

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2011 AT 10.00 AM  
AT HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES, CIVIC CENTRE, STONECROSS,  
NORTHALLERTON**

**PRESENT:-**

<b><u>Constituent Authority</u></b>	<b><u>Representatives</u></b>
City of York Council	Councillor Tracey Simpson-Laing (as Substitute for James Alexander) Bill Woolley (Director of City Strategy and Deputy Chief Executive) (as Substitute for Kersten England)
Craven District Council	Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton Paul Ellis (Deputy Chief Executive) (as Substitute for Paul Shevlin)
Hambleton District Council	Councillor Ron Kirk (as Substitute for Neville Huxtable) Peter Simpson (Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils)
Harrogate Borough Council	Councillor Don Mackenzie Rachel Bowles (Assistant Chief Executive) (as Substitute for Wallace Sampson)
North York Moors National Park Authority	Jim Bailey
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor John Weighell (in the Chair) Richard Flinton (Chief Executive of the County Council and Honorary Secretary to LGNY)Y)
Richmondshire District Council	Councillor John Blackie Peter Simpson (Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils)
Ryedale District Council	Councillor Keith Knaggs Janet Waggott (Chief Executive)
Scarborough Borough Council	Councillor Derek Bastiman (as Substitute for Tom Fox) David Archer (Strategic Director) (as Substitute for Jim Dillon)
Selby District Council	Martin Connor (Chief Executive)
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Carl Lis OBE Gary Smith (Director of Conservation and Community) (as Substitute for David Butterworth)

**IN ATTENDANCE:-**

<b><u>Organisation</u></b>	<b><u>Representatives</u></b>
NHS North Yorkshire and York	Katie Needham (Consultant in Public Health)
Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils	Liz Smith (Executive Director and Deputy Chief Executive)
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor Carl Les (Deputy Leader) 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) and Andy Wilson (Chief Executive, North York Moors National Park Authority).

---

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

---

**101. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2011, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**102. REVIEW OF LOCAL PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report of the Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils providing a statement from each District Council within North Yorkshire concerning the progress/outcome or possible timescale for the review, in each area, of local partnership arrangements.

**RESOLVED –**

That the report be noted.

**103. LGNYY SPATIAL PLANING AND TRANSPORT BOARD**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report of the Honorary Secretary setting out draft terms of reference for the Spatial Planning and Transport Board. The draft terms included provisions for the Board relating to the following:- status; purpose; membership; Chair; Secretariat; meetings; conduct of business; and officer groups.

**RESOLVED –**

That the draft terms of reference for the LGNY Y Spatial Planning and Transport Board, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be approved.

**104. UPDATE ON PUBLIC HEALTH REFORMS**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report of Katie Needham (Consultant in Public Health, NHS North Yorkshire and York) which provided a brief summary of the following:- the Government's response to the public health white paper "Healthy Lives, Healthy People"; how public health transition was being taken forward locally; and current key issues.

Members highlighted that the two key pieces of information which they particularly wished to receive as soon as possible were:- the amounts of funding to be transferred to the County Council and the City of York Council; and the human resources framework within which Councils would be required to operate in respect of the delivery of public health services.

In response to questions, Katie Needham advised that NHS North Yorkshire and York had estimated that it had spent £42m on its Public Health Programme.

**RESOLVED –**

That the report be noted.

**105. FUTURE COLLABORATIONS UPDATE INCORPORATING SHARED SERVICES, ASSET MANAGEMENT AND FLEET MANAGEMENT**

**CONSIDERED –**

The reports of Liz Smith (Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director, Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils) and Gary Fielding (Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance and Partnerships, North Yorkshire County Council) advising of progress of collaborative work with parties across York and North Yorkshire in relation to Shared Services, Asset Management and Fleet Management.

In respect of Shared Services, Members expressed support for the recommendations set out in the report and highlighted the need for purposeful engagement to take this work forward.

In respect of Asset Management, Members welcomed the progress which was being made. They also welcomed the clarity provided by those Authorities who had indicated that they did not wish to collaborate more closely in respect of Asset Management at this time. It was suggested that, for the future, Authorities should inform each other if/when they had plans concerning assets. It was clarified that all partners had provided information for the mapping of assets, but not all had supplied the more in-depth property data.

In respect of Fleet Management, Members expressed surprise that the Consultants appointed to look at various areas of Transport Efficiency, including Fleet Transport, had concluded that little further savings could be achieved through collaboration on procurement of vehicles and fuel. It was felt that a group of officers should meet to share knowledge and good practice and also consider areas of joint working, including procurement. However, as Fleet Managers were seen to have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo, other appropriate professionals must also be involved. It was also emphasised that it was important that the officers involved were sufficiently senior and had the necessary mandate to drive forward the identification of possible further savings through collaboration. Each Council was asked to nominate a senior officer by the end of September and produce a short position statement. Liz Smith and Gary Fielding were then tasked with bringing together those nominated individuals to explore opportunities and to bring an update concerning collaboration on Fleet Management to a future meeting of LGNYY. In addition, Gary Fielding undertook to ensure that the issue of insurance was considered.

#### **RESOLVED –**

(a) That, in respect of Shared Services:-

- (i) For the overarching strategic framework, the approach be based on clusters of councils initially, with opportunities for other public sector organisations to work with the appropriate cluster as they choose; a focus on priority services; partnership working founded on “a coalition of the willing” with scope for individual partners to join at a later date; and a commitment to action. In addition, a review of partners be undertaken on an annual basis to identify forthcoming opportunities for sharing.
- (ii) For the Access business case:-
  - (1) the implementation of a joint web and telephony infrastructure and service be committed to as the top priority to be delivered. In doing so, participating councils accept that they are committing to joining the full service for web and telephony including the technology, staffing and other supporting elements;
  - (2) North Yorkshire County Council and Selby, Richmondshire and Hambleton District Councils be recommended as the councils to be involved in the initial implementation phase with the remaining councils confirming their commitment to the joint approach at a future date which is appropriate to them, should they decide to do so. It is noted that York has indicated an interest in further discussions on the technology infrastructure;
  - (3) it is recognised that the above will build on the work of the Connect Partnership, which enables the technology solution, with a project focussed on the transformational elements including sharing staffing and joint approaches on processes/procedures and dealing with customers;

- (4) those councils involved in the pilot will work together to produce a detailed project plan along with specific information which explores the implications for the individual councils. These will then be provided to those councils to enable a final commitment to the project to be made.
- (iii) For the Revenues and Benefits business case, more detailed explorations be committed to with a further report back within six months to enable a decision to implement a shared service, or not, to be taken. These explorations include securing discussions with the Department of Work & Pensions to better understand the implications of the Universal Credit and whether this provides opportunities, or not, for creating a shared service - either in part or completely - across the sub-region. In addition, the explorations focus on a cluster of councils which have indicated their ability to move forward in line with the timescales and can be actively involved in these explorations and include Selby, Craven, Richmondshire and Hambleton Councils. It is noted that York has also indicated its interest to be involved in the further discussions around Universal Credit.
- (iv) For the Economic Development business case, it be noted that the explorations which have supported the development of that business case have helped to show that, because of the pace of change in this area over recent months, the deliverability of savings through shared services is questionable. There is scope, however, to seek to increase the resilience, ability and capacity of the sub-region's collective Economic Development resource. Therefore councils agree to:-
- (1) share a statistics service using the data provided by the NYCC/LEP support team;
  - (2) build on the new LEP support team which is providing strategic input;
  - (3) retain within each council local delivery arrangements; and
  - (4) further explore how the collective resources will work together to deliver the LEP strategic aims whilst supporting local delivery.
- (v) For CCTV, sharing be based on the low level of sharing option which includes a sub-regional CCTV user group for partners, and the sharing of training and procurement where appropriate. Opportunities for higher levels of sharing be also pursued by individual councils working together, to be initiated by the particular councils rather than as part of a sub-regional shared service project. Alternatively individual councils can initiate discussions with the larger CCTV providers in the region to explore contractual arrangements which deliver efficiencies as an alternative approach to delivering the CCTV service in-house.
- (vi) High level business cases be developed on other services (namely:- ICT, procurement, internal audit, and legal) over the next 12 months to identify if there is scope and opportunities to develop sharing for these services.

