

**MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY AGM:
26 JUNE 2008**

ACTION

Launch of 'Growing Together' the Integrated Regional Framework and 'Regional Challenges' film

The Chair gave a brief outline of the work done to produce the Integrated Regional Framework (IRF) and explained that it may be one of the last major regional documents that the Assembly will publish. He also summarised the background to the ten regional challenges that the IRF says the Region needs to address. The Chair then introduced Hannah Trigg, the student photographer who won the Assembly's competition to provide the photos for the report.

Hannah explained how she hoped that the initiatives coming out of the IRF would improve the prospects for both older and younger generations in the Region who are looking to work in, live in and enjoy Yorkshire and the Humber.

Hannah then introduced the 'Regional Challenges' film, that summarised some of the practical examples of how particular localities are addressing the ten regional challenges.

Following the film there was support from the meeting for the document and also for the Regional Challenges.

The Chair thanked Hannah and opened the main business meeting.

1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

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

A full attendance list is attached as **Annex A**.

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

The minutes of the last AGM were **noted**.

3. Amendment to Governance Arrangements

Members **agreed** the changes to the Assembly's Governance Arrangements to allow nominated deputies on the Scrutiny Board.

4. Appointments:

- a) Cllr Peter Box was **confirmed** as Chair of the Assembly for the second year of a two year term.

Paul Jagger was **confirmed** as Deputy Chair of the Assembly for the second year of a two year term.

- b) The membership of the Regional Executive Board was **agreed** for the year 2008/2009. Cllr Robert Light was confirmed as the West Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership representative.
- c) Judith Badger was **agreed** as the Honorary Treasurer for the Assembly for 2008/2009 on the recommendation of the Regional Executive Board.
- d) The Chairs and Deputy Chairs of the Assembly's Functional and Sustainable Development Boards were **agreed** for the year 2008/2009. Members were advised that there was an outstanding vacancy for the Deputy Chair of the Regional Transport Board and that, because the Chair of this Board is a local authority member, this vacancy would be dealt with by the SEE Partners at their next meeting.
- e) Members **approved** the membership of the Assembly's Scrutiny Board.

5. Draft Annual Report 2007/2008

Members **approved** the Draft Annual Report of the Assembly: 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 on the recommendation of the Regional Executive Board. Members were advised that the report would be published and circulated in July.

6. Draft Statement of Accounts 2007/2008

Members were asked to confirm the Assembly's accounts for 2007/2008 on the recommendation of the Regional Executive Board.

Members asked that the Assembly's transition arrangements

become a standing item on the Regional Executive Board agenda. This was **agreed**.

Members **confirmed** the draft statement of accounts and **noted** progress on the 2006/2007 Audit Action Plan.

7. Schedule of YHA Meetings 2008/2009

Members **noted** the schedule of meetings for the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly for 2008/2009.

8. Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration (SNR)

Members were asked to consider and comment on progress in developing regional responses to the SNR and to note next steps in relation to the future work of the Assembly and its transition arrangements.

In the discussion that ensued the following points were raised:

- Concern was voiced over the 'democratic deficit' arising from SNR arrangements. It was noted that despite the good relationship the Assembly has with the Regional Development Agency (RDA) and the good intentions of all parties, there was still potentially too much scope for democracy to be compromised considering the RDA is accountable to central government.
- Other Members argued that there has been a positive response to the SNR consultation resulting in a strong proposed framework for moving forward and this had jointly been agreed by Leaders and Yorkshire Forward. It was also noted that the proposed shadow board structure involved elected local authority leaders.
- It was noted that the SEE Partners have held separate discussions and are lobbying for more meaningful engagement for partners in the new structures. SEE Partners also made the point that they are elected within their own organisations and are accountable through that process. It was also noted that their representative organisations operate at regional level, giving them a clearer focus on important regional issues.
- Members raised the issue that although the Assembly has a good relationship with the RDA now, personnel will inevitably change and the structures and dynamics of both organisations could alter as a result. Any way forward

therefore has to be adaptable to cope with this.

- It was noted that it was important to work together to make the Single Regional Strategy a success in order to compete nationally and to remember that whatever constituency a member represents, the future of the Region is a collective goal to work towards.

9. Meeting the Climate Change Challenge – Final Draft Scrutiny Report

The Deputy Chair introduced this item and gave Members some background on the process of this review. It was noted that Climate Change is an important issue and although it has featured in a previous review, the Scrutiny Board felt it warranted its own line of enquiry. It was also noted that the Board had agreed nine recommendations for how Yorkshire Forward's activities on climate change can be improved.

Members were asked to receive and approve the final draft report.

Members raised the following points:

- Concerns that the time available for the Climate Change Executive Board to comment was insufficient. A more structured process of consultation would be welcomed.
- Although the Board should be congratulated on its report, it is felt that now is the time for more action on climate change issues.
- It was suggested that the findings of the Pitt Report into last year's flooding could be worked into the report.
- Recommendation 7 regarding piloting an anaerobic digestion facility in the Region as an alternative to waste incineration, seems a rather specific recommendation compared to the others.
- There is a need to consider the social impacts of climate change and to focus on innovation and knowledge transfer issues. There should also be more focus on how climate change work can translate into job creation.

