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Spring 2021

our.city@york.gov.uk www.york.gov.uk



My covid story let's keep working **together York**



People in York have been telling their stories to remind us all to carry on staying safe and following Hands, Face, Space. #keepworkingtogetherYork

My Covid Story

We see a lot of patients not survive this horrible disease, and the heartbreaking impact on their families.

Elaine, Nurse



Let's do what York does best and work together to keep fighting the virus. For more powerful stories about the impact of covid please visit:



york.gov.uk/MyCovidStory

St Leonard's Hospice Carina for Local People

Who or what will you remember from this year of lockdown?

Include your lockdown memory in our historic time capsule to mark the one year anniversary of lockdown.



Find out more at: stleonardshospice.org.uk/OneYearOn



Thank you

On 31 January 2020, the first Coronavirus cases in the UK were recorded in York. Since those cases were declared, the pandemic has impacted every aspect of life, at a great cost.

Yet, the way York responded in the early days of the crisis laid the foundation for the city's continued response.

Communities came together, neighbours helped each other and businesses adapted to keep safe.

At time of printing, the case rates in the city have fallen substantially following a sharp rise. However they are still too high, and the council is reminding everyone of the importance of staying at home where possible, to protect the NHS and save lives.

We thank everyone for their huge efforts throughout the year to keep the people we love safe.

A specially big thank you to york's volunteers

Following a call for volunteers in 2020 we have been overwhelmed with the generosity of the residents of York, with an estimated 71%* of people in our city now offering some form of unpaid help.



Exceptional challenges in 2020 included:

- Stewarding or marshalling (incl symptomfree testing and vaccination centres)
- Supporting community hubs
- Food distribution
- Doorstep natters
- Wellbeing telephone calls

We are all immensely grateful for the support of our volunteers over the past year and we thank everyone in advance for their help in the year ahead.

*figure taken from recent City of York Council survey on volunteering. Based on percentage of respondents to survey.

Ready to help?

Anyone interested in volunteering with York's voluntary and community sectors can do so with York CVS's new volunteer centre:

www.yorkcvs.org.uk/volunteers01904 621 133

Support for residents

If you are suffering financial hardship as a result of coronavirus there's support available for all who need it.

Track & trace payment

If your earnings are affected by self-isolating when you are told to do so by NHS Test and Trace, you may be entitled to a one off £500 payment. www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronaviruscovid-19/testing-and-tracing

Help, when you need it

If you're struggling to manage, or you don't have any support, but need it because of COVID-19, the council's helpline is here to help you through this difficult time.

covid19help@york.gov.uk01904 551550

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Additional support

An additional £100,000 has been made available for 200 discretionary payments of £500 to York residents who are required to self-isolate but don't meet the full Government criteria.

We will accept applications from working adults living with parents and from Yorkbased full-time students with jobs who are experiencing financial hardship because they have been told to self-isolate.

- www.york.gov.uk/selfisolate
- self-isolationsupport@york.gov.uk

For help to claim any of the help above or for more advice on sources of support in the city: www.york.gov.uk/BenefitsAdvice 01904 551556.

Supporting young people

Please don't suffer in silence

The past year has been really tough. Lockdowns, restrictions, home-schooling and loneliness all stirring up so many feelings. We've pulled together a list of specialist organisations who can help.

Don't bottle it up, speak to someone today.

York Mind: One-to-one counselling by telephone or video-link for 16 to 25-year-olds

- yorkmind.org.uk
- office@yorkmind.org.uk
- **O**1904 643364

Young Minds: Coronavirus advice and mental health support

youngminds.org.uk

Papyrus: Support for people feeling suicidal

- papyrus-uk.org
- 0800 068 4141

Childline: Free private and confidential service where you can talk about anything

childline.org.uk

S 0800 | | | |

More mental health resources yor-ok.org.uk/families/Local%20Offer/ mental-health.htm

Lockdown support for school pupils www.york.gov.uk/downloads/ LockdownSupportCYP

Changing Lives – to support your own recovery

Changing Lives is a charity that helps people facing difficulties with drugs and alcohol. Whichever stage you are on in your recovery journey, whether you are looking to access support or are already in recovery, we can support you on your way with tailored, specialist services, including day programmes and clinical support.

- Changing-lives.org.uk/services/drug-alcohol
- York@changing-lives.org.uk
- Blossom street: 01904 464680 Oaktrees: 01904 621776

Don't Miss



Brain-building activities for 0-2 year olds

'Look, say sing play' is a joint scheme by NSPCC and City of York Council that provides tips and hints on fun ways to help your child's brain develop and strengthen your bond with them.Visit www.york.gov.uk/LSSP and sign up to a weekly newsletter.