- (b) That, in respect of Asset Management:-
  - (i) The paragraphs of the report which set out how the following work is progressing be noted:- High level opportunities; Economic Development assets; public sector rationalisation opportunities in Malton; community ownership in Knaresborough; and shared Council and Community Office accommodation in Richmond.
  - (ii) The paragraphs of the report which set out the more detailed information about aspects of the project, including achievements and issues which need to be considered further as work progresses, be noted and that it be recognised that there is value in working collectively at the strategic level but that the sharing of physical assets will be more tightly bound by geography.
  
- (c) That, in respect of Fleet Management:-
  - (i) A group of officers be established to share knowledge and good practice and consider areas of joint working, including further savings which can be achieved on vehicle and fuel procurement.
  - (ii) Each Council nominate appropriate officers to be involved in the group to which (i) above refers, such officers to be sufficiently senior and having the necessary mandate to drive forward the identification of possible further savings through collaboration on procurement.
  - (iii) The nominations to which (ii) above refers be forwarded to 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) if possible by 30 September 2011.
  - (iv) Gary Fielding arrange for the issue of insurance to be explored.
  - (v) An update be submitted to a future meeting of LGNY Y.

**106. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY FOR NORTH YORKSHIRE – REFRESH 2011/14**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary outlining progress on refreshing the Sustainable Community Strategy for North Yorkshire 2008/18 and inviting LGNY Y to consider and comment on the draft strategy for 2011/14.

David Archer (Strategic Director, Scarborough Borough Council) commented that reducing inequality was a major issue, and that the reference within the draft strategy to the "creative industry" was too narrow because it excluded, for example, renewables. He also commented that health was increasingly important. He advised that he would like to see references to those sectors in the economic development section of the draft strategy.

**RESOLVED –**

That the consultation update be noted.

**107. LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCE REVIEW; PROPOSALS FOR BUSINESS RATE RETENTION AND LOCALISING SUPPORT FOR COUNCIL TAX**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils suggesting how work might be undertaken to provide an independent analysis of the consequences of:- (a) proposals for the localisation of business rates; and (b) proposals for the localisation of Council tax benefits.

Members described this as an absolutely essential piece of work and expressed the wish that Chief Executives should stay in close contact with developments.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That a project group be formed to:-
- (i) develop terms of reference for and commission an independent analysis of the consequences of the proposals for localisation of business rates as currently set out; and
  - (ii) develop terms of reference for and commission an independent analysis of the consequences of the proposals for localisation of Council tax benefits as currently set out.
- (b) That the project group to which (a) above refers comprise the following officers, together with any other officers which Councils wish to nominate:-
- Peter Simpson, Hambleton and Richmondshire
  - Nick Edwards, Scarborough
  - Paul Cresswell, Ryedale and Chair – North Yorkshire Finance Officers Group
  - Peter Yates, NYCC
  - John Murray, Harrogate
  - Keith Best, York

**108. NEW HOMES BONUS**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Chief Executive of Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils seeking a discussion concerning the use of the New Homes Bonus monies and any partnership opportunities.

Views expressed during debate included the following:-

- Generally residents opposed new house building in their immediately vicinity. The New Homes Bonus was an advantage which could be put forward as a benefit for the local community arising from that new house building.
- The National Parks' preference was for Districts effectively to passport a sum to them in recognition of house growth in the Parks' areas because they saw the New Homes Bonus as an incentive for local planning authorities to allow housing growth.

- It might be difficult for District Councils to agree that New Homes Bonus monies earned in one District would be spent on infrastructure in another District.
- Some types of infrastructure, eg Broadband, benefited all.
- County Councillor John Weighell advised that the County Council was not affected on the issue of possible pooling, unless the City of York Council was involved. He highlighted that there would be benefits to the sub-region if District Councils agreed to pooling.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That Chief Executives discuss how discussions on the impact of future growth requirements across the sub-region might progress.

**109. GENERAL UPDATES**

**CONSIDERED –**

The report of the Honorary Secretary providing a brief update on issues not requiring a decision from LGNYY. The issues within the report related to the following:- recent business of the various outside bodies to which LGNYY made appointments; recent business of LGNYY's Housing Board; arrangements for North Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum to test plans which partners had in place; arrangements for discussions concerning the Police and Crime Panel; and arrangements for the local authority representative on the Welcome to Yorkshire Board to discuss his role with sub-regional tourism Lead Members and how he/they could work most effectively together.

**RESOLVED –**

That the report be noted.

**110. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED –**

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

- Friday 9 December 2011 at 10.00 am, Ryedale.
- Friday 20 January 2012 at 10.00 am, Harrogate Borough Council offices.
- Friday 25 May 2012 at 10.00 am, Richmondshire District Council offices.

**111. BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the following business be scheduled for LGNYY's meeting to be held on 9 December 2011:-
  - Oral report from Rosie Seymour concerning her role as the Department for Communities and Local Government Locality Manager for York and North Yorkshire.



- DEFRA proposals relating to the appointment of elected Members to serve on National Park Authorities.
- (b) That a further report be submitted to LGNYY within six months to enable a decision to be taken to implement, or not, a shared service in respect of Revenues and Benefits.
- (c) That an update on Collaboration on Fleet Management be submitted to a future meeting of LGNYY.
- (d) That a report concerning what has happened to the findings of the North Yorkshire Review into health care provision, undertaken by Professor Hugo Mascie-Taylor, be submitted to a future meeting of LGNYY.
- (e) That Minutes of meetings of the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership be submitted to future meetings.

**112. OTHER BUSINESS**

CONSIDERED –

The report of the Honorary Secretary advising that a North Yorkshire Wider Partnership Conference would be held on 28 November 2011. Each local authority and National Park had already been contacted to nominate attendees.

**RESOLVED –**

That the report be noted.

The meeting concluded at 12.10 pm.

RAG/ALJ

**Local Government York and North Yorkshire  
20 January 2012**

**North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011/14**

**1.0 Purpose of report**

- 1.1 To update LGNYY on the North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011/14.

**2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011/14 is a refresh of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for North Yorkshire, which was launched by the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership (NYSP) in 2008.
- 2.2 The SCS was a ten-year vision setting out how partners would work towards making North Yorkshire “an even better place in which to live, work and visit” and was closely linked to the Local Area Agreement. The SCS stated that it would be refreshed every three years, to make sure that it continues to focus on the right priorities for our communities.
- 2.3 While the original vision of the strategy remains the same, much has changed in terms of the economic and governmental contexts since it was published. The NYSP partners agreed in 2010 that a revised plan was needed, which would reflect the current economic climate by focusing on a few really critical priorities for communities over the next three years.

