
MEETING	EXECUTIVE
DATE	4 DECEMBER 2007
PRESENT	COUNCILLORS STEVE GALLOWAY (CHAIR), ASPDEN, SUE GALLOWAY, JAMIESON-BALL, RUNCIMAN, SUNDERLAND, VASSIE AND WALLER
APOLOGIES	COUNCILLOR REID

PART A - MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

108. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare at this point in the meeting any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda. No interests were declared.

109. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of:

- Exempt Minute 107 in the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 20 November 2007 (Agenda Item 3)
- Annex A to Agenda Item 11 (Chief Officer Search and Selection Contract)

on the grounds that they contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons, which is classed as exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as revised by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

110. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Executive meeting held on 20 November 2007 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

111. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

112. EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN

Members received and noted the details of those items that were listed on the Executive Forward Plan for the next two meetings of the Executive.

113. MINUTES OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION WORKING GROUP AND THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORKING GROUP

Members considered a report which presented the minutes of the Social Inclusion Working Group (SIWG) meeting held on 19 September 2007 and the Young People's Working Group (YPWG) meeting held on 9 October 2007.

There were no resolutions in the minutes which required the specific approval or endorsement of the Executive. However, Members' attention was drawn to the comments of the SIWG on the report of the Future York Group and the advice of the YPWG in respect of the Young People's Champion selection process. The latter had been reported to the meeting of the Executive Member for Children's Services and Advisory Panel on 15 October 2007.

Having noted the comments of the Shadow Executive, it was

RESOLVED: (i) That the minutes be noted.

(ii) That, in future, draft minutes of Working Groups requiring Executive endorsement be submitted as soon as they become available.

(iii) That Officers be asked to take into account the comments of the Social Inclusion Working Group on the Future York report, especially those covering employability, disparity of income and worklessness.

(iv) That the support being given to the Disabled People's Forum be welcomed.

(v) That the decision of the Young People's Working Group (YPWG) to proceed with the election of a Children and Young People's Champion, using York College and all primary and secondary schools in the City, be welcomed.

(vi) That the decision from the YPWG that the Champion should preferably not be a member of the Executive or Shadow Executive be noted.

REASON: In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution in relation to the role of Working Groups and to avoid delays in addressing issues.

Action Required

1. Ensure draft minutes of working groups submitted to Executive as soon as available.
2. Take into account comments of SIWG on Future York Report

GR
JB

114. LORD MAYORALTY 2008/09

[See also under Part B Minutes]

Members considered a report which asked them to decide which of the political groups should be invited to nominate the Lord Mayor for the 2008/09 Municipal Year and proposed an amendment to the current nomination policy.

The system for nominating the Lord Mayor was based on an accumulation of points determined by the number of seats held by each political group on the Council. It was proposed to amend the current policy, agreed by Members on 5 January 1996, to permit a group which lost all its seats on the Council to hold over any unspent points it had accumulated up to that time until it once again gained seats on the Council.

The report set out the number of points which would be accumulated by each group under the existing and revised policies. In each case the Labour Group, with a total of 36 points, would qualify to nominate the Lord Mayor for 2008/09. However, the Conservative Group would only qualify for points under a revised policy Members were asked to decide whether they wished to amend the policy (Option 1) or to make no amendments (Option 2).

Members noted that the points totals recorded in the report were incorrect. Under the proposed scheme the correct calculation would be as follows:

PARTY	POINTS FOR 2007/2008	LOSS FOR LM	POINTS FOR 2008/2009
Labour	18		18 + 18 = 36
Lib Dem	34	-47	34 - 47 + 19 = 6
Green	8		8 + 2 = 10
Conservatives	21 points carried forward from 2003		21 + 8 = 29

Having noted the comments of the Shadow Executive, it was

RESOLVED: (i) That the Labour Group be invited to nominate the Lord Mayor for the 2008/09 Municipal Year.

REASON: In accordance with the agreed points system and to ensure that the Council secures the necessary leadership to undertake its civic functions

115. TRANSFORMATION OF TRANSPORT SERVICES

Members considered a report which provided an update on progress made on the transformation partnership set up to improve the Council's internal transport provision, improve service quality and make efficiency savings.

Kendric Ash (now Northgate Kendric Ash, or NKA) had been appointed as the Council's transformation partner for a 30 month period from April 2007. The partnership covered the delivery of both contracted and internally provided transport in the areas of mainstream home to school transport, Special Educational Needs transport, transport for 'looked after' children and transport for adults with learning and physical disabilities.

