



Agenda

Notice of a meeting of York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority

To: Mayor David Skaith
City of York Councillor Claire Douglas (Lead Member)
North Yorkshire Councillor Carl Les (Lead Member)
North Yorkshire Councillor Gareth Dadd
City of York Councillor Peter Kilbane

Date: **Wednesday, 2 October 2024**

Time: **4.00 pm**

Venue: **Thornton Room, West Offices, York YO1 6GA**

The meeting will be available to view once the meeting commences, via the following link – [York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority – YouTube](#). Recordings of previous live broadcast meetings are also available there.

Business

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2024** (Pages 5 - 10)
3. **Declarations of Interest**
4. **Public Participation**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice and provided the text of questions to Elizabeth Jackson of Democratic Services, North Yorkshire Council (elizabeth.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk) no later than 12 noon on Monday 30 September 2024. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:

- at this point in the meeting if their questions/statements relate to matters which are not otherwise on the Agenda (subject to an overall time limit of 30 minutes); or
- when the relevant Agenda item is being considered if they wish to speak on a matter which is on the Agenda for this meeting.

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Mayor who will instruct anyone who may be taking a recording to cease while you speak.

- 5. York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Strategic Growth Priorities** (Pages 11 - 22)
Report of the Head of Strategy
- 6. Mayoral Investment Fund - Project Funding Decisions** (Pages 23 - 30)
Report of the Head of Delivery and the Head of Strategy
- 7. Appointment of Monitoring Officer** (Pages 31 - 32)
Report of the Head of Human Resources
- 8. Novation of Contracts** (Pages 33 - 38)
Report of the Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer
- 9. Committee Memberships** (Pages 39 - 42)
Report of the Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer
- 10. Forward Plan** (Pages 43 - 46)
To approve the Combined Authority's Forward Plan
- 11. Urgent Business**
Any other items which the Mayor agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency.

James Farrar
Chief Executive

Barry Khan
Interim Monitoring Officer

24 September 2024

Enquiries relating to this agenda please contact:

Elizabeth Jackson, Principal Democratic Services Officer
elizabeth.jackson@northyorks.gov.uk

Paul Clark, Governance and Assurance Manager
paul.clark@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk

web: www.yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk

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York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority

Minutes of the meeting held at West Offices, York on Friday 6 September 2024 commencing at 3.00 pm.

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

In attendance: North Yorkshire Councillors Lindsay Burr MBE and Kevin Foster

Officers present:

YNYCA - James Farrar, Rachel Antonelli, Mike Russell, Andrew Leeming, Liz Philpott and Paul Clark

CYC – Ian Floyd

NYC – Richard Flinton, Barry Khan and Elizabeth Jackson

CA24-36 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

CA24-37 Minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2024

The minutes of the meeting of the York and North Yorkshire Combined authority held on 22 July 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

CA24-38 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

CA24-39 Public Participation

There were no public questions.

CA24-40 Mayor's Update

The Mayor provided an update on the work of the Combined Authority since the last meeting in July. Engagement across York and North Yorkshire had continued whilst projects had been launched which would support businesses, residents and communities.

York and North Yorkshire Growth Hub's Autumn Programme was launched at C4DI in Northallerton on the 23 August. The programme included expert advice, digital transformation, skills development and investment readiness for businesses.

Grow Yorkshire, which was an initiative led by the Combined Authority working in partnership with the Yorkshire Agricultural Society and the Country Land and Business Association had launched Farming Outlook. Farming Outlook was a radio show which aimed to highlight and support farming communities across York and North Yorkshire. North Yorkshire Council had provided £20,000 in funding through the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund to continue a trial of this initiative.

Transport engagement had continued. The Mayor had visited places across the region including Low Bentham Women's Institute Coffee Morning where residents highlighted their concerns surrounding transport as well as environmental issues. As a hinterland area of North Yorkshire, which bordered Lancashire, Low Bentham was a rural community that felt isolated and without a reliable local bus service.

The Mayor also attended a public meeting at Selby Community Centre, as guest of Keir Mather MP, to hear about the future of bus services in the Selby area and the needs of residents.

The Mayor met with Chris Boardman in his role as commissioner of Active Travel England. Chris shared ideas on how residents across our rural, coastal and city region could be given more choice when it came to travel. All this work would feed into our future transport work.

The deadline for applications for the Business Board closed in early August and interviews were currently taking place. The first Business Board meeting would take place in early October.

Finally, the Mayor had celebrated his first 100 days in post which had provided an opportunity to share the work the Combined Authority had been doing via extensive social, stakeholder and press activity to mark the first 100 days in office whilst giving a platform to set out the next steps as an authority.

CA24-41 Mayoral Investment Fund – Project Funding Decisions

Considered – A joint report of the Head of Delivery and the Head of Strategy which set out projects that have been proposed by North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council for funding from the Mayoral Investment Fund in response to the original approval in principle to develop a pipeline of investible schemes that will support delivery of the York and North Yorkshire Economic Framework.

Liz Philpot, Head of Delivery, gave an overview of key points:

- A schedule of proposed projects was detailed at Section 4.1 of the report. Two project appraisals had been fully completed and were now recommended for approval.
- **Scarborough Boat Hoist** – the requested funding of £700k was part of a larger funding package and would enable NYC to go ahead with another funding application for the boat hoist itself.

- **North Yorkshire EV Charging Infrastructure Improvements** – the funding was intended for replacement of charging points across Hambleton and Craven areas. In Hambleton the original supplier was now in liquidation and replacement of the installation was required to ensure the continued operation of the facilities. In Craven the original contractor had withdrawn from the market and the existing installations were not able to be transferred to a new operator.
- Further schemes would be brought to the next meeting on 2 October

Members welcomed the investment. It was noted that the Movement and Place Transport Study in York included plans to tackle congestion and reduce miles travelled.

Resolved (unanimously) – that:

- i) the following projects be approved for Mayoral Investment Fund grant:
 - a) Scarborough Harbour Boat Hoist - £700,000
 - b) North Yorkshire EV Charging Infrastructure Improvements - £175,000
- ii) appraisal work be completed to inform recommendations for the following projects be referred to the YNYCA meeting on 2 October 2024 for decision:
 - a) Harrogate Junction Improvements
 - b) Selby Station Gateway Contribution
 - c) York Movement and Place Transport Study
 - d) York City Centre Regeneration
 - e) York Cultural Passport for Young People Programme

CA24-42 Adult Skills Fund Strategic Skills Plan

Considered – A report of the Head of Strategy which set out the Adult Skills Fund Strategic Skills Plan, a key of requirement of the Department for Education (DfE) to demonstrate readiness for the devolution of the Adult Skills Fund. It aligns to the Economic Framework and the Skills Strategy.

Andrew Leeming, Head of Strategy, gave an overview of key points:

- Substantial consultation had taken place with providers to ensure a smooth transition to being delivered by the Combined Authority
- It was hoped to make the process simpler and to increase capacity in the system from over 200 providers currently, to a smaller number of providers but operating more locally
- The report set out the key priorities which included encouraging wider access and participation to get people back into work, to unlock progression pathways looking at underutilised talent and developing more flexible provision

Members welcomed the report and thanked officers and consultees for their contribution this.

Resolved (unanimously) –

That the Adult Skills Fund Strategic Skills Plan be approved as a key strategic document.

