

**MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY MEETING:
15 FEBRUARY 2007**

ACTION

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Members were informed that the Rev Dr Julian Cummins had passed away suddenly on 9 February 2007 whilst on holiday in Majorca. Julian had represented the faiths community on the Assembly for a number of years, had chaired the Assembly's Quality of Life Commission and led the Skills Scrutiny Review. The Chair confirmed that he had written to Julian's family to offer condolences on behalf of the Assembly.

It was **agreed** that the Assembly would look at organising a lecture or similar event in Julian's name.

The Chair explained that the Regional Energy Strategy, developed by the Regional Energy Forum, had been launched at the Cooling the Planet Conference on 7 February 2007. He explained that the Strategy sets out how low carbon energy sources that are clean and affordable can be delivered - with the key priorities being clean coal and renewables. It was confirmed that copies of the Strategy would be sent out to members shortly.

It was **agreed** that the Assembly should receive a report on progress at a future meeting.

The apologies for the meeting were **noted**. A full list of attendees and apologies can be found at **Annex A**.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 19 October 2007

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes that were

not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4. **Activities and Decisions of the Regional Executive Board**

Members **noted** the activities and decisions undertaken by the Regional Executive Board since the last Assembly Meeting in October.

In addition to the information provided in the report, a number of further updates were given as follows:

- A summary of the CSR Thematic Meetings has now been prepared and would be circulated to members shortly for information.
- A letter has been received from Stephen Ladyman in response to the request for a meeting to discuss how the Government might support the regions transport needs. Unfortunately his diary will not permit a meeting in the near future, but there was a possibility of him visiting the region to meet regional stakeholders to hear what is being done on transport issues. Further discussions are to take place with Yorkshire Forward to consider how this can be taken forward.
- A short Regional Executive Board Meeting has taken place to discuss and agree an additional Assembly response to the Sub National Review of Economic Development and Regeneration. This will be circulated to members shortly.

Nicola
Plumstead

Nicola
Plumstead

5. **Summary of the Activities and Decisions of the Other Boards**

Members **noted** the activities and decisions undertaken by the Regional Housing, Planning Transport and Sustainable Development Boards since the last Assembly Meeting.

6. **Jonathon Porritt – UK Sustainable Development Commission**

Jonathon Porritt, co-founder and Programme Director of Forum for the Future and Chairman of the UK Sustainable Development Commission, gave a speech on the emerging Integrated Regional Framework and some of the challenges the region faced including:

- The need to live within environmental limits.
- There are no quick fixes – it will take 70 to 80 years to

- develop the new infrastructure we need.
- Carbon footprinting of housing stock is a particular challenge.
- Local Authority Leaders need to take responsibility for climate change now.
- The region should be undertaking sustainability appraisals of City Region Development Plans.
- We should not pick and mix from sustainable development principles – it's all or nothing.
- Private sector is taking the lead – public sector organisations need to ensure they don't fall behind.
- Need to work with Government on the transport challenges.

The Chair thanked Jonathon and then introduced Cllr Arthur Barker, Chair of the Sustainable Development Board who would be presenting the draft discussion paper on the Integrated Regional Framework.

7. Integrated Regional Framework (IRF)

The Integrated Regional Framework draft discussion paper was presented to members.

It was explained that, once finalised, the paper would be used during February and March to facilitate discussions with partners to help develop a draft version of the Framework. The draft Framework would then be presented to the Regional Executive Board on 12 April 2007 for approval. Subject to approval at that meeting, a consultation programme on the Draft Framework would run through May, June and July.

It was emphasised that there would be greater rewards for the region if we were able to show leadership to others, developing both the technical expertise and the policy frameworks to facilitate behavioural change, to deliver sustainable development.

Members were asked for their views on the proposed new vision, and principles as well as specific suggestions on how to address the "landmark issues" and the principles.

In the discussion that followed, the following points were raised:

- The needs of excluded communities must be taken into account when considering sustainable development

issues.