The report outlined the operational arrangements under the NKA model, together with progress on key work streams and outstanding issues still to be dealt with. It confirmed that the project was on course and expected to produce over £800k in gross savings over the life of the partnership, with annual net savings of over £650k after that.

Members welcomed the report and thanked the Officers and Consultants involved in the partnership. They commented that it was important to keep a tight control on budgetary issues and the method of allocating any savings, also to keep the project under review in order to monitor quality and ensure the maintenance of best value.

Having noted the comments of the Shadow Executive, it was

RESOLVED: That the progress on this project be noted.

REASON: In accordance with Council requirements to keep Members informed on the progress of major projects.

116. REPORT OF THE FUTURE YORK GROUP

Members considered a report which provided a briefing on consultation undertaken following receipt of the Future York Group Report and made recommendations for the Council, working in partnership with others, to adopt in response to the Report.

The Future York Group had been commissioned by the Council to undertake an independent strategic review of the local economy, following a series of announcements regarding job losses in the City. The resulting Report had been made widely available since it was handed over to the Council on 12 June. Progress on the Group's key recommendations was set out in paragraph 5 of the report to the Executive. Suggested responses to each recommendation, detailing action to be taken, how, when and by whom, were outlined in an attached framework document. This would be used to ensure that action continued to be taken and progress monitored.

Further work requested on the environmental implications of the Report had been undertaken by the Sustainability team in City Strategy. Details were annexed to the report in a document entitled 'Footprint Response to the Future York Report'.

With reference to the comments made on the Report at the Executive meeting on 10 July, Members agreed a set of revised comments, details of which are included in the table attached as Annex 1 to these minutes.

It was noted that the Shadow Executive had not submitted any detailed comments on this item.

RESOLVED: That the actions set out in paragraph 5 of the report and in the framework attached to the Officer report be agreed as a response to the Future York Group Report.

REASON: To help shape the effectiveness of future action.

Action Required

Give priority in resource allocation to those issues highlighted by Members.

JB

117. REDUCING THE MAINTENANCE BACKLOG

Members considered a report which sought their approval for a proposed strategy to use the limited revenue and capital resources available to deal with the substantial repair and maintenance backlog on the Council's corporate land, buildings and highways.

Although levels of outstanding repair and maintenance had reduced slightly in recent years, they were still very high, as revenue budgets were often only sufficient to deal with urgent repairs. More recently, capital funds had been allocated to deal with this issue, but there had been no overall structured approach across the Council. A Repair and Maintenance Strategy would help the Council to deliver its corporate priorities and meet CPA requirements. A draft Strategy, developed by the Corporate Asset Management Group, was attached as Annex 1 to the report.

Members were asked to decide whether to adopt the proposed Strategy, as recommended (Option A) or to continue with current arrangements and not adopt the Strategy (Option B). The latter was not recommended, as the lack of co-ordination on limited budgets would mean that Best Value would not be achieved and the CPA requirement for level 3 judgement - to develop and implement a Repair and Maintenance Strategy - would not be met.

Having noted the comments of the Shadow Executive, it was

RESOLVED: (i) That Option A be agreed and the 10-year Corporate Repair and Maintenance Strategy with performance indicators, detailed at Annex 1 to the report, be approved.

REASON: So that a co-ordinated approach to dealing with a backlog of maintenance and future repair and maintenance, based upon need and the viability of the assets, is followed.

(ii) That, during the annual budget build process, the appropriate level of annual revenue and capital repair and maintenance resources to assign, in order to ensure the achievement of the objectives and priorities set out in the Strategy, be considered.

REASON: To ensure that the Strategy is effective and achievable within the 10-year timescale.

Action Required

Ensure assignment of resources to Strategy considered during Budget process. SA

118. CHIEF OFFICER SEARCH AND SELECTION CONTRACT

Members considered a report which asked them to decide upon the award of the corporate contract for the search and selection of Chief Officers, following a full tendering process.

The decision to award a contract for this purpose had been taken to remove the risk of breaching the OJEU thresholds under the current practice of obtaining separate quotes for consultants. Seven organisations had submitted a full tender for the contract, of which three – Hays, Gatenby Sanderson and Veredus - had been invited to present in front of Group Leaders. Detailed results of the evaluation of these three tenders were set out in an exempt annex to the report (Annex A).

Members were asked to consider the following options:

Option A – choose the lowest cost supplier of the three (Hays Executive);
Option B – choose the supplier with the best combination of cost and quality (Gatenby Sanderson). This was the recommended option.

Having noted the comments of the Shadow Executive, it was

RESOLVED: (i) That Option B be agreed and the contract awarded to Gatenby Sanderson.

REASON: So that the contract is awarded to the highest combined scorer, taking into account commercial and technical considerations.

(ii) That Officers be asked to bring forward proposals clarifying the circumstances in which the Council will seek to utilise the services of the recruitment consultants.

REASON: To ensure that consultants are used only in appropriate circumstances.

Action Required

Bring forward proposals clarifying circumstances in which recruitment consultants will be used. GR

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

119. LORD MAYORALTY 2008/09 [RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL]

[See also under Part A Minutes]

Members considered a report which asked them to decide which of the political groups should be invited to nominate the Lord Mayor for the 2008/09 Municipal Year and proposed an amendment to the current nomination policy.

The system for nominating the Lord Mayor was based on an accumulation of points determined by the number of seats held by each political group on the Council. It was proposed to amend the current policy, agreed by Members on 5 January 1996, to permit a group which lost all its seats on the Council to hold over any unspent points it had accumulated up to that time until it once again gained seats on the Council.

The report set out the number of points which would be accumulated by each group under the existing and revised policies. In each case the Labour Group, with a total of 36 points, would qualify to nominate the Lord Mayor for 2008/09. However, the Conservative Group would only qualify for points under a revised policy Members were asked to decide whether they wished to amend the policy (Option 1) or to make no amendments (Option 2).

Members noted that the points totals recorded in the report were incorrect. Under the proposed scheme the correct calculation would be as follows:

PARTY	POINTS FOR 2007/2008	LOSS FOR LM	POINTS FOR 2008/2009
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Green	8		8 + 2 = 10
Conservatives	21 points carried forward from 2003		21 + 8 = 29

Having noted the comments of the Shadow Executive, it was

RECOMMENDED That Option 1 be approved and the current policy amended to clarify that a group which loses all its seats on the City Council will have any accumulated points frozen until seats are once again won by that group on the Council.

REASON: In order to formalise an assumption that was made, but not fully recorded, when the points system was originally introduced.

S F Galloway, Chair

[The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.40 pm].

Recommendation	Executive Revised Comments 4/12/07
<p>1. VL1: We recommend our vision of the long term economic future of York to City of York Council and its partners, and urge them to adopt it as the plan for future policy and action. We propose an ambitious economic vision based upon taking forward the full range of economic opportunities available to the city. We believe that City of York Council and the people of York should embrace this vision with enthusiasm.</p>	<p>Action being taken. This will continue to be a HIGH priority for the City until the Community Strategy review and LDF processes are completed</p> <p>We need to be clear that there can only be one vision for the City. That needs to be the overarching Sustainable Community Strategy for York through the Without Walls Local Strategic Partnership.</p> <p>Members of the Without Walls Board have decided that the review of the Sustainable Community Strategy will work within its current vision for York and therefore it will not seek to amend this; this states that:</p> <p>“York will make its mark by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building confident, creative and inclusive communities • being a leading environmentally-friendly city • being at the forefront of innovation and change with a prosperous and thriving economy • being a world class centre for education and learning for all • celebrating our historic past whilst creating a successful and thriving future”. <p>The built form of the City will be determined through the LDF process. The Future York strategy will be one of the inputs to this work</p>
<p>2. P1: It is essential that City of York Council re-invigorate the role and membership of its partnerships, to ensure that they are effective in delivering the Future York Vision and the oversight of economic development and place shaping activities. We recommend to</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ LSP refocussed with independent chair ❑ LSP partnership Boards and Forums active ❑ There is a proposal for major change to the Economic

<p>businesses and business organisations in the city that they commit themselves to support the new partnership and consultation arrangements, and actively participate in them. The city council and other major stakeholders will need to work more effectively together, over a sustained period, to deliver the vision and strategy. This will need the committed involvement of key decision-makers from stakeholders and interest groups. The committed involvement of businesses and business leaders is essential, as this will foster a business-led approach in delivery. This will only be achieved if partnership institutions are seen to be effective, responsible and credible.</p>	<p>Development Partnership Board. The Executive has yet to be convinced that the growth in unaccountable QUANGOs is in the interests of residents. We will judge the report on this issue when it is considered at its next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ FY members will be invited to be participants the new Economic Development Forum
<p>3. P6: We recommend that City of York Council urgently prepare a Masterplan, reflecting the Future York Vision, to guide development and investment decisions, and to promote investment. A detailed plan is needed to show how the vision will be implemented, with information about developments in particular areas and the timescales and phasing required.⁹</p>	<p>Action taken <u>High Priority</u></p> <p>We believe that any “masterplan” should be part of, and contained within, the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Sustainable Community Strategy & □ Local Development Framework <p>We see no need for an additional “masterplan”</p>
<p>4. E1: We recommend that City of York Council and its partners adopt ambitious plans for the future economy of York, with an aim to double the city’s economy by 2026. We ask City of York Council and its partners to create an economy which supports knowledge-led businesses; which develops its tourism and retail industries to achieve higher added value; which promotes financial and professional service activities; and which creates a supportive business environment. There are very significant opportunities to grow</p>	<p>Action taken</p> <p>The City is seeking to move ahead on a wide economic development front. Important aspects include York North West, Heslington and various City centre development sites. However concerns about the impact of growth on the built and natural environment will lead the City to proceed with some caution.</p> <p>While no commitment will be given to a specific growth target we will regard this proposal as a “business as usual” decision which will be subsumed into our other activities.</p>

