

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD: 22 MAY 2008

	ACTION
<p>1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.</p> <p>A full list of attendees and apologies is attached as Annex A.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 10 April 2008</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a correct record.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p>Members were advised that the Assembly’s Business Plan was approved by CLG on 30 April.</p> <p>There were no further matters arising.</p>	
<p>4. AGM Business</p> <p>a) Proposed Amendments to Governance Arrangements</p> <p>Members asked for clarification on the proposal to allow Local Authority members to nominate another elected member from their authority with scrutiny experience to join the Scrutiny Board. It was suggested that this option should be available to SEE Partners also. It was noted that this suggested amendment was to a way to address the imbalance that has occurred on the Scrutiny Board with regards to Local Authorities in the past.</p> <p>Members agreed to accept this amendment with the comments above included.</p>	

b) Appointment of Honorary Treasurer

Members **endorsed** the appointment of the Honorary Treasurer.

c) Provisional Assembly and Regional Executive Board Meeting Dates 2008/09

Members **agreed** and **noted** the revised dates and reduction in meetings for 2008/09.

d) Draft Annual Report 2007/08

Members **agreed** and **noted** the Draft Annual Report for 2007/08.

e) Draft Financial Statements for 2007/08

Members were advised that an additional short Executive Board meeting would be held prior to the Assembly AGM to allow consideration of the full report.

Members expressed concern over the distribution of remaining funds once the Assembly is wound down. It was suggested that CLG should be responsible for the majority of costs regarding staff pensions and liabilities.

Members were advised that the Assembly still needed to hold discussions with CLG as to the extent of their responsibility but that the Assembly Constitution does have provision in it to ensure the fair distribution of remaining funds.

5. Eco Towns Consultation Response

Chris Martin introduced this item by advising Members that the final version of the Yorkshire and Humber Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy) had been approved by Government the day before. It was noted that the recommendations of the Assembly around Greenhouse Gas Targets and managing the process of increased house building targets had been taken into consideration. Members were also advised that the mini review of the Plan would shortly begin and this would be looking at housing figures including the new Eco Town proposals in the Region.

Members expressed concern that Local Authorities may be penalised for not meeting the new housing targets through

no fault of their own, for example as a result of lack of available land. It was noted that although Local Authorities were ultimately responsible for meeting their own targets, the Assembly has a role to play in expressing the interests of the Region and would be aware certain sensitivities when doing this.

The importance of having an integrated strategy that expresses a collective Regional view was also stressed.

It was suggested that the mini review of RSS be used to address individual concerns and to get the views of the house building sector. It was noted that the Quality Places Forum is already picking up this type of work.

Members were then advised that although a shortlist of Eco Town bids in the Region had been published, there was still no news on Growth Point bids. Members were then asked to comment on the Assembly's response the Government's Eco Towns Consultation Paper.

Members expressed concern over the following issues:

- The Rossington bid in our Region is from a private developer and there are problems associated with this around the lack of consideration of surrounding infrastructure to support the town.
- Eco Towns can never really be completely ecological unless they are self-sufficient. Growth in the Region would be better spread out rather than concentrated in one area. England does not have a good history of creating new towns.
- The Yorkshire and Humber Plan's aims are contradictory to those of the Eco Town proposals. Low carbon housing could be achieved through mainstream development more effectively than by creating new Eco Towns.

Members **agreed** that the Executive Board should act as a body to support the Local Authorities affected by the Eco Town proposal and to look at related issues as part of the review of RSS. The response to the Eco Towns Consultation Paper was **agreed**.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Information Items

Information items on the Political Control of Yorkshire and Humber Councils following Local Government Elections on 1 May and on the Assembly's Media Coverage since the last meeting were circulated and noted.

Date of Next Meeting: 17 July 2008

Emma King, Business Services Officer
May 2008

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: 22 MAY 2008

Attendees

Paul Jagger	Deputy Chair
Cllr Kris Hopkins	Chair of Regional Housing Board
Cllr Mark Kirk	Chair of the Regional Transport Board
Cllr Arthur Barker	North Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership/Chair of Local Government Yorkshire and Humber
Cllr John Weighell	Rural Local Authorities
Patricia Farrell	SEE Partner Group
Michael Noble	SEE Partner Group
Cllr Roger Stone	South Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership

Observers

Margaret Jackson	Government Office (substitute for Felicity Everiss)
Paul Rogerson	Regional Chief Executives Group
Tom Riordan	Yorkshire Forward (Observer)

Visitors

Cllr Richard Brett	Leeds City Council
--------------------	--------------------

Staff

Sue Jeffrey
Chris Martin
Iain Lovell
Rob Warm
Emma King

Apologies

Cllr Peter Box	Chair
Cllr Steve Galloway	Chair of Regional Planning Board
Cllr Mark Kirk	Chair Regional Transport Board
Felicity Everiss	Government Office (Observer)
Cllr Carl Minns	Hull & Humber Ports City Region Partnership
Cllr Stephen Parnaby	Humber Local Authority Partnership

Cllr Andrew Carter
Penny Hemming
Naheed Arshad-Mather
Cllr Jan Wilson
Cllr Robert Light

Leeds City Region Partnership
SEE Partner Group
SEE Partner Group
Sheffield City Region Partnership
West Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership