



### **Councillor Steve Shaw-Wright – Chair of Scrutiny Committee**

The Scrutiny Committee has met twice since the last update to Council in February 2021.

#### **25 February 2021**

##### **Education in Selby District - Revisited**

Representatives from Selby College, North Yorkshire County Council and Ebor Academy Trust were welcomed to the meeting and gave an update or presentation to the Committee about the past year in education, the effects of Covid, what had changed and plans for the future.

The information provided to Members was thorough and useful, with Members asking a number of questions on matters such as the proposed SEN school in Osgodby, extensions to some local primaries, the effect of more housing on education in the district (particularly Eggborough, Burn and Tadcaster) and the return to school following lockdown.

Members thanked all the guests for attending the meeting of the Committee, and expressed their pride in education in the district, including Selby College and its work, for all it did for young people across the district.

##### **Work Programme**

Members briefly considered the work programme and noted that the item on housing repairs would now be considered at the meeting of the committee in March 2021.

#### **25 March 2021**

##### **Housing Repairs Delays – Presentation**

Members were given a comprehensive presentation on Council house repairs and maintenance by the Head of Operational Services and the Property Services Manager.

The Committee had a number of queries about the housing repair delays in relation to the number of Council employees and external contractors used for repair work, the number of households who had refused works due to Covid, training of Council staff to ensure that the correct questions were asked when tenants log an issue at their property, the required risk assessments; and the government guidance included in the Council's Responsive Day to Day Repairs Policy.

A very good discussion took place, and the Chair stressed the importance of Councillors and officers working together to support tenants.

The Committee noted the report.

#### Corporate Performance Reports Q2 and Q3 2020-21

Members considered the Q2 and Q3 reports and noted that 56% of KPIs reported were showing improvement over the longer term, and 68% of KPIs reported were on target.

#### Financial Results and Budget Exceptions Report to 31 December 2020

The Committee received the report which asked Members to consider and comment on the financial information that covered Quarter 3 of 2020-21. Members noted that a return was completed each month for the Government detailing the latest forecasts of the impacts of Covid-19 to include additional costs, delayed savings and income losses. The latest return estimated losses as a result of Covid-19 of £2,963k in 2020-21. To date the Council had received £1,168k emergency Covid-19 funding from the Government; and a further tranche of Covid-19 emergency funding was expected.

#### Treasury Management Quarterly Update Q3 2020-21

The Committee received the report for Quarter 3 of 2020-21 which reviewed the Council's borrowing and investment activity (Treasury Management) for the period 1 April to 31 December 2020 (Q3) and presented performance against the Prudential Indicators.

The report was noted by the Committee.

#### Work Programme 2020-21 and Planning for 2021-22

Members agreed the work programme as presented and requested that the item on housing repairs be brought back before the Committee at a date to be agreed in the future.

**Future Meetings:** The next meeting of the Committee will be in July 2021.

**Councillor S Shaw-Wright**  
**Chair, Scrutiny Committee**