

Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning

11 December 2012

New Planning Manager

Mark Harbottle, the new Planning Manager, started work with the Council on 5 November. Mark will be working on a number of service improvements including the efficiency of the pre-application stage and how it is managed, engagement with Members and the effectiveness of Planning Enforcement. Mark is available to discuss any issues Members have with Planning.

Community Infrastructure Levy

A preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy is to be reported to Cabinet in December. This will set out the proposed charges to be levied on new developments to assist in funding infrastructure required for growth planned in the LDF. CIL takes the form of a charge per square metre of additional floorspace. There will be consultation on the proposed charges in early 2013 and an Examination in Public in the summer of 2013.

From April 2014 the ability to use Section 106 Agreements to fund large items of infrastructure will be substantially reduced.

Neighbourhood Planning

Interest in preparing Neighbourhood Plans is increasing. Huby and Appleton Wiske are the furthest advanced, they have had Neighbourhood Areas formally designated and they are making progress with their plans. In addition there has been interest from Tollerton, Ingleby Arncliffe, Husthwaite, Flawith and Crathorne.

One of the tests set out in the National Planning Policy Guidance for producing a legally compliant Neighbourhood Plan is for it to be "in general conformity with the strategic policies of the local plan". There will be a report to Cabinet in January to clarify where Neighbourhood Plans will comply with the strategic policies in the LDF. This will focus in particular on the approach to be taken in the smaller settlements outside the Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy.

Bagby Airfield

As part of the ongoing efforts to regain planning control over the use of Bagby Airfield further Enforcement Notices will be served by the end of November covering the use of the main runway and the facilities for fuelling aircraft. In relation to the use of the main runway the Notice will cover the lawful number of aircraft movements.

Hambleton Tenancy Strategy

The Council is required to publish a Tenancy Strategy which sets out the principles that social housing providers must take into account when deciding policies on tenancies. The housing authorities in North Yorkshire agreed to jointly develop a tenancy strategy for the whole of North Yorkshire. Consultation was undertaken earlier this year and a draft strategy was endorsed by the LGNY&Y Housing Board in October. This will now need the approval of Cabinet.

The Procurement of Waste and Recycling Vehicles

Following a procurement exercise Hambleton's fleet of waste collection vehicles are being replaced. There will be 10 new vehicles on a lease maintenance contract and one existing HDC owned vehicle will be retained as a spare to give the fleet more resilience. The new vehicles are to be delivered in 3 batches over a 3 week period from the week commencing 12 November. The vehicles will have the ability to carry advertising for Council services.

The leases on the kerbside recycling vehicles are to be extended by a further 2 years until January 2015 to synchronize with the recycling contract.

Apprentices in Waste and Street Scene

A further 10 apprentices have been employed in Waste and Street Scene for a year to gain work experience and job skills. Three apprentices from the previous groups were offered permanent employment with the Council.

Councillor Mark S Robson

Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning