

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 4 October 2013
at 10.30 am at City of York Council's West Offices**

Present:-

<u>Constituent Authority</u>	<u>Representatives</u>
City of York Council	Councillor James Alexander (in the Chair) Kersten England (Chief Executive)
Craven District Council	Councillor Chris Knowles-Fitton Paul Ellis (Director of Services) (as Substitute for Paul Shevlin)
Hambleton District Council	Phil Morton (Chief Executive)
Harrogate Borough Council	Councillor Anthony Alton Wallace Sampson (Chief Executive)
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor John Weighell Richard Flinton (Chief Executive of the County Council and Honorary Secretary to LGNY)
Richmondshire District Council	Councillor John Blackie Tony Clark (Managing Director)
Ryedale District Council	Councillor Linda Cowling Janet Waggott (Chief Executive)
Scarborough Borough Council	Councillor Tom Fox Jim Dillon (Chief Executive)
Selby District Council	Councillor Mark Crane Jonathan Lund (Deputy Chief Executive) (as Substitute for Martin Connor)
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Mr Peter Charlesworth David Butterworth (Chief Executive)

In Attendance:-

County Councillor Carl Les (Chair, North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel).

Darren Capes (Transport Systems Manager, City of York Council).

Paul Cresswell (Corporate Director (Section 151 Officer), Ryedale District Council).

James Farrar (LEP Chief Operating Officer).

Dr Lincoln Sargeant (Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire).

Ruth Gladstone (Principal Democratic Services Officer, North Yorkshire County Council and LGNYY Secretariat).

Apologies for Absence:-

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Robson (Hambleton District Council) and Jim Bailey and Andy Wilson (North York Moors National Park Authority).

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

15. Minutes

Resolved -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2013, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

16. Matter Arising from the Minutes - Health Funding - Minimum Practice Income Guarantee

Considered -

The report of the Honorary Secretary advising of MPs' responses to LGNYY's letter concerning the intention of NHS England to withdraw the Minimum Practice Income Guarantee (MPIG).

Members commented that progress was being made on this issue and that the responses received from MPs were good.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

17. Tour de France

The Honorary Secretary reported that the representative of Welcome to Yorkshire, who was scheduled to attend today's meeting of LGNYY, had submitted, earlier that morning, an apology for absence due to ill health. The Honorary Secretary suggested that Nicky Roche (Chief Executive, TDF 2014 Ltd) should be invited to attend LGNYY's meeting on 6 December 2013.

Members expressed concern that the Government had said it would contribute £10m but that the amount to be received by the organisations who were incurring expenditure would be nowhere near that amount.

Resolved -

That Nicky Roche (Chief Executive, TDF 2014 Ltd) be invited to attend LGNYY's meeting on 6 December 2013.

18. LEP Update

Considered -

The report of the LEP Chief Operating Officer providing an update on the development of the LEP Strategy and addressing three issues, namely, LEP priorities, funding the LEP, and increasing collaboration with the local authorities.

James Farrar (LEP Chief Operating Officer) introduced the report, highlighting that the deadline for submitting the draft EU Strategy was 7 October 2013, feedback would subsequently be provided, and thereafter the EU Strategy, together with the Strategic Economic Plan, to bid into the Single Local Growth Fund, needed to be submitted by December 2013. In terms of funding the LEP, it was not yet known how the New Homes Bonus element of the Single Local Growth Fund would be calculated and that that needed to be taken into account. In the meantime, it was proposed to fund the LEP Secretariat and delivery through three sources, namely, a minimum £250k local authorities' contribution (possibly through pooled Business Rates), £250k BIS Capacity Funding to match the local authorities' contributions, and LEP Single Local Growth Fund.

During debate, some Members questioned whether each local authority should have a representative on the LEP Board, recognising the amounts of funding which authorities were now providing to the LEP. In response it was commented that the LEP Board would then number more than 20 people which would be a challenge in terms of its effectiveness. The majority of Members expressed support for having the Leaders' Board sitting alongside, not underneath, the LEP Board, with the Leaders' Board making the infrastructure decisions. It was noted that such an arrangement recognised that the Government wanted private sector led LEPs to be the channel through which grant was received. It was further commented that local authorities were not particularly good at providing Business Support and linking together but that local authorities were the correct organisations to deliver infrastructure and have a role in delivering skills. The Chair suggested that Leaders should have a separate meeting to discuss, in more detail, the issue of structures. James Farrar highlighted the need for a tight timescale for that meeting and requested that a few Chief Executives meet in advance to help frame the Leaders' discussion.

Also during debate, it was agreed that local authority representation on the newly created Skills Board should be discussed by Leaders outside today's meeting. James Farrar emphasised the importance of individual Board Members' skill sets so that each contributed to the work of the Board and that Board Members' role was not one of representation.

Resolved -

- (a) That the LEP Priorities, as summarised in section 2 of the report, be supported.
- (b) That a meeting of Leaders, to be chaired by Councillor James Alexander, be held to seek an agreed approach on the proposed funding mechanism to build a Local Growth Team and the proposed LEP Governance model.
- (c) That a small group of Chief Executives meet in advance of the Leaders' meeting identified in (b) above.

19. 2013 Report of the Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire

Considered -

The report of the Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire which provided an introduction into what Public Health entailed, a commentary on the state of the health

and wellbeing in the County, and recommendations, and priorities for the forthcoming year.

