

**The Planning Inspectorate**

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'make a submission' web page.

**Our Ref: Michael Reynolds**  
**Your Ref: EN010120**

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Dear Sirs

**Drax Bio-Energy and Carbon Capture Storage**  
**Deadline 1 - Statement on Local Government Reorganisation.**

The following is a joint statement made on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council and Selby District Council.

It is not considered that Local Government Reorganisation in North Yorkshire will have an impact on the examination process for the Drax BECCS scheme.

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) is the process by which the two-tier system of County Council and District Councils will become one unitary council.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 (vesting day), North Yorkshire Council (NYC) will be created. North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and Selby District Council (SDC) will cease to exist as they are now.

**Continuing Authority**

North Yorkshire County Council will be a continuing authority. The County Council held elections in May 2022 and a shadow cabinet was formed. The cabinet will sit for 5 years. The Executive Members for Transport, Open for Business and Planning are in place now and will continue throughout the examination. These Executive Members together with the Leader of the Council have been party to the extensive consultation carried out by the applicant throughout the pre-application and pre-examination.

**Local Planning Authority**

The new Council is required to put in place a new Local Plan within 5 years of the vesting date. Until such time, the existing local policies of the current Local Planning Authority (Selby District Council) will be the prevailing local policies for the area. The local policies against which the application is

being considered in the Local Impact Report will remain in place throughout the examination and beyond.

**Officer Project Team**

Throughout the process, the two Councils (NYCC and SDC) have adopted an approach of responding to the application jointly as 'the Authorities'. As such, a project team has been established across both Councils. At present, there are no plans in place to alter staff roles after vesting date and participation of officers will remain unchanged throughout the examination.

It is therefore not considered that LGR will have an impact on the Council's response to application and participation in the examination.

Yours faithfully

**Michael Reynolds**  
**Senior Policy Officer (Infrastructure)**  
**North Yorkshire County Council**