

**MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY MEETING:
4 OCTOBER 2007**

Action

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the apologies were **noted**.

A full list of attendees and apologies is attached at **Annex A**.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting (AGM) – 12 July 2007

Members **agreed** the minutes of the last meeting as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising – Including Update on Government's Proposed Changes to the Yorkshire & Humber Plan (RSS)

Members were advised that the Government's Proposed Changes to the Yorkshire and Humber Plan (RSS) were published on 28 September for a 12-week consultation period ending on 21 December. The Regional Planning Board is responsible for recommending the Assembly's response and this will be taken to the next Assembly meeting on 6 December for approval before being submitted to the Secretary of State by 21 December.

It was **noted** that an email would shortly be sent to all Assembly and Board Members summarising the Proposed Changes and seeking views on them. The full document would also be available on request.

There were no further matters arising.

4. Approval of Final 2006/07 Statement of Accounts

Mark Shaw introduced the final Statement of Accounts 2006/07 as recommended by the Regional Executive Board and these were **approved**.

Deleted: Members were advised that the Proposed Changes to the Yorkshire and Humber Plan (RSS) were published at the end of September and that an internal consultation on these was now underway. The Regional Planning Board is responsible for recommending the Assembly's response and this will be taken to the next Assembly meeting on 6 December for approval before being submitted to the Secretary of State by 21 December. ¶
¶ It was **noted** that an email would shortly be sent to Members summarising this process and the full document would be available on request.¶
¶ There were no further matters arising.

5. Activities and Decisions of the Regional Executive Board

Members **noted** an update on the activities and decisions of the Regional Executive Board since the Annual General Meeting.

6. Activities and Decisions of the Functional Boards

Members were given an update on the activities and decisions of the functional boards since the Annual General Meeting, as follows:

- Planning

The Planning Board had met once and had discussed the announcement of the Sub National Review and its implications; the imminent publication of the Government's Proposed Changes to the RSS; housing numbers; the Water Framework Directive; advice on the future extraction of aggregates; and an update on consultations of planning and development documents.

- Housing

The Housing Board had also met once and had looked at concerns over housing numbers and the consequences of potential increases. There had also been a discussion about the ability to deliver these increases and the implications of the use of Greenfield land for development purposes.

- Transport

The Transport Board had met for the first time with Cllr Mark Kirk as Chair and had been given a presentation by Hill City Council on the Hull & Humber Ports City Region Transport Vision. The Board had also agreed to write the Minister for Transport to express the Board's concerns over the Government's future plans for the development of the railways set out in the White Paper on Rail and had endorsed the first phase of the proposed Sheffield-Rotherham Bus Rapid Transit for funding from the Region's transport funding allocation. Finally there had been a discussion about the Board's upcoming Away day on 12 October.

- Sustainable Development

The Sustainable Development Board had met once and discussed the potential for undertaking a Regional Adaptation Study in Yorkshire and the Humber. The Board had agreed to invite a

representative from the North East Assembly to a future meeting to give advice on how they had carried out a similar study in their region.

- Scrutiny

The Board had met once since the Annual General Meeting and had discussed the engagement of the Board since its last meeting. There had been a reminder about the use of the Assembly website as a resource for Members and the decision had been taken to allow more time for Assembly Members to consider draft Scrutiny reports in advance of full Assembly meetings. The Chair of the Scrutiny Board noted that the Board's next meeting on 11 October had now been cancelled.

These activities and decisions were **noted** by Members.

7. Election of Assembly Representatives to the New European Programme Management Boards

Members were advised that only one nomination had been received for the Assembly's representative on the European Social Fund (ESF) Programme Management Committee and were asked to approve Paul Jagger as the representative. This was **approved**.

Members were also asked to note the progress by the Assembly to secure a representative on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Programme Management Committee. Members were advised that nominations would be considered by the Regional Executive Board at its meeting on 8 November.

This was **noted**.

8. Review of Sub National Economic Development and Regeneration (SNR) – Summary of Key Recommendations and Implementation

Members were given a summary of discussions that had taken place on the Sub National Review to date, as follows:

Local Government Yorkshire & Humber

Some concern was expressed about the proposed relationship between local authorities and Yorkshire Forward, especially in relation to the agreement of the Single Regional Strategy and scrutiny. The focus on GVA as the sole measure of success for the Single Regional Strategy was also highlighted as possibly

problematic. It was noted that if the strategy was to encompass the environmental, social and economic then success would need to be measured by a wide range of indicators including looking at inequalities, sustainable development etc.

Social, Economic & Environmental (SEE) Partners

It was noted that the SEE Partners had met twice since the announcement of the SNR. The Partners had expressed initial disappointment at the lack of role specified for them in the new arrangements and at the lack of recognition of the work they have done in the past. There was also concern over the absence of detail on the role of SEE Partners at the local level as well as in regional arrangements.

SEE Partners had considered whether they might recreate a body similar to the former Yorkshire & Humber Regional Partnership to enable them to meet collectively and independently in the future. They had also recently responded to a letter from the Chair of Yorkshire Forward and invited him to a future meeting to discuss these concerns.

These points were **noted** by Members.