**3.0 Development of the North Yorkshire Community Plan**

- 3.1 Following consultation with partners, the partnership – now led by Local Government North Yorkshire and York (LGNYY) and the Chief Executives Group for North Yorkshire and York (CEO Group) – proposed three priorities for the period 2011 to 2014:
- Protecting and supporting vulnerable people
  - Supporting economic growth and employment
  - Enabling stronger local communities.
- 3.2 These were identified as the priority areas which are most critical to the wellbeing of the county’s communities over the next three years and which require partnership efforts to be tackled effectively. Each priority contains specific objectives which provide a focus for action.
- 3.3 A public consultation on the draft plan ran from 1 July until 23 September 2011. Communication mechanisms used included press releases, the NYCC and NYSP websites, North Yorkshire Now, the NYCC Citizens’ Panel and the NYCC Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The draft was considered by LGNYY at its meeting on 16 September 2011. There was also direct engagement with identified ‘harder to reach’ groups including the Physical and Sensory Impairment Board and the Older People’s Partnership Board.

- 3.4 Over 120 responses were received to the consultation, not including participants in the NYCC Citizens' Panel. Almost 30% came from parish or town councils, over 50% came from members of the public and the remainder came from partner organisations and voluntary and community groups.
- 3.5 Respondents were broadly supportive of the three key priorities, although a number of suggestions were made around additional objectives or areas of focus to include. A large number related to issues which would be dealt with by an individual organisation and which would not be partnership-related, such as reducing Council Tax or improving refuse collections. Where other suggestions were made around issues which were more directly linked to the three priorities, these were considered by the CEO Group in the context of whether they required the partnership to tackle them and what resources would be available to do this. This led to some small changes being made to the draft; for example around inclusion of a reference to affordable housing and also to the importance of preventative work with vulnerable people.
- 3.6 Another outcome of the consultation was that the strategy should be renamed as the "North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011/14", in order to make the title more accessible.

#### **4.0 Approval of the Plan**

- 4.1 The CEO Group agreed final changes to the draft plan on 3 November 2011. The plan (appendix 1) was then approved by NYCC full council on 14 December 2011.

#### **5.0 Delivery against the Plan**

- 5.1 The plan incorporates a simple action plan which proposes specific agencies or partnerships to take the lead in delivery against each objective. In a few cases, the CEO Group has agreed that further task and finish group work will be required to develop and implement a delivery plan. Each objective will be monitored on an annual basis through the CEO Group, who will consider progress made and whether any further actions may need to be taken.

#### **6.0 Recommendation**

- 6.1 That LGNYY approves the North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011/14.

Richard Flinton  
Honorary Secretary, Local Government North Yorkshire and York  
13 December 2011

Appendix 1 – North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011/14

## Appendix 1

### Local Government North Yorkshire and York Chief Executives Group North Yorkshire and York

## North Yorkshire Community Plan 2011 - 2014

This three-point plan is a refresh of our longer term sustainable community strategy, published in 2008. Our vision remains the same: **We want North Yorkshire to be an even better place for everyone to live, work or visit.** However, we must focus our efforts on areas of critical need in the next three years, as well as making our communities more sustainable.

### Our three priorities for 2011/14

- **Protecting and supporting vulnerable people**
- **Supporting economic growth and employment**
- **Enabling stronger local communities**

We recognise that other issues which are not explicitly included within these priorities play a key part in the longer-term wellbeing of communities. However, in such a challenging economic period it's about recognising that with increasingly limited public resources, we must focus our efforts on those areas where we really need to make a difference now to those who critically need our support, and where we can only do this effectively through the partnership.

### Protecting and supporting vulnerable people

"Vulnerable people" can include children and young people, older people and other, specific, groups such as people who have experienced crime or people who are disabled, to name just a few.

A key factor which can contribute towards vulnerability is the general quality of life experienced by communities. Whilst North Yorkshire offers a good quality of life to many, for some communities this is not the case and the gap between these is growing larger. There are some rural and urban areas in North Yorkshire where people have significantly poorer health, fewer qualifications, lower income, are more likely to be unemployed, and have a shorter than average life expectancy. Partners need to work together more effectively to identify these areas and tackle these longstanding issues.

Additionally, with an increasing older population in North Yorkshire, partners will also be challenged in sustaining good quality health and social care provision for all who need it. Co-ordinated work around prevention will also be needed to help reduce the number of people needing critical care in the long-term.

This agenda is therefore about prevention, intervention and effective partnership-working to improve quality of life and wellbeing for all those who are vulnerable in our communities.

Provision of affordable local housing is also key to supporting these principles and will continue to require effective action by partners through the Local Government North Yorkshire and York Housing Board.

## What we will do

The partners in North Yorkshire will focus specifically on:

- **Safeguarding and protecting people of all ages at risk of significant harm.** This will focus on safeguarding for children and vulnerable adults and protecting the most vulnerable.
- **Providing older and vulnerable people with a range of choice for their accommodation, care and support needs.** This will include enabling those who wish to live independently to do so and providing support mechanisms such as Extra Care.
- **Working jointly to reduce health inequalities** - by promoting healthier lifestyles and reducing risky behaviour in all ages; in particular smoking, alcohol and obesity.
- **Identifying communities where multiple deprivation exists and which issues partners need to work on in these areas to tackle this.** This is about all partners working to narrow the gaps that exist between some of our communities in terms of the quality of life they experience.

## Supporting economic growth and employment

Our aspiration is for North Yorkshire to be made up of sustainable communities which enable everyone who participates to flourish and which are a place of opportunity for all. We will do this by focussing on business growth, improving our infrastructure and the quality of our workforce, leading to employment opportunities and creating an environment where individuals are encouraged and supported to create their own businesses. This also means ensuring that we have a workforce which is skilled to undertake roles in sectors or enterprises where there are gaps in provision. Linked to this, we need to enhance access to training and employment opportunities, including those available to more vulnerable groups.

The current economic climate poses significant challenges in delivering our vision. These include having to rely on a smaller working age population than elsewhere in the region and country, overcoming our access and connectivity issues and also tackling large scale unemployment in the next few years, particularly in the public sector. But there are also opportunities for us in tackling these and in preparing ourselves for a brighter economic future. These include the county's stunning natural environment and heritage, which are key economic drivers for North Yorkshire and are critical to ensuring quality of life for all. We also need to do more to encourage creative industries and invest in a sustainable, year-round tourist industry to help deliver economic growth. We recognise the need to support all types and sizes of business within the county, but it is crucial that we focus our limited resources in the short term on new and small businesses. We will also focus on those specific sectors - such as agriculture and food - which would benefit most from support to help grow their supply chains and which are critical to maintaining the stunning environment on which much of the tourism industry depends. We also need to ensure that individuals, in making career choices, understand where future opportunities may lie.

## What we will do

The partners in North Yorkshire will therefore work to achieving greater economic growth; in particular by supporting the newly formed Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to deliver the following key objectives:

- **Agriculture and food.** To create business growth through growing the supply chain.
- **Visitor economy.** Provide clarity and improve the offer for visitors and tourists through joint working and collaboration between partners.
- **Rural broadband.** To help rural North Yorkshire maximise its broadband potential (*see also “Enabling stronger local communities”*)
- **Support for growth of small businesses.** To improve the success and sustainability of new and small businesses through better performance and improved access to finance.
- **Improved networks.** To make businesses in North Yorkshire the best networked and most effective networkers.
- **Skills.** To ensure skills provision is focussed on present and future business needs and to meet gaps in provision.

## Enabling stronger local communities

High quality broadband is essential to attract and retain local businesses whilst providing the means for communities, particularly the vulnerable, to be able to stay in touch. If we get this right, businesses, local shops, local public services, young people and older people can all flourish in our rural villages and market towns. In short, high quality broadband has the potential to help us revitalise our rural communities.

