

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

6 NOVEMBER 2008: 1.00PM – 3.00PM

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY, 18 KING STREET, WAKEFIELD

AGENDA

1. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

BUSINESS ITEMS

1.05 – 1.15

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 2 October 2008 (Pre YHA Meeting) Attached
3. Matters Arising Verbal

DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS

1.15 – 3.00

4. Sub National Review and Transition Arrangements – Summary of Progress Attached
5. RSS Update Attached
6. Update on Economic Crisis and the National/Regional Response – Simon Foy, Yorkshire Forward Verbal
7. Report Back from the Boards Attached
8. Olympics 2012 Update – Presentation by Martin Havenhand, Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games Attached

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

- Regional Funding Advice 2008 – Info Note 2 Attached
- New Arrangements for Cultural Organisations in the Region Attached

10. Any Other Business

Date of Next Meeting: 8 January 2009

**MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:
2 OCTOBER 2008**

	ACTION
<p>1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted. A full attendance list is attached as Annex A.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes for Approval</p> <p>The minutes of the Regional Executive Board meeting held on 4 September were agreed.</p> <p>Members highlighted that the sentence noted under item 4 to 'move to new governance arrangements by 1 April 2009', was a 'target' date.</p> <p>Michael Noble agreed to raise the point that the date was a 'target' with members at the full Assembly meeting that afternoon.</p>	<p>Michael Noble</p>
<p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p>Alison Biddulph reported that Government Office Yorkshire and Humber still had no information regarding any announcement on the Governments response to the Sub National Review Consultation. However, Government were 'actively considering it'.</p> <p>Alison agreed to once again stress the concern that clarity was needed as soon as possible regarding the Sub National Review.</p>	<p>Alison Biddulph</p>
<p>4. Half-Year Review of Business Plan and Budget</p> <p>Members endorsed the half-year review of performance against the approved Business Plan and noted the half-year position for the 2008-09 budget.</p> <p>Chris Martin informed Members that the second half of the year would need to be focused on the transition to new</p>	

governance arrangements and associated staffing arrangements. Key pieces of work would include coordinating the RFA2 Advice, the Scrutiny Review of Investment Planning, RSS Update and the Climate Change Action Plan.

Members requested clarification of who would be accountable for the liabilities in relation to existing staff, should the Assembly still exist in its current form past the 1 April 2009.

It was highlighted that the existing Regional Executive Board could still exist until the AGM in June 2009 and therefore Executive Board members would still be able to make any decisions regarding the Assembly should that be necessary beyond March 2009.

Sue Jeffrey said it was important to bear in mind that the CLG money that currently funds the Assembly would be available in 2009/10 to fund whatever the new governance arrangements might be. It was likely there would be a 10% cut to the existing budget, leaving approximately £1.9m to fund ongoing work and the governance arrangements.

It was **agreed** that a timetable needed to be agreed to move to new governance arrangements and a meeting to discuss that should be arranged as soon as possible.

Sue Jeffrey

5. **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

Date of Next Meeting: 6 November 2008

Jessica Jubb, Executive Services Officer
October 2008

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: 2 OCTOBER 2008

Attendees

Paul Jagger	Deputy Chair
Cllr Carl Minns	Hull and Humber Ports City Region Partnership
Cllr Arthur Barker	North Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership and Chair of Local Government Yorkshire and Humber
Cllr Kris Hopkins	Regional Housing Board
Cllr Mark Kirk	Regional Transport Board
John Weighell	Rural Local Authorities
Naheed Arshad Mather	SEE Partner Group
Michael Noble	SEE Partner Group
Cllr Roger Stone	South Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership

Observers

Simon Foy	Yorkshire Forward
Alison Biddulph	Government Office

Staff

Sue Jeffrey
Jessica Jubb
Iain Lovell
Chris Martin

Apologies

Cllr Peter Box	Chair
Felicity Everiss	Government Office
Cllr Stephen Parnaby	Humber Local Authority Partnership
Cllr Andrew Carter	Leeds City Region Partnership
Paul Rogerson	Regional Chief Executives Group
Cate Hammond	Regional Planning Board
Bill Adams	SEE Partner Group
Patricia Farrell	SEE Partner Group
Penny Hemming	SEE Partner Group
Cllr Robert Light	West Yorkshire Local Authority Partnership
Tom Riordan	Yorkshire Forward