- The Regional Environment Forum and the Biodiversity Forum requested that a workshop be arranged with relevant Assembly staff to input into the draft IRF.
- The word 'and' should be replaced by 'as' in the new vision.
- Technology is not mentioned specifically in the discussion paper – it needs to be included.

It was confirmed that a letter formally requesting comments on the discussion paper would be sent out to Members shortly with a deadline of 15 March 2007.

Sian Ferguson

8. Business Plan and Budget 2007/08 – 2009/10

Members discussed '*Making a Difference*' - The Assembly Business Plan: 2007/08– 2009/10.

Because of the 14 February 2007 deadline for Assemblies to bid to Government for funding for 2007/08, the Business Plan needed to be approved by the Regional Executive Board in January.

Members **agreed** to endorse the Business Plan and associated budget on the recommendation of the Regional Executive Board.

It was confirmed that final approval of the Business Plan, and the associated funding, was expected from Government by 15 March 2007. Once approval had been received, an Executive Summary of the Plan would be circulated to members for information.

Sue Jeffrey/
Chris Martin

9. Scrutiny

a. Scrutiny Action and Developments

Members **noted** the actions and developments of the Scrutiny Board that had taken place since the last meeting of the Assembly.

b. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: Innovation Scrutiny Review Report

Members discussed the final draft report on the Innovation Scrutiny Enquiry.

It was noted that the recommendations detailed in the

covering report were worded differently to those in the scrutiny report. Members felt that this should be avoided in future as it could cause confusion.

A number of minor amendments were suggested to the report. The draft report was **agreed** subject the amendments suggested.

Members of the Scrutiny Board were thanked for their hard work during the Innovation Scrutiny Review.

c. Monitoring of Scrutiny

A paper was tabled updating members on the monitoring of the Action Plans for the following scrutiny reviews:

- Marketing and Investment (July 2005)
- Skills Policy (March 2006)
- Northern Way Opportunities (June 2006)

It was explained that, as a result of Yorkshire Forward's seven-year review of activity, previous scrutiny reports, and changes in national policy, there would be changes to Yorkshire Forward's approach to the key policies for Marketing Investment, Skills and the Northern Way. These changes would be considered by Yorkshire Forward's Board during the preparation of their Corporate Plan.

Members were informed that Yorkshire Forward would be presenting their Corporate Plan to the Regional Executive Board for endorsement on 12 April 2007.

It was **agreed** that Tom Riordan, Chief Executive of Yorkshire Forward, should be invited to address Assembly members at the Assembly AGM in July 2007 to report on progress.

It was noted that a number of Assembly Members had left the room during this item and it was felt that this needed to be addressed as the Assembly's scrutiny work is very important and members should be engaged with the process.

It was **agreed** that Assembly officers should look at the process for handling scrutiny items and report back at a future meeting.

10. Yorkshire and Humber European Regional Development Fund Operational Programme

Members **noted** the progress to develop the new European Regional Development Fund Operational Programme, the consultation process and next steps.

11. Any Other Business

Members asked if the Assembly were planning any events to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the 1807 Abolition of the Slave Trade Act. This Act outlawed the slave trade throughout the British Empire and made it illegal for British ships to be involved in the trade, marking the beginning of the end for the transatlantic traffic in human beings.

It was confirmed that a number of events were taking place in the region, and details of these would be circulated to members for information. It was **agreed** that, if following receipt of this information, members felt that the Assembly should be doing something in its own right, the issue would be discussed at the Regional Executive Board Meeting in March.

