



Report Reference Number: S/19/17

To: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 21 November 2019
Status:
Ward(s) Affected: All
Author: Drew Fussey; Customer; Business and Revenue Service Manager
Lead Executive Member: Councillor David Buckle; Lead Executive Member for Communities and Economic Development
Lead Officer: June Rothwell; Head of Operational Services

Title: Police Co-location – 6 months on

Summary:

North Yorkshire Police (NYP) officially moved to Selby District Council (SDC) Civic Centre in May 2019. The co-location forms part of the Council's strategic long-term plan to work closely with our partners in the public sector family. It provides a significant return on the Council's capital investment in the project and generates sustainable revenue income. It also releases capital for NYP via the sale of the land and will reduce NYP estate service costs.

Recommendations:

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the contents of the report and make any comments on the impact of the police co-location

Reasons for recommendation

The Committee is asked to consider the information as set out in the report as part of their role in reviewing and scrutinising the Council.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1** In April 2019 NYP relocated from Selby Police Station on Portholme Road, co-locating with the Council at the Civic Centre, Doncaster Road on a 30 year lease. Doing so ensured Selby town retained a 24/7 police presence, rather than being served by Officers based in York.
- 1.2.** It also presented an opportunity for both organisations to make savings. NYP pay a rental sum to the Council in accordance with the terms of the lease. They also pay a service charge covering the variable cost such as

insurance, heating, lighting, cleaning, etc. which is reviewed annually. NYP will benefit from the sale of the land and reduced estate operating costs.

- 1.3 In addition to the financial benefits both organisations are able to strengthen their partnership working to prevent and detect crime and antisocial behaviour and reduce the risk of harm.

2. The report

- 2.1 Following informal discussions with NYP on the 1 October 2015 the Executive supported, in principle, proposals to the co-location with NYP.

- 2.2 The proposal from NYP required a ground floor extension to accommodate the police lockers, store rooms and provide additional shower facilities. The Council took the opportunity to include a first floor to the extension to meet the growing need for space as more partners approached the Council seeking to co-locate. The proposal also included extending the public car park and a car park for NYP operational vehicles. The proposal was approved by the Executive on the 12 July 2016.

- 2.3 Following approval the project faced significant legal obstacles due to the number of stakeholders (6) involved including 2 NHS trusts, Yorkshire Ambulance Service, NHS Property Services in addition to NYP and the Council. This led to a number of delays with numerous legal documents needing to be agreed by different combinations of legal teams each instructed by the individual stakeholders.

- 2.4 With the legal agreements in place and the terms of the lease agreed work commenced on site in October 2018 and was completed in April 2019. NYP community teams started operating from the Civic Centre in mid-April with all police resources relocated to the Civic Centre including a staffed reception in May 2019.

3. NYP operating from the Civic Centre

- 3.1 To manage the significant change, and ensure that cultural and operational issues were minimised the Project Officer established a co-location staff group, bringing together staff from both organisations. This ensured that any issues raised have been dealt with quickly via the project lead officer supported by the Co-location Staff Group.

- 3.2 The Co-location Staff Group (CSG) has been meeting monthly for over a year with representation from all Council service areas, NYP, the Registrars and NHS staff including union representation. The purpose of the group is to identify and address issues and concerns regarding the co-location. The group have been proactive raising a wide variety of relevant issues raised by colleagues that concern the colocation from the perspective of both staff and the public. Such issues as personal safety, information sharing, privacy and

security have been discussed, across to the more practical of enough fridge space and tidiness of the Honey Pots with 24/7 use. The group have also been instrumental in resolving these issues and communicating back to their colleagues any action or information needed to help smooth the human (customers and staff) side of the co-location.

4. Implications

4.1 Legal Implications

Not applicable

4.2 Financial Implications

The colocation enables the Council to generate a return on capital investment and generate a revenue income via rent and service charge to NYP that reduces the operational running costs of the Civic Centre.

4.3 Policy and Risk Implications

There are no policy implications

Risk to reputation and customer satisfaction: there have been no complaints reported to the Council or the Police. Anecdotally the Police report the public comments have been positive when attending the civic centre.

4.4 Corporate Plan Implications

The co-location of the NYP within the Civic Centre supports delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities to 'enjoy life', 'make a difference' and delivering Great value.

4.5 Resource Implications

There are no direct resource implications beyond project time to deliver the project and staff time to ensure a smooth as possible co-location.

4.6 Other Implications

The Corporate Security Plan has been revised with input from the police, NHS, and NYCC emergency planning service. The plan is comprehensive and provides clear guidance and procedures to follow across a wide range of security risks. The revised plan is currently being finalised prior to communication to staff and partners to embed the procedures and will be reviewed annually.

4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

NYP completed a Design and Access Statement as part of the planning application.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1** The co-location is part of the Council's strategic long-term plan to work closely with our partners in the public sector family. The first six months have seen a relatively smooth transition with formal no complaints from the public. The Council and police are looking forward to strengthening their working relationship which will help ensure the best use of resource whilst reducing crime, the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the district.

6. Background Documents

1 October 2015 Executive Report
12 July 2016 Executive Report

7. Appendices

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