Supporting businesses

We know you're facing an unprecedented set of challenges, so we're working with partners to offer unprecedented levels of support.

The council has distributed over £140m of grants and rates relief so far, and the support goes beyond cash grants. Whatever challenge you're facing; from cashflow problems, emotional health issues or adapting to changing markets. To see what help is available: www.york.gov.uk/BusinessSupport

Taking care of your mental fitness -#FeelRealYork

As a business owner in 2021 you're busy caring about your own family, your colleagues and your supply chain. The best way to take care of them is to take care of you. #FeelRealYork is here to show you that its ok not to be ok.You can get hints and tips for emotional fitness, and access support for you and your colleagues from a range of experts. www.livewellyork.co.uk/FeelRealYork

Supporting skills growth in the city

A new City Skills and Employment Board has been created by City of York Council and our partners to make sure the right training and skills opportunities are available over the next ten years to help and support the city's recovery, and help residents improve their employment options.

Get support today

Help is already available for anyone wanting to improve their employment opportunities. With a wide range of free courses, from brushing up on your maths or digital skills to finding out more about starting your own business, and information about the training and support options locally, including apprenticeships.

www.york.gov.uk/LetsBeYorkSkills



Back York to retain its own council

Following the recent devolution deals for South & West Yorkshire, discussions are currently taking place with the Government regarding a potential devolution deal for our city and region.

A devolution deal for York and North Yorkshire could potentially unlock significant investment in the region, including investment in York's transport infrastructure, low-carbon technologies, more affordable housing and major schemes, like York Central.

If conversations between the Councils and Government progress well, a governance review will be required to take place, including a full consultation, which will provide residents and businesses a further opportunity to comment before decisions are made at Executive and then, Full Council.

Two proposals have been submitted:

- One which merges all district & borough councils together in North Yorkshire County Council, with City of York Council and its current unitary authority footprint kept intact.
- One which proposes merging all councils, including York, into two new councils on an East West split model.

Residents Back York

Following independent research, conducted in 2020, we have seen overwhelming support from residents for keeping our unitary authority footprint the same.

By supporting York to continue as a council in its own right, the council and residents have agreed:

- To protect York's historical identity
- To continue to keep local decision making
- To protect residents from service disruption and a significant rise in council tax, with no corresponding service improvements (above any as a result of covid-19)
- To recognise the City of York's geography is distinctly different to its surrounding, mostly rural and coastal areas
- To continue to prioritise the city's recovery from the pandemic
- To continue to support a successful, sustainable city, recognised as one of the best places to live in the UK.



Back York

You can find more information on Devolution, local government restructure and our Back York campaign online.

www.york.gov.uk/BackYork



York vaccination centre

York residents have been receiving their vaccination at the Askham Bar site, which has now been extended to include the NHS vaccination centre for people within a 45-minute drive.

The centre is supported by local volunteers, working alongside healthcare workers and operational staff. It is managed by Nimbuscare, a group of 11 local GP Practices.

People will be invited to book in for their vaccination by the NHS or by their local GP Practice. The priority groups for vaccination are determined by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).

York people have an important part to play to help us deliver the vaccine effectively to those who need it most.

- Please don't contact the NHS to seek a vaccine, we will contact you
- When we do contact you, please book your appointment
- Please come at your appointment time and try not to come early
- Have your booking reference handy and wear your mask
- Continue to follow all the guidance hand hygiene and social distancing in particular to control the virus and save lives.

To find out more about what to expect when coming to the York Vaccination Centre.

www.nimbuscare.co.uk

Symptom free testing

I in 3 people with covid won't show any symptoms, but can still pass on the virus. If you're still visiting your workplace, are a carer or an eligible student or staff you could get regular free testing. Find out if you're eligible and book a test at: york.gov.uk/SymptomFreeCOVIDTest

Discover local grocery and food deliveries options

To support residents across the city through lockdowns, restrictions and changing guidance Live Well York has compiled an accessible list of all the restaurants, pubs and cafes that are offering takeaways and delivery.

With nearly 70 venues offering delicious food to enjoy in your own home from fully prepared meals to specific vegetable and ingredient deliveries, tasty treats and more you are sure to find something to suit all tastes in your house.

More suppliers are joining regularly, and you can find the list here:

livewellyork.co.uk/LocalGroceryDelivery

If you don't have internet access and would like a list of food suppliers, please contact Customer Services on Tel: 01904 551550

Shop local

Throughout the pandemic many of us have looked local to get those essential items, as well as a few tasty treats.

With the best Yorkshire has to offer it's not hard to see why. Now, as we look to get back to normal these businesses need our support more than ever.

Fresh food in the city centre

Head to the Shambles Market, the home of the city's largest collection of independent traders, where essential goods are still on offer, served in a socially distanced and responsible manner.

Support local and buy online

The #LoveYork Virtual Market is an online platform where many of the city's well-known independent retailers have set up virtual shop – selling their products directly to you online.

www.visityork.org/whats-on/ loveyork-virtual-market

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Community Stories:

Flood defences in action in York

Help make your property flood resilient

A new website with information and advice to make sure that if the worse does happen your property is flood resilient has been launched, helping you reduce flood damage for a speedier recovery.

With real life case studies from people who have adapted their properties to be flood resilient, together with clear explanations about how you can do the same, the website is designed to be a user-friendly and helpful hub of practical information.

Hear from industry experts on everything from flood insurance to new building materials.

The website also signposts you to information to help you better understand your property's flood risk, and where to find the most up-todate information on flooding information.

www.yorkshirefloodresilience.co.uk

Yorkshire Flood Resilience is one of three Flood Resilience Community Pathfinder Projects nationally that have been funded by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

COVID safe winter weather

This winter, the council responded to freezing temperatures and rising river levels in a COVID-safe way. Protecting homes and businesses, flood defences were installed earlier than normal to ensure operations could continue safely.

Big

Conversation

Help us shape York's future

Here are just some of the many ways you can shape the decisions which affect you, and hear the views of others from across York.

Our

Your direct access to decisions and leaders

All the big decisions about the city and the people who proudly live here are made by the council's Executive.

Meeting are streamed online via the Council's YouTube channel live and all the reports are published in advance. Anyone is allowed to register to speak on a decision, so your voice can be heard on a subject important to you.

You can find out what meetings and decisions are coming up, and watch all previous meetings at:

www.york.gov.uk/local-democracy

#Ask TheLeaders Facebook Q&A

In 2020 we held our first Facebook Live Q&A, giving residents the chance to ask questions directly to the key decision makers in the city.

We have now held more than 20 Q&As, covering topics including public health and COVID restrictions to business support and grants, education and emotional wellbeing. With the videos reaching over 130,000 people and hundreds of questions answered on the most important issues.

With the success of these sessions, we are hoping to continue regular sessions as way for you to get your questions answered directly.

For the most up to date information on upcoming Ask the Leaders event visit www.york.gov.uk/AskTheLeaders Our

Big

Have you got your census letter?

Conversation

The census is a oncein-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.



Everyone will benefit from Census 2021

Understanding the needs of the nation helps everyone from councils and health authorities to central government to plan and fund public services across England and Wales. Census data informs where billions of pounds of public funding is spent, on services like transport, education and health – on road repairs, schools and dental surgeries.

Information from the census is also important in helping lots of other people and organisations do their work.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

You should now be receiving letters with online codes explaining how you can complete the forms (or you can also request a paper questionnaire if you'd prefer to complete your census that way.)

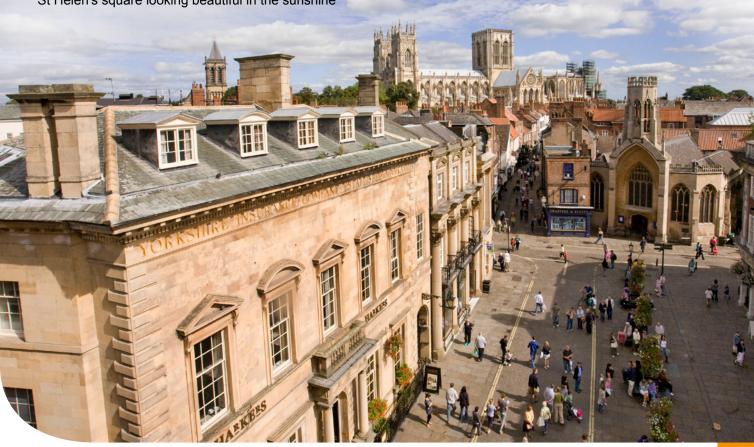
If you don't get a letter in the next couple of weeks, please get in touch with the census contact centre.

Local census support centres will be open while the census is happening. Staff will offer help for people not confident online, who don't have a computer or need help completing on paper.

For more information:

census.gov.uk0800 141 2021

St Helen's square looking beautiful in the sunshine



Census facts At the time of the last census...

