

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER 2010  
AT SELBY CIVIC CENTRE**

**PRESENT:-**

<b><u>Constituent Authority</u></b>	<b><u>Representatives</u></b>
City of York Council	Councillor Carol Runciman (as Substitute for Andrew Waller) Kersten England (Chief Executive)
Craven District Council	David Smurthwaite (as Substitute for Paul Shevlin (Chief Executive))
Hambleton District Council	Councillor Neville Huxtable
Harrogate Borough Council	Councillor Dr Mike Gardner Wallace Sampson (Chief Executive)
North York Moors National Park Authority	Councillor John Fletcher
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor John Weighell (in the Chair, in the absence of Councillor Andrew Waller) Richard Flinton (Chief Executive and Honorary Secretary to LGNY)
Richmondshire District Council	Councillor Fleur Butler Liz Smith (Executive Director and Deputy Chief Executive) as Substitute for Peter Simpson (Chief Executive)
Ryedale District Council	Councillor Keith Knaggs Janet Waggot (Chief Executive)
Scarborough Borough Council	Jim Dillon (Chief Executive)
Selby District Council	Martin Connor (Chief Executive)
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	David Butterworth (Chief Executive)

**IN ATTENDANCE:-**

<b><u>Organisation</u></b>	<b><u>Representatives</u></b>
NHS North Yorkshire and York	Adrian Snarr (Interim Director of Finance) as Substitute for Jayne Brown (Chief Executive) Katie Needham (Consultant in Public Health)

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	Councillor Ken King (Vice-Chairman) as Substitute for County Councillor John Fort BEM (Chairman) Andy Trowsdale (Assistant Chief Fire Officer) as Substitute for Nigel Hutchinson (Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive)
North Yorkshire Police Authority	Jeremy Holderness (Chief Executive) Grahame Maxwell (Chief Constable)
York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit	Jonathan French (Executive Manager)
Yorkshire Gold	Gary Verity (Chief Executive Officer, Welcome to Yorkshire and Chair of Yorkshire Gold) Julie Gatenby (Manager, Yorkshire Gold)
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor Carl Les Gary Fielding (Assistant Chief Executive – Policy, Performance and Partnerships)
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), Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough Borough Council), Councillor Jane Kenyon (North Yorkshire Police Authority), Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton (Craven District Council), Councillor Carl Lis OBE (Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority), Kevin McAleese (Chairman, NHS North Yorkshire and York), Peter Simpson (Chief Executive, Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils) and Andy Wilson (Chief Executive, North York Moors National Park Authority).

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**COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK**

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**59. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2010, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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**THE PCT, NYFRA AND NYPA PARTICIPATED IN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS**

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## 60. EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE: LIBERATING THE NHS

CONSIDERED –

Presentation by Adrian Snarr (Interim Director of Finance, NHS North Yorkshire and York) and Katie Needham (Consultant in Public Health). (A copy of the slides used during the presentation is in the Minute Book).

The presentation highlighted key public health changes proposed from the recent White Paper on Health, together with possible implications and areas for further discussion. Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) were to be abolished, with most of the PCT commissioning role being transferred to GP consortia. The new structures would be accountable to an independent NHS Commissioning Board. The implications for local government included the following:-

- Local government would lead on local health improvement and prevention activity. This would include local government employing a Director of Public Health (DPH), having been jointly appointed with the new national Public Health Service; the DPH having a ring-fenced budget; and agreeing health improvement outcomes with the Public Health Service.
- Local government would promote joined-up commissioning for local NHS services, social care and public health.

Adrian Snarr highlighted that early issues which local government might wish to consider were:- managing through transition and possible shadow arrangements; review of current partnership arrangements; building new relationships; communication; the role of the DPH in the local authority; and clarity around the local authority health improvement role, eg what would local government be commissioning and what would it be providing.

