

Selby District Council



Agenda

Meeting: **Executive**
Date: **Thursday, 5 January 2023**
Time: **4.00 pm**
Venue: **Council Chamber - Civic Centre, Doncaster Road, Selby, YO8 9FT**
To: **Councillors M Crane (Chair), R Musgrave (Vice-Chair), C Lunn, D Buckle and T Grogan**

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes (Pages 1 - 10)

The Executive is asked to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2022.

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. **Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 2 - 2022-23 (July to September) E/22/31** (Pages 11 - 38)

The Executive are asked to note and approve report E/22/31 and consider any further action they wish to be taken as a result of current performance.

5. **A Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire (E/22/32)** (Pages 39 - 64)

The Executive are asked to consider report E/22/32, agree to adopt the Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire and implement the recommendations of the Plan.

6. **A Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire (E/22/33)** (Pages 65 - 112)

The Executive are asked to consider report E/22/33, agree to adopt the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire and implement the recommendations of the Plan.

7. **CIL/S106 Infrastructure Funding Statement (E/22/34)** (Pages 113 - 130)

The Executive are asked to consider report E/22/34 and approve the Draft Infrastructure Funding Statement, as attached at Appendix 1, for publication.

8. **East Yorkshire Solar Farm - Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (E/22/35)** (Pages 131 - 140)

The Executive are asked to note the content of report E/22/35 and authorise the Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services (or equivalent), in consultation with the relevant Executive Member, to agree the Local Impact Report, Statement of Common Ground, the content of the draft DCO, and all further necessary representations by the District Council, together with post decision monitoring of planning conditions and enforcement of the DCO.

Janet Waggott

Janet Waggott
Chief Executive

Date of next meeting
Thursday, 2 February 2023 at 4.00 pm

For enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Victoria Foreman, on
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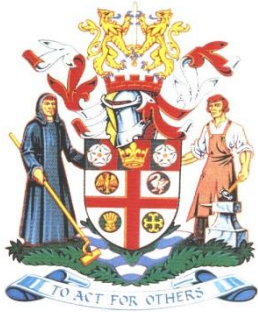
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Agenda Item 2

Selby District Council



Minutes

Executive

Venue:	Council Chamber - Civic Centre, Doncaster Road, Selby, YO8 9FT
Date:	Thursday, 8 December 2022
Time:	4.00 pm
Present:	Councillors M Crane (Chair), R Musgrave (Vice-Chair), C Lunn and D Buckle
Also Present:	Councillor R Packham
Officers Present:	Suzan Harrington – Director of Corporate Services and Commissioning, Karen Iveson – Chief Finance Officer, Alison Hartley – Monitoring Officer, Caroline Skelly – Planning Policy Manager, Ryan King – Senior Planning Policy Officer, Victoria Foreman – Democratic Services Officer
Public:	None
Press:	None

NOTE: Only minute numbers 49 to 52 are subject to call-in arrangements. The deadline for call-in is 5pm on 29 December 2022. Decisions not called in may be implemented from 30 December 2022.

46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T Grogan.

47 MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on

Thursday 3 November 2022.

RESOLVED:

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 November 2022.

48 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

49 FINANCIAL RESULTS AND BUDGET EXCEPTIONS REPORT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2022 (QUARTER 2) (E/22/27)

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources presented the report which asked Members to endorse the actions of Officers, note the contents of the report and approve re-profiled capital programmes and Programme for Growth as set out at Appendices C and D.

Members noted that at the end of Quarter 2 the current estimated full year revenue outturn estimates indicated surpluses of (£371k) for the General Fund (GF) and (£68k) for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). This included the year's proposed pay award, with key variances highlighted in the report and further detail in Appendix A.

Executive Members acknowledged that all new general fund savings had been delayed to 2024/25, post Local Government reorganisation (LGR). The £195k saving in the Housing Revenue Account for the housing system would be aligned to delivery of phase 2 of the project, which was anticipated to be in Quarter 3 2022, although savings would not be realised until future years, and resource requirements for local government reorganisation could impact on delivery timescales.

Officers explained that the capital programme was on budget at the end of Quarter 2; both the GF and HRA forecasted their programmes to be spent by year end with the exception of two projects in the General Fund which saw £0.5m of costs pushed back to 2023/24, and the budget for boiler replacements in the HRA which was expected to overspend by £0.14m. There was however considerable risk of increased costs in the HRA property refurbishment budget as a result of inflation and higher than expected levels of voids which required refurbishment. The impacts on this budget were currently being assessed by Officers. Headlines could be found in the report with a more detailed analysis in Appendix C.

Lastly, Programme for Growth projects spend was £1,053k in Quarter 1 including £520k on staffing costs, £174k on the

Transforming Cities Fund project and £122k on the Tadcaster business flood grant scheme. Project by project progress was shown in Appendix D.

The Chief Finance Officer updated Members on the HRA capital programme issue which had been highlighted in the report of a potential overspend of £2m, some of which had been driven by health and safety works and boiler replacements, with some failing more often than expected. This had been mitigated in part by switching to a different make of boiler which was more reliable, and the obsolescence of parts would be less of a problem with this new model.

Members noted that of greater concern was the cost of the voids programme with a significant increase in the number of voids coming forward and the accompanying cost of works that had been required to bring these properties up to standard.

The Chief Finance Officer repeated that, in looking at the trend of numbers coming forward, there was an expected overspend in the region of £2m. If this trajectory continued there would also be greater costs down the line. Officers had examined the issue in detail as well as the works undertaken; where there was a void property the opportunity had been taken to undertake work (such as window replacement) at that point to save such work in the future. However, this was not sustainable.

As such, Members were informed that these works had been temporarily suspended, subject to the decision to be invited today. An additional recommendation was made to the Executive by Officers to change the approach to work on voids that was needed to bring them up to a decent standard with essential works as required, but to no more than that. When the planned improvement work came around, it would be at this point that the additional works would be commenced, as for any other property.

The Chief Finance Officer explained that by changing the strategy the overspend would be forecast down to £1.5m. It was acknowledged that this was still a significant figure but reflected the work done to date. In terms of the overall resource within the HRA, whilst there were pressures, the last business plan that the Executive agreed had needed the approval of Council in February 2022, and had brought in voluntary set aside receipts in order to pay the self-financing debt. The original HRA Business Plan was to repay the self-financing debt over 30 years. The last HRA Business Plan had allowed the Council to set aside enough money to repay the debt when it was due.

The Executive noted that by taking out another £1.5m from the HRA balances the Council would still be able to repay the debt

when it was needed, which was essential.

Officers clarified the additional recommendation to Members, which was as follows:

'That the additional £1.5m be accommodated from the resources available in the HRA as a whole, including the funds set aside to repay self-financing debt.'

Additional money was required to cover the forecasted cost.

The Leader asked for confirmation from the Director of Corporate Services and Commissioning and the Monitoring Officer that the Executive were being asked to make a decision today that had not been notified in advance, and therefore permissible. Officers explained that the report had been published within the appropriate legal timeframe and that it was within the gift of the Executive to agree an additional recommendation to those set out in the report. The relevant information had been provided and details of some challenges around the HRA capital programme had been brought to the meeting verbally.

Officers clarified that the additional recommendation was for the Executive, but it would require formal Council approval, and may also require Section 24 consent which would need to be explored by Officers with colleagues at North Yorkshire County Council. HRA spend was commonly covered by the general consent, but should be checked because this was an additional amount of money in the budget. If Section 24 consent was required, Officers would go through that process as well. Members were assured that this was a forecast overspend and that the correct governance procedures would be followed.

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources confirmed that he was content with the report and the additional recommendation put forward by Officers and commended the report to the Executive for approval.

The Deputy Leader, as Executive Member with responsibility for housing and therefore the HRA, explained that he had been aware of the emerging issue but had only received a detailed briefing on the matter from Officers recently. If a decision was required today, the Deputy Leader suggested that it be delegated to Officers, working in collaboration with himself and the Executive Member for Finance and Resources, to take the matter away for further discussions and agree details outside of the meeting.

The Leader agreed with the Deputy Leader that the issue should be taken away for further consideration with Officers and emphasised the importance of it coming back to a full Council meeting in the

future.

It was suggested that reference to the S151 Officer be added to the recommendation as well as delegation to the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Resources. As such, the wording of the additional recommendation would be as follows:

‘That it be delegated to the S151 Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Resources, to determine the appropriate course of action and recommended to Council that the additional £1.5m be accommodated from the resources available within the HRA as a whole, including the funds set aside to repay self-financing debt.’

The Chief Finance Officer advised the Leader that the matter may become urgent and as such, urgency powers could need consideration; however, this would be looked at outside of the meeting as part of the proposed delegated authority.

The Leader of the Opposition was invited to comment on the proposal. It was acknowledged by the Leader of the Opposition that the matter would go to full Council, but he expressed his concern should it be taken as an urgent decision. It was queried which Council meeting the matter would be taken to, and further apprehensions were voiced around the potential build-up of works in the future, including the impact on insulation installation.

The Monitoring Officer gave options for future Council meetings at which the proposals could be considered but emphasised the importance of the ramifications that Members needed to be aware of. The Council meeting to be held on 13 December 2022 would be too short notice; as such the Leader suggested that the meeting in February 2023 or the convening of emergency extraordinary meeting could be more appropriate.

The Deputy Leader suggested that an update be given to all Members at full Council the following week on 13 December 2022 and a discussion had as to the best way forward; the update could be given as part of his portfolio update, or that of the Executive Member for Finance and Resources.

Members expressed their concern around stopping all property works but appreciated that the budget could not be overspent. Officers clarified that new work would not be started and that some could need to be halted, but that overall progress would not halt completely.

The recommendations set out in the report and the additional recommendation as discussed were proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED:

The Executive

- i) endorsed the actions of Officers and noted the contents of the report;**
- ii) approved re-profiled capital programmes and Programme for Growth as set out at Appendices C and D; and**
- iii) delegated to the S151 Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Resources, to determine the appropriate course of action and recommended to Council that the additional £1.5m be accommodated from the resources available within the HRA as a whole, including the funds set aside to repay self-financing debt.**

REASON FOR DECISION:

To ensure that budget exceptions were brought to the attention of the Executive in order to approve remedial action where necessary.

50 TREASURY MANAGEMENT - QUARTERLY UPDATE - QUARTER 2 2022/23 (E/22/28)

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources presented the report which asked Members to endorse the actions of Officers on the Council's treasury activities for Quarter 2 2022/23 and approve the report.

Members noted that the report reviewed the Council's borrowing and investment activity (Treasury Management) for the period 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022 and presented performance against the Prudential Indicators. On average the Council's investments held in the NYCC Investment pool totalled £85.9m over the quarter at an average rate of 1.37% and earned interest of £296.5k. Total interest earned so far this year stood at £458.2 (£330.5k allocated to the General Fund; £127.7k allocated to the HRA) which was £382.0k above the year-to-date budget. Current performance trends indicated that forecast returns for the year could be in the region of £1,189.3k (£857.9k GF, £331.4k HRA) a total budget surplus of £1,036.8k. For the General Fund, any interest earned above a £350k threshold was to be transferred to the Contingency Reserve. This figure was currently forecast to be £507.9k.

Executive Members acknowledged that return on council

investments had performed positively when compared to budgets for the year. This was as a result of the regular and sustained rises in Bank of England base rate that had been experienced over the course of the year, in an effort to combat inflationary increases, as well as higher sustained cash balances. Base Rate had accordingly risen from 0.25% at the equivalent point last year when budgets were initially set, to their current level of 2.25%. The forecasted return for the year outlined above took into account the tapering effect of these rises, as older investments at lower rates matured and were replaced by newer investments at higher rates. This position remained fluid as further Base Rate rises, currently anticipated by the market, would serve to further increase potential returns against budget.

Officers explained that in addition to investments held in the pool, the council had £5.34m invested in property funds as at 30 September 2022. Following the latest distribution information, the funds had achieved a 3.08% revenue return and 2.20% capital loss over the course of the year, resulting in revenue income of £84.5k and an 'unrealised' capital loss of £120.2k. These funds were long term investments, and changes in capital values were realised when the units in the funds were sold.

In relation to borrowing, Members noted that long-term borrowing totalled £52.833m at 30 September 2022, (£1.6m relating to the General Fund; £51.233m relating to the HRA), interest payments of £1.917m were forecast to be paid in 2022/23, which was a saving of £59k against budget. The Council had no plans for any short-term borrowing for the year.

The Executive understood that the Council's affordable limits for borrowing were not breached during the period.

In looking ahead to the remainder of 2022/23, Members were informed that investment returns were expected to continue to rise due to the sustained increases in Bank Base Rate. Base Rate was expected to continue to rise over the course of the year, with latest estimates showing an increase to 5.00% by March 2023. This position remained highly fluid and was based on the latest expectations by the Council's Treasury Advisors, Link Group.

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources commended the report.

RESOLVED:

The Executive endorsed the actions of Officers on the Council's treasury activities for Quarter 2 2022/23 and approved the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

To comply with the Treasury Management Code of Practice, the Executive is required to receive and review regular treasury management monitoring reports.

51 DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENTS (E/22/29)

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources presented the report which asked Members to agree that an amount of £40,000 of funding from the COVID 19 Council Tax Support Hardship fund be moved to the Discretionary Housing Payment fund.

Members noted that the report provided details and an update of the latest position of the Discretionary Hardship Payments (DHPs) fund. This was a scheme for helping benefit claimants in receipt of Housing Benefit or the housing element of Universal Credit who required additional financial assistance to meet their housing costs.

The Executive were informed that the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) allocated a fund for each financial year which was ring fenced and any underspend had to be returned to the DWP at the end of the financial year. Local Authorities could spend up to 2½ times their allocated fund in any financial year; though any monies spent over and above the amount allocated by the DWP had to be funded by the Local Authority.

Members acknowledged that Selby District Council's Policy stated:

"No DHP can be awarded if the annual fund has been exhausted".

However, other local authorities routinely topped-up DHP funds with their own funding. Until 2021/22 demand on the fund had never previously fully exhausted it. Last year the Council exhausted the fund, and it required a £30,000 top up. With the further reduction in this year's funding, a top up from the COVID-19 Council Tax Support Hardship fund was being requested to ensure that awards could continue to be made for the remainder of the year.

Officers confirmed that the additional £40k top up would be taken from the remaining existing £118,545 of the Covid 19 CTS Hardship Fund, which meant that the Council would be able to achieve the same level of support it had given to residents in previous years.

The Executive Member for Finance and Resources commended the report.

RESOLVED:

The Executive agreed that an amount of £40,000 of funding from the COVID-19 Council Tax Support Hardship fund be moved to the

Discretionary Housing Payment fund.

REASON FOR DECISION:

Without a top up of £40,000 from the Covid-19 CTS Hardship Fund, there would be no money left in the DHP fund to help benefit claimants in receipt of Housing Benefit or the housing element of Universal Credit who required additional financial assistance to meet their housing costs.

52 ESCRICK NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021 - 2035 (ENDP) (E/22/30)

The Leader of the Council presented the report which asked Members to recommend that Council formally made the Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021-2035 part of the Development Plan for Selby District following the positive outcome of the referendum held on 6 October 2022.

The Leader explained that through the Localism Act, Selby District Council (SDC) had a duty to support Parish and Town Councils who wished to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. There were a number of stages involved in producing a Neighbourhood Plan, broadly grouped into three areas. The first was for the Town / Parish Council wishing to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan to submit their proposed Neighbourhood Area to SDC for designation. The second stage was the preparation of the Plan to inform the development of the vision and the formulation of policy, proposals and site allocations. The third stage included the submission of the proposed Plan to SDC for consultation, an independent examination of the plan and subsequent public referendum.

Members noted that Escrick Parish Council, as the qualifying body, had submitted an application to SDC for the whole Parish of Escrick to be formally designated as the Escrick Neighbourhood Area. The application was approved in November 2017. Escrick Parish Council developed a draft Neighbourhood Plan with input from the community and submitted it to SDC in January 2022. The submitted version of the Plan was publicised and comments invited from the public and stakeholders for a six-week period with consultation closing on 4 April 2022.

The Executive also noted that following consultation on the draft Plan SDC, in agreement with the qualifying body, appointed an Independent Examiner, Mr Patrick T Whitehead, to review whether the Plan met the 'Basic Conditions' (and other legal requirements) and recommend whether the Plan should proceed to referendum. The Examiner's Report was published on the Council's website on 29 June 2022. The report concluded that, subject to making modifications recommended by the Examiner, the Plan met the

Basic Conditions (and other legal requirements) and should proceed to referendum.

The report went on to explain that SDC had considered each of the modifications recommended in line with Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and agreed to accept them. For the reasons given by the Examiner, SDC was satisfied that subject to the proposed modifications by the Examiner, the Plan met the Basic Conditions detailed in para 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Delegated approval to proceed to referendum was given on 22 July 2022 by the Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services and Place in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Place Shaping.

A referendum was held on 6 October 2022.

Members expressed their support for what was a positive plan to protect Escrick village which had taken a great deal of time to produce.

The Leader of the Council commended the report.

RESOLVED:

The Executive recommended that Council formally made the Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021-2035 part of the Development Plan for Selby District following the positive outcome of the referendum held on 6 October 2022.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Executive was asked to agree the recommendation to enable the Escrick Neighbourhood Development Plan to be made part of the statutory Development Plan under the provisions of s38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) which required that the Council must adopt or 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the Plan.

The meeting closed at 4.30 pm.



Report Reference Number: E/22/31

To: Executive
Date: 5 January 2022
Status: Non-Key Decision
Ward(s) Affected: All
Author: Stuart Robinson - Head of Business Development and Improvement
Lead Executive Member: Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council
Lead Officer: Stuart Robinson - Head of Business Development and Improvement

Title: Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 2 2022/23 (July to September)

Summary:

The quarterly Corporate Performance Report provides a progress update on delivery of the Council Plan 2020-2030 as measured by a combination of: progress against priority projects/high level actions; and performance against KPIs.

Recommendations:

- i. The report is noted and approved;**
- ii. Executive consider any further action they wish to be taken as a result of current performance.**

Reasons for recommendation

The reporting of performance data enables the Council to demonstrate progress on delivering the Council Plan Priorities to make Selby District a great place.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 High level performance reporting of progress against the Council's priorities – as set out in the Council Plan 2020-2030 – is a key element of the performance management arrangements.
- 1.2 Progress on delivering the Council's priorities is demonstrated by a combination of:
 - progress against priority projects/high level actions (are we meeting/expecting to meet delivery timescales) see Appendix: A Council Delivery Plan 2020-23 Monitoring Report; and

- performance against KPIs (are targets being met; are we getting better) see Appendix B: Corporate Performance Report.

2. Reporting Period

2.1 The specific focus of this report covers the period July to September 2022.

2.2 Summary of progress

To summarise progress in quarter 2:

- 61% of KPIs reported are showing improvement over the longer term or have maintained 100% performance.
- 78% of KPIs reported are on target – with 13% of KPIs within acceptable tolerances.

2.3 Housing repairs update

Work continues to address the remaining repairs created during the various Covid lockdowns and subsequent periods of operating restrictions, with 95% of the original backlog having now been cleared. Given issues around the limitations of the current repairs management system, work to assess the accuracy of the remaining work orders is ongoing.

The increase in the number of open repairs in the system has now slowed significantly and whilst the number of open repair entries within the system remains around 10% above our anticipated 'run-rate', we are starting to make inroads to bring the figure back in line with expected operational parameters. We continue to work with external contractors to support our internal provision wherever possible, although many of our contractors are already working near or at full capacity themselves.

The situation continues to be monitored.

2.4 What went well in quarter 2

2.4.1 The Council successfully administered the government's energy rebate scheme. At the end of Q2, Selby District Council had paid 31,329 households – everyone initially identified as eligible plus a few others that also qualified subsequently, for example properties that were banded after the cut-off time or had incorrect empty discounts.

2.4.2 Positive Performance – KPIs

- **Supporting SMEs** - A total of 73 SMEs were supported in Q2 – better than the target of 50 and slightly up on performance in Q1 (71).

- **Council tax collection** – %56.5% of council tax had been collected by the end of Q2. This is slightly up on the same period last year (56.3%) but below the target of 57.5%.
- **NNDR collection** - 57.2% of NNDR was collected in Q2 – better than Q2 last year (53.4%) and the target for this year (55.0%).
- **Sundry debt collection** - 57.7% of sundry debt was collected in Q2 – above the same period last year and this years target (both 55.8%).
- **Processing benefit claims** - Whilst Q2 performance for new benefit claims (21.7 days) remains better than the target of 22 days, processing times took longer than for Q2 last year (17.9 days). Similarly, on changes of circumstances, Q2 performance (3.8 days) was significantly better than target (8.4) but changes took longer to process than Q2 last year (3.2 days).
- **Processing planning applications** - All national targets were exceeded for the processing of major, minor and other applications in Q2.
- **Complaints response times** - All stage 1 and 2 complaints were responded to within the required timescale in Q2. An improvement on the same period last year.
- **Processing FOIs** - 86.7% of FOIs were responded to in time - better than the target of 86% but worse than in Q2 last year (87.2%) and worse than the previous quarter (88%).
- **Customer waiting times (phone)** - Despite the challenges created by the governments energy rebate scheme, the average wait time in Q2 (2.1 minutes) was significantly better than the target of 5 minutes.
- **Council house re-lets** - Performance on void re-let times continues to improve – on both standard and major void types with targets met on both types and improvement shown in the longer term across both types.
- **Waste collection** – missed collections across all domestic waste services for Q2 was 122. This is significantly better than Q2 last year (188) and also an improvement on Q1 this year (130 missed collections).

2.5 What did not go so well in quarter 2

- **Savings** – The remaining £195k saving is linked to securing the benefits of some of our digital investment and transformation work which is expected to be realised during next financial year.
- **Staff sickness** - In the 12 months to end of Q2, almost 9 days per FTE were lost to sickness absence. This is higher than both Q2 last year (4.5 days) and the target of 5 days.

3. Alternative Options Considered

N/A

4. Implications

N/A

4.1 Legal Implications

None.

4.2 Financial Implications

Delivery of Council Plan priorities is reflected in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

4.3 Policy and Risk Implications

Performance is a corporate risk. Failure to adequately perform will result in the corporate priorities not being delivered. Performance reporting is part of a suite of mitigating actions which make up our Performance Management Framework.

4.4 Council Plan Implications

This report provides a progress update on delivery of the Council Plan 2020-23.

4.5 Resource Implications

Performance reporting highlights areas where we are not performing well or are performing too well. Where an under or over allocation of resource is highlighted as a reason for poor performance, we can explore opportunities to adjust resources to support effective implementation of the Council Plan as part of our on-going business and budget planning.

4.6 Other Implications

N/A

4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equality, Diversity and Community Impact Assessment screening report has been undertaken on the Council Plan and its priorities – and due regard has been given.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The performance data demonstrates continued performance improvement and delivery against Council Plan Priorities.

6. Background Documents

None.

7. Appendices

Appendix A: Council Delivery Plan 2020-23 Monitoring Report Quarter 2 2022/23

Appendix B: Corporate Performance Report Quarter 2 2022/23

Contact Officer:




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APPENDIX A





Council Delivery Plan 2020-23 Monitoring Report Q2 2022/23

Key:

-  Corporate priority is on track
-  There are some concerns about this corporate priority
-  Significant concerns




Theme: A great place to LIVE

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
Increased Housing Supply	Maintain our Five-Year Housing Land Supply	Martin Grainger	Cllr Crane	Deal with pre-application queries and planning applications for new residential development expeditiously	31-Mar-2023			The Development Management Service is continuing to process applications efficiently. This includes dealing with the backlog relating to high workload levels experienced over the last two years. The services work includes dealing with significant strategic applications and NSIPs. Significant progress has been made on the production of a Local Plan. This document sets out a portfolio of housing and employment sites to meet growth up to 2040. Consultation on the Preferred Options draft of the plan took place between 31st January and 12 March 2021. Over 1200 comments were received. A further 44 sites were submitted as part of the Preferred Options consultation and a further consultation on these additional sites took place between 2nd August and 13th September 2021. A number of additional evidence base documents have also been consulted on as a separate exercise. They related to the	
				Explore new sources of supply and a long-term pipeline of housing sites to 2040 through the new Local Plan (see below).	31-Mar-2023				
				Proactive Work with developers to unlock 'stuck sites'	31-Mar-2023				
				Provide appropriate Planning support to deliver the Councils Housing Development Programme and HRA new-build projects	31-Mar-2023				

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
								approach to Greenbelt, CIL and Local Plan Viability, Greenspace Audit and Indoor/Outdoor Sports. A revised Local Development Scheme has been brought into effect. Consultation on the Publication Local Plan is now underway and ends on the 7 th October. Depending on the outcome of the consultation it is anticipated that the Local Plan will be submitted for Examination early next year.	
Increased Housing Supply	Maximise the number of available homes through delivering the Empty Homes programme.	Sarah Thompson	Cllr Musgrave	Deliver the Empty Homes Programme	31-Mar-2022		▶	Programme completed end March 2022	▶
Increased Housing Supply	Implement a Selby District Council Housing Development Programme	Phil Hiscott	Cllr Crane	Agree the most appropriate delivery models for the HDP	31-Dec-2020	1-Apr-2021	▶	<p>Delivery Models</p> <p>Affordable Housing Strategy for 2021 onwards approved by the Executive April 2021. This sets out the delivery priorities for the HDP. HDP Board created and meetings taking place.</p> <p>HDP Phase 2:</p> <p>Following confirmation of planning consent for the four sites within the programme, work to determine the financial viability of the schemes has now been completed.</p>	▶
				Create HDP Programme Board, agree priority sites within Phase 2 and the Development Programme.	31-March-2023		▶	<p>Regrettably, as a result of upward pressure in the market the financial modelling has identified the schemes do not currently satisfy the Council's financial viability parameters.</p> <p>Work is ongoing to review the proposals and to ensure the planning consents granted are secured so the sites can be developed when market conditions allow.</p>	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
Improve our housing stock	Deliver the housing improvement programme element of the HRA Business Plan 2019-2025.	Phil Hiscott	Cllr Musgrave	Deliver the HRA improvement Plan.	31-Mar-2022		▶	<p>S106 Acquisitions:</p> <p>Planning consent for the Staynor Hall development by Persimmon secured. Dialogue regarding the Council's interest in securing 22 of their affordable housing provision remains ongoing. Negotiations ongoing to purchase Selby & District Housing Trust Homes. Executive agreed in principle purchase in April.</p> <p>Empty Homes/Council House Buy-backs:</p> <p>The programme part funded by Homes England to acquire 10 empty homes was completed in Q4 and the first property acquired through our one-for-one replacement programme using S106 monies is also now complete. Work to identify further opportunities to increase the Council's affordable housing portfolio is continuing.</p>	▶
				Deliver the HRA Business Plan 3 Year Capital Investment Programme (agreed Dec 2019).	31-March-2023		▶	<p>Delivery of the capital investment programme in 2022/2023 is focussed on ensuring all our properties continue to meet statutory compliance requirements around electrical and gas safety as we move towards handing over a 'safe and</p>	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
								legal' portfolio to the new Council for North Yorkshire.	
Market Town Regeneration Phase 20	Develop and implement Town Action Plans and partnerships for Selby, Tadcaster and Sherburn-in-Elmet	Julian Rudd	Cllr Buckle	Complete Town Centre Action Plans for Selby & Sherburn	30-Sep-2020		▶	Revitalising Towns Initiative The priority projects included within the Town Centres Revitalisation Programme were approved by Executive in September 2021. The scope of the work has been broadened to include Sherburn Legacy Projects (grant scheme). Detailed project plans are being developed to ensure projects are completed (or at least in contract or under construction) by March 2023. Projects include: -	
				Develop partnership groups for implementing Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster Town Centre Action Plans.	31-Dec-2020		▶	Tadcaster – Improvements to Tadcaster Bus Station Sherburn – Low Street improvements Selby – Market Place and Park improvements The Town Centre Action Plan for Tadcaster will now follow proposals recommended within the Local Plan and align with Tadcaster aspirations through NYC Locality initiative.	
				Complete Town Centre Action Plan for Tadcaster	30-Apr-2022		▲	A Govt changing places grant has been awarded to SDC for a toilet facility for people with additional needs. The grant and SDC match funding will deliver two units, one at Selby Station to be incorporated to the TCF scheme and managed by the station operator	






OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
				Implement the Opening Town Centres Safely plan.	31-Mar-2022		▶	TPEXpress, and one at Tadcaster Bus Station to be managed by SDC. Approval for scheme costs and revenue implications to be sought at November Executive. Under the town centre revitalisation grants (legacy projects) for Sherburn 2 applications have been awarded, a further two have just been submitted.	
				Implement key projects from Town Action Plans for Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster including:	31-Mar-2021		▶	Selby District Places and Movement Study A report summarising the consultation, and proposed way forward was approved at the September Executive. The report also acknowledged the current work being undertaken by the Local Plan Team in Tadcaster, which includes place and movement type proposals.	
				Complete Places and Movement study of Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster – joint with NYCC (plus LEP funds).	30-Apr-2021	30-Apr-22 (Phase 1)	▶	A Place and Movement Phase 2 is currently being progressed by NYCC Highways, and the final scope for WSP is being agreed with SDC. The Phase Two work will build upon the outcome of the consultation and identify a set of priority projects, focussed on key junctions in Selby and Sherburn and measures to support active travel. Selby Town Centre High Street Heritage Action Zone The HSHAZ is a four-year programme funded by Historic England, which began	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
				Deliver the Selby town centre High St Heritage Action Zone programme.	31-Mar-2024			<p>in July 2020 and runs until the end of March 2024. It includes the creation of new planning guidance, grants to local property owners for building conservation projects, streetscape redesign work in the town centre, and community engagement activities.</p> <p>Three building conservation projects were completed in 2021/22 and this financial year another 2 are confirmed with some smaller grants being explored for the new year. New streetscape and car park designs are to come this year.</p>	
				Deliver Transforming Cities Fund programme to transform the Selby station area.	31-Mar-2023	Note: extension to completion date approved by DfT. New completion date March 2024 (await final confirmation)		<p>Community engagement in 2022 included plans for Heritage Open Days that included walking tours, lectures, and an exhibition, focussed on the industrial and innovative heritage of Selby. Unfortunately, they have had to be reprogrammed this winter due to the mourning period Queen Elizabeth II, but new tours are starting in winter 2022.</p> <p>Grant drawdowns from Historic England have been confirmed and received for Q1 and Q2.</p> <p>Selby Station Gateway Transforming Cities Fund (TCF)</p> <p>The Outline Business Case (OBC) was submitted to WYCA Final approval for the OBC was received in February 2022. Work is now being completed on the FBC and this will be submitted in March 2023.</p> <p>Strong progress has been achieved with land acquisition, including purchase of the Selby Business centre in December</p>	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
								<p>2022 and The Railway Club has now been purchased in July 2022.</p> <p>The planning application for TCF has been approved. Regular comms meetings are taking place to plan and deliver comms to the public, and businesses to increase awareness of the scheme and its benefits ahead of construction from Spring 2023.</p> <p>Officers are in continuous dialogue with WYCA over delivery timescales and Members will be informed as further information becomes available. The Council has identified sufficient funding to ensure that the Station Gateway scheme will be fully delivered, including the Station Plaza, by Summer 2024.</p> <p>DFT have confirmed that spend of TCF can extend to March 2024.</p>	





Theme: A great place to ENJOY

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
Community	Develop a resilient community	Stuart Robinson	Cllr Buckle	Establish local arrangements that support residents in addressing financial difficulty.	31-Dec-2020	31-Mar-2021	▶	£2M Community Legacy Fund with Two Ridings Community Foundation established to support local community organisations to access District funding, protected to the area in perpetuity. The Fund was launched on 1 st November 2021.	▶
				Collaborate with community representatives and funders to establish the community engagement and funding process post covid-19	30-Jun-2021	01-Nov-2021	▶		
OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG

				Collaborate with local authority, health, and voluntary sectors to establish a development pathway for a strong and resilient VCS sector to support community emergency response and long-term recovery of communities from Covid-19.	30-Sep-2021	31-Mar-2022		Selby Health Matters Partnership established a new action plan for 2021-2023 which includes developing a leadership programme to support VCSE and health leaders to provide joined up services. Programme design will be developed in line with LGR Community Networks. Interim local place leader networks established by Community First Yorkshire. Selby District AVS has joined the Equalities and Advice networks to further strengthen connections between VCSE providers.	
Environment – Low Carbon Page 2	Implement the recommendations of the Low Carbon Working Group (LCWG)	Stuart Robinson	Cllr Musgrave	Develop a Low Carbon Action Plan considering the recommendations of the Low Carbon Working Group.	31-Dec-2020			Q2 update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwork commenced survey work to assess suitability for tree planting on council land. • Engagement underway with local Selby Sustainability Group to inform the new North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy. 	
	OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY
Environment – Green Space	Work with local partners to maintain and enhance local parks, play areas and open spaces.	Keith Cadman	Cllr Grogan	Deliver capital investment of £100k p.a. to improve quality and accessibility of Council play areas – improving two play areas per year for the years 2020-21; 2021-22; 2022-23.	31-Mar-2023			A contract for four playgrounds at parkland drive and woodlands avenue in Tadcaster and Volta Street and Petre Avenue in Selby was awarded in April 2022. Public consultations have been held and the designs finalised following evaluation of the feedback received. Work commenced on all sites late September and are planned for completion before the end of this calendar year.	

