

COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING

23 FEBRUARY 2024

GOVERNANCE MATTERS AND APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES

Report of the Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report relates to the appointment of Members onto the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee, which was a decision deferred from the last Meeting of the Combined Authority in January 2024.
- 1.2 Recommendations are also sought of the Combined Authority in relation to appointments on the Skills and Employability Working Group and also with regard confirmation of the dates of the Audit and Governance, Overview and Scrutiny and the next Combined Authority Meeting.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Combined Authority appoints Members to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in accordance with the membership of those Committees.
- 2.2 That the Combined Authority appoints Members to the Skills and Employability Working Group and notes the final list of Members of the Working Group.
- 2.3 That the Combined Authority confirms the date of the next Combined Authority Meeting as 18 March 2024, with Audit and Governance to take place on 12 March 2024 and Overview and Scrutiny taking place on 13 March 2024.

3.0 Committee Places for Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee

- 3.1 The Combined Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017, made under powers contained within the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, provides that the Combined Authority must appoint to an Overview and Scrutiny Committee “so that the members of the committee taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of **political parties** for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together.”

3.2 Members will recall that 2 tables were produced in the January 2024 paper, table 1 provided proportionality based upon Registered Political Parties and table 2 was based upon proportionality by Political Groups. The tables have been updated and are shown below:

Table 1: Proportionality by Registered Political Parties

Group	City of York Council	North Yorkshire Council	Total	Proportion of CA Seats		%
Conservative	3	45	48	$(48/137 \times 100)$	=	35.04
Labour	24	11	35	$(35/137 \times 100)$	=	25.55
Liberal Democrat	19	13	32	$(32/137 \times 100)$	=	23.36
Liberal	0	1	1	$(1/137 \times 100)$	=	0.73
Independent	1	15	16	$(16/137 \times 100)$	=	11.67
Green	0	4	4	$(4/137 \times 100)$	=	2.92
Reform UK	0	1	1	$(1/137 \times 100)$	=	0.73
						100.00

Committee	Seats	Cons	Lab	Lib Dem	Libs	Ind	Green	Reform Uk	TOTAL
		35.04%	25.5%	23.36%	0.73%	11.67%	2.92%	0.73%	
Overview and Scrutiny	12	4 (4.20)	3 (3.07)	3 (2.80)	0 (0.09)	1 (1.40)	0 or 1 (0.35)	0 (0.09)	12
Audit and Governance	8	3 (2.80)	2 (2.04)	2 (1.87)	0 (0.06)	1 (0.93)	0 (0.23)	0 (0.06)	8
Total Seats	20	7.01	5.11	4.67	0.15	2.33	0.58	0.15	20
Rounding to nearest decimal place		7	5	5	0	2	1	0	20

Table 2: Proportionality by Political Groups

Group	City of York Council	North Yorkshire Council	Total	Proportion of CA Seats		%
NYC Conservative and Inds	0	48	48	(48/137 x 100)	=	35.04
CYC Conservatives	3	0	3	(3/137 x 100)		2.19
Labour	24	11	35	(35/137 x 100)	=	25.55
Liberal Democrat and Liberals	0	14	14	(14/137 x 100)	=	10.22
Liberal Democrats	19	0	19	(19/137 x 100)	=	13.87
NY Independents	0	11	11	(11/137 x 100)	=	8.03
Unaffiliated	1	2	3	(3/137 x 100)	=	2.19
Green	0	4	4	(4/137 x 100)	=	2.92
						100.00

Committee	Seats	NYC Con (Ind)	CYC Con	Lab	CYC Lib Dem	NYC Lib Dem and Libs	NY Ind	Ind Unaff	Green	TOTAL
		35.04%	2.19%	25.55%	13.87%	10.22%	8.03%	2.19%	2.92%	
Overview & Scrutiny	12	4 (4.20)	0 (0.26)	3 (3.07)	2 (1.66)	1 (1.23)	1 (0.96)	0 (0.26)	0 or 1 (0.35)	12
Audit & Governance	8	3 (2.80)	0 (0.18)	2 (2.04)	1 (1.11)	1 (0.82)	1 (0.64)	0 (0.18)	0 (0.23)	8
Total Seats	20	7.01	0.44	5.11	2.77	2.05	1.61	0.44	0.58	20
Rounding to nearest decimal place		7	0	5	3	2	2	0	1	20

3.3 Whether the parties or groups methodology is used, the same seat allocation is created, therefore, it is recommended that the political balance be:

Committee	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	NY Ind/ Ind	Green	Total
Overview and Scrutiny	4	3	3	1	1	12
Audit and Governance	3	2	2	1	0	8
	7	5	5	2	1	20

3.4 The allocation of the seats across the Constituent Authorities is a matter for the Combined Authority.

3.5 Both Constituent Authorities have Full Council meetings scheduled for February, North Yorkshire Council's meeting will take place on 21 February 2024 and City of York Council's meeting is scheduled for 22 February 2024, which both pre-date the February meeting of the Combined Authority. At these meetings, Members of each Authority are being asked to submit their preferred nominations to appointments on the Combined Authority and Committees as recommended below, subject to the Combined Authority decision relating to the final allocation of seats and appointments:

3.6 North Yorkshire Council

- Ratification of the appointment of Councillor C Les, Leader of North Yorkshire Council, as the Lead Member for North Yorkshire Council on the Combined Authority;
- Ratification of the appointment of Councillor G Dadd, Deputy Leader of North Yorkshire Council, on the Combined Authority;
- Appointment of 2 substitute Members for the Leader and 2 substitute Members for the Deputy Leader positions on the Combined Authority;
- A total of six places on the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee, subject to political proportionality;
- A total of four places on the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee, subject to political proportionality.

3.7 City of York Council

- Ratification of the appointment of Councillor C Douglas, as Leader of City of York Council, as the Lead Member for City of York Council on the Combined Authority.
- Ratification of the appointment of Councillor P Kilbane, as Deputy Leader of City of York Council, on the Combined Authority.

- Appointment of 2 substitute Members for the Leader and 2 substitute Members for the Deputy Leader positions on the Combined Authority;
- A total of six places on the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee, subject to political proportionality;
- A total of four places on the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee, subject to political proportionality.

3.8 As the Council Meetings pre-date the Combined Authority Meeting, it is anticipated that Members will be able to confirm the appointments to each Combined Authority Committee at the February Meeting.

4.0 Appointment of Members to the Skills and Employability Working Group

4.1 At the January Meeting of the Combined Authority Members approved a recommendation in relation to drafting the Terms of Reference for the Skills and Employability Working Group. It is proposed that 2 Members from each Constituent Authority are appointed to this Working Group, which is not a decision-making Group, therefore, there are no requirements for political balance in the appointments.

4.2 North Yorkshire Council have recommended to their Council Members the appointment of the relevant portfolio holders (Councillor D Bastiman and A Wilkinson) to be appointed to the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Skills and Employability Working Group at their next Meeting which is due to take place later this month.

4.3 City of York Council have recommended the appointment of Councillor P Kilbane and Councillor R Webb to the Working Group.

4.4 Appendix A contains a list of existing Working Group Members and proposed new Members, for noting by the Combined Authority.

5.0 Date of Meetings

5.1 Officers have been assessing availability of Members in relation to Combined Authority Meetings for the rest of this municipal year, taking account of the pre-election period in the run up to the Mayoral Election. The following dates are proposed for each Meeting:

- Combined Authority – 18 March 2024;
- Audit and Governance – 12 March 2024;
- Overview and Scrutiny – 13 March 2024.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations contained in this report.

7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 The relevant provisions of the Combined Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017, made under powers contained within the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 are contained within the relevant parts of this report. The Combined Authority, by virtue of the Constitution and relevant legislation are required to make appointments to the Committees of the Authority.

8.0 Equalities Implications

8.1 There are no equalities implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

9.0 Environmental Implications

9.1 There are no environmental implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

10.0 Combined Authority Areas Impacted (Council Areas/Wards/Divisions)

10.1 York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority area.

11.0 Recommendations

11.1 That the Combined Authority appoints Members to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in accordance with the membership of those Committees.

11.2 That the Combined Authority appoints Members to the Skills and Employability Working Group and notes the final list of Members of the Working Group.

11.3 That the Combined Authority confirms the date of the next Combined Authority Meeting as 18 March 2024, with Audit and Governance to take place on 12 March 2024 and Overview and Scrutiny taking place on 13 March 2024.

12.0 Reasons For Recommendations

12.1 To ensure that the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority has a governance framework to facilitate its operation in accordance with the legal requirements.

13.0 Contact Details

For further information please contact the author of this Report.

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Date:	13 February 2024

Background papers [If applicable]

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal & Democratic Services (Agenda item 5 Combined Authority Meeting of 22 January 2024 – [\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, 22/01/2024 14:00](#))

Appendices: Appendix A – list of Skills and Employability Working Group Members

Annex A – Skills and Employability Working Group Membership

Existing Members			
No.	Name	Organisation	Representing
1	Peter Emery	Independent	Directly Appointed (former LEP)
2	Claire Gavaghan	Derwent Training Association	Private Training Organisation
3	Martin Hewitson	DWP	Government Department
4	Joanne West	National Careers Service	Government Department
5	Amanda Newbold	North Yorkshire Council	Local Authority Officer
6	Maxine Squire	City of York Council	Local Authority Officer
7	Laura Mason	NYBEP	Voluntary Sector
8	Danny Wild	Harrogate College	Further Education
9	Michelle Mook	Pro-Development	Employers
10	Cllr Annabel Wilkinson	North Yorkshire Council	Local Authority Member
11	Cllr. Derek Bastiman	North Yorkshire Council	Local Authority Member
12	Cllr Peter Kilbane	City of York Council	Local Authority Member

Proposed New Members			
No.	Name	Organisation	Representing
13	Patricia Wellman	Department of Education	Government Organisation
14	Cllr Robert Webb	City of York Council	Local Authority Member
15	Rachel Richards	NYC Public Health	Public Health
16	Tracy Lightfoot	University of York	Higher Education
17	Mark Gibson	HYIOT	Technical & Vocational Education
18	Annabel Jelley	WNY Chamber of Commerce	Employer Representative Body
19	Alex Miles	Yorkshire Learning Providers	Independent Training Providers