

## **Joint Administration Agreement (Policy)**

**This is an agreement between the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups, to establish a joint administration for City of York Council from May 21<sup>st</sup> 2015.**

This agreement reflects the need for change from the calamitous Labour administration and ensure better decision-making. It seeks to provide stable leadership and puts the needs of residents first before narrow political interest. It seeks to maintain and improve York as an attractive place to live and work with good education and a vibrant local economy.

Conservative and Liberal Democrat Groups have agreed the following list of joint priorities:

### **1. Local Plan**

We will prepare an evidence-based Local Plan which delivers much needed housing whilst focusing development on brownfield land and taking all practical steps to protect the Green Belt and the character of York.

### **2. Waste Collections**

- Reintroduce additional winter (garden) Green Bin collections and cancel Labour/Green budget plans to introduce further charges.
- No cuts to the frequency of Grey Bin collections.

### **3. More for Frontline and Customer Services**

We agree to focus resources into frontline services to ensure:

- An increase in funding for road repairs, streetlights, gulley cleaning and litter bins.
- Yearsley Pool remains open.

We will also review the customer contact centre to ensure faster and better response to queries and service requests.

### **4. Financial Inclusion and support for vulnerable residents**

We will support the Living Wage, support voluntary organisations and develop financial inclusion work with measurable outcomes.

### **5. Ward Committees**

Re-instate Ward Committees with a very significant increase in funding so that communities can make greater decisions about local services. Additional investment into community based decisions.

## **6. Vanity Projects**

End wasteful spending including bringing forward a new plan for the Guildhall which is based on a firm business case and minimises the risk to taxpayers and reassess all vanity projects, including the Arts Barge.

## **7. Children and Youth Services**

- The services currently provided by the Castlegate Centre will continue to be provided at a suitable city centre location that is not West Offices.
- Continue to support Children's Centres, youth services, and apprenticeships in partnership with local businesses.
- Extra support to help pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.

## **8. Transport**

Support rural bus services and in communities where they are needed. No further expenditure on blanket 20mph project.

## **9. Economic Development**

Ensure that local businesses are adequately supported by helping them bid for council contracts and cutting red tape. Work to ensure that York gets a better deal from regional partners.

## **10. Value for Money and Fairness**

Improve council efficiency, streamline council management, and always look to take government grants on offer to freeze Council Tax.

## **11. Increase Recycling**

To reverse the decline in recycling rates we will:

- Work with residents and commit to an aim of increasing recycling to 50% through extra investment.
- Develop a long-term plan to cut the council's carbon emissions and re-establish a Green Jobs Task Group.

## **12. Health and Social Care**

Carry out a bottom-up review of health and adult social care services to ensure a more joined-up approach, improve performance and ensure a more people focused service.