CA24-43 Brownfield Housing Fund - Round 2

Considered – A report of the Head of Delivery which provided information on the second call for project applications to the York and North Yorkshire Brownfield Housing Fund Programme. The second call for projects had been approved by the Combined Authority in February 2024 to utilise the remaining balance of approximately £3m from the Brownfield Housing Fund Programme following the first round of approvals in December 2023.

Recommendations were made for the approval of grant contributions towards new projects. An allocation from the Mayoral Investment Fund was also requested towards the York and North Yorkshire Brownfield Housing Fund to maximise delivery of brownfield housing sites, and new homes, including affordable homes. It would also enable programme over-commitment to ensure full utilisation of the existing funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

Liz Philpott, Head of Delivery, gave an overview of key points:

- The July meeting of the Combined Authority had considered proposals for Round 2 Phase 1 to allocate £4.3m to housing schemes which consisted of the balance of £3m remaining from the total £12.7m from MHCLG, and approval for £1.3m from the Mayoral Investment Fund.
- Approval was now sought for Round 2 Phase 2. Three housing projects totalling £3.36m were proposed as detailed in section 5 of the report, to be funded from the Mayoral Investment Fund.
- Using the Mayoral Investment Fund in this way was enabling the Combined Authority to overcommit and ensure that national funding was fully utilised, and also allowed some projects to work on a slower timescale without the risk of losing funding.
- Approving the projects, with conditions, would provide certainty and enable work on the schemes to progress.
- Officers would continue to actively seek further funding opportunities to support further housing investment and reduce the call on the Mayoral Investment Fund.

Members noted that the scheme was enabling the provision of 492 new homes, 70% of which would be affordable. It was confirmed that whilst 4% of the budget was earmarked for management and admin costs, every effort would be made to keep such costs to a minimum and any unused funding would be allocated back to the projects.

Resolved (unanimously) – that:

- i) A maximum additional allocation is made of £3.36 million from the Mayoral Investment Fund in addition to the previous approval of £1.298 million (i.e. total £4.634 million) towards the York and North Yorkshire Brownfield Housing Fund (YNY BHF) to enable the remaining three of the six Round two applications to be supported;
- ii) Approval be given for three projects to be supported through the YNY BHF Programme :
 - Lowfield Lane Phase two, York
 - Ordnance Lane, York
 - Neville House, Gargrave
- iii) To actively seek additional opportunities for external funding to support Brownfield Housing Investment in York and North Yorkshire.

CA24-44 Combined Authority Governance

Considered – A report of the Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer making recommendations in relation to governance arrangements of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

Rachel Antonelli, Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer, introduced the report and advised that the Mayor wished to appoint Councillors Peter Kilbane as Portfolio holder for Transport and Councillor Carl Les as portfolio holder for Housing with immediate effect. The Mayor welcomed the Councillors and the expertise they would bring to these roles, which represented the two largest areas of work for the Combined Authority,.

Rachel Antonelli then reported that it was proposed to change the name of the Business Committee to the Business Board and to update the terms of reference. Paragraph 4.8 of the updated terms of reference provided for two public sector board members to be appointed from each constituent authority with responsibility for key areas such as business, transport, economy and skills. Provision was also proposed in relation to remuneration subject to the independent remuneration panel process and to allow remote attendance to count towards quoracy as it was not a formal committee.

It was confirmed that the appointment of portfolio holders was in the gift of the Mayor and would normally take place at the Annual Meeting, and the appointments were for noting.

Resolved (unanimously) – that:

- i) That the Combined Authority notes the allocation of portfolios as set out at Appendix A for the municipal year 2024/25.
- ii) That the Combined Authority approves the amendment to the title of the Business Committee to Business Board and the updated Terms of Reference for the Board, as can be found at Appendix B.

- iii) The Combined Authority authorises the Interim Monitoring Officer, to make the necessary amendments to the Combined Authority Constitution.

CA24-45 Forward Plan

Considered – The Combined Authority’s draft Forward Plan was submitted for approval for publication on the Combined Authority’s website. The Governance and Assurance Manager reported on new entries to the plan since the agenda was published.

Resolved (unanimously) –

That the draft Combined Authority Forward Plan be approved.

The meeting concluded at 3.33 pm.

COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING

2 October 2024

YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY'S STRATEGIC GROWTH PRIORITIES

Report of the Head of Strategy

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report sets out the draft Strategic Growth Priorities that the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (CA) proposes should be submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) as part of the development of the Combined Authority's wider Local Growth Plan.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to finalise a set of draft Strategic Growth Priorities which will then be used to develop a full Local Growth Plan and investment pipeline in collaboration with Government.
- 1.3 Government's intentions are for Local Growth Plans to be finalised and published around Summer 2025.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that:
 - 2.1.1 The Combined Authority approves the five draft Strategic Growth Priorities for submission to MHCLG:
 - **Increase productivity and innovation within the Food and Farming Sector;**
 - **Maximise our science, knowledge, innovation and research strengths to drive growth in an Engineering Biology northern cluster;**
 - **Create economic opportunities through the need to transition to Clean Energy;**
 - **Enable technological and digital transformation through investment in Digital Infrastructure and Skills; and**
 - **Accelerate Place-based Sustainable Development.**
 - 2.1.2 The Combined Authority delegates authority to the Combined Authority's Chief Executive to agree the priorities with MHCLG, in consultation with the Mayor and Combined Authority Members, if any amendments suggested by MHCLG are required.

2.1.3 The Combined Authority approves the transition of the Economic Framework, alongside the Strategic Growth Priorities, into the Local Growth Plan.

3.0 Background

3.1 Local Growth Plans were first identified within Labour's Manifesto: "At the centre of our approach is a new statutory requirement for Local Growth Plans that cover towns and cities across the country. Local leaders will work with major employers, universities, colleges, and industry bodies to produce long-term plans that identify growth sectors and put in place the programmes and infrastructure they need to thrive. These will align with our national industrial strategy."

3.2 Legislation is expected in the form of the English Devolution Bill which intends to give new powers to metro mayors and combined authorities. This will support local growth plans that bring economic benefit to communities.

3.3 Beyond these initial announcements, Combined Authorities did not receive immediate guidelines on the role of the Local Growth Plan and the format required, other than Local Growth Plans should be developed in collaboration with Government, but ultimately, they are locally owned strategies.

3.4 In discussions with MHCLG colleagues, the following was clear:

- The emphasis for the Local Growth Plan is to unlock national growth by addressing regional inequalities in productivity. Priority should be given to the most transformative opportunities for growth or removing constraints to productivity, with areas advised to propose only 3-5 Strategic Growth Priorities to be agreed with Government. The more detailed Local Growth Plan would be expected to include a focus on these Priorities, as well as reflect wider areas of local importance that form part of the region's overall approach to growth and support a functioning, prosperous economy.
- The Government will introduce a new National Industrial Strategy to drive long-term, sustainable, inclusive, and secure growth. Local Growth Plans will help to shape the National Industrial Strategy and provide a framework that helps inform priorities for public and private investment and interventions to drive growth.

3.5 It should be noted that details surrounding the final Growth Plan, and how the Strategic Growth Priorities contribute to this, are still being finalised with Ministers. The information within this report is based on officer understanding to date, and to the best of officer knowledge is accurate at the point of publication. The draft priorities set out in this report have been developed based on current thinking on the scope of the policy that is subject to further refinement and evolution. These priorities have not yet been formally submitted to MHCLG and therefore do not have HMG approval.

4.0 The Process of Identifying the Strategic Growth Priorities

4.1 In order to identify the Strategic Growth Priorities for York and North Yorkshire, the following process has been undertaken:

- A review of the priorities within the Economic Framework, identifying the opportunities that best align with national ambitions to increase productivity and drive growth.
- A number of prioritisation activities have been undertaken through the following: engagement with CA members, consultation with key representatives from the City of York Council and North Yorkshire Council, and a number of workshops to test the priorities with MHCLG officials and consider how local and national priorities align.
- Revisiting the existing evidence and ensuring there is a clear rationale and opportunity for growth across each priority. This includes reflecting upon York and North Yorkshire’s unique assets, geographical position, capability and knowledge, market opportunity and brand recognition.

4.2 There has not been extensive consultation and engagement with stakeholders at this stage. This is primarily due to the priorities emerging from the Economic Framework, which built on the extensive consultation and evidence work that was undertaken by the City of York Council and North Yorkshire Council’s Economic Strategies. There will be greater opportunity for engagement from October onwards.

5.0 Transitioning the Economic Framework into the Local Growth Plan

5.1 In July 2024, the Combined Authority approved an [Economic Framework](#), which sets out three overarching ambitions and five key thematic priorities for the Combined Authority, as depicted below:



- 5.2 The role of the Local Growth Plan is not to disregard the existing Economic Framework and the extensive collaboration and work undertaken to form that. The proposed Strategic Growth Priorities have been formed from the basis of the Economic Framework.
- 5.3 To build on the work to date around the Economic Framework, it is recommended that the Economic Framework, alongside the Strategic Growth Priorities, form the basis of the Local Growth Plan. This avoids confusion for Government and other key stakeholders and minimises the number of existing strategies.
- 5.4 The Combined Authority and the government recognise there will be important priorities which, whilst not part of the key priorities identified for accelerating York and North Yorkshire's economic growth and productivity, are essential to the local economic health and prosperity of the region. Therefore, it is proposed that the Local Growth Plan is segmented into two categories:
- Strategic Growth Priorities identified with government for accelerating York and North Yorkshire's economic growth and productivity; and
 - Wider Local Economic Priorities.
- 5.5 Wider Local Economic Priorities may include:
- Towns and High Streets
 - Tourism, Hospitality and Retail
 - Foundational/service sector
 - Growth in local micro and small businesses
 - Labour Market Alignment (i.e. engagement with inactives, challenges linked to an ageing demographic and decline in young people).

6.0 Proposed Strategic Growth Priorities

6.1 Based on the Economic Framework, robust evidence and York and North Yorkshire's asset base, and in consultation, primarily with the two Local Authorities, the following Strategic Growth Priorities have been identified (note: growth priorities are not listed based on order of importance):

- **Increase productivity and innovation within the Food and Farming Sector;**
- **Maximise our science, knowledge, innovation and research strengths to drive growth in an Engineering Biology northern cluster;**
- **Create economic opportunities through the need to transition to Clean Energy;**
- **Enable technological and digital transformation through investment in Digital Infrastructure and Skills; and**
- **Accelerate Place-based Sustainable Development.**

6.2 **Rationale for Each Strategic Growth Priority**

6.2.1 The below sets out the rationale behind each Strategic Growth Priority. Note that these draft priorities and the accompanying rationale have not yet been formally submitted to MHCLG and therefore do not have HMG approval.

6.2.2 **Growth Priority: Increase productivity and innovation within the Food and Farming Sector.** York and North Yorkshire will work with its Food and Farming cluster, including its research and development and academic assets, to increase productivity and improve food security through innovation in food production (e.g. vertical farming), technological improvements, increased trade and export, and skills and training.

- This priority primarily recognises the strengths for York and North Yorkshire across the whole food ecosystem, covering agriculture and farming, agritech, food and drink manufacturing and production and extensive research and development and innovation assets.
- York and North Yorkshire has diverse agriculture making it the perfect testbed for innovation. A substantial amount of land is dedicated to agriculture, covering all types of arable and livestock farming, alongside aquaculture opportunities from our coastline. The proportion of agriculture businesses in York and North Yorkshire is 4 times the level for England.
- There are a number of agritech businesses that drive food production based in the region. The Department for Business and Trade identified York and North Yorkshire as a '[High Potential Opportunity](#)' area for Controlled Environment Agriculture, with York and North Yorkshire classified as innovators in glasshouse and vertical farm construction, LED lighting and heating systems, crop and plant genetics.
- Globally recognised food and drink manufacturers are based here, including: McCains, Nestle, Quorn, Taylors of Harrogate and Heineken, to name a few. There is also a food manufacturing cluster at Leeming Bar. Food and drink is the largest manufacturing subsector within York and North Yorkshire and the proportion of people employed in food manufacturing here is nearly 3 times England's level.
- Askham Bryan, a dedicated agricultural and horticultural college is based here, alongside a number of other innovation and academic assets (e.g. Leading Agritech Centres).
- The natural beauty of York and North Yorkshire is one of the region's most distinct USPs. York and North Yorkshire is home to two national parks (North York Moors and the Yorkshire Dales) and three National Landscapes (Howardian Hills, Nidderdale and the Forest of Bowland), which provide an economic opportunity.

6.2.3 **Growth Priority: Maximise our science, knowledge, innovation and research strengths to drive growth in an Engineering Biology northern cluster.** York and North Yorkshire will support expansion of the Engineering Biology northern cluster by working with its science, knowledge, innovation, and research strengths and close collaboration with neighbouring regions, to ensure innovation in the lab translates to a commercial opportunity, with increased spinouts, scale ups and more science-based, higher wage job opportunities.

- Engineering Biology, also referred to as Industrial Biotechnology, is the Department for Business and Trade's term for describing the sectors that are enabling the decarbonisation of materials and processes by substituting fossil fuels for renewable bio-based materials.
- York and North Yorkshire's key assets within this sector are primarily linked to the science and academic institutions and our position at the heart of a northern cluster, closely linked to activity in Tees Valley and the Humber. From the University of York and BioYorkshire, and the internationally renowned Fera Science Ltd, to the open-access research facilities at the Biorenewables Development Centre.
- York and North Yorkshire is at the forefront of technologies such as sustainable alternatives to fertilisers, bio-based lubricants, bio-based cosmetics, alternative construction materials and textiles, Carbon Capture Under Sea (CCUS) and more.

6.2.4 Growth Priority: Create economic opportunities through the need to transition to Clean Energy. York and North Yorkshire will ensure the scale of decarbonisation needs for the area's energy systems translates into an economic opportunity through engagement with industry to develop innovative energy solutions, deliver skills and training such as retrofit, increase investment and become an exemplar for green finance.

- Both national and local ambitions have driven market opportunities within clean energy. York and North Yorkshire's ambition is to transition to carbon negative. As part of that transition, there is an estimated £23.1 billion investment opportunity to decarbonise York and North Yorkshire's energy system to reach net zero by 2034.
- York and North Yorkshire need to ensure that there are local supply chains in place and locally-owned models to capture and maximise this investment. As part of the Growth Plan development, further research and analysis will be undertaken to quantify the growth opportunity and how we maximise this locally.
- York and North Yorkshire's Local Area Energy Plans evidence that York and North Yorkshire has the potential to generate all the energy to power the region within its geographic boundaries. If this is locally owned and managed, York and North Yorkshire has the opportunity to be energy independent, protecting our residents and businesses from increasing energy costs.
- As part of the energy transition, there is also a massive building retrofit requirement locally. York and North Yorkshire contains a large proportion of homes that are very old (pre-1919); typically these are less well insulated and often more difficult to retrofit. As a result, York and North Yorkshire has a high proportion of homes with poor thermal efficiency – around 68% of homes have an EPC rating below C. Improving the efficiency of our homes creates an opportunity for the construction sector from both a skills and employment perspective and means warmer homes and reduced costs for our residents.

