted during the week will contribute to financial and emission savings from  
319 employees changing their behaviour while at work. As part of this event a workshop was  
320 undertaken with senior officers to attempt to identify additional projects that could be  
321 included in the Carbon Management Programme.

322 **NI186 update**

323 The latest NI186 figures released from the Department for Energy and Climate Change  
324 (DECC) indicate that York's per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions decreased by 10% from 6.9 tonnes  
325 per capita to 6.1 tonnes per capita over the period 2005 to 2007. Table 1 below sets out the  
326 emissions reduction from each sector.

327 **York CO2 emissions: Table 1: NI186 2005 to 2007**

| Year | Industry & Commercial<br>(t CO <sub>2</sub> ) | Domestic (t CO <sub>2</sub> ) | Road Transport<br>(t CO <sub>2</sub> ) | Average per person<br>(t) |
|------|---|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 2005 | 525,000                                       | 463,000                       | 312,000                                | 6.9                       |
| 2006 | 522,000                                       | 463,000                       | 308,000                                | 6.7                       |
| 2007 | 434,000                                       | 444,000                       | 309,000                                | 6.1                       |

328 York was the second best performing local authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region  
329 (after Rotherham). However the level of commercial activity – particularly manufacturing -  
330 heavily effects these figures. (e.g. Terry's and British Sugar closing down will have had an  
331 influence)

332 **Investment**

333 The current approved capital programme is for just over £5 million. This includes Regional  
334 Transport Board supplementary funding which is to be invested in reducing traffic  
335 congestion on the A1237 northern by pass. Good progress is being made on the delivery of  
336 schemes in the programme including the Fulford Road multi-modal scheme, Crichton  
337 Avenue cycle route and Mill Lane/Wigginton Road traffic signals, which are all anticipated to

338 be delivered by the end of the year. The position on some of the other major schemes is as  
339 follows:

340 **Access York Phase 1 (3 Park and Ride sites)**

341 Planning approval was granted for the relocation of the Askham Bar Park & Ride site in  
342 September 2009. Public consultation has been carried out for the proposed A59 and Clifton  
343 Moor Park & Ride sites. It is currently proposed to submit the planning application for the  
344 Poppleton Bar site in mid-December 2009 and the application for the Clifton Moor site in  
345 January 2010.

346 **Outer Ring Road/Access York Phase 2 (A19/A1237 Roundabout)**

347 The outline design for this scheme was approved in October. Work will continue in 2009/10,  
348 with public consultation taking place in December with the expectation that the scheme will  
349 progress to the detailed design stage. The allocation for this scheme is being increased by  
350 £150k, in the current year, to allow an earlier commencement of construction work in  
351 2010/11.

352 The Highways Agency improvement scheme at Hopgrove Roundabout was completed in  
353 September.

354 **Multi Modal Schemes**

355 The Fulford Road scheme will be completed during the present financial year. Some short  
356 term inconvenience to road users in that area is inevitable, but improved safety for cyclists  
357 and reduced journey times for public transport users, will be evident later next year.

358 Elsewhere consultation will start shortly on options for improving safety in the Blossom  
359 Street area. While alternative cycle routes can be achieved in the area around the railway  
360 station, proposals to change lane arrangements on the approach to Micklegate Bar could be  
361 more controversial.

362 Similarly, officers are working on proposals for the Fishergate gyratory system. Full  
363 consultation on the options will take place next year.

364 **Parking**

365 It has been agreed to trial new ticketing machines in the Piccadilly car park. As well as  
366 allowing differential pricing, which would allow promotional offers to be made available at  
367 less busy times of the day, the machines will accept debit and credit card payments. If  
368 successful it is likely that similar machines will be installed at other car parks.

369 **Public Transport**

370 Network Rail is still working on its pre design assessment work for Haxby station. A decision  
371 from Network Rail on the future of the project is expected before the end of the year.

372 **Walking**

373 £115,000 is being invested this year in schemes designed to help pedestrians. Of this,  
374 £15,000 is being spent on the foot-streets review with developed options timetabled to be

375 consulted on before the end of the financial year. A review of walking facilities in Haxby is  
376 also planned.

### 377 **Cycling**

378 A number of projects are taking place under the Cycling City banner. Beckfield Lane phase  
379 1 and the Moor Lane bridge cycle lanes have been completed since the last report.

380 Schemes in the pipeline include:

- 381 • The Lendal hub station (not to be confused with the nearby Railway station cycle  
382 point which will provide much improved cycle storage facilities for travellers)
- 383 • A new cycle lane and track on Crichton Avenue. The highway will be resurfaced at  
384 the same time so as to provide a “complete” approach to transport in the area.
- 385 • New cycle lanes and paths on Wigginton Road near the hospital
- 386 • Provision of a new crossing on Bootham although – following delays during  
387 consultation – this will not now be completed until late spring.
- 388 • Solar powered route marking lights which are initially to be provided on the Bootham  
389 Stray path

### 390 **Safety**

391 Nearly £500,000 is being invested this year in improving safety on our roads. A report on  
392 investment in speed reduction measures is being considered at a decision session on 1<sup>st</sup>  
393 December. Schemes aimed at improving safety on the A166 at Dunnington and on the  
394 Strensall Road near Towthorpe have been published.

### 395 **Safe Routes to school**

396 Schools benefiting from this programme include Acomb Primary, Carr Infants, Wigginton  
397 Primary, Clifton Without, Dringhouses Primary, Ralph Butterfield and York High school.

398 NB. We have 8 vacant sites for school crossing patrols they are in the following locations -  
399 Headlands primary - (Oak Tree Lane), Tang Hall Primary- (Melrosegate/4th Avenue),  
400 Dringhouses Primary (Tadcaster Road/St Helens), Rawcliffe Infants (Eastholme Drive), New  
401 Earswick Primary (New Earswick), Hemplands Primary (Hemplands/Stockton Lane),  
402 Poppleton Road Primary (Poppleton Road/Water End), Haxby Road Primary (Jct  
403 Huntington/Fossway/Haleys Terrace)

### 404 **Revenue budget**

405 The department’s budget has been hit by a reduction in income. This stems from the  
406 economic recession. We expect a £500,000 drop in planning fees this year and this  
407 inevitably will mean that there will need to be a realignment of resources. There have also  
408 been reductions in other areas such as building control and parking income although the  
409 latter is much less than might have been expected given the scale of the recession. Costs

410 are being controlled to ensure that the Department outturns on budget at the end of the  
411 year.

412 One piece of good news on the financial front has been the publication of a central  
413 government consultation proposal on the allocation of funds for concessionary fares  
414 (pensioners “fares free” bus travel). If implemented, our concessionary account should next  
415 year balance for the first time. The accumulated losses – born by the Council Taxpayer –  
416 will, of course, not be refunded.

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Steve Galloway  
23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009