

## **LEADER'S STATEMENT**

### **North Yorkshire and York Local Enterprise Partnership**

The first meeting of the North Yorkshire and York Local Enterprise Partnership was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June under the Chairmanship of Barry Dodd. Barry has assembled a group of business leaders from the sub-region to join with six local Council Leaders to form the new Board. This LEP will, in my view, be more focussed than the larger more urban LEPs and will concentrate on the small and medium business sector with a strong emphasis on tourism, food and farming and other small businesses that are the economy in North Yorkshire. At this first meeting the Board agreed to put forward a site in Scarborough to be the Enterprise Zone for the sub-region. This now enters the bidding process with we believe 29 applications for the 10 new Enterprise Zones in this phase. I ask all to support this bid.

### **Local Government North Yorkshire and York**

The annual meeting of the LGNYY was held in Skipton on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Tom Fox from Scarborough was elected as Chairman with myself and the new Leader from York, James Alexander as Vice-Chairmen. The main business of the meeting was about improving partnership working in the county and also touched on both the health reforms and the Local Government Resource Review. This latter issue is about the localisation and distribution of Business Rates by local Councils and could lead to a fundamentally new approach to Local Government Finance.

### **New Council Structure**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 the Adult and Community Services Directorate was re-named "Health and Adult Services". A number of services have been moved from Health and Adult Services to the Chief Executive's Group. These include the Library Service, the Registration Service and the Archives Service. These Services will combine with the Customer Service Centre and the Web Services Team to form a more consolidated front office for the Council. These Services will be able to operate more collectively together and the approach is in line with our One Council Change Programme.

The Health and Adult Services Directorate will obviously focus on Adult Services including both services for older people as well as those with disabilities. In addition this Directorate will lead on the Council's interface with the Health Service. Following the Government's Listening Exercise and the work undertaken by the Future Forum it is clear that local Councils will have even more involvement in the wider health service. Local Government remains on track to have a significant delivery role in public health, the Council will be responsible for establishing a Health and Wellbeing Board that will have a crucial role in shaping the Commissioning plans for GP led Clinical Commissioning Groups. It will be increasingly important in the future for social care and health to become more closely integrated and I believe that this new structure will help to achieve this.

In addition to restructuring one of our main service Directorates we are currently in the process of recruiting a new Corporate Director for the Health and Adult Services Directorate. The interviews will have taken place on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July led by the Chief Officers Appointment and Disciplinary Sub-Committee.