

**MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY MEETING:  
6 DECEMBER 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 – 4 October 2007**

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

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Draft Integrated Regional Framework (IRF)**

Cllr Arthur Barker gave a brief introduction to the IRF and noted the following points:

- That this framework was intended to replace the work contained in both the Regional Sustainable Development Framework (RSDF) and Advancing Together (AT).
- The framework has been developed following the summer consultation exercise and a sustainability appraisal by the North East Assembly. The current IRF is more evidence based (it has been influenced by Yorkshire Futures) than the consultation document.
- The original seven landmark issues have been extended to ten 'Regional Challenges'. Each one has strategic directions plus a list of key actions.
- The framework doesn't cover everything but focuses on priorities for the Region.
- In response to how the IRF will fit into the new Single Regional Strategy, there will be a significant period of time before the new Strategy is in place and the IRF is therefore needed to drive sustainable development in the meantime.

Cllr Barker explained that the IRF was not presented for a final sign off at today's meeting but asked Members to agree the document and the next steps in advance of a final sign off at the Regional Executive Board in March.

The next steps were **agreed**.

## **5. Secretary of State's Proposed Changes to the Draft Yorkshire and Humber Plan**

This item was introduced by Cllr Steve Galloway who gave a brief history of the Plan to date. Cllr Galloway noted that there were some challenging issues as a result of the proposed changes though these mainly related to housing.

It was noted that a significant amount of discussion had taken place through and between the Assembly's various Boards and Forums.

Cllr Galloway asked that Members should consider that the report acknowledged that a steep increase in house building in the Region starting from 2008 was not practical and a key element of the response was to say that higher rates of growth should not start until 2011.

It was noted that there were some additional views on transport issues that had been expressed by the Regional Transport Board at its meeting on 30 November. These were not included in report but would be added into the Assembly's response.

In the debate that followed Members raised the following points:

- Craven District Council would like an increase in their housing allocations to 300. It was noted that there would be opportunity for further review of housing numbers in the future and that re-instating the draft Plan requirement would be an appropriate response at this stage.
- Members asked how the implications of increased house building on the wider infrastructure of the Region would be taken into account. In response it was noted that is a concern that would be picked up by the Assembly's Boards in future work – the Plan was not itself an investment plan. But it was agreed that the issue would be picked up in the covering letter to accompany the Assembly's response to the proposed changes, along with the financial implications associated.
- Members also asked if it was possible to only build

development that the related infrastructure could support. In response it was noted that the South East Assembly had pursued this argument with Government, but it was not successful.

- Members appealed for more work to be done around the density of new development and locating new development to avoid flood and drainage problems in the future. In response it was noted that there has been general agreement previously that this is work best dealt with at a local level.
- Members raised the issue of transport in rural areas, which did not seem to be reflected in the report – prohibitive parking legislation and expensive and limited public transport systems mean that people are forced to use their cars in rural areas, which is not in line with climate change targets. In response it was noted that the report and proposed changes did not cover all the policies in the plan and there are policies that address rural transport issues - the Plan needs to be read as whole, rather than just looking at the proposed changes alone.
- There was a request from Doncaster that the language in the Plan be more consistent to promote a positive image of Robin Hood Airport as a significant investment priority. This was noted and agreed.
- Members agreed that a 2008 target for a 'step-up' in building rates was not practical or achievable and 2011 was preferable.
- Richmondshire District Council requested that the Plan keep up to date with developments around Catterick Garrison. This was noted.
- Members asked about work being done to improve skills levels in the Region. It was noted in response that the Plan does not tackle this area specifically though there is a great deal being done collectively in the Region to look at this issue.
- Members noted that growth should be viewed as a positive step as it will attract funding into the Region.

The Chair then asked Members to show their agreement of the six sets of proposed responses set out in the report.

Each of the sets of proposed responses were **agreed**, with the additional points on transport from the Regional Transport Board.

The Chair asked Members to show their agreement of the full schedule of changes set out at Annex A to the report.

The full schedule was **agreed**.

## 6. Activities and Decisions of the Regional Executive Board

The activities and decisions of the Regional Executive Board since the last Assembly meeting on 4 October 2007 were **noted** by Members.

## 7. Activities and Decisions of the Functional Boards

The activities and decisions of the Functional Boards since the last Assembly meeting on 4 October 2007 were **noted** by Members.

The Chair of the Regional Transport Board gave a brief update on the meeting that had taken place on Friday 30 November and noted that the Board had endorsed the Highways Agency's approach to developing improvement schemes on the A63 and A160/A180 schemes – both of which were vital access roads to the Humber Ports. The Board had also agreed to undertake a review of regional transport funding priorities to make sure that the Region was making maximum use of its Regional Funding Allocation.

These activities were also **noted**.

## 8. SNR Update

Members were advised that the SNR consultation exercise would probably now not begin until January/February of next year.

Members also asked to note that the Assembly was still waiting for its business planning guidance and this may not be received until the new year.

Members were given a copy of a letter sent to all Assemblies by CLG, which outlined the duties it would be expected to undertake in relation to the Regional Spatial Strategy and Housing work.

