

York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority

Minutes of the inaugural meeting held at County Hall, Northallerton on 22 January 2024 commencing at 2.10 pm

Present: North Yorkshire Councillor Carl Les in the Chair. North Yorkshire Councillor Gareth Dadd, City of York Councillor Claire Douglas and City of York Councillor Peter Kilbane.

In attendance: North Yorkshire Councillors Alyson Baker, Eric Broadbent, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister (remote attendee), Steph Duckett, Bryn Griffiths, Paul Haslam (remote attendee), George Jabbour, Rich Maw and Andrew Murday. City of York Councillor Nigel Ayre.

Officers present: Richard Flinton, NYC (except minute no. 10); Barry Khan, NYC; Suzan Harrington, NYC; Rachel Antonelli, NYC; Daniel Harry, NYC; Elizabeth Jackson, NYC; Sara Jeffs, NYC; Paul Jeeves, NYC, Olivia Hubbard, NYC; James Farrar, Y&NY LEP (except minute no. 10); Paul Clark, Y&NY LEP (except minute no. 10); Ian Floyd, CYC; Bryn Roberts, CYC, Debbie Mitchell, CYC; Helen Whiting, CYC; Jenni Newberry, OPFCC; Jonathan Dyson, OPFCC (except minute no. 10).

Observers: Zoe Metcalfe, PFCC, and Helen Simpson, Y&NY LEP.

01 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Elizabeth Jackson welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the first item on the agenda would be the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair of the Combined Authority.

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Carl Les be elected chair for the meeting, and this was agreed.

North Yorkshire Councillor Carl Les in the Chair

Councillor Carl Les welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, and proposed that the practice of appointing co-chairs for the Joint Devolution Committee should continue and it was

Resolved –

That there should be co-chairs for the Combined Authority, with the chair to be determined by where the meeting was held. City of York Councillor Claire Douglas would chair meetings held in York and North Yorkshire Councillor Carl Les would chair meetings held in North Yorkshire. As a result there would be no requirement for a vice-chair to be appointed.

Members were advised that the meeting would be recorded and broadcast and available to view on the North Yorkshire Council website.

The link to the recording of the meeting is here [York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority - 2pm, 22nd January, 2024 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

02 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

03 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

04 Exclusion of the Public

The Chair, Councillor Carl Les, noted that there was an exempt appendix relating to minute no:

10 – Combined Authority Governance: Proposed Statutory Officers Structure for the Combined Authority and the Mayoral Combined Authority – Appendix

Resolved –

That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 in view of the nature of the business to be transacted the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of minute no. 10 as it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The exempt information in question related to information relating to individuals, or which was likely to reveal the identity of an individual and information relating to labour relations issues.

05 Combined Authority Governance

The Chair, Councillor Carl Les, reported that Overview and Scrutiny Committees at both constituent authorities had reviewed the draft York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Constitution and a number of proposed amendments had been submitted for consideration at the meeting, which would be reviewed as part of consideration of the Constitution.

(a) Public participation

Two Scrutiny recommendations related to public participation and it had been agreed that meetings would be webcast, and also that public participation would be allowed under Chair's discretion until a Mayor was elected.

Councillor Les advised that one member of the public had submitted a request to make a statement at the meeting and the following public statement was read out by Gwen Swinburn:

Thank you for using your discretions and letting me speak today.

Our City of York members were told by their statutory officers that they had no say over this draft constitution that they could 'note' only. To their credit, Members of all parties balked against this, asserting their rights to have their and our citizen voices

Their four hour meeting last week only addressed the first five parts.

It confirmed that this draft constitution simply does not reflect the values of City of York, fought for so hard by all of York's political parties over the last decade. These include but are not limited to, engagement, openness, transparency and equalities.

On so many levels, it is not fit for purpose. With so many good examples, I am at a loss why Manchester's was used as a model, not say, West Yorkshire's.

These are my most important priorities

1. Please amend to require all committee and sub-committee meetings to enable and encourage public and member participation, that they will all be webcast and they

will be retained for at least six years. I know our members have requested this, it is the minimum we have in York.

2. I know what isn't legally bound can be changed, and that the Mayor will be able to do that. However the officers have not footnoted this draft so no one knows what is a legal obligation and what is a choice, this needs addressing amongst all the other changes needed please.
3. As drafted your A&G Committee is not properly positioned to oversee and agree all changes to the CA constitution. It is crucial that all proposed changes are passed through them, not the loose and dangerous delegations as drafted.
4. The complete fissure between the police and fire audit committees and any democratic oversight remains. This is a democratic outrage I must once again, now beg you to address.
5. Members, I am all for having independent people on the Audit Committee but it cannot be that these unelected people are allowed a vote - they don't have any accountability to us citizens at all. As we were told this voting right is a discretion, I am asking that you remove their voting rights, now, before any are appointed.

Councillor Carl Les advised that the comments would be noted and some points would be dealt with under the next part of the item.

(b) Combined Authority Governance

Considered –

A report in the name of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services, North Yorkshire Council, which set out the governance arrangements for the new York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (Y&NYCA), which was the legal and accountable body for £540 million of new funding devolved to York and North Yorkshire under the Devolution Deal with the Government. The Devolution Deal was dependent on the establishment of a Combined Authority for the area with an elected Mayor and an Order was made on 20 December 2023 legally creating the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. The Combined Authority (CA) was required to approve the governance arrangements to put in place the framework which would set out how the Combined Authority was to operate, how decisions were to be made and the procedures to be followed to ensure that decisions were transparent.

Suzan Harrington, the Interim Monitoring Officer, introduced the report and gave an overview of the key points.

- The CA was being set up in a series of phases and at this stage was taking over the role of the Local Enterprise Partnership therefore it was important that it operated appropriately within the law, the agreed scheme and the Order.
- Further changes would be required in the future as the Police and Crime Commissioner functions and the Fire and Rescue Authority functions were brought into the CA; and also following the election of the Mayor, whose role would need to be specified in the Constitution.
- As such the Constitution was an iterative process and further reports would be brought in March and after the election to ensure the necessary changes were made to reflect how the newly elected Mayor wished to operate.
- On 15 January 2024 City of York Council held a joint meeting of its Audit and Governance Committee and Corporate Services, Climate Change and Scrutiny Management Committee which considered the draft Constitution and suggested a number of amendments, and these were circulated at the meeting. Some were

drafting points or changes in wording which could be accepted at the meeting whilst others required further consideration. As a report on the Constitution was coming back to the CA in March it was recommended that those items requiring more thought be considered in the formal report. A summary of the comments and response of the CA is included below:

Reference	Proposed amendment	Response
General	Replace all references to 'he' and 'she' with 'they'	Accept
General	Each Part of the constitution should adopt a consistent approach to numbering	Accept
General	Typos / presentational issues flagged up at the meeting to be resolved	Accept
General	Address duplication within the document and issues such as the same principles or procedures being explained in slightly different ways in different parts of the document	Accept
General	Remove references to 'strategic spatial planning' where appropriate	Accept
Part 1 – Introduction and articles		
Para 1.13	amend to read "Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime' means a person appointed by the Mayor who may exercise Policing and Crime and/or Fire and Rescue functions of the Mayor where delegated."	Accept
Para 5.1	amend to read "The Y&NYCA usually ordinarily meets every month, but additional meetings may take place within the monthly period should the need arise."	Report back
Para 10.2 (c)	amend to read " The advancement of Respect for human rights and equalities "	Report back
Para 10.2 (d)	amend to read "Presumption in favour of public accountability and openness"	Accept
Para 10.2	insert new point (g) to read as follows: " Due consideration to be given to environmental sustainability and the climate crisis "	Report back
Para 11.3 (b)	amend to read: "Any contract with a value exceeding £50,000 entered into by the Y&NYCA shall be made in writing."	Report back
Para 12.2	amend to read "Changes to the Constitution will only be approved by the full Y&NYCA after consideration of the proposal by the Monitoring Officer and the Audit & Governance Committee and in accordance with the Y&NYCA Rules of Procedure in Part 5 of this Constitution, provided that such delegations made by the Mayor as are included in Part 3, 4 and 9 of this Constitution appear for information only and may be revised by the Mayor following consultation with, and having given written notice to, the Monitoring Officer."	Report back
Part 2 – Functions of the Y&NYCA		
B. Transport, para 1.1 (c)	amend to read "The Y&NYCA must develop policies for the promotion and encouragement of safe, integrated, efficient, sustainable and economic transport to, from and within their area, and must prepare and publish a local transport plan containing its policies and proposals for their implementation.."	Report back
Part 3 – Responsibility for Functions		

<p>paras 4.2 (c) and para 4.3</p>	<p>In relation to paras 4.2 (c) and para 4.3 below, members felt there was an inconsistency in the wording emboldened in relation to the agreement of, or rejection of, a MDA.</p> <p><i>“4.2 A proposal by the Mayor to:</i> <i>(a) Designate any area of land as an MDA;</i> <i>(b) Alter the boundaries of an MDA to exclude an area of land;</i> <i>(c) Decide that a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) should be the local planning authority (LPA) for the purposes set out in section 202 (2) to (4) of the Localism Act 2011, requires the consent of all members of the Y&NYCA (or substitute members acting in their place) whose local government area contains any part of the area to be designated or excluded or in respect of which the Mayor wishes to decide that the MDC should be the LPA such consent to be provided at a meeting of the Y&NYCA.</i></p> <p><i>4.3 A proposal of the Mayor under paragraph 4.2 above may be rejected by the Y&NYCA in accordance with the provisions of section 197 of the Localism Act 2011 as modified by the 2023 Order, but only if a motion to reject has been considered at a meeting of the Y&NYCA and agreed to by two—thirds of the Y&NYCA members (or substitute members acting in their place) present and voting on that motion.”</i></p>	<p>Accept</p>
<p>Para 6.10 (a)</p>	<p>in relation to Fire & Rescue, members felt that the wording (copied below) should be amended to reflect the expectation that the Mayor themselves would not be undertaking the calculation.</p> <p><i>6.10 The following functions are assigned as the responsibility of the Mayor and cannot be delegated:</i> <i>(a) The function of calculating a council tax requirement (see section 42A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992)</i></p>	<p>Report back</p>
<p>Section E (Scheme of Del) para 1.6</p>	<p>amend to read “Before exercising delegated powers, particularly on matters involving the reputation of the Y&NYCA, officers should consider the advisability of ordinarily consulting the Head of Paid Service and/or the Chair of the Y&NYCA.”</p>	<p>Accept</p>
<p>Section E (Scheme of Del) para 4.24</p>	<p>(current wording copied below) – members felt that these responsibilities should sit with the Monitoring Officer, rather than the Section 73 officer.</p> <p>“To act as the Y&NYCA's Senior Information Risk Owner and to arrange for the determination of requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and data protection legislation, including dealing with internal reviews, complaints and data sharing or data processing.”</p>	<p>Defer until appointment process defined</p>
<p>Part 4 - Committees</p>		

