

Advice for members of the public interested in speaking at the meeting – Updated 20 August

The meeting to be held on Thursday 29 August at 9.30am at the Cairn Hotel is a meeting of a County Council committee which is open for the public to observe. Ten members of the public will be permitted to speak at the meeting, subject to giving the required notice. The meeting on 29 August is not a public consultation meeting.

One of the items of business for this meeting is the **results of Harrogate and Knaresborough Congestion Study Public Engagement – Report of the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services**. The purpose of the report is: (i) to update Members of the Area Constituency Committee on the headline results of the Harrogate and Knaresborough congestion study public engagement, and to report on emerging trends and potential next steps; and (ii) to seek the Area Constituency Committee's views on potential recommendations to the Executive on next steps.

Whilst the Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Constituency Committee has no decision-making powers in this process, the Committee does have a role, which is to inform NYCC policy-makers and decision-makers. The Committee's responsibilities therefore include:

- acting as a forum for Councillors to bring forward issues affecting their Electoral Divisions;
- hearing and responding to questions and statements from members of the public relating to anything affecting the community;
- undertaking meaningful scrutiny of local issues (including transport and roads) within the Harrogate and Knaresborough constituency area and acting as consultees in major decisions that affect the community, including responding to consultations.

Any member of the public who would like to ask a question or make a statement at the meeting should email notice of their wish to do so, including the full text of what they intend to say, to ruth.gladstone@northyorks.gov.uk as soon as possible, and by midday on Friday 23 August at the latest. Members of the public speaking at the meeting are expected not to exceed 3 minutes' speaking time each and to read out only the statement/question of which they have submitted notice without adding to, or altering, it. No person may submit more than one question or statement and no more than one such question may be asked, or statement made, on behalf of one organisation.

The maximum time available for public questions or statements at the meeting on 29 August is 30 minutes. That time limit is specified in the County Council's Constitution. The maximum of 30 minutes is to ensure that the business of the Committee can proceed, whilst enabling the general public an opportunity to raise issues.

Due to the 30 minute time limit available for public questions or statements, a maximum of ten members of the public will be allocated a speaking slot. The speaking slots will be allocated on the basis of the first ten people/organisations who deliver valid notice (including the full text of what they intend to say at the meeting) to ruth.gladstone@northyorks.gov.uk. This full text of what they intend to say must be capable to being read out in no more than three minutes at a reasonable reading speed.

The Chairman does understand that this is a controversial topic and it is therefore very important that time is available, on 29 August, for it to be debated by elected Members of the

County Council. Members of the public are of course very welcome to attend to observe the meeting.

The agenda and reports for this meeting are now available on the County Council's website.