During debate, Members:-

- Emphasised that it was important that GPs understood wider issues such as social care and that they were not only focused on services from hospitals.
- Highlighted that there was potential for confusion between the new local Health and Wellbeing Boards and local government Scrutiny of Health Committees.
- Advised that there was great concern, within local government, about “cost shunting” from the NHS. Adrian Snarr advised that it was not yet clear how Health budgets would be split, although he was hopeful that the formula would recognise issues of importance within North Yorkshire, eg rural issues and an ageing population.
- Expressed the hope that the Public Health function would not be regarded as a stand-alone silo within Councils. Adrian Snarr advised that further information would need to be awaited in the Public Health White Paper which was due in December 2010.

The Chair described the changes as a “huge agenda” and thanked Adrian Snarr and Katie Needham for their presentation.

**RESOLVED –**

That the presentation be noted.

**61. PROPOSED REFORMS TO THE POLICE SERVICE – WHITE PAPER – POLICING IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report of the Honorary Secretary setting out the response of the North Yorkshire Police Authority to the proposals within the White Paper ‘Policing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’.

Jeremy Holderness (Chief Executive, North Yorkshire Police Authority) highlighted the key proposals within the White Paper, the most controversial of which was the introduction of directly elected Policing and Crime Commissioners to replace Police Authorities. The North Yorkshire Police Authority had decided not to oppose the proposals or put forward alternative models. Instead it had provided a risk analysis, identifying both positive and negative risks, in respect of each key proposal. One of the key risks identified by the Authority was the correct balance of power to ensure directly elected Policing and Crime Commissioners had sufficient power and influence to deliver a mandate, whilst recognising the existing basic principle of operational independence. Costs were also an issue, both in relation to administering the Panels which would hold the directly elected Policing and Crime Commissioners to account, and in relation to elections. The timescale for the proposals, assuming the Bill proceeded unhindered through Parliament, would see elections held on 3 May 2012, with the first directly elected Policing and Crime Commissioners taking up their responsibilities on 4 May 2012. Jeremy Holderness asked any Council wishing to discuss the matter further to contact him outside the meeting.

Grahame Maxwell (Chief Constable) concurred that a key issue was the relationship between the directly elected Policing and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable for each area and highlighted the lack of clarity concerning the meaning of “operational independence” and how a directly elected Policing and Crime Commissioner, with a local political agenda, would fit into national policing initiatives.

During debate, Members acknowledged that directly elected Policing and Crime Commissioners were very likely to be introduced given recent comments from the Prime Minister. It was highlighted that having a Chief Constable free of politics was very important. County Councillor John Weighell advised that the County Council had responded to the White Paper along similar lines to the North Yorkshire Police Authority. However, it was recognised that the Local Government Group (formerly known as LGA) had objected to the proposals.

**RESOLVED –**

That the report be noted.

**62. FUTURE COLLABORATION**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report of Peter Simpson (Chief Executive, Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils) concerning future collaboration between Councils in North Yorkshire and York, recent discussions having also included the Police, Fire and Rescue, and NHS North Yorkshire and York.

The report highlighted that District and County Leaders had considered a paper on "Future Collaborations" in April 2010 which had facilitated a discussion and led to the formation of some conclusions on future collaborations. That work was not intended to cut through existing or forming collaborations, but rather, at the strategic level, to set the 'future agenda'. The work continued to tease out some of the complexities and partnership dynamics that would impact on achieving future collaborations and pointed to what was or could achieve the art of the possible as opposed to chasing something that just simply would not happen. During the summer months, Councils had given information feedback which had now been drawn together to form something of a more structured work programme which was set out in the report. Whilst that consultation was on-going, and with the support of a RIEP bid, work on initiating the scope and commitment to a shared service programme across North Yorkshire and York had started. RIEP support had also been gained for a project to look at asset management. The group looking at this issue now included the City of York, Police, Fire and Rescue and NHS North Yorkshire and York.

Gary Fielding (Assistant Chief Executive – Policy, Performance and Partnerships, North Yorkshire County Council) and Liz Smith (Executive Director and Deputy Chief Executive, Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils), on behalf of Peter Simpson, introduced the report. They asked Members to indicate if they felt this work was not proceeding in the correct direction. Currently the aim was to produce four business cases in the forthcoming four months relating to:- Economic Development; CCTV provision; Revenue and Benefits; and accessing public services in the Harrogate area. Thereafter it was aimed to bring forward a strategy and an indication of tangible savings. The principles underlying future collaboration, as set out in the report, were emphasised.