Nicola
Plumstead

Date of Next Meeting: 12 July 2007 (AGM)

Nicola Plumstead, Business Services Support Officer
19 February 2007

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER ASSEMBLY MEETING 15 FEBRUARY 2007

Attendees

Members/Substitutes:

Cllr Jim Andrews	Barnsley MBC (Deputy for Cllr Steve Houghton)
Naheed Arshad-Mather	BME Regional Panel
Cllr Chris Greaves	Bradford MDC (Deputy for Cllr Kris Hopkins)
Cllr Ann McAllister	Calderdale MBC
Penny Hemming	CBI
Cllr Peter Box	Chair
Cllr Steve Galloway	City of York Council
Cllr Carl Lis	Craven DC
Paul Jagger	Deputy Chair
Patricia Farrell	Faiths Forum
Chris Glen	FSB
Cllr Arthur Barker	Hambleton DC
Cllr Mike Gardner	Harrogate DC
Cllr Khizar Iqbal	Kirklees Council (Deputy for Cllr Robert Light)
Cllr Les Carter	Leeds City Council (Deputy for Cllr Andrew Carter)
Cllr Tom Glossop	Local Councils Associations
Cllr Liz Redfern	North Lincolnshire Council
Cate Hammond	Regional Environment Forum
Chris Longley	Regional Forum (Deputy for Neil Irving)
Cllr Roger Stone	Rotherham MBC
Wendy Bundy	Rural Community Council
Cllr Robert Wainwright	Ryedale DC
Cllr Tom Fox	Scarborough BC
Cllr Mark Crane	Selby DC
John Lewis	TUC (Deputy for Bill Adams)
Cllr Phil Dobson	Wakefield MDC
Nick Pontone	Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce (Deputy for Michael Oughtred)
Gary Topp	Yorkshire Culture
Michael Noble	Yorkshire Universities

Observers:

Andrew Wood
Margaret Jackson
Terry Rogers
Paul Rogerson
Peter Nottage
Terry Hodgkinson

Environment Agency
Government Office (Deputy for Felicity Everiss)
Highways Agency (Deputy for Vanessa Gilbert)
Local Authority Chief Executives
Natural England
Yorkshire Forward

Visitors:

Kazuko Kakegawa

Jake Scott
Carole Hassan
Gareth Roberts
Matthew Gladstone
Jonathon Porritt
Frank Carter
Don Stewart
Carol Toms

Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, University
of Birmingham
Environment Agency
LGYH
Local Councils Associations
Rotherham MBC
UK SD Commission
Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce
Yorkshire Forward
Yorkshire Universities

Staff:

Andrew Cooper
Anjela Bhachu
Chris Martin
Hannah Howe
Helen Todd
Iain Lovell
Jodie Weston
Kelly Jevons
Lyndsey Bunn
Mark Shaw
Martyn Roberts
Natalie Fudge
Nicola Plumstead
Rob Warm
Ruth Hardingham
Sian Ferguson
Sue Jeffrey

Apologies

Michele Sutton	Association of Colleges
Cllr Steve Houghton	Barnsley MBC
Cllr Kris Hopkins	Bradford MDC
Tony Reeves	Bradford MDC
Paul Sheehan	Calderdale MBC
Mayor Martin Winter	Doncaster MBC
Cllr Stephen Parnaby	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Felicity Everiss	Government Office
Vanessa Gilbert	Highways Agency
Cllr Carl Minns	Hull City Council
Kim Riley	Hull City Council
Cllr Robert Light	Kirklees Council
Cllr Andrew Carter	Leeds City Council
Cllr Andrew De Freitas	North East Lincolnshire Council
George Krawiec	North East Lincolnshire Council
Cllr John Weighell	North Yorkshire County Council
John Fletcher	North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority
Shelagh Marshall	Public Health
Neil Irving	Regional Forum
Prof Paul Johnstone	Regional Public Health Group
Cllr John Harris	Richmondshire DC
Cllr Jan Wilson	Sheffield City Council
Bill Adams	TUC
John Foster	Wakefield MDC
Sir Norman Bettison	West Yorkshire Police
Michael Oughtred	Yorkshire and Humber Chambers of Commerce
Jerry Pearlman	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Tom Riordan	Yorkshire Forward