

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 28 JANUARY 2011 AT YORK EXPLORE LIBRARY LEARNING CENTRE

PRESENT:-

| <u>Constituent Authority</u> | <u>Representatives</u> |
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| City of York Council | Councillor Andrew Waller (in the Chair) Kersten England (Chief Executive) |
| Craven District Council | Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton Paul Shevlin (Chief Executive) |
| Hambleton District Council | Councillor Neville Huxtable Peter Simpson (Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils) |
| 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 Richard Flinton (Chief Executive and Honorary Secretary to LGNYY) |
| Richmondshire District Council | Councillor Fleur Butler Peter Simpson (Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils) |
| Ryedale District Council | Councillor Keith Knaggs Janet Waggot (Chief Executive) |
| Scarborough Borough Council | Councillor Tom Fox Jim Dillon (Chief Executive) |
| Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority | Councillor Carl Lis OBE David Butterworth (Chief Executive) |

IN ATTENDANCE:-

| <u>Organisation</u> | <u>Representatives</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| NHS North Yorkshire and York | Mr Kevin McAleese CBE (Chairman) Jayne Brown (Chief Executive) |
| Homes and Communities Agency (Leeds) | David Curtis (Director - North East, Yorkshire and The Humber) |

| <u>Organisation</u> | <u>Representatives</u> |
|---|--|
| North Yorkshire County Council | County Councillor Carl Les John Moore (Corporate Director – Finance and Central Services) Gary Fielding (Assistant Chief Executive – Policy, Performance and Partnerships) |
| North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority | Councillor Ken King (Vice-Chairman) (as Substitute for County Councillor John Fort BEM (Chairman)) Nigel Hutchinson (Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive) |
| North Yorkshire Police Authority | Stuart Pudney (Deputy Chief Executive) as Substitute for Jeremy Holderness (Chief Executive) |
| York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit | Jonathan French (Executive Manager) |
| LGNYY Secretariat | Ruth Gladstone (Principal Committee Administrator, North Yorkshire County Council) |

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-

Apologies for absence were received from Martin Connor (Chief Executive, Selby District Council), Councillor Mark Crane (Selby District Council), Councillor Jane Kenyon (North Yorkshire Police Authority), Grahame Maxwell (Chief Constable) and Andy Wilson (Chief Executive, North York Moors National Park Authority).

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK

73. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2010, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

74. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE SUB-REGIONAL STRATEGY

Jonathan French (Executive Manager, York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit) advised that the County Council's Executive and also the Spatial Planning Board had made observations on the Sub-Regional Strategy which, whilst not raising fundamental issues, required a number of changes to be made. Jonathan French advised that he intended to check a number of issues and circulate further information to Council Leaders.

RESOLVED –

That the update be noted, together with Jonathan French's intention to circulate further information to Council Leaders.

(b) POLICE REFORM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY BILL

Stuart Pudney (Deputy Chief Executive, North Yorkshire Police Authority) reported that the Bill was now going through the Committee stages. There were rumours of some slippage in the timing of the election of a directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire in order that such an election would coincide with other elections.

RESOLVED –

That the update be noted.

(c) FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR COLLABORATION IN YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER

Kesten England (Chief Executive, City of York Council) reported that it had been agreed that the subscription fees for membership of LGYH would reduce by 40% and that 2011/12 would be regarded as a transitional year during which the Chief Executives' Group would develop proposals for the future.

RESOLVED –

That the update be noted.

75. RURAL BROADBAND IN NORTH YORKSHIRE

The Chair advised that this item of business would be considered next.

CONSIDERED –

The joint report of John Moore (Corporate Director – Finance and Central Services, North Yorkshire County Council) and Gary Fielding (Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance and Partnerships), North Yorkshire County Council) providing an update on Broadband related developments in North Yorkshire and seeking views on future developments. A Powerpoint presentation was also made. (A copy of the slides used during the presentation is in the Minute Book.)

During the debate:-

- Peter Simpson (Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils) asked that opportunity be given to communities to influence priorities. Gary Fielding advised that priorities would be based on a degree of technical pragmatism, overlaid by factors such as the level of motivation within individual communities and the socio-economic factors that would be addressed by getting Broadband into the community. For these reasons, the input of partners was essential.
- Peter Simpson highlighted the need to provide Broadband coverage to housing on military bases. John Moore responded that a technology solution was available, although there were Ministry of Defence procurement issues. He asked Peter Simpson to let him have the contact details of relevant personnel within military bases with whom he had spoken about this issue.

- John Moore undertook to arrange for NYnet to contact Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough Borough Council) to provide more information about the standards which local organisations must meet in order to deliver internet services on the back of NYnet infrastructure.
- John Moore undertook to provide Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton (Craven District Council) with a map identifying the locations, where 7% of the population lived, at which next generation Broadband would be the most challenging to provide.