SUB NATIONAL REVIEW AND TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS – SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

For Discussion/Decision

- To update Members on progress with the Government's Sub National Review of Economic Development and Regeneration (SNR); and
- To note and discuss activity in relation to transition to new regional arrangements

Background

1. This report provides an update on SNR and transition activity under the following headings.
 - **Strategy and Policy** – progress being made nationally and in the region to implement SNR;
 - **People** – issues relating to Assembly staff;
 - **Process** – updating on business planning, budgets and transfer arrangements; and
 - **Communications** – messages to Members, staff, the wider region and beyond.

Strategy and Policy

2. National Developments:
 - At the time of writing we are still waiting for the publication of the Government response to the SNR consultation. This was expected in September; the latest suggestion is that it will be published as part of announcements connected with the Pre Budget Report, possibly in the second half of November.
 - Speaking last week, Pat McFadden MP (BERR Minister with responsibility for SNR) stressed the importance of regions moving ahead with the arrangements they are developing. 'The focus must be to work together to support business through the difficult times ahead and to maintain the space for discussions between key voices in the region'.
 - In response to the financial crisis Government has established the Regional Economic Council, to meet quarterly, chaired by the Chancellor Alistair Darling MP and the Minister for Business Lord Mandelson, involving the

RDA Chairs and representatives from business organisations. Additionally, Regional Ministers are meeting regularly in the Council of Regional Ministers, co-chaired by Liam Byrne MP Minister for the Cabinet Office and Yvette Cooper MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury. It is likely that there will be a key role for RDA's going forward focused to lead efforts to cope with the impacts of the current economic downturn.

- As a result of the focus on the economy, speculation continues that there will be changes to the original SNR proposals. Whilst support appears to remain for a jointly prepared Single Regional Strategy, local authorities could be asked to concentrate on the spatial aspects and the RDA's on the economic perspective. Any formal transfer of responsibilities could become optional.
- Parliament will debate proposals for Regional Committees on 6 November. Depending on the outcome (and there is no certainty that proposals will be accepted) Regional Committees will begin work on a pilot basis, in the New Year.
- The Homes and Communities Agency launches on 1 December. David Curtis has been appointed as the new Yorkshire and Humber Director (currently Director of Development at Sheffield City Council). The Board members for the HCA have also been announced including Margaret Fay (an 'ex-officio' appointment as chair of One North East) who will establish a bridge between the new organisation and Regional Development Agencies while the HCA is becoming established.

3. In Region:

- The Regional Officer Group last met at the beginning of October and agreed that we should progress quickly to plan transition arrangements. To clarify the role of the Assembly in the transition Cllr Box wrote to the Chairs of LGYH and Yorkshire Forward proposing how staff and resources could support the work. A copy of the letter and the replies are available from the Assembly.
- LGYH have indicated that they, along with Yorkshire Forward, will be leading the transition process with appropriate consultation with Assembly staff. Yorkshire Forward have confirmed that they will be engaging with staff from the Assembly to take forward the work where they are leading (work and skills and transport).
- Yorkshire Forward have made it clear that their focus has to be the current economic challenges and have suggested that concrete discussions on staff structures and associated transition take place immediately following any Government announcement.

