

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK HELD ON MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2009 AT SPA VITADMOME, SPA COMPLEX, SOUTH BAY, SCARBOROUGH

### PRESENT:

#### Council

#### Representative

City of York Council	Councillor Carol Runciman (as Substitute for Andrew Waller) Roger Ranson (Assistant Director of Economic Development)
Craven District Council	Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton Paul Shevlin (Chief Executive)
Hambleton District Council	Councillor Arthur Barker Peter Simpson (Chief Executive (shared with Richmondshire District Council))
Harrogate Borough Council	Wallace Sampson (Chief Executive)
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor John Watson OBE (as Substitute for John Weighell) John Marsden (Chief Executive)
Richmondshire District Council	Peter Simpson (Chief Executive (shared with Hambleton District Council))
Ryedale District Council	Councillor Keith Knaggs Janet Waggot (Chief Executive)
Scarborough Borough Council	Councillor Tom Fox (in the Chair) Jim Dillon (Chief Executive)
Selby District Council	Martin Connor (Chief Executive)

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Kevin McAleese and Jayne Brown (Chairman and Chief Executive respectively of NHS North Yorkshire and York PCT).

Paul Hill, Jonathan Learoyd and Julian Martin (Connect Partnership).

Councillor Carl Lis and David Butterworth (Chairman and Chief Executive respectively of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority).

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Crane (Selby District Council) and Councillor Dr Mike Gardner (Harrogate Borough Council).

**14. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2009, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**15. CONNECT PARTNERSHIP – PROGRESS AND FUTURE STRATEGY**

**CONSIDERED –**

Presentation by Paul Hill, Manager of the Connect Partnership (formerly York and North Yorkshire Access to Services Partnership) advising that the Partnership's vision was "for customers to have completely seamless community service delivery, regardless of the provider or the preferred access channel and all made possible by new ways of working and electronic access to key information". He advised of achievements to date, which included the agreement of common standards for customer services, plans to develop a common customer services training programme, use of NYnet to connect service delivery, and delivery of a shared information portal. He asked Leaders and Chief Executives to communicate, through their respective organisations, information concerning the Connect Partnership, such information being available in a draft e-leaflet.

The following points were emphasised during the debate:-

- This was an opportunity for organisations to exploit shared use of new technology in order to provide a more efficient way of working. Organisations could proceed at different paces.
- The Connect Partnership had set milestones with timescales for the subsequent years, information concerning which was available on request.
- The Connect Partnership must be able to demonstrate the efficiencies it achieved.
- Full implementation costs could not be met from grant funding alone. However, individual organisations would require information about costs in order to determine whether there was a business case for them to participate. Some organisations might prefer not to participate in particular aspects of the service, eg the shared information portal, and it would therefore be helpful if the Connect Partnership could identify the cost of the separate aspects.
- Further funding opportunities might be available from the RIEP.

The Chairman thanked Paul Hill for his presentation.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the presentation be noted.

- (b) That the draft e-leaflet be forwarded to Chief Executives of constituent Councils.

**16. PRIMARY CARE TRUST - DIRECTION OF TRAVEL AND THE HEALTH SERVICE GENERALLY IN YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE**

CONSIDERED –

Presentation by Kevin McAleese and Jayne Brown, Chairman and Chief Executive respectively of the NHS North Yorkshire and York PCT, advising of the PCT's aims and about the way it wished to work in the future.

The PCT continued to have four localities. With regard to commissioning, the PCT wished to be more sensitive to local views about how it invested its available budget. The PCT's strategic priorities were set out in its strategic plan 2008 to 2013 entitled "Healthier/lives". Its goals, for the forthcoming twelve months, were as follows:- to improve demonstrably Service quality; to become the "most improved PCT in the country"; to review, refresh and re-energise its strategic plan; to implement its operational, financial and organisational development plans to support its strategic direction; and to live within the resources it had. Kevin McAleese and Jayne Brown outlined how the PCT intended to achieve its goals, how it intended to engage with residents, stakeholders and staff, and its priorities for the subsequent three years.

**Note: Councillor Tom Fox declared a personal interest because a close relative had received health care after having suffered a sudden traumatic injury some years previously.**

The following points were emphasised during the debate:-

- Patients needed to be treated as individuals rather than by a label by virtue of their age.
- The PCT intended to be more transparent about the basis in which it was talking to the public eg whether it was in development mode or talking mode. It also intended to be clearer about what was not possible.
- From October 2009, very senior Directors, with authority to speak and act on behalf of the PCT, would be attending meetings with stakeholders and there would be continuity in representation. However, the PCT did not wish to raise expectations that the PCT therefore had more funding available to contribute to local projects.
- In dealing with health improvement and tackling health inequalities, the PCT considered that a number of non-health services were key to improving health and equality. They particularly emphasised the need for quality education and were pleased to say that they felt very fortunate having both North Yorkshire and York as their partners.
- Tele-health and tele-care were very welcome developments.

The Chairman thanked Kevin McAleese and Jayne Brown for their presentation.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the presentation be noted.
- (b) That the Honorary Secretary circulate the slides used during this presentation to all Members and Chief Executives.

## **17. LGNY THERMATIC BOARDS**

CONSIDERED –

Reports of Lead Officers concerning arrangements for the first meeting of each of the following LGNY Thematic Boards, the Boards' draft terms of reference, and the key issues which each Board would be considering:-

- Economy and Skills Board.
- Transport Board.
- Housing Board.
- Planning Board.

