

North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership - Executive

15 April 2010

NYSP conference 2010

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek agreement from members on key aspects of the planning of the 2010 annual NYSP Wider Partnership conference.

2 Conference Theme and Workshops

- 2.1 As members will know, this year's NYSP conference will be held on Thursday 14th October 2010 at the Pavilions of Harrogate. The event will take as its main focus/theme the refresh of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and Local Area Agreement (LAA). As the consultation drafts of both documents will be available for comment between end of July and end of October 2010, the conference will provide an ideal opportunity for Wider Partnership members to input into this consultation.
- 2.2 It is proposed that six (hour-long) workshop sessions are led by the six Thematic Partnerships either side of the mid-morning refreshment break, the general format of which will be around:
- Brief update on progress since last year or updating on key points from thematic workshops last year;
 - Activities which have been taking place within the Thematic Partnership and outline the key priorities going forward; and
 - An opportunity for delegates to feed in their thoughts/opinions on the Thematic Partnership priorities, with a view to contributing to the wider aims of the refreshed SCS.
- 2.3 Delegates would therefore be able to ensure that they can attend a workshop of their choice as each session will repeat after the morning break. Workshops would ideally be Chaired by each Thematic Partnership Chair with facilitation from other officers as identified and agreed.
- 2.4 Additional space has been booked at the venue this year to ensure that there are no issues with noise overspill or interruptions to workshop groups, which was a salient point of feedback from the 2009 event.

3 Keynote speaker

- 3.1 To ensure that an appropriate keynote speaker can be secured for the conference in October, a decision is sought from members on the choice(s) of speaker and, if necessary, their 'theme'.
- 3.2 It is proposed that the speaker be one from outside of the political sphere, but one who would be able to provide some commentary on developments within government post-election and the challenges facing local authorities. These

could be journalists/editors or senior figures from an organisation such as IDeA. Some suggestions for possible speakers or organisations are:

- David Brindle – Public Services Editor, The Guardian
- Michael Burton – Editor, The MJ (or similar from the MJ)
- Speaker from Local Government Chronicle
- Leadership Centre for Local Government
- Director from IDeA/LGA

3.3 Executive members are asked to agree a first and second choice of speaker/target organisation. Additional suggestions would also be welcomed.

4 Exhibition stands

4.1 Following the success of the expanded marketplace area last year, the 2010 conference will once again host around 15 stalls from partners on issues or themes of interest to NYSP Partners. Last year's quota involved, among others, the Energy Saving Trust, Local Strategic Partnerships, Welcome to Yorkshire and the York and North Yorkshire Waste Partnership.

4.2 The Thematic Partnerships have been offered the opportunity to suggest two themes or partnership areas to host a stall this year and the space will be allocated following this feedback in June.

5 Managing the event - Capacity

5.1 The NYSP conference continues to grow in numbers each year. Whilst we want to continue to promote this, we also need to keep capacity at a manageable level and mitigate where possible against delegates who haven't registered turning up on the day as this adds too much pressure on already-full workshop groups.

5.2 One possibility for trying to manage numbers is to allocate a defined number of tickets to partner organisations or sectors. This approach isn't without its contentions and difficulties and clearly becomes more problematic with larger entities such as the voluntary and community sector, who form the majority sector at the conference each year. Appendix 1 gives an illustrative breakdown of numbers present in 2008 and 2009 by sector or organisation. On this basis, Appendix 2 provides a suggested breakdown of ticket numbers if such an approach were to be adopted for the 2010 event. These numbers do not include those attending to host stalls and this generally adds up to another 30 people who are present at the event. It is recommended that the conference does not provide tickets for more than 190 delegates, principally on the basis of ensuring that workshop numbers are kept to a manageable number (that is, just over 30 per session maximum).

5.3 If an advance ticketing approach were to be adopted, it would rely heavily on the support and co-ordination of partner organisations to allocate tickets and in ensuring that this approach is communicated to their staff/colleagues/partners to ensure it is fully effective. This might include, for example, seeking the assistance of bodies such as NYFVO and the Chamber of Commerce to

allocate some or all of the voluntary and community sector and business sector tickets respectively.

- 5.4 The breakdown provided at Appendix 2 is purely illustrative at this point, but views are sought from members on the merits of adopting such an approach for the 2010 event. Comments are also sought on the breakdown suggested and how it might be best managed.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That Thematic Partnership Chairs agree to lead a workshop at the 2010 conference on the work and priorities of their Partnership, as outlined above;
- 6.2 That the NYSP Executive:
- (a) agree on two choices of keynote speaker/theme (first and second choice); and
 - (b) consider the proposal for introducing an allocated ticket system for the conference and agree the outline breakdown in numbers at Appendix 2.

7 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Indicative Breakdown of Participation at NYSP Conference 2008/2009 by Organisation/Sector

Appendix 2 - Suggested breakdown of ticket numbers to be allocated for the NYSP conference.

Diane Parsons
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25th March 2010

**Appendix 1 – Indicative Breakdown of Participation at NYSP Conference
2008/2009 by Organisation/Sector**

Org/Sector	2008 conference	2009 conference
NYCC		
Staff ¹	13	12
Councillors	10	10
North Yorkshire Police	3	5
NHS North Yorkshire and York	3	4
District Councils/LSPs	17	20
National Parks	3	2
NY Fire & Rescue	4	5
Community Safety Partnerships	3	2
Voluntary and Community Sector²	52	56
Business sector	0	5
Education sector	0	5
Other (largely former NYSP Partnership members such as HSE, Environment Agency)	25	31
TOTAL	133	157

¹ This figure does not include support staff from NYCC who attend to help manage the event or lead workshops.

² Indicatively, the largest groups attending from the VCS are Councils for Voluntary Service (16%), Citizens' Advice Bureaux (14%) and North Yorkshire Older People's Forum (10%).

Appendix 2 - Suggested breakdown of ticket numbers to be allocated for the NYSP conference.

Org/Sector	2010 conference
NYCC	
Staff	12 ³
Councillors	12 ⁴
North Yorkshire Police	5
NHS North Yorkshire and York	5
District Councils	21 (3 each)
Local Strategic Partnerships	7 (1 each)
National Parks	4 (2 each)
NY Fire & Rescue	5
Community Safety Partnerships	7 (1 each)
Police Authority	1
NY Fire and Rescue Authority	1
Business sector	10
Education sector	10
Voluntary and community sector	60
Other (largely former NYSP Partnership members such as HSE, Environment Agency)	30
TOTAL	190

³ Indicatively, 3 for Adult and Community Services, 3 for Children and Young People's Services, 3 for Business and Environmental Services and 1 for Finance and Central Services.

⁴ Broken down as proportional to political balance: 8 Conservative, 2 Lib Dem and 2 NY Independent.