- LGYH and Yorkshire Forward representatives have now met with each of the three functional boards (housing, planning and transport) to explain current thinking around the move to thematic boards (housing and regeneration, planning, transport and work and skills) as proposed in the new regional arrangements. LGYH/Yorkshire Forward Working Groups will be meeting over the next few weeks to work up proposals.
- Consultants have been appointed to develop proposals for the new Independent Challenge Board, successor to the Sustainable Development Board. This work is funded through the DEFRA Transition and Transformation Fund and is being overseen by a Steering Group chaired by Cllr Arthur Barker, current Chair of the Sustainable Development Board.
- The next meeting of the LGYH/Yorkshire Forward Regional Board will take place on 27 November 2008.
- The next meeting of the Regional Officer Group is scheduled for 2 December 2008
- Social, Economic and Environmental partners continue to consider their options for future engagement including proposals for an independent SEE Partner grouping. They are holding a further workshop to examine the viability of this option on 30 October facilitated by an independent consultant funded by Yorkshire Forward. The outcome of this event will be reported to the meeting.

People

4. The staff team continues to be stable with no vacancies arising since our last report in September. A recent staff away-day attended by Vice Chair, Paul Jagger, considered issues around ongoing delivery of the business plan as well as the transition process. This was well received and morale and motivation remains good.
5. As we approach the New Year, inevitably staff will start to reflect on options for the future. With continuing uncertainty about post SNR arrangements and the threat of the economic downturn the risk of losing essential staff increases significantly. Our obligations under employment law also mean that we need to be able to confirm any contractual changes by the New Year.

Processes

6. Business Plan and Budget:
 - A report setting out progress on activity for the first half of 2008/09 was considered by the Executive Board and the full Assembly at meetings in October.

- Business Planning Guidance for 2009/10 has now been issued to cover the Assembly's functions for 2009/10. The implications of this guidance are as follows:

Thematic Content

- We already have an approved Business Plan to cover the period 2008-11. In terms of key activity, CLG are expecting to see a refresh only covering our ongoing tasks as Regional Planning Body, Regional Housing Board, scrutiny (complementary to activities to be undertaken by Regional Committees) and regional strategic partnership work as agreed with Government Office (this includes the work of the Sustainable Development Board). The refreshed plan will need to reflect how these activities will be delivered through new regional arrangements.

Transition Arrangements

- The Business Plan Guidance is asking us to provide a statement on transition arrangements including details of how we will develop a regional Change Management Plan for the transition period (assumed to be 2009/10).

Timetable

- The timing for the preparation and submission of the Business Plan is as follows:

Nov 2008	Discussion of drafts with Government Offices
Dec 31 2008	Deadline for submission of final draft plans to CLG
Jan/Feb 2009	Issue of letters of approval to assemblies/accountable bodies

Budget

- CLG will be expecting savings of at least 10% on 2008/09 grant levels (approx £200K). Additionally, we are asked to identify the extent of reserves we hold and the purpose to which they will be put in the coming year. In particular how we will deploy resources to accommodate identified wind up costs although, it goes on to say that the functions currently undertaken by the Assembly should in large measure continue, and that it is not anticipated that these costs will be significant.
- In relation to Local Authority subscriptions (£220K) that currently support our regional work, LGYH are proposing that they continue to collect the local authority contributions to the Assembly at the current level whilst leaving it open to Members to decide how these resources should be deployed to support the new regional arrangements.

Developing the Business Plan

- Because we are moving to new regional arrangements there will need to be a new process put in place to develop the Business Plan. Proposals for

a way forward are currently being considered and an update will be provided at the meeting.

7. Arrangements in relation to liabilities remains as previously reported:
 - **Staff** - in the event of the Assembly being wound-up and all staff being made redundant it is estimated that redundancy liabilities would be £271k and Pensions liabilities £646k.
 - **Other Liabilities** are 18 King Street where 6 months' notice is required from either party to terminate the lease; ninety days' notice is required to terminate the photocopier maintenance agreement and the termination of the franking machine would incur annual fee of £237. There are no other liabilities.

Communications

8. Assembly Members, partners and stakeholder receive regular updates on SNR progress through the Assembly newsletters Essentials and mini Essentials.
9. Since the decisions on moving to a March 31 timetable for transitional arrangements to be in place, a number of regional and local newspapers have picked up on the issue, along with local government and other trade media. These have included the Yorkshire Post, Northern Echo and Hull Daily Mail, and have included comments from the Assembly Chair and the Chairs of both LGYH and Yorkshire Forward. In addition, there has been coverage of the possible changing role of Regional Development Agencies and SNR in general in the national, regional and trade media.
10. We are trying to ensure that all media coverage includes reference to the positive legacy left by the Assembly and to this end The Northern Echo has published a letter from Cllr Box, highlighting some of the key successes of the organisation over the last few years. Copies of the press coverage to-date will be tabled at the meeting.
11. Past reports on this matter are available as follows:

Source Papers	Location
<p>Regional Executive Board: 4 September 2008 Review of Sub National Economic Development and Regeneration</p> <p>Regional Executive Board: 4 September 2008 Transition Issues</p> <p>Assembly Meeting: 2 October 2008 Review of Sub National Economic Development and Regeneration</p> <p>Assembly Meeting: 2 October 2008 Half year review of business plan and budget</p> <p>Letter from Cllr Peter Box, 8 October 2008 Next Steps in the Transition and replies from Cllr Arthur Barker (LGYH) 23 October 2008, and Terry Hodgkinson (Yorkshire Forward) 24 October 2008.</p> <p>Regional Assemblies/North West Leaders Forum. Business Plans and Funding 2009-10. Guidance Note for CLG, Government Offices and Assemblies. CLG, October 2008</p>	<p>All available from:</p> <p>Emma King Yorkshire and Humber Assembly 18 King Street Wakefield WF1 2SQ Tel: 01924 331590 E-mail: emma.king@yhassembly.gov.uk</p>

Sue Jeffrey, Executive Director
October 2008

RSS UPDATE

For Decision

- To note progress so far on the RSS update
- To endorse the next steps in the process of preparing the RSS Update, including the start of informal consultation on 'spatial options'.

Introduction

1. Members will be aware that a key area of Assembly activity included in this year's Business Plan is to progress work on an update of the Yorkshire and Humber Plan (the Regional Spatial Strategy – RSS). At its March 2008 meeting Executive Board agreed both a 'strategic steer' for the project plan for the update and the launch of a first initial consultation stage (a 'call for evidence'). This report updates Members on progress so far with the RSS update and seeks endorsement of the next steps.

Focus of the RSS Update and Progress to date

2. The focus of this RSS update is on making sure that the Region has a long-term approach to meeting housing needs and that housing development is accommodated in the most sustainable way. We need to do this because the scale of development that the Plan is addressing was significantly increased late in its preparation. This update will:
 - Take account of the short-term impact of the 'credit crunch', but primarily critically examine the evidence that underpins longer-term economic and household growth projections.
 - Test national advice on the scale of new housing we should plan for
 - Look at, through a refinement of the approach in the current Plan, potential locations for future growth that may be needed and define the infrastructure requirements to accommodate that growth.
 - Focus on work with partners to further develop sub area strategies so as to help the Region to be more effective in co-ordinating development and investment over the longer term.
 - Respond to the challenge of climate change and apply sustainability appraisal throughout its preparation.
 - Support and add value to work underway (or requiring further development) at sub-regional and local authority level.
 - Help build a foundation for work on a new Single Regional Strategy.

- Address specific requirements for meeting the housing needs of the gypsy and traveller communities.
3. Over the last four months, consultation has been undertaken on a draft Project Plan and also on a 'Call for Evidence', which has brought forward initial views from regional and local stakeholders on a range of proposed approaches to accommodating future growth in the Region. The Assembly team has also drawn together 'evidence base' work to identify more specific development opportunities and constraints within each sub-area – drawing on evidence from local authorities and a range of other organisations.
 4. The next stage is to move to a further stage of 'informal' consultation with regional and local stakeholders. This is a consultation that seeks views on a range of 'options' for 'how much' and in 'what ways' and 'where' development might be accommodated in the Region in the longer-term. In preparing for this proposed consultation the Assembly team has discussed and tested its work with the Regional Planning and Transport Forums and also the Planning Board's Technical Advisory Group.

The Proposed 'Options' Consultation and Next Steps

5. The Regional Planning Board met on 21 October and agreed the broad form and focus of the consultation and a proposed consultation document. The consultation is planned to run from 10 November through to 30 January 2009. It will include a series of public sub-regional consultation events in York, Hull, Sheffield and Leeds and other events for specific interests, culminating in a regional housing and planning event in York on 27 November. The final text of the consultation document is currently being cleared with Regional Planning Board Members.
6. The 'options' stage is still an informal consultation stage to stimulate debate and discussion – the ideas and options on which views are being sought are not proposals. Responses to the consultation will be used – during the spring of 2009 – to begin the work of preparing draft revisions to housing policies in the Yorkshire and Humber Plan and draft proposals for broadly where (in various parts of the Region) development should take place in the longer-term. Publication of a draft revision to the Plan for formal consultation (and submission to Government) will not take place until July 2009, with an Examination in Public' in 2010.
7. Executive Board is asked to note progress on the RSS Update and endorse the next steps in the process of preparing an update to the RSS, including the start of informal consultation on 'spatial options'.
8. Past reports on this subject are available as follows:

Source Papers

Report	Location
Regional Executive Board: 6 September 2007 Delivering Regional Growth Regional Executive Board: 10 January 2008 Business Plan and Budget for 2008/09 Regional Executive Board: 13 March 2008 Eco Towns and RSS Review	All available from: Emma King Yorkshire and Humber Assembly 18 King Street Wakefield WF1 2SQ 01924 331590 emma.king@yhassembly.gov.uk

Chris Martin, Executive Director,
October 2008.

REPORT BACK FROM THE BOARDS

For Information

Members are asked to note the decisions and activities of the Assembly's Functional Boards since the Regional Executive Board meeting held on 4 September.

Regional Housing Board

1. The Regional Housing Board met on 3rd October. The Board discussed the Sub-national review. The Chair informed members that he had written to Yorkshire Forward to raise a number of concerns about how work on housing would be taken forward after 1 April, but was able to confirm that a meeting had been arranged for later in October to explore these concerns in more detail. In addition, Tony Reeves, Chief Executive of Bradford and nominated Chief Executive lead from LGYH on the development of the new Housing and Regeneration Board, attended the meeting to discuss the future structure of the Boards.
2. The Board also discussed Regional Funding Advice – the Regional Housing Board is leading on the Housing and Regeneration strand of this work. Members agreed to use the three broad themes of places, access and homes (as set out in *'Delivering Real Change' – 2007*) as a framework for the RFA submission.
3. Members agreed that the first funding block (2011-15) should be spatially and thematically specific, but later funding blocks should focus on identifying major projects. It was also felt important that dialogue takes place with sub-regional housing partnerships, and the Homes and Communities Agency to identify the key projects that need to be given certainty for future funding rounds. Given current economic uncertainties members felt that there should be a balance between certainty and flexibility.
4. Members agreed a Regional Housing Board Action Plan (subject to some minor changes) – that seeks to address the current housing market conditions and the downturn in construction starts on site. The Board agreed specific pieces of work around - housing options; mortgage rescue; delivery of affordable housing; housing market intelligence; shared ownership and work to support partnerships between developers and Local Authorities to deliver affordable housing.

5. The Board also received a presentation from the Regional Housing Forum on research they have carried out on behalf of the Board on Supporting People issues.

Regional Planning Board

6. The Regional Planning Board met on 21 October. The meeting provided an opportunity for the Board to be updated on the SNR and to discuss the new governance arrangements. Paul Rogerson Chief Executive of Leeds City Council attended the meeting in his capacity as the nominated Chief Executive lead from LGYH on the development of the new Planning Board. He was able to share his thoughts on the new Board with members and to take away members' views on how the new Board might develop and operate.
7. The main focus for the meeting was progress on the Update of the RSS 2009. The Board received presentations on the possible 'Strategic Options' for the overall scale and distribution of future housing growth in the region and for different approaches to accommodating growth in the different RSS sub areas. The Board agreed that there needs to be consultation on these challenging issues with as broad a range of stakeholders as possible over the coming months. Members agreed the broad principles of the content of a consultation document – subject to some amendments. A final draft of the consultation document is being circulated to the Board for agreement, which will be used as the focus for a programme of consultation between November and the end of January 2009.