- A large number of heritage assets will need to be retrofitted within York and North Yorkshire. This is critical, both for the transition to carbon negative and to future proof these assets. Appropriate conservation will require specialist construction skills, such as stone masonry.

6.2.5 Growth Priority: Enable technological and digital transformation through investment in Digital Infrastructure and Skills. York and North Yorkshire, working with Government, will invest in digital infrastructure, particularly in rural areas, alongside digital skills, to enable greater development of technological solutions and products within Rail Innovation, Health and Social Care and Creative and Culture Sectors, which will support inward investment and higher wage job creation.

- Digital adoption has the potential to transform business efficiency, productivity and innovation. For York and North Yorkshire, there is a massive digital opportunity within the following sectors: Rail Innovation, Culture and Creative (e.g. Heritage Tech) and Health and Social Care (e.g. MedTech).
- The value of creative and culture sectors can be strengthened through greater emphasis on rapid technological advances, particularly AI and virtual reality. With York's UNESCO City of Media Arts status – one of only 25 cities in the world – and with world class assets like the new Institute for Safer Autonomy, York and North Yorkshire is well positioned to maximise this opportunity.
- There will be greater reliance on data within rail as rail and automotive networks are storing higher amounts of onboard personal and enterprise data. In rail, digital twinning will be used to monitor physical assets, train movements and passenger-related information across the rail estate. With a 160-year history of providing rail technology, infrastructure and education York and North Yorkshire have the experience and expertise to deliver global solutions across every aspect of the rail sector.
- Consumer demand for health and wellbeing services are increasing. An expanding and ageing world population and lifestyle diseases has driven greater emergence of MedTech and digital health services.
- Critically linked to maximising these opportunities is ensuring the right digital infrastructure and digital skills are in place.

6.2.6 Growth Priority: Accelerate Place-based Sustainable Development. York and North Yorkshire will accelerate and create new growth opportunities for employment, housing and sustainable, healthy communities supporting high quality places, through investment in infrastructure, such as transport, unlocking key employment and housing and enhancing construction skills and training.

- Long term and co-ordinated approach to growth and infrastructure planning is needed. Growth is not confined at a local level or by an administrative boundary. A place-based approach removes siloes from occurring between housing, transport and economic growth plans. Sustainable development

will support York and North Yorkshire’s global brand of being an attractive place to work, visit and live in.

- York and North Yorkshire need to meet ambitious housing targets. Government’s manifesto made a commitment of 1.5 million new homes in this Parliament, with greater emphasis on building in the Midlands and the North. Development will also be needed to meet emerging demand for employment land for new sector growth.
- Housing is unaffordable across most of the patch (with exceptions along the coast). The challenge is exacerbated by a low wage economy. Average rents are also unaffordable, particularly in York, where prices much closer reflect the South-East. The increasingly unaffordability of homes is driving young people and working age households elsewhere – this is most significant in our rural communities.
- There are a number of existing site opportunities within York and North Yorkshire available to address both housing and employment which could be accelerated. For example: York Central, Eggborough, Gascoigne and Maltkiln.

6.3 Skills is a critical enabler of growth, from sectoral training needs to cross-cutting requirements such as leadership and management. There is not a separate priority for skills as it should be integrated throughout the Local Growth Plan.

6.4 It is recommended that the Combined Authority approves these draft priorities in principle, enabling officers to continue to work closely with Government to develop a full Local Growth Plan.

6.5 There are ongoing discussions with MHCLG on the draft Strategic Growth Priorities, leading up to the Autumn Statement at the end of October. This may result in some amendments to the Strategic Growth Priorities. So, it is recommended that the Combined Authority provide delegated authority to the CA’s Chief Executive to approve any amendments that are required, in consultation with the Mayor and members of the CA.

7.0 Indicative Milestones

7.1 The key milestones have been identified below:

Indicative Timeline	Activity
Stage One: Approval of Growth Priorities	
2 nd October 2024	Approval on the Growth Priorities from the Combined Authority, in preparation for discussions and sign-off with MHCLG
Late October 2024	Autumn Budget Statement HMG agreement on 5 growth priorities
Stage Two: Development of a full Growth Plan	
Post Autumn Budget	MCA and HMG joint development of priorities Initial drafting of Local Growth Plan

	Engagement with wider stakeholders
January/February 2025	Early draft of the Local Growth Plan Initial Investment Pipeline
March/April 2025	Finalised detailed 5 Strategic Growth Priorities HMG Spending Review
May/June 2025	Finalised Local Growth Plan Finalise Investment Plan
May 2025	Delivery of the Growth Plan

8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 There are no direct financial implications from the approval of the Strategic Growth Priorities. However, the resulting Local Growth Plan will help to shape financial decisions around the future investment priorities for the CA, providing a framework for discussion with Government around future investment and interventions.

8.2 In addition, a strong Growth Plan will be supported by a clear investment plan with investible business cases for early years investments. There will be a need to support the development of these investment plans and some business cases. The existing Combined Authority approvals for investment programmes in Net Zero, Town Centres, Business Innovation and Skills Innovation could support some of this activity. An existing delegated approval exists to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Mayor and Combined Authority Members to approve these.

8.3 Any additional requirements will be developed further and brought to the Combined Authority in November for approval.

9.0 Legal Implications

9.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from approval of the Strategic Growth Priorities.

10.0 Equalities Implications

10.1 It is not anticipated that the Strategic Growth Priorities will cause any negative impacts on equalities.

11.0 Environmental Implications

11.1 It is not anticipated that there will be any negative implications from the Strategic Growth Priorities, but the overall ambition of the priorities is to support York and North Yorkshire's transition to a carbon negative economy (as identified in the original Economic Framework), so positive impacts are anticipated.

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

12.1 The Strategic Growth Priorities cover the whole of York and North Yorkshire.

13.0 Recommendations

13.1 It is recommended that the Combined Authority approves the five draft Strategic Growth Priorities for submission to MHCLG:

- **Increase productivity and innovation within the Food and Farming Sector;**
- **Maximise our science, knowledge, innovation and research strengths to drive growth in an Engineering Biology northern cluster;**
- **Create economic opportunities through the need to transition to Clean Energy;**
- **Enable technological and digital transformation through investment in Digital Infrastructure and Skills; and**
- **Accelerate Place-based Sustainable Development.**

13.2 It is recommended that the Combined Authority delegates authority for the Combined Authority's Chief Executive to approve the draft Growth Priorities, including the provision for the approval of any minor amendments suggested by MHCLG, in consultation with the Mayor and Combined Authority Members.

13.3 It is recommended that the Combined Authority approves the transition of the Economic Framework, alongside the Strategic Growth Priorities, into the Local Growth Plan.

14.0 Reasons For Recommendations

14.1 The Strategic Growth Priorities are part of Government's requirement for CA's to produce Local Growth Plans. These draft priorities will set the basis for further collaboration with Government and opportunities to increase investment in York and North Yorkshire and remove barriers to growth.

15.0 Contact Details

For further information please contact the authors of this Report.