During debate, Members advised that they had no objection to this work being undertaken, although there was criticism of the length of reports submitted to today's meeting. The officers acknowledged such comments.

Richard Flinton (Chief Executive, North Yorkshire County Council) asked Councils not to soft-pedal in other areas such as Waste, in respect of which new opportunities, from doorstep to disposal, might become available.

Some District Council Members emphasised that collaboration work needed to be taken slowly and carefully, for it to be thoroughly thought out, and that communication was very important. They also stressed the importance of acquiring confidence by starting with small projects. County Councillor John Weighell highlighted the huge number of organisations delivering public services across North Yorkshire in addition to Councils.

Grahame Maxwell (Chief Constable) advised that North Yorkshire Police would wish to be involved in appropriate local discussions about collaborative working, given regional and national work that was on-going.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the direction of the work in hand, as described in the report, be supported.

63. **FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR COLLABORATION IN YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report provided by Kersten England (Chief Executive, City of York Council) setting out the outcome of a review she had been asked to conduct concerning future arrangements for collaboration within Yorkshire and Humber.

Kersten England sought views on whether there was a need for Local Government Yorkshire and Humber (LGYH) to continue to exist. Some decisions had already been made, including the release of the building in King Street, Wakefield and the transfer and release of some staff. The report set out three options to trigger debate. These were:-

- Option 1 – Core functions, ie the Secretariat and the Employers' functions.
- Option 2 – Core functions + Plus, ie the Secretariat and Employers' functions and providing greater capacity to meet demand led work from Councils.
- Option 3 – Core functions + Plus and Improvement Hub, ie the functions as in Option 2 but with greater capacity to address innovation, efficiency and improvement across the public sector.

It was noted that individual Authorities had previously been invited to provide a detailed response direct to Kersten England by 15 October 2010.

Members suggested that a LGYH Secretariat was not required and that one Authority should host instead. Members of the smaller District Councils were keen for an Employers' function to be retained. County Councillor John Weighell expressed the view that there should be a reduction of at least 75% in subscription fees. David Butterworth (Chief Executive, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority) asked Leaders to bear in mind the value of Yorkshire as a brand and hoped that this would not be lost.

Councillor Ken King (Vice-Chairman, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority) advised that he wished to reserve the position of his Authority. He explained that Fire and Rescue Authorities were now able to collaborate beyond other Fire and Rescue Authorities within their own respective regions and that North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority wished to adopt a flexible approach based on need. Other Members acknowledged that the Police and the Fire and Rescue Authority were in a different situation to Councils.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the following collective response be approved:- That a small multi-skilled team be retained for Employers' functions; that there be no Chief Executive; and that the Employers' function be hosted by a Council with the ability to second support from constituent Councils when necessary.
- (b) That individual Authorities provide their own responses direct to Kersten England by 15 October 2010.

The meeting adjourned for five minutes for a comfort break.

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**THE PCT, NYFRA AND NYPA DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS WHICH RELATED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL PARK MATTERS. HOWEVER, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR, THE CHIEF CONSTABLE PARTICIPATED IN CONSIDERING THE ITEM RELATING TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES**

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**64. OLYMPIC GAMES – SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONDON 2012**

CONSIDERED –

The report of Gary Verity (Chief Executive Officer, Welcome to Yorkshire and Chair of Yorkshire Gold) and Julie Gatenby (Manager, Yorkshire Gold) seeking to raise awareness regarding preparation for the Olympic Games.

Gary Verity introduced the report, during which he highlighted the following opportunities arising from the 2012 Olympic Games:-

- Local businesses could register to compete for contract opportunities.
- Pre Games Training Camps - Various countries had already signed up to train in Yorkshire and Humberside in the lead up to 2012. This brought very positive economic and cultural benefits to the area.
- The profile for Yorkshire could be raised, eg by targeting information at the thousands of unaccredited journalists who would be attending The Games.
- The Olympic torch relay provided opportunities to host photo shoots and community events. Discussions were currently underway but were confidential.