- 198,051 people lived in the York, including 22,669 students
- 30 people worked as road construction operatives
- There were 974 food, drink and tobacco process operatives
- Home to the famous street the Shambles, there were 6,317 sales and retail assistants

- More than 45,000 of you used a car or van to drive to work, although over 17,500 walked to work
- York was made up of 252 different ethnicities
- Other than the UK, Poland was the top country of birth, with Polish the most popular language other than English or Welsh, spoken by 1,577 of you
- There were 577 households with 2 or more families

Our

Big

Conversation

Join our big conversation and share your views on York

You can get involved in a range of surveys, online workshops, discussions hosted on social media and – when restrictions are lifted – in communities.

What we will talk about

- Our response & priorities to the recovery
- The climate emergency and our Climate Strategy
- How we move around the city through the Local Transport Plan and our One Year Recovery Transport Strategy
- Defining an exciting future for our city centre and district centres
- Where we live and work, what jobs are available
- How we make sure York's economy works for all residents

To find out more visit

- www.york.gov.uk/OurBigConversation
- f /cityofyork
- @CityofYork

York community woodland starting to take roots

Work to create a new community woodland within York's boundary, west of the A1237 at Knapton, which could see 50,000 trees planted by 2023, has taken an important step forward.

This community woodland will become part of the wider White Rose Forest which will span North & West Yorkshire, feeding into the plans for a wider Northern Forest. Creating a long term and sustainable impact in health and wellbeing, as well as new green jobs.

Share Your Woodland Walk Memories

We will soon be sharing plans of what the community woodland could look like and would like to hear your thoughts and ideas for what could be included.

Your input will help us define the overall vision for the woodland.





Keep up to date

- f /cityofyork
- 🕑 @cityofyork
- øyorkcommunitywoodland@york.gov.uk

www.york.gov.uk/open-spaces/york

community-woodland



Meet Thundertruck

You may have already spotted the newest addition to our waste fleet on a street near you.

Thundertruck joins our waste fleet family, powered by waste to help collect waste! Any waste that can't be recycled is burned, providing us with energy to power our growing fleet.

Zero carbon homes move forward

110 new Passivhaus homes will start construction later this year at Burnholme and Duncombe Barracks.

Designed by Stirling Prize-winning architect Mikhail Riches, the two developments will focus on fostering a greater sense of community and wellbeing, building on York's pioneering housing heritage.

City of York Council is committed that a minimum of 40% of the ultra-low energy properties will be for social rent or shared ownership – twice the amount required. Revenue from the market sale homes will be used to support the total development costs.

Castle gateway update



Castle Mills

Planning approval was granted in December 2020 to build 106 new homes, including 20 new council homes. The development will also deliver a new riverside park and a pedestrian/ cycle bridge over the River Foss and the sale of apartments will contribute to the wider masterplan of the Castle Gateway.

Work at Clifford's Tower

English Heritage are undertaking conservation work and improvements to the visitor experience. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2021.

York central update

A new generation of jobs, housing, leisure and cultural facilities for York have moved a step closer, as early site clearance works are now taking place on the York Central site.

The site clearance works will prepare the area for the infrastructure works to unlock the 42 hectare site, which will provide up to 2500 new homes; up to 1.2 million square feet of commercial development as well as vastly improved visitor access experience at the National Railway Museum.

The area has enterprise zone status and will provide around 6500 new jobs and a \pounds 1.2bn boost to the local economy.

The work has been approved as part of the planning approval on the site, which included a detailed assessment of the heritage value of the buildings. More than 300 mature trees will be planted during the next phases of infrastructure works, while the development also includes the largest park in the city for 100 years and areas to encourage biodiversity.

Join the conversation

This spring the council will launch the next phase of My Castle Gateway, This will engage residents in the design of the new public space around Clifford's Tower and the Eye of York, which will replace Castle Car Park. You can see the latest plans online at: www.york.gov.uk/CastleGatewayMasterPlanLatest

Make sure your voice is heard by signing up to be part of the My Castle Gateway conversation at mycastlegateway.org/contact or follow the latest news on social media – search 'My Castle Gateway.'

World-class infrastructure:



St George's Field Car Park

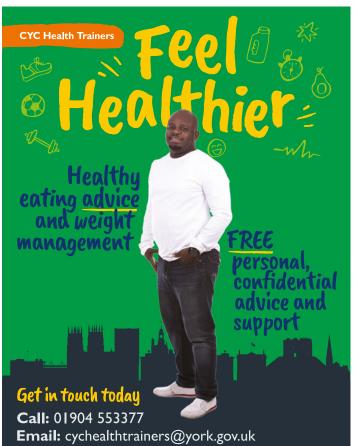
A new multi-storey car park and improved coach park with new landscaping and a new cycle route through to Piccadilly received planning approval in January 2021. Following further work now getting underway on a car parking strategy for the city centre, Executive will make a final decision on the proposal later this year. If it goes ahead, the proposal will replace two large surface level car parks with a modern car park that will be accessible in times of flood.