Theme: A great place to GROW

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
Local Plan	Deliver the Local Plan by 2023	Martin Grainger	Cllr Crane	Develop Preferred Options and consult stakeholders.	28-Feb-2021	12 Mar 2021		Significant progress has been made on the production of a Local Plan. This document sets out a portfolio of housing and employment sites to meet growth up to 2040. Consultation on the Preferred Options draft of the plan took place between 31st January and 12 March 2021. A further 44 sites were submitted as part of the Preferred Options consultation and a further consultation on these additional sites took place between 2nd August and 13th September 2021. A number of additional evidence base documents have also been consulted on as a separate exercise. They related to the approach to Greenbelt, CIL and Local Plan Viability, Greenspace Audit and Indoor/Outdoor Sports. A revised Local Development Scheme has been brought into effect. Consultation on the Publication Local Plan finished on 28 October and Officers are now considering the responses received. Depending on the outcome of the consultation it is anticipated that the Local Plan will be submitted for Examination early next year.	
				Develop Publication Draft and consult stakeholders	31-Jul-2022	28 Oct 2022			
				Draft Local Plan Submitted for Examination by the Planning Inspectorate	28-Feb-2023				
				Create the evidence base – including an Infrastructure Delivery Plan for the Selby district.	28-Feb-2023				
				Local Plan adopted	30-Mar-2024				
Visitor Economy	Continued delivery of the 'Selby District Visitor Economy Strategy 2018-22 – and beyond'.	Julian Rudd	Cllr Grogan	Work plan reviewed for the 'Selby District Visitor Economy Strategy 2018-22 – and beyond' with emphasis on sectoral support and development needs in response to C-19:	30-Sep-2020	11-Jul-2021		VEAB continues to meet. Dates for 2023 Residents Engagement Festival set as ½ April. Food & Drink Improvement Plan almost complete. Centres on maximising opportunities in the District: food tourism, localising the supply chain, collaborative trade show attendance, synergy with health & well-being agenda, Buy Local and Heart of Yorkshire Food & Drink campaigns and content, highlighting the district's high-quality SMEs and	
				Deliver short-term outputs – emphasis on local people & staycationing	31-Mar-2021	31-Dec-2021			
				Deliver medium term outputs – broadening emphasis to national trade	31-Dec-2021	Ongoing			

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
				Longer term outputs – developing emphasis to include international travellers	31-Mar-2023	Ongoing		micro-businesses, supporting the global ambitions of businesses such as Grencore, the Pecan Deluxe Candy Company and Cranswick Gourmet Bacon. Heart of Yorkshire recent highlights include blogs on Halloween & half-term activity. Current focus on Christmas content – working to balance high-lighting free family activity and supporting businesses.	
Visitor Economy	Develop and implement the Selby District Cultural Development Framework.	Julian Rudd	Cllr Grogan	Selby District Cultural Development Framework completed (including evidence base & consultation with stakeholders, as agreed with funders)	31-Dec-2020	31-Jul-2021		Cultural Development Framework in delivery: Heritage Interpretation Masterplan complete. Public Art Plan at final design stage. Arts Council England has announced that the Mediale (now based in Selby) is one of their new National Portfolio Organisations (NPO). It will receive £196,000 per year for 4 years from the Arts Council.	
				Implement immediate short-term outputs from the framework; develop key projects in line with covid-19 response and external investment e.g. Barlby Road Corridor project; extending festivals/events offer;	30-Apr-2022	Ongoing		Arcade, who SDC is working with in Tadcaster, is also a new NPO. Multiple artists residencies underway including for public art (Tadcaster Bus Station, Selby station gateway) and as part of Selby Stories, the cultural programme for the High Street HAZ. 7 schools have participated in the singing/song-writing project, including Riccall, Barlby Bridge, Wistow, Brayton, Staynor Hall and Selby Abbey. The Minecraft project continues to attract great numbers of children and young people.	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
								Grant-aided two community arts projects in Tadcaster, delivered by TEMPT. The Barlby Road corridor artist R&D is complete. The project culminated in the recreation of BOCM's dances in Selby Park.	
Enterprise & Growth	Deliver the Selby District Economic Development Framework 2022...and beyond	Julian Rudd	Cllr Buckle	Deliver a sustainable and targeted programme of support to SME businesses – to support the post-Covid recovery	31-Mar-2023			SDC were fully involved with the LEP in the development and shaping of the Covid-19 Economic Recovery Plan. Covid economic responses are complete now and we have moved into the post-pandemic "new normal" phase. The Council's key economic priorities and projects have been put forward for inclusion in the LGR workstream 'Economic Strategy', which will guide the early years of the new authority as well as contributing to the ED workstream on how the new authority's priorities will be delivered.	
				Develop and agree with the owners of each key strategic site identified in the EDF Framework (e.g. S2, Eggborough, Kellingley) a programme of short, medium term deliverable actions to bring the site forward in line with EDF	31-Mar-2023			Post-Covid and post Russian invasion of Ukraine there are significant challenges particularly in recruitment, property shortage, supply chain issues and rising costs, particularly fuel, but the outlook is still positive and there are significant growth opportunities despite the headwinds. In summary, SDC has continued to provide support, now fully back to in-person meetings including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business support to SME's;• Grant funding for innovation & start-ups;• Consultancy support funding;• SDC has planned and is delivering a series of workshops to help businesses grow/deal with changing	



OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
								<p>legislation and economic challenges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned 2nd Selby District Business Awards; Re-Established two successful forums/networking groups post-lockdown; Planned and delivered a programme of Employment and Skills Forums which will culminate in an Employment & Skills conference on 29th September; Worked closely with NYBEP (North Yorkshire Business & Education Partnership) working with schools forming a relationship between schools and businesses. Worked with YNYLEPP, employers, apprenticeship providers and the Apprenticeships Hub. <p>The new Economic Development Manager has now been in place over a year now and is planning the team's priorities for the remainder of the lifetime of this Council, working with the Executive. During Q1 the outlook for strategic development sites has continued to remain positive with significant progress being made on most of them on a speculative build basis. This is the result of market shift and significant demand for industrial and storage space in the region. Demand is still strong but planning delays and increased construction costs are proving a challenge. SDC has worked with developers to encourage the type of development that fits with our Economic Development Strategy, the YNY Plan for Growth and the</p>	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
								emerging Economic Strategy for the new authority.	

Theme: A great place with a Council delivering GREAT VALUE

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
Digital Customers	Deliver Digital Strategy 2020	Stuart Robinson	Cllr Lunn	Complete implementation of Digital Workforce – Office 365; new devices; MyView	31-Dec-2020	31-Mar-2021		<p>Note – due to LGR, the primary focus is now on ensuring current systems remain stable and supported in advance of handover to the new council.</p> <p>Except for completing the housing system project, all other transformation activity is on hold.</p> <p>Digital Workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed <p>Digital Customers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed. <p>Civica Cx Housing System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 (rents, tenancy) completed. Upgrade to live system (bug fixes plus improvements in automating lettings) completed. Project plan in place for phase 2 (assets, repairs) – expect to complete Q1 2023. Upgrade to test system completed. 	
				Complete implementation of phases 1 – 3 of Digital Customers – Northgate Citizens Access; CivicaPay; Scanstation; Citizens Online project	31-Dec-2021	31-Jan-2022			
				Complete full implementation of Civica CX digital platform for housing and asset management.	30-Sept-2022				
Digital Customers	Transform customer contact services and achieve channel shift	Stuart Robinson	Cllr Buckle	Set up Contact Centre at Civic Centre and provide appointment-based face to face customer services.	01-Nov-22	28-Nov-22		Customer Services now effectively delivering appointment-based services for those customers unable to access services by other means. Meeting room 4 set up as a permanent private meeting space for seeing customers. Pod set up in Civic Centre reception to support management of visitors. This will support the Civic Centre to meet current and expected post-LGR needs.	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
Quality Workforce	Deliver People Plan to support and develop staff through major change	Stuart Robinson	Cllr Lunn	Deliver People Plan, including new HR and OD service delivery arrangements; Leadership and Management Development Programme; enhanced approach to staff engagement and wellbeing; development of staff core skills	31-Mar-2023			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Planning completed – successful staff now undertaking qualification-based training. • Corporate push on mandatory training – all staff given an hour a week to support development. • Supported delivery of LGR staff focus groups and staff survey - SDC had highest response rate across North Yorkshire. • Trialled recording of staff briefing session in April. Latest sessions held 15 July and • Manager Forum held in Sept. 	
Effective use of Assets	Develop and implement the Asset Strategy 2020-30.	Phil Hiscott	Cllr Lunn	Develop Asset Strategy 2020-30 and high-level Action Plan – focus on our assets	30-Sep-2022			<p>The disposal of Edgerton Lodge and the former Council depot on Barlby Road has now completed.</p> <p>Marketing of the former NatWest in Tadcaster is currently underway.</p>	
Value for Money	Deliver robust arrangements to ensure financial plans are delivered, costs are minimised and planned savings and new opportunities for income are delivered	Karen Iveson	Cllr Lunn	Implement the strategic objectives set out in the MTFS – deliver investment programmes and savings	31-Mar-2023			Covid has impacted severely on the Council's finances and capacity over the last two years, and LGR is now impacting heavily on availability of resources. The overarching MTFS objectives remain but the majority of savings have been pushed back to 24/25. Investment programmes are in place but spending has been delayed as a result of capacity diverted toward the Council's pandemic response and LGR.	
				Monitor the budget for 21/22 and set balanced budget for 22/23 in light of Covid and LGR.	31-Mar-2021	24-Feb-2022		The budget for 21/22 was approved by Council in February 2021. It includes provision for Covid and LGR contingencies and takes account of the contractual risks highlighted in the MTFS which crystallised over 20/21. In year budget monitoring shows that Covid pressures continue but there has also	

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OFFICER LEAD	EXECUTIVE LEAD	MILESTONE	DUE DATE	COMPLETED DATE	RAG	OVERALL COMMENTARY	OVERALL RAG
Page 32								been some upturn in planning income, waste recycles income and an improvement in investment returns. Investment programmes have also been delayed with some slipping into 22/23. The draft budget for 22/23 (Selby's last budget) was approved for by Full Council in February 2022. Deferral of savings to 24/25 has been confirmed with reserves bridging the gap in the short-medium term. There is a Council Tax freeze for 22/23. Budget monitoring indicates higher costs as a result of pay award and inflation but this is offset by increased investment interest, vacancies and income from recycles.	
				Update the MTFS in light of Covid impacts and delayed 'Spending Review' (incorporating the Fair Funding Review and any changes to Business Rates and Retention).	31 March 2022			The MTFS was updated and approved by Council in July 21. It incorporates covid impacts plus areas of additional investment. The spending review and review of business rates retention however continue to be delayed with expectations now for 23/24 or later. Budget work has been undertaken to help feed into the 2023/24 MTFS for the new Council.	



Delivering corporate priorities

Corporate Performance KPI Report

Quarter 2 2022/23

Delivering corporate priorities: KPIs Q2 2022/23

61%

Improved
in the long term

78%

On target
with 13% close to target

Indicator	Exception	Comments
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What's gone well - KPIs














































Number of SMEs supported	Target exceeded & Performance improved	A total of 73 SMEs were supported in Q2 – better than the target of 50 and slightly up on performance in Q1 (71)
% council tax collected	Performance improved	%56.5% of council tax had been collected by the end of Q2. This is slightly up on the same period last year (56.3%) but below the target of 57.5%
% Non-domestic rate collected	Target exceeded & Performance improved	57.2% of NNDR was collected in Q2 – better than Q2 last year (53.4%) and the target for this year (55.00%)
Sundry debt collected	Target exceeded & Performance improved	57.7% of sundry debt was collected in Q2 – above the same period last year and this years target (both 55.8%)
Average days to process new benefit claims (total)	Target exceeded	Whilst Q2 performance for new benefit claims (21.7 days) remains better than the target of 22 days, processing times took longer than for Q2 last year (17.9 days). This year, the team had the added burden of processing the national energy rebates.
Average days to process change of circumstances	Target exceeded	Despite the burden of processing energy rebates, Q2 performance (3.8 days) was significantly better than target (8.4) but changes took longer to process than Q2 last year (3.2 days).
Processing of planning applications	All targets exceeded	All national targets were exceeded for the processing of major, minor and other applications in Q2.
Corporate complaints fully responded to in required timescales	Target exceeded & Performance improved	All stage 1 and 2 complaints were responded to within the required timescale in Q2. Both showed improved performance compared to last year.
% FOI responded to within 20 days	Target exceeded	86.7% of FOIs were responded to in time - better than the target of 86% but worse than in Q2 last year (87.2%) and worse than the previous quarter (88%).
The average wait time – in minutes – before a customer phone call is answered by an advisor	Target exceeded	Despite the challenges created by the governments energy rebate scheme, the average wait time in Q2 (2.1 minutes) was significantly better than the target of 5 minutes.
Leisure centre membership/visits	Performance improved	Q2 saw an increase in both leisure centre memberships (3,190 vs 2,966) and leisure centre visits (62,441 vs 60,591) compared with the same period last year.
Average days to re-let council homes	Targets exceeded & Performance improved	Performance on void re-let times continues to improve – on both standard and major void types with targets met on both types and improvement shown in the longer term across both types.
Missed bin collections	Target exceeded & Performance improved	Missed collections across all domestic waste services for Q2 was 122. This is significantly better than Q2 last year (188) and also an improvement on Q1 this year (130 missed collections).

Delivering corporate priorities: KPIs Q2 2022/23

Indicator	Exception	Comments
What hasn't gone so well - KPIs		
Amount of planned savings achieved	Target not met	The remaining saving is linked to securing the benefits of some of our digital investment and transformation work which is expected to be realised during next financial year.
Average days sick per FTE	Performance worse and Target not met	In the 12 months to end of Q2, almost 9 days per FTE were lost to sickness absence. This is higher than both Q2 last year (4.5 days) and the target of 5 days.

Delivering corporate priorities: KPIs Q2 2022/23

PI Status		Long Term Trends		Short Term Trends	
	Alert		Improving		Improving
	Warning		No Change/Not applicable		No Change/Not applicable
	OK		Getting Worse		Getting Worse

KPI	Direction of Travel	Q2 2021/22	Q3 2021/22	Q4 2021/22	Q1 2022/23	Current Value	Target	Short Term Trend	Long Term Trend	Status
		Value	Value	Value	Value					
Number of SMEs supported	Aim to Maximise	61	73	79	71	73	50			
% Council Tax collected	Aim to Maximise	56.26	83.75	98.10	29.08	56.47	57.50			
% Council housing rent and arrears collected	Aim to Maximise	93.28	95.42	97.35	90.90	92.90	93.10			
% Non-domestic rate collected	Aim to Maximise	53.35	80.13	102.36	30.92	57.21	55.00			
Sundry debt collected	Aim to Maximise	55.80	89.46	98.5	46.88	57.68	55.8			
Amount of planned savings achieved (£s)	Aim to Maximise	184k	184k	184k	0	0	195k			
Average days to process new benefit claims (total)	Aim to Minimise	17.91	21.92	17.05	18.91	21.72	22.00			
Average days to process change of circumstances	Aim to Minimise	3.22	3.81	1.55	3.05	3.75	8.40			
% Major applications within statutory or extension of time	Aim to Maximise	100	100	60	88.89	88.89	60			
Processing of planning applications: Minor applications	Aim to Maximise	62.00	67.27	81.36	83.33	74.58	70			
Processing of planning applications: Other applications	Aim to Maximise	72.60	84.69	82.57	84.72	83.20	70			
% Stage 1 corporate complaints fully responded to in required timescales	Aim to Maximise	54	91	92	100	100	90			
% Stage 2 corporate complaints fully responded in required time	Aim to Maximise	72.73	100	100	40	100	90			
% FOI responded to within 20 days	Aim to Maximise	87.22	85.25	92	88	86.71	86			
The average wait time – in minutes – before a customer phone call is answered by an advisor	Aim to Minimise	1.86	1.10	1.00	2.31	2.11	5.00			

KPI	Direction of Travel	Q2 2021/22	Q3 2021/22	Q4 2021/22	Q1 2022/23	Current Value	Target	Short Term Trend	Long Term Trend	Status
		Value	Value	Value	Value					
% of people accessing benefit forms and taxation direct debit forms online in relation to other channels	Aim to Maximise	60.16	63.27	80.98	70.78	71	50.00			
Corporate health and safety: the number of incidents report in the last 12 months (rolling year)	Aim to Minimise	0	1	2	0	1	3			
Average days sick per FTE (full time employee) rolling 12 months	Aim to Minimise	4.50	6.00	6.79	7.77	8.97	5.00			
Amount of business rates retained	Aim to Maximise	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.4	11.3	7.5			
Council tax base	Aim to Maximise	32618	32672	32791	32927	33056	33090			
Number of missed waste collections	Aim to Minimise	188	165	123	130	122	321			
Residual household waste per household (kg)	Aim to Minimise	144	136	149	167	tbc	N/A	tbc	tbc	N/A
% Household waste recycled	Aim to Maximise	49.4	39.05	36.66	50.57	tbc	N/A	tbc	tbc	N/A
Number of memberships at combined leisure centres	Aim to Maximise	2,966	2,852	3,104	3,144	3,190	N/A			N/A
Number of visits to combined leisure centres	Aim to Maximise	60,591	57,005	70,084	61,653	62,441	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of GP referrals	Aim to Maximise	15	9	0	10	27	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average days to re-let standard void types	Aim to Minimise	21.5	13.4	13.64	13.11	9.63	26			
Average days to re-let major void types	Aim to Minimise	46.83	55.17	40.88	26.29	34.38	45			

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Report Reference Number: E/22/32

To:	Executive
Date:	5 January 2023
Status:	Key Decision
Ward(s) Affected:	All
Author:	Yvette Turnbull, Culture Visitor & Creative Economy Manager
Lead Executive Member:	Cllr Tim Grogan, Lead Executive Member for Health and Culture
Lead Officer:	Julian Rudd, Head of Economic Development and Regeneration

Title: A Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire

Summary:

This report seeks approval and adoption of the Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire.

Recommendation:

That the Executive agrees to adopt the Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire and implement the recommendations of the Plan.

Reasons for the recommendations

In July 2021 the Cultural Development Framework for Selby District was approved by the Executive. This recognised the significant potential impact of public art on the place-making and regeneration ambitions of the District Council, and the important contribution which public art makes to creating great places and high-quality public spaces. The Framework included an action to develop a Public Art Plan, which would provide a strategic framework and future direction.

A Public Art Plan (PAP) has been developed (see Appendix A). The Plan sets out our ambition for public art and its role in revitalisation and regeneration schemes, as well as a tool to engage local communities with their locality. It includes practical guidance for commissioners, developers and communities and identifies specific opportunities where there are schemes, or concepts for future schemes, which would be enhanced by the inclusion of public art.

The Plan will increase the number of public artworks in Selby District; raise the ambition around quality and authenticity; enable communities, local organisations, and creative practitioners to attract external investment; offer skills development to the local creative sector; connect local people to their Place; and provide marketable

product for the Visitor Economy sector. The Plan will contribute to cultural planning for North Yorkshire Council and provide local opportunities to benefit from the Shared Prosperity Fund, the Place Partnership Fund and the York and North Yorkshire devolution deal, as we move into a localities structure within the new North Yorkshire Council.

1. Introduction and background

In 2021 the Cultural Development Framework (CDF) for the district was adopted. This recognised the important contribution of high-quality, authentic and relevant public art to making our district a vibrant, creative and unique place. It builds on the work that SDC began with Selby 950 (which included the significant “*Pilgrim*” illumination of Selby Abbey, by artist Nayan Kulkarni) and is continuing, with artwork by Katayoun Dowlatshahi as part of the Selby Station Gateway TCF project and planned new work by Chris Tipping as part of the revitalisation of Tadcaster Bus Station.

Our audiences have told us that they want to see public art which is site-specific and which connects to the rich heritage of the District. For this reason, there is a strong connection to the development of the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the district. Selby Stories, the cultural programme of the Selby High Street Heritage Action Zone, is a good example of approaching authentic place-specific public art commissioning with heritage as the content. Our creative sector has also told us that they would like opportunities to develop skills in public art and to make work for public spaces. High-quality public art is a strong driver for the visitor economy and can be a significant source of pride for residents.

There has not previously been a coherent approach to public art commissioning, which has led to a somewhat piecemeal approach. This means we have not always made the most of the potential in using cultural place-making as part of making Selby District a ‘Great Place to Live’ and a ‘Great Place to Grow’. The Public Art Plan sets out best practice and offers a strong framework for future development in our locality.

The Public Art Plan is attached as Appendix A. There are three additional technical documents: a guide for developers and planners; a “how to” commissioning guide; and an opportunities matrix. The opportunities matrix sets out the wide-ranging potential projects for the District, including regeneration and revitalisation schemes which are already underway and those recognised as a future priority.

Please note: the title (*Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire*) reflects the localities approach of the new North Yorkshire Council and is intended to future-proof the document. “District” continues to be used throughout the Plan and this report, as a clear indicator of the geography the work covers.

2. The Public Art Plan:

2.1 Purpose and need for the Plan

High quality public art (defined as art in the public realm, including permanent site-specific installations, temporary public artworks and interventions which celebrate, share stories, inspire or intrigue) brings places to life, creating a unique sense of place

which may be more memorable, feel more comfortable or more welcoming, pose questions or answer them. Good public art adds to an everyday experience of a place.

The aim of the Plan is to increase both the quantity and quality of public art in the area. It aims to ensure there is consistency and offer a vision of how embedding art into the fabric of our public spaces will share and reflect our heritage, communities, stories and creativity.

Public art can support our ambition (set out in the Corporate Plan and the Economic Development Strategy) to achieve long-term improvements in our built environment, revitalising our town centres and helping to deliver creative schemes for renewal and regeneration. A Public Art Plan will enable such schemes to build a sense of place and identity through impactful artworks and social engagement, as well as promoting vibrant cultural, creative and visitor sectors.

The Public Art Plan can help to ensure that the importance of high-quality public art in the making of our great places can continue to be recognised, even in the context of a more established offer, and longer history of significant public art commissioning in other parts of North Yorkshire.

2.2 Development of the Public Art Plan

Public Art specialists Beam (based in Wakefield) were appointed in April 2022 to devise and undertake a programme of consultation and to use their findings to develop a Public Art Plan, with a toolkit for commissioning and guidance for developers, planners and communities.

Beam looked at examples of best practice in other parts of the country and spoke to a range of consultees, including SDC teams, Selby District's creative sector and artists with a particular public art interest or practice. They also undertook a number of visits to Selby, Tadcaster and Sherburn, which included "town walks" with SDC teams to consider the opportunities, and a number of public consultation drop-ins. These public events used arts activities for children and families to engage local people in a conversation about public art, discovering what they enjoy, as well as work they have seen which they disliked.

Beam have taken the findings from the consultation process and set out an ambition for public art and its potential for contributing to place-making in the District.

2.3 The Public Art Plan

The Plan offers a series of guiding principles, which emerged from the consultation. These recognise the importance of authenticity and relevance to place; the necessity of engaging the local community; good practice in commissioning and artist selection/management; and the necessity of ensuring public art is accessible to all.

The Plan includes a number of recommended actions including developing a Public Art Forum; developing training/support for planners, developers, Town & Parish Councillors and other potential commissioners, such as the NHS; training and support for local practitioners who would like to develop a public art practice to enable them to respond to opportunities which arise in the District, the County and regionally; and an advocacy role for SDC in championing cultural place-making using public art.

The Public Art Plan is a series of inter-linked documents:

- a document setting out the role and scope of public art in the locality;
- a guide for planners and developers;
- a “how to guide” intended to support anyone new to the process of art commissioning, particularly aimed at raising confidence to enable local communities to commission work;
- an opportunities matrix, which identifies the range and breadth of potential opportunities for new public art in the District.

The Plan is interdependent with the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan, which sets out the key heritage stories of the District, providing content for public art which resonates with the place.

2.4 Delivery of the Framework

Public art commissioning is already part of our approach to revitalisation and regeneration schemes, as well as forming a significant element of our Priority Place Plan (Selby District is an Arts Council Priority Place and also has “Levelling Up for Culture” status). The Plan formalises our approach to this work, offering consistency and ensuring we follow best practice.

The Plan will enable and encourage communities to undertake their own commissioning of work specific to their hyper-locality and will be particularly helpful in enabling communities to attract external investment for their planned project.

Strategic plans from all the current Districts and Boroughs will form the basis of the next two years of cultural delivery leading to a new Cultural Strategy for North Yorkshire. Some of the larger scale actions, such as the creation of professional development opportunities for local creatives, may also form part of these future plans.

3. Impact and outcomes

The Public Art Plan will:

- Increase the quantity and quality of public art across the District, with artwork being commissioned locally by the community, as well as being part of larger regeneration schemes.
- Help to ensure that public art in the District is relevant, authentic and site-specific. It will contribute to telling the heritage stories of the area and be a source of local pride.
- Ensure that public art is an integral part of significant new developments and master planning, from the earliest possible stage.
- Enable more local artists to develop a high-quality public art practice and attract more regional and nationally acclaimed artists to make work in the District. The local cultural and creative sectors will be nurtured and growth will be encouraged.
- Enable the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire to be recognised as a centre of excellence for the commissioning of public art and the benefit of the lessons learned here will be shared across the county.

- Ensure that public art in the District improves the quality of the public realm, encouraging visitors, extending dwell-time and increasing repeat visits.
- Offer young people enhanced opportunities to influence their place, develop skills and potentially to be inspired to follow a creative career.

The Plan is of particular importance in supporting the visitor and cultural sectors, which have been significantly impacted by COVID-19.

4. Alternative Options Considered

None. The recently agreed Cultural Development Framework included an action to develop a Public Art Plan, which would provide a strategic framework and future direction.

5. Implications

5.1 Legal Implications

None.

5.2 Financial Implications

No additional investment from SDC is sought. Some of the identified actions may form the basis of applications for external funding (e.g. from Arts Council England (ACE), particularly as part of a Place Partnership bid), for which an appropriate match is already in place via investment in the Cultural Development Framework. Members agreed to invest £600,000, which includes £195,000 for activity which delivers on Priority 3 “**Transforming Selby District** by using culture and creativity to support the regeneration of the district (physically, socially and economically)”.

Where local communities are interested in commissioning an artwork it is likely that they would apply to the Arts Council for a Project Grant, and possibly also to Trusts, Foundations etc., bringing additional investment into the locality.

6.3 Policy and Risk Implications

None. The Public Art Plan sits beneath the Cultural Development Framework and its creation was an action from that Framework. It contributes to the Visitor Economy Strategy, the Town Revitalisation Plans, the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan and the North Yorkshire Cultural Development Framework, as well as to elements of the Shared Prosperity Fund Delivery Plan and the priorities of the Devolution deal for North Yorkshire & York. More broadly, its emphasis on accessing the landscape also contributes to the Local Cycling Walking & Infrastructure Plan and its emphasis on quality places contributes to delivery of the Local Plan.

6.4 Corporate Plan Implications

The Public Art Plan is in line with Council Plan Delivery priority: “enable a thriving visitor economy underpinned by a sustained focus on enhancing the district’s cultural, retail and leisure offer”.

The Masterplan contributes to ambitions in the draft Corporate Plan for North Yorkshire Council: “a clean, sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit; and a strong economy that enables residents and businesses to thrive”. More specifically: “culture, heritage, arts and (sustainable) tourism all play their part in the economic growth of the county”.

6.5 Resource Implications

Resourcing for the Public Art Plan has been identified above.

6.6 Other Implications

None identified.

6.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

The development of the Public Art Plan has involved a diverse range of community and organisation representatives. The toolkit and best practice guide include sections on accessibility and barriers to participation. Where there are activities delivered by SDC or the new culture team of North Yorkshire Council, they will be subject to Equalities Impact Assessments as appropriate.

7. Conclusion

High-quality and site-specific public art, rooted in the authentic story of Place, enhances the public realm and supports our ambition for local distinctiveness within long-term improvements to our built environment, particularly public open spaces, major developments and renewal and regeneration schemes. Good public art can contribute to the revitalisation of the High Street, supporting retail and hospitality businesses and aiding ongoing economic recovery from the pandemic.

The Plan encourages best practice in commissioning public art, supports communities and will grow their confidence in commissioning work for their local environment, as well as increasing engagement in arts, culture and heritage. It offers a guide to developers and supports the ambitions of our local creative sector. Implementation will increase skills and enable local artists to respond to opportunities to make work for the public realm.

The Plan will enable more external investment to be levered into the District and help us to continue growing our track record in cultural Place-making, whilst ensuring that the needs of the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster locality are not forgotten in the context of other parts of North Yorkshire which have a longer track record in commissioning public art.

7. Background Documents

Appendix A: Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster Areas of North Yorkshire (*Section 1*)

8. Contact Officer: Yvette Turnbull, Culture, Visitor & Creative Economy Manager yturnbull@selby.gov.uk

APPENDIX A:

A Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn & Tadcaster Area of North Yorkshire

(Please note, the Plan here is in draft and will be professionally designed)

SECTION 1: THE ROLE OF PUBLIC ART IN THE SELBY, SHERBURN AND TADCASTER AREA OF NORTH YORKSHIRE

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public art brings spaces to life, adding surprise, joy and interest to people's everyday experience of a place.

This Public Art Plan has been commissioned by Selby District Council to create a clear framework for the commissioning of public art. The aim is to increase both the quantity and quality of public art in the area.

The plan also aims to ensure that there is consistency - whether that is of approach or themes - to public art in the area. It offers a vision of how public art can be embedded into the fabric of the public spaces and places of Selby district, sharing and reflecting its heritage, communities, stories, creativity and future.

Public art is for everyone - both residents and visitors, it can be temporary, permanent or time limited. It may be functional, such as artist designed seating or be purely visual or sensory to add to a space. It embraces varied artforms, there is no single definition.

For commissions in the district of Selby, artists should engage with local people as collaborators and co-creators to produce work together. This will root artwork in the authenticity of its place, drawing from local knowledge, stories and passions.

The canvas for the artwork is any location where it can be accessed by the public - be that parks and green spaces, town squares, on or inside public buildings and more.

The need for a Public Art Plan was identified as an action in the 'Cultural Development Framework for Selby District' and contributes to a number of its key priorities, as well as priorities in the Visitor Economy Strategy, the Economic Development Framework and the Town Revitalisation Plans.

Public art in the district is currently limited in both scope and number, but large regeneration projects which are currently underway, or are planned, offer key opportunities for artists and art. This includes the commissioning of permanent site-specific installations, temporary public artworks and interventions which will celebrate, share stories, promote dialogue, shape change, inspire or intrigue.

Public art can support the district of Selby to achieve long-term improvements to the district's urban environment, particularly in public open spaces, major developments and schemes delivering creative renewal and regeneration. It will help to build a sense of place and identity through impactful artworks and social engagement, as well as promoting vibrant cultural, creative and visitor sectors.

The district of Selby has been named a 'Priority Place' by Arts Council England between 2021-24, this is a key opportunity for the delivery of this plan. Artists have the chance to influence placemaking and place shaping, engaging people with the long term future of the area.

Public art creates opportunities for PEOPLE, PLACE and ECONOMY, including:

- Social benefits
- Empowering young people
- Supporting pride in place

- Reflecting local heritage and future of a place
- Community participation
- Demonstrating ambition
- Supporting wayfinding, attractiveness and dwell time
- Encouraging inward investment
- Nurturing local creatives and business
- Building expertise and activating creative thinking

The skills and experience of artists are key to the delivery of this plan. In the context of the district of Selby we are defining ‘Artists’ as creative practitioners who may have expertise in a broad range of artistic disciplines including visual arts, sound, music, performance or digital.

The role of artists and creative people in today’s public art context is multifaceted and requires a collaborative approach. This spirit of collaboration ensures that public art is created which truly responds to its place.

The quality of the process of artists working with communities and responding to place is key and may result in a range of tangible and intangible outcomes.

This Public Art Plan offers a series of ‘guiding principles’ for public art which emerged from stakeholder and community consultation. These are -

- **Authenticity:** All public art should be related to the district of Selby reflecting the local area
- **Bring people with you:** Local people must be engaged in the process
- **Process is key:** The process of commissions is of equal importance to any final outcomes
- **Tell the story:** Be transparent and think through how you will share the story of the commission
- **It may not be an object:** Public art doesn’t have to result in a tangible, physical object
- **Value creative people:** All artists and creative people involved in projects should be properly paid
- **Enable young people:** Projects should consider how young people can participate
- **Open to all:** All commissions should take an inclusive approach and be highly accessible
- **Small is beautiful:** Not all public artworks need to be large scale, smaller commissions can also make a big impact
- **Artists near and far:** Nurture and enable existing talent, but don't exclude artists from elsewhere
- **Delivering with care:** It is important that projects are delivered with care and respect
- **Local skills and passions:** Utilise existing skills and expertise in the area
- **Tell stories, change views:** Sharing stories provide huge opportunities to engage with people
- **Use the past to inspire the future:** The area has a wealth of stories that can be used to create a stronger future
- **Collaboration - build a team:** Working together will achieve more impact

The District’s Heritage Interpretation Masterplan provides a layer of unique themes across the district that can provide inspiration for public art commissions. The Masterplan establishes an overarching interpretative theme, which is:

Heart of Yorkshire - The people of Selby District have for centuries made great use of a distinctive and unusual low-lying riverine landscape, successfully adapting and innovating through changing circumstances.

The themes outlined in the Masterplan should provide the inspiration for all public art in the district, to create coherence and consistency, clearly rooting commissions in the place and what makes it so special.

This Public Art Plan makes a series of key recommendations -

- The Public Art Plan should be adopted as formal Council policy
- Public art advocacy, training and awareness for Council Officers and Members should be built into existing workplace induction and training structures such as the Selby Urban Design Academy, or other mechanisms
- Training should be developed for those outside the Council who may play a role in public art in the area such as developers, NHS / healthcare sector, Town and Parish Councillors
- There should be the development of a Public Art Forum, including local authority representatives from culture, regeneration, planning and other areas as appropriate
- There should be the development of training to enable local creatives to respond to opportunities around public art in the district

The Public Art Plan is a series of interlinked documents:

- A document exploring the role of public art in the district of Selby
- A guide for Planners and Developers
- A 'how to' guide which explains the commissioning process

There is great opportunity for the district of Selby to deliver high quality public art that has a long term impact on the people, place and economy of the area. For this to be successful, public art in the area must use a broad definition and engage closely with people and place to create locally rooted and exemplary artworks that will help forge a new future for the district of Selby.

2. INTRODUCTION

This Public Art Plan has been commissioned by Selby District Council to create a clear framework for the commissioning of public art. The aim is to increase both the quantity and quality of public art in the area.

The plan also aims to ensure that there is consistency - whether that is of approach or themes - to public art in the area and offers a vision of how public art can be embedded into the fabric of the public spaces and places of the district of Selby. It can help share and reflect its heritage, communities, stories, creativity and future.

Selby District Council believe creativity, culture and heritage has a key role to play for everyone who lives, works or visits the area. Public art is important to the Council as it is a clear way of creating better places, supporting the local cultural sector, promoting the local area, celebrating what makes the area special and working with local people.

Selby District Council has outlined the following vision for public art -

- Public art will celebrate what makes the district of Selby so special - the stories, the people, the places, the buildings and the spaces, enhancing local pride.
- Public art should be an integral part of significant new developments and masterplanning from the earliest possible stage
- Artists and creative people, both from the district of Selby and beyond must be nurtured and supported to create the best work possible
- Public art is an important way of connecting with local communities, understanding what they want for the area and celebrating what is important to them
- The district of Selby will be recognised as a centre of excellence for the commissioning of public art

This Public Art Plan is presented in the format of a suite of practical linked documents to provide a toolkit which will:

- Raise awareness of what public art is, what it can offer, and establish the broader context for public art in the district of Selby
- Consider the approach to public art for planners and developers
- Guide people through the process of commissioning public art, with a practical step by step guide

The development, design and commissioning of public art in the district doesn't just belong to the Council. Public art is for and by everyone and the Council recognises that it has a role to enable, empower and support others in developing high quality public art for the benefit of the people of the district.

The Plan has been developed by cultural development organisation, Beam, in consultation with stakeholders and communities. These documents are intended to create the framework within which all public art in the district is commissioned to ensure that there is consistency of approach and quality as well as strong thematic links.

3. WHAT IS PUBLIC ART AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Public art is for everyone - both residents and visitors, it can be temporary, permanent or time limited, it may be functional, such as artist designed seating or be purely visual or sensory to add to a space. It embraces varied artforms, **there is no single definition.**

Public art is **not just about the physical** - whether that is a sculpture, work integrated into paving, lighting design, signage or other works. It is **also about the temporary** - this could be a performance, engaging with local communities, digital artworks or socially engaged artist residencies.

It can also be about **temporary interventions** or activities that test out a new use of a public space, **promote dialogue** with the community and help to **support longer term change.**

Public art can also involve **collaboration between artists and design professionals** to enable the ideas of artists to influence and shape larger building schemes and landscapes.

Commissions may **engage with local people as co-collaborators and creators with artists** to produce the work. This is an approach which is strongly recommended for commissions in the district of Selby as it helps to encourage local support and buy-in for the project and **roots artwork in the authenticity of its place**, drawing from local knowledge, stories and passions.

Public art can help to **create connections and promote dialogue** between people about their place, it may reveal hidden or underrepresented stories, creating surprise and delight and offer the opportunity to play.

The canvas for the artwork is any location where it can be accessed by the public - be that parks and green spaces, town squares, on or inside public buildings and more.

Public art brings spaces to life, adding surprise, joy and interest to people's everyday experience of a place.

In terms of impact public art can -

FOR PEOPLE

- Bring **social benefits**, enhancing how people enjoy, understand and connect with the heritage, diversity, natural and built environment of their area and with others in their local community
- **Inspire young people** through working with artists to have a voice and active role as co-curators and producers in how their places develop, offering a sense of belonging and an opportunity to **reflect on the past, present and future of their place**
- Offer **new inclusive opportunities** for creative learning and skills development, participation, volunteering and shared experiences

FOR PLACE

- Create **more attractive places to live, work and visit**
- **Demonstrate the ambition** of a place and be a source of publicity and wider recognition
- **Support wayfinding and legibility of a place**, guiding exploration and improving the welcome at key locations, creating landmarks and gateways to the district and its key settlements
- **Reveal, tell and share** the story of the district in an engaging and thought provoking way, animating public spaces and supporting local pride in place, local confidence, interest from visitors and a chance for local people to have a say about how their place is shaped
- Support **artists working on a design team**, to encourage expertise to be built amongst regeneration and development sectors. Artists may offer an alternative viewpoint offering creative solutions, challenging assumptions or proposing unconventional approaches

FOR THE ECONOMY

- Support **local businesses** by developing a locally sourced, circular economy with local employment opportunities, e.g. for locally based artists, creatives, event managers, fabricators and installers, marketers and more
- Have **economic benefits**, welcoming both residents and visitors to explore new places and to revisit or dwell longer in familiar areas
- Nurture the **local cultural sector (the artists and organisations)** to support growth and develop their work and businesses

- Encourage **inward investment** by making places more attractive, exciting and appealing to businesses, investors and visitors
- Inspire artists to respond to the **climate emergency** by encouraging people to be more aware of their global impact and to reduce the effect on the local environment, they can also lead by example in the processes they adopt

4. THE ROLE OF ARTISTS AND CREATIVE PEOPLE

The **skills and experience of Artists are key** to the delivery of this plan.

In the context of the district of Selby we are defining ‘Artists’ as creative practitioners who may have expertise in a broad range of artistic disciplines including visual arts, sound, music, performance or digital.

They may have skills in socially engaged practice, participatory or community arts. Artists may work on their own, as partnerships or collectives, or in collaboration with designers, landscape architects and architects.

The role of artists and creative people in today’s public art context is varied and requires a collaborative approach. This spirit of collaboration ensures that public art is created which truly responds to its place.

Artists, guided by their brief, may take on a combination of roles in the process of a commission, such as researcher, community activator, creative coordinator, design advisor or fabricator. This is alongside or sometimes instead of the creation of an artwork object such as a sculpture or intervention.

The **quality of the process of artists working with communities and responding to place is key** and may result in a range of tangible and intangible outcomes.

Artists may produce artwork, engage communities, be embedded as part of a broader team or provide a catalyst for creative thinking and problem solving.

5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PUBLIC ART IN THE DISTRICT OF SELBY

A series of ‘guiding principles’ for public art have emerged from stakeholder and community consultation (*summarised in section 10*).

These guiding principles provide a **useful checklist** for anyone commissioning public art in the district of Selby, although it is recognised that not all will be applicable to every commission.

The Section 3 ‘How to’ commissioning guide addresses all of the below principles and offers practical advice to support their practical delivery.

- **Authenticity:** All public art should be related to the district of Selby, reflecting the local area. It should be authentic to the place and grow from collaboration with local people
- **Bring people with you:** Local people must be engaged in the process, whether this is through fully co-produced commissions or through artists being inspired and responding to local ideas and interests. Be aware that meaningful relationship building takes time
- **Process is key:** The process of commissions is of equal importance to any final outcomes. A quality process is also more likely to yield high quality artwork which is owned and loved by its community
- **Tell the story:** It is important to be transparent and think through how to share the story of the commission from the outset. This may be through sharing updates directly, through partners, or by empowering the artist to share the project journey
- **It may not be an object:** Public art doesn't have to result in a tangible, physical object. The role of artists in working with people to hold and support places during periods of change, in shifting perceptions, or in testing and playing with ideas should be recognised
- **Value creative people:** All artists and creative people involved in projects should be properly paid and their time and expertise valued in the same way that other disciplines are valued
- **Enable young people:** Projects should consider how young people can participate in the project, whether through engaging with artists to inspire ideas, give their views, take part in a creative activity themselves or being supported to respond to creative briefs. Opportunities for young people to link with other generations should also be considered
- **Open to all:** All commissions should take an inclusive approach and be highly accessible so that as many people as possible can engage with them. This needs to be thought through at the very outset of the project idea with independent advice sought where necessary
- **Small is beautiful:** Not all public artworks need to be large scale, smaller commissions can also make a big impact. At all scales however artworks should be of the highest quality
- **Artists near and far:** Nurture and enable existing talent, but don't exclude artists from elsewhere who may offer a different perspective. Wherever artists come from always consider what the local legacy of the project will be
- **Delivering with care:** It is important that projects are delivered with care and respect - for individuals, community and our planet. Artists should consider the social and environmental impact of their work
- **Local skills and passions:** Utilise existing skills and expertise in the area as much as possible, whether this is engaging with local community groups, locally based fabricators, local artists or others
- **Tell stories, change views:** Public art in Selby district should help to tell engaging contemporary and heritage stories about the place, both for local people and for those who visit to discover
- **Use the past to inspire the future:** Local heritage may spark ideas, but there are chances look to the future as well and consider how the history of a place could be shared in a contemporary way or used as inspiration
- **Collaboration - build a team:** At the project outset consider who your partners, collaborators and advisers could be and their roles. How could working with others help to elevate and connect the project for the widest possible impact

6. WHY HAVE A PUBLIC ART PLAN?

The need for a Public Art Plan was identified as an action in the Cultural Development Framework for Selby District and contributes to a number of its key priorities, as well as priorities in the Visitor Economy Strategy, the Economic Development Framework and the Town Revitalisation Plans.

Public art in the district is currently limited in both scope and number, but large regeneration projects, which are currently underway, offer key opportunities for artists and art, including the commissioning of permanent site-specific installations and temporary public artworks and interventions which will celebrate, share stories, promote dialogue, shape change, inspire or intrigue.

Public art can support the district of Selby to achieve long-term improvements to the district's urban environment, particularly in public open spaces, major developments and schemes delivering creative renewal and regeneration. It will help to build a sense of place and identity through impactful artworks and social engagement, as well as promoting vibrant cultural, creative and visitor sectors.

This plan has been developed through consultation with a range of stakeholders including the creative and cultural sectors, local people, planners, architects, key service providers, arts and community venues and other organisations working together in the public realm, and draws from the needs and interests of the people who live and work in the district of Selby.

7. THE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL

It is recognised that the Council does not have the resources (financial or staff) to lead on the commissioning of all public art in the district. Equally commissioning public art should not be something that is carried out solely by one body. Therefore the Council's role as activator, enabler and advisor is key.

Lead by Example

When the Council acts as the lead for a commission, it should deliver this clearly in line with the best practice guidance provided within this Public Art Plan. In order to do this an internal process of training across disciplines is desirable to boost internal skills and experience in commissioning.

Advocate for Public Art

The Council should use this Public Art Plan to support awareness and advocacy for public art both externally and internally (Officers and Members), particularly item 3 of this document 'What is Public Art & Why Does it matter?' which details potential impacts of public art and explains its broad scope. As part of the Council's advocacy role there is also the potential for training to be developed for those outside the Council who may play a role in public art in the area such as developers, NHS / healthcare sector, Town and Parish Councils and others.

A Coordinated Approach

In order to oversee the delivery of the Public Art Plan, to ensure coordination and to act as an enabler for public art in the district, it is recommended that the Council establish a cross

disciplinary public art forum group to take an overview of larger place based projects where art can play a role.

This forum should be small and focused and include local authority representatives from culture, regeneration, planning and other areas, such as communications, as appropriate. The forum should have a flexible membership to enable specific skills to be drawn in for relevant projects. There is also potential to consider public art coordination as part of existing structures, for example having a public art representative on the 'Creative Drivers' group, and including public art opportunities as a regular agenda item.

The purpose of the forum is to -

- Advocate for the Public Art Plan and for the inclusion of public artworks within the district
- To identify and influence opportunities to embed public art within policy and planning
- Maintain oversight of public art projects across the district and ensure that they are being delivered in line with the guidance contained within this Plan;
- To act as strategic enablers for others to deliver public art, signposting to relevant advice and guidance at an early stage
- To ensure the Council is leading by example / best practice when commissioning public art;
- To ensure that past and current commissions in the district are mapped in a central location
- To carry out an annual review / strategic evaluation of public art activity in the area, monitoring emerging opportunities, commissioning, maintenance and decommissioning;
- To maintain a broad awareness of public art exemplars happening elsewhere;
- Through delivery of this plan - to create a positive model of good practice to influence the approach to public art across the new North Yorkshire Council area.

Integration with the Planning Process

The Council, through its public art forum and planning department has a key role in delivering public art through integration with the planning process (further details in document 2). There are many developments which may offer scope for public art projects including - town / village centre regeneration; Pedestrianisation schemes; Major new developments; New housing, schools or community facilities; Heritage, cultural or tourism initiatives; Transport schemes; Landscaping and public open space schemes; and Wayfinding and interpretation schemes.

Mapping Public Art

Some basic mapping of public art in the area should be carried out, to include existing and new commissions. A framework should be developed which clearly outlines expectations of consistent information about each project to be gathered e.g. location, artform, artist, date, image of the work, maintenance requirements, commissioning organisations, etc.

This does not need to be a complex process and there is the potential to gain support through working with local universities to offer this activity as a live student project or to consider how social media could be used to crowdsource information about existing works (as in Kirklees where a voluntary audit of public art is being conducted <https://twitter.com/publicartaudit>)

To map and record public art across the district of Selby, as commissions develop over time, simple free online tools such as Google Maps can also provide a useful place to map and gain an overview of public art in the area. These maps can also recommend walking tours to residents and visitors. An example of this approach is provided by Brighton & Hove City

Council - <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-arts/arts-and-culture/public-art-trail-1-brighton-town-centre-0>

Some existing examples of public art in the district of Selby are currently logged on the Art UK website and it is recommended that future physical public art commissions are also logged here. <https://artuk.org/>

In terms of recording and logging public art projects that are more socially engaged in nature these can be logged as part of the Social Art Library. <https://www.socialartlibrary.org/>

8. THE FUNDING LANDSCAPE FOR PUBLIC ART

Funding for public art, whether temporary or permanent, is normally drawn down from multiple sources. Through the adoption of a partnership approach the commission also has the capacity to support multiple agendas and objectives.

Sources of funding for public art are limited and careful consideration of how to add the most value to existing allocated budgets or match funding will be needed in order to attract additional investment.

More detail about potential funding sources for public art and about approaches to developing multi source funding packages for public art projects can be found in the document 3 'How to' guide, but a brief summary is provided here -

- Section 106/ planning conditions
- Existing design budgets (e.g. landscaping, lighting, street furniture etc.)
- Arts Council England – various strands at differing scales (Project Grants; Cultural Development Fund etc.).
Selby District has been identified as a 'Priority Place' for Arts Council (2021-24), this means that Arts Council is keen to develop new opportunities for investment in the area. Selby District has identified 'placemaking' as their area of priority focus with the Arts Council under this scheme and public art has a clear role to play here.
- Opportunities through the Levelling Up agenda, such as the Shared Prosperity Fund
- Trusts and Foundations (National)
- Trusts and Foundations (Local)
- Heritage - e.g. National Lottery Heritage Fund; Historic England
- Community - e.g. National Lottery Community Fund
- Health & Wellbeing – e.g. Wellcome Trust
- Digital / Innovation – e.g. Arts Council England
- Landfill Tax Credits - various schemes based on the geography of your project
- Local funds e.g. Town / Parish Councils
- Private Donation, Business sponsorship,
- Individuals – crowdfunding

9. THE CONTEXT

In the development of this plan a range of local, regional and national strategies and broader context has been considered. It has been identified that public art can support and contribute to the below -

Local

- **Selby District Council Plan:** This plan has been developed in the context of the Selby District Council Plan 2020-30, which has the strategic priorities of making Selby District:

- A great place to live;
- A great place to enjoy;
- A great place to grow;
- and that Selby District Council delivers great value.

To deliver these priorities Selby District Council will:

- Work collaboratively with others – recognising we are not experts in everything, we will use the best expertise, resources and skills across our partners and communities;
 - Continue to be close to our communities – involving more people in decisions about their area and their services;
 - Put the customer at the heart of service delivery – supporting residents to be more self-sufficient and maximising use of digital technology in service delivery; and
 - Support the well-being of residents – considering how our decisions impact on healthy life choices and the environment.
- The **Selby District Economic Development Framework 2017 – 22 (rev. 2019)** supports this through the creative industries and the visitor economy - two of the seven priority growth sectors identified. There is an emphasis on revitalisation of the town centres, including the major Selby station gateway project, and recognition of the role that the District's unique heritage has in creating a sense of place.
 - **Selby District Cultural Development Framework 2021-25**
The Selby District Cultural Development Framework (CDF), is a key document which informs this plan and which recommended the development of a Public Art Plan. The CDF establishes that the Council sees that:
 - Culture is part of the glue that brings communities together
 - Culture can revitalise places and the communities within them, changing perceptions of the area both for those living there and those outside
 - The district's cultural, creative and visitor sectors should be a driving force for the local economy

The CDF identified five priority areas, all of which public art can contribute towards:

- **CREATING A NEW CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE** - Support the development of artists, creative practitioners, arts & heritage organisations, technology, venues and networks. Creating a new approach to culture in the District.
- **PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF CULTURE** - Culture as a way to engage local people, develop their skills, quality of life, health & well-being, connections with others and participation. People will be actively involved to shape, develop and deliver activities.
- **TRANSFORMING SELBY DISTRICT** - Culture and creativity will support the regeneration of the district (physically, culturally and digitally).

- CELEBRATING SELBY DISTRICT - Celebrate the district of Selby, the wealth of stories, achievements, people and heritage. This is not only as a way to strengthen local pride, but also change perceptions and build for the future.
- SUPPORTING DELIVERY - Ensure that the objectives of the framework can be delivered through the investment of time, money and capacity.

- **Key Programmes, Initiatives and Opportunities**

At the time of writing this plan it is an exciting moment of opportunity and change in the district of Selby and there are a number of key activities underway with direct relevance to the public art plan.

- Selby Town's Historic England funded High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) which covers part of Selby town centre, focussing on the Abbey. The programme which began in 2020, includes public realm, building repair/refurbishment improvements alongside community engagement activity and an accompanying cultural programme, which includes a number of temporary public art projects.
- Town Revitalisation Action Plans developed by People & Places for Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster, including revitalisation of Tadcaster bus station. An artist is already in place to work on this project.
- Place & Movement studies of Selby & Sherburn, which include proposals for the enhancement/creation of public spaces and enhanced walking and cycling.
- Major Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) project in Selby town to transform the area around the railway station in Selby, including new station frontage and plaza with direct walking/cycling route through Selby Park to the town centre; a remodelled bus station with improved facilities and better links; and improved foot and cycle routes for parts of the town centre. An artist is already in place to work on this project. Development of a masterplan for Selby Abbey Quarter and improvements to Selby Park, focussing on enhancing the Market Place and the connection between the Abbey and the Park.
- Explore Heart of Yorkshire - a visitor destination brand for Selby district launched in 2021. The consultation for development of the brand highlighted the importance of celebrating the district's uniqueness and stories. The identity enables an ongoing focus on the cultural priorities of the geographic area, both whilst Local Government reorganisation is underway and after the new Unitary Authority has been created.
- Development of a Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the District, which identifies the key heritage opportunities, stories and themes. This work is being developed on the same timeline as this Public Art Plan so there are clear opportunities for the themes to influence the development of public art and for public art to help share the heritage of the district.
- Existing Section 106 agreements for artist involvement with projects at Staynor Hall and Kellingley.
- The identification of Selby district as a 'Priority Place' for the Arts Council for the period 2021-24, addressing a previous low level of cultural funding and investment coming into the area. This is a key starting point for a longer term drive to reach equity with other areas.
- Changes in the structure of local government in the area create the opportunity for districts and boroughs to work more closely together creating a network of more varied places and space (particularly more quiet one) for people to visit

- **Challenges**

Whilst there is a great deal for the district to be proud of there are a number of challenges which influence this plan.

- The cultural and creative sectors in the district are smaller than in other areas of North Yorkshire and there is limited cultural infrastructure
- Visitors to North Yorkshire are often drawn to the landscapes of the Dales, the North York Moors and the coast, along with the established heritage environment of York. In such a crowded market it is easy for the visitor to overlook the quieter offer of the district of Selby
- The quality of some of the town gateways require improvement and the town centres require a revitalised aesthetic and experience
- With local government reorganisation (to a Unitary Authority) happening in 2023 there needs to be a comprehensive and robust approach to public art planning in place
- At the time of writing this plan, the government had announced the investment zone concept with the aim of encouraging growth through changes in regulations. At this point it wasn't clear whether the district of Selby would be designated such an area and what the impact would be on placemaking.

- **Planning Context**

- The district of Selby has not previously had a Public Art Plan, so existing works have been created in response to a specific need or opportunity, often with investment through a Section 106 Agreement or as part of a wider regeneration scheme.
- The Council's Local Plan was being developed at the time of writing this public art plan in 2022, but under the "Heritage and Place-Making" section paragraph 3.34 states that "*Opportunities should be taken to create successful well-designed places, that provide high quality environments and contribute to a good quality of life for local communities*". This public art plan is therefore a key document in supporting these aims and will be a material consideration as part of the planning process to ensure opportunities for public art are considered.