Author

Name:	Andrew Leeming
Job Title:	Head of Strategy
Service Area:	Strategy
Email:	Andrew.leeming@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk
Report approved:	James Farrar, Chief Executive
Date:	

Co-author

Name:	Kate McHugh
Job Title:	Research & Evaluation Officer
Service Area:	Strategy

Email:	Kate.mchugh@yorknorthyorks- ca.gov.uk
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COMBINED AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE MEETING

2 OCTOBER 2024

MAYORAL INVESTMENT FUND – PROJECT FUNDING DECISIONS

Report of the Head of Delivery and Head of Strategy

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report sets out proposals from North Yorkshire Council and City of York Council for funding from the Mayoral Investment Fund.
- 1.2 The report covers two areas :
- (i) for information, the confirmed pipeline of investible schemes requiring further preparatory and development work that, when delivered, will contribute to the York and North Yorkshire Economic Framework; and
 - (ii) projects that are proposed for delivery, requesting decision on approval of funding from the Mayoral Investment Fund.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are requested to note the pipeline projects listed below, that have been considered by Chief Executive (successor to the Interim Director of Transition) and Director of Resources (Section 73 Officer) and will be progressed, under delegated authority, following the allocation £1m (£500,000 for each local authority) at the meeting of the York and North Yorkshire Joint Devolution Committee on 15 December 2023:

North Yorkshire Council :

- Housing Revenue Proposition
- Ripon Connectivity
- Scarborough Town Centre Sites
- Skipton Wyvern Link Road
- Selby Abbey Quarter

City of York Council

- Our City Centre Regeneration
- Construction Skills

- 2.2 It is recommended that the following projects be approved for Mayoral Investment Fund grant as listed below and detailed in the report :

North Yorkshire Council :

- Harrogate A61 Major Junctions Improvements
- Selby Station Gateway Contribution

City of York Council :

- York Cultural Passport for Young People Programme
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

2.3 All projects will be progressed through Grant Funding Agreements (GFAs) and any outstanding matters will be addressed through conditions to be included in the GFAs.

3.0 Background

3.1 At the meeting of the York and North Yorkshire Joint Devolution Committee on 15 December 2023 it was recognised that significant work had been completed to develop the Economic Framework for York and North Yorkshire. To accompany this and to enable first year progress it was agreed that a pipeline of investible schemes would be required to be developed to HM Treasury Green Book standard “Full Business Case”. This would enable an incoming Mayor the option to consider the opportunities for investment should there be alignment with their manifesto.

3.2 An amount of £500,000 was approved in principle for each local authority to propose a schedule of pipeline schemes requiring further development. Agreement of specific outcomes from the funding was delegated to the Interim Director of Transition and Interim S73 Officer. These roles are now superseded by the Combined Authority Chief Executive and Director of Resources (with Section 73 responsibility).

3.3 In addition City of York and North Yorkshire Councils were asked to develop business cases for investments which met the priorities of the Economic Framework and enabled the Mayor to accelerate investment across the region.

4.0 Current Position

4.1 The applications received for the proposed pipeline of projects requiring further development are listed at Appendix 1 for each local authority to show how the approved £500,000 is being utilised. These have been reviewed and approved in principle by the Chief Executive and Director of Resources in accordance with the original approval for allocation of Mayoral Investment funding. Details are provided for reference and for noting by Members.

4.2 The specific outcomes for the approved pipeline projects listed at Appendix 1 will be set out in Grant Funding Agreements. Progress will be monitored and reported through Combined Authority governance and assurance processes.

4.3 With regard to the delivery of projects, as referred at Section 3.3, the schedules set out at Appendix 2 show the submitted projects that have been subject to appraisal of

the outline business case. The current status of the appraisal for each project is shown in the table. Meetings have been held with project officers, and further information and clarifications have been requested on a range of issues to inform the final recommendations.

4.4 It should be noted that an additional project for York Movement and Place Transport Plan that was referenced in the previous report to Combined Authority Executive on 6 September 2024, will now be supported via approved Combined Authority Transport Plan funding. Initial work at a cost of £150,000 will be undertaken, to inform further development of the more detailed Movement and Place Plan.

4.5 The Executive is requested to consider the projects at Appendix 2 and support the recommendations for each as shown.

5.0 Programme Monitoring, Evaluation and Development

5.1 Formal programme monitoring and evaluation arrangements will be put in place by the Combined Authority as part of the Governance and Assurance for the Mayoral Investment Fund. Work will continue to develop a longer-term pipeline and inform future programme design for investments from the Mayoral Investment Fund within the context of the York and North Yorkshire Economic Framework, and the emerging York and North Yorkshire Growth Plan.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 The total amount of funding requested from the Mayoral Investment Fund by the projects listed in the table at Appendix 2 is £4.075 million. The project contributions are capped as maximum amounts, and the respective project sponsors will be liable for any additional costs or increases during the delivery stage. The project sponsors are responsible for meeting all fee costs for delivery of these projects.

6.2 The Combined Authority is required to agree a balanced budget annually and to monitor that budget throughout the year. In addition, there is a fiduciary duty not to waste public resources, to secure value for money and ensure that good financial governance arrangements are in place.

6.3 The table below outlines the current position for the Mayoral Investment Fund should the recommendations in this report (and other reports elsewhere on this agenda) be approved. A detailed breakdown is provided at Appendix 3.

York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority	£000's
Mayoral Investment Fund Gainshare Funding Available 2024-2028	81,000
Budget allocations/ anticipated medium term commitments	18,500
Additional support to existing programmes	5,460
YNYCA programmes	34,785
Total Committed	58,820
Balance Remaining	22,255

7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 A formal funding agreement will be put in place for each project.

7.2 All projects will be required to submit a UK Subsidy Control Assessment before receiving funding to ensure compliance.

8.0 Equalities Implications

8.1 No equalities implications are anticipated.

9.0 Environmental Implications

9.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

10.0 Risks and Mitigations

10.1 The projects recommended for approval in this report are without conditions, although there may be specific requirements to be included in Grant Funding Agreements as “Conditions Precedent” which must be met before grant payments will be made eg confirmation of match funding from other sources (where stated in the project application).

10.2 Detailed risk registers are available for each project.

11.0 Recommendations

It is recommended that :

11.1 Members are requested to note the pipeline projects listed below, and detailed at Appendix 1, that have been considered by Chief Executive (successor to the Interim Director of Transition) and Director of Resources (Section 73 Officer) and will be progressed following the allocation £1m (£500,000 for each local authority) at the meeting of the York and North Yorkshire Joint Devolution Committee on 15 December 2023 :

North Yorkshire Council :

- Housing Revenue Proposition
- Ripon Connectivity
- Scarborough Town Centre Sites
- Skipton Wyvern Link Road
- Selby Abbey Quarter

City of York Council

- Our City Centre Regeneration
- Construction Skills

11.2 It is recommended that the projects listed below, and detailed at Appendix 2, be approved for delivery by the respective local authorities, with grant contributions from the Mayoral Investment Fund :

North Yorkshire Council :

- Harrogate A61 Major Junctions Improvements
- Selby Station Gateway Contribution

City of York Council :

- York Cultural Passport for Young People Programme
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

11.3 All projects will be progressed through Grant Funding Agreements (GFAs) and any outstanding matters will be addressed through conditions to be included in the GFAs.

12.0 Contact Details

For further information please contact the authors of this Report.