<p>the York economy: through knowledge led businesses; through enhancing the tourism offer; through providing professional offices; and through supporting established businesses. We believe that the city should fully grasp the opportunities available.</p>	
<p>5. E3: We recommend that Science City York continue to be supported as a key programme for the future. We endorse the proposals of Science City York, of City of York Council, and of the University of York for the expansion of innovation activity, for the provision of high quality sites and premises for science-based businesses, and for the proposed University of York developments at Heslington. Science City needs to develop engagement with the wider business community in York in order to leverage the benefits of its nationally recognised status. Science City York has proved its ability to modernise the economy and improve the competitiveness of the city and its reputation for innovation. York has the potential to be in the first rank of European cities for science-based business. We believe that this is an end to be sought. We highly commend the fact that 50% of all jobs created by Science City York are projected to be recruited from within the local workforce. In York it is very difficult to secure private sector investment in property which is specially designed for science-based firms, either because of a planning restriction; or because of specific technical specification; or even due to flexibility of terms; (or indeed a combination of all three). We support Science City York's recent request to HM Treasury for enterprise zone-style capital allowance for limited classes of property investment in R&D zones to encourage development. This</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes</p> <p>The Council together with the University are the key partners in establishing Science City York as a Company Limited by Guarantee.</p> <p>The Council has written to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Science and Innovation on behalf of Future York regarding the enterprise zone-style capital allowance for limited classes of property investment in R&D zones to encourage development. No response has been received as yet.</p> <p>The Pre Budget Report did outline that overall spending on science was to increase by £900 million through to 2010-11. This is in support of a new PSA target which focuses on increasing R&D and Innovation activity. This also included a commitment to work more closely with higher education establishments.</p>

<p>was outlined in a recent report to HM Treasury.</p>	
<p>6. E4: We recommend that City of York Council strengthen its tourism partnerships, by having a single tourism partnership organisation, working with the private sector to deliver growth in tourism spend which exceeds Yorkshire Forward’s 5% per annum target for the city. The partnership should adopt a plan which aims to deliver transformational enhancements to York’s visitor attractions; improvements to accommodation and hospitality provision within the city; and to the quality of the public realm; in order to attract higher added value in the tourism sector, and strengthen the city’s function as a tourism gateway to the wider region. This is likely to require a creative approach to securing the necessary funding which involves both the public and private sector, and the lobbying of Government for financial assistance. Tourism has the potential to continue to make a very significant contribution to both the city and regional economy, and to create a wide range of jobs. But competition from other cities, in the UK and overseas, is very strong. York needs to enhance its tourism offer to remain competitive. The success of this sector is key to sustaining the high quality of life across the city, which attracts a broader range of jobs.</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes The Tourism organisation has been revamped and will lead on activities in this sector. It is vital that Yorkshire Forward recognise the need for major investment to refresh the Cities tourism attractions</p>
<p>7. E5: We recommend that City of York Council work closely with key business sectors, particularly manufacturing and financial services, to better understand their needs; to create appropriate conditions both for their continuing success within the city; and to foster future growth opportunities. It is not inevitable that</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes Key contacts within the Council structure have been identified to provide a “fast track” interface. York England and YF are also providing relationship managers.</p>