- **Existing public art**

There are a few existing examples of public art in the district, generally sculptural and more traditional in nature. These include:

- Selby canal heritage sculpture by [David Mayne](#) (1999)
- '[Three Swans](#)' by [Ailsa Magnus](#), Ousegate/ A19 Selby and [Relaunch by Ailsa Magnus](#), Ousegate (both 2009);
- '[Main West Window](#)' and '[Ship's Hull](#)' sculptures on roundabouts on the Selby ring road (2014); Artists unknown.
- '[Fairey Swordfish Plane](#)' Sculpture in Sherburn by Dan Jones (2016); and
- [Selby Medal](#) outside Selby War Memorial Hospital by Mark Renn (2012)
- [Chromatic Octagon](#), Selby War Memorial Hospital by Aethera and Hemera (2011)

The district also has examples of working with artists in the public realm on projects that have less tangible and temporary outcomes, these include:

- Community artist [Justin Grasty and Social Vision](#) delivered artist led workshops in tadcaster to feed into future plans for the area (February 2022)

- Artist Lynn Settrington, focused on the Selby Toll Bridge as part of her [‘Unfolding Origins’](#) artist residency with Chrysalis Arts and North Yorkshire Records Office
- There are a number of projects taking place as part of the High Street Heritage Action Zone, [Selby Stories](#) project -
 - Artist [Serena Partridge](#) is working as artist in residence at Selby Abbey
 - [Selby Market writer-in-residence Sarah Butler](#) is collecting and writing texts to be temporarily installed in the public realm around Selby town centre
 - Artist [Ed Kluz](#) is creating works for scaffolding wraps on buildings undergoing HAZ-funded repairs and improvement
 - [Developing Selby in Minecraft](#) with Adam Clarke (Wizard Keen) engaging younger audiences to identify what they like and what the future may hold for the town

There are also a series of public art projects that were in development at the time of writing this plan:

- Artist [Katayoun Dowlatshahi](#) was been commissioned to develop a new artwork as part of the Selby Station Gateway development
- A commission was in progress to work with improvements and upgrades to Tadcaster bus station with artist [Christopher Tipping](#) appointed.
- [Artists Claire Barber and Patricia Mackinnon-Day](#) completed a research residency along the Barlby road area including a community engagement event in Selby Park, leading to design proposals for future development along the road corridor and gateway into the town.

Regional

- **Local Government Reorganisation:** At the time of producing this plan there are significant changes taking place to the structure of local government in York and North Yorkshire. From 2023 a new unitary authority covering the whole of North Yorkshire (excluding the City of York) will take the place of the 7 district & borough Councils and the County Council. Culture can play an important role to help ensure that the district of Selby has a role in any new structure that reflects its identity, heritage, opportunities, achievements and communities, with three significant, distinctive settlements. Public art can be a key tool to help share the story of the place.
- **A Cultural Strategic Framework for North Yorkshire** has recently been adopted that works alongside the cultural strategies and plans the individual districts and boroughs have. This public art plan can contribute to many of the opportunities identified but in particular the focus on place shaping.
- **Great Place Lakes and Dales** is a Great Place funded programme (a partnership between Arts Council England and National Lottery Heritage Fund). It focuses on the rural corridor linking Skipton in the south and Grasmere in the north, including the market towns and rural hinterlands. The project is managed by a consortium of partnership organisations and has a focus on empowering young voices, it also includes a public art strand [‘Public Art Now!’](#). Lessons learnt from this programme could provide useful learning to support the commissioning of public art in Selby district, particularly with reference to partnership working across the wider new local authority area from 2023.

National

- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2019) states that the planning system should, *“take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community”*. Public art is therefore a clear opportunity to contribute to the cultural well-being of an area to create *“a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community’s needs and support its health, social and cultural well- being”*.
- The Government Cultural white paper of 2016 stated that *“Cultural placemaking can shape the fortunes of our regions, cities, towns and villages”*
“We want more local leaders to grasp the potential of culture to achieve their vision for their community, and to put culture at the forefront of their strategies”.
- Arts Council England’s *“Let’s Create”* is a 10-year strategy (2020-30) that aims to put culture and creativity at the heart of transforming the country, making it a creative nation. It is built around the following outcomes:
 - Creative People: Everyone can develop and express creativity throughout their life
 - Cultural Communities: Villages, towns and cities thrive through a collaborative approach to culture
 - A creative and cultural country: England’s cultural sector is innovative, collaborative and international
 They have also published two reports into the benefit culture has for the high street, in particular how this can support local economies.
The district of Selby has been identified as a ‘Priority Place’ for Arts Council (2021-24) where they want to develop new opportunities for investment. Selby’s priority place work has a particular focus on placemaking.
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund Strategic Funding Framework (2019-24) has the following objectives:
 - Continue to bring heritage into better condition
 - Inspire people to value heritage more
 - Ensure that heritage is inclusive
 - Support the organisations we fund to be more robust, enterprising and forward looking
 - Demonstrate how heritage helps people and places to thrive
 - Grow the contribution that heritage makes to the UK economy
- The Government’s Levelling Up agenda presents opportunities including the Shared Prosperity Fund, as well as the move towards a potential Devolution deal for North Yorkshire & York.

10. A PLAN SHAPED WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

This plan has been shaped by and strongly rooted in a detailed process of stakeholder and community consultation and local research.

- Individual stakeholder conversations took place with representatives from Selby, Tadcaster and Sherburn and with Selby District Disability Forum, Selby Civic Society, Tadcrafters CIC, the Creative Drivers network, High Street Heritage Action Zone steering group, SDC Members and officers representing culture, regeneration and planning, and the consultants developing the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan in parallel with the development of the public art plan.

- Guided by local authority representatives there were a series of site visits in each town, which were supplemented by walkabouts with local community representatives, identifying priority areas and opportunities.
- Public consultation sessions were held at Selby Library, Tadcaster Community Library & The Barn and at Sherburn Community Library.

Key findings which emerged from the consultation are summarised below -

Authentically Selby district:

- A real sense that the community will support public art if it is meaningful and authentic to the area and the story of the artwork communicated, rather than artwork that feels imposed
- The local geology, biodiversity and wildlife was seen as a key asset which should be better communicated. People commented on ‘an abundance of wildlife that is not seen in other areas’. This was seen as an important way of promoting better mental health and wellbeing
- There was a strong sense that public art can support local identity and help to share hidden heritage and stories
- There could be the potential for more challenging public art, potentially delivered through temporary events in the first instance, to build appetite

Wayfinding:

- The importance of gateways, nodes and routes around the area was noted with a desire for landmarks and gateways that welcome people to the area and share key stories
- Signposting / wayfinding across the district in general and around the three towns was felt to be a weakness and there was a desire for family friendly trails and other projects which might support the legibility of each place and help people to find ‘hidden gems’
- There was also a call for more ambitious, statement/ landmark public art in the area - the [Featherstone War Horse](#) was cited as an example

Temporary:

- The power and role of temporary artworks and projects and their role in testing out more contemporary and ‘risky’ projects was noted, also temporary projects role as part of ‘tactical urbanism’, testing out new creative uses for public spaces, with a view to catalysing longer term change
- There was a desire for the Plan to act as an enabling tool to empower communities to take forward small semi-permanent projects on their own such as commissioning murals or decorating junction boxes
- Animation of places was seen as key and seed funding for community led arts activity could help to drive this
- There could be opportunities to engage with the local business community creating pop up town trails

Delivery:

- The importance of future maintenance plans for artworks was raised
- Several locally based artists attended the consultation, they expressed a desire to see transparent tendering processes and to be able to get involved in work in the district, rather than just working in other parts of the country

Heritage:

- There were lots of discussions about the many layers to heritage in the area and how it could be interpreted in new, interesting and future facing ways, drawing out how the past shapes the future. The relationship with the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan was repeatedly highlighted, with the opportunities for both plans to support each other stressed.

Community:

- A lot of energy from local groups and strong community spirit was noted in the area, particularly in Tadcaster and Sherburn, these groups should be supported and enabled through this Plan
- There should be potential for design and ideas led by young people, enabling them to affect real changes in their places
- In areas such as Sherburn with large scale new housing developments, art commissions could help to integrate existing and new residents and share the local heritage and character of the area

Regeneration:

- There is currently a lack of consistency in the public realm of each town, public art could support the improvement of this as part of wider regeneration plans

11. THEMES AND STORIES

The recently developed Selby District Heritage Interpretation Masterplan has drawn out a series of thematic areas which encapsulate a broad view of the characteristics which make up the sense of place of the area. The Public Art Plan can support their interpretation and they form a useful starting point when considering themes for artist briefs.

Below is an overview of the themes -

WHAT ARE WE INTERPRETING?

These are the building blocks of Selby District's past, present and future

Overarching Interpretive Theme

- Heart of Yorkshire - The people of Selby District have for centuries made great use of a distinctive and unusual low-lying riverine landscape, successfully adapting and innovating through changing circumstances.

Character of People and Places**Place**

- Low-lying levels edged by a rocky ridge.
- Part of the Humberhead Levels
- A major tidal river
- Rich farmland
- Magnesian Limestone ridge
- Limestone Aquifer
- Plentiful natural resources
- Extensive transport connections

People

- Storyteller
- Maverick
- Creator / Artist
- Innovator / Engineer
- Caregiver / Companion

Layer One Topics

Conflict

- Viking landings
- War of the Roses
- Dissolution
- Civil War
- World War 1
- World War 2

Transport Evolution, Innovation, Evolution

- Natural waterways and the sea
- Early roads and fords / bridges
- Ferries
- Early and later canals
- Shipbuilding
- Steam packet
- Railways
- Modern Roads
- Aircraft

Land Management

- Early marshlands
- Marsh draining
- Floodplains
- Flood strategies
- Mechanical pumping
- Dykes

Energy

- Early water power
- Early wind power
- Coal discovery
- Coal-fired power stations
- Biofuel conversions
- Wind farms
- Carbon capture

Foundational Topics

Stone

- Quarries
- Early movement
- Manors
- Moated manors
- Palaces
- Churches
- Abbeys
- Cathedrals
- Distinctive dwellings

Water

- Spring water
- River water
- Sea water
- The tidal bore
- Riverine communities
- Early canals
- Boat building
- Brewing

Earth (Land, agriculture)

- Highest grade farm land
- Mediaeval farming communities
- Timber / woodland
- Food production and milling, manufacture
- Export and import

12. EVALUATION & A 'DYNAMIC' PLAN

It is vitally important that the impact of both this Public Art Plan as a whole and individual commissions are evaluated in the short, medium and long term. The impact of some of this work may not be seen for many years and it takes time for the impact to be fully understood. There are many examples where a commission has not necessarily been warmly received initially by the community, but it is only over time that they embrace and celebrate the work. It is recommended that a five year evaluation plan is established (whether by the council or external consultants) against which progress is reviewed on an annual basis. The annual review could have an element that is shared with the wider community, highlighting the work commissioned that year (by the Council and others), the community engagement, the artists involved, the outcomes and any observations.

For each commission it is expected that the commissioning organisation (whether the Council or others) will establish aims and objectives for that particular commission. They will then monitor progress against this and report back to the Council. More detail to guide individual commission evaluation is contained in document 3 'How to' guide.

13. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Public Art Plan should be adopted as formal Council policy
- Public art advocacy, training and awareness for Council Officers and Members should be built into existing workplace induction and training structures such as the Selby Urban Design Academy, or other mechanisms
- Training should be developed for those outside the Council who may play a role in public art in the area such as developers, NHS/ healthcare sector, Town and Parish Councillors
- There should be the development of a Public Art Forum, including local authority representatives from culture, regeneration, planning and other areas as appropriate
- There should be the development of training to enable local creatives to respond to formal tender opportunities around public art in the district



Report Reference Number: E/22/33

To:	Executive
Date:	5 January 2023
Status:	Key Decision
Ward(s) Affected:	All
Author:	Yvette Turnbull, Culture Visitor & Creative Economy Manager
Lead Executive Member:	Cllr Tim Grogan, Lead Executive Member for Health and Culture
Lead Officer:	Julian Rudd, Head of Economic Development and Regeneration

Title: A Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire

Summary:

This report seeks approval and adoption of Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire.

Recommendation:

That the Executive agrees to adopt the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire and implement the recommendations of the Plan.

Reasons for the recommendations

In July 2021 the Cultural Development Framework for Selby District was approved by the Executive. This recognised the significant value of the District’s heritage (to local people and as a driver for visitors) and included an action to develop a Heritage Interpretation Masterplan. The Masterplan’s purpose is to identify the District’s most important heritage stories, sites and the ambitions of the local heritage sector, in order to develop a robust and practical approach to sharing these with our communities and our visitors.

A Heritage Interpretation Masterplan (HIMP) has been developed. The Plan identifies actions which will strengthen the District’s heritage offer; enable heritage sector organisations and groups to attract external investment; connect local people to their Place and enable them to engage with their heritage; drive visitors to great experiences and provide marketable product for the Visitor Economy sector. The Plan will contribute to cultural planning for North Yorkshire Council and provide local opportunities to benefit from the Shared Prosperity Fund, the Place Partnership Fund and the York and North Yorkshire devolution deal.

The HIMP articulates an ambition for our heritage sites and stories, identifies opportunities and captures the passion and commitment of our heritage sector. It will

enable the unique heritage assets of the District to be recognised and understood, as we move into a localities structure within the new North Yorkshire Council.

1. Introduction and background

In 2021 the Cultural Development Framework (CDF) for the District was adopted. This recognised the importance of heritage to our audiences (local and visitors), building on previous work (such as Selby 950) which had evidenced the strength of the District's heritage stories and sites and the interest that our key audiences have in understanding more. Heritage is a significant driver for the Visitor Economy and an important source of pride in Place for the people who live in the District.

The heritage sector in the District is predominantly made up of a large number of small, hyper-local groups of volunteers who work hard to care for and sustain their local heritage, but there has previously been no work to develop a coherent story across the District's heritage assets and sites. Some of the heritage narratives, such as Selby's ship-building industry, or the Roman influence on Tadcaster, are hard to understand, as there are few remnants and often a lack of visitor interpretation, but they have shaped our Place and have deep resonance for our communities and visitors. The stories need to be shared in inspiring, engaging, meaningful and accessible ways.

Work to understand the needs and wants of our audiences (local and visitors) has evidenced a strong interest in using art as a vehicle to share the District's rich heritage stories. Selby Stories, the cultural programme of the Selby High Street Heritage Action Zone, is an example of approaching heritage engagement in this way. For this reason, there is a strong connection between the development of the HIMP and the development of the Public Art Plan, so both these pieces of work have been carried out at the same time.

The Heritage Interpretation Masterplan is attached as Appendix A.

Please note: the title (*Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire*) reflects the localities approach of the new North Yorkshire Council and is intended to future-proof the document. "District" continues to be used throughout the Plan and this report, as a clear indicator of the geography the work covers.

2. The Heritage Interpretation Masterplan:

2.1 Purpose and need for the Masterplan

Selby District is a 'Great Place to Live' and a 'Great Place to Grow' because of what sets it apart and makes it special. Our unique heritage offer attracts visitors and improves quality of life for our residents. Effective heritage-based projects can increase civic pride, revitalise communities, bring new audiences to town centres and change perceptions of place.

The Masterplan emphasises actions which are deliverable by our heritage sector, achievable and align with our existing ambitions and those of our communities. It operates within the strategic context of a new council for North Yorkshire, Levelling Up (Selby District has Levelling Up for Culture status and is an Arts Council England

Priority Place) and a potential Devolution deal for North Yorkshire and York. It is important to ensure that the heritage offer and the development needs of the sector are recognised by the new North Yorkshire Council and that funders, development agencies and future local government structures understand what is important to our communities and businesses and how these priorities can best be achieved.

The HIMP can help to ensure that the importance of heritage assets in the Heart of Yorkshire continue to be recognised, even in the context of a more established offer in other parts of North Yorkshire.

2.2 Development of the Masterplan

Heritage interpretation specialists Brightwhite (based in York) were appointed in April 2022, with a brief to devise and undertake a wide programme of consultation and to use their findings to develop a Masterplan with clear, deliverable actions.

Brightwhite has undertaken a review of the District's heritage assets (including social & ephemeral heritage, the built environment, collections, archives, archaeology and landscape) and met with a broad range of community heritage groups including historical societies, groups caring for heritage sites/assets and local historians who have dedicated time and expertise to researching and understanding the District's past. They have also assessed current engagement and audience reach, as well as exploring barriers to participation.

Consultation mainly took place in person, with the Brightwhite team meeting many heritage volunteers and professional teams, as well as attending events and activities being delivered in the District. They asked consultees to share what they valued about the heritage of the District and what makes it distinctive, as well as asking how heritage can be better shared and understood.

2.3 The Masterplan

The Masterplan identifies key opportunities, stories and themes, and prioritises those which we should share with our audiences, both current and potential.

The Masterplan recognises that the people of Selby District have, for centuries, made great use of a distinctive and unusual landscape. It identifies over-arching interpretive themes, as well as layers of more localised content, such as conflict, transport, land management, and energy. The approach to sharing these stories and physical heritage assets is through community-led, location-specific interpretation and activity, and a programme which embeds stories in the landscape itself.

The Plan identifies several "easy wins", such as: a placename project engaging local people in exploring and understanding the origin of their placenames to create a map; an online resource for local heritage stories to be gathered, stored and made accessible; and piloting a commission to create a site-specific installation in the landscape.

There are a number of more ambitious strategic actions, including: using, and extending the hundreds of miles of walking and cycling networks to share the stories of the District through interpretation, artworks, digital media etc.; supporting local, community & voluntary heritage groups to develop the interpretation of their sites and

stories; creating a virtual museum/archive which gathers the objects and stories and makes them accessible through cataloguing, 3D-scanning and digitisation; and developing a local heritage curriculum to enable schools to have access to a high-quality, significant heritage resource.

The Plan identifies many local opportunities, including at Cawood, Towton, Riccall, Escrick, Monk Fryston and Drax, as well as Tadcaster, Sherburn and Selby.

Multiple opportunities for the independent heritage sector to further develop include: village trails, guided tours and seasonal walks; temporary exhibitions and touring exhibitions to local heritage hubs; simple interpretation in pubs, cafes, attractions and other hospitality businesses; waymarking for trails which may be seasonal, temporary or event-based; training for volunteers, including in digital skills, bid-writing, project development, interpretive planning and story content development etc.; collaboration with local businesses e.g. with accommodation providers to develop packages for visitors; event and activity programmes; community archaeology projects and digitisation/archiving projects.

Priorities have been shaped to ensure they support the ambitions and needs of the district's heritage sector and the interests of local people and visitors. The priorities are interdependent with the Public Art Plan, providing structured heritage narratives which could form content for public art, ensuring that it is relevant, authentic, and site-specific.

2.4 Delivery of the Framework

It is *not* intended that Selby District Council (nor its successor, North Yorkshire Council) will be responsible for delivering all the suggested activities in the Masterplan. Rather, it is envisaged that many of the actions will be taken forward by heritage sector partnerships, which will use this strategic framework as compelling evidence of need/direction of travel within external funding bids and to aid the development and shaping of projects.

Some actions will be delivered via commissioning, probably by the new North Yorkshire Council, whilst others may be wrapped into planned or existing arts projects. Strategic plans from all Districts and Boroughs will form the basis of the next two years of cultural delivery, leading to a new Cultural Strategy for North Yorkshire. Some of the larger scale actions, such as a digital museum, may also form part of an application to funders, e.g. NLHF, whilst the pilot commissioning of installations in the landscape may be part of a Place Partnership approach.

The delivery of Selby Stories, the Cultural Programme for the Selby Town High Street Heritage Action Zone, is a useful exemplar: its delivery model is via a cultural consortium (consisting of community and cultural organisations), with direct support, financial control and project management from SDC's culture team.

3. Impact and outcomes

The Heritage Interpretation Masterplan:

- Provides a number of actions which are aligned to the vision and priorities of our local heritage sector, as well as stakeholders such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF).
- Ensures that the heritage sector is supported to develop its offer, making it more sustainable by engaging with larger audiences of both local people and visitors to the district and increasing both the number and quality of opportunities to engage with heritage.
- Unlocks instrumental benefits of engaging with heritage, including revitalising the High Street; improving well-being and enhancing a sense of belonging; Place-making and regeneration; skills-building and opportunities for volunteering; economic impact and as product for the Visitor Economy. It supports the delivery of the towns' revitalisation plans, the Visitor Economy Strategy and the North Yorkshire Cultural Framework.
- Has a Place-based approach, identifying activity which responds to the unique heritage assets of the district, making a strong contribution to the Place-making and Local Distinctiveness agenda.
- Strengthens our local heritage sector: increasing capacity, improving skills and building ambition.
- Creates enhanced opportunities for children and young people to engage with their heritage.
- Shows how the heritage sector can be supported and grown, with increased opportunities for skills-development.

The Plan is particularly important at this moment, as it will support the visitor and cultural sectors, which have been significantly impacted by COVID-19. It will have a positive impact on the sustainability of our high streets and many of our visitor economy businesses, which depend upon the heritage and cultural offer to drive visitors.

4. Alternative Options Considered

None. The recently agreed Cultural Development Framework included an action to develop a Heritage Interpretation Masterplan, which would provide a strategic framework and future direction.

5. Implications

5.1 Legal Implications

None.

5.2 Financial Implications

No additional investment from SDC is sought. Some of the identified actions may form the basis of applications for external funding (e.g. from Arts Council England (ACE) or National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)), for which an appropriate match is already in place via investment in the Cultural Development Framework. Members agreed to invest £600,000, which includes £110,000 for activity which delivers on Priority 4 “**Celebrating Selby District** including the wealth of stories, achievements, people and heritage; using these as a way of strengthening local pride and changing perceptions.”

It is expected that several of the district's voluntary and community heritage organisations will seek external funding (from NLHF, Trusts, Foundations etc.), bringing additional investment into the locality.

6.3 Policy and Risk Implications

None. The Heritage Interpretation Masterplan sits beneath the Cultural Development Framework and its creation was an action from that Framework. It contributes to the Visitor Economy Strategy, the Town Revitalisation Plans, the Public Art Plan and the North Yorkshire Cultural Development Framework, as well as to elements of the Shared Prosperity Fund Delivery Plan and the priorities of the Devolution deal for North Yorkshire and York. More broadly its emphasis on accessing the landscape also contributes to the Local Cycling Walking & Infrastructure Plan and healthy living agenda.

6.4 Corporate Plan Implications

The Heritage Interpretation Masterplan is in line with Council Plan Delivery priority: "enable a thriving visitor economy underpinned by a sustained focus on enhancing the district's cultural, retail and leisure offer".

The Masterplan contributes to ambitions in the draft Corporate Plan for North Yorkshire Council: "a clean, sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit; and a strong economy that enables residents and businesses to thrive". More specifically: "culture, heritage, arts and (sustainable) tourism all play their part in the economic growth of the county".

6.5 Resource Implications

Resourcing for the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan has been identified above.

6.6 Other Implications

None identified.

6.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

The development of the Heritage Interpretation Masterplan has involved a diverse range of community and organisation representatives and includes a section exploring barriers to engagement and inclusivity, with actions to enable the broadest possible range of communities to engage, participate and experience heritage. Much of the Masterplan will be delivered by the independent heritage sector, but where there are activities delivered by SDC or the new culture team of North Yorkshire Council, they will be subject to Equalities Impact Assessments as appropriate.

7. Conclusion

Selby District's heritage is unique, rich and compelling, but not always well-told or well understood. The Heritage Interpretation Masterplan offers a way to capture our most important stories and sites, enabling a more coherent offer to be created. This will engage more local people in their heritage story, increase the pride that people feel in their Place and drive visitors to the district, who will have a high-quality experience. It

will help the heritage sector and the visitor economy sector to work together, increasing resilience and recovery in the wake of Covid and its very significant impact on well-being, the economy and the community.

The heritage offer of the District has a key part to play in the story of the wider North Yorkshire and the Masterplan will help to ensure that its importance is not lost in a bigger, more established sector.

This Masterplan sets out priorities which are clear and considered. It will enable more external investment to be levered into the district and help us to continue growing our track record in cultural Place-making.

7. Background Documents

Appendix A: Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster Areas of North Yorkshire.

- 8. Contact Officer:** Yvette Turnbull, Culture, Visitor & Creative Economy Manager yturnbull@selby.gov.uk

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Heart of Yorkshire

Heritage Interpretation Masterplan

For the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster Area of North Yorkshire

November 2022

By
Bright White
DESIGN, INNOVATION, INTERPRETATION, EXHIBITION

For
SELBY
DISTRICT COUNCIL



sample size = 62

WELCOME

We listened to a representative sample of Selby District’s communities and individuals about the stories they tell, the way they tell those stories, always asking what could be improved and what they wanted to see. We want to thank everyone who engaged with us.

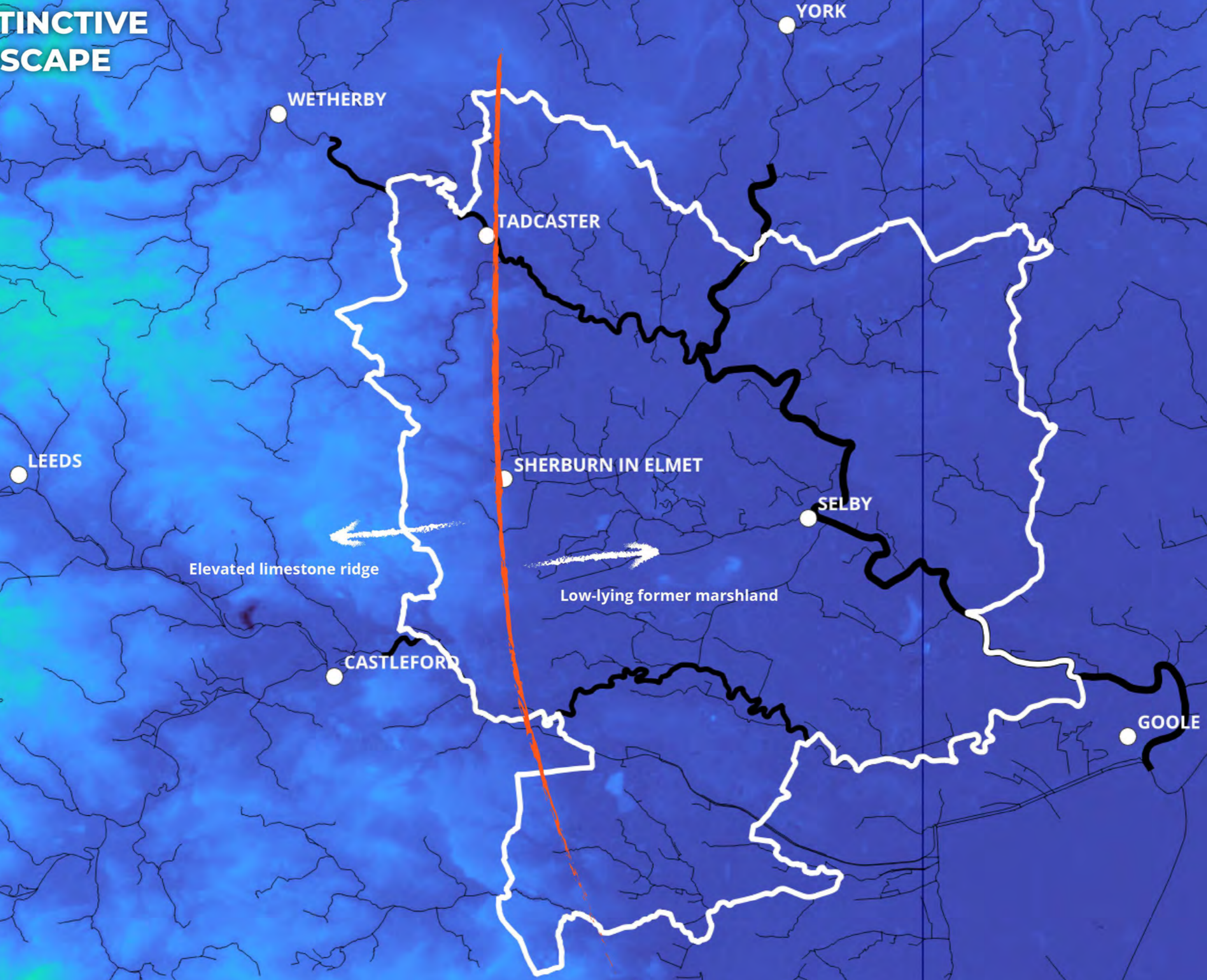
Everyone we spoke to was asked to choose three words to describe Selby District. The Word cloud across the page is the result.

There is a broad range of views here, but we cannot miss the fact that ‘Undiscovered Community Opportunity’ comes across strongly.

After all our research and conversations, we really could not have put it any better ourselves.

Cutting to the chase, the next few pages encapsulate the approach that has developed through community consultation.

A DISTINCTIVE LANDSCAPE



- Selby District Boundary
- Watercourses
- 250m (above sea level)
- 0m (sea level)

WHAT ARE WE INTERPRETING?

These are the building blocks of Selby District's past, present and future



Overarching interpretive theme

Heart of Yorkshire

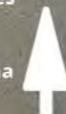
The people of Selby District have for centuries made great use of a distinctive and unusual low-lying riverine landscape, successfully adapting and innovating through changing circumstances.



Character of people and place


Place

- Low-lying levels edged by a rocky ridge
- Part of the Humberhead Levels
- A major tidal river
- Rich farmland
- Magnesian Limestone ridge
- Limestone Aquifer
- Plentiful natural resources
- Extensive transport connections
- Distinctive flora and fauna
- Great green spaces



People


- Storyteller
- Maverick
- Creator / Artist
- Innovator / Engineer
- Caregiver / Companion



Layer one topics


Conflict

- Viking landings
- War of the Roses
- Dissolution
- Civil War
- World War 1
- World War 2




Transport Evolution, Innovation, Revolution

- Natural waterways and the sea
- Early roads and fords / bridges
- Ferries
- Early and later canals
- Shipbuilding
- Steam packet
- Railways
- Modern roads
- Aircraft




Land Management

- Early marshland
- Marsh draining
- Flood planes
- Flood strategies
- Mechanical pumping
- Dykes



Energy


- Early water power
- Early wind power
- Coal discovery
- Coal-fired powerstations
- Biofuel conversions
- Wind farms
- Carbon capture



Foundational topics


Stone

- Quarries
- Early movement
- Manors
- Moated manors
- Palaces
- Churches
- Abbeys
- Cathedrals
- Distinctive dwellings




Water

- Spring water
- River water
- Sea water
- The tidal bore
- Riverine communities
- Early canals
- Boat building
- Brewing



Earth (Land, agriculture)

- Highest grade farm land
- Mediaeval farming communities
- Timber / Woodland
- Food production and milling, manufacture
- Export and import



WHAT ARE WE INTERPRETING?

