



Meeting: **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**
Date: **22 MARCH 2016**
Time: **5.00 PM**
Venue: **COMMITTEE ROOM**
To: **Councillors J Crawford (Chair), Mrs W Nichols (Vice Chair),
D Bain-Mackay, D Buckle, Mrs E Casling, I Chilvers and
D White.**

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence

2. Minutes

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 26 February 2016 (pages 1 - 3 attached).

3. Disclosures of Interest

A copy of the Register of Interest for each Selby District Councillor is available for inspection at www.selby.gov.uk.

Councillors should declare to the meeting any disclosable pecuniary interest in any item of business on this agenda which is not already entered in their Register of Interests.

Councillors should leave the meeting and take no part in the consideration, discussion or vote on any matter in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest.

Councillors should also declare any other interests. Having made the declaration, provided the other interest is not a disclosable pecuniary interest, the Councillor may stay in the meeting, speak and vote on that item of business.

If in doubt, Councillors are advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer.

4. Chair's Address to the Scrutiny Committee

5. Scrutiny Committee Annual Report

To approve the Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2015/16
(pages 4 - 20 attached).

Gillian Marshall
Solicitor to the Council

Dates of next meeting
29 June 2016

Enquiries relating to this agenda, please contact Janine Jenkinson on:
Tel: 01757 292268, Email: jjenkinson@selby.gov.uk.



Minutes

Scrutiny Committee

Venue: Meeting Room 8

Date: Friday 26 February 2016

Time: 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Mrs W Nichols (Chair), D Buckle, I Chilvers, Mrs J Chilvers (substitute for D Mackay), and Mrs D White.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors J Crawford and D Mackay.

Officers Present: Janine Jenkinson - Democratic Services Officer.

Also in Attendance: Councillor M Jordan, Nigel Adams (MP Selby and Ainsty), and Sarah Rudeforth (Caseworker, Office of Nigel Adams MP)

Press: 0

Public 0

36. MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2016.

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 26 January 2016, for signature by the Chair.

37. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

38. CHAIR'S ADDRESS TO THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There was no address from the Chair.

39. SELBY AND AINSTY MP

Councillors were given the opportunity to ask questions of Nigel Adams, MP for Selby and Ainsty.

The following discussion took place:

- In response to a question regarding the European Union (EU) Referendum, Mr Adams stated that he believed Britain would be better off outside the EU. Explaining his position, Mr Adams said that EU rules had sped up the closure of Kellingley Colliery and several power stations across the country and EU directives continued to threaten jobs in the Selby and Ainsty constituency. He said that other countries would continue to trade with Britain and the country would continue to negotiate trade agreements around the world. He said ultimately the decision to leave or remain in the EU was for voters to decide.
- It was queried why unemployment in Yorkshire had risen to over 6%. In reply, Mr Adams queried the source of the figure and said that unemployment was down locally in Selby and across Yorkshire. He said that over 70% of new jobs created in the area were full time jobs. He stated that in Selby 1.5 % of the working age population were unemployed, which represented a huge improvement on past levels of unemployment. He said the creation of decent jobs would continue to be a priority focus of his work.
- Mr Adams was asked for his opinion on Sunday trading. In reply, Mr Adams said that he personally preferred to have shorter Sunday trading hours; however, he anticipated that as part of the devolution process, trading hours would be determined locally.
- There was some discussion about the retention of Business Rates. Mr Adams said the 100% retention of Business Rates would benefit the Selby District and he welcomed the proposals.
- It was queried whether Mr Adams would be in favour of a Yorkshire Parliament. Mr Adams explained that he would be in favour of some powers being devolved, but not to the extent of creating a Yorkshire Parliament and an additional layer of politicians.
- There was some discussion in relation to the population growth of Sherburn-in-Elmet. Mr Adams was asked if he thought the village would benefit becoming a town. Mr Adams explained that the village

would have to officially apply to become a town. He said he felt that Sherburn needed more facilities and in particular leisure provision. Mr Adams encouraged local councillors to work towards attracting more facilities into the area.

