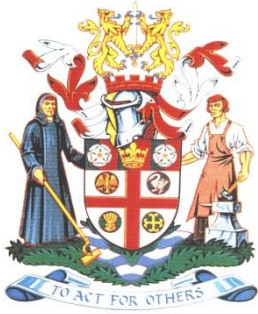


# Selby District Council



## Minutes

### Executive

Venue:	Council Chamber - Civic Centre, Doncaster Road, Selby, YO8 9FT
Date:	Thursday, 5 January 2023
Time:	4.00 pm
Present:	Councillors M Crane (Chair), R Musgrave (Vice-Chair), C Lunn, D Buckle and T Grogan
Also Present:	Councillor M Jordan, Ward Member for Carlton and Camblesforth
Officers Present:	Janet Waggott – Chief Executive, Suzan Harrington – Director of Corporate Services and Commissioning, Alison Hartley – Solicitor to the Council, Stuart Robinson – Head of Business Development and Improvement, Martin Grainger – Head of Planning, Peter Williams – Head of Finance, Caroline Skelly – Planning Policy Manager, Julian Rudd – Head of Economic Development and Regeneration, Jenny Tyreman – Assistant Principal Planning Officer, Kennedy Sheldon – Principal Planning Policy Officer, Victoria Foreman – Democratic Services Officer
Public:	0
Press:	0

NOTE: Only minute numbers 56 - 59 are subject to call-in arrangements. The deadline for call-in is 5pm on 18 January 2023. Decisions not called in may be implemented from 19 January 2023.

### **53 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **54 MINUTES**

The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2022.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8 December 2022.**

### **55 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

### **56 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 2 - 2022-23 (JULY TO SEPTEMBER) E/22/31**

The Leader presented report E/22/31 which asked Members to note and approve it and consider any further action they wish to be taken as a result of current performance.

Members noted the summary of progress as set out in the report. 61% of KPIs reported were showing improvement over the longer term or had maintained 100% performance. 78% of KPIs reported were on target, with 13% of KPIs within acceptable tolerances.

Work continued to address the remaining repairs created during the various Covid lockdowns and subsequent periods of operating restrictions, with 95% of the original backlog having been cleared. Given issues around the limitations of the current repairs management system, work to assess the accuracy of the remaining work orders was ongoing. The increase in the number of open repairs in the system had slowed significantly and whilst the number of open repair entries within the system remained around 10% above anticipated 'run-rate', the Council was starting to make inroads to bring the figure back in line with expected operational parameters. The Council continued to work with external contractors to support internal provision wherever possible, although many of contractors were already working near or at full capacity. The situation would continue to be monitored.

In quarter 2 a number of things went well; the Council successfully administered the government's energy rebate scheme, and at the end of quarter 2 Selby District Council had paid 31,329 households. This was everyone initially identified as eligible plus others that also

qualified subsequently, for example properties that were banded after the cut-off time or had incorrect empty discounts.

Positive Performance of KPIs had been seen in supporting SMEs, council tax collection, NNDR collection, sundry debt collection, processing benefit claims, processing planning applications, complaints response times, processing FOIs, customer waiting times (phone), council house re-lets and waste collection.

Quarter 2 performance had not been as good in relation to savings and staff sickness.

Executive Members asked for further information about staff sickness levels from Officers and about potential reasons for the numbers that were being reported. Officers agreed to provide more information after the meeting.

Positive comments were made on waste collection figures which had improved significantly since the previous quarter; again, further information on how this had been achieved was requested by Members.

The Leader commended the report.

**RESOLVED:**

**The Executive noted and approved the report.**

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

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

**57 A PUBLIC ART PLAN FOR THE SELBY, SHERBURN AND TADCASTER AREA OF NORTH YORKSHIRE (E/22/32) AND A HERITAGE INTERPRETATION MASTERPLAN FOR THE SELBY, SHERBURN AND TADCASTER AREA OF NORTH YORKSHIRE (E/22/33)**

The Leader indicated that reports E/22/32 and E/22/33 would be considered at the same time, but that decisions on both items would still need to be made separately.

The Lead Executive Member for Health and Culture presented reports E/22/32 and E/22/32 which asked Members to agree to adopt the Public Art Plan and Heritage Interpretation Masterplan, both of which covered the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster areas of North Yorkshire, and implement the recommendations of the plans.