York's european links still going strong

York has had twinning relationships with Dijon in France since 1953 and Münster in Germany since 1957. Over the years, these bonds have inspired people to share their cultures, creating a new understanding and forming lasting friendships.

Now, the York–Münster Twinning Association and their new chair, Ursula Lanyers, is keen to reach out to York residents to continue to strengthen this special link.

- york-muenster.weebly.com
- (f) /YorkMuensterTwinning



Healthy Start

If you're getting Healthy Start vouchers, did you know you can also get free vitamins? Just ask your midwife or health visitor where to get them.

- www.healthystart.nhs.uk
- O845 6076823

Vitamin D boost

Vitamin D is essential for good health and bone and muscle health. The NHS are offering free vitamin D supplements to those on the clinically extremely vulnerable list and those in residential and nursing care homes in England. If you are eligible you will have received a letter offering you the chance to register.

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Acomb Ward



Cllr Stuart Barnes cllr.sbarnes@york.gov.uk

Cllr Katie Lomas cllr.klomas@york.gov.uk

Bishopthorpe Ward



Cllr John Galvin **1** cllr.jgalvin@york.gov.uk

Clifton Ward



Cllr Danny Myers cllr.dmyers@york.gov.uk

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ALC: N

Cllr Margaret Wells cllr.mwells@york.gov.uk

Copmanthorpe Ward



Cllr David Carr **1** cllr.dcarr@york.gov.uk

Dringhouses & Woodthorpe Ward



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Hull Road Ward



Cllr Aisling Musson **1** cllr.amusson@york.gov.uk



Cllr George Norman () cllr.gnorman@york.gov.uk



Huntington & New Earswick Ward



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cllr.ccullwick@york.gov.uk



Cllr Keith Orrell 🕩 cllr.korrell@york.gov.uk



Micklegate Ward



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Cllr Jonny Crawshaw cllr.jcrawshaw@york.gov.uk



Cllr Peter Kilbane cllr.pkilbane@york.gov.uk

Osbaldwick & Derwent Ward



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Cllr Mark Warters
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Rawcliffe & Clifton Without Ward



Cllr Darryl Smalley
cllr.dsmalley@york.gov.uk



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Cllr Sam Waudby 😳 cllr.swaudby@york.gov.uk

Rural West York Ward



Cllr James Barker 😳 cllr.jbarker@york.gov.uk



Cllr Anne Hook 😳 cllr.ahook@york.gov.uk

Strensall Ward



Cllr Paul Doughty © cllr.pdoughty@york.gov.uk



Cllr Tony Fisher 😳 cllr.tfisher@york.gov.uk

Westfield Ward



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Cllr Susan Hunter cllr.shunter@york.gov.uk



Cllr Andrew Waller 😐 cllr.awaller@york.gov.uk

Wheldrake Ward



Cllr Christian Vassie 😳 cllr.cvassie@york.gov.uk

For more information please call: 01904 551550

Your councillors will be working for you in their communities and are here to help. Follow us on Twitter @CityofYork where we post breaking news and latest road closures. Send us your views on what's happening in the city via Facebook at facebook.com/cityofyork. Report neighbourhood issues on our simple-to-use online form at:

York.gov.uk/reportproblems

What's on in York



The Gesualdo Six residency and virtual concert

National Centre for Early Music's

21 March

This year the National Centre for Early Music celebrates Early Music Day by hosting a residency with the award-winning ensemble The Gesualdo Six.

www.ncem.co.uk

Trans-Siberian: The World's Longest Railway

National Railway Museum

Major new exhibition 26 March onwards (TBC)

This exhibition will explore the extraordinary engineering challenge behind the famous railway's construction, its social and economic impact on Russia and the unique experience of travelling onboard.

www.railwaymuseum.org.uk

Live Well York

Information and advice community website for adults and families in York.

Their range of events include community activities along with a wide range of digital and covid-safe events.

www.livewellyork.co.uk

York Learning

York Learning run courses and workshops to help you improve your skills for work, learn a new hobby or improve your mental and physical health. With topics including languages, crafts and digital skills there's something for everyone.

www.yorklearning.org.uk

For more information about what's on in York go to:

- www.visityork.org/whats-on
- livewellyork.co.uk
- yorkmix.com/things-to-do

YOUR **CREATIVE** SAUCE





Produced by

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our.city@york.gov.uk www.york.gov.uk

