

## North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership

### Minutes of meeting on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at County Hall, Northallerton

Attendees and apologies for absence are listed at Appendix 1.

#### 1.0 Appointment of Chair

- 1.1 John Marsden, Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) apologised on behalf of Cllr John Weighell, Leader of NYCC, for his absence as Chair of the meeting. John Marsden explained that he had asked Cllr Chris Metcalfe, Deputy Leader of NYCC, on behalf of the Partnership to chair this meeting in John Weighell's absence.
- 1.2 John Marsden sought the Partnership's approval for John Weighell to chair the next meeting of the NYSP on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008 and for the Partnership to subsequently elect a Chair for a two-year period for subsequent meetings, as recommended in the proposed Terms of Reference for Partnership meetings (ref. Item 3).
- 1.3 The Partnership agreed that:
  - (a) Chris Metcalfe would chair this meeting
  - (b) John Weighell would chair the meeting of the NYSP on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008; and
  - (c) a Chair would be elected from within the Partnership for a two-year period at the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

#### 2.0 Welcome and apologies

- 2.1 The Chair formally welcomed the members of the Partnership present to the meeting and apologies were noted.

#### 3.0 Revised NYSP Structure

- 3.1 John Marsden provided an overview of the revised NYSP structure and outlined some of the key reasons behind the restructure. These included a need to include elected members, rather than purely officers of key agencies. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 had also introduced a duty for some partners to co-operate in the development of a Sustainable Community Strategy. NYCC had taken the view that the sign-off of

the Local Area Agreement (LAA) must go through the NYSP and it had also tried to make the new structure as lean as possible. The new structure now comprises the following four key elements:

- a) the **Wider Partnership** - open to all interested organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors, meeting at least once a year in conference style;
- b) the **NYSP Partnership** - which establishes and maintains the policy framework for the work of NYSP and includes amongst its members those under a duty to co-operate along with other locally identified partners;
- c) the **NYSP Executive** (formerly the combined meeting of the NYSP Steering Group and LAA Management Group) - which ensures that the priorities of the NYSP are taken forward; and
- d) the **six Thematic Partnerships** (Adults, Healthier Communities, Children and Young People, Development Board (economy and enterprise), Safer Communities, and Rural and Stronger Communities) - which provide strategic partnership arrangements including creating detailed plans and ensuring their delivery.

3.2 John Marsden asked the Partnership to consider inviting the City of York Council to attend future meetings of the Partnership as an observer as they are not currently represented.

3.3 Terms of Reference were proposed for Partnership meetings. It was noted that the NYSP website ([www.nysp.org.uk](http://www.nysp.org.uk)) is already up and running as a useful point of reference for members of the Partnership and such documents. Neil Irving explained that the website will be revised within the next few months to bring it into line with the new NYSP structure.

3.4 The Partnership endorsed:

- (a) the new NYSP structure as outlined;
- (b) the proposal to invite the City of York Council to Partnership meetings; and
- (c) the proposed Terms of Reference for Partnership meetings.

#### **4.0 Sustainable Community Strategy for North Yorkshire 2008/18**

4.1 Neil Irving, Head of Corporate Policy at NYCC, presented a report on the proposed Sustainable Community Strategy for North Yorkshire 2008/18 (the "SCS") and its development through a consultation process. The consultation commenced in July 2007 through discussions with key partners and within the former NYSP structure about what shape the SCS should take. These ideas were developed further at the NYSP Wider Partnership conference in the autumn of 2007 after which a draft document was developed. The draft was put out to consultation to agencies from across the Wider Partnership in January 2008 with a deadline for comments of 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008.

- 4.2 Neil Irving highlighted that forty-four responses had been received to the draft SCS. The majority of these comments have been incorporated into a revised version of the document and NI emphasised that the comments received have helped to strengthen the SCS, for example by reinforcing points around sustainability, the focus on place and the need for a memorable 'strapline'. The most significant change to the proposed SCS as a result of the comments received was the addition of a tenth priority of "Community Safety".
- 4.3 A table has been produced outlining as a bullet-point summary the comments received from respondents along with the proposed response from the NYSP. Where suggestions have not been incorporated, an explanation has been provided for this in the table.
- 4.4 Neil Irving explained that all respondents to the consultation draft will receive a copy of the proposed SCS once approved by the Partnership. It will then go to a full meeting of the County Council on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008. Each meeting of the Partnership will take a focus on one or two of the ten priorities.
- 4.5 Helen Black of the North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations thanked the NYSP for its recognition of the value and role of the voluntary and community sector and reinforced that the sector look forward to working with the NYSP to deliver progress.
- 4.6 David Archer of Scarborough Borough Council expressed concern that Section 3 of the proposed SCS underplays the levels and significance of multiple deprivation and felt that it should provide a more detailed analysis of this. Neil Irving responded that this comment had been noted from the North Yorkshire Coast Community Partnership during the consultation process and further analysis had been incorporated to reinforce the significance of this issue within the document. Neil Irving also explained that the NYSP website's evidence base would be updated in due course. Sally Rawlings of Yorkshire Rural Community Council highlighted ongoing work with GOYH to identify rural deprivation.
- 4.7 Liz Burdett of the Learning and Skills Council expressed concern that there is insufficient representation of the problems surrounding basic skills and inclusion in the SCS, although acknowledged that the LSC had not been able to formally respond on this issue during the consultation. Neil Irving highlighted in response that the Economy and Enterprise priority of the SCS draws directly from the key aims of the Sub-Regional Investment Plan (SRIP), which do give specific focus to basic skills.
- 4.8 Cllr Richard Cooper of Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) expressed concern that the SCS did not properly reflect key spatial issues for Harrogate and the rest of the former West Riding areas of the County which are now in the Leeds City region, in particular connectivity and traffic congestion. Similarly, both Cllr Cooper and John Sowden of HBC felt that the priorities of the southern part of the county are defined more by the development of the Leeds City Region than is the case for the northern part of the county. To this end, HBC suggested that two separate Local Area Agreements should be produced, along with two distinct SCSs to reflect the differing priorities and spatial issues of such parts of