Report E/22/32 - A Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and

## Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire

Members noted that 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 the district a vibrant, creative and unique place. It built on the work that the Council began with Selby 950 (which included the significant “*Pilgrim*” illumination of Selby Abbey, by artist Nayan Kulkarni) and was 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.

Officers explained that audiences had told the Council that they wanted to see public art which was site-specific and connected to the rich heritage of the district. For this reason, there was 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, was a good example of approaching authentic place-specific public art commissioning with heritage as the content. The creative sector had also told the Council that they would like opportunities to develop skills in public art and to make work for public spaces. High-quality public art was a strong driver for the visitor economy and could be a significant source of pride for residents.

The Executive acknowledged that there had not previously been a coherent approach to public art commissioning, which had led to a somewhat piecemeal approach. This meant the Council had 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 set out best practice and offered a strong framework for future development in the locality.

The Public Art Plan was attached as Appendix A to report E/22/32. There were three additional technical documents: a guide for developers and planners; a “how to” commissioning guide; and an opportunities matrix. The opportunities matrix set out the wide-ranging potential projects for the District, including regeneration and revitalisation schemes which were already underway and those recognised as a future priority.

## Report E/22/33 – A Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire

Members noted that in 2021 the Cultural Development Framework (CDF) for the district was adopted. This recognised the importance of heritage to 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 key audiences had in understanding more. Heritage was a significant driver for the Visitor Economy and an important source of pride in Place for the people who lived in the district.

The report explained that the heritage sector in the district was predominantly made up of a large number of small, hyper-local groups of volunteers who worked hard to care for and sustain their local heritage, but there had 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, were hard to understand, as there were few remnants and often a lack of visitor interpretation, but they had shaped the district and had deep resonance for communities and visitors. The stories needed to be shared in inspiring, engaging, meaningful and accessible ways.

The Executive acknowledged that work to understand the needs and wants of audiences (local and visitors) had 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, was an example of approaching heritage engagement in this way. For this reason, there was a strong connection between the development of the HIMP and the development of the Public Art Plan, so both these pieces of work had been carried out at the same time. The Heritage Interpretation Masterplan was attached as Appendix A to report E/22/33.

Executive Members expressed their support for the plans and acknowledged the amount of work that Officers and the previous Lead Executive Member had put into the production of both. Considerable progress had been made over recent years in developing cultural activity in Selby District and this was welcomed by the Executive.

Some concern had been expressed previously that there were not enough photographs and illustrations in the two documents; the Executive were assured that whilst these had not been ready for the reports before them at the meeting, they would be inserted into the final versions.

Members acknowledged that officers were preparing and would maintain a detailed 'Opportunities Matrix' to help implement the plans.

The Executive were pleased to note that local artwork would be commissioned for communities around the district, which would make it feel more relevant to the different areas; temporary artworks such as those seen in Leeds and Hull did well in local areas.

The benefits to businesses and tourism that both plans could provide would be vitally important in improving investment in the district and increasing the popularity and visitor numbers to the area.

The Lead Executive Member for Health and Culture commended both reports to the Executive for agreement. A vote was taken on the reports separately.

Report E/22/32 - A Public Art Plan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire

**RESOLVED:**

**The Executive agreed 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 DECISION:**

In July 2021 the Cultural Development Framework for Selby District was approved by the Executive. It 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) had been developed (see Appendix A). The Plan set out the 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 included practical guidance for commissioners, developers and communities and identified specific opportunities where there were schemes, or concepts for future schemes, which would be enhanced by the inclusion of public art.

The Plan would 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 would 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 the Council moved into a localities structure within the new North Yorkshire Council.

Report E/22/33 – A Heritage Interpretation Masterplan for the Selby, Sherburn and Tadcaster area of North Yorkshire

**RESOLVED:**

**The Executive agreed 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 DECISION:**

In July 2021 the Cultural Development Framework for Selby District was approved by the Executive, 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 was 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 communities and visitors.

A Heritage Interpretation Masterplan (HIMP) had been developed. The Plan identified actions which would 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 would 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 articulated an ambition for heritage sites and stories, identified opportunities and captured the passion and commitment of our heritage sector. It would enable the unique heritage assets of the district to be recognised and understood, as the area moved into a localities structure within the new North Yorkshire Council.

**58 CIL/S106 INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT (E/22/34)**

The Leader presented report E/22/34 which asked Members to approve the Draft Infrastructure Funding Statement, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report, for publication.

