



**Councillor Tim Grogan - Executive Member for Health & Culture**  
**Report to Council on 19 April 2022**

## **Environmental Services**

A report was approved at the Executive in March for a contract succession strategy and re-procurement exercise in April 2022. A cross party elected member task and finish group will be actively involved in this project at key stages over the next 12 months.

## **Regulatory Services**

### **Covid response**

Environmental Health, Enforcement and Licensing continue to support Public Health and other partners in responding to the ongoing pandemic, albeit in a reduced format.

### **Environmental Health**

The easing of restrictions concerning the pandemic has allowed Environmental Health to undertake routine interventions as part their recovery plan to fulfil the Council's statutory duties. Already 60 food hygiene inspections have been completed in the final quarter, which contributes to a total of 249 inspections in this working year.

Environmental Health has also received excellent feedback from Defra following the appraisal of the Annual Status Report (ASR), linked to the work undertaken on air quality in the district. It recognizes progress made with the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) with reference to the Taxi Licensing Policy, partnership working with NYCC and consideration of planning applications that might impact on air quality.

### **Enforcement**

Enforcement are currently working with the Environment Agency, Police, and other local authorities into three industrial scale fly tips in Kirk Smeaton and Little Smeaton. General enforcement work undertaken is as follows:

<b>45</b>	<b>FPN's issued since 01/04/21</b> (7 issued since the last report)
21	Littering
15	Fly Tipping
7	Household disposal
2	Commercial Waste

Officers continue to undertake pro-active commercial waste visits to premises in the district to check on the appropriate waste transfer notes and contract information.

In conjunction with work between Community Safety at Selby DC and North Yorkshire Police, the Enforcement team were involved in an initiative to inform residents how to report issues and to be vigilant in response to a spate of thefts from vehicles.

## **Licensing**

The taxi and gambling policies are currently being processed towards adoption resulting in both strategies being in place by the end of June.

Officers are working with the Police on a scheme aimed at promoting licensing objectives in terms of promoting selected businesses. A sign up to the project is being undertaken and progress will be revealed in due course.

## **Culture & Visitor Economy**

Plans for the second Get To Know Your Own Heart residents' engagement weekend are well underway. The event takes place over the weekend of 9/10 April and aims to encourage people to experience the great businesses and activities throughout the district. There's a range of activity taking place, including a living history camp, guided walks and archery at Towton Battlefield; special offers at Carlton Towers, The Owl at Hambleton and Harmony Tearooms at Stillingfleet; an open weekend at Sherburn Aero Club and tower tours at Selby Abbey. Marketing activity includes digital advertising on Google and Facebook and advertisements in the local press, with all marketing activity aiming to drive traffic to the Heart of Yorkshire website, where people can learn more about what's on.

To date the Heart of Yorkshire website has had more than 29,000 views and work on a Public Art Plan for the District has begun. High-quality public art is a key part of the Cultural Development Framework.

The Government has announced 109 Local Authority Areas for Levelling Up for Culture support. Selby District is one of the LAs identified, as an existing Priority Place for the Arts Council (ACE). Work on this partnership is fully underway.

Selby Stories, the cultural programme for the High Street Heritage Action Zone, is progressing well. Artist Ed Kluz is creating works which will be printed onto the scaffolding shrouds of some of the buildings undergoing HSHAZ-funded improvement works. Digital artist Adam Clarke (Wizard Keen) is delivering the next iteration of Selby Block Party, which will work with children and young people to build Selby as it is, or as they would like it to be, using Minecraft. The first children's singing/song-writing project is complete, and work has begun on the second, which will engage a further 6 primary schools.

Artists Patricia Mackinnon-Day and Claire Barber have been appointed to undertake some research into the heritage stories around Olympia Mill and Barlby Road's industrial heritage. Artist Dr Katayoun Dowlatshahi has completed her concept designs for public art as part of the Transforming Cities scheme for Selby Station Gateway.

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