the county, or that the different priorities should be reflected in a single document.

- 4.9 David Fraser of Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber explained that Ministers have directed that each county should prepare a single LAA based on a county-wide SCS and that spatial differences should be easily accommodated within this. Each SCS and LAA will represent a county-wide view but similarly take into account legitimate differences in terms of connectivity and priorities at a local level.
- 4.10 The Chair added that Leeds City Region forms only a small component of the 'wider picture' represented by the SCS but that there is adequate recognition within the document of the role it plays as an economic driver for areas such as Harrogate and Selby.
- 4.11 John Marsden also emphasised the importance of acknowledging that strategies can take a county-wide focus but the delivery mechanisms will be targeted at and will reflect issues specific to certain areas. Chief Superintendent Tim Madgwick of North Yorkshire Police echoed this view and expressed the opinion that splitting the LAA into two separate documents would not benefit the SCS and that it would still be possible – through the current model – to deliver against specific issues at a local level. Support for this view was expressed by Sally Rawlings of the Yorkshire Rural Community Council and also Cllr Keith Knaggs of Ryedale District Council, who felt that the current SCS provides for greater flexibility in tackling specific issues in local areas and that local issues can also be dealt with effectively by the Thematic Partnerships.
- 4.12 The Chair sought a vote from the members present for approval of the proposed SCS. The Partnership agreed by an overwhelming majority in favour of adoption of the proposed SCS.

## **5.0 Draft Local Area Agreement**

- 5.1 A progress report was provided by Hugh Williamson, Head of Scrutiny and Performance at NYCC, on the development of the Local Area Agreement (LAA). Discussions are still taking place with Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber and other agencies regarding a number of local indicators. The Learning and Skills Council has proposed the inclusion of two further indicators, which are being considered by the Economic Development Board. Advice North Yorkshire would also like an indicator to be included relating to benefits take-up, which is being considered by the Stronger/Rural Partnership.
- 5.2 David Archer of Scarborough Borough Council expressed concern that indicator NI4 surrounding the percentage of people who feel that they can influence local decision-making has been removed from the LAA. Hugh Williamson explained that this issue links in to both of indicators NI3 and NI4 and that the Partnership view is that both are needed in the LAA going forward. Hugh Williamson also noted the view of Cllr Keith Barnes of NYCC that LAA targets will be of vital importance to the Comprehensive Area Assessments and

explained that there is a performance management framework in place for monitoring and review against targets.

5.3 Maddy Jago of English Heritage welcomed the recognition within the LAA of the importance of environmental and cultural assets, but felt that the descriptions used were very brief and sought clarification. Hugh Williamson explained that the local target surrounding tourism in the LAA would be the focus for delivery and that a delivery plan will be produced to underpin each target and to identify which partner agency has a supporting role in delivery.

5.4 The Partnership agreed to note the progress report provided on the LAA.

## **6.0 NYnet**

6.1 David Cullen, Chief Executive of NYnet, delivered a presentation on NYnet which aims to assist economic regeneration and joined-up working across public services in the sub-region by bringing faster, better, cheaper broadband. The lead role is taken by North Yorkshire County Council with support from Yorkshire Forward and Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber. NYnet would like to expand its reach to economic regeneration opportunities and initiatives to the region, such as new business parks. An update on the progress of NYnet will be given to the Partnership in twelve months' time. For further information see [www.nynet.co.uk](http://www.nynet.co.uk)

## **7.0 Agenda and venue of future meetings**

7.1 A paper was presented to the Partnership by Neil Irving, recommending the following format for the agenda of future meetings:

- (a) an update on the SCS;
- (b) an update on the LAA;
- (c) a brief written updates from the NYSP Thematic Partnerships; and
- (d) a presentation and discussion on one or two of the ten priorities in the SCS, focussing on progress and areas where further developments are required.

In addition, it was recommended that other items could be added for example where there are key issues requiring the engagement of the partners.

7.2 Chief Superintendent Tim Madgwick of North Yorkshire Police asked about arrangements for governance and accountability, particularly in relation to monitoring progress of the SCS. John Marsden responded that the NYSP Executive will focus on monitoring of progress and performance and will report back to the NYSP at their subsequent meeting.