These comments were **noted** and Members **approved** the report.

10. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 7 February 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February were **agreed** as an accurate record.

11. Matters Arising

The matters arising were **noted** by Members.

Yorkshire Forward updated on their Corporate Plan, advising that approval was expected from BERR shortly. The delay in approval is due to the fact that all RDA Corporate Plans are being dealt with by BERR at the same time.

12. Report Back from the Regional Executive Board

Members **noted** the activities and decisions of the Regional Executive Board since the last Assembly meeting on 7 February.

13. Report Back from the Boards

Members **noted** the activities and decisions of the Assembly's Functional and Sustainable Development Boards since the last meeting on 7 February.

14. Any Other Business

Members **considered** an information note on the National Housing and Planning Advice Unit, which had recently published its advice to Government on the recommended level of future house building in English Regions. It was noted that targets were not fixed and even when actual figures are announced they will be subject to testing as part of the review of RSS.

It was also noted that the Minister for Sport had recently announced that Leeds Metropolitan University has been chosen as the centre for coaching excellence for the 2012 Olympics.

Finally Government Office advised that the next Regional Funding Exercise was expected to be launched before Parliament closed for recess. This will be considered at the next Regional Executive Board meeting on 17 July.

There was no further business.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 2 October 2008

Emma King, Business Services Officer
2 July 2008

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY AGM

26 JUNE 2008

Attendees

Members/Substitutes:

Caroline Rowley	Association of Colleges
Cllr Kris Hopkins	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Penny Hemming	CBI
Cllr Peter Box	Chair
Cllr Andrew Waller	City of York Council
Cllr Chris Knowles-Fitton	Craven District Council
Paul Jagger	Deputy Chair and Learning and Skills Council
Tony Cherry	Federation of Small Businesses
Cllr Arthur Barker	Hambleton District Council
Cllr Mike Gardner	Harrogate Borough Council
Cllr Carl Minns	Hull City Council
Cllr Robert Light	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Cllr Andrew Carter	Leeds City Council
Cllr Andrew De Freitas	North East Lincolnshire Council
Cllr Mark Kirk	North Lincolnshire Council
Cllr John Weighell	North Yorkshire County Council
Cate Hammond	Regional Environment Forum
Stephen Fox	Regional Forum
Cllr Melva Steckles	Richmondshire District Council
Cllr Tom Fox	Scarborough Borough Council
Cllr Tom Glossop	Town and Parish Councils
Bill Adams	TUC
Nick Pontone	Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce
Patricia Farrell	Yorkshire and Humber Faith Forum
Kathryn Riddle	Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Health Authority
Cllr Carl Lis	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Wendy Bundy	Yorkshire Rural Community Council
Michael Noble	Yorkshire Universities

Observers:

Gail Hammond
Margaret Jackson
Vanessa Gilbert
Paul Rogerson

Environment Agency
Government Office
Highways Agency
Local Authority Chief Executives

Richard Wilson
Terry Hodgkinson

Natural England
Yorkshire Forward

Chief Executives:

Carole Hassan

LGYH

Visitors:

Mary Farrar
Rebecca Matthews
John Lewis
Caroline Swan
Inderjit Singh Bhogal
John Wright
Ben McKenna
Simon Foy

Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Department of Health
TUC
TUC
Yorkshire and Humber Faith Forum
Yorkshire Culture
Yorkshire Culture
Yorkshire Forward

Staff:

Andy Horrocks
Chris Martin
Emma King
Hannah Madajewski
Harriet Fisher
Iain Lovell
James Paton
Jatinder Singh Mehmi
Jodie Speight
Liz Drexler
Lyndsey Bunn
Mark Shaw
Martyn Roberts
Melanie Thompson
Muhammad Arif
Natalie Fudge
Nicola Baylis
Rob Warm
Sue Jeffrey
Vanessa Curry

Apologies:

Michele Sutton
Cllr Steve Houghton
Naheed Arshad-Mather
Cllr Ann McAllister
Mayor Martin Winter
Cllr Stephen Parnaby

Association of Colleges (Sub)
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (No Sub)
BME Regional Panel (No Sub)
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council (No Sub)
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (No Sub)
East Riding of Yorkshire Council (No Sub)

Toby Willison	Environment Agency (Sub)
Felicity Everiss	Government Office (Sub)
Peter Simpson	Hambleton District Council
Peter Nottage	Natural England (Sub)
Cllr John Fletcher	North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority (No Sub)
Med Hughes	Police (No Sub)
Helen Groves	Regional Forum (Sub)
Cllr Roger Stone	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (No Sub)
Cllr Keith Knaggs	Ryedale District Council (No Sub)
Cllr Mark Crane	Selby District Council (No Sub)
Cllr Paul Scriven	Sheffield City Council (No Sub)
Gary Topp	Yorkshire Culture (No Sub)
Michael Oughtred	Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce (Sub)