

STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

13 December 2016

2016 has been a year of change as well as development

The **Senior Management Team** has seen significant changes with the departure of Chief Executive Phil Morton in February after 20 years' service with this Authority (three of those as Chief Executive) and Dave Goodwin, Executive Director, in September after 29 years' service. Dr Justin Ives was promoted to the position of Chief Executive and, following further Senior Management changes last month, he now leads a strong team with Mick Jewitt, Executive Director, four newly-appointed Directors Louise Branford-White, Helen Kemp, Paul Staines and Gary Nelson, supported by two Heads of Service Steve Lister and Mark Harbottle.

Meanwhile, three key projects continue to move forward –

Two developers are currently under scrutiny to take forward the **Northallerton Prison Project**, with the final choice being made in February 2017.

After nearly two years the Section 106 permission has been signed and we are now in the final stages before work commences on the **North Northallerton Development**. This is a priority for this Authority as £6million Local Enterprise Partnership funding needs to be drawn down by April 2017.

Work is expected to start on the **Dalton Bridge Project** in early Spring. This will enable 365-day around-the-clock access to the industrial estate which will safeguard the existing 900 jobs and could potentially create a further 900 in the future.

Finally -

Back in April we lost one of our valued members and friends, Councillor Tony Hall. After 17 years as a member for Northallerton he leaves behind a lasting legacy of his untiring hard work for the town.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Council members and staff for their hard work and contribution throughout 2016 and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Councillor Mark Robson
Leader of the Council