- Mr Adams was asked whether he thought the Council should apply fixed fines for offences such as dog fouling, littering, and fly tipping, as many other local authorities had done. Mr Adams explained that often enforcement and gathering enough evidence to prosecute offenders was difficult.
- Concern was raised in relation to the withdrawal of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding and Mr Adams was asked to provide some further information. Mr Adams said he would look into this and provide the Committee with further details.
- Concern was raised in relation to litter and fly tipping, particularly along the A64.
- There was some discussion about the merger of Brayton High School and Selby High School. Mr Adams explained to the Committee that he was opposed to the merger, and he was not convinced that merging the schools would solve the issues. He highlighted that there were no 'outstanding' schools within his constituency and he was keen for schools judged by Ofsted as 'good' to attain 'outstanding' status.

The Chair thanked Nigel Adams MP for attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 2.50 p.m.



Report Reference Number: SC/15/12

Agenda Item No: 5

To: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 22 March 2016
Author: Janine Jenkinson, Democratic Services Officer
Lead Officer: Karen Iveson, Executive Director (S151)

Title: Scrutiny Committee Annual Report

Summary: The report presents the Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2015/16.

Recommendation:

To approve the Annual Report submitted by the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee.

Reasons for recommendation

The Committee ensures the contribution of Scrutiny is effective in supporting service improvement and delivery in-line with the Council's corporate priorities.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1** Over the past 12 months the Scrutiny Committee has met on six occasions, scrutinising the work of Selby District Council and its partner organisations.
- 1.2** The Annual Report attached at Appendix A provides an update on the topics scrutinised and the work of the Committee.

2. The Report

- 2.1** The Committee has considered a wide range of items and these are outlined in the report.
- 2.2** Nigel Adams MP Selby and Ainsty, attended a question and answer session on Friday 26 February 2016.
- 2.3** Work with partner organisations, looking at the priorities for the District, has proved positive and valuable and the Committee has considered a wide range of topics.

3. Conclusion

To seek the approval of the Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2015/16.

Contact Officer: *Janine Jenkinson*
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Selby District Council
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Appendices:

Appendix A – Annual Report 2015/16



Selby District Council

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
2015/2016

Scrutinising the work of the Council
and its Partners

Scrutiny Committee Annual Report

Introduction by Councillor Jack Crawford - Chair of the Scrutiny Committee



I am pleased to present the Scrutiny Committee's Annual Report 2015/16, which sets out the work undertaken by the Committee over the course of 2015/16 municipal year.

The Scrutiny Committee has met six times during 2015/16 and considered a range of different topics and issues.

I would like to express my thanks to my fellow members of the Committee for their support and continued hard work. Many people have contributed to the success of Scrutiny, including officers, external partner organisations and my thanks goes out to all of them.

The Scrutiny Committee

The Scrutiny Committee membership comprised the following members during the 2015/16 municipal year:

7 Members

Conservative	Labour
D Buckle	J Crawford (Chair)
L Casling	W Nichols (Vice Chair)
I Chilvers	
D Mackay	
D White	

The Committee met six times during the year.

The following officers provided the main support to the Committee:

- Janine Jenkinson, Democratic Services Officer
- Jonathan Lund, Deputy Chief Executive
- Karen Iveson, Executive Director (s151)

The Role of the Scrutiny Committee

Overview and Scrutiny was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000.

Selby District Council operates a Leader and Executive model, where the Executive is responsible for most day-to-day decisions. The role of the Scrutiny Committee is to scrutinise decisions and performance and to hold the Leader and Executive to account.

Overview and Scrutiny's main roles are:

- To scrutinise the performance of the Council and that of its partner organisations and other agencies delivering services within the Selby District.
- To exercise the Council's statutory obligations and powers in relation to Overview and Scrutiny.
- Exercise the right of call-in of decisions and recommendations made, but not yet implemented.
- To issue reports and make recommendations, where appropriate, and in relation to any matters listed above, for consideration by the Council, Executive or the relevant Committee of the Council.