It was also highlighted that people might wish to vacate London whilst The Games were on and this provided a tourism opportunity for Yorkshire.

Grahame Maxwell (Chief Constable) asked Councils to consult North Yorkshire Police as soon as possible if they wished to run events at the same time as the Olympic Games were held. This was important because North Yorkshire Police would also be contributing to national policing work at that time.

Wallace Sampson (Chief Executive, Harrogate Borough Council) suggested that it would be useful for all local authorities to be represented on the Tourism Working Group for North Yorkshire which had been set up recently. He also suggested that, Authorities, as employers, might wish to recognise that their staff may ask for time off to volunteer at The Games and that Authorities might wish to encourage local businesses to support volunteering too.

It was highlighted that the York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit encouraged business opportunities surrounding The Games and that, if Councils needed extra support, they should contact Jonathan French.

The Chair thanked Gary Verity and Julie Gatenby for their report.

**RESOLVED –**

That the report be noted.

## **65. YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

### **CONSIDERED –**

The report of Jonathan French (Executive Manager, York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit) which:- advised of the outline bid which had been submitted to Government for a York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP); identified some of the issues in taking forward the LEP and, in particular, working with the private sector; discussed future plans for the Regional Growth Fund; and set out a set of proposed principles to guide the development of the LEP.

The report was introduced by Jonathan French who highlighted that the York and North Yorkshire LEP was designed to be both complimentary to neighbouring LEPs which would also deliver in the area and provide a specialist service perhaps to a number of LEPs especially around rural programmes. The proposed actions identified in the bid were:-

- (a) To invest in the role of York as economic driver for the sub-region.
- (b) Secure investment in the provision of Broadband including Next Generation.
- (c) Promote enterprise and raise aspirations.
- (d) Invest in business tourism and the visitor economy.
- (e) Support for a coastal regeneration.
- (f) Reduce the barriers restraining high growth businesses in rural areas.
- (g) Support the food and the agricultural sector.
- (h) Enable the care sector to meet rising needs.
- (i) Deliver rural programmes.

A response to the bid was awaited. It was highlighted that, whatever the outcome of the Government's considerations, it was clear there was both a strong case for, and enthusiasm from, the private sector to develop the LEP model as a means to address local economic issues. Seven recommended principles for taking forward the LEP were set out in the report. With regard to the new Regional Growth Fund, the Coalition Government had recently launched its consultation document concerning that Fund and the report set out initial proposals concerning what a York and North Yorkshire bid might contain. More specific advice on the Fund was awaited and was expected at around the time of the Comprehensive Spending Review.

The overlap in LEPs' geographies was highlighted. Kersten England (Chief Executive, City of York Council) advised that her Council intended to pick its way through as bids developed. Councillor Doctor Mike Gardner (Harrogate Borough Council) highlighted that his Council was also part of the Leeds City Region and that this area of work was a big commitment for District Councils who might consequently struggle.

Wallace Sampson (Chief Executive, Harrogate Borough Council) highlighted the need for a transparent process when considering the Regional Growth Fund bid and for similar transparency when considering the admission of the East Riding to the York and North Yorkshire LEP.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the following seven principles be adopted as the basis for moving forward with the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership:-



- (i) It is intended to establish a YNY LEP as the most appropriate vehicle for taking forward local authority collaborative work on economic development (in respect of the actions identified in the proposals).
  - (ii) The YNY LEP should be aligned with Government's expectations of the role of a LEP.
  - (iii) The private sector should be leading the LEP and set the pace.
  - (iv) Private Sector Forums at City, Borough and District level should be the primary source of private sector Board members and the establishment of effective forums, where they do not exist, is a key priority.
  - (v) The East Riding should be invited to take a full part in the YNY LEP from the beginning.
  - (vi) The LEP should be led by an Executive type Board. Not all local authorities will necessarily be directly represented on the LEP Board.
  - (vii) Local authorities, where appropriate, should move towards supporting the work of the YNY LEP through the development of a shared economic development service.
- (b) That the position in respect of the Regional Growth Fund be noted.

