

## **Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Planning**

**17 December 2019**

### **Local Plan**

The new Local Plan was published for representations in July this year and closed on 17 September and received 1,125 representations. Each representation is to be processed so that a full understanding of the issues raised can be understood and summarised within a statement of representations. This will then be submitted along with the Plan, Sustainability Appraisal and evidence base for examination.

As Members will hear, later in the agenda, a Local Development Scheme must be published to comply with the requirements of legislation. This sets out the work programme for the development of the Local Plan and will state that the Local Plan will not be in a position to be submitted for examination until March 2020. The new timeframe for submission is required to ensure that the larger than anticipated number of representations is fully understood.

### **Development Management**

The Planning Service review has continued with service processes being fully investigated and redesigned and a seminar to Members which will feedback on the outcomes of the review is scheduled to take place early in the New Year.

An initial recommendation from the review was to recruit a Chief Planning Officer and I am pleased to report that a successful recruitment campaign has been concluded. We expect the new officer to be in post at the end of February following completion of his notice period with his current employer.

A series of evening training sessions have been offered to Parish and Town Councils, focussing on basic planning training as well as specialist topics covering enforcement, material planning considerations and tree preservation orders. The training events had a fantastic uptake and following feedback from attendees that they found the training to be very useful I am pleased to confirm that more training sessions will be offered throughout 2020.

### **Housing**

Following changes to the North Yorkshire County Council funding model for homelessness prevention services, this Council entered into a new Homeless Prevention Partnership Agreement which saw a number of staff TUPE'd into the Councils Housing Options Team.

Following a consultation exercise with these members of staff we will have a fully operational new service in place for January 2020. The new service will see Housing support Workers directly employed by Hambleton District Council able to support those who are or are at risk of being homeless into homes.

### **North Yorkshire Building Control Partnership**

Significant efforts in the management of the North Yorkshire Control Building Partnership are reaping rewards with the partnership reporting a surplus budget position for the year 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019. The originally profile suggested an overall budget surplus of £45,297, however, diversification of services offered and the utilisation of a marketing plan have enabled the partnership to report a budget surplus of £138,263.

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Portfolio Holder for Planning