In addition, throughout the year the Scrutiny Committee has scrutinised the work of the following external partners:

- North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner
- North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel
- North Yorkshire County Council Director of Public Health
- Nigel Adams MP Selby and Ainsty

2015/16 Work Programme

A summary of the Committee's work over the last year is set out at Appendix A of the report.

Conclusion

The Scrutiny Committee has fulfilled its Overview and Scrutiny role and taken forward its development through a varied Work Programme over the year.

Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2015/16

Date of Meeting	Topic	Discussion / Resolution
24 June 2015	National Non-Domestic Rates	<p>The Executive Director (and S151 Officer) and the Lead Officer Benefits and Taxation, provided an update report on National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) under Business Rates Retention (BRR).</p> <p>The Committee was informed that the Business Rates Retention Scheme had now run for two years and the Council's experience of the funds retained had been mixed, with a loss incurred in 2013/14 and growth in 2014/15.</p> <p>Councillors were advised that future developments relating to renewable energy provided the potential for significantly increased revenues; however the potential of business closures and the inherent risk of appeal within the system meant future forecasting was extremely difficult. To mitigate the risk of loss within the system the Council had created a Business Rates Equalisation Reserve with the intention of transferring Business Rates growth into the reserve to offset any future losses until experience of the system was gained.</p> <p>The Committee noted the update provided.</p>

	Transport Update -including proposed reductions to bus subsidy	<p>The Assistant Director (Integrated Passenger Transport, North Yorkshire County Council) provided an update on the proposed reduction in bus subsidy.</p> <p>Councillors were invited to comment on the proposals to reduce the amount of money used to subsidise bus services as part of the consultation process.</p>
21 July 2015	Barlow Common Local Nature Reserve Annual Report	<p>The Committee considered Barlow Common Annual Report 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015 provided by the Living Landscape Manager (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust).</p> <p>The Committee agreed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ask the Council’s Legal Department to look at the lease negotiations between Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and The Scout Association. • Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to provide financial information on the projected annual spend 2015-16 for Barlow Common. • Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to display on the Barlow Common site a work programme of scheduled seasonal activities and priorities for the site. • Information regarding the ownership of the access road to Barlow Common to be provided to the Scrutiny Committee.
	Organisational Review	<p>The Chief Executive provided the Committee with an update regarding the Council’s Organisational Review.</p> <p>The Committee was informed that in view of the Council’s</p>

		<p>ambitious and challenging agenda over the next five years and beyond it was felt an appropriate time to review the current Core /Access Selby operating model to ensure it was fit for purpose and that the Council had in place the capacity to deliver its priorities.</p> <p>The Review would be inclusive and as part of the methodology there would be a fact finding/listening approach whereby all Councillors and staff would be invited to put their views forward. As part of the process the Council would be benchmarked against other similar local authorities. Consultation would also take place with all key stakeholders including trade unions and leaders of political groups.</p> <p>The Chief Executive urged the Scrutiny Committee to reflect on previous work it had undertaken and how the information could be used to feed in to the review process.</p>
	Task and Finish Group – Review of the Community Officer Team	<p>The Committee considered a report that provided the results of the Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group Review of the Community Officer Team.</p> <p>The Committee noted the findings of the Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group Review.</p>
22 September 2015	North Yorkshire Fire Service / North Yorkshire Fire Brigades Union	<p>The Committee considered reports provided by North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) and North Yorkshire Fire Brigades Union (NYFBU).</p> <p>The NYFRS representative outlined the proposals of the Fire Cover Review.</p>

		<p>The NYFBU representative addressed the Committee and outlined concerns about the proposals in the Fire Cover Review.</p> <p>Councillors' attention was drawn to the following concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical area • Current problems experienced by the service • Impact on fire fighters • The statistics presented by NYFRS • Increased response time and level of response that would impact on public safety • Cost to each household and potential increase in Business Rates and insurance premiums <p>The Committee noted the reports.</p>
	Selby Leisure Centre	<p>The General Manager, Selby Leisure Centre provided the Committee with an update on Selby Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Councillors were encouraged to report any bad experience to the supervisor on duty at the time, as this assisted the Manager to effectively deal with issues raised.</p> <p>The Committee noted the update provided.</p>
	Housing Trust Project	<p>The Deputy Chief Executive provided a presentation to the Committee, outlining the background and function of the Housing Trust Project.</p> <p>Councillors were advised that the Project provided the Council with</p>

