

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN CONSULTATION RESPONSES

1. **Leader and Cabinet Executive Model:** Several respondents expressed a preference for the Leader and Cabinet Executive Model as opposed to an Elected Mayor for North Yorkshire. The main points are summarised as follows:
 - that the new Leader and Cabinet Executive model is appropriate to North Yorkshire County Council's needs for continuity and efficiency, given the county's geographical spread, its economic outlook and demographic change.
 - That whilst the possible advantages in having an Elected Mayor to interact with the electorate in an urban area were appreciated, the responder could not see how such a system could be of any real benefit in a vast rural area like North Yorkshire. Small numbers of scattered residents at either end of the area will not feel that they have any direct means of influencing policy selection by lobbying the Mayor, neither may they even have similar needs of each other at the same time. It was considered that the Council should adopt the revised system that remains nearest to the way the Leader and Cabinet method is operated at present

2. **Elected Mayor and Cabinet Executive:** Other respondents were in favour of the Elected Mayor model and the main points are summarised as follows:
 - that the mayoral system is more democratic and the public have a stake in the appointment and more involvement in decision making.
 - that people in leadership should be elected by the whole of the residents of North Yorkshire and not under the current arrangements which are party political, otherwise the public have only a second hand say in who governs them
 - that the Leader responsible for the whole of NYCC affairs, should be readily identifiable and accountable to the public. A mayoral model would ensure that a Mayor would be visible and accountable to the general public as intended by the legislation This has proved to work well elsewhere and ensure greater public involvement.
 - A mayor is stronger in representing the public against vested interests and government pressure.

One respondent was totally opposed to the Elected Mayoral model, referring to the situation in another authority where the Elected Mayoral model had proved to be unpopular and delivered few benefits to the local community.

3. Other respondents raised queries in relation to the consultation and business case for change, and the costs involved. They also considered that evidence had not been produced to support the options. Supplementary information was provided in response to the respondents with queries.