Author

Name:	Liz Philpot
Job Title:	Head of Delivery
Service Area:	Economy Directorate
Telephone:	07815 994163
Report approved:	James Farrar
Date:	23 September 2024

Co-author

Name:	Andrew Leeming
Job Title:	Head of Strategy
Service Area:	Economy Directorate
Telephone:	07976 727017
Report approved:	James Farrar
Date:	23 September 2024

Background papers

Report to the York and North Yorkshire Joint Devolution Committee - 15 December 2023
([Minute 25 Refers](#))

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Schedule of Pipeline Development Work for Economic Development Projects
- Appendix 2 - Schedule of Economic Development Projects for Delivery
- Appendix 3 – York and North Yorkshire Mayoral Investment Fund Breakdown of current financial commitments

APPENDIX 1

Schedule of Pipeline Development Work for Economic Development Projects

North Yorkshire Council Pipeline Project Work	Mayoral Investment Fund Request	Activity	Comments
Housing Revenue Proposition	80	Feasibility/preliminary work	Leading to delivery of 200 homes - 26/27 60 homes; 27/28 140 homes; HRA development budget £66m
Ripon Connectivity	80	High level preferred masterplan drawings with estimates, OBC with BCR for scheme and phases	Active Travel/Mobility Hub - to inform next stages of preliminary work for bid ready proposals
Scarborough Town Centre Sites	100	Feasibility/preliminary work	Scope - former Argos building and Brunswick Centre
Skipton Wyvern Link Road	90	Preliminary design, to enable planning application, detailed design to inform main scheme design	Connection for relief road access to A629 by-pass – will enable detailed costs in readiness for procurement and delivery
Selby Abbey Quarter	150	Range of feasibility and prelim work	Several components of Selby Town Centre Regeneration Phase 2 Abbey Quarter- links to Selby Vision and Masterplan and TCF adjacent Phase 1 Station Gateway
Total Requested	500		

City of York Council Pipeline Project Work	Mayoral Investment Fund Request	Activity	Comments
Our City Centre Regeneration	430	Spatial framework for city centre public spaces, delivery strategy and identified pipeline of capital regeneration projects	For the York "Our City Centre" vision, for subsequent delivery (NB links to Movement and Place Plan - see separate project)
Construction Skills	70	Pilot phase	York Construction Skills Initiative - for further development and scale-up of private/public partnerships for training and work experience
Total Request	500		

APPENDIX 2

Schedule of Economic Development Projects for Delivery

North Yorkshire Council Projects	Mayoral Investment Fund Request £000's	Status (recommendation)	Comments
Scarborough Harbour Infrastructure for Boat Hoist	700	Approved	YNYCA Exec 6 Sept 2024
EV Charging Infrastructure Remedial Work Programme	175	Approved	YNYCA Exec 6 Sept 2024
Harrogate A61 Major Junction Improvements	500	Appraisal complete (approve)	Upgrade signals on key junctions of A61 central Harrogate to maximise benefits of Harrogate Station Gateway Transforming Cities Fund project on the inner road network
Selby Station Gateway Contribution	700	Appraisal ongoing (approve in principle)	Referred to applicant to review specific elements to be supported by this contribution
Total Requested	2075		
City of York Council Projects	Mayoral Investment Fund Request £000's		Comments
Cultural Passport for Young People Programme	460	Appraisal complete (approve)	Approval in principle for £460k, approved current request £120k, subject to gateway review for next delivery phases. Cultural development and engagement programme for Young People
EV Charging Infrastructure	1540	Appraisal Pending (approve in principle)	Contribution towards overall investment of £4.6million in three EV charging projects.
Total Requested	2000		

APPENDIX 3

York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority	£000's
Mayoral Investment Fund Gainshare Funding Available 2024-2028	81,000

Budget allocations/ anticipated medium term commitments	
Core operating costs and contingency	12,400
YNYCA Set up and implementation	2,100
Costs of mayoral elections	4,000
	18,500
Additional support to existing programme (excess demand)	
AEB	300
Brownfield Housing (Round 2 Phase 1)	1,300
Brownfield Housing (Round 2 phase 2)	3,360
Net Zero	500
	5,460
YNYCA programmes	
NYC pipeline development allocations (see Appendix 1)	500
CYC pipeline development allocations (see Appendix 1)	500
NYC priority economic development projects (see Appendix 2)	2,075
CYC priority economic development projects (see Appendix 2)	2,000
Route map to Carbon Negative	100
Cost of living plan	260
Great places - develop high street investment	1,550
Transport Strategy	200
Housing - Strategic relationship : Homes England Retrofit Strategy	50
Business and Skills engagement and innovation	50
Carbon Negative Challenge Fund 2024-28	10,000
Vibrant and Sustainable High Streets 2024-28	10,000
Business Innovation Fund 2024-26	5,000
Skills Innovation Fund 2024-26	2,500
	34,785
Total committed	58,745
Remaining uncommitted	22,255

COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING

2 OCTOBER 2024

APPOINTMENT OF MONITORING OFFICER

Report of the Head of HR

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 Under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Combined Authority is required to appoint an Officer to report on matters they believe to be illegal or amount to maladministration, to be responsible for matters relating to the conduct of Members and Officers and, to be responsible for the operation of the Constitution of the Combined Authority. This role is discharged by the Head of Legal.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Combined Authority formally appoints Rachel Antonelli as the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's Monitoring Officer (Head of Legal).

3.0 Background

3.1 Following the inception of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority in December 2023, interim arrangements have been in place in relation to the statutory Officers of the Combined Authority. This has included the Interim Monitoring Officer role, which has been carried out by the Monitoring Officer of North Yorkshire Council.

3.2 Approval was sought from the Combined Authority in July 2024 to embark on a recruitment process for the Head of Legal role. The appointment process was a 2 day process; day one consisted of a technical interview and stakeholder panels, including key Members and Partners from the public sector.

3.3 The second day of the assessment comprised of a formal interview, led by Members of the Combined Authority, with the support of the Chief Executive of the Combined Authority and the Head of HR. The decision of the interview panel was to appoint Rachel Antonelli as the Head of Legal (Monitoring Officer).

3.4 As this role is a statutory role, the Combined Authority is required to appoint a Monitoring Officer, and it is recommended that the Combined Authority appoints Rachel Antonelli as the Combined Authority's statutory Monitoring Officer.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The financial implications associated with this appointment can be covered from within the existing revenue budget for 2024/25. This statutory role is included in the budget on an ongoing basis.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 Dealt with in the body of this report.

6.0 Equalities Implications

6.1 There are no additional equalities implications within this report.

7.0 Environmental Implications

7.1 There are no additional environmental implications within this report.

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

8.1 York and North Yorkshire area.

9.0 Recommendations

9.1 That the Combined Authority formally appoints Rachel Antonelli as the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's Monitoring Officer (Head of Legal).

10.0 Reasons For Recommendations

10.1 The Combined Authority is required in accordance with Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to appoint an Officer to be responsible for the proper administration of its legal affairs.

11.0 Contact Details

For further information please contact the authors of this Report.

Author

Name:	Sara Jeffs
Job Title:	Head of HR
Service Area:	HR
Email:	Sara.jeffs@northyorks.gov.uk
Date:	16 th September 2024

Background papers - None

Appendices – None

COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING

2 OCTOBER 2024

NOVATION OF AGREEMENTS – YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

Report of the Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Combined Authority on progress around novation of agreements with the creation of the Combined Authority and to seek approval for the novation of live agreements from North Yorkshire Council to the Combined Authority.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That approval be given for the Combined Authority and North Yorkshire Council to enter into novation and/or variation agreements to enable the following contracts to be transferred to the Combined Authority for 2024/2025 including the project variations as further detailed in this report:

- (a) Careers and Enterprise Company Limited and North Yorkshire Business Education Partnership Limited;
- (b) South Yorkshire Combined Authority and Digital Transformation Specialist;
- (c) Department for Business and Trade and DBT Northern Powerhouse Key Account Management (KAM) Programme.