(Large Type Version)

These are the building blocks of Selby District's past, present and future

Overarching Interpretive Theme

- **Heart of Yorkshire** - The people of Selby District have for centuries made great use of a distinctive and unusual low-lying riverine landscape, successfully adapting and innovating through changing circumstances.

Character of People and Places

Place

- Low-lying levels edged by a rocky ridge.
- Part of the Humberhead Levels
- A major tidal river
- Rich farmland
- Magnesian Limestone ridge
- Limestone Aquifer
- Plentiful natural resources
- Extensive transport connections

People

- Storyteller
- Maverick
- Creator / Artist
- Innovator / Engineer
- Caregiver / Companion

Layer One Topics

Conflict

- Viking landings
- War of the Roses
- Dissolution
- Civil War
- World War 1
- World War 2

Transport Evolution, Innovation, Evolution

- Natural waterways and the sea
- Early roads and fords / bridges
- Ferries
- Early and later canals
- Shipbuilding
- Steam packet
- Railways
- Modern Roads
- Aircraft

Land Management

- Early marshlands
- Marsh draining
- Floodplains
- Flood strategies
- Mechanical pumping
- Dykes

Energy

- Early water power
- Early wind power
- Coal discovery
- Coal-fired power stations
- Biofuel conversions
- Wind farms
- Carbon capture

Foundational Topics

Stone

- Quarries
- Early movement
- Manors
- Moated manors
- Palaces
- Churches
- Abbeys
- Cathedrals
- Distinctive dwellings
- Lime (mortar, wash, fertiliser)
- Civil engineering projects

Water

- Spring water
- River water
- Sea water
- The tidal bore
- Riverine communities
- Early canals
- Boat building
- Brewing

Earth (Land, agriculture)

- Highest grade farm land
- Mediaeval farming communities
- Timber / woodland
- Food production and milling, manufacture
- Export and import

ADDING TO SELBY DISTRICT'S STORY



Rediscover and Secure Collections – making stories more accessible

- Create a virtual archive
- Fund cataloguing of archive boxes that have been dispersed
- Create a strategy to secure and catalogue collections held by individuals
- Digitise and promote 'gems' from all archive sources

Fill in Some of the Blanks – grassroots, place-based research

- Help local community groups secure funding and deliver community research and archaeology projects
- Through this process develop the opportunity to promote greater understanding of people's local history

Tell the Story Better and differently

- Create a Curriculum for Selby
- Embed stories in the landscape –
- Create 100 miles of new interpretive walking and cycling networks

STORYTELLING IN THE LANDSCAPE

Creating 100+ miles of new
walking and cycling networks



-  Mining / Quarrying
-  Selby District Boundary
-  Watercourses
-  Potential New Routes
-  Existing Rights of Way

HOW DO WE ACTION IT?



Community led multiple location-specific interpretation plans and activities

Embedding stories in the landscape

Interpretation masterplan (This document)

Nourished and enabled by community consultation and delivery



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- Richard Cawthorne - archaeologist
- Dr Grace Chapman, Selby Abbey Development Officer
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- Caroline Wandless, Churchwarden and Heritage Project Lead, and volunteers at St Helen's Church / Escrick Heritage Group
- Voirrey Whittaker - Selby Library
- Our clients at Selby District Council

Whilst we have made every effort to contact and consult as many people as possible, there will undoubtedly be those we were unable to reach. Whilst this stage of the project has concluded, there will be many opportunities for consultation in the future. If you would like to get in touch please contact:

Yvette Turnbull, Culture, Visitor & Creative Economy Project Manager
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WHY WE WANT TO CREATE A MASTERPLAN FOR INTERPRETATION

Selby District Council (SDC) commissioned this Heritage Interpretation Masterplan with the aim of identifying and prioritising the district's heritage stories and the themes which connect them. These stories and narratives have deep resonance for the district's communities and SDC wants to share them with residents and visitors to the district. The brief asked us to explore the best means of reaching those audiences and how to ensure that the stories are shared in ways which are inspiring, engaging, accessible and meaningful.

This masterplan is the result of community and stakeholder consultation, ideas and collaboration. It demonstrates how Selby's communities can investigate and share their stories and heritage. It demonstrates how heritage groups and attractions can together make Selby District more recognisable and distinctive for visitors. It shows everyone can benefit from and contribute to this goal.

The Masterplan identifies the key opportunities, stories and themes, and prioritises those which we should share with our audiences, both current and potential. The Masterplan sits above detailed Interpretation Plans for specific key sites. Development of these plans will be part of a second phase of co-creation and production.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT FOR THIS WORK

Selby District is one of the 7 Districts which make up North Yorkshire. The district is 230miles² with an increasing population (89,106 in 2018 predicted to rise to over 92,000 by 2025). The main settlements are Selby with some 20,000 residents, Tadcaster c. 6,000 and Sherburn c.9,000 people. In 2023 a new unitary authority will take the place of the 7 District & Borough Councils and the County Council. Please note that throughout this report we refer to the defined area as 'the District'.

Building on earlier cultural development work by Selby District Council, in 2018 a new Visitor Economy Strategy was adopted and new posts created to deliver it. In 2019 the 950th anniversary of the founding of Selby Abbey was used as an exemplar project, to demonstrate what could be achieved, raise ambition and start to build relationships with our communities and audiences. The audience assessment demonstrated that heritage is very important to the district's residents and that the district's heritage assets – particularly Selby Abbey – are a key driver for visitors.

In 2019 SDC successfully applied to be one of Historic England's 68 High Street Heritage Action Zones (HSHAZ). The HSHAZ covers part of Selby town centre, focussing on the Abbey, and the three year programme includes improvement to the public realm, a grant scheme for building repair and refurbishment and community engagement activity. An accompanying cultural programme, 'Selby Stories', uses oral history and reminiscence as inspiration for wide-ranging activity, including artist residencies, children's song-writing/singing, performance, projection and gaming.

In 2020 SDC commissioned a Cultural Development Framework for the District, which identified 5 key priorities to be delivered over the next 3 to 5 years. The consultation for this Framework once again demonstrated the interest that local communities have in their heritage and also stressed the importance of authenticity in the cultural offer. SDC has set aside £600,000 to deliver the Framework, with the intention that this investment will be used to gain leverage from cultural funders such as the Arts Council England (ACE) and National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). SDC is an Arts Council England Priority Place; that is one of 54 places across England in which investment and engagement was identified as being too low, and the opportunity for ACE to effectively increase investment and engagement was high. ACE is therefore prioritising working with these places from 2021 to 2024 (see also the ACE [Delivery Plan for 2021-24](#)). Opportunities for funding key projects through ACE and NLHF have driven our recommendations for priority actions and activity.

In 2021 SDC launched a new visitor destination brand for Selby district – [Home, At The Very Heart Of Yorkshire | Heart Of Yorkshire \(https://exploreheartofyorkshire.co.uk/\)](#). A Brand Council was established, which worked with a series of archetypes to identify the personality of the District. This showed that local people see their home as a place of storytellers, with importance also placed on perceptions of Selby district residents as mavericks and innovators, engineers, caregivers and creators, with strong emphasis on the warmth, honesty and decency of local people. It highlighted the importance of celebrating the area's uniqueness and telling the stories of how people have lived and worked in this Place, whilst making connections to wider regional and national stories. Local communities feel strongly that their heritage is a key point of differentiation from other places.

DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS, BARRIERS AND KEY AUDIENCES FOR INTERPRETATION

The District has no museum, no art gallery, no cinema, and no purpose-built theatre. From April 2023 there will be an ACE-supported National Portfolio Organisation (NPO), the Mediale. Selby Abbey hosts larger events, including concerts, as well as community exhibitions, whilst Selby's Libraries offer venues for small touring exhibitions, lectures and workshops. Riley Smith Hall (Tadcaster) and The Eversley Park Centre (Sherburn in Elmet) plus other village halls also offer a network of rural touring events. Selby Town Hall is a great quality small arts centre offering National Theatre Live, some theatre and smaller music concerts. Digital access, via public computers, is enabled through the Library's resources, but digital poverty is an issue for many on low incomes.

Selby District Council does not have a long history of investing in culture, but in recent years it has developed a strong interest in culturally-based Place-Making. Culture and heritage is seen to have an important role to play in ongoing COVID-19 recovery strategies, connecting people again to their places and communities.

Key demographic characteristics for Selby District are summarised here. The Audience Development Plan, 'Culture As Catalyst – 2020 -2023' (published June 2020) sourced these from the Audience Scoping Report for Selby 950, which analysed the potential market across Selby District for the programme. The desk research for Selby 950 included an understanding of local audience segments, particularly in regards their consumption and behaviour towards arts, culture and heritage, through analysis of audience spectrum data from the Audience Agency Area Report, MOSAIC group data from the Audience Agency Area Report, Arts and Heritage engagement from the Audience Agency Area Report, together with market intelligence provided by sector partners. All of this, and the Selby 950 Evaluation Report (published May 2020), provide a comprehensive, up to date demographic picture.

The 2017 social-economic classification in Selby District was significantly different to both Yorkshire and the Humber, and Great Britain. There is a higher proportion of people in occupation groups 6-7 (Caring, Leisure and Other Service and Sales & Customer Service) and 8-9 (Process Plant & Machine Operatives and Elementary Occupations) than in other areas. The median age is higher than the average for Yorkshire and the UK – 35% of the population are in the 45-69 age groups.

- 25% of households are one-person households, with a fairly even split between those aged 65 years and above and others.

- Two areas in Selby District are in Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the Indices of Multiple Deprivation; Selby West is in the 7% most deprived communities in the country.
- The proportion of the population with degrees, doctorate or professional qualifications (NVQ4 and above) in Selby District (28.0%) is significantly lower than that seen in North Yorkshire (35.2%), Yorkshire & The Humber (33.0%), and nationally (38.3%).
- The Area Profile Report for Selby District states that amongst those who are economically inactive, 3 in 5 are retired (60%), whilst the remaining 40% are:
 - Students(including full time students):12%
 - Looking after the home or family: 14%
 - Long-term sick or disabled:10%
 - Other:5%.
- 7.6% of males and females in the 2011 census stated that they had a disability which "limited them a lot".
- 95.5% of residents describe themselves as "White:British" in the 2011 census, compared to a regional figure of 86.8% and a national figure of 79.8%. The largest BAME group is "White: Other" (2.3% of the local population). In terms of other groups not identifying as White:British:
 - 0.6% identified as Asian/Asian British
 - 0.3% identified as Black/Black British
 - 0.2% identified as Mixed/Multiple ethnicities
 - 0% identified as Arab and other ethnicities
- Upwards of 22% of households are made up of married couples and cohabiting couples with dependent children.
- Lone parent families account for approximately 8% of households.
- 23% of the population is aged 0 – 19 years old.
- The number of Primary schools in Selby District in 2016/17 was 41, representing
 - 6,847 pupils.
- The number of Secondary schools in Selby District in 2016/17 was 6, representing
 - 4,744 pupils.

Understanding Barriers to Engagement

The Culture as Catalyst Audience Development Plan (2020-2023) draws upon extensive consultation and evaluation evidence from Selby 950. It has highlighted a number of relevant challenges and barriers to heritage and cultural engagement across the district. Many of these barriers and challenges were mentioned in the Masterplan consultations

Organisational Barriers

- Despite a number of strategic groups with some level of cultural responsibility/remits, there is a lack of co-ordinated interaction and joined up thinking for the sustained provision of cultural heritage opportunities and activities

for local people, and there has been limited work across sectors such as Health and Wellbeing, Education and Economy to advocate for the benefits of culturally-led interventions.

- Historically, SDC had a fixed corporate brand, communications strategies and policies; not conducive to the styles of communication and messaging relevant, inspiring and enticing to many of the audiences SDC seeks to engage.

Mitigation Measures for Organisational Barriers

- A Local Government reorganisation is currently underway in the North Yorkshire area, amalgamating the 8 district, borough and county councils together to form one new authority. From 1st April 2023 there will be a new North Yorkshire Council. This masterplan will provide the new authority with a fundamental understanding of the Selby district boundary area
- Local Government Reorganisation will provide an opportunity to use the Masterplan to maintain a focus on developing what is unique about the Selby District, but also provide an economy of scale within the authority to help deliver on some of the work, drawing on expertise and learning from across the new North Yorkshire Authority area.
- Investment in and communication through the new visitor destination brand and website Heart of Yorkshire, together with its communication strategy that uses multiple channels, including a strong social media strategy relevant to the district's communities. will help raise awareness of events and new offers, create a seamless customer experience, and make audiences aware of what's happening.

Learning and Intellectual Barriers

- For some audiences with lower literacy levels, those where English is not their first language or for people with a visual impairment, relying on printed or digital communications will prevent them from engaging.
- Not everyone has access to, or is confident in using, digital and online engagement tools, so relying on this alone will leave some audiences behind.
- Interest and relevance of heritage offers to different age groups, together with a crowded and competitive marketplace especially in terms of digital offers and social media channels.
- The paucity of venues on offer means the opportunities to learn anything about local history and heritage or take part in creative activities is restricted.
- There is a lack of online learning resources in relation to history and heritage. Online information is available but is not coordinated, making it difficult to access.
- The lack of heritage venues to visit, and teaching resources on offer, can deter schools from engaging and visiting.
- A lack of engagement with local schools in relation to curriculum opportunities

through culture means many teachers will be unaware of the educational potential available.

Mitigation Measures for Learning Barriers

- To help address many of these barriers, our recommendations propose a wide range of opportunities that provide access to and creative engagement with the district's heritage stories and assets. Local venues such as churches and village halls provide excellent 'doorstep spaces' for events and pop up exhibitions using relevant, co-curated and co-created content. Artistic responses to stories in the landscape along footpaths and in open access green spaces offer new and accessible ways of revealing new insight.

Social and Cultural Barriers

- Many audiences have children of different ages and their decisions on how to spend their time are largely driven by the preferences of children. A lack of obviously family friendly and fun cultural opportunities greatly limits the ability to engage this important audience.
- Many local residents won't get involved in activities unless they are specifically welcomed in by others they trust, such as friends, neighbours, voluntary sector organisations or schools. These networks and routes for engaging under-served audiences need to be mobilised and developed, building on the collaborative approach and groundwork of Selby950 that helped to identify some of these trusted community partners.
- The timing of events for some target audiences can be a barrier. For example, evening events may feel unsafe, or not fit in with homelife routines, whilst daytime events may exclude those who work.
- There is a growing BAME (black, Asian, and minority ethnic) population in Selby District. If different audience groups feel that the culture being offered isn't relevant to their lives and interests, or is delivered 'to' rather than 'with' or 'by' them, this will act as a barrier to engagement.
- It is a commonly held belief amongst many of the target audiences that arts and heritage are "not for the likes of me"; therefore, positioning activities as 'cultural experiences' is likely to be off-putting for people who hold these views.
- Post global pandemic behavioural change is likely to have a lasting impact on travel, engagement and visitation. Two years on, and the cultural sector is still missing up to 50% of previous audience numbers, and the cost of living crisis will continue to affect people's leisure choices.

Mitigation Measures for Social Barriers

- Working in partnership with specific and representative community groups and specific charities that have established communication with target groups (such as Home-Start UK and Gingerbread); developing multi-generational, diverse family friendly activities and offers, and using arts based and facilitated creative engagement within communities will help to engage our audiences with heritage in different, relevant, and appealing ways. In particular, authentic Selebian voices, both present and historic, can be used.
- Selby district is an Arts Council England Priority Place and this focused and prioritised investment towards under-served audiences and under-funded places will help with targeted engagement delivery that should help deliver meaningful impact.
- The Selby district offers are largely outdoor, landscape based experiences, with greater post pandemic appeal to all audiences. Flexible, pop-up / temporary offers and events will ensure agility with regard to different market appeal and long term sustainability.

Financial Barriers

- Increasing fuel and travel costs could prevent some audiences from engaging.
- Any form of engagement cost will prove a significant barrier to some audiences on low incomes.
- The cost of living increases generally being experienced by all communities may reduce motivation to explore.

Mitigation Measures for Financial Barriers

- The majority of new interpretation offers and heritage engagement activity will be free and will be delivered by and in partnership with specific local interest groups, within their local area. Physical networks and connectivity will support free and low cost travel on foot and by bicycle to different places within the District.
- Volunteering and training opportunities provide upskilling and confidence boosting that can benefit individuals and communities.

Physical and Sensory Barriers

- The rich and important heritage of Selby District is hidden due to a lack of a focused, physical space to showcase heritage artefacts and with very little interpretation currently to improve the awareness, understanding, accessibility, and visibility of the heritage.

- People with physical and hidden disabilities (including carers and supporters) and older people are an important audience, who will be excluded if the activity and engagement offers limits access for all.

Mitigation Measures for Physical and Sensory Barriers

- Consultation and collaboration with Selby District Disability Forum and working together with local groups and stakeholder partners will support the development of flexible, accessible 'pop up' activities and resources. Facilitated co-creation and curation outputs that utilise different senses can raise awareness and appreciation of the district's wealth of historic places and heritage stories.
- The location of 'where' interpretation can be found will be critical to enable access. Selby District has a unique opportunity in this area due to the largely level-going nature of the landscape.

Key audiences we want to engage with new interpretation

Based on demographic insight and audience research undertaken in relation to Selby 950, and the aspirations of the Visitor Economy Strategy, key audiences for interpretation and heritage engagement activities are:

- Local heritage groups and stakeholder partners, including volunteers (especially the younger demographic needed for volunteering sustainability)
- Selby District residents, including often under-served audiences:
 - Low income families
 - Older people and their carers
 - Young teenagers (14-16)
 - People with a disability
- Local tourism and hospitality businesses
- Visitors to and within the district, including half and day visits and increasing numbers of staying visitors

INSIGHT FROM CONSULTATIONS

Initial stakeholder consultations with representatives from strategic and local organisations were undertaken in relation to the Interpretation Masterplan during April - June 2022. The Masterplan and its aims were introduced, and then local heritage stories and assets, organisation needs / activities, community and visitor needs and areas of potential opportunity with local and district wide heritage were explored. Ideas and the feedback from these fruitful conversations have helped to inform our approach to the heritage interpretation masterplan. Furthermore, the positive feedback and constructive ideas will help to develop community (area) specific

Coordination with other consultants

Two fruitful meetings were held between Bright White Ltd and BEAM, the arts consultants appointed by Selby District Council to develop a Public Art Plan to be completed around the same time as this report. The key aspects of the coordination session were:

- The consultancies agreed that there was a direct connection between the two packages of work, and set out to coordinate as closely as necessary.
- The overarching theme and topics will be led by this Interpretation Masterplan - this is good practice because the result is that all individual artistic and interpretive interventions will support the whole.
- BEAM suggested that one of their main focuses should be a roadmap for SDC for how to brief, appoint, develop and commission high quality public artworks that fit into a wider storytelling scheme. Bright White agreed this would be a very valuable asset for the authority.

SCHEMATICS

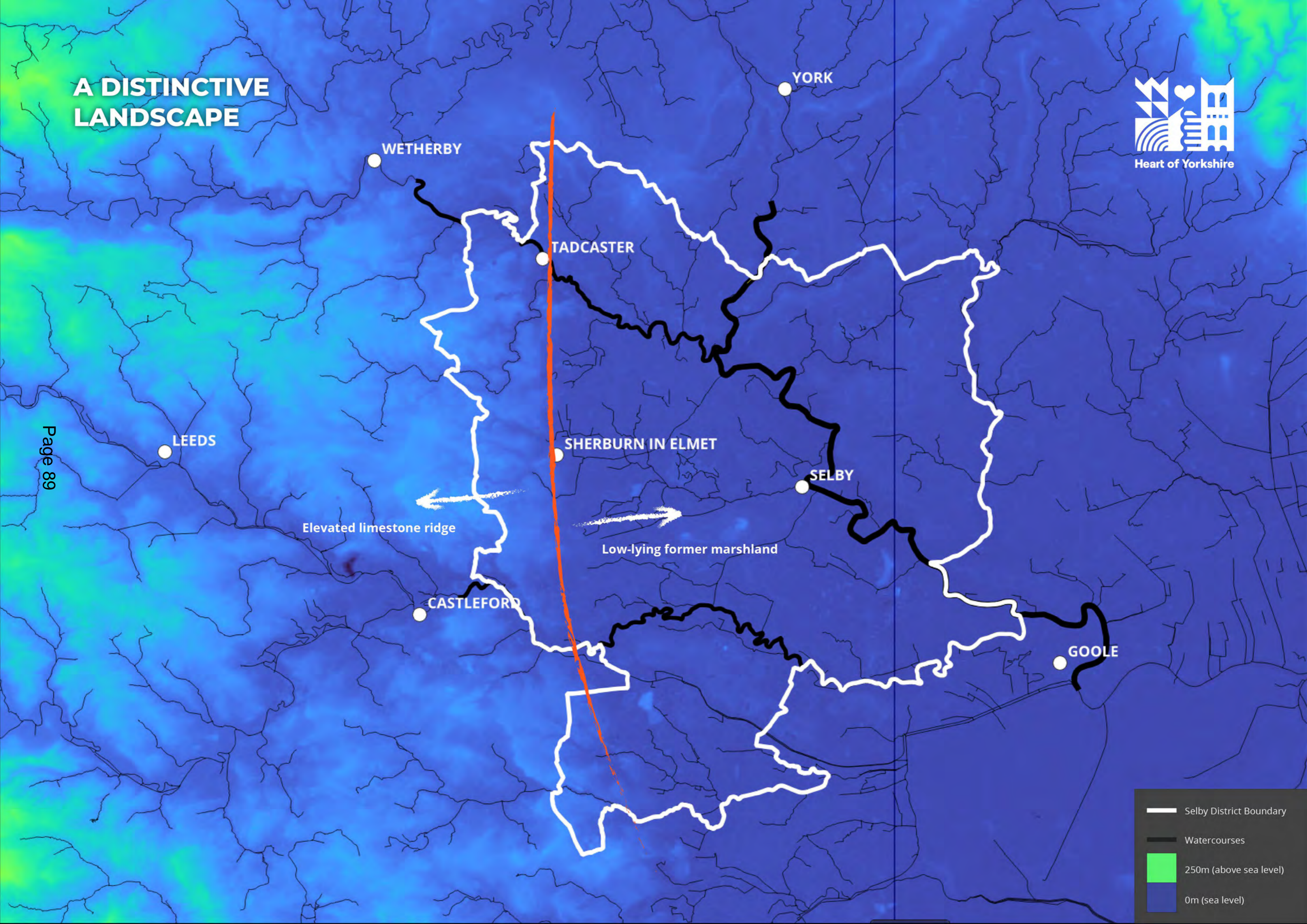
Helping people to join the dots district wide

An unusual interaction of people, terrain and water has fundamentally shaped and influenced the district's history and heritage.

The schematic diagrams on the following pages aim to paint the big picture of Selby District's distinctive heritage and landscape stories. The ambition of the Masterplan is to help people 'join the dots' of what makes the district special and to suggest how we can share those stories to enrich residents' and visitors' experiences as they explore and enjoy the district.

Key messages that help to paint the big picture and a distinctive sense of place for Selby District are listed after each schematic.

A DISTINCTIVE LANDSCAPE



- Selby District Boundary
- Watercourses
- 250m (above sea level)
- 0m (sea level)

A DISTINCTIVE LANDSCAPE

As the topographical relief map shows, Selby District has two defining geological features:

- An extensive area of low-lying former marshland,
- To the west, a magnesian limestone ridge.

The two features have given rise to different yet complementary patterns of settlement and activity since the earliest times.

Key Message : Understanding the story of Selby District is much easier if you understand the relationship between the marshlands and the limestone ridge, and how they have interacted over time.

Key message : The level nature of the land provides unique opportunities; the relative ease of farming, the creation of early canals and railways, and a predisposition for the location of air bases for heavy aircraft.

Marshlands

Key Message : Much of Selby District was marshland, an interesting and unusual type of landscape that gave rise to distinctive communities who created innovative ways of interacting with their environment.

- The marshland area is part of the Humberhead Levels - a large area of land where four major rivers meet to feed the Humber.
- The Humberhead Levels are different to the land surrounding, having a different ecosystem with distinctive flora and fauna.
- Similar landscapes around the UK are found in the Somerset Levels and the Fens, between Lincoln and Cambridge.
- Towards the end of the last ice age, the marshland was underneath an enormous lake of glacial meltwater that stretched from Stillingfleet to Hull. This gives the marshland its level nature.
- Marshland is sometimes called Fenland. There is evidence of this in the placenames of Selby District - Church Fenton (a fenced community in the fen), Little Fenton.
- The River Ouse was the main arterial form of transport and communications in the marshlands. The riverine communities along the Ouse were connected by a river economy.
- The towns and villages of Selby District make much more sense when visited by water than by road. [Or at least walking on the water's side.]

- Many settlements were established as close to the river as possible whilst avoiding the areas that flood regularly (the floodplains). Riccall, Cawood, Stillingfleet, Ulleskelf, Barlby, Selby, Lund, Cliffe, Hemmingborough, are all established on land that is just a few metres higher than the adjacent flood plains.
- Flooding and flood management has been part of life in the district for many centuries.
- It's hard to get a sense of the marshlands today because they have been largely drained. The work to drain the marshland started in the 1100s, with the aim of creating fertile arable farmland. By the 1700s, draining was widespread. This is why there is such an extensive system of dykes.
- Today, much land is drained with the assistance of mechanical pumping.
- Because of rich nutrients deposited at the end of the ice age, and level nature of the land, Selby District includes the highest grade agricultural land in the UK, capable of growing a wide selection of crops.
- The district has been likened to the Netherlands - low lying fertile land recovered by mechanical means.
- The area has also largely been deforested.
- The level nature of the land provided unique opportunities - and continues to do so.
- The marsh land was traversed by people and some routes have been identified.

Limestone Ridge

Key message : The communities on the limestone ridge made the most of their position at the junction of rich, fertile agricultural land and proximity to the industrial heartlands of West Yorkshire.

- The ridge is far more elevated than the lowlands to the east.
- The ridge exposes quarries that, amongst other resources, provide very attractive and easily sculpted magnesian limestone. This stone was highly sought-after to build some of the most important buildings in the mediaeval period, such as Selby Abbey, York Minster and as far away as Westminster Abbey.
- Underneath the ridge is a large body of water trapped in stone, called a limestone aquifer. The water has been on a long journey through the earth's crust that has purified it and added minerals. This water appears as springs all along the ridge.
- The springs provided the cleanest form of drinking water, very different to the river water and sea water.
- Spring water was used for many different applications, including brewing and energy in the form of potential and kinetic energy.
- Being close to the marshland, the ridge communities developed many marshland-related products to the industrial areas to the west (Leeds, Bradford and Lancashire) for example teasels, used in the industrial processing of fabrics.
- The ridge provided an ancient 'greenway' route for people to travel north-south, crossing the rivers at strategic points, crossing through the ancient Kingdom of Elmet.

WHAT ARE WE INTERPRETING?

These are the building blocks of Selby District's past, present and future



Overarching interpretive theme

Heart of Yorkshire

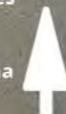
The people of Selby District have for centuries made great use of a distinctive and unusual low-lying riverine landscape, successfully adapting and innovating through changing circumstances.



Character of people and place


Place

- Low-lying levels edged by a rocky ridge
- Part of the Humberhead Levels
- A major tidal river
- Rich farmland
- Magnesian Limestone ridge
- Limestone Aquifer
- Plentiful natural resources
- Extensive transport connections
- Distinctive flora and fauna
- Great green spaces



People


- Storyteller
- Maverick
- Creator / Artist
- Innovator / Engineer
- Caregiver / Companion



Layer one topics


Conflict

- Viking landings
- War of the Roses
- Dissolution
- Civil War
- World War 1
- World War 2




Transport Evolution, Innovation, Revolution

- Natural waterways and the sea
- Early roads and fords / bridges
- Ferries
- Early and later canals
- Shipbuilding
- Steam packet
- Railways
- Modern roads
- Aircraft




Land Management

- Early marshland
- Marsh draining
- Flood planes
- Flood strategies
- Mechanical pumping
- Dykes



Energy


- Early water power
- Early wind power
- Coal discovery
- Coal-fired powerstations
- Biofuel conversions
- Wind farms
- Carbon capture



Foundational topics


Stone

- Quarries
- Early movement
- Manors
- Moated manors
- Palaces
- Churches
- Abbeys
- Cathedrals
- Distinctive dwellings




Water

- Spring water
- River water
- Sea water
- The tidal bore
- Riverine communities
- Early canals
- Boat building
- Brewing



Earth (Land, agriculture)

- Highest grade farm land
- Mediaeval farming communities
- Timber / Woodland
- Food production and milling, manufacture
- Export and import



WHAT ARE WE INTERPRETING?

The three foundational topics are stone, water and rich earth, upon which timber and crops are grown. It is not a coincidence that Benedict named these three natural resources to explain why he established Selby Abbey:

Key Message : Benedict of Auxerre, founder of Selby Abbey, chose Selby as the location for a monastery because of its proximity to plentiful limestone, water and timber. The stone came from quarries on the limestone ridge near Monk Fryston and Sherburn in Elmet. The ridge and the riverine marshland have been connected in this way since around 1070 AD.

