

**MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:  
26 JUNE 2008**

**Attendees**

Paul Jagger	Deputy Chair
Cllr Andrew Carter	Leeds City Region Partnership
Cllr Arthur Barker	North Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership/Chair of Local Government Yorkshire and Humber
Cllr Kris Hopkins	Regional Housing Board
Cllr Mark Kirk	Regional Transport Board
Cllr John Weighell	Rural Local Authorities
Bill Adams	SEE Partner Group
Michael Noble	SEE Partner Group
Patricia Farrell	SEE Partner Group
Penny Hemming	SEE Partner Group
Cllr Robert Light	West Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership

**Observers**

Margaret Jackson	Government Office
Paul Rogerson	Regional Chief Executives Group
Simon Foy	Yorkshire Forward

**Staff**

Chris Martin  
Mark Shaw  
Nicola Baylis  
Sue Jeffrey

**Apologies**

Cllr Peter Box	Chair
Cllr Carl Minns	Hull City Region Partnership
Cllr Stephen Parnaby	Humber Local Authority Partnership
Felicity Everiss	Government Office
Naheed Arshad-Mather	SEE Partner Group
Cllr Paul Scriven	Sheffield City Region Partnership
Cllr Roger Stone	South Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership
Tom Riordan	Yorkshire Forward (Observer)

## 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

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

## 2. Draft Statement of Accounts 2007/08

It was explained that, in accordance with paragraph 11 (xi) of the Assembly Constitution, the Regional Executive Board is responsible for recommending the Assembly's draft statements of accounts to the AGM for approval.

The draft statement of accounts for 2007/08 was then presented to members who were then given to opportunity to raise questions and/or comments.

Members asked what would happen to any reserves when the Assembly was wound up. It was confirmed that any funds left over once all liabilities have been settled will be divided amongst member authorities with shares determined on the same basis as subscriptions.

Members requested that a letter be sent to Government making it clear that local government would not fund any costs arising from the decision to abolish the Assembly. It was noted that Government Office were pursuing this issue with CLG and BERR – although early indications suggest that the issue of funding liabilities will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

There was some debate around whether it would be best to wait until the outcome of these discussions is known before sending any letter. However, it was **agreed** that a letter requesting clarity on the issues raised should be sent to CLG/BERR in advance of the next meeting.

It was also **agreed** that transition issues should be a standing item on the agenda.

Members **agreed** that the draft Statement of Accounts 2007/08 be recommended to the AGM for approval.

## 3. Any Other Business

An information note, detailing the National Housing and Planning Advice Unit (NHPAU) advice to Government on the recommended level of future housing building in the regions,

Sue Jeffrey

Emma King

was tabled at the meeting.

In the discussion that followed, a number of key points were raised:

- Where did the NHPAU get the regional figures used in the advice? It was confirmed that the NHPAU used its own computer models, although background data about the region had been provided to the NHPAU by the Assembly and Yorkshire Forward.
- It is likely that the data used in the advice will be out of date, and will not have taken into account the changing economic circumstances. We need to challenge the figures before they are agreed by Government.
- It was noted however that the NHPAU advice is long term (20+ years).
- Need to prove that the process is wrong, rather than getting into a lengthy debate about the figures. It was stated that the 'testing' that will take place in the region through the 2009 Update/Review of the RSS will allow us to do this.
- Need to focus on the longer term objectives, not get caught up in short term issues.
- The planning system needs to be able to respond to the changing economic circumstances facing the region.

Members were thanked for their comments. It was confirmed that the paper would also be tabled at the Assembly AGM.

**Date of Next Meeting: TBC**

Nicola Baylis, Business Services Officer  
30 June 2008