General	ensure that quorum requirements are consistent across all committees, including sub-committees to which matters may be delegated.	Accept
Section A (A&GC), para 1.1	amend to read “The Audit and Governance Committee is a key component of corporate governance providing an independent, high-level focus on the audit, assurance and reporting framework underpinning financial management and governance arrangements and is to be consulted on any proposed revisions to the Y&NYCA Constitution via a report to the committee. ”	Report back
Para 2.1	there are thirteen members of the committee, not nine.	Accept
Para 2.1 third bullet	amend to read “four co-opted members, who are Independent Persons, and shall have no voting rights on the committee. ”	Report back
Para 2.4	amend to read “The Y&NYCA will appoint the Chair of the Committee who must be a member of one of the constituent councils. ”	Report back
Para 9.1	amend to read “Report the Committee’s findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Y&NYCA and the Mayor, as appropriate , on the effectiveness of governance, risk management and internal controls, financial reporting and internal and external audit functions.”	Amend to read that all reports of findings to go to the Y&NYCA
Section B (Business Cttee) para 4.9	request to amend the wording to support representation on the committee from employees and Trades Unions.	Report back
Section C (O&SC) para 2.1	delete “The overview and scrutiny committee will have a least one member from each Constituent Council” as this is unnecessary as there will be six members from each constituent authority.	Accept
Para 3	add a new point (n) to read “ To invite members of the public to propose topics for the committee to consider at its meetings. ”	Report back
Part 5 – Procedure Rules		
General	All public meetings of the Y&NYCA, its committees and sub-committees are to be webcast, and the recordings to remain available for six years.	Accept Further report needed on implications for Committees and Sub-committees
General	At all public meetings of the Y&NYCA and its committees there is to be a standing agenda item for public participation under which members of the public can register to speak on matters relevant to the matters to be considered at the meeting or on any matter within the committee’s remit. There is to be the facility for public speakers to address the meeting remotely, such as via a Zoom or phone link. There is to be no requirement for public speakers to share their remarks in advance of the meeting.	Further work required on balancing using venues with appropriate facilities with public accessibility
General	All public meetings of the Y&NYCA and its committees are to be held in fully accessible venues.	Accept
General	All statutory notices including the calendar to be posted at the registered offices of both constituent local authorities.	Accept

General	Where meeting papers are restricted and not publicly available, a description of the contents of the papers must be published as part of the agenda.	Report back
Section A (Procedure Rules) para 4.3	add new point (f) to read “ There must be at least one Vice Chair from each constituent local authority. ”	Report back
Para 11.4	suggest that this is not needed and can be removed. “ If all of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Vice-Chairs of the Y&NYCA are absent from a meeting of the Y&NYCA, the Secretary shall invite the Members present to elect a Member to preside for the duration of the meeting or until such time as the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or a Vice-Chair joins the meeting. ”	Accept
Para 15.1	amend to read “Except where a Committee or any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Y&NYCA, is acting under delegated authority, the Minutes of any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Y&NYCA, shall be submitted to the Y&NYCA for information confirmation. Confirmation by the Y&NYCA of those Minutes shall constitute approval of any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Y&NYCA. ”	Accept Minutes of a committee can only be approved by that committee
Section B (Access to Info PRs) para 23	members do not support the proposal that officers can withhold information from members without providing a justification. This para needs to be amended so as to enshrine the right of members of the CA and its committees to have access to information.	Report back
Section C (O&SC PRs) paras 2.3	there are twelve members, not twenty, and the text “the committee will have at least one member from each constituent council” can be removed.	Accept
Para 15	there needs to be a provision for the same decision to be subject to multiple separate call-ins.	Report back
Part 8 – Members allowances		
General	allowances to be considered, as appropriate, by an independent review panel, given the additional workloads to be placed on those appointed to the CA and its committees.	Not an issue for the Constitution, but will be picked up as part of consideration of allowances

The Chair thanked all those who had had contributed to the comments including Members and officers of North Yorkshire Council, City of York Council, the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

Barry Khan, Interim Monitoring Officer, introduced the recommendations and advised that the CA also needed the ability to attach a seal and an additional recommendation be included on this. In response to a question the Interim Monitoring Officer suggested that volunteers be sought from the existing Independent Remuneration Panels for North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council to create a new panel for the CA.

Combined Authority Members indicated their unanimous support for the recommendations in the report.

Resolved –

That (1) the Combined Authority approves the Draft Constitution at Appendix A, and notes that a further report would be brought in March;

(2) the Combined Authority delegates to the Interim Monitoring Officer the ability to approve the Council Seal;

(3) the Combined Authority approves the membership of the Committees as set out in Appendix B;

(4) the Combined Authority defers to the February meeting the appointment of members to the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit and Governance Committees in accordance with the membership of these Committees as set out in Appendix B;

(5) the Combined Authority approves the setting up of a Skills and Employability Working Group;

(6) the Combined Authority delegates responsibility for determining the membership and drafting the Terms of Reference of the Skills and Employability Working Group to the Interim Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Interim Head of Paid Service and the Lead Member for each constituent authority;

(7) the Combined Authority delegates authority to the Interim Monitoring Officer to make amendments to the draft Constitution to reflect the wishes of the Combined Authority as detailed above and ensure the Constitution is consistent with the provisions of the 2023 Order; and

(8) the Combined Authority delegates to the Interim Monitoring Officer the power to:

(a) constitute an Independent Remuneration Panel so that they can consider making recommendations to the Combined Authority meeting to be held in March;

(b) advertise the vacancy for the Independent Person on the Audit and Governance Committee and to make recommendations for appointment at a future Combined Authority meeting;

(c) advertise the vacancies for Independent Persons under Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011 for standards and to make recommendations for appointment at a future Authority meeting.

