

NORTH YORKSHIRE  
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2009

JOINT LAF WITH YORK CITY COUNCIL

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update members regarding the proposed merger with York City Council.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 18 months ago North Yorkshire County Council was approached by officers of York City Council regarding a proposal for the two authorities to hold a joint LAF.
- 2.2 Discussions have been on going and York City Council has asked for a formal proposal to be put before the LAF.

3.0 PROPOSAL

- 3.1 To run a LAF that covers the areas outside the National parks within North Yorkshire and the Unitary Authority Area of York City Council.
- 3.2 They require only one member and do not require any political representation.
- 3.3 As a contribution towards the costs of running the joint LAF they have indicated they would be happy to host one of the meetings.
- 3.4 Will raise matters for discussion through the Forward Plan.

4.0 ISSUES TO CONSIDER

- 4.1 The Agendas are already full, has the current LAF the capacity to consider taking on this extra area.
- 4.2 There will be a work load associated with responding to gating orders, the level of work is not likely to be large but needs to be considered.
- 4.3 With no political representation would any recommendations of the Joint LAF be taken seriously by York City Council?
- 4.4 What are the benefits to the current set up?

- 4.5 There are fundamental differences in the two areas. Is this an advantage for example increasing knowledge by dealing with different issues or is it a disadvantage, spending time resolving issues that are unique to the York City area and do not really affect North Yorkshire.

## 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Members discuss the issues outlined in the report and form an opinion whether North Yorkshire County Council should work with York City Council to develop a Joint LAF covering both council areas.

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