<p>long established businesses within the city will decline as a consequence of global competition. The city should do what is possible to provide a supportive environment for businesses, and to support investment in innovative products and processes, to enable York businesses to remain competitive. Within this, it is essential that all available skills are harnessed to ensure business success.</p>	
<p>8. S1: We recommend that City of York Council work with business and other key partners, and support the work of Learning City York, in analysing the city’s skills needs and the spatial mismatches between labour demand and supply. This will enable more specific targeted policy responses to be developed. Despite the strength of the economy, significant skills gaps remain between the needs of employers and the skills available within the workforce. Action is needed to identify the gaps and to provide the training and guidance services required.</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes <u>High Priority</u> Being led by Executive member for Childrens Services</p>
<p>9. S7: We recommend that City of York Council work with key partners and relevant stakeholders to ensure that the disparity in income in the city does not widen as the economy expands. Positive action must be taken to ensure that as many residents and employees as possible can benefit from new economic opportunities. If our recommendations are followed there will be growing numbers of jobs, at all skill levels, available within the city. To ensure that these are available to local residents, positive action will be required from City of York Council, and from skills, recruitment, and training providers, targeting areas of deprivation within the city, process and production workers,</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes <u>High Priority</u> Being led by Executive member for Childrens Services</p>

<p>and people with lower levels of skills.</p>	
<p>10. In1: We ask City of York Council to provide the additional resources needed to ensure that the Local Development Framework is adopted by 2009, so that a strong and statutory planning framework is in place to support and guide future economic development, housing and transport infrastructure requirements. Lack of an approved statutory development plan for the city has inhibited development. An approved planning framework is needed as quickly as possible to guide and promote the development required for economic growth and to provide greater certainty to developers. 11</p>	<p>Action taken A programme of action has been developed, balancing quality of production against time in order to make sure the LDF meets the required standard. It is now expected that the LDF Core Strategy will be adopted by 2009, as recommended in the Future York Group report. However budget constraint imposed on the Council could jeopardize this programme</p>
<p>11. In5: We urge City of York Council to work with neighboring authorities and with regional partners to ensure the adoption of a supportive and consistent economic development, employment, land, housing and transport strategy across the sub region. The York economy cannot be understood and developed in isolation from the surrounding sub-region and region. City of York Council needs to work with neighboring authorities, and within the Leeds City Region, to ensure that the strategy for the city can be effectively delivered. The city economy will not grow unless it is integrated into that of the wider region. Furthermore, the City of York will not be able to access the funding it requires unless it engages with appropriate agencies on a regional basis.</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes The Council is already involved with the Leeds City Region. This proposal was unnecessary as decisions on the level of involvement are highly political</p>
<p>12. In6: We recommend to City of York Council that sufficient and appropriate housing (particularly affordable and family housing, both of which are</p>	<p>Future York Proposals Agreed. Action taken. Mainstream into CYC processes <u>High Priority</u></p>

<p>currently in short supply in the city), is allocated in the LDF to support the economic and social development objectives of the city and be consistent with our economic and employment proposals. There is inconsistency between the city’s aspirations for economic development and employment growth, and the housing supply allocations currently proposed. The city economy will not develop coherently unless additional housing is made available within the city.</p>	<p>The City has recently been allocated in the final draft Regional Spatial Strategy a higher housing figure of 850 dwellings per annum from 2008 until 2026. As a result of this York has bid to become a New Growth Point on the York Northwest site which could mean, if successful, money would be available to help fund significant infrastructure costs of developing this site. However housing development timescales must reflect the ability of the City infrastructure to accommodate the additional numbers involved.</p>
<p>13. In12: We recommend that City of York Council be pro active in working with regional partners to:</p> <p>i) Secure the necessary funds to allow for the dualling of the city’s northern ring road</p> <p>ii) Make the required connectivity improvements to at least one of three regional airports to allow a maximum forty-five minute transfer time from the city. In addition to benefiting York, this would develop international access across the region, which would significantly develop Yorkshire & Humber’s competitiveness in the global knowledge economy.</p> <p>iii) Investigate options and funding mechanisms to improve sustainable public transport links to neighbouring towns and cities. The importance of an effective transport system is crucial to the success of the economy and transport is identified as the biggest constraint to economic growth. Lack of investment in transport infrastructure will, therefore, have a detrimental impact both on the York economy and its wider role within the region.</p>	<p>i) It is unfortunate that the recommendation was so specific. The Council has resolved to submit a major transport scheme aimed at reducing congestion on the northern ring road. This will be pursued through the Regional Transport Board. This is – in the light of the current very modest government funding allocations – likely to be a medium term objective.</p> <p>ii) Improvement of links to local and regional airports will be pursued as “business as usual”.</p> <p>iii) Links to neighbouring towns and Cities will be pursued as resources allow e.g. the Leeds City region are currently considering piloting a tram/train.</p> <p>To be treated as part of the Councils normal “business as usual” transport planning activities.</p>

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