In the next few years, the impact of public sector cuts will place considerable additional pressures on both service providers and communities, particularly in rural areas. It will be even more important for public, voluntary and community sector partners to help local communities to support themselves more, working in partnership to help shape local solutions where resources are scant but needs remain.

## What we will do

The partners in North Yorkshire will work towards enabling communities by:

- **Delivering a high-quality broadband service** capable of supporting voice, video and data to meet the needs and long term growth of businesses and individuals in all areas of North Yorkshire.
- **Building capacity within communities** to help them to play a bigger role in shaping and delivering local services.

## How will this plan be taken forward?

Local Government North Yorkshire and York and the Chief Executives Group for North Yorkshire and York will lead the partnership of agencies responsible for ensuring that progress is achieved against all of the key aims of this refreshed plan.

The partnership has identified a number of key agencies or groups below who will be best placed to lead on delivering against the actions outlined in this plan. Performance against these actions will be reviewed annually by the Chief Executives Group, who will take an overview of progress in these areas made from each lead.

### 1) Protecting and supporting vulnerable people

Objective	Lead organisation(s) or partnership(s)
1 Safeguarding and protecting people of all ages at risk of significant harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adults' Safeguarding Board</li><li>• Children's Safeguarding Board</li></ul>
2 Providing older and vulnerable people with a range of choice for their accommodation, care and support needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Yorkshire County Council</li><li>• LGNYY Housing Board</li></ul>
3 Working jointly to reduce health inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NHS North Yorkshire and York</li><li>• North Yorkshire County Council</li></ul>
4 Identifying communities where multiple deprivation exists and which issues partners need to work on in these areas to tackle this.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Task and Finish Group (membership co-ordinated via Chief Executives Group)</li></ul>

### 2) Supporting economic growth and employment

Objective	Lead organisation(s) or partnership(s)
5 Supporting economic growth and employment ( <i>all objectives</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership</li></ul>

### 3) Enabling stronger local communities

Objective	Lead organisation(s) or partnership(s)
6 Delivering a high-quality broadband service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connecting North Yorkshire</li></ul>
7 Building capacity within communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Task and Finish Group (membership co-ordinated via Chief Executives Group)</li></ul>

Further information about this plan, how it has been developed and the other key plans which link in to it can be found at [www.nypartnerships.org.uk/communityplan](http://www.nypartnerships.org.uk/communityplan).

Enquiries about this plan can be sent to:

[nypartnerships@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:nypartnerships@northyorks.gov.uk)

or call 01609 532750

or write to

Policy, Performance & Partnerships  
Chief Executive's Group  
North Yorkshire County Council  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
DL7 8AD

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print, on tape or CD, please ask us.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

Aby otrzymać te informacje w innym języku lub formacie, np. w alfabecie brajla, w wersji dużym drukiem lub audio, prosimy się z nami skontaktować.



(01609) 532013

 [communications@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:communications@northyorks.gov.uk)



## Local Government North Yorkshire and York 20 January 2012

### Police and Crime Panel

#### Purpose of the report

- 1 To provide an update on discussions between the nine local authorities in North Yorkshire and York regarding the arrangements for the police and crime panel.

#### Background

- 2 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the local authorities in each police force area to establish a police and crime panel (PCP), as a joint committee, to scrutinise the directly elected police and crime commissioner (PCC).
- 3 According to the Home Office, "PCPs are not a replacement for the police authority. They will fulfil an important role in scrutinising the commissioner but we need to be clear that this reform is about reconnecting the police and the people. This will be achieved through a directly elected police and crime commissioner not through the police and crime panel. The panel will have an important scrutiny role in relation to the commissioner, however it is the commissioner who is taking on the role of the police authority and who the public will hold to account for the performance of their force."
- 4 The panel will have:
  - the power of veto, by two-thirds majority, over the commissioner's proposed budget and precept;
  - the power of veto, by two-thirds majority, over the commissioner's proposed candidate for chief constable;
  - the power to ask Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) for a professional view when the commissioner intends to dismiss a chief constable;
  - the power to review the commissioner's draft police and crime plan and make recommendations to the commissioner who must have regard to them;
  - the power to review the commissioner's annual report and make reports and recommendations at a public meeting, which the commissioner must attend;
  - the power to require any papers in the commissioner's possession (except those which are operationally sensitive);
  - the power to require the commissioner to attend the panel to answer questions;
  - the power to appoint an acting commissioner (from within the commissioner's staff) when the elected commissioner is incapacitated

- or suspended (until she/he is no longer incapacitated or suspended), or resigns or is disqualified (until a new commissioner is elected); and
- responsibility for all complaints about the commissioner, although serious issues must be passed to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC).

## **Developing the panel arrangements**

- 5 Elected member representatives (leaders or community safety portfolio holders) from the nine local authorities have been considering the arrangements for the North Yorkshire police and crime panel, as agreed by LGNYY on 24 June 2011.
- 6 It is anticipated that the sections and schedules of the Act relating to the panel will come into force on 2 April 2012. This will allow local authorities to establish and convene a panel from that date although, until the police and crime commissioner takes office on 22 November 2012, the panel's powers will be limited to those necessary to prepare itself.
- 7 It is proposed that the nine local authorities should each agree the formal panel arrangements in time to allow the authorities to appoint their member(s) of the panel at their annual meetings in May 2012. This will allow time for the panel, in advance of 22 November 2012, to appoint co-opted independent members; agree the panel's rules of procedure; be briefed on relevant issues; and agree the panel's work programme for its first year.
- 8 The draft panel arrangements are currently being prepared, in consultation with officers of the nine local authorities, and will be reviewed by the elected member representatives before being submitted to the nine local authorities for approval.

## **Panel membership**

- 9 In North Yorkshire and York, the Panel will consist of ten councillors from the nine local authorities (at least one from each authority) and two independent members (not councillors) co-opted by the panel. If a local authority has an elected mayor, she/he will automatically be a member instead of a councillor. All twelve members will have equal voting rights. As far as is reasonably practicable, the ten councillors should reflect the "political make-up of the relevant local authorities (when taken together)" across the force area. When co-opting the independent members, the Panel must ensure that, as far as is reasonably practicable, the appointed and co-opted members together have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.
- 9 It is proposed that Craven DC, Hambleton DC, Harrogate BC, North Yorkshire CC, Richmondshire DC, Ryedale DC, Scarborough BC and Selby DC will

each appoint one councillor as a member of the panel; and that City of York C will appoint two councillors.

- 10 It is proposed that the lead local authority will facilitate discussions between the local authorities in order to enable the authorities to fulfil their duty to secure (as far as is reasonably practicable) that the appointed members represent the political make-up of the local authorities within the police area (when taken together). It is also proposed that the nine authorities should aim to fulfil the duty as far as possible without resorting to additional co-options to the panel as increasing the size of the panel beyond the core 12 members would increase costs and reduce its effectiveness.

### **Support for the Panel**

- 11 It is proposed that North Yorkshire CC will be the lead local authority for the panel and, within the overall budget agreed by the nine local authorities, will provide administrative and other support to the panel and its members led by a named lead officer supplemented as required by additional specialist officers (eg finance officers when advising the panel on the commissioner's proposed budget and precept). .
- 12 It has been suggested that the Home Office will provide around £40,000 per panel per year, for at least the first year. The LGA is lobbying for the Home Office to make a higher and transparent level of funding available on a permanent basis. An initial budget for the panel will be drafted when the funding position is clearer.
- 13 Any additional costs will need to be met by the local authorities. It is proposed that any costs not covered by the funding from the Home Office will be shared between the nine local authorities on the basis of population, with the County Council and respective district council sharing equally the cost in respect of the population of each North Yorkshire district council area.
- 14 To avoid councillors from different authorities being paid different rates of allowances for panel membership, it is proposed that the nine local authorities should ask one of the independent remuneration committees to make a recommendation on behalf of all the local authorities.
- 15 The Act requires that the panel arrangements set out how support and guidance will be given to elected members and officers of the nine local authorities in relation to the functions of the panel. It is proposed that this will comprise initial briefing sessions for all elected members and relevant officers of the nine local authorities before the commissioner is elected and annual briefing sessions thereafter; together with written briefings issued at least three times a year.

## **Recommendation**

16 It is recommended that the update be received.

Richard Flinton  
Honorary Secretary  
Local Government North Yorkshire and York

12 January 2012

**Local Government York and North Yorkshire  
20 January 2012**

**Proposed changes to National Parks**

**1.0 Purpose of report**

1.1 To update LGNY Y on proposed changes to National Parks.

**2.0 Proposed changes to the governance of National Parks**

2.1 Following a public consultation in 2010/11, the government is proposing to utilise new powers in the Public Bodies Act 2011 to amend the governance arrangements of National Parks, in particular to:

- a. Introduce a maximum term of office, probably eight years, for all members of National Park Authorities (NPAs) including local authority members.
- b. Allow parishes to nominate people who are not serving parish councillors or chairs of parish meetings, as candidates for the parish member elections, if the NPA so wishes.
- c. Remove the Secretary of State's role in appointing parish members (as it is the parishes, not the Secretary of State, who choose the parish members).
- d. End the political balance requirement on local authorities when appointing members to NPAs (as this can conflict with the guidance that local authorities have regard to appointing councillors who represent wards within the National Park and/or have a close knowledge of it once the political balance requirements have been met).
- e. Pilot direct elections for some members of the New Forest and Peak District NPAs. There is a possibility that the regulations will allow other NPAs to also have direct elections. Defra has ruled out applying direct elections to the Secretary of State-appointed members, but it is not clear which of the other NPA members would be replaced and what restrictions, if any, there would be on who would be eligible for election.

2.3 Defra is currently preparing draft regulations which, if enacted, would implement the government's proposals. The Public Bodies Act 2011 requires a 12 week public consultation prior to laying draft regulations before Parliament. It is anticipated that the public consultation will start in January 2012.

2.4 Following the public consultation in 2010/11, the government also:

- a. Supported the proposal by the North York Moors NPA to investigate further the potential for the Authority becoming a social enterprise, with a report to be produced for the NPA identifying the pros and cons by March 2013.

- b. Asked the Yorkshire Dales NPA to re-examine the ways in which it engages with its communities and to make a further report on the scope for change by the end of 2011.

### **3.0 Proposed extension of the Yorkshire Dales National Park**

- 3.1 Natural England has resolved to submit orders to the Secretary of State to vary the boundaries of the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District National Parks. This follows extensive work by Natural England and two public consultations during 2009/11.
- 3.2 The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 gives Natural England the power to designate areas as National Park if they meet the statutory designation criteria. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 also gives Natural England the power to vary the boundaries of existing National Parks. Both powers are subject to confirmation by the Secretary of State.
- 3.3 In respect of the Yorkshire Dales, the area proposed to be included is the north and west of the existing National Park. In respect of the Lake District, the proposed area is to the east and south of the existing National Park. None of the proposed extensions are within North Yorkshire.
- 3.4 Natural England believes that the areas meet the statutory designation criteria by reason of:
  - Their natural beauty (taking into account its wildlife and cultural heritage);
  - The opportunities they afford for open-air recreation (taking into account the extent to which it is possible to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of its special qualities by the public), having regard both to their character and to their position in relation to centres of population; and
  - That it is especially desirable to designate them as variations to the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District National Parks for the purposes of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of these areas and of promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of these areas by the public.
- 3.5 In the first public consultation, on the principle of designating the new areas, 70% of all responses supported the proposals. In the second public consultation, which looked specifically at whether the Orton Fells should be included in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, 86% of all responses supported the proposal.
- 3.6 Responses to the two public consultations from principal local authorities were mixed. The two NPAs, Allerdale BC, Craven DC and Lancaster CC were broadly supportive. South Lakeland DC and Copeland BC adopted a neutral stance, although the former raised detailed concerns. Cumbria CC, Eden DC, Lancashire CC, North Yorkshire CC and Richmondshire DC objected to the proposals in their entirety.
- 3.7 The key driver for principal local authorities in objecting to the extensions is the loss or reduction of democratic accountability for, or democratic engagement in, planning matters and other issues. Local authorities covering areas that become part of a National Park will lose responsibility for planning. Local authorities

covering areas already within a National Park will have a reduced number of councillors on the NPA, diluting the involvement of local elected councillors. Concerns have also been expressed about the potential loss of the Yorkshire Dales brand.

- 3.8 Natural England is expected to submit the orders to the Secretary of State in January 2012. At the same time, the orders must be placed on deposit for public inspection for at least 28 days. Any person may then make representations to the Secretary of State by a date to be announced (anticipated to be 16 March 2012). The Secretary of State must give each person who objects to the orders an opportunity for a fair hearing. This must take the form of a public inquiry if a county or district council objects and does not withdraw its objection.
- 3.9 Following any public inquiry, the Secretary of State will consider any Inspector's report and then may decide to confirm or not confirm the orders, with or without modifications.

#### **4.0 Recommendations**

- 4.1 That LGNYY receives the update and members discuss the issues.

Richard Flinton  
Honorary Secretary, Local Government North Yorkshire and York  
4 January 2012

## Local Government North Yorkshire and York

## Towards Sub-Regional Collaboration on Infrastructure Planning

20 January 2012

**1. Purpose of this Report**

A report was presented to the 3 November 2011 meeting of the North Yorkshire and York Chief Executive Officers (CEO) Group addressing potential sub-regional approaches to more collaborative working in relation to the planning, funding and delivery of capital infrastructure for growth. The meeting agreed, as a short term action, that David Bowe from the County Council would assist, with the involvement of partners, in a mapping exercise. In turn, partners would assist with the provision of information and ideas to support it.

The aim of this report is to advise Leaders and Chief Executives of the nature of the work now underway, and to invite comments as to how it might best be configured and presented in order to be of the greatest use and value for all.

**2. Sub-Regional Infrastructure Mapping : Progress to Date.**

The infrastructure mapping work is now underway. With the assistance of partners, information is now being recorded on the County Council's MapInfo Geographical Information System (GIS) at a number of levels. Key types of information being mapped include:

- Significant housing and employment development sites and clusters across the sub-region as proposed or allocated in Local Development Frameworks (LDF) over the next 15-20 years.
- Programmes for the delivery of key types of strategic infrastructure, such as the development or extension of schools, and the provision of Extra-Care facilities.
- As much information as possible as can be gathered about the infrastructure needs of the sub-region's main housing and employment development sites including the type of infrastructure needed (eg, bridge, primary school etc); the phasing of the site / infrastructure requirement; and the estimated cost of each piece of infrastructure.

By mapping as much information as can be gathered on different 'layers' within the GIS system, the aim is that it will be possible to extract and present whatever specific information partners' require in relation to where development and growth is proposed within the sub-region; what infrastructure each site or scheme may need; when this might be needed; and at what estimated cost.

The aim is ambitious, and it is important to set progress to date in context. It can only be progressed at the pace that resources and the availability of information allow. For



example, much of the information is related to the development of Local Development Frameworks, including their associated Site Allocations Documents and Infrastructure Delivery Plans. As these are all at different stages of preparation across the Sub-Region, it will be some time before a complete suite is in place. As such the infrastructure mapping resource will need to be live and evolving, with more detailed and updated information added over time as it becomes available.

