

Local Government North Yorkshire and York

7 December 2012

Migration Yorkshire Request for Financial Contributions

Report of the Honorary Secretary

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To enable a discussion between Councils in this sub-region concerning a recent request, from Migration Yorkshire, for financial contributions.

2.0 Request Received

- 2.1 Migration Yorkshire is the Yorkshire and Humber regional migration partnership and is hosted by Leeds City Council. Migration Yorkshire works with national, regional and local partners to ensure that the region can deal with, and benefit from, migration.
- 2.2 Dave Brown, Manager of Migration Yorkshire, recently emailed Council Chief Executives as set out below. (The attachments to Dave Brown's email are not appended to this report.)

"Migration Yorkshire is approaching Local Authorities to agree the direction of our future work through new governance structures and to request contributions to continue the work of Migration Yorkshire. We are requesting contributions based on the size of Local Authority areas which we have banded into different population sizes. For the purposes of this exercise we have combined the North Yorkshire County and District Councils. Regionally we are requesting £90,000 and for North Yorkshire we are requesting £7,500. We are asking for half of this money from the County Council and the other half from the Districts. Therefore we are requesting £535 from each of the North Yorkshire District Councils. Our work is laid out broadly in our business plan, but I would be happy to talk through with you in more detail

Core funding from Local Authorities is essential for the continuation of the work of Migration Yorkshire and is central to delivering all aspects of our work. The core funding that we are requesting is multiplied nine times in money directly brought into the region for migration work per year (£800,000). With our future priority in helping to secure further funding for LAs, we aim to use the core funding to bring in £1 million for the region on migration work. If we do not receive the core funding of £90,000, we will cease to exist and up to £1million of funding for migration work will be lost to the region every year. From 2014 we aim to bring in £5-10 million per year.

This contribution will also represent a saving to Local Authorities as some of this work would have to be done locally at a higher cost and risks associated with not managing migration appropriately in individual service areas and in communities could potentially be extremely expensive.

I have attached:

- the draft business plan for Migration Yorkshire, which we have circulated to Local Authorities in the region
- the table which sets out the contributions that we are requesting from all Local Authorities in the region
- The local migration profile that we currently produce for each LA. This is a previous version, the latest version will be available in the next couple of weeks

Since writing the business plan there are a few additions and clarifications:

- We are developing sub-regional migration groups to meet quarterly
- We are establishing a 'Migration Yorkshire Board' of Local Authorities to oversee our work
- A priority will be to inform Local Authorities of funding opportunities and help to secure National and European funding for local authority areas

We are on the agenda for the regional Chief Executive's meeting on 22nd November to formalise our governance and relationship with LAs, including the establishment of a 'Migration Yorkshire Board' and to confirm the financing of Migration Yorkshire. However, we hope to have reached agreement with each individual LA prior to the meeting.

Let me know if you require any more information or would like to talk any further."

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 Members are invited to discuss the request.

Richard Flinton

Honorary Secretary to Local Government North Yorkshire and York