06 Combined Authority Budget 2023/24 and 2024/25

Considered –

A report in the name of the Interim Director of Resources (S73 Officer), which sought approval of the initial budget for the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority from January 2024 to March 2025, the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, and the appointment of external auditors. Agreement was also sought for the acceptance of grant funding.

Debbie Mitchell introduced the report and gave an overview of the key points, as summarised below:

- Over the next few months work would commence on a Medium Term Financial Strategy for the Combined Authority

- The budget before Members was an initial budget to get the CA through the first months of operation.
- Support services in the first 12 to 18 months would be through Service Level Agreements with NYC and CYC, and authority was sought for the Interim Director of Resources and the Interim Director of Transition to enter into these SLAs on behalf of the CA
- A draft Treasury Management Strategy Statement was attached as an appendix to the report for approval. This provided a safe framework for the investment of any surplus funds.
- Agreement was sought for appointment of external auditors through the Public Sector Audit Appointments scheme in the same way as other local authorities.
- The CA had been awarded £2m to design an energy partnership model based on the Bristol Local Area Energy Plans (LEAP) model and delegated authority was sought for the Interim Director of Resources to accept the grant funding.

The Chair then moved to a recorded vote on the recommendations contained in the report, which were carried unanimously.

FOR: Councillors Gareth Dadd, Claire Douglas, Peter Kilbane and Carl Les.

Total = 4

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Resolved –

That (1) the budget outlined in Table 1 be approved;

(2) the Director of Transition and the Interim Director of Resources be delegated authority to enter into Service Level Agreements with the constituent Councils on behalf of the Combined Authority for the provision of support services;

(3) the appointment of external auditors through the PSAA be approved;

(4) the Treasury Management Strategy at Appendix 1 be approved; and

(5) the Interim Director of Resources be delegated authority to accept the LEAP funding on behalf of the Combined Authority.

07 Combined Authority Local Assurance Framework

Considered –

A report in the name of the Interim Director of Transition, which sought approval of a draft Local Assurance Framework for the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. Local Assurance Frameworks were a requirement under the English Devolution Accountability Framework and set out how CAs would use public money responsibly, make robust and lawful decisions, achieve best value for money and act in an open and transparent manner.

Paul Clark introduced the report and gave an overview of the key points, as summarised below:

- The role of the Local Assurance Framework was to provide assurance to members, the government and the public that the CA had adequate governance arrangements and financial processes in place to deliver the devolution obligations of the region.
- Production was an iterative process and was taking place in consultation with constituent councils and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and production and publication of the Framework was a requirement of Government to release the funding committed under Devolution.
- A review process has taken place with Government and some minor amendments had been received. However further amendments were expected from Government and therefore the CA was asked to delegate authority to sign off a final version to the Interim Head of Paid Service in consultation with co-chairs.

The voting members of the committee indicated their unanimous support for the recommendations in the report.

Resolved –

That (1) the draft Combined Authority Local Assurance Framework be approved; and
(2) the Interim head of Paid Service be delegated authority, in consultation with the Co-Chairs, to make any material changes which may be necessary for the agreement of a final draft with Government.

08 Calendar of Meetings 2024-25

Considered –

A report in the name of the Interim Monitoring Officer which sought approval of the Combined Authority’s calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Paul Clark introduced the report and advised the calendar had been drafted to avoid any meeting clashes with constituent council meetings. An additional meeting would be included in March to consider the IRP, Economic Framework and the Constitution review, and the date would be agreed at the February meeting. Approval was also sought to move the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee scheduled for 16 April to March to avoid the pre-election publicity period.