Members noted that in September 2019 changes were made to the Community Infrastructure Regulations which required Local Planning Authorities to publish an Infrastructure Funding Statement from December 2020. The report set out the details of monies collected from CIL and S106 obligations receipts over the course of the latest monitoring period and sought approval for the publication

of the 2022 Infrastructure Funding Statement.

Executive Members acknowledged that the CIL/S106 Infrastructure Funding Statement was part of the Council's statutory duty and had to be operated in line with the regulations detailed above.

Members noted that some monies had already been spent on the Sherburn Medical Centre, on which construction had begun; it was hoped that this would be completed within a year, and also towards the development of a roundabout near the Lidl store in Selby, which had made a difference to traffic flow in the area and subsequent spending in the town.

The Executive thanked Officers who had worked very hard on resolving various legal matters relating to the schemes.

The Leader commended the report.

**RESOLVED:**

**The Executive approved the Draft Infrastructure Funding Statement as attached at Appendix 1 for publication.**

**REASONS FOR DECISION:**

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

**59 EAST YORKSHIRE SOLAR FARM - NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT (E/22/35)**

The Leader presented report E/22/35 which asked Members to note its content 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.

Members noted the legislative background to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and how these were dealt with. The Executive had considered similar NSIP reports 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. Applicants for infrastructure projects needed to make an application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for a Development Consent Order (DCO). The final decision was made by the Secretary of State on the



recommendation of PINS, but Local Planning Authorities were statutory consultees in the process.

The report explained that East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited were 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 lay 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 was classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

The Executive acknowledged that two rounds of public consultation were taking place; non-statutory consultation took place in Q2 2022; statutory consultation was anticipated in Q1/Q2 2023. It was anticipated that East Yorkshire Solar Farm Limited would submit their DCO application to PINS during Q3 2023.

The Executive understood that once the DCO application had been submitted to PINS, PINS would have 28 days to decide whether or not the application met the standards required to be accepted for examination. Following acceptance, an Examining Authority would be appointed, and all Interested Parties invited to attend a Preliminary Meeting, run and chaired by the Examining Authority. PINS 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 would be made by the Secretary of State, within 6 months of the close of the examination. Following this the Council would have the responsibility to discharge any planning conditions and enforce the terms of the DCO.

Executive Members asked about the grade of the agricultural land on which the solar farm would be built and expressed some concern about losing land on which produce could be grown; Officers confirmed that the applicant had informed them that detailed agricultural land classification assessments so far had revealed the majority of the site did not comprise best most versatile agricultural land and that the applicant would be required to provide evidence of this in due course to enable stakeholders to provide comment.

In attendance at the meeting was Ward Member for Camblesforth and Carlton, Councillor M Jordan, as part of the grid connection corridor would be in his ward. Councillor Jordan was invited to address the meeting by the Leader.

Councillor Jordan explained how the cabling ran down to Drax

Power Station through his ward and would include the loss of an individual's property through compulsory purchase. The aforementioned cabling would need to be installed into a large trench which would also affect the land of some local farmers. Councillor Jordan asked Officers when a response would be formulated on both this and other solar farm proposals in the area.

Officers reiterated that the decision on the solar farm was not one for the Council but for the Secretary of State; the Council would provide representations on the proposals at the statutory consultation stage and once the applications had been submitted, within which Members' concerns and queries would be drawn out. It was important that all the various energy proposals being put forward within the district were considered as part of the cumulative impact assessment undertaken by the applicant. Other parts of the country were seeing similar applications. The East Yorkshire Solar Farm and Helios Renewable Energy Project were following similar timelines at present, with statutory consultation on both projects expected in Q2 of 2023 and application submission in Q3 2023.

Members asked if the locations of the companies behind the solar farms could be commented upon; Officers explained that this was not a planning matter as the permission for applications lay with the land in question, not the applicants.

Executive Members acknowledged that many solar farms in the local area seemed to be more fragmented than in the past and queried as to why this was; Officers were unable to give a definitive answer but suggested it was due to their very large size and subsequent difficulty in finding available land.

Officers referred Members to the map accompanying the report which detailed the various sites, all of which would be connected to a central point for the transfer of the energy produced by them; this would be taken into account as part of the Council's response.

The Leader commended the report but emphasised to Officers how their concerns about the cumulative impact of the proposals should be made clear, and how the schemes should be very carefully considered by the Secretary of State.

**RESOLVED:**

**The Executive**

- i. noted the content of the report; and**
- ii. authorised 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 DECISION:**

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.

The meeting closed at 4.37 pm.