		<p>the following opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make better use of the land and property owned by the Council. • To achieve a more favourable rate of return on the Council's cash balances. • To deliver more New Homes Bonus that could be used for new projects and to stimulate further economic growth within the District. • To support the on-going viability of the Council's Housing Revenue Account service for the benefit of tenants. • Provide assets and resources to achieve the Council's strategic objectives.
	<p>Access Selby Service provision – Customer Contact Centre</p>	<p>The Lead Officer, Community Support, presented a report that set out the services provided by the Customer Contact Centre.</p> <p>The Committee was advised that over the last eight months, a number of improvements had been made to the Contact Centre.</p> <p>The Committee noted the report provided.</p>
	<p>Council Funded Community Centres</p>	<p>The Committee considered establishing a Task and Finish Group to review Council owned community centres.</p> <p>The Lead Officer, Community Support, presented a report that provided background information in relation to Council funded Community Centres, in order to assist the Committee to scope the focus of their Task and Finish Group review.</p>

		<p>It was noted that a review of Council funded Community Centres had been suggested by Councillor Buckle at the previous Committee meeting.</p> <p>In the absence of Councillor Buckle at the meeting, the Chair suggested the Lead Officer, Community Support met with Councillor Buckle to discuss the issues and the outcome of the discussion be reported at the next Committee meeting.</p>
<p>24 November 2015</p>	<p>Edgerton Lodge and the use of dispersed temporary accommodation for homelessness</p>	<p>The Committee considered a report that outlined the current position in relation to the decommissioning of Edgerton Lodge and using dispersed accommodation for homeless individuals in the Selby District.</p> <p>The Committee was informed that a review of the Council's temporary accommodation requirements had been undertaken, as part of a wider Asset Management Strategy. The Lead Officer, Housing reported that it had been agreed to decommission the use of Edgerton Lodge as hostel style accommodation and for future temporary accommodation to be provided by using Ousegate Lodge and supplementing this with dispersed properties either local authority owned or private sector accommodation.</p> <p>The Lead Officer, Housing explained that Edgerton Lodge would be decommissioned in March 2016 and officers were continuing to analyse demand and consider the options relating to the provision of dispersed accommodation.</p>

		<p>The Committee noted the current position in relation to dispersed temporary accommodation.</p>
	<p>Refugee families in Selby District</p>	<p>The Lead Officer, Community Support provided the Committee with a report that outlined the Government’s proposal to resettle 20,000 Syrian refugees in the UK over the next five years and what this meant for Selby District.</p> <p>Councillors were informed that a partnership had been established between the County Council and the seven district/borough councils to consider how the Syrian Refugee Scheme could be supported collectively. The partnership was working with Migration Yorkshire, and local authorities from South and West Yorkshire and the Humber to consider what additional support they could provide to the partnership.</p> <p>It was explained that officers were currently identifying possible housing options to support the resettlement of refugees and some housing may be used from the Council’s stock. The Committee was informed that officers had held discussions with private sector landlords, to assess available capacity in the private rented sector. It was also stated that the potential to bring empty properties back into use was also being explored.</p> <p>The Committee noted the report provided at the meeting.</p>

