

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION HELD ON 2 JULY 2010 AT RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, SWALE HOUSE, FRENCHGATE, RICHMOND

PRESENT:-

<u>Constituent Authority</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
City of York Council	Councillor Ann Reid (as Substitute for Andrew Waller) Nigel Burchell (Head of Strategic Partnerships)
Craven District Council	Councillor Richard Foster (as Substitute for Chris Knowles-Fitton) Paul Shevlin (Chief Executive)
Hambleton District Council	Councillor Ron Kirk (as Substitute for Neville Huxtable) Peter Simpson (Chief Executive (shared with Richmondshire District Council))
Harrogate Borough Council	Councillor Dr Mike Gardner Wallace Sampson (Chief Executive)
North York Moors National Park Authority	Mr Malcolm Shorney (as Substitute for Councillor John Fletcher)
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor John Weighell (in the Chair) Richard Flinton (Chief Executive and Honorary Secretary to LGNYY)
Richmondshire District Council	Councillor Fleur Butler 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)
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Councillor Carl Lis OBE David Butterworth (Chief Executive)

IN ATTENDANCE:-

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
LGYP	Carole Hassan (Chief Executive)
NHS North Yorkshire and York	Mr Kevin McAleese CBE (Chairman) Jayne Brown (Chief Executive)
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	County Councillor John Fort BEM (Chairman) Nigel Hutchinson (Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive)
North Yorkshire Police Authority	Mr Bill Baugh (Vice-Chairman)(as Substitute for County Councillor Jane Kenyon (Chairman)) Jeremy Holderness (Chief Executive) Joanna Carter (Chief Fire Officer)(as Substitute for the Chief Constable)
YoHr Space (Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership for Yorkshire and Humber)	Chris Taylor (Director)
LGNYY Secretariat	Ruth Gladstone (Principal Committee Administrator, North Yorkshire County Council)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Crane (Selby District Council) and Andy Wilson (Chief Executive, North York Moors National Park Authority).

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK

39. LGNYY MEMBERSHIP 2010/2011

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary setting out a statement of representatives appointed by constituent Authorities to serve for 2010/11.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

40. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED –

That Councillor Andrew Waller (City of York Council) be appointed Chair to serve until the Annual Meeting of LGNYY to be held in 2011.

41. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRS

RESOLVED –

That Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough Borough Council) and County Councillor John Weighell be appointed Vice-Chairs, to serve until the Annual Meeting of LGNYY to be held in 2011.

Note: In the absence of the Chair, County Councillor John Weighell chaired the remainder of the meeting.

42. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 April 2010, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

THE PCT, NYFRA AND NYPA PARTICIPATED IN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS

43. PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERS AND LGNYY – THE RATIONALE

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary explaining the rationale for the inclusion, at alternate meetings of LGNYY, of the Chairmen and Chief Executives of NHS North Yorkshire and York, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, and North Yorkshire Police Authority, and also suggesting areas where LGNYY and those partners could strengthen collaboration.

The following views were expressed:-

- LGNYY was likely to become more important during the forthcoming couple of years and Members must work hard to make LGNYY effective.
- North Yorkshire Police Authority, NHS North Yorkshire and York, and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority welcomed the opportunity to attend LGNYY meetings.
- Care needed to be taken to avoid duplication between the work of LGNYY and other bodies, eg North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership Executive.

RESOLVED –

That the report, together with the views expressed at this meeting, be noted.

44. REFRESH OF THE NORTH YORKSHIRE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

CONSIDERED –

The report of Neil Irving (Head of Policy and Partnerships, North Yorkshire County Council) outlining the process for refreshing the North Yorkshire Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and Local Area Agreement (LAA), the progress achieved to date, and the intention to submit final drafts to LGNYY for approval on 28 January 2011.

Richard Flinton advised that, subsequent to preparation of the report, the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership (NYSP) Executive had met and recognised that the Coalition Government might change the governing frameworks and statute surrounding the SCS and LAA. Whilst there was general acceptance that NYSP partners should have an agreement in place which defined the key issues for North Yorkshire and how partners would work together to improve outcomes for local people, the NYSP Executive had decided to suspend current work on the SCS and LAA and instead the Chairs of the Thematic Partnerships had been asked to meet to identify priorities. This new approach carried the risk that the Coalition Government would not make an announcement and the work previously planned would still be required.

Peter Simpson highlighted the bureaucracy which the SCS and LAA regime required and expressed the view that, unless an incentive was offered, an LAA was not wanted.

Councillor Ann Reid advised that the City of York Council was continuing work on its LAA, which it found useful. However, the City of York Council recognised that, being a unitary Authority, it was in a different situation to other Councils in the sub-region.

RESOLVED –

That the report, together with the update provided at the meeting, be noted.

45. TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICES – UPDATE AND PROGRESS

CONSIDERED –

The oral report of Jayne Brown (Chief Executive, NHS North Yorkshire and York) advising of work being undertaken by NHS North Yorkshire and York to transform its community services in order to separate its commissioning and delivery functions with effect from 1 April 2011. Whilst managerial changes would be made, services would continue to be delivered by the same people and from the same locations. Expressions of interest had been invited from providers and a good response had been received, although the details were currently confidential. The expressions of interest were being considered by a Panel which included colleagues from local Councils. A decision would be made in October 2010 regarding the preferred partner and LGNYY would be kept advised of progress.

Richard Flinton advised that the County Council had concerns and there had been some frank exchanges with the PCT. The concerns centred on the possibility of a fragmentation of services which would have implications for the County Council's services and also the provision which would be made if the preferred partner was an Acute Hospital Trust. Jayne Brown advised that, in her view, there was no evidence of a fragmentation of services, that national safeguards were in place, and that she would appreciate the opportunity to speak to local government about myths and realities. Kevin McAleese CBE stressed that this was not an asset-stripping exercise.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

46. STRATEGIC DISCUSSION PAPER: PUBLIC SECTOR GOVERNANCE

CONSIDERED –

A discussion paper from Carole Hassan (Chief Executive, LGYH) providing an update on the possible implications for collaborative governance arrangements in Yorkshire and Humber following the Election, summarising some key areas of work taking place within Yorkshire and Humber and elsewhere on exploring new models of governance over public services across the board, and seeking views on how best to take this work further in the context of the new Coalition Government and public sector cuts. It was noted that a later item of business on the Agenda for this meeting related to Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs).

It was noted that the Coalition Government was seeking speedy progress, eg outline proposals were invited from partnerships of local authorities and businesses, by 6 September 2010, relating to the formation of LEPs.

It was commented that, although a strong regional body was needed, on the basis of information currently available, some Members anticipated that no money would come into the region or sub-region after 31 March 2013.

Members referred to the Growth Fund for the North of England and noted that a bidding process was involved and that it would be essential to have involvement of businesses. It was emphasised that individual Authorities within the sub-region must not submit their own bids to the Growth Fund.

Members expressed the strong view that LGNYY should agree, that this meeting, to the principle of setting up a LEP for North Yorkshire and York. It was hoped to avoid the situation whereby the same people had duplicate conversations in different meetings. Councillor Ann Reid advised that the City of York Council saw the North Yorkshire and York LEP as being extremely important, although they also acknowledged the benefits of the Leeds City Region and would wish to play to the strengths of both.

It was suggested that LGNYY, at this meeting, might express support for the principle of forming a North Yorkshire and York LEP and ask the Chief Executives to discuss the proposal in more detail, including the process for engaging businesses.

Jeremy Holderness (Chief Executive, North Yorkshire Police Authority) advised that various parts of Carole Hassan's discussion paper were of particular relevance to other public sector bodies. He highlighted that Police Authorities were working together across the region, although they also had opportunity to work with other public organisations. He suggested that this issue might be included in discussions.

RESOLVED –

That the situation be noted.

47. IMPLICATIONS OF THE EMERGENCY BUDGET ANNOUNCED ON 22 JUNE 2010 AND DIRECTION OF TRAVEL FOR CSR

CONSIDERED –

An open discussion about the implications of the Emergency Budget announced on 22 June 2010 and the direction of travel for CSR. Representatives from the County Council, the City of York Council, North Yorkshire Police Authority, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority each reported on the ways in which their respective budgets had been, or were anticipated to be, reduced.

It was suggested that the public sector needed to have very mature discussions about the implications of reduced budgets. The short timescale for such discussions was identified as a difficulty.

RESOLVED –

That discussions about the implications of reduced budgets be held at meetings of the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership Executive and that other relevant organisations, eg the City of York Council, be invited to attend.

48. LGNYY FUTURE MEETINGS TO WHICH THE WIDER PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERS ARE INVITED

CONSIDERED –

Representatives of NHS North Yorkshire and York, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, and North Yorkshire Police Authority were invited to note arrangements for future LGNYY meetings to which they were invited. The wider public sector partners highlighted the fast speed with which the Coalition Government was introducing change and commented that the next LGNYY meeting they were scheduled to attend was a long time away. The Honorary Secretary asked for that issue to be left with him.

RESOLVED –

That it be noted that the wider public sector partners are invited to attend the following meetings:-

- (a) Friday 28 January 2011 at 10.00 am, venue to be announced.
- (b) Friday 16 September 2011 at 10.00 am, venue to be announced.

(LGNYY made a subsequent decision at this meeting concerning this matter. Please refer to Minute 57.)

49. OTHER BUSINESS INVOLVING THE WIDER PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERS

(a) POLICE – REGIONAL COLLABORATION STRATEGY

CONSIDERED –

The oral report of Jeremy Holderness advising that the four Police Authorities in the region were collaborating to protect their individual sovereignty and had agreed to work together on everything unless it was efficient and effective not to do so. A target to make savings across the region had been agreed. Deloitte LLP had been commissioned to produce a report identifying how

significant costs could be saved. The level of potential savings identified by Deloitte LLP, if they could be achieved, would play a majority role in the CSR.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

(b) DIRECTLY ELECTED INDIVIDUALS TO OVERSEE POLICE FORCES

CONSIDERED –

The oral report of Jeremy Holderness advising that the Coalition Government intended to produce a discussion document, by 31 July 2010, proposing to replace each Police Authority with a Directly Elected Individual. Police Authorities had no mandate to oppose the proposal.

Concern was expressed about risks associated with the proposal.

RESOLVED –

That Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough) be requested to raise this matter at the forthcoming meeting, in Exeter, of the LGA Safer Communities Board with a view to urging the LGA to maintain its stance regarding this issue.

THE PCT, NYFRA AND NYPA DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS WHICH RELATED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL PARK MATTERS

50. LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS AND SUB-REGIONAL STRUCTURES

CONSIDERED –

The report of Jonathan French (Executive Manager, York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit) advising of issues arising from the change of Government and the proposals to abolish the Regional Development Agencies and enable local authorities to establish LEPs. It was also reported that there was a need for a general review of the sub-regional structures working around LGNYY in the light of regional changes, the potential LEP, and the overall need to be more efficient. It was recommended that a review should be undertaken into that structure, with proposals being submitted to the next meeting of LGNYY.

It was acknowledged that the report had been written before a letter from The RT Hon Dr Vince Cable MP and The RT Hon Eric Pickles MP, dated 29 June 2010, had been received and also that the situation was changing from day to day.

Although some detailed issues were identified, it was suggested that LGNYY should agree the principle of having a LEP for North Yorkshire and York and ask the Chief Executives to discuss the proposal in more detail at their meeting to be held on the afternoon of 2 July 2010.

It was highlighted that consideration needed to be given to appropriate arrangements for providing feedback on the Chief Executives' discussions to LGNYY Members.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the principle of establishing a York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership be agreed, that Chief Executives be requested to discuss the proposal in more detail at their meeting to be held on the afternoon of 2 July 2010, and that proposals be brought to the next meeting.
- (b) That a review of the working arrangements in the sub-region outside of the LEP be undertaken and be reported to the next meeting and that any review required in the LGNYY Constitution be met through that action.

51. NORTH YORKSHIRE HOUSING STORY

CONSIDERED –

The report of Wallace Sampson (Chief Executive, Harrogate Borough Council) highlighting the key issues within a briefing paper which updated the 2009 North Yorkshire Housing Story, as restructured to reflect the Audit Commission's Strategic Housing Key Line of Enquiry.

