

LGNYY - Meeting on Friday 12 July 2013, 10.30am, Craven District Council offices

1. Chief Executives are asked to consider business for the above meeting.
2. LGNYY has asked for a further report about Welfare Benefits Reforms to be submitted to the above meeting. A copy of the previous Minute is set out at Appendix 1.
3. The General Updates report to the above meeting is due to include reports from the two Thematic Boards (*text requested from Wallace Sampson and Ian Stokes of York*) and from Members representing LGNYY on outside bodies.
4. A report from LGNYY's Honorary Secretary will invite LGNYY to:-
 - appoint the District Councils' representative (and Substitute) on North Yorkshire Pension Fund Committee to serve until LGNYY's meeting in July 2014. (Since 2009, the representative has been Councillor Jim Clark (Harrogate Borough Council) and the Substitution has been Councillor Brian Phillips (Hambleton District Council)); and
 - decide whether to appoint a sub-regional representative to Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Migration Group. (This sub-region decided not to appoint such a representative in the last two years on the basis that Neil Irving attended meetings of the Strategic Migration Group.) Neil Irving is happy to continue as the officer nominee for 2013/14. He has an email list which he uses to pass on relevant items to colleagues in the County Council, the City of York Council, and District Councils.
5. A further report about the Pooling of Business Rates was requested for a future meeting, to advise of the outcome of further research to explore the merits of a North Yorkshire pooling arrangement for the 2014/15 financial year. A copy of the previous Minute is set out at Appendix 2.
6. For information, an update regarding the Tour de France is due to be provided by Peter Dodd (Welcome to Yorkshire) at LGNYY's meeting on 4 October 2013. (Welcome to Yorkshire representatives are not available to attend LGNYY's 12 July 2013 meeting.)
7. Finalised reports for consideration on 12 July should be emailed to ruth.gladstone@northyorks.gov.uk by Friday 28 June please.

Author of report: Ruth Gladstone, Principal Democratic Services Officer, North Yorkshire County Council

20 May 2013

APPENDIX 1

LGNYY Minute of 8 March 2013

167. Impact of Welfare Benefit Reforms on North Yorkshire Residents

Considered –

The report of Neil Irving (Assistant Director – Policy and Partnerships, North Yorkshire County Council) setting out an estimation of the potential impacts of the benefit changes brought about by the Welfare Reform Act 2012 and associated regulations, identifying work undertaken across the County to date to prepare for the welfare benefit changes, and inviting LGNYY to consider additional actions which could be introduced to address the implications of the welfare benefit changes.

During discussion, Members expressed grave concern at the impact of the various changes on many local government services and on local economies. It was also highlighted that the changes would have multiple impacts on the same families, many of whom were lacking awareness of the reforms. The Police and Crime Commissioner asked to be kept updated.

There was some concern at the proposal to establish a Welfare Reform Strategy Group (North Yorkshire and potentially including the City of York) comprising interested parties, both statutory and voluntary sectors, including the DWP and JobCentre Plus. As an alternative, it was suggested that the necessary tasks would best be undertaken by appropriate existing groups eg the Welfare Benefits Officers' Group.

Members commended the report and the Honorary Secretary offered to send it to Rosie Seymour (Deputy Director, Local Public Service Reform, DCLG) and other central government officials.

Members asked for a further report to be submitted to LGNYY's meeting on 12 July 2013 with an assessment of the situation at that time.

Resolved –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That a further report be submitted to LGNYY's meeting on 12 July 2013.

APPENDIX 2

LGNY Y Minute of 28 Septess Bates

144. Pooling of Business Rates

Considered –

The report of Paul Shevlin (Chief Executive, Craven District Council) concerning the opportunity, under the new Business Rates retention funding system, for a cluster of local authorities to join together in a pooling arrangement. Craven District Council, Harrogate Borough Council and the City of York Council had expressed an interest in the Leeds City Region Business Rates Pool. Various two-tier County schemes were also being pursued nationally.

Members expressed support for undertaking further research to explore the merits of a North Yorkshire pooling arrangement for the 2014/15 financial year, whilst acknowledging that this did not preclude Councils from the opportunity to be in an alternative pooling for 2014/15.

Resolved –

- (a) That further research be undertaken to explore the merits of a North Yorkshire pooling arrangement for the 2014/15 financial year.
- (b) That a report be brought back to LGNY Y for consideration.