RESOLVED –

That LGNYY recognises the benefits of Councils working collaboratively and with wider partners and local communities with a view to producing a collective Strategy for next generation Broadband.

76. HOMES AND COMMUNITIES AGENCY – FUTURE ROLE AND INVESTMENT PROGRAMMES

CONSIDERED –

Powerpoint presentation by David Curtis (Director - North East, Yorkshire and The Humber, Homes and Communities Agency (Leeds)) concerning the role, structure, programmes and work of the Homes and Communities Agency and highlighting the potential to deliver housing through a new funding regime. (A copy of the slides used during the presentation is in the Minute Book).

RESOLVED –

That the information provided during the presentation be noted.

77. UPDATE ON HEALTH WHITE PAPERS

CONSIDERED –

The oral report from Jayne Brown (Chief Executive, NHS North Yorkshire and York) summarising changes within the NHS. She referred to the following:- GP Commissioning Consortia, which were starting to develop; national arrangements whereby PCTs would continue to be statutory authorities but would work together in cluster arrangements, although NHS North Yorkshire and York would be its own cluster; the speed of transfer of Social Health work and discussion concerning governance arrangements as PCTs continued to retain statutory responsibility; announcements concerning the new providers to deliver community services from 1 April 2011; and plans to conduct a rapid analysis of the range and location of NHS services.

Richard Flinton (Chief Executive, North Yorkshire County Council) reported that Councils would help the NHS where they were able to do so. He also advised of the establishment of a Health and Wellbeing Board for North Yorkshire, the first meeting of which was due to be held in March 2011, and the creation of a small Working Group looking at Public Health on which the District Councils had offered to be represented.

City Councillor Andrew Waller and County Councillor John Weighell highlighted the need for the City of York Council and North Yorkshire County Council to be advised, as a matter of urgency, of the amount of health money each of those Councils would be receiving for 2011/12 because they needed to set their budget for 2011/12 during

forthcoming weeks. It was noted that this was an issue which would be pursued by those two Councils outside LGNYY's meeting.

Jayne Brown offered to provide a presentation at a future meeting about key emerging issues within the NHS and undertook to keep colleagues updated.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

78. REVIEW OF LGNYY THEMATIC BOARDS AND OTHER PARTNERSHIPS' STRUCTURES

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary setting out the recommendations of a Working Group of Chief Executives which had undertaken a review of LGNYY Thematic Boards and other partnership structures at regional, sub-regional and local level.

During discussion, the view was expressed that there needed to be further and wider discussion concerning whether some or all of the four LGNYY Thematic Boards should be retained. Councillor Fleur Butler (Richmondshire District Council) also highlighted the need to link Climate Change to a sub-regional structure in order to provide strategic direction.

The Chairmen of the North York Moors National Park Authority and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority emphasised the importance of their Authorities continuing to be constituent authorities of LGNYY.

The representatives of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority and NHS North Yorkshire and York advised that they supported the proposals, as set out in the report, relating to their future involvement in work affecting the North Yorkshire and York area. Nigel Hutchinson (Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive) highlighted that a county-wide group was required to take statutory decisions which had previously been taken by the Safer Communities Forum.

Stuart Pudney (Deputy Chief Executive, North Yorkshire Police) suggested that the "door should be left open" for a directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner because that person would be a significant figure within North Yorkshire and York.

