

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NORTH YORKSHIRE AND YORK

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Friday 28 June 2019 at 10.30 am
at City of York Council's West Offices, Station Rise, York

Present:-

<u>Authority</u>	<u>Member/Chief Executive</u>
City of York Council	Councillor Andrew Waller (as Substitute for Councillor Keith Aspden) Ian Floyd (Deputy Chief Executive)
Craven District Council	Councillor Richard Foster Annette Moppett (Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer)
Hambleton District Council	Councillor Mark Robson Dr Justin Ives (Chief Executive)
Harrogate Borough Council	Rachel Bowles (Director of Corporate Affairs)
North York Moors National Park Authority	Mr Jim Bailey
North Yorkshire County Council	County Councillor Carl Les (in the Chair) Richard Flinton (Chief Executive and also LGNY Y Honorary Secretary)
Richmondshire District Council	Councillor Angie Dale Tony Clark (Chief Executive)
Ryedale District Council	Councillor Keane Duncan Stacey Burlet (Chief Executive)
Scarborough Borough Council	Nick Edwards (Director)
Selby District Council	Janet Waggott (Chief Executive)
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Mr Carl Lis OBE

In Attendance:-

Keith Stewart (Interim Chair, Welcome to Yorkshire), James Farrar (Chief Operating Officer, York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP), Councillor Peter Wilkinson (Vice-Chair, North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel) and Ruth Gladstone (LGNY Y Secretariat).

Apologies for Absence:-

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Richard Cooper (Harrogate Borough Council), Councillor Steve Siddons (Scarborough Borough Council), Councillor Mark Crane (Selby District Council) and David Butterworth (Chief Executive, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority).

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

59. LGNY Y Membership 2019/20

Considered -

The report of the Honorary Secretary listing the names of Authorities' representatives on LGNY Y for 2019/20.

It was reported orally that, subsequent to circulation of the report, the following appointments to LGNY Y had been made:-

- Councillor Richard Cooper had been appointed to represent Harrogate Borough Council, with Councillor Graham Swift as his Substitute.
- Mr Jim Bailey had been appointed to represent the North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority, with Mr Malcolm Bowes as his Substitute.
- Councillor Steve Arnold had been appointed as Ryedale District Council's Substitute.
- Mr Neil Heseltine had been appointed as the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Substitute.

Resolved -

That the report be noted.

60. Appointment of LGNY Y Chair and Vice-Chairs

Resolved –

- (a) That Councillor Keith Aspden (City of York Council) be appointed LGNY Y Chair to serve until LGNY Y's Annual Meeting to be held in 2020.
- (b) That the following Members be appointed LGNY Y Vice-Chairs to serve until LGNY Y's Annual Meeting in 2020:-
 - County Councillor Carl Les (North Yorkshire County Council)
 - Councillor Richard Foster (Craven District Council)

61. Declarations of Interest

County Councillor Carl Les declared that he was a Board Member of Welcome to Yorkshire.

62. Minutes

Resolved –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2019, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

63. Exclusion of the Public

Resolved -

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006.

Minute 64 is a public summary of business conducted in private.

64. Welcome to Yorkshire

Considered –

The oral report of Keith Stewart (Interim Chair of Welcome to Yorkshire) providing a briefing and responding to Members' questions concerning the current situation at Welcome to Yorkshire, including arrangements to share, with Councils, the reports of investigations into expenses and the culture, governance procedures and management of Welcome to Yorkshire following the departure of Sir Gary Verity from the post of Chief Executive Officer. Keith Stewart also advised of the arrangements in place for recruiting a new Chief Executive Officer for Welcome to Yorkshire and reported that he had been asked to continue as Interim Chair until the new Chief Executive Officer had commenced in post.

Resolved –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That Keith Stewart (Interim Chair of Welcome to Yorkshire) be invited to attend a future meeting of LGNYY to provide a further update concerning the situation at Welcome to Yorkshire.

65. Business Rates Pilot – North Yorkshire Considerations

Considered –

The report of North Yorkshire County Council's Corporate Director – Strategic Resources which:- (a) advised of recent discussions of the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pilot; and (b) asked LGNYY to consider economic priorities for a possible surplus of £250k which might arise in 2019/20 from the North Yorkshire Business Rates Pool.

The outcome of discussions at the meeting of the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pilot held on 27 June 2019 was reported orally, including a decision to approve a grant of up to £1m for Welcome to Yorkshire for 2019/20 subject to an acceptable Business Plan for Welcome to Yorkshire which would be sent to all Councils shortly.

With regard to the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pilot and the approximate £4.06m remaining balance for additional projects:-

- Members acknowledged that collective bids from Councils across York and North Yorkshire might be more successful, rather than smaller bids from individual Councils, although individual Councils were not prevented from bidding. It was proposed that the Directors of Development Group, which was trying to move a range of growth issues forward across York and North Yorkshire, should be asked to identify and, subject to the approval of relevant Councils, submit collective bids.
- Members expressed support for making the case that, in the spirit of fairness and evenness with the arrangements relating to the Leeds City Region LEP, Councils' subscriptions to the YNYER LEP should be funded from the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool.

With regard to the possible surplus of £250k which might arise in 2019/20 from the North Yorkshire Business Pool, it was suggested that decisions about such funding should be delegated to the Directors of Development Group.

Resolved –

- (a) That progress on the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pilot be noted.

- (b) That, with regard to the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pilot and the £4.06m (approx) remaining balance for additional projects:-
 - (i) The Directors of Development Group be requested to identify and, subject to approval of relevant Councils, submit collective bids.
 - (ii) That the case be made for Councils' subscriptions to the YNYER LEP to be funded from the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool.
- (c) That, with regard to the possible surplus of £250k which might arise in 2019/20 from the North Yorkshire Business Pool, decisions be delegated to the Directors of Development Group in order for any such surplus to be used for moving growth issues forward across the York and North Yorkshire area.