The Honorary Secretary emphasised the importance of these new Boards as a mechanism for ensuring the sub-region was kept well informed of developments.

Wallace Sampson, in introducing the report of the Housing Board, referred to the draft terms of reference as appended to the report of that Board. He advised that the Housing Board was meeting on 5 October 2009 and would be considering the draft terms of reference. One issue had arisen, namely, voting rights of the various member representatives at Board meetings. Initially it had been thought that voting rights should be restricted to Councils. However, the strategic role which the National Parks played in housing had subsequently been recognised and it was therefore intended that they should also have voting rights, subject to no objections being raised.

It was suggested that it might be helpful if the Transport Board took a lead in considering the climate implications of transport issues. It was commented that this appeared, at first, to be a sensible suggestion and would be given more detailed consideration.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the reports be noted.
- (b) That the Boards' draft terms of reference, as set out in the reports, be endorsed, subject to voting rights being extended, within the Housing Board, to the National Park Authorities.

## **18. REGIONAL BODIES**

CONSIDERED –

Reports of the under-mentioned representatives appointed by LGNY concerning the work of the following regional bodies.

- LGYH Spatial Planning Board – Councillor Keith Knaggs.
- LGYH Regeneration and Housing Board – Councillor Derek Bastiman.
- LGYH Transport Board – County Councillor Clare Wood and Councillor Steve Galloway.
- LGYH Work and Skills Board – County Councillor Chris Metcalfe.
- Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Group – County Councillor Paul Richardson.
- Yorkshire and Humberside European Regional Development Fund Performance Management Board for North East and West Yorkshire – Councillor Derek Bastiman.

County Councillor John Watson OBE reported orally on the LGYH Leaders' Board at which two significant issues had arisen, namely:- an analysis of funding which came into the region through Yorkshire Forward, the Environment Agency and the Learning and Skills Council and the identification of the areas in which such funding was used; and a general acknowledgement that, whichever Political Party won the next General Election, there would be greater devolvement of power from Whitehall to local government.

County Councillor John Watson OBE also reported orally on recent discussions concerning the proposed high speed transport link between London and Glasgow which was likely to stop at Birmingham and Manchester. He emphasised the importance of bidding for a relatively small increase in investment in order to improve dramatically journey times on the conventional east coast main railway line.

With regard to the LGYH Work and Skills Board, John Marsden advised that he intended to speak to Ian Reardon about the difficulties which had been experienced in getting this Board started.

**RESOLVED –**

That the reports be noted.

**19. REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL MATTERS OF INTEREST TO ALL COUNCILS**

No such matters were raised.

**20. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Honorary Secretary concerning dates, times and venues for future meetings of LGNY Y.

The Honorary Secretary, in introducing the report, also referred to a suggestion circulated previously that the venue for the meeting on Friday, 8 January 2010 should be County Hall, Northallerton and that the time should be changed to 10.00am.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the venue and time of the meeting to be held on Friday 8 January 2010 be changed to County Hall, Northallerton at 10.00am.
- (b) That the venue for the meeting to be held on Friday 16 April 2010 at 10.00 am be Harrogate Borough Council offices.
- (c) That the Annual Meeting of LGNY Y in 2010 be held on Friday 2 July at 10.00 am at a venue to be determined.
- (d) That a meeting be held on Friday 8 October 2010 at 10.00 am at a venue to be determined.
- (e) That appointments to outside bodies, to serve for 2010/11, be made at LGNY Y's meeting on Friday, 16 April 2010.

**21. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED –**

That the following business be included on future Agendas:-

- Review of LGNY's first 6 months and its links with its Thematic Boards and regional organisations – for 8 January 2010 meeting.
- Regional Integrated Sustainability Strategy – for 8 January 2010 meeting.
- Feedback from Craven District Council on its pilot exercise aimed at encouraging residents to scrutinise the Council's customer services using a "Getting it right" toolkit – for either the 16 April or 2 July 2010 meeting.
- "Total Place" – possibly for the 8 January 2010 meeting.
- RIEP Update – for 8 January 2010 meeting.

**22. OTHER BUSINESS – APPOINTMENT TO LGYH INDEPENDENT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

CONSIDERED –

Oral report of the Honorary Secretary advising that LGYH was seeking the appointment of one representative from this functional sub-region to serve on a new Independent Sustainable Development Board. The appointee could not be a Member of the LGYH Leaders' Board.

**RESOLVED –**

That Councillor Brian Phillips of Hambleton District Council be appointed as the representative of this functional sub-region to serve on the LGYH Independent Sustainable Development Board for the remainder of 2009/10.

**23. OTHER BUSINESS – INVOLVEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITIES IN LGNY**

Note: Councillor Carl Lis and David Butterworth of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority left the meeting whilst this item of business was being considered.

CONSIDERED –

Oral report of the Honorary Secretary advising of an initiative from Westminster for National Park Authorities to have representation at regional level. However, it was felt that the LGYH Leaders' Board would become potentially unbalanced if representatives from two National Park Authorities were to join it. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the North York Moors National Park Authority were keen to have full representation on LGNY. The National Parks felt that, if they played a full part at the sub-regional level, they could have their interests served well by whoever represented the sub-region at the regional level. The Peak District National Park Authority already had representation on the Leaders' Board in another region.

**RESOLVED –**

That the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the North York Moors National Park Authority each be offered representation, with voting rights, on LGNY.