Members noted the following points:

- The Assembly should continue to engage in positive debate with Yorkshire Forward
- It would be useful to document all the different meetings and discussions that have taken place on the Sub National Review, in one place
- There is a need to follow up positive debate about the engagement of SEE Partners in the new structure, with strategic context

- There is a commitment between Local Authority leaders and Yorkshire Forward to work together for the good of the Region
- It is recommended that the Executive Board of Local Government Yorkshire and Humber (LGYH) is expanded to include representation from city regions and the rural sector as well as the Chair of the Assembly, to enable better liaison with Yorkshire Forward. It is also recommended that LGYH meet regularly with Yorkshire Forward to facilitate regular discussion.

## **9. Any Other Business**

The Environment Agency updated Members on the 2007 summer floods review, which had recently been completed and which includes a number of case studies on our Region. It was **noted** that this would now feed into an independent Government review led by Sir Michael Pitt.

**Date of Next Meeting: 7 February 2008**

Emma King, Business Services Officer  
December 2007

## **YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY MEETING 6 DECEMBER 2007**

### **Attendees**

#### **Members/Substitutes:**

Liz Wright	Association of Colleges (Sub for Michele Sutton)
Cllr Bill Newman/Cllr Mike Stokes	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (Sub for Cllr Steve Houghton) – Bill Newman to vote
Cllr Kris Hopkins	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Cllr Ann McAllister	Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Andrew Palmer	Confederation British Industry (Sub for Penny Hemming)
Cllr Peter Box	Chair
Cllr Steve Galloway	City of York Council
Cllr Carl Lis	Craven District Council
Mayor Martin Winter	Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
Chris Glen	Federation of Small Businesses
Cllr Arthur Barker	Hambleton District Council
Cllr Mike Gardner	Harrogate Borough Council
Cllr Robert Light	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Cllr Richard Brett	Leeds City Council
Cllr Andrew De Freitas	North East Lincolnshire Council
Cllr Mark Kirk	North Lincolnshire Council
Cllr John Weighell	North Yorkshire County Council
John Fletcher	North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority
Cate Hammond	Regional Environment Forum
Cllr Melva Steckles	Richmondshire District Council
Cllr Roger Stone	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Wendy Bundy	Rural Community Council
Cllr Keith Knaggs	Ryedale District Council
Cllr Brian O'Flynn	Scarborough Borough Council
Cllr Mark Crane	Selby District Council
Cllr Tim Rippon	Sheffield City Council
Cllr Tom Glossop	Town and Parish Councils
John Lewis	TUC (Sub for Bill Adams)
Patricia Farrell	Yorkshire & Humber Faiths Forum
Nick Pontone	Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce (Sub for Michael Oughtred)

Gary Topp  
Malcolm Petyt  
Michael Noble

Yorkshire Culture  
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority  
Yorkshire Universities

**Observers:**

Phil Younge  
Margaret Jackson

Environment Agency  
Government Office Yorkshire & Humber (Sub for  
Felicity Everiss)  
Highways Agency (sub for Vanessa Gilbert)  
Natural England  
Regional Chief Executives Group  
Yorkshire Forward

Nick Whittard  
Richard Wilson  
Paul Rogerson  
Terry Hodgkinson

**Visitors:**

Kazuko Kakegawa  
Kevin Swift  
David Preece  
Chris Hughes  
Mary Farrar  
Jake Scott  
Sarah Watson  
Paul Savage  
Mark Gladstone

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Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Bradford Centre Regeneration  
Bradford Metropolitan District Council  
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council  
Environment Agency  
Highways Agency  
North Lincolnshire Council  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

**Staff:**

Andy Haigh  
Andy Horrocks  
Chris Martin  
Emma King  
Hannah Madajewski  
Harriet Fisher  
Helen Todd  
Iain Lovell  
Jatinder Singh Mehmi  
Jessica Jubb  
Jodie Speight  
Kelly Jevons  
Liz Drexler  
Lyndsey Bunn  
Martin Elliot  
Mike Padgett  
Natalie Fudge  
Nicola Baylis  
Richard Wood

Rob Warm  
Sue Jeffrey  
Will Kemp

**Apologies:**

Caroline Rowley	Association of Colleges
Michele Sutton	Association of Colleges
David Smith	Association West Yorkshire Authorities
Cllr Jim Andrews	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Phil Coppard	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr Steve Houghton	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Naheed Arshad-Mather	Black & Minority Ethnic Regional Panel
Tony Reeves	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Penny Hemming	Confederation British Industry
Cllr Stephen Parnaby	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Felicity Everiss	Government Office Yorkshire & Humber
Kathryn Riddle	Yorkshire & Humber Strategic Health Authority
Vanessa Gilbert	Highways Agency
Rob Vincent	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Paul Jagger	Learning and Skills Council
George Krawiec	North East Lincolnshire Council
John Marsden	North Yorkshire County Council
Med Hughes	Police
Paul Johnstone	Regional Public Health Group
Cllr Tom Fox	Scarborough Borough Council
Martin Connor	Selby District Council
Cllr Jan Wilson	Sheffield City Council
Bill Adams	TUC
John Foster	Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
Inderjit Bhogal	Yorkshire & Humber Faiths Forum
Michael Oughtred	Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce
Helen Groves	Yorkshire and Humber Regional Forum