Nonetheless, good progress is already being made with good support being offered from Local Planning Authorities. The intention is that the resource will continue to be developed through a partnership approach, and expanded through the addition of further layers of information over the coming months.

### **3. Ensuring the Development of a True Sub-Regional Resource.**

At the CEO Group meeting in November it was clear that the mapping resource would be helpful for all local authorities across NYY. It is still at an early stage of development and it is important that it grows in a way that reflects wider partnership needs. Fundamentally it is critical that the resource is helpful and useful in a practical way to all. As part of ensuring this, it is proposed that the information held so far is reflected back to each Local Planning Authority in due course to confirm accuracy, and also where possible to enable joint working to identify and fill any gaps that might exist.

However as well as ensuring that information is accurate, it is also important that there is a shared agreement as to how the work develops, and what form the mapping resource takes. The views and suggestions of sub-regional partners would therefore very much appreciated to inform the on-going development of this mapping work. In particular Members are invited to comment on their aspirations for this work; how authorities may wish to make use of it; and whether there are any issues to be taken into account in relation to the form that it takes. Whilst existing officer and Elected Member partnership mechanisms exist across the sub-region (for example the NYY Spatial Planning and Transport Board and its supporting Technical Officer Group) to assist where necessary with the development of mapping work, partners are also invited to comment as to whether there are preferred or alternative means of working together on this project.

### **4. Conclusions**

Following CEO discussions in November, good early progress in developing a sub-regional infrastructure mapping resource is being made. It is important now to ensure that work progresses in a way that ensures that the resource is useful for planning activities within individual local authorities (for example in relation to the 'Duty to Cooperate' under the Localism Act), including as a resource to inform and support more coordinated and collaborative work on infrastructure planning at a sub-regional scale. This is likely to be essential if our collective growth aspirations are to be realised.

Views and suggestions are therefore welcomed to help to ensure that this resource is as valuable and powerful as it can be for all local authorities across North Yorkshire and York.

## **5. Recommendations**

1. Members note the work that is continuing, as detailed in the report, and provide any comments that would help shape the work as it progresses.

Presenter of the report : Richard Flinton, Chief Executive North Yorkshire County Council.

**York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNYLEP)****Friday 18 November 2011 at Ron Cooke Innovation Hub, York****MINUTES OF MEETING****PRESENT**

Barry Dodd (BD)	Chairman
Ruth Smith (RS)	PM Management Consultants
Nigel Pulling (NP)	Yorkshire Agricultural Society
Robert Miller (RM)	Bluebird Vehicles
David Bruce	Nestle UK
Shaun Watts	Chameleon Business Interiors
David Kerfoot	The Kerfoot Group Ltd
Cllr Stephen Parnaby (SP)	East Riding
Cllr Tom Fox (TFox)	Scarborough
Cllr James Alexander (JA)	City of York Council
Cllr John Weighell (JW)	North Yorkshire County Council
Cllr Keith Knaggs (KK)	Ryedale – also rep. Hambleton & Richmondshire
Cllr Chris Knowles-Fitton (CK)	Craven – also rep. Selby and Harrogate

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Richard Flinton (RF)	North Yorkshire County Council
James Farrar (JF)	Chief Operating Officer
Andrew Leeming (AL)	Economic Partnership Unit
Tim Frenneaux (TFren)	Economic Partnership Unit
Kate Gray (KG)	Economic Partnership Unit
Sue Lang (SL)	East Riding

**1. Apologies**

Neil Warman	
Colin Mellors (CM)	University of York

Declarations of Interest: None to declare

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

Agreed as a true record

Matters Arising;

Item 4 - TFren confirmed that the business breakfasts that were referred to will be just quick catch ups.

Item 7 - Transport, JF confirmed he had spoken with the Department for Transport.

**3. Growing Places Fund**

TFren presented a paper to the Board. The YNYLEP has secured 6.2m of funding.

There is a possibility that may need to pay someone to administer it.

It was agreed by the Board that a simple criteria and scoring system needs to be established. The criteria will then be published and once expressions of interest are received a request will be made to the bidders to provide further information.

There was some debate as to whether or not the money could potentially be invested in housing. It was agreed that the money should be used to maximise Economic impact focussing on jobs.

#### **4. LEP Priorities progress update**

Launch week to take place week beginning 16 January 2012.

**Broadband** – AL provided an update.

**Action 1:** arrange conference call with relevant contacts in Cornwall and Northern Ireland to obtain an understanding of what we can learn from them before visiting.

**Action 2:** It was agreed by the Board that there needs to be linkages at a local level with what is going on in our own area to avoid duplication and ensure all small gaps are covered.

**Visitor Economy** – AL provided an update.

It was agreed that YNYLEP would support Welcome to Yorkshire for 1 year to support the delivery of its business plan.

**Action 3:** BD will look over business plan and accounts for Welcome to Yorkshire.

**Action 4:** Meeting to be arranged between Welcome to Yorkshire, Visit York, JA and BD.

**Skills** – AL provided an update.

Need to be clear about what opportunities are available.

BD suggested the LEP should be feeding back on the Apprenticeship Service.

**Certificate in Business Growth** – JF provided an update.

It was confirmed that the course will be completed online with a mentor assigned to each individual. JF progressing this further.

**Action 5:** Communication programme to be developed for this.

**Networking** – TFren provided an update.

A press release is taking place next week.

**Action 6:** TFren to liaise with Leeds City Region to ensure no duplication.

**Agri-Food** - TFren provided an update.

The YNYLEP has been invited to host an Agri-Food Summit next year.

**Action 7:** TFren to meet with T&F group to provide direction to the summit.

DB highlighted that large manufacturer's work with FERA and that this may be an opportunity for smaller businesses to link together to take advantage of the benefits achieved from working with FERA.

TF highlighted that the National Parks are proposing to restrict how farmers can diversify.

#### **5. LEP Communication Strategy**

It was proposed that the YNYLEP will be known as the 'Yorkshire Enterprise Partnership'

**Action 8:** E-mail addresses of the support team be changed to reflect the new name.

#### **6. Local Development Frameworks**

It was agreed that Councils should engage with the LEP when producing LDF's however SP warned that the LEP shouldn't get too involved in the detail, need to keep involvement to a minimum and be based on the LEP priorities.

TF highlighted that national Parks LDF is at consultation stage – LEP need to engage with them.

## 7. Any Other Business

Chris Haskins has been appointed chair of the Humber LEP.

8. Future meetings	
All meetings are Friday mornings and in future will start at 10am and finish at 12.30pm with lunch.	
27 January	Northallerton TBC
9 March	Venue TBC
20 April	Venue TBC
1 June	Venue TBC
13 July	Venue TBC

**Minutes prepared by:** Kate Gray

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK****20 JANUARY 2012****GENERAL UPDATES****Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide a brief update for information on issues which do not require a full paper.

**Sub Regional Housing Board –  
Report of Wallace Sampson, Chief Executive, Harrogate Borough Council**

Enhanced two tier project title: Affordable Housing  
 Project Description: Working together to increase the number of affordable housing units.  
 Project Lead: Colin Dales, Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils 01748 827007. E-mail [Colin.dales@richmondshire.gov.uk](mailto:Colin.dales@richmondshire.gov.uk)

2. Progress to date/update:-

- (a) 108 new affordable homes have been delivered in the first two quarters of 2011/12 as part of the Local Investment Plans (York and North Yorkshire) against a forecast of 135. Of these new affordable homes, 40 have been delivered via the Rural Housing Enabler Programme and 39 are extra care housing.