Peter Simpson, in introducing the report on behalf of Wallace Sampson, advised that the briefing paper had been prepared for LAA purposes and that the key message was that LGNYY's Housing Board was showing benefit for all those involved in collaborating on housing issues within the sub-region. He emphasised that the sub-region needed to collaborate on housing, transport etc.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

52. LGNYY THEMATIC BOARDS - FEEDBACK

CONSIDERED –

The reports of the Lead Officers concerning the business of the following LGNYY Thematic Boards:- Economy and Skills; Transport; and Spatial Planning.

Members highlighted that the establishment of the York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit, many years previously, meant that Councils in the sub-region were well placed to respond to new challenges which Councils were facing following the change of Government.

It was noted that the County Council was engaging with each District Council concerning how to deal with the significant cut in capital expenditure for Highway projects. The need to identify other funding sources, to develop highway infrastructure as required in LDFs, was acknowledged.

Councillor Fleur Butler (Richmondshire) suggested that reference to "local needs only" should be removed from the Spatial Strategy for the benefit of villages in rural areas.

RESOLVED –

That the reports be noted.

53. RE-APPOINTMENTS TO LGYH LEADERS' BOARD

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary inviting LGNYY to consider sub-regional representation at future meetings of the LGYH Leaders' Board. The representation on the Leaders' Board, agreed by LGNYY on 16 April 2010, covered the period ended 2 July 2010.

RESOLVED –

That the current arrangements, set out as follows, be continued for the time being:- The nominated County Council, District Council and City of York Council Leaders shall all make themselves available for future Leaders' Board meetings. Once the Agenda has been produced, the LGNYY Honorary Secretary shall arrange for a decision to be taken about which two representatives are best placed to represent the sub-region's interests.

54. APPOINTMENT TO YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER STRATEGIC MIGRATION GROUP

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary inviting LGNYY to appoint an elected Member to represent the sub-region on the Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Group for 2010/11.

RESOLVED –

That no appointment be made to the Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Group for 2010/11.

**55. APPOINTMENTS TO REGIONAL THEMATIC BOARDS 2010/2011 –
IMPLICATIONS OF CHANGES TO PORTFOLIOS WITHIN THE CITY OF YORK
COUNCIL**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary inviting new nominations from the City of York Council to replace its Members appointed to regional bodies by LGNYY on 16 April 2010. It was highlighted that Councillor Jonathan Morley had been appointed, by LGNYY, to the LGYH Regeneration and Housing Board but had subsequently advised that he was no longer the City of York Council's Housing Portfolio Holder.

The Chief Executive of LGYH reported that there was likely to be only one further meeting of the LGYH Regeneration and Housing Board and that Councillor Andrew Waller (York) had already been invited to chair that meeting.

RESOLVED –

That Councillor Andrew Waller's attendance at the forthcoming meeting of the LGYH Regeneration and Housing Board, as a representative of this sub-region, be endorsed.

56. REGIONAL BODIES - FEEDBACK

CONSIDERED –

The reports of elected Members appointed by LGNYY to serve on the various regional bodies concerning the recent business of those bodies.

RESOLVED –

That the reports be noted.

57. LGNYY FUTURE MEETINGS - LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL PARK BUSINESS

CONSIDERED –

Members were asked to suggest items of business which constituent Councils and the National Park Authorities might wish to discuss at future meetings, in addition to that which had been scheduled previously and was listed on the Agenda for today's meeting. No further suggestions were made.

Comments which had been made at an earlier stage of this meeting, by representatives by the wider public sector partners, concerning the length of time which would elapse before they were next scheduled to attend a LGNYY meeting, were highlighted. It was suggested that the public sector partners should be offered the opportunity to attend meetings held in the interim to speak to any items of business which they wished to place on the Agendas for those meetings.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the previously scheduled business for future meetings be noted.
- (b) That the NHS North Yorkshire and York, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, and North Yorkshire Police Authority be invited to attend LGNYY meetings held prior to 28 January 2011 for the purpose of speaking to any items of business which they wish to place on the Agenda.

58. VENUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED –

- (a) That it be noted that the next meeting shall be held on Friday 8 October 2010 at 10.00 am at Selby District Council offices.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Honorary Secretary to decide venues for the following meetings, based on offers to be made by constituent Councils:-
 - Friday 28 January 2011 at 10.00 am.
 - Friday 20 May 2011 at 10.00 am.
 - Friday 16 September 2011 at 10.00 am.
 - Friday 9 December 2011 at 10.00 am.

RAG/ALJ