

Minutes

Scrutiny Committee

Venue:	Committee Room
Date:	Monday 11 July 2016
Time:	3 pm
Present:	Councillors W Nichols (Chair), Mrs S Duckett (Vice Chair), D Buckle, I Chilvers, E Casling, D White and D Mackay.
Apologies:	None.
Officers present:	Drew Fussey, Business Development Officer, Janine Jenkinson, Democratic Services Officer, Lisa Winward, Assistant Chief Constable, North Yorkshire Police, Phil Cain, Superintendent, North Yorkshire Police, and Daniel Hadley, Surveyor.
In attendance:	Councillor C Lunn, Lead Executive Member for Finance and Resources and Councillor R Packham.
Public:	0
Press:	0

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

2. CO-LOCATION OF NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE TO CIVIC CENTRE

Drew Fussey, Business Development Officer explained that in November 2014, the Council had entered into dialogue with North Yorkshire Police (NYP) to explore the opportunity to co-locate officers currently based at Selby Police Station, within the Civic Centre. The NYP Executive Board, following approval by the Police and Crime Commissioner, approved the proposed co-location, on 22nd September 2015.

On 1 October 2015 the Council's Executive supported, in principle proposals to the co-location, provided that the issue of car parking at the Civic Centre site was fully addressed before the proposals were finalised.

The Business Development Officer reported that NYP was seeking to occupy approximately 230m² of existing space (or 8% of the existing building). In addition, a new single storey extension would be built to provide facilities such as locker rooms, showers, secure storage and a separate operational access into the building. The Committee was informed that if the proposals were supported, it was envisaged that subject to planning approval, building works would begin in the autumn of 2016 and that NYP would begin to occupy the building in March / April 2017.

With regard to funding for the extension and car park, the Committee was advised of the following two funding options:

- Option 1 - The Council to fund the entire build project, and generate an annual income through leasing the extension space to the Police, in addition to the internal office space that has been earmarked. It would require investment from reserves. The exact cost was not known as it was subject to procurement, but a drawdown of up to £415,000 was anticipated.
- Option 2 – The Police to finance its own portion of the extension build, with the Council covering the cost of the second floor extension and staff car parking only. This would require investment from reserves of up to £215K subject to procurement. The intention was that the Police would transfer ownership of the ground floor to the Council, and enter into a 30 year lease agreement for the extension, although for a lower sum to reflect their upfront investment.

It was anticipated that the proposals would deliver operational savings to both the Police and the Council.

The Committee raised the following queries:

- Why were 32 workstations being built when there would only be 15 staff in the building at any one time? The Superintendent explained that the number of workstations being built had been decided by the Police to enable sufficient work spaces during 'handover periods' and the Council would receive income for the additional space used. In addition, Councillors were advised that the co-location would enhance the working relationship of the Council and the Police, as it would improve communications and enable information to be shared more easily.
- Concern was raised in relation to the shared use of the reception area for the Police and the Council. Councillors expressed concern for the safety of reception staff and asked if a risk assessment would be undertaken. In response, the

Superintendent explained that people reporting to reception would be voluntary attendees, and there would be no custody facilities nor would people be attending reception reporting for bail. Councillors were reassured that there would be no additional risk to reception staff and many of the people reporting to the Police reception would be the same people that currently attended the Council reception. In addition, it was explained that there would be a Police presence in the office at all times, should assistance be needed. The reception would only be open during business hours and outside of office hours people would be required to use the Police 101 telephone number.

- In response to a query about what would happen to the Police Station building on Portholme Road, Councillors were informed that the building would be marketed for sale. Councillors raised some concern in relation to any future development of the Portholme Road site and impact on nearby residents.
- Concern was raised regarding the number of additional car parking spaces that would be required. Councillors were informed that there were proposals to expand the car park and create an additional 41 parking spaces. It was explained that the Police would have to submit a planning application for the proposals that would consider travel planning and impact on neighbouring properties.
- A query was raised regarding the overage clause. The Lead Executive Member for Finance and Resources explained that a significant barrier to progression of the plans had been an Overage Clause in the original agreement between Selby District Council and the National Health Service (NHS). The NHS had now indicated that it would not be activating the Overage Clause as the proposals were not for commercial enterprise purposes.

RESOLVED:

To note the issues and discussion raised at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 4.20 pm.