Key Message : The 'Place' is very distinctive, very unlike the surrounding areas.

Stone

Key Message : The stone available in the limestone ridge was very attractive, weathered well, was easy to carve and it was feasible, even in mediaeval times, to transport it by water. This made it highly desirable.

- The quarries along the ridge are well known and documented. Many of them survive to this day.
- Tadcaster lies on the ridge. The roman name for Tadcaster is *Calcaria* - a place bearing limestone.
- Many buildings in settlements along the ridge (e.g. Tadcaster, Sherburn, Monk Fryston) were built from this distinctive limestone.
- Stone was transported long distances, including by using an engineered early canal - not as wide or deep as the canals of the industrial revolution, but effective as a means of transportation of very heavy items. (See also, timber).
- Much is known about the route the stone took, the buildings it was used to construct, and where salvaged stone was taken once buildings were dismantled.
- One such route traces a line from Huddleston Quarry, through Sherburn in Elmet, on to build lodges, manors, palaces and castles owned by the Archbishop of York towards Cawood. The line then extends to Bishopthorpe Palace and eventually York Minster. Part of the line, from Sherburn to Cawood and known still today as Bishop's Dyke, was an early engineered canal.
- Selby Abbey and much of the monastic complex was built from stone quarried near Monk Fryston, and transported on an early canal. Abbot's Staith is one of the few extant components of the monastic complex.
- Gypsum, clay and other mineral quarries reside within Selby District and have a long history of transportation of extract by river.

Water

Key Message : Water is a critical part of the story of the people of Selby District - trade, transport, communications, haulage, industry, agriculture, flood planning, manufacturing, conflict and energy generation have been heavily influenced by Selby District's water.

- Clean and mineral-rich springwater emerges from the ground all along the limestone ridge. This water had particular uses, for abundant clean drinking water, manufacture, brewing, and powering transportation.
- The Wharfe and Aire rivers join the Ouse as it flows onwards to become the Humber Estuary. This provided an extensive network for transportation and travel by water.
- At least one invasion - that of the Vikings led by warrior King Harald Hadrada in 1066 - was possible because of the navigable rivers.
- The Ouse is tidal, meaning that at times there was deep water available to transport heavy loads and get out to sea.
- The connection to the sea created opportunities for import, export, and sea-going shipbuilding.
- Shipbuilding in Selby was a major industry, but there is evidence of shipbuilding along the Ouse, for example in Cawood.
- The Ouse has a tidal 'bore' - a surge like a wave that travels contrary to the river flow, depending on very particular lunar and tidal conditions.
- A network of riverine agricultural communities saw the rivers as their access to market.
- For centuries, communities along the Ouse built boats, then ships.
- Fishing was very important source of protein in the medieval period.
- Flooding has been a part of life in the district for centuries.

Earth (Agriculture, Land)

Key Message : Selby District has a large stretch of the highest grade agricultural land in the UK. This is in part due to its past as the bed of a glacial lake that collected nutrients, but also because of its level nature.

- Benedict recognised the abundance and quality of timber growing in the Selby area, and quoted it as one of the main reasons that the abbey was established at Selby, along with abundant water and stone.
- The monastery is a perfect microcosm to represent why Selby has prospered - the available resources to grow, process, transport and ultimately sell agriculture-based products, making good use of the district's rich resources.
- Places like Stillingfleet communicate beautifully life in a mediaeval agricultural Selby District community; the storage barn is on higher ground than the church, the community

is built around the waterway, the community obviously prospered for centuries, evidenced by the construction of a fine church. The people of Stillingfleet canalised the river to make transport easier. Even the name contains the history - Stillingfleet - the stream of the followers of the landowner *Styfel*.

- Agriculture, food production, processing, manufacture and transport have been a huge part of Selby District's economy for a thousand years and some activity extends to this day.
- Although largely cleared, the district would have included large stretches of woodland. Patches of woodland remain, and there are some interesting differences between species between the ridge and the former marshland.
- Access to markets is massively important for products and, for a long time, Selby was an effective sea port with connections around the globe.
- Stockbridge House at Cawood has had a national reputation since the 1940s as a centre of horticultural research and the ongoing work is cutting edge.

Conflict

Key Message : Selby District includes locations important in many conflicts because of the strategic importance of places driven by the unusual terrain.

- 1066 : When Norwegian Viking King Harald Hadrada set out to invade England, he chose to sail 300 longboats up the Ouse as far as Riccall, where they were moored. From here he ventured north to York and eventually east to face Harald Godwinson at the Battle of Stamford bridge. So many were killed that only 26 boats were needed for the return trip to Norway.
- 1066 : Godwinson then had to march south to fight William at Hastings. William (the Conqueror) then put forward the Norman invasion. The first monastery built in the north of England was at Selby, at least in part to tighten William's grip on the north.
- 1461 : The Battle of Towton was a defining battle in the War of the Roses, a civil war that resulted in a new royal dynasty. Often called the largest and bloodiest battle ever fought on English soil. 50,000 soldiers fought through a snowstorm. Water plays an important part - the rivers were said to run red with blood for days afterwards.
- 1536 : The Dissolution - Henry VIII disbanded monasteries, priories and convents in England. York's St Mary's Abbey was dismantled, and treasure and money transferred to the King - all that remains is the ruins of the abbey. Selby, on the other hand, was able to survive and is now one of the largest parish churches in England.
- 1644 : The Civil War - Selby became a strategic defensive point in the mission to protect parts of the north of England from raids by the Parliamentarians. Selby at that time was surrounded by water and attacks took place along the barricaded roads. The barricades did not hold and soon the Parliamentarians controlled Selby and soon the whole of the north of England.

- 1914-1918 : World War One - Barlow near Selby becomes the home of military aviation technology, by building Armstrong-Whitworth airships.
- 1939-1945 : World War Two - Fighter Command and Bomber Command were key parts of Royal Air Force operations during World War Two. The level nature of Selby District made it a prime site for the location of air bases involved in both heavy bombing and fighter defenses. Bomber Command created a network of air bases within the district to train pilots, supply munitions and maintenance, and launch offensives. Many airfields still remain. The shipyards at Selby turned their production over to creating wartime vessels.
- One of the largest timber castle structures was near Drax. The site is well known and strategically placed between two rivers.

Transport : Evolution, Innovation and Revolution

Key Message : Selby District has often seen early adoption of emerging transportation technology due to its proximity to industry and markets, level-going terrain and connection to the sea.

- Early waterways provided economical ways to transport people and goods.
- Boat and ship building took root along the Ouse.
- Early roads formed on the higher ground, along moraines and other low ridges.
- Fords, early bridges and ferries connected communities on opposite sides of the rivers.
- Ferries and Packets have been part of Selby District life until quite recently.
- Selby District is home to mediaeval canals - unusual in the UK, they were dug to move around heavy natural resources.
- The industrial revolution saw the arrival of modern canals and the railways.
- There is a stretch of Barlby Road where the river, railway and road run parallel for a long stretch. This is a fine example of how important those three modes of transport have been to Selby and the district.
- Wooden-hulled ships have been built in Selby since at least the 15th century. Henry V's ship Catherine, active in the Agincourt campaign, is registered as being built in Selby. Much of the timber needed to build such a huge number of ships would have been sourced locally.
- Shipbuilding was a huge part of Selby's history until recently. Launches into the Ouse of large steel-hulled ships were a spectator event well within living memory.
- A regular steam packet (ferry) ran between the ports of Selby and Hull until the 1870s.
- The railways arrived in Selby District in 1834, only a few years after the Stockton and Darlington Railway, the world's first steam hauled public passenger railway, which opened in 1825. Selby boasts Yorkshire's first railway station. Being level-going, the railway line was relatively cheap and quick to build.
- Selby District is very close to the crossing between the principal north-south and east-west motorways in the UK, and both roads run through Selby District. This makes it

very easy to reach using the modern road structure, which has largely taken over from rail and river transport, but not entirely.

- Selby has a claim to pioneering aviation, with Barlow building airships, Sherburn in Elmet building the Fairy Swordfish and many crews being trained to fly fighters and bombers during World War Two.

Land Management

Key Message : Land management in the district has been a huge success story due to a drive to claim land for agricultural and transportational use.

- Hundreds of years ago, the district was marshland. Slowly, the land has been drained to create viable farmland.
- Settlements are built on land that is merely a few metres higher than river level, but away from the normal flooding areas. This is evident from DEFRA 2020 LiDAR.
- Early drainage was a manual process, but later it has become mechanised.
- Successful drainage has made the highest grade agricultural land in the UK viable.
- Some land would return to the water if it were not for the mechanical pumps.
- Flooding is a totally natural, and expected, phenomenon in the district.
- Flood strategies and mitigations of varying scales (and varying levels of success) have been deployed across the area for centuries.
- 'Warping' is an act of managed periodic flooding of agricultural land to increase fertility, which took place here. Warping drains are marked on 1850s OS maps.
- There are present day challenges in making more land viable for residential developments.

Energy

Key Message : Selby District has played a strong role in the evolution of national power generation due to the proximity of fuel sources, water and transportation links.

- Being an agricultural area, the people of Selby District have always shown ingenuity in developing power sources to process and transport goods, with various windmills, mill ponds, water mills.
- Being low-lying, there are also examples of historic wind pumps. Similar to windmills in appearance but with the task of pumping water for drainage or irrigation.
- Exploratory drilling in the 60s and 70s showed that there was a major coal reserve under Selby District. A new 'Superpit' was opened in the 1980s. Pitheads were across the district - Wistow, Stillingfleet, Riccall, North Selby, Whitemoor and Gascoigne Wood.

- Much of the coal extracted was used to fire three new power stations in the Aire Valley. Drax and Eggborough fall within the Selby District boundary, Ferrybridge C falls just outside.
- Drax survives, having been converted to burn biofuels instead of coal.
- Drax aims to be the first carbon negative station in the UK by operating a carbon capture process, in response to the climate emergency.
- There is now a large green energy wind farm to the east of the Drax site.
- There is likely to be a proliferation of solar farms due to the need to be connected to the grid at Drax.

Place

Key Message : The landscape of Selby District was very different to areas that surround it, being an area of low-lying marshland.

- See 'A Distinctive Landscape' - the district can be considered as having two sides - a low-lying riverine former marshland bordered by a rocky ridge to the west.
- The former marshland is part of a greater geographical area known as the Humberhead Levels. The Levels have very distinctive flora and fauna.
- A major tidal river (the Ouse) runs right through the heart of Selby District.
- Large parts of Selby District sit on the highest grade farmland in the UK.
- The magnesian limestone ridge to the west exposes very high quality limestone, fit for cathedrals, palaces and abbeys. It was a major resource and asset in the mediaeval period.
- The aquifer that sits underneath the limestone ridge is a major source of clean and mineral-rich springwater that has been utilised for centuries.
- As Benedict realised, the district is replete in natural resources - crops and timber, water and stone. The monastery and abbey were created to make the most of these resources. The Abbots Staith is extant and central to Selby.
- Selby District has extensive transport connections - navigable waterways, sea ports, major railways, modern road access and airfields.
- The juxtaposition of industry and housing in a flat landscape is very distinctive to Selby.
- The district benefits from a mild micro-climate, sheltered by the Pennines, Moors and Howardian hills.

People

Key Message : The character of the people of Selby is distinctive, driven by the distinctive challenges the landscape presents.

Individuals and communities weave through every topic. They have harnessed the natural resources of the area and continue to shape the district. The below is from the Heart of

Yorkshire Brand Guidelines, 2021 by Lazenby Brown on behalf of SDC. Please see the expansion of the character types after the section below, which aims to fit recognised occupations against the character types, so that residents can ‘see themselves’ in the character definitions. Lazenby Brown’s work recognises that throughout history the people of Selby have included, amongst others;

- Storytellers

Stories run like the rivers through the district; the Washington window, the battle of Towton, humpty-dumpty, the Rainbow Warrior, the bridge collapse, the William Morris window, Thomas Johnson - the first person to sell bananas¹ in England and so many more. The stories must be visible to residents and visitors alike.

- Mavericks

Selby district has developed a sense of self-reliance as a defence mechanism following periods of decline, due largely to the collapse of industry; it likes to do things its own way, this lends a stoic, quirky-stubbornness to the area.

- Creators and artists

The district has lagged behind others when it comes to live performance and access to the arts (with some notable exceptions such as Selby Town Hall) given the demand and potential the District offers in terms of rural touring and expanded provision in towns we see this as a key trait for the district to grow into over the next decade.

- Innovators and engineers

Selby district is a powerhouse on the cusp of a metamorphosis, to realise its future potential it must reconnect its rich and once-proud history of making and mining, of powering and feeding with modern innovative practice; bio-tech, knowledge-based industries, vertical farming, screen-based industries, green-energy, modular house-building are all areas the region excels in, we must fire the imaginations of a new generation of young people, reconnecting their skills with local opportunities that can become viable careers.

- Caregivers and companions

The Selby District has a strong sense of matriarchal care, a warm, honest decency and genuineness in its people, a care wedded to ‘old fashioned’ values, looking out for each other, the elderly and the extended family across the district.

Expansion of the Character Types into Occupations

Storyteller

Author
Teacher
Walking guide
Historian
Society member
Local historian / archivist
Librarian
Archaeologist

Mavericks

Independent shop owner
Market stall holder
Entrepreneur
Programmer

Creator / Artist

Artist
Baker
Chef
Designer
Writer
Artistic Metalworker
Architect
Landscape designer
Craftworker
Stone mason

Innovator / Engineer

Shipbuilder
Miner

¹ Some consultees argue that the fruit was in fact the plantain. We will pass this comment on to Lazenby Brown, authors of the Heart of Yorkshire Brand Guidelines, from where this paragraph is taken.

Civil engineer
Food scientist / technologist
Farmer / food producer
Agronomist
Logistics manager
Environmental scientist
Software Developer

Caregiver / Companion

Nurse
Social worker
Doctor
Vicar
Volunteer
Neighbour
Counsellor

Overarching Interpretive Theme

Key Message : The people of Selby District have for centuries made great use of a distinctive and unusual low-lying riverine landscape, successfully adapting and innovating through changing circumstances

- The marshland was a very different landscape and required a different approach to habitation, farming, transport and community.
- Benedict saw the potential and established a major monastery here.
- The level-going nature of the land is a strength, making some developments possible and others much easier than in landscapes with more variance in elevation.
- Historically, the people of Selby District had a distinctive and successful relationship to water and the waterways.
- The district has been quick to adopt and embrace new technologies, especially in the fields of agriculture, manufacture, transport and energy.

ADDING TO SELBY DISTRICT'S STORY



Rediscover and Secure Collections – making stories more accessible

- Create a virtual archive
- Fund cataloguing of archive boxes that have been dispersed
- Create a strategy to secure and catalogue collections held by individuals
- Digitise and promote 'gems' from all archive sources

Fill in Some of the Blanks – grassroots, place-based research

- Help local community groups secure funding and deliver community research and archaeology projects
- Through this process develop the opportunity to promote greater understanding of people's local history

Tell the Story Better and differently

- Create a Curriculum for Selby
- Embed stories in the landscape –
- Create 100 miles of new interpretive walking and cycling networks

ADDING TO SELBY DISTRICT'S STORY

Historically, Selby District has had some bad luck in holding on to its story :

- Records of the establishment of the Abbey were discovered not in Selby, but in Paris, and as recently as the 1890s. The records are still being actively re-translated, discussed and critiqued today. For example the book, *Historia Selebiensis Monasterii* (Dr Janet Burton, 2013) has the first facing-page latin to english translation.
- In modern times, Selby District has been part of all three ridings of Yorkshire - East, West and now the North Riding (North Yorkshire). This means that the archive depositions for Selby District are now split across multiple different physical local authority archives - Northallerton (North), Wakefield (West) and Beverley (East) as well as some archive material being cared for at the Borthwick Institute at the University of York.
- There is no museum in the district, and object collections are held in places such as York (York Museums Trust), Leeds and at Hull's Maritime Museum.
- The nature of the land is that period floods deposit a layer of alluvium (silt and sand deposited by floods) which hides the surface evidence of activity, making archaeology harder than in other areas.
- Significant private collections and knowledge are out there in Selby District, but there is no coherent plan to transfer the knowledge and collections going forward.

This heritage interpretation masterplan makes recommendations for actions to bring together and improve access to Selby District's story.

Key Message : The story of Selby District has, through unfortunate events, been fragmented, making it hard to encounter or study.

Key message : Much can be done to leverage the considerable energy within local communities to work together to put that right.

Rediscover and Secure Collections

Key message : Looking backwards and forwards, there are ways that Selby District's story can be made more accessible.

- Create a virtualised archive for Selby - without moving documents or objects from their current location, create a website that aggregates multiple archive data sources to create a single web location to search and discover archives and collections.

- Funding to catalogue known archive boxes. There are first hand accounts of boxed archive material that was transferred to county archives without being catalogued. Without cataloguing, it is impossible to discover what is really there.
- Create a strategy with funding to secure the personal and manorial collections that exist out there. Include funding to transfer knowledge (however that might be achieved) held by key individuals associated with those collections.
- Better digitisation of 'gems' from all archive sources that relate to Selby District. This could include known objects, or potentially some discovered from the cataloguing process above.
- Options include engaging with organisations such as Genus.

Fill in Some of the Blanks

Key message : There are key questions about Selby District's past that could feasibly be answered through archaeology projects.

- Assist local community groups to secure funding and deliver community archaeology projects, with a view to answering some of the questions to which the answers remain elusive.
- This process will also provide an excellent opportunity to promote understanding of people's local history.

Tell the Story Better

Key message : There are clear opportunities to tell the story better

- **Key Recommendation: Create a Curriculum for Selby** - modelled on the approach taken by Leeds, where a comprehensive set of teaching aids are professionally developed to make specific materials to substitute for the more general approach to the National Curriculum. Importantly, these materials align with and support the themes and topics in this heritage interpretation masterplan.
- **Key recommendation: Tell stories in the landscape.** Please see the schematic with the same title on the following page.

STORYTELLING IN THE LANDSCAPE

Creating 100+ miles of new
walking and cycling networks



STORYTELLING IN THE LANDSCAPE

The District's landscape and history provides an opportunity to be distinctive, and tell stories in different ways:

- Although typically explored by road today, the District's story is far better understood (and in a more enjoyable way) when explored and experienced via the waterways.
- Being largely rural, the sense of space and connection with nature offered by Selby District is unmissable, and a wonderful opportunity to support community well-being.
- The story is multi-threaded and surprisingly rich.
- The nodes in the network (settlements) are highly attractive and each has its own story to tell. When new developments are created, there will be the opportunity to connect new places into those nodes and networks. The Public Art Plan will provide opportunities for new development to contribute to embedding local heritage and stories in place.
- The communities were connected by water in the past, and this network is a chance to reconnect, building metaphorical bridges between adjacent communities.
- Selby Abbey, the monastery and the monastic complex gain a refreshed relevance when seen in the context of thriving agricultural mediaeval marshland communities connected by water. The monastery is a microcosm of the district.

Key Message: A unique storytelling opportunity - history in the landscape

- The level-going nature of the land makes the 100+ miles of walking and cycling network highly accessible. This is a key differentiator from other areas and offers.
- There are hundreds of miles of waterside access that could be turned into a unique walking and cycling network for locals and visitors.
- The stories can be told along the way with a variety of different interpretive and artistic interventions.
- The network links to existing networks in places such as York, Wetherby, Leeds and Goole. The Transpennine Way and National Cycle Networks also link in. example.
- Access to the network can be provided with minimum intrusion to local residents.
- The approach links in to local authority policy areas such as:
 - Economic development
 - Use of green space
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Sustainable transport
 - Wildlife conservation

- Planning, development and placemaking
- Inward investment
- More highly paid, more highly skilled jobs, using innovation as a driver

HOW DO WE ACTION IT?



Community led multiple location-specific interpretation plans and activities

Embedding stories in the landscape

Interpretation masterplan (This document)

Nourished and enabled by community consultation and delivery



HOW DO WE ACTION IT?

This masterplan lays out what could be achieved as an ambitious long term vision, but is there a logical way to approach it?

- Planning is important - planning for stages can take place with a relatively small investment. Once a plan has been developed and adopted, then development and implementation can happen in a more organic fashion.
- The opportunity for the people of Selby District involves the empowerment of community groups and individuals to provide the energy that drives the development forward. Building on the phenomenon of strong *über-local* interest in history, the idea is to foster a network of existing local community groups who are each best placed to tell their story.
- By assisting those groups to face the challenges before them, a grassroots approach to storytelling and local pride can be fostered.

Key Message: Plan, plan, plan!

- The next phase after this masterplan should include an interpretive plan for the network of walking and cycles routes. This will identify the key stories told along each route and add more detail than this masterplan can achieve. This plan should continue the work of connecting with and collaborating with local communities in a co-creation / co-curation way.
- Alongside that plan, we recommend developing a wayfinding strategy, communications strategy and storytelling toolkit.
- The above plans can meet other plans being developed by SDC at the same time, for example the public art plan and policy development areas in town planning and quasi-planning developments such as an update to the village design statements.
- The above will really help local communities to work out how to tell their story in an integrated and coherent way, maximising the enjoyment and engagement by locals and visitors, and leave open the opportunity for new storytelling events, facilities, features and tools to develop.
- Heritage sites and cultural organisations can develop their own interpretation plans to align with this masterplan prior to embarking on development and implementation phases.
- The energy and nourishment of the whole process relies on continued consultation and co-working with communities, who have demonstrated great driving energy through our meetings with them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations will enable a very wide range of heritage sites, assets, events and offers to be developed and brought to reality as focussed nodes in a much larger network. That will bring greater economies of scale and network economics to everyone.

Embedding and linking stories across the landscape - strategic action

- Develop a storytelling network that connects the nodes (sites, villages and towns) of the district through existing and new waterside journeys that are optimal for enjoyment of green space by walking and cycling. Use the space between nodes to tell contextually-relevant stories in the landscape.
- Integrate the interpretive interventions alongside the works proposed in the Public Art Plan - they should be read by the visitor as one large project, despite the interventions appearing slowly over a series of years.
- Create a wayfinding strategy with emphasis on both the rural and urban stretches (which will require a different yet complementary approach) and, importantly, how the strategy transitions from one to the other.
- Create a Curriculum for Selby District - modelled on the approach taken by Leeds, where a comprehensive set of teaching aids are professionally developed to make specific materials to substitute for the more general approach to the National Curriculum. Importantly, these materials align with and support the themes and topics in this heritage interpretation masterplan

A community of storytellers and co-creators - grassroots action

- Disseminate the plans, giving communities the best opportunity to really understand the opportunity and that grassroots action is the key to development.
- Encourage the polyvocal style of storytelling that will arise from a bottom-up approach to heritage interpretation. The variety will be welcomed by visitors.
- Create a visual interpretation toolkit so that contributors can create interpretive communications media that has a consistent look and feel, and reaches a good level of quality.
- Assist local community groups to secure funding and deliver community archaeology projects, with a view to answering some of the questions to which the answers remain elusive.
- Use a citizen audit process to update each Village Design Statement in greater detail - this will help to protect that built heritage in the planning process, with the added benefit of helping understand what each community holds dear.

Collating tools and resources

- Create a virtualised archive for Selby - without moving documents or objects from their current location, create a website that aggregates multiple archive data sources to create a single web location to search and discover archives and collections.
- Funding to catalogue known archive boxes. There are first hand accounts of boxed archive material that was transferred to county archives without being catalogued. Without cataloguing, it is impossible to discover what is really there.
- Create a strategy with funding to secure the personal and manorial collections that exist out there. Include funding to transfer knowledge (however that might be achieved) held by key individuals associated with those collections.
- Better digitisation of 'gems' from all archive sources that relate to Selby District. This could include known objects, or potentially some discovered from the cataloguing process above.
- Creating a full time position for support across the district.

QUICK WINS

Through our engagement with residents and groups, we have identified the following initiatives that can provide quick wins. Quick wins are important because they:

- Provide momentum
- Are mostly low cost ramping-up projects
- Some are enabling frameworks, with short-to-mid term outputs, that are essential to lay the ground for later stages.
- In all cases they are designed to engage with communities and individuals from the beginning.

Placename Project

Place names are an excellent window into the past. Often, the meaning of a placename is not well known amongst residents, but is largely understood by etymologists and historians. As a former marshland area, the district landscape has changed beyond recognition between the time that places were named and today. In this district in particular, there is great value in considering the meaning of place names across the whole district.

The idea is to engage with local interest groups, organisations, schools and individuals across the whole district to translate the placenames, and present a map of the district where the common name is replaced by the etymological name, for example:

- Tadcaster is replaced by 'Lime Works', since the roman name for Tadcaster was 'Calcaria' - literally translating to 'Lime Works / Kilns / Quarry'.
- Stillingfleet becomes 'Stretch of river belonging to the followers of a man called Styfel'.
- Church Fenton becomes 'A village with a church in marshland'.

The output would be a beautiful map that is familiar in form, but with substituted placenames that give real insight into the past. The map could be created stylistically, with ample appeal to be framed and positioned in the home. A graphic artist or illustrator could work with the results of the community placename project to create the visual assets.

- Choose a location for a temporary installation
- Choose a topic from the topics within this masterplan
- Create a number of 'blanks'
- Distribute the blanks across the district to known entities with instructions on how to 'process' them.
- Collect the processed blanks together at the location for the temporary exhibition and publicise it.

An example is to create 300 simplified wooden viking swords, each representing one of the 300 viking boats that moored at Riccall, and distribute them to schools, community groups, families, sports clubs, companies and so forth, asking them to each decorate their sword. The 300 swords could then be planted along one of the flood barriers near Riccall, 5 metres apart, spanning 1.5km in total.

The test project could be used to build a district-wide community around the evolving masterplan, giving good opportunities to communicate with them.

Digital Framework to Collect Stories and Points of Interest

We have been thoroughly convinced, through our engagement with the residents of Selby District, that there is a wealth of information in the minds of the storytellers amongst the residents. Later stages of the project would benefit from a simple but effective online framework being set up soon that enables individuals and groups to attach short descriptions and stories to specific geolocations within the district. The idea is that this provides:

- A focal point for the collection of stories
- Fine detail in terms of geographic locations linked to stories.
- An open opportunity to contribute and have your community voice heard.
- A valuable resource for future stages of the planning and design process, giving the ability to link stories of different origin together and feature them in walking and cycling routes, for example.
- A container for existing guided walks and trails to be transferred into, safeguarding that important storytelling.

A Test Project

Bring the communities across the district together in one low cost pilot project with great potential for PR and comms. Drawing from global projects such as [CowParade](#):

Create a Short but Important New Public Right of Way

This idea can only be considered a 'quick win' when compared with the task to create all of the new public rights of way possible - one small section could be a quicker result with a big impact, but still it remains true that new PROWs are slow to develop.

Please see the Storytelling in the Landscape page - there's an opportunity to create a new PROW that can be used to publicise the larger proposed network. There is an opportunity near Bolton Percy to link two extensive PROWs together (blue dotted line).

A CURRICULUM FOR SELBY

As featured in the section 'Adding to Selby District's Story', the curriculum would be modelled on the approach taken by Leeds, where a comprehensive set of teaching aids are professionally developed to make specific materials to substitute for the more general approach to the National Curriculum. Importantly, these materials would align with and support the themes and topics in this heritage interpretation masterplan, meaning the history and understanding of place that children develop in the classroom aligns exactly with the interpretive interventions and content in the landscape.

An Embedded Curriculum - A real and opportunity for our next generation

Place based learning has been proven to raise attainment. The Royal Society of Arts (RSA) researched the impact of Area Based Curriculums, and this combined with the research from the Cultural learning Alliance about the impact of arts based learning, provides a strong research framework. Results from Leeds Digital Learning Team's longitudinal research carried out at a local primary school using the Leeds Curriculum shows that this is working. Pupils increased their attainment in historical language development and retention, understood abstract concepts better, and the cohort's sense of place increased by up to 33% increase (33% for 'my home', 18% for 'my city') within 6 weeks (60 pupils, Yr5, Leeds primary school). Place based curriculums help to 'ground' pupils in their locality – along with the First Nations 'proverb': give them roots to give them wings. 'The pupils really benefited from doing [history] about the locality as they had a personal connection... it meant something to them' Teacher, Bramhope Primary.

The curriculum needs to be something which supports schools, not put an additional burden on them. If the resources are created in a way that the information adds value to teachers' lessons, and is backed up with quality downloads and media they can use in the classroom (such as activity sheets, videos, powerpoints etc) then it can only be helpful. Leeds Curriculum is hosted on [MyLearning](#), which means that teachers in Leeds can access, for example, a couple of 'generic' Romans resources, then they can access the 'Romans in Leeds' resource. So it makes it a much more complete package and helps integrate the location-based learning resources much more easily.

Precedents

There are several existing place-based curriculums – Hull has one, Bristol, some London boroughs, and at Leeds. [Leeds' curriculum](#) was the only example co-created with arts and heritage organisations and schools across the City. The Leeds Curriculum is also completely free to access via MyLearning (Hull's is behind a paywall).

Quick Wins

Content wise, there will be some obvious overlaps between the Interpretation Masterplan and the National Curriculum. Also looking at what teachers are currently choosing to teach from the elective topics / themes and see if there is cross over there. Making sure the content is diverse and inclusive from the outset will be a bonus for teachers (and therefore pupils). The resources would be written for non-specialist teachers, as many of them will be non-specialists.

