

Purpose

To provide further information about the work of Migration Yorkshire, to update on the key migration trends for North Yorkshire and York, and the relevance of this issue to the sub-region. This paper provides further information for agenda item 6 'Migration Yorkshire request for financial contributions', recommending structures and resources for the continuation of a strong local government voice, strategic co-ordination and collaborative working on migration in the region.

1. Background

- 1.1. Migration Yorkshire are approaching all Local Authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber to provide a small amount of core funding to continue to provide services at a key moment of change in migration issues.
- 1.2. A paper was presented to the Regional Chief Executives' meeting on 22nd November 2012, which highlighted both the key migration issues for the region and the request for a contribution from Local Authorities. Following a recommendation from this meeting, Migration Yorkshire will present a paper to the regional Leaders' meeting on 13th December on the key migration issues.
- 1.3. It was agreed that LAs would decide separately rather than collectively about the contributions. NYY CEXs requested that MY provide more information about the relevance of the request for funding to NYY.

2. Migration into North Yorkshire and York

- 2.1. Migration to the North Yorkshire and York has increased in recent years. The key statistics for North Yorkshire and York (NYY) show that:
 - Immigration in 2012 is estimated by ONS to be 4,531, a slight increase on 2011 year
 - New arrivals in the last eight years to NYY is 31,000 – 41,000
 - NYY now has migrants from over 50 countries
 - NYY receives 11 – 13% of all new arrivals in Yorkshire and Humber.
 - 3% of the NYY population is not British
 - 5% of NYY population not born in the UK
 - 3% of primary school pupils in NYY do not have English as a first language
 - 12% of all new births in NYY to migrant mothers and
 - One sixth of all new births in NYY have at least one parent born outside the UK
- 2.2. North Yorkshire has close to the average number of migrants per head of population compared to the rest of the Y&H region and anecdotally there are also a significant number of migrants living outside, but working within, North Yorkshire. The 50 nationalities in North Yorkshire are spread across the sub-region made up of slightly more non-EU migrants than EU migrants. There are over 150 businesses in NYY licensed to employ workers from outside the EU.

3. Migration Yorkshire

- 3.1. Migration Yorkshire provides strategic co-ordination and local support to enable the region and individual Local Authorities to deal effectively with migration (the business plan was circulated separately with the previous email to LAs):
- 3.2. The key elements of work for North Yorkshire and York are:
 - **Data and service planning** – Migration Yorkshire produce and analyse data regularly enabling Local Authorities to understand their populations and make short and long-

term decisions on services accordingly. This data includes the Local Migration Profiles produced for each individual Local Authority area.

- **Expert local support, training and guidance** – Migration Yorkshire are providing free training and guidance to LA staff, tailored to the needs of each individual each LA in the region to support the delivery of services to migrants. Migration Yorkshire also provide ongoing expertise to any LA on a one-to-one basis on all migration issues.
- **Strategic Co-ordination** – supporting LAs with migration role in understanding and developing strategic functions and relationships, supporting local planning and delivery. In addition to local support, this includes the following structures:
 - Regional Strategic Migration Group, the senior decision-making structure between LAs, UKBA, and other key statutory and voluntary sector partners;
 - Sub-regional migration groups, bringing together key partners to focus on key local migration needs and issues
 - Migration Yorkshire Board, to oversee the work of Migration Yorkshire and provide a forum for LAs to collectively discuss key migration issues.
- **Representing voice to Government** – this region has had a strong Local Government voice on migration issues.
- **Asylum seekers** – this is now relevant to NYY as the contract for housing asylum seekers has changed from LAs to a contract with G4S for the next seven years for Y&H. G4S have recently been pressing for allowances to disperse asylum seekers in certain circumstances to areas which were not previously cluster areas, including NYY. Migration Yorkshire is working on behalf of LAs in the region to ensure that G4S stick to agreed cluster areas, and are accountable for their services.
- **Roma** – There has been an increase in Central and Eastern European Roma in our region, which we now estimate to be 20,000. They were initially concentrated in particular wards in a few Local Authorities, but we are seeing clear signs of Roma moving and they are now present now in most areas of the region. Roma present specific needs and issues, and for some LAs Roma have become the most significant aspect of migration. The number of Roma in the UK is expanding and we expect Roma to be the main migration issue in the UK within 3-5 years.

4. Financial Contribution

- 4.1. Most Local Authorities in the region have now agreed to make the contribution to Migration Yorkshire. Migration Yorkshire would have to stop providing any current or planned services, or support to Local Authority areas not contributing.
- 4.2. The key financial risks are:
 - Loss of expertise provided by Migration Yorkshire to support local areas themselves having lost expertise impacting on strategic planning and decision-making;
 - Additional costs resulting from incorrect decisions on migration issues caused by lack of understanding and reduced support to the Local Authority;
 - Reduced influence on policy and reduced funding at National and European level and less money brought into the sub-region;
 - Costs to local services through dispersal of asylum seekers to new areas, inappropriate procurement, poor housing, lack of accountability, community tensions;
 - Increase in migration and/or new communities into an area without support from Migration Yorkshire or co-ordination with other LAs could lead to significant costs;
 - Some of the services provided by Migration Yorkshire would have to be delivered locally at a much higher cost without the expertise or economies of scale.
- 4.3. **Migration Yorkshire recommend that North Yorkshire and York continue to work collectively on migration issues with the other areas of the Yorkshire and Humber region to ensure a strong Local Government voice, strategic co-ordination and collaborative working on migration in the region. The small contribution towards would pool resources and ensure both a long-term saving and increased funding being drawn into North Yorkshire and York sub-region.**