Resolved –

That the calendar of meetings for 2023-24 and 2024-25 be approved, subject to the amendments described above.

09 Forward Plan

Considered –

The Combined Authority’s draft Forward Plan was submitted for approval for publication on the North Yorkshire Council website and also the Combined Authority website from 1 February 2024.

Resolved –

That the draft Combined Authority Forward Plan be approved.

10 Combined Authority Governance: Proposed Statutory Officers Structure for the Combined Authority

Considered –

A report in the name of the City of York Council Head of Human Resources regarding the appointment of statutory officers and the interim structure of chief officer and senior posts for the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

Barry Khan, Interim Monitoring Officer, advised that the report mentioned a number of officer roles and it was for officers present to make a decision about whether they had a conflict of interest and should leave the room.

The Appendix to the report was exempt. The Combined Authority had resolved at minute no. 04 that the public should be excluded during discussion of the Appendix.

Helen Whiting introduced the open report and gave an overview of the key points, as summarised below:

- An initial staffing report had been considered by the Joint Devolution Committee on 24 July 2023, which had a number of caveats as the final Order making the CA had not been passed. Now that the CA was legally constituted and could make formal decisions it was necessary to confirm the interim Statutory Officers and recruitment to the roles for the future.
- Section 3 of the report considered roles to be appointed to on an interim basis as well as the Combined Authority Returning Officer (CARO) which would be appointed on a permanent basis.
- The Interim Section 73 Officer and Interim Monitoring Officer had been appointed at the meeting on 24 July and were before the CA now for ratification.
- In addition to the CARO both North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council would each designate a local Returning Officer
- Paragraph 10 of the report detailed salaries for the key Statutory Officers and it was noted that these were the same as detailed on the 24 July report, updated with the 2023 pay award

The Chair moved to a vote and Combined Authority members indicated their unanimous support for recommendations (1) and (3) below.

Following the presentation of the report in open session the Combined Authority went into private session for discussion of the exempt appendix at 3:00 pm.

Helen Whiting then gave an overview of the exempt appendix which made recommendations based on a number of options for the appointment of permanent statutory officers after the interim arrangements have ceased on or soon after the election of the Mayor.

On a vote being taken the recommendations contained in paragraph 20 of the exempt appendix, and as summarised at recommendation (2) below, were agreed unanimously.

Resolved –

That (1) Appoint interim Statutory Officers as part of the interim structure for the Combined Authority including:

- i) James Farrar - Director of Transition as the Interim Head of Paid Service (as detailed in paragraphs 5 of the report and paragraphs 8 to 10 in the confidential Appendix A)
- ii) Debbie Mitchell - Chief Finance Officer of City of York Council as the interim Section 73 Officer for the Combined Authority (as detailed in paragraph 6a)
- iii) Barry Khan - Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services of North Yorkshire Council as the interim Monitoring Officer for the Combined Authority (as detailed in paragraph 6b)
- iv) Paul Clark - Governance and Assurance Manager for YNYLEP as the interim Scrutiny Officer (as detailed in paragraph 7a)
- v) Veritau Limited (through a service level agreement) as the interim Data Protection Officer (as detailed in paragraph 7b)
- vi) James Farrar - Director of Transition and Interim Head of Paid Service as the interim Senior Information Risk Owner for the Combined Authority (as detailed in paragraph 7c).

(2) Approve the recruitment and appointment process for the permanent roles of Statutory Officers for the Combined Authority as detailed in the Private Appendix A (as listed in paragraph 30a to f of the private Appendix). This includes the appointment of the Chief Executive to be undertaken after the Mayor's election and the Mayor can then be involved in the appointment process.

(3) Appoint to the Combined Authority Returning Officer;

- i) Richard Flinton, Chief Executive Officer North Yorkshire Council (and the previous Police Authority Returning Officer) as the Combined Authority Returning Officer for the 2024 election (as detailed in paragraphs 11a above) and noting that both City of York Council and North Yorkshire Council will designate two local Returning Officers and there will be ongoing co-ordination between the two Councils regarding the delivery of the election.

The meeting concluded at 3:10 pm.