
**WITHOUT WALLS LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
YORK ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP**

Minutes

Meeting: Wednesday 7th January 2015,

At: Aviva, Wellington Row

PRESENT:

Stirling Kimkeran	Chair, York Economic Partnership
Cllr Keith Aspden	Liberal Democrat Group Leader, City of York Council (CYC)
Alison Birkinshaw	Principal of York College
Steve Brown	Managing Director, Make it York
David Chesser	York St. John University
Peter Clinker	Nestle
Angela Darlington	Chief Risk Officer, Aviva
Kersten England	Chief Executive, CYC
Andrew Follington	Area Commercial Director, HSBC
Jane Gibson	Chairman, Visit York
Jane Grenville	Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of York
Stephen Hind	Route Enhancement Manager, Network Rail
Cllr David Levene	Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Economic Development, Labour Group
Emma Smailes	Federation of Small Businesses
Cllr Chris Steward	Conservative Group Leader
Sarah Tanburn	Interim Director City and Environmental Services, CYC

GUEST SPEAKER: Roger Marsh, Chair Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Alty	Principal Strategy & Economic Policy Officer, CYC
Penny Nicholson	Strategy and Policy Officer, CYC
Charles Storr	Economy and Enterprise Manager, CYC
Phil Witcherley	Policy, Performance and Change Manager, CYC
Katie Stewart	Head of Economic Development, CYC

APOLOGIES:

Keven Parker, Phil Verster, Tim Hedley-Jones, David Fleming, Martyn Weller, Susie Cawood, Luke Barnett

ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE:

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

No declarations of interest

Apologies received from Tim Hedley-Jones

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING 18th SEPTEMBER 2014

Minutes were circulated with the agenda and were agreed by the Board.

ADDITIONAL ITEM ON THE 'YORK MEANS BUSINESS' CONFERENCE

Feedback from the Federation of Small Businesses:

The Conference was organised by the Business Engagement Group and held in November at City Screen.

There were over 180 attendees (businesses, not just representatives) and feedback has been excellent. There was also very good Press and social media coverage.

Thanks were extended to Charles Storr, Nathan Vasey and Christine Hogan from CYC, and to sponsors Shepherd Group, Langleys Solicitors and East Coast for their hard work and support.

3. 'UNLOCKING POTENTIAL, ACCELERATING GROWTH' PRESENTATION FROM ROGER MARSH, CHAIRMAN OF THE LEEDS CITY REGION LOCAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

The presentation centred upon the priorities of the LCR LEP.

The Board engaged in round table discussions on key questions such as:

- How do we raise the profile of the North, keeping the LCR at the core?
- How can we improve collaborative working between organisations across the region?
- How do we enable and sustain good economic growth as a region?

ACTION: The current York membership of LEP boards to be circulated

Owner: Phil Witcherley

Timescale: As soon as possible

ACTION: Updates from on key issues from each LEP to be shared at each YEP Board meeting as a new standing item.

Owner: Penny Nicholson

Timescale: Immediate

4. ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND STRATEGY UPDATE

Phil Witcherley presented a report on key elements of York's economic performance and focused on:

Recent developments

- Transport Funding
- Local Plan
- Local Growth Fund and ESIF

Performance highlights

- Productivity
- Footfall
- Labour market developments

Discussions:

Feedback given on all three recent developments by the Interim Director for City and Environmental Services.

- There are a number of key bids and pots of funding available to support sustainable transport at present.
- This funding presents a great opportunity to cross-work on transport projects and to show economic advantage across the LEP regions
- The City has performed well on a number of transport projects, we need to ensure that we 'sell' our successes more effectively.
- The Local Plan is now proceeding after Members agreed upon the number of new builds required.

Productivity-wise we are on a par with GVA per head with England , but behind Bath and Leeds and ahead of North Yorkshire

2014 shows a huge increase in footfall in Parliament Street. Jane Gibson discussed how we could work with the city team to get a better

indicator of city centre activity (for example, a 'shopping basket' measure).

Record fall of 86% from last month in those receiving Jobseekers allowance. Figures also presented on hourly wages for York residents.

Economic Strategy Workshops

The board agreed with the proposed plan for the strategy workshops as outlined in the paper for this item.

The board requested that meeting and workshop times were reduced

Date, time and venue to be confirmed, depending upon availability.

ACTION: Board to be advised of the date, time and venue for March workshop and meeting.

OWNER: Phil Witcherley

TIMESCALE: As soon as possible

5. MAKE IT YORK

Steve Brown was introduced as the new Managing Director of *Make It York*.

Make It York have been established to pull together several sectors including tourism, York's cultural offer, business and Inward Investment, business property and premises, IT and Digital development. In so doing the work of the City will be more cohesive and efficient.

Although there is much work ongoing already for Make It York, there are three primary areas of focus:

- UNESCO
- The Business Improvement District
- The Tour de Yorkshire

The new company will look to work with anyone who can benefit York, for example the LEPs and Visit England, and the working relationship between Make It York and West Offices will be a crucial one

Trading as a business is scheduled to begin in April and is on target to do so.

6. UNESCO CITY OF MEDIA ARTS

Co-author of the York bid, Stuart Goulden attended to present this item.

York was designated as a UNESCO City of Media Arts in December 2014. This was as a result of a co-ordinated effort from stakeholders to win this coveted and permanent title, which links us to other innovative international cities such as Montreal, Shanghai and Sydney.

We are the only City in the UK to be awarded this status and the bid team Vision was that York would be classed as a City of surprises and innovation.

Copies of the bid document were circulated, in which is also contained our plan of commitments and development as a City.

The Creative and Digital sector is one of the fastest growing, and the number of businesses rose by 25% between 1998 – 2008, and, even more rapidly, by 20% between 2011 – 2012.

The UNESCO status award opens up hundreds of opportunities, and there is £50 billion of value in this sector per annum to try and tap into.

Extensive thanks and congratulations were passed on to Stuart and the bid team by the Board.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) The Chair and Board thanked Katie Stewart for all the work she has done for York as she leaves City of York Council this month. The Board wished Katie well for the future and said she would be very much missed.
- b) A calendar of events was circulated as per the Chair's request. Any requests for additions to be sent to Penny Nicholson at penny.nicholson@york.gov.uk Electronic version of the calendar to be forwarded to Board members.

ACTION: Electronic version of the calendar of notable dates and events to be circulated

OWNER: Penny Nicholson

TIMESCALE: With the minutes