The Chair advised Members that he would raise the following issues at the Regional Executive Board meeting with Caroline Flint MP later in the afternoon:

- The principle of an un-elected body being responsible for social policy. It was noted that Yorkshire Forward were aware of this concern and want to start discussions about how the SNR proposals might work in the Region before the formal consultation begins later in the year. In particular these discussions would need to focus on how the Single Regional Strategy should be developed by Yorkshire Forward and the Leaders Board jointly.
- It is important that the role of social, economic and environmental (SEE) partners of the Assembly is not lost in the new arrangements as this partnership approach has greatly benefited the Region.
- The exact nature of scrutiny needs to be clarified – it is unclear how the roles of parliamentary and regional scrutiny will work together. It is also important that scrutiny is not overly restrictive.

- The appointment of a Regional Minister is welcomed but it is important that this does not detract from the future devolution of powers of local government.

Members were advised that a separate meeting would be taking place between the Chair and John Healey MP on the 22 October. Neil Irving would be representing the SEE partners at this meeting.

Members **agreed** these points as a basis for discussion with the Regional Minister at the Regional Executive Board meeting.

9. Regional Inclusion and the Julian Cummins Awards

Members were asked to agree the draft inclusion document 'Promise – Delivering Inclusion in Yorkshire and Humber' and note plans for the 'Creating Better Futures' Awards, named after former Assembly and Yorkshire Forward Board member Julian Cummins, to be launched in November.

This was **agreed**.

10. Any Other Business

Members were asked to note the date of the next meeting. This is special meeting that has been arranged to approve the draft Integrated Regional Framework and also to agree a response to the Government's Proposed Changes to the Yorkshire and Humber Plan.

Date of Next Meeting: 6 December 2007

Emma King, Business Services Officer
October 2007

**YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY MEETING –
4 OCTOBER 2007 - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

Attendees

Members/Substitutes:

Michele Sutton	Association of Colleges Yorkshire & Humber
Cllr Mike Stokes	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (Sub for Cllr Houghton)
Naheed Arshad-Mather	BME Regional Panel
Cllr Kris Hopkins	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Cllr Peter Box	Chair
Andrew Palmer	Confederation British Industry (Sub for Penny Hemming)
Paul Jagger	Deputy Chair
Chris Glen	Federation Small Businesses
Cllr Arthur Barker	Hambleton District Council
Cllr Mark Kirk	North Lincolnshire Council
Cllr John Fletcher	North York Moors National Park Authority
Cllr John Weighell	North Yorkshire County Council
Cate Hammond	Regional Environment Forum Yorkshire & Humber
Cllr Melva Steckles	Richmondshire District Council
Cllr Roger Stone	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Keith Knaggs	Ryedale District Council
Patricia Farrell	Yorkshire & Humber Faiths Forum
Neil Irving	Yorkshire & Humber Regional Forum
Janet Dean	Yorkshire & Humber Strategic Health Authority (sub for Kathryn Riddle)
Gary Topp	Yorkshire Culture
Dr Malcolm Petyt	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Wendy Bundy	Yorkshire Rural Community Council
Michael Noble	Yorkshire Universities

Observers:

Phil Younge	Environment Agency (Sub for Andrew Wood)
David Fraser	Government Office (Sub for Felicity Everiss)
Alex Bywaters	Highways Agency (Sub for Vanessa Gilbert)

Visitors:

Laura Harrison	-
Jenny Dobson	Big Lottery Fund
Peter Redfern	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Lyn Costelloe	HDCT
Ken Gillespie	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Carole Hassan	LGYH
Caroline Savage	Regional Forum
Kevin Dodd	Wakefield District Housing
Inderjit Singh Bhogal	Yorkshire & Humber Faiths Forum
Sharon Pickering	Yorkshire & Humber Regional Skills Partnership
Simon Foy	Yorkshire Forward
Stephen Fox	Yorkshire Rural Community Council
Michelle Lewis	Yorkshire Water/Kelda

Staff:

Sue Jeffrey
Emma King
Iain Lovell
Chris Martin
Jenny Poxon
Mark Shaw
Rob Warm

Apologies:

Cllr Steve Houghton	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Tony Reeves	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Cllr Ann McAllister	Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Steve Galloway	City of York Council
Penny Hemming	Confederation British Industry
Cllr Carl Lis	Craven District Council
Mayor Martin Winter	Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Steve Parnaby	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Andrew Wood	Environment Agency
Felicity Everiss	Government Office Yorkshire & Humber
Margaret Jackson	Government Office Yorkshire & Humber
Cllr Mike Gardner	Harrogate Borough Council
Vanessa Gilbert	Highways Agency
Cllr Carl Minns	Kingston upon Hull City Council
Cllr Robert Light	Kirklees Council
Cllr Andrew Carter	Leeds City Region Partnership
Paul Rogerson	Local Authority Chief Executives
Tom Glossop	Local Councils Association
Peter Nottage	Natural England
Cllr Andrew De Freitas	North East Lincolnshire Council

George Krawiec
Meredydd Hughes
Paul Johnstone
Mike Cuff
Cllr Tom Fox
Cllr Mark Crane
Cllr Jan Wilson
Cllr Steve Jones
Colin Mellors
Cllr Denise Jeffrey
Michael Oughtred
Kathryn Riddle
Terry Hodgkinson

North East Lincolnshire Council
Police
Regional Public Health Group
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Scarborough District Council
Selby District Council
Sheffield City Council
Sheffield City Council
University of York
Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
Yorkshire & Humber Chambers of Commerce
Yorkshire & Humber Strategic Health Authority
Yorkshire Forward