A further 269 new affordable homes have been delivered in quarters 1 and 2, not planned in the LIPs.

In terms of private sector housing investment, 351 homes benefitted from improvements, representing a spend of just over £1 million in quarters 1 and 2.

- (b) The Local Government York and North Yorkshire Housing Board have approved a business plan to sustain the Rural Housing Enabler Programme for a further three years beyond 31 March 2012 when the current funding streams run out. This represents very good news for this high profile programme. The key funding elements can be summarised as follows :

Local Authority contributions = £40k per year  
 Housing Association contributions = £80k per year  
 LAA reward grant (one off / not repayable) = £45k  
 Leeds City Region contribution = £50k

The programme will be subject to annual reviews (as some partners cannot commit beyond one year at a time) and Hambleton DC will continue to be the lead employer.

- (c) A county-wide strategic housing market assessment has been completed and signed off by the Local Government York and North Yorkshire Housing Board on 12 December 2011. The information will now be rolled out in each Local Authority area and a general report will be available on the NY Housing Partnership website.
  - (d) The Housing Board have also approved a joint piece of work to develop a Tenancy Strategy for Local Authorities – a new statutory requirement introduced by the Localism Act. The aim of this piece of work is for Local Authority partners to work together, share information / good practice and avoid the re-inventing of wheels. It may become evident that a sub regional Tenancy Framework is possible as a result of this work.
  - (e) The Housing Board has also approved a sub regional piece of work to maximise new affordable housing opportunities created by the Government's recently launched national housing strategy and the new funding streams available. Work will be undertaken in close consultation with Homes & Community Agency colleagues.
3. Barriers to progressing the project over the next period:-
- (a) The main barrier continues to relate to current housing market conditions which are hindering the contribution that the planning system can make to affordable homes delivery.
  - (b) Lack of suitable land continues to be a barrier to the delivery of affordable housing.
  - (c) Homes and Communities Agency funding has been cut as part of CSR by approximately 70% which has created a great deal of uncertainty in terms of future outputs. The impact on North Yorkshire is that, in essence, no new development money will be available during 2011/12. Future funding will be based on a new affordable housing model whereby rents will be up to 80% of market levels. This will impact differently across the county depending on housing benefit levels and the strength of the private rental market. Housing Associations have submitted their development "offers" to the Homes and Communities Agency based on the new regime which have been signed off.
  - (d) Private sector housing improvement funding ceased from 1 April 2011, again as a direct result of CSR. Local Authorities still have the freedom to fund private sector housing renewal from their own funds, but current feedback from Local Authority colleagues is that this area of activity has stopped with Disabled Facilities Grants being the core business.

**Sub-Regional Transport and Strategic Planning Board –  
Report of David Bowe (Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services,  
North Yorkshire County Council)**

- 4. The City of York Council is providing the Secretariat for this Board. The Chair will rotate between the County Council, the City of York Council, and a District Council on a three year rolling basis. To date, the Board has not yet met.

**LGYH Council –  
Report of Councillor Tom Fox (Vice-Chair)**

5. A summary of decisions/action points from LGNY Council meeting held on 20 October 2011 is set out below:-

(a) Ministry of Defence Armed Force Covenant - Members agreed to explore a Yorkshire and Humber wide Community Covenant Scheme to complement local authority based Covenants. This would demonstrate a commitment to Armed Service Personnel wherever they live or originate from and commit all local authorities in Yorkshire and Humber:

- To work with the Armed Forces to deliver better outcomes for local communities – both Military and Civilian.
- To encourage local communities to support the Armed Forces community in their areas.
- To nurture public understanding and awareness of issues affecting the Armed Forces community.
- To recognise and remember the sacrifices faced by the Armed Forces Community.
- To encourage activities which help to integrate the Armed Forces Community into local life.
- To encourage the Armed Forces Community to help and support the wider community.

It was agreed to explore whether there are cross Yorkshire and Humber proposals which may be eligible for the Community Covenant grant scheme. The scheme is to favour local practical projects which deliver rapid results and meet the aims of the overall Covenant Scheme.

(b) LG Group Executive - Members discussed how important it is to have a strong voice at the national level for Yorkshire and Humber and the North of England on specific issues such as the localisation of business rates and localisation of council tax, as these will have a disproportionate impact on the North. Research announced today by the TUC suggests that the North is also disproportionately impacted by the cuts in public spending.

Cllr Peter Box, Chair, LGYH reported back from the G Group Executive and informed Members that he has met with Sir Merrick Cockill the new Chair along with Chairs from other regions to discuss how the national organisation can better represent the diverse interests of different parts of the country and avoid policy positions being too dominated by a South East and London perspective.

(c) Economic Growth - Authority Representation on the HCA Stewardship Steering Committee - It was agreed to seek one nomination from each of the four sub-regions for the Homes and Communities Agency Stewardship Steering Committee and agreed the role set out appears to be more suited to a Senior Officer e.g. Chief Executive or relevant Service Director.

(d) LG Group Local Growth Campaign - Cllr Peter Box, Chair, LGYH and Chair of the LG Group Economy and Transport Programme Board will be chairing an Economic Development event on Wednesday, 25 January 2012 at the Town Hall, Wakefield as part of a national campaign to promote local growth.



- (e) European and International Working - It was highlighted that there would be a meeting held on developing public service use of electric vehicles in Rotherham on 5 December.
- (f) As part of the Interegg project the promotion of renewable energy is a priority, Scarborough BC with Kirklees MC, North East Lincolnshire Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council sponsored a Whitehall briefing for MPs on the issue. It was reported by Cllr Tom Fox, Vice Chair (North Yorkshire), LGYH that the MPs wished to set up an all-party Parliamentary Group to support both this work and any other strategic issues for Yorkshire and Humber. It was noted that they are to organise a meeting in the next few weeks.
- (g) LGYH Next Steps on Developing the New Organisation - It was agreed to undertake a further review on the purpose of LGYH to consider opportunities for joint and integrated working with other local government organisations. The review would also need to consider streamlining the number of meetings across the local government system, not just LGYH meetings, and further reducing the costs of subscriptions. This work would be led by the Chair and Vice Chairs and reported back to the LGYH Council on 15 December.
- (h) Productivity, Improvement and Innovation - Cllr Tim Cheetham, Barnsley MBC and Member of the LG Group Improvement Board led a discussion on developing the work on sector led challenge and improvement. It was also considered that this work needed to be looked at in the light of potentially working across the North of England. It was agreed to mainstream the activity and to use existing RIEP funds to support this. It was agreed to play a full part in the national discussions with the LGA on the future organisation of this work.
- (i) Business Rates Localisation - Members agreed a response to the Government's consultation paper on the localisation of business rates growth as part of the Local Government Resource Review. A key highlight and an amendment which was put at the meeting was that we should urge the Government to formally pause the current timetable and take the time necessary to consider the full impacts and the need for fair outcomes for all local authorities. A letter and response is to be sent to all MPs in Yorkshire and Humber prior to the deadline for them to make their own representations to Government. In the further interests of ensuring a level playing field for growth, greater consideration also needs to be given by Government to:
  - (i) The impact of Enterprise Zones in particular areas and what impacts these may have on the prospects of business rates growth elsewhere.
  - (ii) The impact of additional economic powers given to Core Cities and London in the Localism Bill that would not be available to all authorities.
- (j) Police Reform - The Police and Crime Panels need to be established by October 2012 with the Election for Police and Crime Commissioners to take place in November 2012. The LGA are recommending that Panels are set up by May 2012. Cllr Mehboob Khan, Kirklees MC and Member of the LGG Safer and Stronger Communities Programme Board recommended the LGA guidance on establishing the Panels and gave an update on the West Yorkshire Panel.
- (k) Work and Skills - In the light of the ending of the Regional Work and Skills Partnership it was agreed to undertake an annual 'health check'.