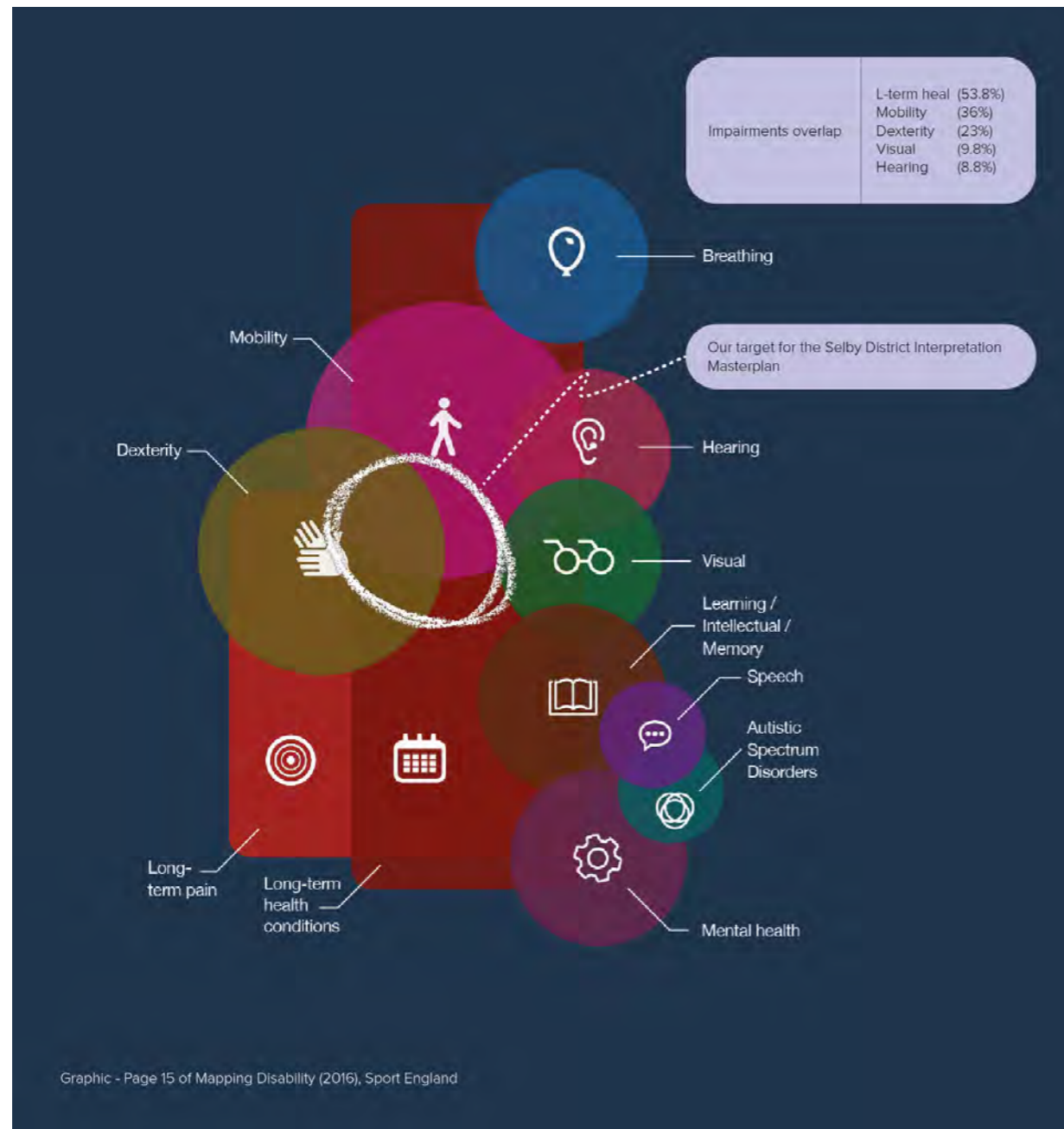
Success of Precedents

We know that over 1/2 of primary schools in Leeds are using it in some way. Some schools have re-written their entire curriculum to make it in-line with the resources that make up the Leeds Curriculum. Leeds Museums and Galleries have just completed a small piece of longitudinal research which shows increases in attainment for literacy and language development, and a much stronger sense of place for pupils: 'the curriculum support... has been helpful and enlightening... it has enabled fresh ideas that fit into our school perfectly', teacher. A larger scale research programme was planned to start in 2020, LM&G are just getting this back on track.

– Section continues overleaf –

ACCESSIBILITY

The level-going nature of the Selby District landscape is a real opportunity to provide a level of access to nature and storytelling in the landscape that is highly unusual for the United Kingdom - only really the Norfolk Fens and Broads and Somerset Levels provide any comparative opportunity. Much can be made of the offer to residents and visitors - over 100 miles of relatively accessible trails and storytelling spaces. The diagram below shows where the target for accessibility could be set.



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SEQUENCING - EMBEDDING STORIES IN THE LANDSCAPE

The Storytelling in the Landscape schematic and expansion on the following page describes a network of storytelling opportunities connected together by a new network of walking and cycling routes.

This connects into other initiatives such as Our Zero Selby (OZS) and the Selby District Council Low Carbon strategy, which both feature the encouragement of more walking and cycling routes.

It is a mid to long term development, but there is a logical sequence for development and therefore funding:

1. Bring the community into the process by collecting their stories and local intel / knowledge using the digital framework mentioned in the quick wins section.
2. Survey the existing and proposed routes using 360 survey tools (like Google Street View).
3. Commission a study within the local authority to create a feasibility study for the routes looking at PROWS, land ownership, permissions, and cost options for surfacing / access. Also develop a robust stakeholder group. Seek partnerships with organisations such as the Canal and River Trust.
4. Appoint a steering group.
5. Appoint an interpretive planner and designer to create a specific walking and cycling route interpretation plan and take designs to RIBA3. This should include both physical interventions and digital layer interpretation. This team should work collaboratively with the Public Art Plan team and communities and individuals. Support provided by the relevant local authority teams.
6. Appoint a wayfinding specialist to create a wayfinding strategy.
7. Implement the designs.

OPPORTUNITIES IDENTIFIED THROUGH CONSULTATION

New offers / products (aimed at both local and tourist visitors)

- Village trails (digital / printed)
- Guided tours / walks including seasonal offers
- Historic church discovery trail for district – great potential to create an interesting route and story by selecting Grade 1 / notable churches with specific stories and ‘treasures’
- Pop up exhibitions / museums / heritage hubs (greater use of churches as venues) - ‘Cabinet of Curiosities’ approach for this concept could work well
- Simple interpretation offers in pubs and community cafes
- Waymarked trails on sites - permanent and / or temporary (seasonal / event based)

Training (for volunteers)

- Digital skills
- Bid writing / project development
- Interpretive planning and story content development; what is an object without a story – helping groups to identify good stories
- Interpretive media selection, costing and commissioning
- Talks and presentation skills
- Visitor evaluation tools and techniques

Sustainability (income streams for groups)

- Collaboration with local businesses, e.g. pubs and accommodation providers with specific packages for groups
- Building expertise service offers e.g. family history research, speciality talks
- Event and activity programmes (not necessarily heritage exclusively, can be heritage inspired, e.g. art and craft) using local venues such as churches, pubs and village halls

Local engagement and research (for resident communities - all ages)

- Community archaeology projects
- Community archive research and digitisation, perhaps with a nexus point eg the Abbey.
- Community cataloguing of material
- Co-creation and curation of pop up museums / exhibitions
- Selby Abbey medieval Herbal is an ideal treasure to highlight, offering a research and co-creation opportunity, links to gardens, greenspaces and wellbeing

Infrastructure – extending / developing facilities (benefitting residents & visitors / the visitor economy)

- Brown signage
- Welcome / parking / directional signage
- Safe parking space, especially in villages
- Footpath / trail network development (existing links and new)
- Waymarking of trails – on sites and link routes
- Wayfinding for a network of nearby interests
- Additional imaginative / adventure play areas close to popular greenspaces that are under stewardship for conservation and quiet leisure
- Advertising in the Leeds and York tourist sphere - Selby is only a short train journey from each.

Support

- Many consultees said funding for a full time support officer would make a big difference.

Greenspaces across district

- Opportunities at all sites for events of different sizes / scales, including seasonal events and celebrations
- Viewing platform and vista interpretation potentially a great asset at Hambleton Hough
- Storytelling (for all ages / interests) at weekends and twilight events; travelling tales and pop up stories / resources
- Temporary trails e.g. fairy doors, woodland stories / legends, treasure hunts, geocaching
- Workshops on site to build engagement and revenue generation – requires new buildings / older buildings to be upgraded
- Wildlife talks nearby (e.g. in local village halls or churches followed by short guided walks)
- Waymarking of trails with robust attractive maps at entrance points
- Community group (shared) training in conservation skills, woodland management and species recording plus interpretive walks and presentations
- Seating provision – informal and formal, artist collaborations
- SDC Low Carbon Strategy 2022 [“Workstream 5: Natural Environment and Biodiversity - Protect and improve the quality of the natural environment and biodiversity across the district including addressing flood risk and planning for sustainable development through the new Local Plan.”] and green priorities nationally
- Partnership initiatives (e.g. interpretation and events) with the Canal and Rivers Trust
- Transpennine Trail and Solar system Way would benefit from further development and interpretation / engagement points
- Community engagement and grant facilitation delivered through a green spaces network

Connections with York

- Create a stronger connection with IPUP (the Institute for the Public Understanding of the Past) at the University of York. Collaborative projects with the Institute can work in the same way that DEFRA works with Selby District.

Location Specific Opportunities

Cawood

- Revised and updated village heritage trail with supplementary historical information
- Guided tours - regular offers
- 150th anniversary of the swing bridge – events taking place this year with interpretation
- Research and pop up display(s) of archive material e.g. 200 year old diary from a local family, handwritten letters and other material; digital capture / scanning of documents; potential for post grad research
- Community research project and co-curation of an online and on site temporary exhibition(s) e.g. Manor Court Rolls – contain a huge amount of information and need transcribing
- Margaret Brearley transcribes parish records free of charge currently and offers the service for family historians; opportunities for charging a modest fee and fundraising for other activities (through the Heritage Group)
- Interpretation of / in church – a church trail to link with others. The church is under-utilised, but has been used for lectures, workshops, exhibitions etc – it is a fine building worthy of interpretation and greater use
- Brown signage to highlight historic church and village
- Parking directions / space in the village – lanes are very narrow, especially by the church
- The Ferry Inn is centrally located by the river and the garden is being used for bridge anniversary events; there is opportunity to develop pop up interpretation in the pub about the village
- Make more of the rare mediaeval garden with garden themed events / activities – more interpretation; digital project to re-create online
- New community archaeology projects for different locations in the village to better unravel its complexity of settlement and land use – possible partnership with Yorkshire CBA

Three Haggas Woodsmeadow near Escrick

- Better approach signage off A19 – brown signs
- New welcome and directional signage for visitors, site orientation map at entrance gate and SEASONAL ‘spotters guide’ or similar online / downloadable resource

- Development of simple family friendly offers e.g. wild play areas, den-making, imaginative spaces and so on
- Interpretive skills and storytelling toolkit and training workshops to help tell good stories
- Clear path mowing to reflect trail / route, and some simple wayfinding
- Training: help with evaluating impact including learning outcomes; developing a business approach for revenue generating activities
- Events development and hosting (note an excellent events programme exists – support with more business focus and audience / market development would help sustainability)
- Greenspace – promote for learning and wellbeing
- Develop links with other greenspaces – joint activities and events, a green trail, seasonal visit interests
- Target audiences for bespoke offer: local / regional special interest group tours (beyond specific woodmeadow specialists UK wide)

St Helens Church / Escrick

- Develop family history offer and research facility – volunteer expertise could generate income
- Picture scanning service – volunteer expertise could generate income
- Churches trail for district as a new product
- Develop special interest group market. Offers for special interest groups – visits and activities e.g. arts, painting, photography etc using the church as a venue
- Re-boot heritage / craft workshops that have been very popular within the church – can charge
- Provide local audience information on heritage in Community Cafes
- More collaboration with The Parsonage and Fat Abbot – weddings, wedding fayres, group tour market to develop / test e.g. history tour coach groups
- Support with event development and a pool of new speakers and topics
- Support with uploading events to Heart of Yorkshire website
- Volunteer recruitment and development (training)
- Help with evaluation of visitors and thinking ahead
- Business planning / revenue generating ideas
- More brown signs for car park and church welcome sign for vehicles

Towton

- Development of talks by volunteer members with different interests / specialisms supported with training and development in presentation to build confidence – this would be a good offer for other local groups as the team could take replica items, costumes etc and cover many different topics.

- Good opportunity for revenue generation to develop different types of trail narrative; also summer evening walks with the Rockingham Arms as an offer
- The skirmish closer to Saxton could be interpreted either using boards or a digital offer. The Parish Council put seats in recently.
- Support with developing web content and make resources mobile friendly (digital skills and content writing)
- Development of online talks to extend reach, especially the Siege of York and Battle interpretation, and reinterpretation (new evidence) are two key talks that TBS deliver
- Resources such as information / fact sheets could be developed further on different topics
- Battle Visitor Centre – explore options to move to Towton. A facility in Towton would be ideal to link both walks and talks plus handling collection etc
- A pop up museum / community heritage facility in Tadcaster
- A co-ordinating team / person to help community groups deliver heritage projects / offers more easily and to a high quality
- The current battle trail is permissive and there is good potential for a new link access to create a safer walk.
- Parking at the cross where the battlefield interpretation starts is often busy - resurface and extend
- Develop events / offers at The Barn near the Rockingham Pub in Towton
- Old interpretation panels ideally need to be updated with newly researched interpretive content that is more accessible; there are 10 panels in total
- A digital resource such as an Ipad with content including images, maps, films etc would be valuable for using on guided walks to support interpretation
- Volunteer training to build confidence for interacting with the public giving talks, walks and event activities. Volunteers would also like to engage with young people and students and would like training and tools to help them.
- Training / advice with making grant applications
- An annual maintenance grant for trail / path mowing regime 4 times a year the maintenance of the boards
- Digital support and training
- Professional guidance on different types of media and ways of storytelling
- Professional guidance with merchandising and how to develop and retail products
- Guidance / training for evaluation and how to understand visitor needs so the group can respond accordingly

Drax

- Co-creation / curation: community groups could help to build / develop new and enhanced resources at the Skylark.

- Future potential for collaboration and joint offer(s) with wind farm to explore the topics of ‘energy’ and ‘sustainability’
- New GCSE in the pipeline for Sustainability. Drax is working with an educational partner to develop relevant resources for primary, secondary and SEN groups. This is a big new opportunity and story.
- Re-boot offers such as walks and talks on specific themes and topics for targeted groups – build events and promote widely so engaging across a wider geographic spread.
- Refresh the Drax Millenium Walks, which include the four mile loop around the power station - also known as the Energy Path.
- Develop greater and wider promotion of the offer and variety of opportunities around Drax – accessible and interesting; masses of opportunity for local families to appreciate what’s on the doorstep and how important the sustainability agenda is to Selby district.

Monk Fryston

- Part of the monastic complex and a fabulous limestone town.
- Great opportunity to develop a walking / cycling route from Monk Fryston to Selby Dam.
- More archaeology is there to be found.
- The finds from the 2015 dig are at risk because the future of the hotel is uncertain - secure the finds.
- Monk Fryston should seriously consider a social media presence.
- There are excellent examples of community-led heritage development and their stories could inspire others and those in other communities.
- Develop further the story of brewing along the magnesian limestone ridge from where the springs emerge.

Selby - The Library

- Great opportunity to be a key host destination for events, talks, exhibitions, pop-ups.
- Have some excellent maps and photos that could make a great display.
- Great place to focus on spoken word - dialect, storytelling and poetry.
- Idea was raised by another community member of Saturday morning history club for school years 5-6 onwards.

Selby - The Abbey

- Employs the only full-time heritage person in the district.
- The abbey could support district-wide development of skills.
- Great opportunity to explore the relationship between the churches and the abbey.
- The story of Benedict’s decision to create the monastery in that location is detailed in Historia - water, stone and timber - this links the foundational topics across the district

Sherburn in Elmet

- Understand through an archaeological study how the roman road network worked on the ridge - how did the secondary roman road network stitch Sherburn into the bigger picture? How do the villas fit into this picture?
- Work with the local history group to understand the scope of the records that went from Tadcaster Rural District Council into the LA archive - they know there is quality material there that is not catalogued. A great potential volunteer project.
- Fabulous opportunity to develop the story of the palaces and hunting lodges - a direct line runs from Sherburn, through Rest Park, through Cawood to Bishopthorpe and on to York Minster. This is a fabulous story and journey that involves Athelston's Palace - from where the Archbishop of York ruled as England was being united.
- The teasel is possibly the best symbol to understand the mediaeval connection between the ridge and the low-lying land below, how the people of the district have always made the most of the unusual landscape, and the monastery's products such as wool exports.
- Spurred by conversations with Sherburn, but applying district-wide, the idea of a virtualised archive to combat the misfortune of the fragmented archive.
- Understand and protect the Gascoigne archive Morley.
- The tree on Townton Battlefield needs to be protected. This is a good example of how refreshing the Village Design Statements to include natural and built heritage could be a useful process and mechanism for preservation.
- The Gascoigne family are landowners with an important story to tell.

Selby Civic Society

- The Society was formed in 1969 and has a membership of 50. Its objectives are highly relevant and listed on their website under 'What We Do'.
- It has a long history of developing and publishing heritage-related materials including trails such as 'Swanning Around Selby' and the 'Hidden Heritage' leaflets. The Society is a great candidate to lead further creation and publication of such materials specific to Selby.
- The Society has a great history of organising meetings, exhibitions and lectures - something that they are well-placed to continue.
- This group (supported by other voices in our consultation) feels very strongly about the Abbot's Staith building in Selby. They feel that more should be done with it and within the group have discussed ideas such as remodelling the building as a 'Heritage Centre'. Members within the group expressed that they felt they would be able to form the governance should they also be able to find the funding.

- This group feels strongly about learning more about the extent and nature of the monastery through archaeological investigation. This aligns with a similar feeling at the Abbey.
- This group feels strongly that more could / should be done to move people around the town, and that new interpretation would help with that mission.

Ye Fraternitie of Olde Selebians

- A great example of a group that could really get to grips with the revision of the design statements, to identify and log the 'fine grain' of heritage in the urban and rural environments that is held dear and needs protecting.
- Great experience and storytelling capability. Highly knowledgeable.
- Suggest they strongly consider creating an online (or social media) presence to increase their reach.
- Excellent understanding of conflict in Selby and Selby District - should be consulted and involved at the next stage.

Abbot's Staith

- Abbot's Staith is a 15th or early 16th century stone warehouse built for Selby Monastery. The building is a scheduled ancient monument. The rear of the Abbot's Staith is a working area for the adjacent commercial mill operation. Pre-booked tours of the site can be undertaken and events are run by the community-led Abbot's Staith Heritage Trust.
- There are opportunities for the Trust to explore building on, and linking with, the thematic stories in the strategy, especially the river (transport / trade/ movement of ideas and goods) and the monastic stories (the industry, impact and influence of the monastery on Selby town and the wider area).
- Assets that can be used in future include:
 - The staith as it was in its heyday busy with trade goods – built in Minecraft
 - Digital scans of objects recovered from the 2017 archaeological excavations (see <https://www.selbyabbey.org.uk/stone-finial-found-in-abbots-staithe/>); for example the carved finial tells a story of stone quarrying, design and craft skills, and the architectural decoration of the abbey
 - Links with the Abbey and its NLHF project that explores the abbey and its origins
- There is a potential opportunity for the Trust to explore the potential for a university department to undertake a detailed laser scan of the building, for example to create a 3D model of the building that can be an engaging interactive learning and research tool.

Tadcaster

- Great potential for developing the concept of a seasonal 'pop up exhibition, museum or heritage hub to explore the long history of brewing and brew houses across Selby district and most celebrated in Tadcaster.
- Community appetite for arts / arts related projects and activities, waterways / riverside, trails for heritage.
- There are opportunities for art and installations (both temporary and permanent) in spaces along trails and in town.
- Further interpretation of the town's Norman motte and bailey that once guarded the river Wharfe crossing.
- More on the river's heritage (trade/transportation of locally quarried stone, presence of wharves and jetties / river traffic etc)
- Greater use of the riverside 'beach', with consideration of seasonal flooding – as a recreation space (development ideas in place) with art and interpretation.
- Improvements for off-road cycling routes to encourage greater family use.
- New statues (temporary or permanent) – to express pride in place, celebration of heritage; public art projects – could have strong links with brewing history.
- Delivery of Blue Plaques - project planning and research has been completed, linking renowned people to the buildings in Tadcaster.
- Potential for Tadcaster team to support other volunteer groups district wide with training and advice (peer support, both formal and informal training).
- Explore micro interpretive installations / pop ups in shops / shop windows.

—END—

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Report Reference Number: E/22/34

To: Executive
Date: 5 January 2022
Status: Key Decision
Ward(s) Affected: All Wards
Author: Caroline Skelly, Planning Policy Manager
Lead Executive Member: Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council
Lead Officer: Caroline Skelly, Planning Policy Manager

Title: CIL/S106 Infrastructure Funding Statement

Summary:

In September 2019 changes were made to the Community Infrastructure Regulations which require Local Planning Authorities to publish an Infrastructure Funding Statement from December 2020. This report sets out the details of how much monies have been collected from CIL and S106 obligations receipts over the course of the latest monitoring period and seeks approval for the publication of the 2022 Infrastructure Funding Statement.

Recommendations:

That the Executive approve the Draft Infrastructure Funding Statement as attached at Appendix 1 for publication.

Reasons for recommendation

To meet the requirements of the Community Infrastructure (Amendment) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2019.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was formally adopted by Selby District Council on 1st January 2016, following public examination. The CIL has established 3 housing development charging zones of £10/£35/£50sqm with £110sqm for supermarkets and £60sqm for retail warehouses. The rates were based on a detailed analysis of up-to-date viability evidence.
- 1.2 Funds raised via the Levy can only be spent on 'strategic infrastructure' which includes transport, flood defences, health care facilities, schools, social care facilities, cultural and sport facilities as well as the maintenance and

improvement of facilities affected by development. CIL is being reviewed alongside the preparation of a new Local Plan.

- 1.3 Section 106 obligations are private agreements made between the local authority and developers to make development acceptable. Unlike CIL, S106 planning obligations must be directly relevant to the proposed development. Until recently there were restrictions, which meant that S106 obligations could not be “pooled” from more than 5 developments for one piece of infrastructure. This pooling restriction was lifted when the CIL Regulations came into force on the 1 September 2019.

2. CIL and Section 106 Income

- 2.1 Although a slow process to begin with CIL receipts are building up year on year with the total CIL receipts received as of 31 October 2022 is £4.1m as set out in the table below:

Table 1 - CIL Receipts

CIL received to date	Strategic Infrastructure Share to be utilised by Selby District Council	Meaningful Portion for our Parish/Town Councils	5% Administration Fee (covers cost of CIL/S106 Officer and software)
£4,183,096.59	£3,348,108.05	£601,521.21	£197,467.33

- 2.2 S106 payments are usually paid in instalments and once the final payment is received, we have 5 years in which to spend the funds, or they will need to be returned to the developer. At present we have no funds which will be required to be paid back to the developers.

3. CIL Regulation Requirements

- 3.1 Under the previous guidance CIL receipts had to be in accordance with the published CIL 123 list. As it takes some time to build up the infrastructure funding pot Officers had not sought approval from Members on how CIL income should be prioritised.
- 3.2 New CIL Regulations came into force on the 1 September 2019 which removed the S106 pooling restrictions and allow local authorities to use both the Levy and S106 planning obligations to fund the same item of infrastructure, (S106 contributions must still directly relate to the development). In addition, the new Regulations removed the provisions relating to the 123 list and introduced a requirement for all local authorities (not just CIL charging ones) to publish an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement. The Infrastructure Funding Statement replaces the Regulation 123 list.
- 3.3 Regulation 121A of the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2019 requires that no later than 31 December each calendar

year a contribution receiving authority must publish an Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement which comprises the following:

- a) a statement of the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which the charging authority intends will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL (other than CIL to which regulation 59E or 59F applies) (“the infrastructure list”);
- b) a report about CIL, in relation to the previous financial year (“the reported year”), which includes the matters specified in paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 (“CIL report”);
- c) a report about planning obligations, in relation to the reported year, which includes the matters specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 and may include the matters specified in paragraph 4 of that Schedule (“section 106 report”).

3.4 In addition to the requirement for Selby District Council to publish information, Parish Councils and North Yorkshire County Council are also required to report details on CIL income and spend.

3.5 These requirements will help to provide transparency in how CIL and S106 obligations are being used to support the provision of new infrastructure. The first Annual Infrastructure Funding Statement was approved by Executive in December 2020.

4. Infrastructure Funding Statement

4.1 The Council’s draft Infrastructure Funding Statement confirms that between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, £1,230,145 was collected in CIL receipts. Of the total CIL collected for 2021/22, a sum of £189,027.87 has been allocated to the neighbourhood areas (i.e., Parish or Town Councils), of which £115,045.75 was passed to the parishes within the monitoring year. Overall, the Parish or Town Councils have been passed £125,297.10 of CIL receipts, within this monitoring year, to spend on local infrastructure projects.

4.2 At the present time, £983,750 of the Council’s total strategic infrastructure delivery fund has been allocated for spend. £233,750 of which is to provide a roundabout on Bawtry Road, Selby, in association with the development of the LIDL store. This contribution was agreed by Executive in August 2017 in order to improve the wider traffic issues on Bawtry Road. Although this has been allocated, the payment will not be made until the requirements of the S278 agreement have been met. A further £750,000 was identified at Executive on the 6 January 2022 to provide an expansion of health facilities in Sherburn in Elmet. This was not spent during the monitoring period to the end of March 2022 but has since been transferred.

4.3 As Members will be aware the Council is preparing a new Local Plan which will allocate sites to support the growth of the District up to 2040. As part of this process an Infrastructure Delivery Plan is being prepared which will identify the

improvements required to local infrastructure to support future development. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan will be used as the basis for future discussions with Members about how CIL receipts should be prioritised. At this stage it is anticipated that CIL receipts will be used to fund strategic projects such as highways, healthcare, and flood defences.

- 4.4 Parish Councils are also required to publish an annual statement which sets out how CIL receipts have been spent. Examples of how funds have been utilised include, vehicle activated signs, bus shelters, streetlighting and new and enhanced play equipment playground.
- 4.5 The Infrastructure Funding Statement also reports on S106 receipts. During the monitoring year £782,811.42 was received in S106 contributions. This includes:
- - Education - £463,219.66
 - Highways and transport - £173,897.28
 - Off -site Recreational Open Space - £31,722.00
 - Waste and Recycling - £15,307.00
 - Community Facilities – £97,914.92
- 4.6 S106 receipts from Affordable Housing contributions have been spent in 2021/22 to bring empty homes back into use and establish valuations. There are remaining funds allocated to Affordable Housing provision but not yet spent which will be used to deliver the Council's Housing Delivery Programme.
- 4.7 Money we have transferred to other organisations such as NYCC and NHS for use in Education, Highways and Health infrastructure will be reported on in detail through those organisations respective Infrastructure Funding Statements.

5. Alternative Options Considered

There are not considered to be any alternative options as the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement is a requirement of the CIL Regulations.

6. Implications

6.1 Legal Implications

CIL must be operated in line with the new CIL Regulations which came into force on 1 September 2019.

6.2 Financial Implications

The ability to seek both CIL and S106 contributions should increase the income generated to provide infrastructure across the District.

6.3 Policy and Risk Implications

The risks are that the Council would not fulfil the requirements of the CIL Regulations.

6.4 Corporate Plan Implications

CIL and S106 contributions help the Council to deliver its Corporate Plan objectives to make Selby a great place to do business and to enjoy life.

6.5 Resource Implications

The application of CIL and monitoring of CIL/S106 income will continue to be managed by the CIL/S106 monitoring Officer post, which is funded through the 5% element of CIL income.

6.6 Other Implications

None

6.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

None

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The publication of an Infrastructure Funding Statement is a requirement of the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2019 which came into force last year. The Infrastructure Funding Statement at Appendix 1 fulfils the requirements of the regulations.

9. Background Documents

None.

10. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft Infrastructure Funding Statement

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SELBY



DISTRICT COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT
2021/22

Introduction

The Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) is an annual report which provides a summary of all developer contributions relating to Section 106 agreements (S106) and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for a given financial year. **The Infrastructure Funding Statement replaces the Regulation 123 statement.**

Section 106 agreements are legal agreements which can be attached to a planning permission to mitigate the impact of development. Planning obligations within these agreements can only be sought where they are directly related to the development and necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms.

Contributions can either be provided on-site, for example by the provision of Affordable Housing, or off-site in the form of financial payments.

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a mechanism to secure financial contributions from developers on certain viable developments. It is intended to fund more generalised, strategic infrastructure requirements across the District such as transport, flood defences, health care facilities, schools, social care facilities, cultural and sport facilities as well as the maintenance and improvement of facilities in order to support new development. CIL is being reviewed alongside the preparation of a new Local Plan.

CIL rates are set out in a published charging schedule and the Council's latest charging schedule was adopted in January 2016.

Funding for the delivery of infrastructure will be sought by the Council in several ways such as through planning conditions, Section 106 Agreements and through the Community Infrastructure Levy.

On the 1st September 2019 the Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2019 came into force. Under these regulations Local Authorities are required to produce an Infrastructure Funding Statement annually that sets out details about planning obligation receipts and anticipated expenditure. This is to provide clarity and transparency to local communities and developers on the infrastructure and expenditure and in aligning this to planned development, as envisaged in the Local Plan.

Definitions used with this statement are

Agreed – Contributions that have been agreed within a signed legal document. These contributions have not been collected/ delivered and if the planning applications are not implemented, they will never be received.

Received – Contributions received, either non-monetary or monetary, that have been transferred to Selby District Council

Allocated – Contributions that have been received and allocated to specific projects.

Spent/ Delivered – Monetary or non-monetary contributions that have been spent/ delivered.