7.3 The Partnership was invited to consider the location of future meetings. Neil Irving emphasised that whilst NYCC is happy to host future Partnership meetings, members may wish to consider alternative venues which would be able to accommodate the requisite number of people and which are accessible to all. Cllr Jane Kenyon expressed the view that the next meeting of the

Partnership in September could be held at County Hall but that the issue should be reconsidered at that meeting once the City of York Council has also joined and can contribute to that discussion.

7.4 The Partnership agreed:

- (a) the proposed agenda items for future Partnership meetings, as outlined;
- (b) that the next Partnership meeting will be held at County Hall; and
- (c) that the issue of venue for subsequent meetings will be considered at the next Partnership meeting in September.

## 8.0 Date of next meeting

8.1 The next meeting of the Partnership will be held on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at 2:30pm at County Hall, Northallerton.

8.2 The Chair also reminded the Partnership that the NYSP Wider Partnership Conference will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at 10:00am at the Pavilions in Harrogate.

## 9.0 Actions arising

	Paragraph reference	Action	Lead	Deadline
1.	3.2	Invite City of York Council to future meetings of the NYSP as an observer.	NYCC	25 March 2008
2.	3.3	Update NYSP website to reflect revised NYSP structure.	NYCC	30 April 2008
3.	4.4	Updated SCS to be circulated to all consultation respondents.	NYCC	25 March 2008

## Appendix 1

### Attendees – NYSP Meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> March 2008

#### Members:

Cllr Chris Metcalfe	-	NYCC Deputy Leader
Nigel Hutchinson	-	North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service
Cllr John Fort	-	North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority
Alistair Copeland	-	Sport England
Peter Godfrey	-	Highways Agency
Jim Fairbrass	-	Health & Safety Executive
Cllr Richard Cooper	-	Harrogate Borough Council
Malcolm Shorney	-	North York Moors National Park Authority
Janet Soo-Chung	-	North Yorkshire & York PCT
Jill Moulton	-	South Tees Hospital NHS Trust
Michael Turnpenny	-	MLA Yorkshire
Cllr Jane Kenyon	-	North Yorkshire Police Authority
Martin Connor	-	Selby District Council
David Butterworth	-	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Martin Watson	-	MoD
Richard Ellison	-	National Farmers Union
Cllr Brian Phillips	-	Hambleton District Council
Tim Madgwick	-	North Yorkshire Police
Clare Suddaby	-	Jobcentre Plus (North East Yorkshire & the Humber)
Liz Burdett	-	Learning & Skills Council
Pete Brown	-	Probation Service
Lesley Ingleson	-	Youth Offending Team
Brian Davies	-	Natural England
Cluny Macpherson	-	Arts Council England (Yorkshire)
Cllr John Fort	-	North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority
Cllr Keith Barnes	-	NYCC member
Cllr Helen Swiers	-	NYCC member
Cllr Heather Garnett	-	NYCC member
Paul Whitaker	-	Yorkshire Local Councils Association
Helen Black	-	North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations
Sally Rawlings	-	Yorkshire Rural Community Council
Harriet Bisson	-	Voluntary and Community Sector
Kevin Holt	-	Voluntary and Community Sector
Gill Gentle	-	Voluntary and Community Sector
Wendy Merry	-	Voluntary and Community Sector
Maddy Jago	-	English Heritage
Hazel McGrath	-	Harrogate LSP
Judith Bromfield	-	Richmondshire LSP
Stephanie Sturrock	-	North Yorkshire Coast Community Partnership
Cllr Keith Knaggs	-	Ryedale District Council
David Archer	-	Scarborough Borough Council
Janet Waggott	-	Ryedale District Council
Cllr Melva Steckles	-	Richmondshire District Council
Claire Mazurke	-	Craven District Council

**Observer:**

David Fraser - Government Office for Yorkshire & the Humber

**NYSP Executive Members in attendance (where not also named above):**

John Marsden - Chief Executive, NYCC  
Peter Brambleby - North Yorkshire & York PCT  
Cynthia Welbourn - Children & Young People's Services, NYCC  
Derek Law - Adult & Community Services, NYCC

**Also in attendance:**

John Sowden - Harrogate Borough Council  
Roland Crooke - MoD  
Andrew Leeming - York & North Yorkshire Partnership Unit  
Neil Irving - NYCC  
Hugh Williamson - NYCC  
Diane Parsons - NYCC

**Apologies – NYSP Meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

Federation of Small Businesses  
Environment Agency  
Scarborough & North East Yorkshire Healthcare NHS Trust  
Harrogate & District NHS Trust  
Hambleton LSP  
York Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
York & North Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce  
Yorkshire Forward  
Confederation of British Industry  
Scarborough Borough Council (Cllr Tom Fox)  
North Yorkshire County Council (Cllr David Billing)  
Craven LSP (Cllr Paul English)  
Cllr Carl Lis (Craven District Council)  
Gill Dixon (Craven District Council)  
Peter Simpson (Hambleton District Council)  
Gordon Gresty (Business & Environmental Services, NYCC)