- (l) Cohesion and Response to the 'Riots Communities and Victims' Review - Cllr Mehboob Khan, Kirklees MC has agreed to report back at the next LGYH Council meeting on 15 December following the LGA Summit 'Challenging Violence and Strengthening Communities' on 27 October 2011.
- (m) Health, Well-Being and Social Care - Cllr Jonathan Owen, East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Member lead on Health, Well-Being and Social Care highlighted the need to monitor the amount of capacity available to support Members and requested that Leaders ensure the right Portfolio Holders were informed of the health and well-being Member Leadership Group.
- (n) Welfare Reform and Affordable Housing - Cllr Steve Houghton, Barnsley MBC highlighted some of the issues of concern in respect of the combined impact of policies such as the new Homes Bonus, the localisation of council tax benefit and impact of universal credit.
- (o) Joanne Roney, Chief Executive, Wakefield Council reported on a piece of work being commissioned by the Chief Executives' Group to benchmark the impact on different localities and considered the impact of the financial settlement as part of building on the work of IPPR on the impact on the North. This would also seek to create greater impact from the individual poverty and fairness commissions being undertaken at local level.
- (p) Cllr Tracey Simpson-Laing highlighted the specific issues faced by the City of York Council on ensuring affordable housing and requested that some work be undertaken on the levels of affordable housing being secured by different authorities and on the fluctuations of land prices across Yorkshire and Humber.
- (q) Asylum and Migration - It was highlighted that eight local authorities are in competition for a commercial contract to deliver asylum on accommodation. If this tender is successful there will continue to be local authority ownership strategically on where asylum seekers live in this region. The outcome of the process would be known by the end of November 2011. If the local authority tender is unsuccessful and a private provider is successful, LGYH would need to consider how local government could hold the provider to account in respect of dispersal and cohesion issues.
- (r) Workforce - Cllr Alison Lowe, Vice Chair, Employers' Committee updated Members on the current situation regarding local government services pay and the preparations for the regional pay briefing to take place on 1 December 2011. Leaders were encouraged to consider the issues set out in the letter to Leaders from the Chair of the Employers' Committee and also ensure that their authorities were represented on 1 December.
- (s) Regional Chief Executives' Group - Joanne Roney, Chief Executive, Wakefield Council reported that the Chief Executives' Group had held discussions about the opportunities for using the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation and a report would be brought to a future meeting of the LGYH Council. It was also reported that the group had commissioned a piece of work to benchmark the impact on different localities of the financial settlement as part of building on the work of IPPR on the impact on the North.

**Yorkshire and Humberside European Regional Development Fund Performance Management Board for North East and West Yorkshire - Report of Councillor Derek Bastiman (Scarborough)**

6. Set out below are my notes from the Board's meeting held on 7 September 2011:-
- (a) It was agreed that the enhanced role of the PMB would include consideration of all Outline Applications and would formally accept projects into the ERDF Programme subject to any relevant conditions. PMB would also receive projects at Full Application stage to endorse appraisal recommendations.
  - (b) With the Regional Skills & Works Partnership ceasing on October 11, PMB will have to give consideration to alternative skills representation. Until such times Michelle Watson will continue to represent skills on the PMB.
  - (c) In order to speed things up and hopefully help all applicants, it was agreed that the enquiry form be removed and the forms for Outline and Full Applications be updated. PMB also agreed at Outline Application stage all deferred projects would be required to resubmit within 1 month of formal notification. Failure to do so would normally result in automatic de-selection. Following Outline Application acceptance, all projects would (normally) be required to submit a robust Full Application within 3 months of formal notification of PMB approval. Failure to meet the deadline would "normally" result in automatic de-selection from the programme.
  - (d) There was an application submitted from The Green Renewable and Environmental Associated Technologies (GREAT) project seeking to drive innovative transfer solutions within the Humber and North East Coast Districts, focusing on support for developing low carbon and renewable industry and allied supply chains. This was deferred as it was deemed that there was insufficient information provided, but rest assured I will be keeping a close eye on this when it comes back for consideration.
7. Set out below are my notes of the Board's meeting held on 10 October 2011:-
- (a) East Riding College - Environmental Technology Centre - We were presented with an outline Priority 2 application for this and it was agreed to accept the project onto the Programme and progress it for submission as a full business case subject to conditions specified.
  - (b) We were presented with the following 2 projects, both supported by a full business case. We endorsed both for approval under the heading of Priority 2 within the programme:-
    - Venture Business Parks Ltd - Haltemprice Managed Business Centre - The project will require the development of specific facilities in the form of a centre of excellence in the East Riding of Yorkshire that improves the knowledge and skills of businesses in the region allowing them to maximise opportunities within the Environmental Sector.

- Horncastle group - The Beacon - The Beacon will be Hull's new Business Park designed to accommodate SMEs in Bioscience Environmental and Healthcare Technology. The impact will be high as not only will jobs in growth sectors be made available to residents of adjacent deprived areas new supply chain opportunities should develop for local companies.
- (c) Whilst I accept that the report is more pertinent to schemes out of the area I represent, we must remember that with the proposed development of the off Shore Wind Farms these projects will have a benefit to our area.
8. Set out below are my notes of the Board's meeting held on 7 December 2011:-
- (a) I am pleased to report that an application for the Princes Trust for funding was approved and will provide for young adults aged 18-30 who have been long term unemployed, have no formal qualifications, an offending background or who face economic and social isolation with the opportunity to explore enterprise and through an intensive programme of mentor support help them to progress into self employment. Providing a region wide enterprise support service for young entrepreneurs the 3 year project will cost £1.525M, create 414 new businesses in the region of which at least 207 will still be trading after 12 months.
- (b) On another note, I am pleased to report that the programme has committed over £270M of ERDF to contracts with projects and there is still around £100M of ERDF in projects in development that have been endorsed by the Performance Management Boards. This means that there are still significant amounts of ERDF to invest in good eligible projects in with the most available in Priorities 1, 2 and 5.
- (c) The Local Management Committee for Y&H ERDF programme 2007-13 agreed at its meeting on 5 December 2011 to extend the current Call for Proposals for the programme which was scheduled to close on 31 December 2011, for a further 3 months until 31 March 2012. The strategic pause for some activities in Priority 3 and for all activities in Priority 4 is also being extended as the commitment remains level for these remain high and further applications in these areas are currently being sought.

**LGYH Work and Skills Board  
Report of County Councillor Chris Metcalfe**

9. I gave my apologies for the last meeting so have nothing to report on this occasion. There is a question on whether this organisation will continue in the light of the demise of Yorkshire Forward.

**LGYH Independent Sustainability Board  
Report of Councillor Brian Phillips (Hambleton)**

10. This Board has not met recently.

**Yorkshire and Humber Rural Affairs Forum Management Group  
Report of County Councillor Peter Sowray**

11. The Rural Affairs Forum has now ceased to exist.

**Local Government Finance –  
Report of LGNY Y Honorary Secretary**

12. Provisional Settlement Figures have been provided. They appear generally to be in line with what was anticipated. If there are any issues Leaders wish to raise, there is an opportunity to do so under this report.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that LGNY Y notes the above updates.

RICHARD FLINTON  
Honorary Secretary  
Local Government North Yorkshire and York  
12 January 2012