	Trans Pennine Electrification	<p>The Committee was informed that it had not been possible to arrange for a representative from Network Operation (LNE & EM Route) to attend the meeting but the organisation had provided Councillors with a briefing note.</p> <p>The briefing note informed the Committee that the electrification of the Trans Pennine route had resumed under plans announced as part of the plan to reset Network Rail's upgrade programme.</p> <p>It was explained that Network Rail was currently working with the Department for Transport and Transport for the North to develop a new plan for electrification of the Trans Pennine line between Stalybridge and Leeds and on to York and Selby.</p> <p>It was outlined that the new plan would focus on delivering key capacity and journey time benefits between Manchester, Leeds and York. These benefits would support economic growth as part of the Northern Powerhouse and facilitate commuter travel into the major urban areas of the North of England.</p> <p>The plan would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quicker journeys between Manchester, Leeds and York.• More direct services between cities of the North.• Improved reliability of passenger services.• Electrifying the Trans Pennine route from Manchester, Leeds to York and Selby.
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		<p>The briefing note informed the Committee that revised plans for the Control Period 5 (2014 – 2019) would be published in the near future.</p> <p>The Committee noted the update provided.</p>
<p>26 January 2016</p>	<p>Annual Report of the Director of Public Health</p>	<p>The Director of Public Health, (NYCC) presented the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2015 – The Health of our Children: Growing up healthy in North Yorkshire.</p> <p>The Director of Public Health (NYCC) explained that throughout 2015 his work had focused on the health of children and young people in North Yorkshire and he had explored the theme of resilience. The Annual Report adopted a thematic approach to the issues and as part of producing the report, children and young people had been asked what being healthy meant to them.</p> <p>The Committee was provided with key health information in relation to the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pregnancy and birth; • early years; • primary school years; • secondary school; and • late adolescence and early adulthood. <p>In concluding his presentation, the Director of Public Health (NYCC) drew Councillors' attention to the key recommendations set</p>

		<p>out in the report, in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Poverty • 0-5 Healthy Child Programme • Parenting Programmes • Childhood obesity • PSHE in Schools • Maximise opportunities for Future in Mind <p>The Chair thanked the Director of Public Health (NYCC) for providing the Committee with an update on his work.</p>
	<p>Police and Crime Commissioner – North Yorkshire</p>	<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), North Yorkshire provided the Committee with an overview of her role and an update on her recent work.</p> <p>The PCC reported there was an increasing demand on the Police service in relation to crimes in connection with domestic abuse, on-line grooming, and child sexual exploitation, and these crimes were often complex and involved specialist skills.</p> <p>In addition, the PCC reported there was an increasing demand on the Police service in relation to crimes associated with mental health issues. The PCC estimated between 20 – 40% of all calls to the Police related to mental health issues and in order to address this, a trained mental health nurse had been appointed to work at the Police call control room, to provide assistance to callers.</p> <p>The PCC informed Councillors that a review of how the public</p>

		<p>contacted the Police in a non-emergency would be undertaken and as part of the review, Station opening hours and ways of improving public access to the Police would be explored.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the PCC for attending and providing the Committee with an update on her work.</p>
	<p>Police and Crime Panel Update</p>	<p>Councillor Carl Les, Chair of the Police and Crime Panel (NYCC), Councillor Mel Hobson, Selby District Council representative on the Police and Crime Panel and Ray Busby, Panel Support Officer (NYCC) provided an update on the work of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel.</p> <p>The Panel Support Officer (NYCC) informed the Committee that the main role of the Police and Crime Panel was to scrutinise and hold to account the actions of the elected Police and Crime Commissioner.</p> <p>Councillors were informed that the role of the Panel also included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the PCC's precept proposals, including the power to veto these proposals if it considered the amount to be inappropriate; • Considering the PCC's Police and Crime Plan and Annual Report; • Considering the PCC's proposals for the appointment of a new Chief Constable; and • Investigating complaints about the PCC.

		<p>The Chair thanked the Police and Crime Panel representatives for attending and providing the Committee with an update.</p>
<p>26 February 2016</p>	<p>Selby and Ainsty MP</p>	<p>The Committee was given the opportunity to ask questions of Nigel Adams, MP for Selby and Ainsty.</p> <p>The following issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Union (EU Referendum) • Unemployment figures for Yorkshire • Sunday trading • Business Rates • Creation of a Yorkshire Parliament • Litter and fly tipping • The merger of Brayton High School and Selby High School