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West Yorkshire and York Local Transport Board
Memorandum of Understanding
Between
West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority and
City of York Council
March 2013

Introduction

1. The Department for Transport (DfT) plans to abolish the current competitive process where scheme promoters compete for funding from the 'national Major Scheme funding pot'. From the 2014 Spending Review period, the DfT will devolve and distribute funding based on population to voluntary local partnerships and with decisions on this funding being taken by accountable local partners. This new local partnership is to be known as a 'Local Transport Body' (LTB).
2. The DfT have advised that a share of the national Major Transport Scheme funding pot will initially be allocated based on the proportion of the national population in West Yorkshire and York. Indicative allocations are as shown below:

Indicative Funding Allocations from Major Scheme Funding Devolution			
Funding Period	West Yorkshire	City of York	Total
2015 - 19	£55.0m	£5.0m	£60.0m
2019 - 25	£112.6m	£10.2m	£122.8m
Totals	£167.6m	£15.2m	£182.8m

3. As a part of the City Deal, the West Yorkshire local authorities are working collaboratively to create the West Yorkshire and York Transport Fund by April 2013 and a Combined Authority potentially by April 2014. The new Fund will include devolved major transport scheme funding as well as other sources of funding.
4. Following detailed consideration by the West Yorkshire District Councils, West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority and City of York Council it is proposed to establish the West Yorkshire and York Local Transport Body in accordance with the requirements of the DfT.

Agreement

5. For the period before the proposed Combined Authority is established (“the Interim Period”), it is proposed that the LTB functions be administered by the West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (WYITA). This MoU covers ‘the Interim Period’ and how WYITA and CYC intend to work together to produce a common line of action during this time.
6. At the point the Combined Authority is established, the LTB functions will be assumed by the arrangements to be put in place for the Combined Authority. At this stage the parties acknowledge that the future arrangements for the LTB and the Combined Authority have yet to be approved as part of the Statutory Review under the Local Democracy Economic Development and construction Act.
7. During the Interim Period, the LTB will comprise the Executive Committee of the WYITA until the establishment of the Combined Authority arrangements.
8. The LTB will agree a prioritised list of programmes and projects to be funded from the resources within the proposed Transport Fund. During the Interim Period an elected Councillor nominated by the Leader of City of York Council may attend all meetings of the LTB or any committee of the WYITA at which LTB business appears on the Agenda. Under the standing orders of WYITA the Chair will permit the York Councillor to address the meeting and participate in discussion but not vote.
9. If the Parties both agree that it would be expedient, a Joint Advisory Committee of the WYITA and City of York Council may be established pursuant to s101 of the Local Government Act 1972 to advise and make recommendations to the LTB. Any such Joint Committee would be subject to the Standing Orders of the WYITA then in force.
10. The LTB will seek endorsement to the prioritised list from the Leaders and Portfolio Holders of the District Councils of West Yorkshire and City of York Council. It is anticipated that the approved list will be submitted to DfT during July 2013.
11. The Parties agree that the prioritisation criteria for the Transport Fund shall be:
 - Primary objective – to maximise the increase in employment and productivity growth across West Yorkshire and York via the delivery of transport schemes.
 - Secondary objective - to improve the ability of people in every West Yorkshire district and York to access jobs, with a particular focus on those living in the most deprived communities, and to achieve a carbon neutral impact at the package level.

12. Whilst accepting that the primary objective of the Fund is to maximise employment and productivity, the Parties agree that York's overall funding contribution to the Fund including the devolved major scheme funding will only be directed to:

- Schemes with a mutual benefit to West Yorkshire and York (and potentially other LTB's); or
- Schemes of benefit to York and its hinterland.

Which in either case are acceptable to both parties, acting reasonably

13. In its capacity as the LTB, WYITA will only allocate resources committed to the Transport Fund and prioritise schemes in accordance with the above prioritisation criteria.

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