This Financial Year - refers to the period between 1.4.21 and 31.3.22.

1. S106 Obligations

Once a S106 agreement has been signed it becomes an obligation but will only be required if the planning permission is implemented and the trigger for payment has been reached. The agreement is also registered on the Local Land Charges Register as a land charge and will remain as such with that land – this means that the obligation will be required to be met in full by the owner of the land, whether that is the landowner at the time of permission or a future landowner.

Planning obligations assist in mitigating the impact of development to make it acceptable in planning terms. Obligations may only constitute a reason for granting planning permission if they meet tests that show they are necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms.

The tests, as detailed below, are set out as statutory tests in Regulation 122 (as amended by the 2011 and 2019 Regulations) and as policy tests in the National Planning Policy Framework

- necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms
- directly related to the development
- fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development

However, it is not possible to provide a priority list of obligations or contributions which may be sought as these are dependant of the development proposal, but both S106 and CIL contributions can be placed on the same development.

However, some contributions can only be asked by means of S106 agreements, such as Affordable Housing provision where the development is for residential development and 10 or more homes will be provided.

Selby District Council collects off-site financial contributions where it has been determined that on-site provision is required by policy, but this is either not appropriate or fully achievable. A financial contribution is then requested from the developer to meet those needs outside of the development area.

As a District Council we monitor and collect contributions which are to be used for infrastructure provision which falls under the County Council remit, such as education and highways. These funds are passed to the County Council to be used as detailed in the S106 agreements and details will be provided by the County Council in their own Infrastructure Funding Statement along with Section 278 Highways Agreements.

S106 Obligations – summary

In 2021/22 the Council received a total of £782,811.50 in S106 contributions.

These contributions received were in relation to Education (£463,219.66), Highways and transport (£173,897.28), Off -site Recreational Open Space (£31,722.00) and Waste and Recycling (£15,307.00) and community facilities (£97,914.92).

In addition, a monitoring fee payment was received (£750).

No maintenance commuted sum has been received or retained in this monitoring year.

There have been 7 new S106 agreements signed in this reporting year which will provide a potential £200,920.25 (£8,315 for Waste and Recycling, £93,339.25 for Education and £100,266 towards off-site Recreational Open Space).

In 2021/22, a total of £637,116.94 was transferred to NYCC, for use on Education and Highways/transport (including travel plans). Details of school places provided and educational facilities for this reporting period, will be provided in detail by NYCC Education in their Infrastructure Funding Statement. Similarly, contributions relating to Highway infrastructure will be provided by NYCC Highways.

Parish/Town Councils have received £184,801 of S106 contributions in this monitoring year and have provided several specific projects. These projects have involved the provision, enhancement and renovation of play areas and equipment, including improvements to inclusivity and accessibility through specialist play equipment and suitable pathways. Sport provision has also been improved through money towards Carlton Cricket Club, and community facility enhancements have been funded at Carlton Village Hall. Selby Town Hall Open Gardens have also received funding, and replacement bins have been provided in Church Fenton.

In 2021/22 Affordable housing S106 contributions have been used to refurbish and bring back into use 4 Empty homes. There is a current balance of £7,735,859 for new Affordable Housing provision, all of which is allocated to future schemes.

For the enhancement of health service, £27,792 has been passed to the NHS within the monitoring year for the expansion of surgeries in Sherburn in Elmet.

One refund of S106 monies has been made during this financial period. This was £97,000 to Persimmon homes in relation to the provision of facilities at Selby Station which could not be made within the agreed timescales

2. CIL

The council applies a charge on new development to help pay for infrastructure.

The Council's Infrastructure Funding Statement identifies the infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which Selby District Council intends will be, or may be, wholly or partly funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy. The principles by which the council will allocate CIL receipts to infrastructure are;

- Strategic priority and Local priority
- Deliverability
- % match funding

The Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan, alongside which an Infrastructure Delivery Plan will be drafted. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan will identify the improvements which are required to local infrastructure to support the growth identified through the plan and prioritise the use of CIL income to deliver improvements. However, it is considered that CIL receipts will be prioritised as set out below: -

- Improvements to the Strategic Highways Network
- Strategic Flood Mitigation Measures
- Healthcare provision

The regulations set out the methodology for how monies collected from the CIL are to be distributed as illustrated in the table below.

Purpose of funding	% Allocated
Administration	5% of all receipts
Neighbourhood Area Portion	15% of CIL receipts collected within that area for those areas which do not have an adopted Neighbourhood plan
Neighbourhood Area Portion	25% of CIL receipts collected within that area for those areas which have an adopted Neighbourhood plan
CIL Strategic Infrastructure	Remaining CIL receipts

The usual payment timeframe for CIL contributions is within 60 days of the intended commencement date of development, however, COVID 19 had an impact on the building community.

CIL Coronavirus Regulations which came into force on 22 July 2020, were put in place to ensure that CIL liabilities did not cause undue burden to small and medium sized businesses during the period of disruption. This amendment to regulations gave CIL charging authorities the discretion, for a limited time (in certain prescribed circumstances and if it is considered appropriate), to defer CIL payments, and to disapply late payment interest.

As a result of COVID -19, some applications in the monitoring year 2021/22 may have made contributions against instalment payments, and therefore their total demand amount may not have been paid in full within this reporting year.

A total of £3,960,424.91 in CIL receipts has been collected since 2016, when CIL was adopted, to the end of this reporting year (1.1.16 – 31.3.22), with £1,230,145.90 being collected in monitoring year 2021/22.

Up to the end of the monitoring year (April 2022), Selby District Council had 2 Neighbourhood areas which have an adopted Neighbourhood Plan (Appleton Roebuck and Acaster Malbis & Church Fenton). This increases the proportion of CIL funding they are allocated.

Of the total CIL collected for 2021/22, a sum of £189,027.87 has been allocated to the neighbourhood areas (i.e Parish or Town Councils). Of which £115,045.75 was passed to the parishes within the monitoring year. Overall, the Parish or Town Councils have been passed £125,597.10 of CIL receipts, within this monitoring year, to spend on local infrastructure projects.

Parish Councils are required to produce their own report which will detail spend and projects for their own areas.

We have had no monies returned to the District Council as a result of monies not being spent by Parish Councils.

£43,158.89 has been spent on administration costs for this reporting year, with £61,507.90 being allocated for administration from the overall total collected for the year.

Only two infrastructure projects have been identified and allocated for CIL strategic funds by the authority to date. These include:

- the roundabout on Bawtry Road Selby to link in the new supermarket development and improve the highway layout on the road. £233,750.00 has been allocated but this has not been spent to date as the scheme is awaiting final certificate sign off as set out in the S278 agreement.
- The expansion of health facilities in Sherburn in Elmet. £750,000 was allocated by executive in January 2022. This was not spent during the monitoring period to the end of March 2022 but has since been transferred.

Annex 1 - Infrastructure Funding Statement Schedule 2021/22

SCHEDULE 2 Matters to be included in the annual infrastructure funding statement
(Regulation 121 Schedule 2)

The reporting year covered by this report is 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

CIL Report		
1	The matters to be included in the CIL report are -	Amount
a	the total value of CIL set out in all demand notices issued in the reported year;	£579,861.58
b	the total amount of CIL receipts for the reported year	£1,230,145.90
c	the total amount of CIL receipts, collected by the authority, or by another person on its behalf, before the reported year but which have not been allocated;	£1,325,259.98
d	the total amount of CIL receipts, collected by the authority, or by another person on its behalf, before the reported year and which have been allocated in the reported year;	£750,000
e	the total amount of CIL expenditure for the reported year;	£0.00
f	the total amount of CIL receipts, whenever collected, which were allocated but not spent during the reported year;	£983,750
g	in relation to CIL expenditure for the reported year, summary details of—	
	i the items of infrastructure on which CIL (including land payments) has been spent, and the amount of CIL spent on each item;	£0.00
	ii the items of infrastructure on which CIL (including land payments) has been spent, and the amount of CIL spent on each item; £0.00 ii the amount of CIL spent on repaying money borrowed, including any interest, with details of the items of infrastructure which that money was used to provide (wholly or in part);	£0.00
	iii the amount of CIL spent on administrative expenses pursuant to regulation 61, and that amount expressed as a percentage of CIL collected in that year in accordance with that regulation;	£43,158.89 3.5%
h	in relation to CIL receipts, whenever collected, which were allocated but not spent during the reported year, summary details of the items of infrastructure on which CIL (including land payments) has been allocated, and the amount of CIL allocated to each item;	£233,750.00 for supermarket roundabout on Bawtry Road Selby - awaiting S278 sign off £750,000 for the expansion of health facilities in Sherburn in Elmet.
i	the amount of CIL passed to—	
	i any parish council under regulation 59A or 59B; and	£125,597.10
	ii any person under regulation 59(4)	
j	summary details of the receipt and expenditure of CIL to which regulation 59E or 59F applied during the reported year including	
	i the total CIL receipts that regulations 59E and 59F applied to;	£0.00

	ii the items of infrastructure to which the CIL receipts to which regulations 59E and 59F applied have been allocated or spent, and the amount of expenditure allocated or spent on each item;	N/A
k	summary details of any notices served in accordance with regulation 59E, including—	
	i the total value of CIL receipts requested from each parish council;	£0.00
	ii any funds not yet recovered from each parish council at the end of the reported year;	£0.00
L	the total amount of—	
	i CIL receipts for the reported year retained at the end of the reported year other than those to which regulation 59E or 59F applied;	£0.00
	ii CIL receipts from previous years retained at the end of the reported year other than those to which regulation 59E or 59F applied;	£0.00
	iii CIL receipts for the reported year to which regulation 59E or 59F applied retained at the end of the reported year;	£0.00
	iv CIL receipts from previous years to which regulation 59E or 59F applied retained at the end of the reported year	£0.00
2	For the purposes of paragraph 1—	
a	CIL collected by an authority includes land payments made in respect of CIL charged by that authority;	£0.00
b	CIL collected by way of a land payment has not been spent if at the end of the reported year—	
	i development (within the meaning in TCPA 1990) consistent with a relevant purpose has not commenced on the acquired land; or	£0.00
	ii the acquired land (in whole or in part) has been used or disposed of for a purpose other than a relevant purpose; and the amount deemed to be CIL by virtue of regulation 73(9) has not been spent	N/A
c	CIL collected by an authority includes infrastructure payments made in respect of CIL charged by that authority;	N/A
d	CIL collected by way of an infrastructure payment has not been spent if at the end of the reported year the infrastructure to be provided has not been provided;	£0.00
e	the value of acquired land is the value stated in the agreement made with the charging authority in respect of that land in accordance with regulation 73(6)(d);	£0.00
f	the value of a part of acquired land must be determined by applying the formula in regulation 73(10) as if references to N in that provision were references to the area of the part of the acquired land whose value is being determined;	£0.00
g	the value of an infrastructure payment is the CIL cash amount stated in the agreement made with the charging authority in respect of the infrastructure in accordance with regulation 73A(7)(e).	£0.00

S106 Obligations Report		
3	The matters to be included in the section 106 report for each reported year are—	Amount
a	the total amount of money to be provided under any planning obligations which were entered into during the reported year;	£200,920.25
b	the total amount of money under any planning obligations which was received during the reported year;	£782,811.42
c	The total amount of money under any planning obligations which was received before the reported year which has not been allocated by the authority;	£0
d	summary details of any non-monetary contributions to be provided under planning obligations which were entered into during the reported year, including details of—	These details will be provided and reported by NYCC
	i in relation to affordable housing, the total number of units which will be provided;	
	ii in relation to educational facilities, the number of school places for pupils which will be provided, and the category of school at which they will be provided;	
e	the total amount of money (received under any planning obligations) which was allocated but not spent during the reported year for funding infrastructure;	£7,894,592.89
f	the total amount of money (received under any planning obligations) which was spent by the authority (including transferring it to another person to spend);	£1,207, 240.07
g	in relation to money (received under planning obligations) which was allocated by the authority but not spent during the reported year, summary details of the items of infrastructure on which the money has been allocated, and the amount of money allocated to each item;	Affordable Housing - £7,735,859 Bus Stop £64,000 Public Art/Sculpture £50,000 Waste £9,647.75 ROS £35,086.14
h	in relation to money (received under planning obligations) which was spent by the authority during the reported year (including transferring it to another person to spend), summary details of—	
	i the items of infrastructure on which that money (received under planning obligations) was spent, and the amount spent on each item;	NYCC for Highways and education provision - £637,116.84 NHS Sherburn Surgery £27,792 Affordable Housing Empty Homes Purchases - £254,830

		<p>Affordable Housing Valuations £5,700</p> <p>£184,801.23 to Parish Councils as detailed below:</p> <p>Play Equipment (Barlby PC) £6,441.50</p> <p>Accessible Footpath (Brotherton PC) £4,955.00</p> <p>Cemetery Pathways (Carlton PC) £27,891.87</p> <p>Carlton Cricket Club £71,731.92</p> <p>Carlton Village Hall £26,183</p> <p>Play Area Renovations, Benches, replacement bins (Church Fenton PC) £27,670.61</p> <p>Town Hall Open Gardens (Selby TC) £2,825.00</p> <p>Inclusive play Equipment (Selby Town Council) £11,049.84</p> <p>Garden and Benches (Tadcaster TC) £2,220.00</p> <p>Play Area (Womersley PC) £3,832.50</p> <p>One Refund of unspent fund = £97,000</p>
	<p>ii the amount of money (received under planning obligations) spent on repaying money borrowed, including any interest, with details of the items of infrastructure which that money was used to provide (wholly or in part);</p>	<p>£0.00</p>

	iii the amount of money (received under planning obligations) spent in respect of monitoring (including reporting under regulation 121A) in relation to the delivery of planning obligations;	£0.00
i	the total amount of money (received under any planning obligations) during any year which was retained at the end of the reported year, and where any of the retained money has been allocated for the purposes of longer-term maintenance (“commuted sums”), also identify separately the total amount of commuted sums held.	£0.00
4	The matters which may be included in the section 106 report for each reported year are—	
a	summary details of any funding or provision of infrastructure which is to be provided through a highway agreement under section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 which was entered into during the reported year,	This will be reported on by NYCC
b	summary details of any funding or provision of infrastructure under a highway agreement which was provided during the reported year.	
5	For the purposes of paragraph 3—	
a	where the amount of money to be provided under any planning obligations is not known, an authority must provide an estimate	N/A
b	a non-monetary contribution includes any land or item of infrastructure provided pursuant to a planning obligation;	N/A
c	where the amount of money spent in respect of monitoring in relation to delivery of planning obligations is not known, an authority must provide an estimate.”	N/A



Report Reference Number: (E/22/35)

To:	Executive
Date:	5 January 2023
Status:	Non-Key Decision
Ward(s) Affected:	Camblesforth and Carlton, Derwent
Author:	Jenny Tyreman, Assistant Principal Planning Officer
Lead Executive Member:	Councillor Mark Crane, Leader of the Council and Lead Executive Member for Leisure, Strategic Matters, Place Shaping and External Relations and Partnerships
Lead Officer:	Martin Grainger, Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services

Title: East Yorkshire Solar Farm – Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project

Summary:

This report sets out the legislative background to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and how these are dealt with. The Executive have considered similar NSIP reports recently in respect of the Drax Bioenergy and Carbon Capture Project in April 2021, the Yorkshire GREEN Project in February 2022, the Humber Low Carbon Pipelines Project in July 2022 and the Helios Renewable Energy Project in September 2022. Essentially applicants for infrastructure projects need to make an application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The final decision is made by the Secretary of State on the recommendation of PINS, but Local Planning Authorities are statutory consultees in the process.

East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited are proposing to submit an application for a DCO for the installation of solar photovoltaic panels, associated electrical equipment, cabling, on-site energy storage facilities and grid connection infrastructure across a proposed site which lies between Selby and East Riding of Yorkshire. The proposed development would allow for an anticipated export of approximately 400 megawatts (MW) electrical capacity. Due to its proposed generating capacity being over 50MW, the proposed development is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

Two rounds of public consultation are taking place – non-statutory consultation took place in Q2 2022; statutory consultation is anticipated to take place in Q1/Q2 2023. It

is anticipated that East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited will submit their DCO application to PINS during Q3 2023.

Once the DCO application has been submitted to PINS, they will have 28 days to decide whether or not the application meets the standards required to be accepted for examination. Following acceptance, an Examining Authority will be appointed, and all Interested Parties will be invited to attend a Preliminary Meeting, run and chaired by the Examining Authority. PINS then have up to six months to carry out the examination of the proposals through a series of structured and topic-based hearings which officers may need to attend. After the examination a decision will be made by the Secretary of State, within 6 months of the close of the examination. Following this the Council will have the responsibility to discharge any planning conditions and enforce the terms of the DCO.

This report outlines the project. Selby District Council (SDC) is a statutory consultee and authorisation is sought for the Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services (or equivalent) in consultation with the relevant Executive Member to agree the Local Impact Report, Statement of Common Ground, the content of the draft DCO, and all further necessary representations by the District Council, together with post decision monitoring of planning conditions and enforcement of the DCO.

Recommendations:

- i. That the contents of this report are noted.**
- ii That authorisation is sought from the Executive to authorise the Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services (or equivalent) in consultation with the relevant Executive Member to agree the Local Impact Report, Statement of Common Ground, the content of the draft DCO, and all further necessary representations by the District Council, together with post decision monitoring of planning conditions and enforcement of the DCO.**

Reasons for recommendation:

Timescales for commenting on the DCO application once it is submitted are embedded in statute and it is important that appropriate delegation arrangements are in place so that the Council is able to meet the deadlines which are set by PINS.

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 On 1 April 2012, under the Localism Act of 2011, PINS became the agency responsible for operating the planning process for NSIPs.
- 1.2 NSIPs are large scale developments such as new harbours, power generating stations (including wind farms), and electricity transmission lines which require a type of consent known as a DCO under procedures governed by the Planning Act 2008 (and amended by the Localism Act 2011). This is not a 'planning application' under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the status of the development plan is different in that the principal guidance for

their determination is contained within the suite of Energy National Policy Statements (NSPs). The 2008 Act sets out thresholds above which certain types of infrastructure development are considered to be 'nationally significant' and require the granting of a consent order. NSIPs were introduced as a fast-track method and alternative way of dealing with nationally important infrastructure after the much-publicised delays in the consenting of Heathrow's last major expansion proposal for a fifth terminal.

- 1.3 In England, PINS examines applications for DCOs from the energy, transport, waste, waste water and water sectors. For such projects, PINS undertakes an examination of the application and makes a recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State, who makes the final decision on whether to grant or to refuse the DCO. Energy NSPs introduce a presumption in favour of granting DCOs.

2. The Project

- 2.1 East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited are proposing the installation of solar photovoltaic panels, associated electrical equipment, cabling, on-site energy storage facilities and grid connection infrastructure across a proposed site which lies between Selby and East Riding of Yorkshire. The proposed development would allow for an anticipated export of approximately 400 megawatts (MW) electrical capacity.

- 2.2 The site location plan can be found in Appendix 1. The site comprises the following areas:

- The solar photovoltaic site (comprising the solar photovoltaic panels, associated electrical equipment, cabling, on-site energy storage facilities) which extends to approximately 1,173 hectares (ha) and is located approximately 1.4 kilometres (km) northwest of the market town of Howden at the closest point. Denoted by a solid red line on the site location plan.
- The grid connection corridor which runs from the solar photovoltaic site to the National Grid substation at Drax Power Station, which is shown as an approximately 500m search area at this point of the project. The grid connection point at Drax Power Station is located approximately 6.2 km southwest of the solar photovoltaic site. Denoted by a dashed red line on the site location plan.

- 2.3 It is important to note that at this stage, the site location plan shows the expected maximum extent of land that would be included within the application for a DCO. It is likely to be refined following consultation and as the design of the development progresses.

- 2.4 The solar photovoltaic site will comprise the following infrastructure:

- Solar photovoltaic modules;
- Solar photovoltaic module mounting structures;
- Inverters (either string or central type);
- Transformers (Low Voltage/Medium Voltage/High Voltage)

- Low Voltage/Medium Voltage/High Voltage switchgear, protection, and control equipment
- Medium Voltage substations distributed throughout the solar photovoltaic plots;
- Onsite underground cabling;
- Interconnecting offsite underground cabling between the solar photovoltaic plots;
- One or more battery energy storage system (expected to be formed of lithium-ion batteries storing electrical energy generated by the proposed development);
- Two 132/33 kV substations;
- Operations and maintenance hub with welfare facilities;
- Fencing and security measures;
- Access tracks; and
- Landscaping and biodiversity enhancement.

2.5 The proposed development will also include two 132 kV export circuits connecting the 132/33 kV substations to the National Grid substation at Drax Power Station.

Construction Programme

2.6 The construction of the proposed development is anticipated to commence in Q4 2024 and span a period of approximately 18-24 months. During the construction phase, temporary access tracks and construction compounds will serve the proposed development, and these will be located within the site boundary.

Operation and Maintenance

2.7 Operation of the proposed development is anticipated to commence around 2027. The proposed development will have an anticipated lifespan of up to 40 years.

2.8 During the operational phase, the activities on-site are expected to be limited to vegetation management, equipment maintenance and servicing, replacement of any components that fail, periodic fence inspection, and monitoring to ensure the continued effective operation of the development.

2.9 It is anticipated that there will be one to three permanent staff on-site at any one time during the operational phase. In addition, there will be up to 10 to 20 visitors per week (equating to two to four visitors per day) for deliveries and servicing of equipment.

Decommissioning Phase

2.10 Following cessation of energy generation and exportation at the site, the development will be removed. The decommissioning of the development is anticipated to take approximately 12-24 months.

3. The Process

- 3.1 The Planning Act 2008 process was introduced to streamline the decision-making process for major infrastructure projects, making it fairer and faster for communities and applicants alike. The six stages in the process are: pre-application; acceptance; pre-examination; examination; recommendation and decision; and post decision.
- 3.2 The East Yorkshire Solar Farm is presently at the pre-application stage with PINS. The applicants have a statutory duty to carry out consultation on their proposals before submitting an application. Two rounds of public consultation are taking place– non-statutory consultation took place in Q2 2022; statutory consultation is anticipated to take place in Q1/Q2 2023.
- 3.3 The applicants submitted a Scoping Report to PINS on 12 September 2022. SDC and NYCC provided comments to PINS on the Scoping Report on 10 October 2022. PINS, on behalf of the Secretary of State, issued a Scoping Opinion on 20 October 2022. This sets out the required extent and content of the Environmental Statement to be submitted with the application for a DCO. Those areas that may be examined in detail come under the headings:
- Climate Change
 - Cultural Heritage
 - Ecology
 - Flood Risk, Drainage and Surface Water
 - Landscape and Visual Amenity
 - Noise and Vibration
 - Socioeconomics and Land Use
 - Transport and Access
 - Human Health
 - Soils and Agricultural Land
 - Cumulative Effects
- 3.4 East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited have notified PINS under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations that they propose to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the proposed development. Therefore, in accordance with Regulation 6(2)(a) of the EIA Regulations, the proposed development is EIA development.
- 3.5 It is anticipated that East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited will submit their DCO application to PINS during Q3 2023.
- 3.6 Once the DCO application has been submitted to PINS, they will have 28 days to decide whether or not the application meets the standards required to be accepted for examination. Following acceptance, an Examining Authority will be appointed, and all Interested Parties will be invited to attend a Preliminary Meeting, run and chaired by the Examining Authority. PINS then have up to six months to carry out the examination of the proposals through a series of

structured and topic-based hearings which officers may need to attend. After the examination a decision will be made by the Secretary of State, within 6 months of the close of the examination. Following this the Council will have the responsibility to discharge any planning conditions and enforce the terms of the DCO.

- 3.7 The Council is working in association with the County Council as part of Better Together to, where possible make co-ordinated responses. This approach is favourable to the applicant and probably to the Examining Authority. It is how the two councils have worked together on other NSIPs. Together the two Authorities have the necessary technical specialists to respond to the application fully.
- 3.8 To date council staff have attended the briefings together and have already submitted the local authorities' response to the applicants Scoping Report.
- 3.9 NYCC and SDC have set up monthly meetings to manage the application, which will be attended by key planning officers and technical officers. Senior management will be invited if required.
- 3.10 Submission of the Local Impact Report, Statement of Common Ground, input into the Draft DCO and any written representations will be required in accordance with deadlines set by PINS, and once the examination commences, these deadlines are likely to be tight. Therefore, authorisation is sought from the Executive to authorise the Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services (or equivalent) in consultation with the relevant Executive Member to agree the Local Impact Report, Statement(s) of Common Ground, the content of the Draft DCO and all further necessary representations by the District Council, together with post decision monitoring of planning conditions and enforcement of the DCO.

4. Implications

4.1 Legal Implications

- 4.1.1 The District Council is an interested party and support for the scheme is subject to agreeing the requirements in the DCO.
- 4.1.2 The District Council will have further involvement following submission of the application and during the examination period, including attendance at issue specific, and DCO public hearings. It is also possible that appropriate planning obligations, in conjunction with the County Council may be required to address any impacts and if considered necessary in planning terms. Both of these may require some input from the Council's legal team.

4.2 Financial Implications

- 4.2.1 The District Council, jointly with the County Council, intend to enter into a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) with East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited. The PPA will establish a project framework and will give greater clarity

to all parties as to their roles and responsibilities. The PPA will also establish a fund set aside against which both this Council and the County Council can claim for work carried out by its service areas which is in excess of their normal working practices.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

5.2 Members are asked to authorise the Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services (or equivalent) in consultation with the relevant Executive Member to agree the Local Impact Report, Statement of Common Ground, the content of the draft DCO, and all further necessary representations by the District Council, together with post decision monitoring of planning conditions and enforcement of the DCO.

6. Background Documents

The National Infrastructure Planning website of the Planning Inspectorate is at the link:

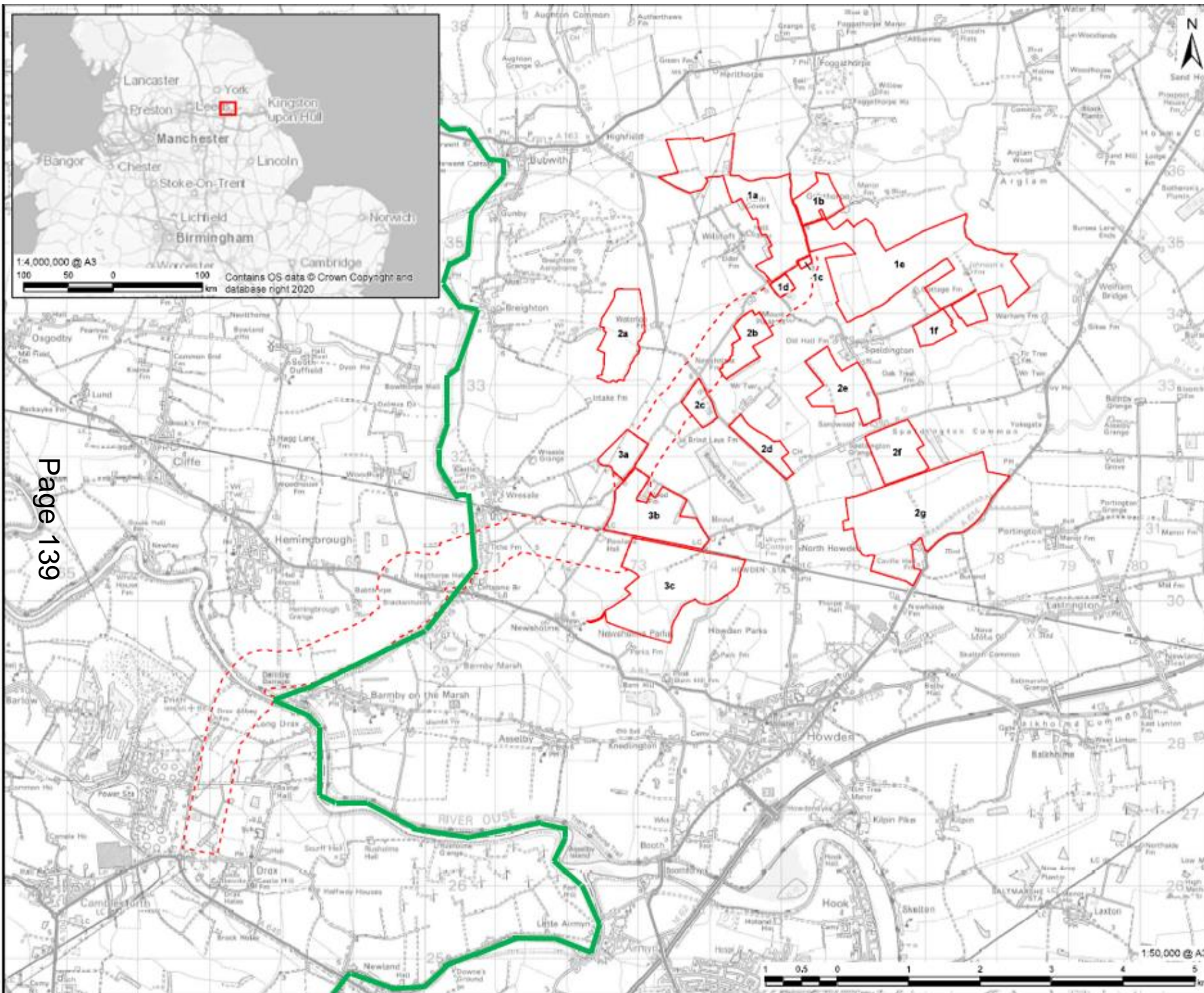
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/yorkshire-and-the-humber/east-yorkshire-solar-farm/?ipcsection=overview>

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Site Location Plan

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LEGEND

- Solar PV Site
- Grid Connection Corridor
- Selby District Boundary

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