Regional Transport Board

8. The Regional Transport Board met on 10 October. The main focus of the meeting was on Regional Funding Advice – the Board is leading on the transport strand of this work. Members agreed the overall timetable and key milestones for the work. They also considered a number of programme management matters including Department for Transport advice on how much 'over-programming' should be built into the advice and how to deal with 'packages' of schemes, where scheme promoters had grouped a number of separate elements together. Members agreed that they needed to have a further report to their next meeting on how highways maintenance scheme funding would be handled in the RFA.
9. The Board went on to consider what methodology to use to prioritise bids for funding from the transport element of RFA. The Board agreed the principles of a methodology – adapted from that used currently, particularly to give appropriate recognition to smaller, more local schemes alongside the big, strategic projects. Members also agreed that a 'prioritisation framework' should be used to help with longer-term thinking (particularly dealing with post-2014 schemes).

10. The final RFA issue was whether or not to 'vire' between the different 'blocks' of transport funding that DfT had included in the RFA. The Board agreed to work on the basis of retaining the current balance of funding between 'blocks', however a further report on revising the distribution of the highways maintenance 'block' should be brought to the December meeting.
11. The Board discussed progress on the RSS Update/ Review and supported the approach being taken to transport issues.
12. Finally, the Board had a discussion on SNR. Richard Flinton (NYCC) attended on behalf of John Marsden Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council (lead Chief Executive on the group developing the new board that would come into effect on 1 April). Members made a number of comments about post-April arrangements that will be fed into the development group.

Sustainable Development Board

13. The Sustainable Development Board met on the 23 October. Members were informed that Defra had agreed to provide funding for the region to explore how best to develop proposals to deliver a credible, effective and independent future SD Champion Body and look at how to integrate sustainable development principles within the emerging Single Integrated Regional Strategy.
14. A steering group has been established to develop and progress the proposal, which comprises mandatory signatories required to access the funding (Yorkshire Forward, Sustainable Development Board and LGYH). In addition the Environment Agency and Government Office are supporting the work. The first steering group meeting took place on 22 September. Members highlighted the importance of ensuring a wide range of participants took part in the process. URSUS consultants have been appointed to provide support for the work and the steering group will meet them to develop a detailed programme of work.

Regional Climate Change Adaptation Study

15. Members were updated on the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Study. Stages 1 (Data Collation and Baseline Review) and Stage 2 (Climate and Weather Assessments) of the study were completed in September and the results are being used to inform the mini-review of the Regional Spatial Strategy.
16. Royal Haskoning also report progress to the full Assembly meeting on 2 October, with the views and comments put forward by Members helping shape the final stages of the study. Stage 3 of the study is underway, which through five workshops, will investigate climate change impacts and adaptation measures across different sectors.

17. A report and presentation was also given to the Board by Yorkshire Futures looking at main drivers of future change within the region to 2030, and the different scenarios that might result.

Climate Change Action Plan

18. Progress on work to update and revise the Yorkshire & Humber Climate Change Action Plan was presented to members, who were also requested to comment on the action plan through the yourclimate.org website or directly to GOYH. The Housing and Transport Board were also requested to comment and endorse the plan since their work constituted two of the nine priority areas identified.

