



Councillor Richard Musgrave - Executive Member for Housing, Leisure, Health, & Culture

Report to Council on Thursday 22nd February 2017

This report covers the period from the Council meeting on 12th December 2017

Housing Delivery Programme

The Council's Executive approved phase two of the Housing Development Programme on the 4th January. It is ambitious in scale, with an investment of up to £22.21 million which will result in the provision of up to 207 homes by March 2021. As part of their work, the Housing and Regeneration Team will be seeking to identify opportunities for custom and self-builders.

Meanwhile, work continues to bring forward several sites as part of Phase 1 of the Housing Delivery Programme,

- Work will soon commence on site on the development of 13 new homes at Byram Park Road in Byram. The Housing & Regeneration team have secured £468,000 of grant funding from the Homes & Communities Agency's Shared Ownership and Affordable Housing Programme towards the cost of the scheme.
- The former garages on the Landing Lane site at Riccall have now been cleared and construction of 5 new family homes, delivered in partnership with Selby District Housing Trust, started on 7th February.
- The Housing & Regeneration team are assessing potential development options for the Edgerton Lodge site in Tadcaster, which was formerly used as a homeless hostel and is now surplus to requirements.

Due diligence is currently being undertaken and it is anticipated that a report will be brought to the Executive in April 2018 setting out recommended actions to develop the site.

Discussions are also taking place with the contractors responsible for the Byram Park Road and Riccall schemes regarding construction training opportunities. Construction is a priority sector within the Council's Economic Development Framework and we anticipate that this will be the start of a long-term training Programme to support housing and regeneration projects in the District.

Empty Homes

As part of the council's wider work to improve the quality and increase the quantity of housing in the District, the Council's Executive approved the Empty Homes Strategy and Action Plan in January.

Although the District doesn't have a significant problem with empty homes per se, each long-term property can have a significant economic, social, environmental impact. Our new

approach will provide a framework for how the Council will tackle empty houses, especially those that have been empty for more than two years.

Of course, there are many different reasons why homes may remain empty and our approach is designed to deal with each issue in the most appropriate way. In the first instance, the Council will seek to work with property owners to bring empty homes back into use, but there is now a clear route for escalation to enforcement and legal means if necessary.

Fly-tipping prosecutions

Council will no doubt join me in thanking and congratulating our Enforcement Team and Legal teams following the most recent successful prosecution for fly-tipping.

In this instance, Timothy Gibbs-Youngman, age 32, of Ivanhoe Road, Scunthorpe pleaded guilty to dumping 40 bin liners of household waste and used cat litter at the east bound emergency entrance to the M62 situated on Beal Lane, Cridling Stubbs, Selby. He was fined a total of £1137.00, which included the Council's costs.

The Council is committed to preventing fly tipping and, wherever possible, prosecuting the perpetrators.

Christmas Collection Service

Due to three Bank Holidays over the Christmas period falling on normal working days more household and commercial collections were affected this Christmas than the last two years. However, collection performance was maintained and those affected presented their bins on the alternate collection days as advised with collections returning to normal days as planned.

Parks and Open Spaces Bylaws

At a meeting of the Executive on 12th October 2017, approval was given to reapply to the Secretary of State to replace the existing, outdated parks and open spaces bylaws. The application was made on 1st November 2017, and approved by the Secretary of State on 9th February 2018.

The final proposals will now be published for a 6-week period before being brought before Full Council who will be asked to agree to repeal the existing bylaws and adopt the new ones.

In the meantime, officers in the Customer, Partnerships and Community and Contracts, Commissioning and Procurement teams have been volunteering their time to begin some of the ground level clearance work along with the Selby Youth Council and Selby Friends of the Earth supporters. Planning permission is also awaited for tree works to open up views to the Abbey, manage dying trees and to re-design some of the planted beds to reflect previous Victoriana designs. The space will also have a wider sensory bed design which is accessible to all. The project will continue at various levels over 2018/19, dependent on nesting and flowering seasons.

Don't Be a Waster – Reduce, Reuse, Respect

The initial Don't Be a Waster campaign ended in Dec 2017. During the last 12 months we have supported a number of community litter picks throughout the district, raised nearly £1000 for local charities, tackled fly tipping and dog fouling in hot spot areas and engaged

with residents, businesses, community groups and town and parish councils on key issues we know are important to them.

We are currently planning a legacy project for 2018/19 which will focus on 4 quarterly campaigns: litter, fly tipping, dog fouling and waste management. The campaign has been shortlisted for the Public Finance Innovation Awards 2018 for Community Engagement Project of the Year. Award winners will be announced in April 2018.

Park Run

The organisers of the 'Parkrun', held at Burn Airfield, are to be congratulated on the success of the weekly event since its launch in mid-December. To date the event has attracted significant numbers of participants and volunteers, and it is to be hoped that it will go from strength to strength as the weather improves. A small amount of start-up funding was provided from the Programme for Growth Healthy Living Concept Fund and the Southern & Central CEFs.

Visitor Economy Strategy

The Visitor Economy Strategy and action plan is in its final draft stages and it is anticipated that this will be discussed at the Executive meeting in March 2018. The work to date has been shaped by wide scale engagement with local businesses, stakeholder engagement sessions in Tadcaster, Sherburn and Selby, a Member specific engagement session and a wider survey for Parish Councils, businesses, and residents.

Through it, we will want to create the right internal and local support to promote our District's assets more effectively. In the unlikely event that you haven't yet bought a copy of 'Celebrating Selby District – Heart of Yorkshire' photobook yet, I would recommend it as a great showcase of our assets.

Health and Well-Being – District Action Plan

Selby District Council and NYCC Public Health teams have worked with a range of local community partner organisations to develop a district wide [health action plan](#). The work has included engagement across community and voluntary groups to look at how we can influence key health issues (such as obesity, mental health, and road safety) through the way that the district supports better planning, housing development, place shaping and leisure.

This work has been submitted as an example of practice to NHS England through the District Council Network and will be highlighted at a Directors of Public Health Conference Event on 9th February 2018. The Healthy Living Concept Fund, supported by Programme for Growth, will be a key contributor to delivering this work. Early work on this plan will include reviewing district walking and cycling plans, working with employers to promote healthy work places and work with local GPs to establish community support referral pathways.