

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK

16 APRIL 2010

LGYH Regeneration and Housing Board - Joint Report of Councillor Derek Bastiman (Scarborough Borough Council) and Councillor Jonathan Morley (City of York Council)

Regeneration

With regard to the regeneration activities of the Board, I informed the Board that a number of partners had made a contribution towards a study of the A64 from the A1 through the A64 to Scarborough. The value of the study is some £155,000. In turn, the Board welcomed the initiative by these various Authorities. All this has come around after the DfT failed to recognise the importance and value of such a study. Amongst other things, the study will:- identify, locate and quantify transport safety issues associated within the corridor; and identify, locate and quantify the impacts of future regeneration, housing and employment growth defined in the RSS and LDF on transport networks and services. It will also identify and quantify the economic and social exclusion impacts of poor connectivity on communities within the corridor. It is hoped that the study will commence in March and be completed in October of this year. The findings will hopefully support the regeneration and prosperity of the region.

DEREK BASTIMAN

Housing

Report on the meeting of the Regeneration and Housing Board held on 19 February:-

At the previous meeting I had pointed out that the "Investment Principles" applying to future regional funding had not been thoroughly discussed. As a result of an invitation to suggest amendments, a number were considered at this meeting. One (which is to be redrafted) was to recognise that some authorities had loan schemes which differed from the Region's own scheme and that this should be acknowledged in the Investment Principles, while accepting the need to make efficient use of scarce public resources.

Private Sector renewals - No confirmation as to when funding would be available.

Integrated Regional Strategy – evidence base (Nevin Leather Associates) – A full report will follow but background information was shared, including housing affordability graphs, areas of negative equity and expected population growth and age profile. Trend towards fall-off in owner occupation and 50% decline in level of sales. Possibility that, if sellers returned to the market, prices might decline, particularly in view of still historically high "affordability" levels i.e current prices unaffordable.

Yorkshire and Humberside Proposition (Price Waterhouse Coopers) - Additions to the regional "ask" suggested inclusion of climate change and recognition of the role of ports and coastal areas but not to dilute importance of cities as economic drivers.

JONATHAN MORLEY