65. York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership Update

Considered –

The report of the Chief Operating Officer of the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership providing an update on progress on the Local Growth Fund, the LEP merge, and the Local Industrial Strategy.

Members commended the LEP's Annual Conference held on 26 June 2019.

Resolved –

- (a) That all possible levers be used to ensure deliverability of Local Growth Fund projects.
- (b) That progress on the LEP merge be noted.
- (c) That progress on the Local Industrial Strategy, and in particular the local engagement events, be noted.

66. Resourcing of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Considered –

The report of the Chair of North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel asking Councils:- (a) to establish Special Responsibility Allowances for ordinary Members of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel; and (b) to make financial contributions towards officer support and training/development for the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel.

Councillor Peter Wilkinson (Vice-Chair of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel) introduced the report, highlighting the expanding role of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, including taking on governance of the Fire Service and handling of police complaints, and the costs of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel which regularly exceeded the amount of the grant provided by the Home Office for such purpose.

Members proposed that LGNY Y should write to the Home Office to ask for an uplift in the amount of grant for the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel on the grounds that this would be appropriate to reflect the need for sufficient governance and scrutiny across the expanding role of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

Leaders of some District Councils advised that their Councils were unlikely to agree the payment of a Special Responsibility Allowance to Police, Fire and Crime Panel Members in the amount suggested by the County Council's Independent Remuneration Panel, ie £1,697 pa, because that amount was significantly higher than the amount of many Special Responsibility Allowances paid by their Councils to other elected Members whose workloads and responsibilities had also increased. It was clarified that the recommendation before LGNYY was for each Council to set the amount of its Special Responsibility Allowance for its Member on the Police, Fire and Crime Panel, and that some Councils may decide that their Special Responsibility Allowances for their Panel Members should be £nil.

With regard to the request for each Council to make a financial contribution towards officer support and training/development for the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel, in the varying amounts set out at paragraph 7.4 of the report, Councillor Duncan Keane (Ryedale District Council) advised that he was not minded to support this recommendation and that questions needed to be asked about whether other Police, Fire and Crime Panels were able to operate within the amount of their Home Office grant and why that was not the case in North Yorkshire.

In response to questions, the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council clarified that the County Council was not able to give a commitment to continue paying the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel's costs which exceeded the amount of the Home Office grant.

Resolved –

- (a) That consideration of Special Responsibility Allowances for ordinary Members of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel be deferred pending a response, from the Home Office, to the letter to which part (c) of this Resolution refers.
- (b) That consideration of the request for Councils to make a financial contribution towards officer support and training/development for the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel be deferred to LGNYY's meeting to be held on 18 October 2019.
- (c) That LGNYY write to the Home Office to ask for an uplift in the amount of grant for the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel on the grounds that this would be appropriate to reflect the need for sufficient governance and scrutiny across the expanding role of the North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

67. General Updates

Considered –

The report of the Honorary Secretary advising of recent discussions of the Sub-Regional Housing Board, the Sub-Regional Spatial Planning and Transport Board, and the Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Group.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

68. Appointments to Outside Bodies

Considered –

The report of the Honorary Secretary seeking the appointment of Members to five outside bodies to serve until LGNYY's annual meeting on 3 July 2020.

Resolved –

- (a) That, in respect of the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding European Structural and Investment Funds Sub-Committee:-
- (i) The Members identified below be appointed as Representatives on the Sub-Committee, to serve until LGNYY's annual meeting on 3 July 2020:-
1. From the City of York Council – Councillor Darryl Smalley
 2. From North Yorkshire County Council - County Councillor Andrew Lee
 3. From the 7 District Councils – Councillor Stephen Arnold (Ryedale District Council)
- (ii) Substitutes to be appointed by LGNYY's Honorary Secretary following email consultation following this meeting.
- (b) That, in respect of North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee, Councillor Jim Clark (Harrogate Borough Council) be appointed as the District Councils' representative and that an elected Member of Richmondshire District Council be nominated for appointment as Substitute for Councillor Jim Clark.
- (c) That, in respect of North Yorkshire Health and Wellbeing Board, Councillor Richard Foster (Craven District Council) be appointed as the District Council Leader.
- (d) That, in respect of York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP Board:-
- (i) Councillor Mark Crane (Selby District Council) be appointed as the District Council Leader representing the Leaders of Craven, Harrogate and Selby District Councils.
- (ii) Discussions be held between the Leaders of Ryedale, Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils regarding who their representative should be and a nomination be subsequently forwarded to LGNYY's Honorary Secretary for formal appointment.
- (e) That, in respect of Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Group, Neil Irving (North Yorkshire County Council) and Ann-Marie Douglas (City of York Council) be appointed as the two representatives and Jonathan Spencer (North Yorkshire County Council) be appointed as Substitute for either Neil Irving or Ann-Marie Douglas.

69. Arrangements for Future Meetings

Resolved –

That the following LGNYY meeting arrangements, as previously advised, be noted:-

- Friday 18 October 2019 at 10.30am at Allerton Waste Recovery Park, Moor Lane (off A168), Knaresborough, HG5 0SD
- Friday 6 December 2019 at 10.30am at Richmondshire District Council's Mercury House, Richmond, DL10 4JX
- Friday 6 March 2020 at 10.30am, venue tba

- Friday 3 July 2020 at 10.30am, venue tba
- Friday 9 October 2020 at 10.30am, venue tba
- Friday 4 December 2020 at 10.30am, venue tba

70. Business for Next Meeting

Resolved –

That items of business for the next meeting be notified to Richard Flinton.

The meeting concluded at 12.05pm.

RAG