2.2 That approval be given for the Combined Authority and North Yorkshire Council enter into a grant agreement to passport £2.487m of Department of Education grant funding to the Combined Authority to deliver and manage Skills Bootcamps (Wave 5) in North Yorkshire.

3.0 Background

3.1 In December 2023, the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority came into being. This led to the transition into the Authority of the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) functions and its staff in February 2024.

3.2 The LEP was a private sector led partnership between business and Local Authorities that brought private sector expertise into local economic decision making. North Yorkshire Council acted as accountable body for the LEP, and

as such, was the contracting party for all LEP legal agreements and transactions.

- 3.3 The York and North Yorkshire Devolution Deal (August 2022) included the integration of the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (YNY LEP) into York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority to ensure there continues to be a strong and independent local business voice. Further guidance was issued by Government on 4 August 2023 on the integration of LEP functions into local democratic institutions.
- 3.4 The enabling Statutory Instrument allowing for the creation of the Combined Authority did not make specific provision for the automatic novation of all agreements entered into by North Yorkshire Council on behalf of the LEP. This has meant that there are some agreements in existence which remain in the name of North Yorkshire Council, however, there is a requirement for the agreements to be novated and transferred into the name of the Combined Authority in order that delivery on those agreements can progress and continue.
- 3.5 The process of novation requires the current contracting party (North Yorkshire Council) agreeing to transfer the agreement and with it benefits, risks and implications to the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Combined authority agreeing to accept that they will be the contracting party in relation to the agreement, taking on any financial, legal and risk-based implications, along with the benefits of the agreement.
- 3.6 North Yorkshire Council have agreed in principle the novation of the relevant agreements which are listed below, subject to the approval of the Combined Authority in accepting the novation. Should approval be given, the next step will be the drafting of a formal novation agreement, which will be signed by the parties.
- 3.7 The contracting parties have been notified that it is proposed that the relevant agreements are to be novated to the Combined Authority, along with the rationale around this proposal.

4.0 Relevant Agreements

- 4.1 The following agreements, along with a brief summary as to their nature are set out below:

- 4.1.1 **Department for Business and Trade Northern Powerhouse Key Account Management programme agreement** – this agreement relates to the period 2024/25 and was grant funding given to North Yorkshire Council in their role of the management of the LEP. The purpose of the funding is to support foreign owned companies and can include support for additional foreign direct investment into the Northern Powerhouse. Additional

funding has been offered in the sum of £31,020 for the period 1 April 2024 to 30 September 2024.

- 4.1.2 **Made Smarter Digital Transformation Specialist agreement** – this agreement is with South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to provide Department for Business and Trade Funding to support the Made Smarter programme. This programme was delivered by the LEP following an industry-led government review of how UK manufacturing industries can use digitalisation to make things smarter, better and faster, with the aim of becoming leaders of the next industrial revolution. The funding supported the appointment of an Officer to work with a portfolio of clients engaging with the Made Smarter programme. The value of this agreement from the inception of the Combined Authority to the conclusion of the agreement is in the sum of £79,157, with the total value of the agreement across the 3-year period being £173,860. It is also noted that a second variation to this agreement is required, to further increase the grant from the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to £203k which equates to circa £93k for 2024/2025.
- 4.1.3 **Skills Bootcamps wave 5 2024/25 funding** – this funding is provided by the Department for Education to arrange for the delivery of and management of Skills Bootcamps within the region and neighbouring areas in agreement with City of York and North Yorkshire Councils. The Bootcamps are aligned to employer needs and directly linked to employment opportunities, and consist of an intensive Level 3-5 or equivalent flexible training course of up to 16 weeks with a guaranteed job interview if necessary. The aim is that they will equip adults with technical skills that enable them to access in demand jobs, apprenticeships, new opportunities and an increased level of income over time. This funding runs from April to March each year and is in the sum of £2,487,974.00.
- 4.1.4 **York and North Yorkshire Careers Hub Network funding** – this funding is to deliver the careers service to 74 schools and colleges across York and North Yorkshire. Priorities for the coming year will be high quality work experiences for students, promotion of apprenticeships technical and vocational career routes and targeted interventions for economically disadvantaged young people. This funding runs from 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and is in the sum of £229,064.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 Subject to the approval of the recommendations within this paper, current financial balances that have been held by North Yorkshire Council will be transferred to the Combined Authority.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 These agreements were entered into by North Yorkshire Council to enable the LEP to conduct their business. The LEP transferred into the Combined Authority earlier this year, and there was no provision within the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2023 for automatic novation of agreements. Work has been ongoing to identify agreements which require novating and discussions have taken place with North Yorkshire Council around the timing and legality of such novation. This has led to North Yorkshire Council legally approving the transfer to the Combined Authority for each agreement. The Combined Authority now need to consider whether to accept the proposed transfer.

6.2 In order for the Combined Authority to continue to deliver the aims and purposes of the grants provided, these agreements require formal acceptance of the novation by the Combined Authority, there will then follow the official novation of each agreement with the contracting parties.

7.0 Equalities Implications

7.1 There are no specific equalities implications arising from this report.

8.0 Environmental Implications

8.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this report.

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

9.1 York and North Yorkshire

10.0 Recommendations

10.1 That approval be given for the Combined Authority and North Yorkshire Council to enter into novation and/or variation agreements to enable the following contracts to be transferred to the Combined Authority for 2024/2025 including the project variations as further detailed in this report:

- (a) Careers and Enterprise Company Limited and North Yorkshire Business Education Partnership Limited;
- (b) South Yorkshire Combined Authority and Digital Transformation Specialist;
- (c) Department for Business and Trade and DBT Northern Powerhouse Key Account Management (KAM) Programme.

10.2 That the Combined Authority and North Yorkshire Council enter into a grant agreement to passport £2.487m of Department of Education grant funding to the

11.0 Reasons For Recommendations

- 11.1 To ensure that the Combined Authority can deliver in accordance within the scope and purpose of the relevant agreements in a safe and legal manner.

12.0 Contact Details

For further information please contact the authors of this Report.

Author

Name:	Rachel Antonelli
Job Title:	Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer
Service Area:	Legal and Governance
Telephone:	Rachel.antonelli@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk
Report approved:	James Farrar, Chief Executive
Date:	24 September 2024

Background papers

- [York and North Yorkshire devolution deal \(1 August 2022\)](#)
- [Guidance for Local Enterprise Partnerships \(LEPs\) and local and combined authorities: integration of LEP functions into local democratic institutions \(4 August 2023\)](#)
- [The York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2023](#)

Appendices - None

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COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING

2 OCTOBER 2024

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – BUSINESS BOARD, AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE AND OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Report of the Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide an update on the outcome of recruitment to the Combined Authority's Business Board, including its Membership, and the appointment of Chair.
- 1.2 To seek approval to increase the private sector representation of the Business Board to no more than 15.
- 1.3 To seek approval of a change in membership to Overview and Scrutiny to give effect to nominations provided by City of York Council's Liberal Democrat Group.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Combined Authority note the status of the recruitment to the Business Board and the appointment of Business Board Chair.
- 2.2 That the Combined Authority approve an increase in private sector representation on the Business Board to no more than 15.
- 2.3 That the Combined Authority approve the appointments to Committees set out at 5.2 in this report.
- 2.4 To note the election of Councillor Richard Foster as Chair and Councillor Lindsay Burr as Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The English Devolution Accountability Framework (2023) requires that all institutions with devolved powers should embed a strong, independent, and diverse local business voice into their decision-making processes.
- 3.2 Any newly integrated business voice function should play an active role in partnerships such as Town Deal Boards, where those partnerships currently have Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) participation at the request of local partners.