There was a discussion about how the County Council planned, during the forthcoming few years, to spend the additional revenue it raised from the reduction in Council Tax discount on second homes. County Councillor John Weighell advised that the County Council had to find savings in the region of £40m and revenue from second homes was therefore required to support front-line services. He highlighted that most District Councils, the Fire and Rescue Authority and the Police Authority had previously put such revenue into their base budgets. Various District Council representatives acknowledged the situation the County Council was facing in respect of its budget, but expressed concern with the proposal. It was also highlighted that the District Councils would, in future, be the only funders of the Community Safety Partnerships although there were many more statutory partners involved in such Partnerships. Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough Borough Council) asked that the County Council continue its £10k funding to support the LSP Co-ordinators, in particular because the County Council had given a commitment to work alongside Scarborough Borough Council with regard to Area Forums.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the suggested principles for a new approach, as set out at paragraph 6 of the report and duplicated below, be approved:-
- the minimum number and simplest of partnership structures, consistent with delivering the required outcomes and statutory requirements;
 - a North Yorkshire and York approach to county/sub-regional partnership structures as far as possible, recognising that a degree of pragmatism will be required given the different local authority structures in North Yorkshire and York;
 - local partnerships, including shared community engagement arrangements, at the most appropriate local level; and
 - the use of task and finish groups to deal with particular issues, rather than standing thematic partnerships or sub-groups.
- (b) That LGNYY be retained.
- (c) That the small working group of Chief Executives, to which paragraph (h) of this resolution refers, be requested to consider whether some or all of the four LGNYY Thematic Boards should be retained and submit recommendations to LGNYY's meeting to be held on 24 June 2011.
- (d) That the constituent authorities of LGNYY be:- City of York Council, North Yorkshire County Council, each of the seven District Councils within North Yorkshire, North York Moors National Park Authority, and Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.
- (e) That a decision be deferred on whether a directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner should be invited to become a member of LGNYY or be invited to participate in some or all LGNYY's discussions on a regular basis.
- (f) That a report be submitted to a future meeting, once the situation is clarified, concerning LGNYY's engagement with GP Consortia.
- (g) That a Chief Executive's Group be established comprising the Chief Executives (or equivalents) of the nine Councils, National Park Authorities, PCT, Police, Fire and Rescue, plus an appropriate representative of the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Business Sector to:-
- provide leadership and coordination across sub-regional partnership structures and public services generally;
 - advise LGNYY;
 - consider the proposed sub-regional partnership structures to which paragraphs 11 to 16 of the report refer and submit recommendations to a future LGNYY meeting.
- (h) That a small working group of Chief Executives be appointed (nominations to be organised by Peter Simpson), chaired by a District Council Chief Executive, to undertake a review of local partnership arrangements, including shared community engagement arrangements, in order to propose some common principles with a view to rationalising and making local partnership arrangements more effective, and to submit recommendations to LGNYY's meeting to be held on 24 June 2011.

- (i) That the Honorary Secretary be requested to draft amendments to the LGNYY constitution to implement the agreed principles and recommendations with regard to its structure, for approval by LGNYY at its meeting on 24 June 2011.

79. YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

CONSIDERED –

The report of Jonathan French (Executive Manager, York and North Yorkshire Partnership Unit) which drew together the various strands required to take forward the establishment the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and sought the views of LGNYY on a number of issues.

Councillor Dr Mike Gardner (Harrogate Borough Council) advised that he considered that composition of the Board should give emphasis to the economy rather than geography.

Councillor Fleur Butler (Richmondshire District Council) suggested that the two local authority leaders, whom it was recommended should serve on the Interview Panel, should not both be from an upper tier authority and that it was important that one was from a District Council.

Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough Borough Council) proposed that the Board, once appointed, should be requested to review the number of members serving on the Board and the LEP Business Plan. Other Members expressed support for that proposal.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That a Board structure of 15 members, comprising a private sector chair, six members from the public sector and a further eight members from the private sector, be agreed.
- (b) That the local authority representation on the LEP Board (at Leader level) from York and North Yorkshire be as set out in paragraph 17 of the report and duplicated below:-
- the two upper tier Councils (the City of York Council and North Yorkshire County Council);
 - three representatives from the District Councils drawn from the functional geographies, namely:- the Coast; the Leeds City region (Craven, Harrogate and Selby); and the Rural areas (Hambleton; Richmondshire; and Ryedale).

Note: Councillor Dr Mike Gardner (Harrogate Borough Council) asked that it be recorded in the Minutes that he voted against the decision at (b).

- (c) That the East Riding be invited onto the LEP Board from the start.
- (d) That it be noted that there is a need for discussion with the private sector on whether there should be an extra seat for Higher Education on the Board and that this matter will be addressed by the Board once it is established.

- (e) That an Interview Panel be established to appoint private sector Board members and the Chair and that the Panel comprise two local authority Leaders and three private sector representatives.
- (f) That it be agreed that there should be a Leader on the Steering Group and that that a volunteer be sought.
- (g) That the Board, once appointed, be requested to review the number of members serving on the Board and the LEP Business Plan.

80. 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.

County Councillor John Weighell proposed the appointment of County Councillor Carl Les to the LGYH Executive, to serve in place of County Councillor John Watson OBE.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the reports be noted.
- (b) That County Councillor Carl Les be appointed, in place of County Councillor John Watson OBE, on the LGYH Executive.

81. REPORTS OF LGNYY THEMATIC BOARDS

CONSIDERED –

The report of the lead officer for each of LGNYY's Thematic Boards concerning the recent proceedings of those Boards.

Councillor Neville Huxtable (Hambleton District Council) asked Wallace Sampson (Harrogate Borough Council) to contact him outside the meeting to advise how the staffing resource of the sub-regional Housing Board had risen to three members of staff.

RESOLVED –

That the reports be noted.

82. 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.

83. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED –

That the following previously agreed arrangements for LGNYY meetings be noted:-

- Friday 24 June 2011 at 10.00 am at Craven District Council offices. (Annual Meeting).
- Friday 16 September 2011 at 10.00 am at Hambleton District Council offices.
- Friday 9 December 2011 at 10.00 am at Ryedale District Council offices.

RAG/ALJ