

September 2009



North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership Key Messages

The **North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership** (NYSP) met on 10th September 2009 at County Hall. The meeting was chaired by Councillor Heather Garnett in the absence of Councillor John Weighell.

The meeting took as its focus the theme of **climate change** and the challenge for NYSP partners in relation to mitigation and adaptation in North Yorkshire. Two presentations were given on this issue, by David Fraser, Deputy Regional Director of Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber and by Janet Waggott, Chair of the NYSP Stronger/Rural Thematic Partnership and CEO of Ryedale District Council. These presentations looked broadly at the key drivers for tackling climate change such as the Climate Change Act, as well as looking at the barriers and challenges to tackling the issues. Key points raised are highlighted below.

- In common with all local authority areas, North Yorkshire is a long way off meeting its share of the national targets for CO₂ reduction. We can do a lot as partners to ensure that we align actions at a regional level with the national and international levels.
- It will be cheaper for us to act now – as both individuals and organisations – and start changes early.
- The climate change challenge should be viewed as something which could help us move forward sustainably from the economic downturn and reduce other problems such as fuel poverty.
- There has been some good progress on related projects in the county but the support has not been as co-ordinated as it might be. There is a need for greater countywide leadership.
- The climate change agenda is a large one and not simply for those partners involved on the Stronger/Rural Partnership. There is a need to work as a collective on this agenda.

Comments arising from the discussion will feed into a further paper on this issue which will be considered by the NYSP Executive on 1st October 2009.

In terms of other issues reviewed at the meeting, a presentation was also delivered by Roland Crooke from the MOD about the **defence presence in North Yorkshire** and the military and civil integration project. The MOD is looking closely at issues such as local infrastructure and services which affect service personnel and their families as citizens in the county. A number of workstreams are now underway to help tackle some of the issues, including:

- Soldiers leaving their quarters now have to register locally when homeless, The impact of this on homelessness figures will be closely monitored.
- Supported housing for veterans to be built in Catterick.
- Working with the PCT on co-operative healthcare.

- Conducting a joint study with partners such as Yorkshire Forward and NYCC to assess the economic impact of the defence presence in the county.

A full copy of Roland presentation can be found at www.nysp.org.uk/partnership (see 'Papers and Minutes').

A short verbal update was also provided by Mike Newbury from the Audit Commission on the **Comprehensive Area Assessment** process. The emerging picture was shared with partners in July. Mike thanked those members of the Partnership who have assisted him and his team over recent months and who will continue to help feed into this work. The full assessment will be published in December on the Oneplace website (accessed via www.direct.gov.uk).

Information papers updating on the **Local Area Agreement 2008/11** and **Thematic Partnership headlines** were also noted by members and can be downloaded from the NYSP website at www.nysp.org.uk/partnership.

Dates for the Diary:

2010 Partnership meetings:

- Thursday 11th March 2010, 2:30pm, County Hall, Northallerton;
- Thursday 9th September 2010, 2:30pm, County Hall, Northallerton; and

Wider Partnership Conference: 15th October 2009, 9:30am, Pavilions of Harrogate (admission free but please RSVP to ppu@northyorks.gov.uk by 30th September 2009).

A full minute of this meeting will shortly be available on the NYSP website (www.nysp.org.uk/partnership).

For further information about any aspect of these key messages and the work of the NYSP please contact Diane Parsons at diane.parsons@northyorks.gov.uk or see www.nysp.org.uk.