



From - Alison Hume MP for Scarborough and Whitby.  
Cllr. Richard Parsons, Chair, Burniston Parish Council.  
Cllr. Derek Bastiman, North Yorkshire Council.  
Cllr. Jackie Smith, Chair Newby and Scalby Town Council.  
Cllr Paul Couch, Chair, Cloughton Parish Council  
Cllr. Thomas Murray, Mayor of Scarborough, Scarborough Town Council.

To North Yorkshire Council for the attention of –

Cllr Carl Les,  
Cllr Mark Crane,  
Mr Nic Harne.  
Planning Control.  
Mr David Walker

### **Planning Application reference NY/2025/0030/ENV**

Dear Sir/Madam,

With reference to the above planning application, which is due to be heard by the North Yorkshire Council Planning Committee on 30th January 2026,, this is joint request from , Alison Hume MP, Cllr. Derek Bastiman, Cllr. Richard Parsons, Cllr Jackie Smith, Cllr Paul Couch, Cllr Thomas Murray.

We are requesting that the committee meeting date be delayed.

The reasons for our request are as follows.

1. On December 16, 2025 the Government issued a consultation document on the next publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This consultation is due to end on March 10<sup>th</sup>2026.
2. Contained within the document is an intention to remove the requirement for a planning authority to no longer consider the 'Great Weight' factor for onshore oil and gas planning hearings..
3. The removal of the 'Great Weight' factor allows a planning authority to give equal consideration to all views, without being required to tilt a decision in favour of an applicant to the detriment of any other view.
4. To delay the planning meeting rather than to defer a decision, an option open to the planning committee, will allow the hearing to receive an up to date procedure to follow and all views to be heard.

We believe that a short delay to the planning hearing would give time for the Government's position on applications regarding onshore oil and gas drilling to become clear. Given that there could be very long-lasting implications for North Yorkshire following this hearing, it would be reasonable to delay this meeting until we know of any notable changes to the National Planning Policy Framework.

Signed -

Alison Hume MP for Scarborough and Whitby.

Cllr. Richard Parsons.

Cllr. Derek Bastiman.

Cllr. Jackie Smith.

Cllr Paul Couch.

Cllr Thomas Murray.