



Councillor Tim Grogan, Executive Member for Health & Culture

Report to Council on 24 February 2022

Environmental Services

A cross-party task and finish group has been established to deal with succession plans for the Environmental Services contract, which is due to be submitted to the Executive in March. To upgrade the council's playgrounds tender documents have been received which are currently being evaluated with a view to the appropriate grant of contracts. This will ensure that improvement works can be completed by March 2023.

Regulatory Services

Covid response

Environmental Health, Enforcement and Licensing continue to support Public Health and other partners in responding to the ongoing pandemic. Although infection rates have been reduced they are still considered unacceptably high.

Environmental Health

The easing of restrictions concerning the pandemic has allowed Environmental Health to increase interventions thereby ensuring the public remain safe and progress is described as good.

Enforcement and Licensing update

38	FPN's issued since 01/04/21. (9 issued since the last report)
15	littering
14	Fly Tipping
7	Household disposal
2	Commercial Waste

Following covert camera use an offender, identified fly tipping in Cridling Stubbs, was convicted at Leeds Magistrates court on Friday 11 February 2022 and heavily fined.

The Enforcement section has been successful in a gallimaufry of issues: being praised by Saxton PC for a presentation about their operations; increased involvement with stray dogs and canine fouling; animal welfare inspections following a recent update in legislation to lift standards; supporting the licensing

section in terms of Private Hire and Taxi inspections; and work with McDonalds in a partnership approach to tackling increased littering, in connection with which reports in the press have been well received.

The Licensing Manager is now leading the Licensing sub-group for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), whilst Taxi and gambling policies are currently out for consultation.

Culture & Visitor Economy

The latest **Cambridge Model Economic Impact data**, delayed by Covid-19, is now available. This shows the devastating impact of the pandemic in connection with the visitor economy sector. For Selby District:

- 59% decrease in the value of tourism during 2020 (£78M, against £187.4M in 2019)
- 2.01M trips were undertaken (down 23%)
 - 1.9M day trips (down 18 %)
 - 0.11M overnight visits (down 63%)
- £77.7M spent in the local area (taking into account multiplier effects) (down 59%).

Domestic day trips were impacted by numerous lockdowns and travel restrictions. Spend was impacted by factors including an increase in visits to countryside and open air sites; the closure of retail and eating establishments; social distancing and cautiousness in indoor spaces.

Visits to the **Heart of Yorkshire** website continue to grow and activity has reached 14,525 and an overall campaign reach was 359,903.

A **Food & Drink Sector Audit has been completed** and its findings will form the basis of a sector development plan to be delivered in 2022/3.

Selby Stories, part of Heritage Action Zone work, is progressing well and Living North and Yorkshire Life magazines are to feature the work of artist, Serena Partridge, in the Abbey. A new Minecraft team, working with children and youngsters, is also to be put in place. Work is also underway to appoint a writer, to work in the Market Place, to collect and share stories about people's experiences in that area.

Artist Dr Katayoun Dowlatshahi has begun work on her concept designs for the public art elements of the **Selby Station Gateway**. She recently delivered a day for Fine Arts students at Selby Abbey aimed at giving students real-world understanding of processes for commissioning public art.

Rural Arts have begun work on a pilot programme to bring **creative workshops** to rural communities, with the longer-term aim of rolling out **rural touring** to village

halls. The pilot villages are Eggborough, Riccall, North Duffield, Carlton and Thorpe Willoughby.

Arcade, an arts organisation based in Scarborough, have been commissioned to undertake research in Tadcaster to further develop cultural activity. They will work closely with existing partners such as TEMPT to look at creating plans for the town centre.

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