**66. YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE SUB-REGIONAL STRATEGY**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report of Jonathan French (Executive Manager, York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit) seeking approval:- (i) of a draft York and North Yorkshire Sub-Regional Strategy; and (ii) to commence the production of an Action Plan around the critical priorities.

Jonathan French, in introducing the report, highlighted the draft Strategy which had been circulated with the other papers for this meeting. He suggested that, subject to LGNYY's agreement, the Strategy should be more formally circulated around constituent Authorities for approval. In addition, the results of that consultation, together with an Action Plan, should be submitted to LGNYY's meeting for consideration in January 2011. The draft Strategy pulled together work on economic development, housing, transport, spatial planning, quality of life, and environmental resources. It put the thematic priorities in context with each other to identify opportunities for their integration and to seek a strategic response. In doing so, the Strategy drew out the relationships between places within the sub-region and beyond. These relationships and their implications were expressed through a series of functional geography profiles which were shown on a map on page 4 of the draft Strategy. Section 7 of the report identified the sub-regional priorities. These related to:- private sector growth; Broadband; affordable homes; reduce flooding; ageing population; and aspirations.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the draft Strategy, as circulated with the report, be approved for the purpose of consultation amongst Member Authorities, seeking comments and formal approval.

- (b) That work be undertaken to produce an Action Plan around the critical priorities.
- (c) That a report on the outcome of (a) and (b) be submitted to LGNYY's meeting to be held on 28 January 2011.

**67. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON REGIONAL BODIES**

CONSIDERED –

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

**RESOLVED –**

That the reports be noted.

**68. REVIEW OF LGNYY THEMATIC BOARDS**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary proposing arrangements for conducting a review of LGNYY's Thematic Boards and other partnership structures at regional, sub-regional and local level, including the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership.

Richard Flinton (Honorary Secretary), in introducing the report, suggested that a small group of four or five people should carry out this review. In addition, it was suggested that local partnerships should also be subject to the review, including LSPs.

In response to a question from Councillor Carol Runciman (City of York Council), Richard Flinton confirmed that a Chief Executive, if he/she was unable to attend a particular meeting of the Group, would be able to ask a Substitute to attend in his/her place.

**RESOLVED –**

That a small group of Council and National Park Chief Executives jointly undertake a review of LGNYY Thematic Boards and other partnership structures at regional, sub-regional and local level, that the group comprise four or five people to be selected by the Honorary Secretary, that the group be chaired by the Honorary Secretary, and that recommendations be submitted to LGNYY's meeting to be held on 28 January 2011.

**69. REPORTS OF THE LGNYY THEMATIC BOARDS**

CONSIDERED –

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

**RESOLVED –**

That the reports be noted.

**70. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER RURAL AFFAIRS FORUM MANAGEMENT GROUP**

CONSIDERED –

A request for the appointment of a Substitute representative on the Yorkshire and Humber Rural Affairs Forum Management Group.

It was reported that the Chair of the North Yorkshire Rural Partnerships had nominated Councillor John Fletcher (Chairman of the North York Moors National Park Authority) for appointment.

**RESOLVED –**

That Councillor John Fletcher (Chairman of the North York Moors National Park Authority) be appointed to serve as Substitute representative on the Yorkshire and Humber Rural Affairs Forum Management Group.

**71. BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED –**

That constituent Authorities communicate with the Honorary Secretary if they have any specific business they would wish to submit to future meetings.

**72. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

CONSIDERED –

The dates, time and venues previously agreed for future LGNYY meetings.

Members suggested that the meeting previously scheduled for Friday, 20 May 2011 was very soon after the District Council elections and might need to be reconsidered. The Chair expressed support for that suggestion on the basis that nominations no longer needed to be made to regional bodies by the end of May each year.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the Honorary Secretary rearrange LGNYY's meeting currently scheduled for 20 May 2011 to another date, preferably during the second or third week of June 2011.
- (b) That the following previously agreed arrangements for LGNYY meetings be noted:-
  - Friday 28 January 2011, at 10.00 am, York. (Wider public sector partners invited).
  - Friday 16 September 2011 at 10.00 am, Hambleton. (Wider public sector partners invited).
  - Friday 9 December 2011 at 10.00 am, Ryedale.