Scrutiny Board

Investment Planning Review:

19. The Scrutiny Board for this review includes members from Leeds City Council, Craven District Council, Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses and the Regional Forum for voluntary and community organisations.
20. Following engagement with over 50 organisations spread across the region, covering all sectors, the Scrutiny Board have held both a private meeting and public discussion with Yorkshire Forward's panel. The public discussion on 21 October also attracted an audience representing a range of local authority, private sector and other stakeholders.
21. The Board is now drawing up the emerging findings and recommendations into the impact that Investment Planning has had and what lessons need to be learnt for the move to Geographic programmes.
22. The recommendations will play a big part in shaping the transitional arrangements from Sub-regional Investment Planning to Geographic Programmes over the coming year. The Scrutiny Board will test their findings with stakeholders and between 12-25 November members can give input online at www.yhassembly.gov.uk after which the Board will meet on 2 December to agree the report's recommendations for consideration by Yorkshire Forward.

Review of Regional Scrutiny

23. As part of the SNR proposals, regional scrutiny/accountability arrangements are to change. With the proposed establishment of Regional Select Committees and the abolition of assemblies, local authority-led new arrangements for scrutiny will be developed, which can be applied to RDAs and other regional agencies.

- 24.** To help identify the impact and value that regional scrutiny has had, and to inform future regional scrutiny/accountability arrangements, the Assembly, in conjunction with Yorkshire Forward, are undertaking research to evaluate the scrutiny processes used by the Assembly since 2002, and to make recommendations for how regional scrutiny/accountability might be undertaken in the future.
- 25.** The Centre for Public Scrutiny will be undertaking this review. It will look at what has worked, what hasn't and what might be taken forward in the future. Many of those who have an interest or have participated in regional scrutiny over the past seven years will be asked for their views. Work on the review will begin in November, with a view to producing a report in early January for consideration by the Scrutiny Board before being presented to the full Assembly in February 2009.

Emma King, Business Services Officer
October 2008

OLYMPICS 2012 UPDATE

For Information

Members are asked to note the new arrangements for the management of the Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games and the progress made over the Yorkshire Gold Review.

1. As agreed at the Executive Board on 17 May 2007, the executive chair of the Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games will annually provide a brief update on the activities concerning the delivery of Yorkshire Gold.
2. Represented on the Committee are: Yorkshire Forward, Sport England Yorkshire, Yorkshire Tourist Board, Local Government Yorkshire and Humber, Government Office Yorkshire and Humber and the Learning and Skills Council Yorkshire and Humber. Also represented are the Local Authorities of the five largest cities in the region; Leeds, Sheffield, Bradford, York and Hull.
3. Yorkshire Gold – Yorkshire and Humber's Strategy for Seizing the Legacy Opportunities of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, was published/ launched in May 2007.
4. In keeping with the Olympic cycle, the Committee has undertaken a review of Yorkshire Gold post the 2008 Beijing Games. The review is expected to be completed by end 2008.
5. The review will focus on the deliverability of Yorkshire Gold; integrate the DCMS legacy document 'Before, During and After: Making the Most of the 2012 Games' as well as the Nations and Regions' Strategic Framework and will also take into account the Government's recent decisions on regional structures.
6. Yorkshire Culture, the coordinating body for the Committee, ceased trading on 31 October 2008. Yorkshire Forward have established a project referred to as 'Destination Yorkshire' and it is this project that now provides the strategic management and secretariat support to the Committee for the regional activity surrounding the delivery of Yorkshire Gold, through the contract management of the Yorkshire Tourist Board.
7. The Assembly is asked to note the new management arrangements and the progress the Committee has made in reviewing Yorkshire Gold.

Martin Havenhand,
Executive Chair, Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games

REGIONAL FUNDING ADVICE 2008 – INFO NOTE 2

Background

1. The Regional Funding Advice guidance was published on 30 July 2008. It asked that regions provide advice to government on long term investment priorities for elements of transport, housing and regeneration and economic development for the period up to 2018/19 of around £10 billion.
2. Regional endorsement of the overall package of RFA advice will be agreed by, the LGYH Strategic Leaders', Yorkshire Forward Joint Regional Board and the Assembly before being submitted to Government via Rosie Winterton MP, Minister for Yorkshire and the Humber, in February 2009.