3.3 It goes on to say that Business Board members must be appointed through an open process and that process should ensure appointees are politically independent and able to provide a constructive check and challenge on local decision-making using their private sector perspective.

4.0 Business Board Recruitment

4.1 An open recruitment exercise begun on 11 July 2024 and applications closed on 10 August. The campaign was supported by North Yorkshire Council's Resourcing Solutions Team and widely promoted through the Combined Authority's and partners' communications channels to reach a broad and diverse audience.

4.2 A report was considered by the Combined Authority at its last meeting (Minute CA24-44 refers) agreeing an updated terms of reference and a change of name from Business Committee to Business Board.

4.3 From the 117 applications received, 29 were shortlisted for interview. An extensive interview process subsequently took place throughout the three week period commencing 2 September, involving Mayor Skaith, Council Leaders and the Chief Executive.

4.4 At the time of publication, the Mayor and Chief Executive are still providing feedback to successful and unsuccessful candidates so it has not been possible to include a membership list with this report – this will be published to follow and circulated prior to the meeting.

4.5 The Combined Authority's Constitution currently allows for 10 private sector Business Board members and its Assurance Framework provides for a 2:1 ratio of private sector and public sector members. The Combined Authority is asked to increase the private sector membership to "no more than 15". This will require an amendment to the Constitution and Assurance Framework - this will be referred to the Audit and Governance Committee's Constitution Working Group for consideration.

5.0 Audit and Governance and Overview and Scrutiny Committees

5.1 At its meeting on 28 June 2024 the Combined Authority appointed to its Overview and Scrutiny and Audit and Governance Committees. Two places remained vacant following the meeting – a City of York Council Liberal Democrat seat on Audit and Governance Committee, and a City of York Council Liberal Democrat seat on Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5.2 On 15 July 2024, the Combined Authority received notification from the City of York Council Liberal Democrat Group that its nominations for the above committees were as follows:

Audit & Governance Committee

1. Councillor Andrew Hollyer

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1. Councillor Andrew Waller
2. Councillor Tony Fisher
3. Councillor Emilie Knight

5.3 Councillor Hollyer and Councillor Fisher have filled vacant seats on the respective committees but Councillor Emilie Knight will replace Councillor Edward Pearson on Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5.4 There have been no circumstances to trigger a review of the Combined Authority's political proportionality since the meeting on 28 June and so the Combined Authority is asked to give affect to these nominations onto the above Committees.

5.5 At its meeting on 17 September 2024, the Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee elected Councillor Richard Foster as Chair and Councillor Lindsay Burr as Vice Chair for the remainder of the 2024-25 municipal year. As per the Combined Authority's Constitution, Councillor Foster will receive a standing invitation to attend meetings of the Combined Authority.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7.0 Legal Implications

7.1 The York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2023 and the sets out membership arrangements for the Combined Authority, as set out above.

8.0 Equalities Implications

8.1 There are no equality or diversity implications directly arising from this report.

9.0 Environmental Implications

9.1 There are no environmental implications directly arising from this report.

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

10.1 York and North Yorkshire.

11.0 Recommendations

11.1 That the Combined Authority note the status of the recruitment to the Business Board and the appointment of Business Board Chair.

11.2 To seek approval to increase the private sector representation of the Business Board to no more than 15.

- | | |
|------|---|
| 11.3 | That the Combined Authority approve the appointment of Councillor Emilie Knight (Liberal Democrat) in place of Councillor Edward Pearson (Liberal Democrat) on Overview and Scrutiny Committee. |
| 11.4 | To note the election of Councillor Richard Foster as Chair and Councillor Lindsay Burr as Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee. |

12.0 Reasons For Recommendations

- 12.1 To give effect to the Combined Authority’s duty to appoint places according to political group nominations and to provide transparency and accountability to the recruitment and election of key roles on its Committees.
- 12.2 To observe the statutory duties set out in the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017.

13.0 Contact Details

For further information please contact the authors of this Report.

Author

Name:	Paul Clark
Job Title:	Governance and Assurance Manager
Service Area:	Legal
Email:	Paul.clark@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk
Report Approved:	Rachel Antonelli, Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer
Date:	24 September 2024

Background papers

- English Devolution Accountability Framework (2023) - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-devolution-accountability-framework/english-devolution-accountability-framework>
- [The Combined Authorities \(Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees\) Order 2017](#)

Appendices

- Appendix A – Membership of Business Board (*to follow*)

Forward Plan

Publication Date:	Date Updated:	Period Covered Until:
17 September 2024	17 September 2024	31 May 2025

The decisions likely to be taken by York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority in the following 12 months are set out below:

PLEASE NOTE:-

- (a) In accordance with the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017, at least 28 clear days' notice, excluding the day of notification and the day of decision taking, must be published on the Forward Plan of any intended key decision.
- (b) Exempt information need not be included in the Forward Plan and confidential information cannot be included. There may be times when a decision has not been published in the forward plan 28 days in advance, this is usually because the matter is urgent, and a decision has had to be made quickly. These decisions can still be made but are subject to the regulations within 'the Order'.
- (c) New additions to the Forward Plan are highlighted in green text for ease of navigation.

Contact(s): Paul Clark, Governance and Assurance Manager (governance@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk)

Decision to be made	Description	Planned Decision Date	Key Decision?	Decision maker's name & title	Lead Officer	Documentation for consideration & other relevant documents	Prohibitions Restrictions Exemptions
Mayoral Investment Fund Decisions	Standing Item: To consider approval of projects to be supported by the York and North Yorkshire Mayoral Investment Fund.	2/10/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Chief Executive	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Growth Plan	To seek approval of the Combined Authority's Growth Plan.	2/10/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Appointment of Monitoring Officer	Appointment of incoming Head of Legal as Monitoring Officer	2/10/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Chief Executive	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Novation of Contracts	Approval of contract novations for legacy Local Enterprise Partnership	2/10/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer	Officer report to Combined Authority	None

	programmes and Combined Authority Programmes preceding its launch.						
Approval of Draft Strategic Transport Plan Framework	Seeking approval of the draft Strategic Local Transport Plan	8/11/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Head of Strategy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Approval of Draft Key Route Network	Seeking approval of the Key Route Network	8/11/2024	Yes	Mayor	Head of Strategy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Growth Plan (if necessary)	To seek approval of the Combined Authority's Growth Plan.	8/11/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Sustainable Energy Investment Strategy and Net Zero Investment Plan		8/11/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Home England Place Partnership		8/11/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None

Y&NY Housing Investment Plan joint with Homes England		8/11/2024	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Corporate Plan		17/1/2025	Yes	Combined Authority	Chief Executive	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Budget Planning		17/1/2025	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Resources	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Y&NY Housing Retrofit Strategy and One Stop Shop		7/3/2025	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Local Investment in Natural Capital	Natural Capital Investment Plan	7/3/2025	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None
Energy Partnership Feasibility Pilot	Approve Business Plan Submission	TBC	Yes	Combined Authority	Director of Economy	Officer report to Combined Authority	None