Dr Lincoln Sargeant (Director of Public Health for North Yorkshire) introduced his report and gave a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the key features.

Members congratulated Dr Lincoln Sargeant on producing an excellent report. It was highlighted that each District area had its own issues and that Dr Lincoln Sargeant would be working with each District Council. Kersten England (Chief Executive, City of York Council) highlighted that Dr Lincoln Sargeant already had a good working relationship with officers at the City of York Council. However, she would like to see that relationship strengthened, in particular to address the areas of domestic violence and mental health.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

20. The Development of CCTV in York

Considered -

The report of Darren Capes (Transport Systems Manager, City of York Council) providing an overview of CCTV operation in York, the scope of the current system, and proposals for future development.

Darren Capes introduced the report, highlighting the major investment which the City of York Council had made recently in both a new CCTV system and the wider Dark Fibre network. Consequently, the City of York Council was able to begin to offer CCTV and control/monitoring services across North Yorkshire and beyond. The initiative could reduce the costs associated in service provision, increase service level for participating bodies, and bring revenue into the City of York Council to support the current service and allow its future expansion.

Various Members indicated that they would be interested in their Authorities having discussions with the City of York Council to explore the possibilities of using the City of York Council's CCTV system.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

21. Pooling of Business Rates

Considered -

The note of a meeting of North Yorkshire Finance Officers held on 26 September 2003 which set out the current position and risk management issues in relation to a proposed submission for a Business Rates Pool for North Yorkshire.

The note was introduced by Paul Cresswell (Corporate Director (Section 151 Officer), Ryedale District Council) who highlighted the advantages of pooling of Business Rates within North Yorkshire, that there were many local authorities across the country who were currently working up submissions, and that there were risks involved, as identified in the note.

Councillor Tom Fox (Scarborough Borough Council) highlighted that appeals was the most significant risk issue. He requested that Finance Officers have serious discussions about the risks associated with appeals.

Richard Flinton advised that the County Council's view was that there were significant advantages of pooling, especially if Selby was included. However, the County Council would not accept the percentage figures set out in the note merely on the basis that this was how the Government carved up Business Rates.

County Councillor John Weighell expressed disappointed that the City of York Council and Harrogate Borough Council were not included in this work. He also advised that, in general, he strongly supported the principle of pooling of Business Rates. However, he was concerned that the Government might suddenly change the rules under which pooling was operating. He also commented that the percentages set out in the note did not reflect the expenditure which Councils incurred in building infrastructure for businesses eg transport and highways networks. Councillors Anthony Alton and James Alexander explained the reasons why their respective Councils were part of a separate pooling arrangement.

Resolved -

That the situations be noted.

22. Impact of Welfare Benefit Reforms on North Yorkshire Residents

Considered -

The report of the County Council's Assistant Director - Policy and Partnerships providing an update on the initial impacts of benefit changes brought about by the Welfare Reform Act 2012 and associated regulations. It was noted that a further update would be submitted to LGNYY's meeting on 7 March 2014.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

23. Appointment of District Councils' Substitute on North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee

Considered -

The report of the Honorary Secretary inviting the Committee to appoint the District Councils' Substitute representative to serve on North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee for the remainder of 2013/14.

Resolved -

That Councillor Jane Parlour (Richmondshire District Council) be appointed as the District Councils' Substitute on North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee, to serve until LGNYY's Annual Meeting to be held in 2014.

24. General Updates

Considered -

The report of the Honorary Secretary providing brief updates on recent deliberations of the Sub-Regional Housing Board, Yorkshire and Humberside European Regional

Development Fund Performance Management Board for North East and West Yorkshire, and Yorkshire and Humber Member Improvement and European Board.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

25. Arrangements for Future Meetings

Members were advised that Selby District Council had offered to host LGNYY's meeting on 7 March 2014. Councillor John Blackie, on behalf of Richmondshire District Council, offered to host the meeting on 3 October 2014. Councillor Tom Fox, on behalf of Scarborough Borough Council, offered to host the meeting on 5 December 2014.

Resolved -

That the following meeting arrangements be noted:-

- Friday 6 December 2013, 10.30am, Hambleton District Council offices
- Friday 7 March 2014, 10.30am, Selby District Council offices
- Friday 18 July 2014, 10.30am, Ryedale District Council offices
- Friday 3 October 2014, 10.30am, Richmondshire District Council's offices
- Friday 5 December 2014, 10.30am, Scarborough Borough Council's offices

26. Business for Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the Federation of Small Businesses had asked to talk to LGNYY about procurement and fast payments and the North Yorkshire economy in general.

It was highlighted that a multi-agency event was taking place on 24 October 2013, hosted by the Police and Crime Commissioner, to discuss governance and the commissioning process. Members suggested seeking an update report for the next meeting on how NY Safer Communities Forum was working and its governance arrangements.

Members also suggested inviting the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend a future meeting to talk about Leaders' concerns about the way in which the Police were presenting information with the consequence of creating concerns within local communities.

Resolved -

That the following business be submitted to LGNYY's meeting on 6 December 2013:-

- Tour de France (*as per Minute 17*).
- Federation of Small Businesses - Procurement and fast payments and the North Yorkshire economy in general.
- NY Safer Communities Forum - How it is working and its governance arrangements.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner be invited to a future meeting.

The meeting concluded at 12.15 pm.

RAG/JR