Progress

General

3. A workshop, hosted by Government Office was held at the beginning of October. The aim of the event was; to set the framework for the development of Advice; to discuss the RFA process with partners to ensure full involvement in the thematic drafting groups (one each for housing and regeneration, transport, economic development and skills) and to hear from the functional sub regions an overview of their key strategic issues and priorities. The workshop was well attended by representatives from each of the functional sub regions and other partners. A copy of the notes from the workshop are available from the Assembly.

Thematic drafting groups

4. The Housing and Transport Boards are leading on drafting their respective elements of the advice. Progress so far is as follows:
 - **Housing** – The Regional Housing Board confirmed the three investment themes of Homes, Access and Place, and agreed that the first funding block (2011-15) should be spatially and thematically specific, but later funding blocks should focus on identifying major projects. Sub-regional housing partnerships have been asked to identify/confirm their long-term priorities for investment and meetings will take place with each partnership to determine an indicative level of resources to be included in the Advice.
 - **Transport** – Bids for schemes where implementation will start by 2013/14 have been received and are being evaluated. The deadline for submission of schemes and issues to be addressed from 2014 onwards has been

extended to 5 December. The Regional Transport Board will consider progress on existing schemes and the new proposals and at its meetings on 12 December and 23 January.

5. Work on the Economic Development element of the theme is being led by Yorkshire Forward and will be shaped by the discussions currently underway on geographic programmes. The Regional Skills Partnership is leading work on skills. A further update on progress in both these areas will be included in Info Note 3.

Using the Integrated Regional Framework (IRF)

6. 'Growing Together', the Integrated Regional Framework sets out the ten sustainable development challenges for the region. The IRF will be used to provide an early check on core SD principles ensuring, that the Advice takes into account guidance regarding environmental limits, resource use and climate change and tackles issues such as equality, diversity and opportunity. To this end each RFA theme will be reviewed at the start of and during, the drafting process to ensure best fit with sustainable development principles as will the final document. This work is being overseen by the Sustainable Development Board.

Evidence base and drafting

7. The evidence base for the Advice is being collated by Yorkshire Futures, and the Director, Les Newby will be co-ordinating the Advice Document, bringing together the work of the thematic groups overseen by the RFA Co-ordinating Group. The Co-ordinating group will ensure that a wide range of stakeholders including the functional sub regions are part of shaping the Advice. Details of the co-ordinating group and key contacts are included on Info Sheet 1.

Discussions with the Regional Minister

8. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Assembly along the Chair of LGYH and Yorkshire Forward and members of the RFA Co-ordinating Group met with Rosie Winterton on 2 October to discuss progress to date. A further meeting is planned for 8 January 2008.

9. Past reports on this subject are available as follows:

Source Papers	Location
<p>Yorkshire and Humber Assembly: 2 October 2008 Info Note 1: Regional Funding Advice 2008</p> <p>Sustainable Development Board: 23 October 2008 Building Sustainability into RFA2:</p> <p>RFA2 Seminar, GOYH, Lateral, Leeds 6 October 2008 Workshop Discussion: Key Feedback Points</p>	<p>All available from:</p> <p>Emma King Yorkshire and Humber Assembly 18 King Street Wakefield WF1 2SQ Tel: 01924 331590 E-mail: Emma.King@yhassembly.gov.uk</p>

YHA, October 2008

NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION

1. Yorkshire Culture has traditionally provided the Assembly SEE partner representative for culture (most recently Chief Executive, Gary Topp). As part of changes to cultural organisations in the region Yorkshire Culture is closing down from 31 October 2008.
2. In its place the four regional cultural agencies; the Arts Council, English Heritage, Museums Libraries and Archives Yorkshire, and Sport England Yorkshire have been tasked by the Department for Culture Media and Sport to work together in a new regional partnership.
3. The new grouping will be called the Yorkshire Cultural Agency Partnership (YCAP) although this will not be a public facing 'brand', and their work programme will cover, regional strategies, place-making, local government and 2012.
4. YCAP will communicate full details of the changes shortly. In the meantime given the move to new regional arrangements from 31 March 2009, it is not proposed to replace the cultural representative on the Assembly.

YHA, October 2008