

## Agenda

**Meeting:** Transport, Economy and Environment  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Venue:** The Brierley Room, County Hall, Northallerton,  
DL7 8AD  
(See location plan overleaf)

**Date:** Wednesday 12 June 2019 at 2pm

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### Business

1. **Chairman's Introduction** (Pages 6 to 7)
2. **Public Questions or Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have delivered notice (to include the text of the question/statement) to Daniel Harry of Legal and Democratic Services (*contact details below*) no later than midday on Monday 10 June 2019. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:-

- at this point in the meeting if their questions/statements relate to matters which are not otherwise on the Agenda (subject to an overall time limit of 30 minutes);
- when the relevant Agenda item is being considered if they wish to speak on a matter which is on the Agenda for this meeting.

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Chairman who will instruct those taking a recording to cease while you speak.

**3. Call In of the Decision taken by the Corporate Director of CYPS in consultation with Executive Member, County Councillor Patrick Mulligan**

**(Pages 8 to 19)**

The reasons given for the call in were:

- 1) The new charge of £600.00 represents an 'eye-watering' increase of £110.00, or 22.5% over what it stands at currently at £490.00.
- 2) As the school / college academic years run for 38 weeks, the £600 represents a charge of around £16.00 per week levied on the household budget.
- 3) The charge falls disproportionately on those families that live furthest from the schools with 6<sup>th</sup> Forms or the Post-16 colleges. These families will most often reside in the rural and the remotely rural communities of North Yorkshire where household incomes are low and the cost of living is high.
- 4) Options for those living near the Sixth Form Schools and Colleges are available to avoid the charge, including walking / cycling to their place of Post-16 education, or a group of parents taking turns to organise a lift for a number of students amongst themselves. These options are not available to those who live some way away from the Sixth Form Schools and Colleges, and inevitably leave a stark choice for parents to pay up, or for the student to give up on his / her career potential, and find a full time unskilled job locally.
- 5) If parents pay up it will probably be from an already very tight household budget, resulting in them having to make sacrifices elsewhere in their day to day expenditure.
- 6) If the parent cannot afford the charge, or the student decides to find an unskilled job locally then in all likelihood it will not exploit their skills and talents, and so they may not make the best of their future career pathway, leading to a lifetime of loss of career opportunity.
- 7) The huge increase in the charge comes against a background of Parish and District Councils and the two National Parks in the county highlighting the exodus of young families from rural areas, mainly through the lack of affordable housing and the lack of a range of suitable and well-paid employment opportunities.
- 8) Without young families in their midst, rural communities do not have a bright and sustainable future ahead, and the imposition of this increase of 22% without meaningful public consultation on an unavoidable charge that allows their children to access Post-16 education is unlikely to provide a reason for these families to stay.
- 9) The options considered by the Director of CYPS in consultation with the Executive Member appeared to have been based solely on financial reasoning without any consideration given to the economic and social arguments and detrimental impact outlined above.
- 10) North Yorkshire is England's most rural county, and its County Council should be seen to be in the vanguard of promoting sustainable, bright futures for its rural communities, an intrinsic component of which are the presence in their midst of young families. Instead it seems it is indulging in a competition with counties far less rural in nature in a race to the bottom to charge the most to provide Post-16 students with access to their further education and / or vocational training.
- 11) Engaging in Post-16 education / training will open up a lifelong of career opportunities best suited to the individual skills and talents of those students fortunate enough to be allowed to access it. Many of these opportunities will fall by the wayside as simply the households they come from can hardly afford the standard charge of £490, let alone the extra £110 being demanded from June

- 1st. This will consign these students to a lifetime of humdrum work, rather than a lifetime of career opportunities of bright, remunerative employment making full use of their skills and talents.
- 12) This charge is based on discrimination against rural and remotely rural communities within the County, and the massive increase in the charge further underscores this discrimination.
  - 13) The current rate of inflation is 2.1 % which on a charge of £490 would support £10.00 a year rather than £110 a year as an increase.
  - 14) The increase in the NYCC component of Council Tax from April was 4.99% and dwellings in rural areas suffer from high Council tax banding because of the attractiveness of the countryside especially in our two National Parks and AONBs. This leads on through external influences on the housing market to inflate house values and thus Council Tax in rural areas. In short the increase of £110 is adding insult to the injury caused by vastly increased Council Tax bills landing on the doormat on April 1<sup>st</sup> this year.
  - 15) The option we would have chosen would be to see a reduction in the charge, rather than an increase, or at best no increase at all because many rural households are already struggling to pay the existing charge of £490.00 a year.
  - 16) If an increase has to be contemplated then I would propose it be no more than £25.00 a year phased over the next 4 years.

**4. Other business which the Chairman agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.**

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

County Hall,  
Northallerton.

4 June 2019

NOTES:  
Emergency Procedures for Meetings

Fire:

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Persons should not re-enter the building until authorised to do so by the Fire and Rescue Service or the Emergency Co-ordinator.

An intermittent alarm indicates an emergency in nearby building. It is not necessary to evacuate the building but you should be ready for instructions from the Fire Warden.

Accident or Illness:

First Aid treatment can be obtained by telephoning Extension 7575.

# Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

## 1. Membership

<b>County Councillors (13)</b>					
	<i>Councillors Name</i>	<i>Chairman/Vice Chairman</i>	<i>Political Group</i>	<i>Electoral Division</i>	
<b>1</b>	ARTHUR, Karl		Conservative	Selby Barlby	
<b>2</b>	GOODE, David		Liberal Democrat	Knaresborough	
<b>3</b>	HASLAM, Paul		Conservative	Harrogate Bilton and Nidd Gorge	
<b>4</b>	HESELTINE, Robert		Independent	Skipton East	
<b>5</b>	JEFFELS, David		Conservative	Seamer and Derwent	
<b>6</b>	LUMLEY, Stanley	Chairman	Conservative	Pateley Bridge	
<b>7</b>	MACKAY, Don		NY Independents	Tadcaster	
<b>8</b>	MCCARTNEY, John	Vice-Chairman	NY Independents	Osgoldcross	
<b>9</b>	PARASKOS, Andy		Conservative	Ainsty	
<b>10</b>	PATMORE, Caroline		Conservative	Stillington	
<b>11</b>	PEARSON, Clive		Conservative	Esk Valley	
<b>12</b>	SWIERS, Roberta		Conservative	Hertford and Cayton	
<b>13</b>	WELCH, Richard		Conservative	Ribblesdale	
<b>Total Membership – (13)</b>				<b>Quorum – (4)</b>	
<b>Con</b>	<b>Lib Dem</b>	<b>NY Ind</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>

## 2. Substitute Members

<b>Conservative</b>					
	<i>Councillors Names</i>				
<b>1</b>	BAKER, Robert				
<b>2</b>	GOODRICK, Caroline				
<b>3</b>	ENNIS, John				
<b>4</b>	TROTTER, Cliff				
<b>5</b>	PEARSON, Chris				
<b>NY Independents</b>					
	<i>Councillors Names</i>				
<b>1</b>					
<b>2</b>					
<b>3</b>					
<b>4</b>					
<b>5</b>					