

NORTH & WEST YORKSHIRE BUSINESS RATES JOINT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 27TH JUNE 2019

Present: Councillor T Swift (Calderdale MBC) - Chair
Councillor S Hinchcliffe (City of Bradford MDC), Councillor P Box (City of Wakefield MDC), Councillor S Pandor (Kirklees MC), Councillor R Cooper (Harrogate BC), Councillor J Blake (Leeds City Council), Councillor K Aspden (City of York Council), Councillor Les (North Yorkshire County Council) and Councillor Siddons (Scarborough Borough Council).

In Attendance: M McRae (City of Wakefield MDC), R Tuddenham (Calderdale MBC), I Floyd (York City Council), K England (City of Bradford MDC), N Edwards (Scarborough Borough Council), R Flinton (North Yorkshire County Council), M Farrington (LCC), R Ellis (LCC) C Jolley (LCC) , B Still (WYCA) and K Tomkinson (LCC)

1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Swift be appointed to Chair the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Joint Committee and upon being put to the vote it was;

RESOLVED – That Councillor Swift be appointed as the Chair of the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Joint Committee.

2 APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

3 LATE ITEMS

There were no formal late items, however Members were provided with an updated page 4 of the agenda which set out a replacement table within the financial report. In addition to this Members received a letter from the Finance Director at Welcome to Yorkshire in respect of a Funding Agreement between this Committee and Welcome to Yorkshire.

4 EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There was no exempt information for consideration by the Committee.

5 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of any pecuniary interest made at the meeting, however both Councillors Cooper and Les brought it to the Committees attention that they were Board Members of Welcome to Yorkshire.

7 NORTH AND WEST YORKSHIRE BUSINESS RATES POOL FINANCIAL REPORT

Members considered an amended report that set out;

- a) The context in which the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool had been set up;
- b) The governance arrangements and agreement for the North and West Yorkshire Pool;
- c) The current position of the North and West Yorkshire Pool, including the estimated 2019/20 financial position and the latest income projections;
- d) The proposed spending commitments for 2019/20;
- e) Further potential commitments for 2019/20;
- f) The proposed approvals required for funding provided by the Pool, including the proposed Accountability Framework for funding applications.

Members discussed in detail the various elements of the report and some Members asked that for future rounds of bidding it be recognised that not all authorities had directly benefitted from funding associated with the various cycle races and others required it to be noted that they had incurred additional expenditure as a result of the cycle races taking place in the region.

Members also discussed the timeline for bids and provisionally felt that bids should be submitted by mid-September 2019 and considered by this Committee in October 2019.

RESOLVED –

- a) To note the context and structure of the North and West Yorkshire Business Rates Pool as described in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the report;
- b) To approve the Governance Agreement and Terms of Reference set out in Paragraph 3 and Appendices A and B of the report subject to the addition of an additional bullet point at 4.1 of the Governance agreement - Carbon Reduction;
- c) To note the projected Pool income for 2019/20 as shown in Paragraph 4 and Appendices C and D of the report;
- d) To note the report and approve the items of expenditure set out in Paragraph 5 of the report, subject to:
 - The payments to Welcome to Yorkshire being made quarterly

- and the comments from Cllr Aspden in terms of authorities not directly benefitting from cycle races being noted
- e) To note the potential areas of expenditure at Paragraph 6 in the report and that a further meeting of this Committee be held to consider the Welcome to Yorkshire Business Plan prior to approving payment of the Grant ;
- f) To note the different areas of expenditure described in Paragraph 7.1, of the report and approve the proposed funding processes as laid out in Paragraph 7.2 of the report, particularly noting WYCA's role in this process and a provisional bid submission deadline of mid-September 2019.
- g) To approve the Accountability Framework noted in Paragraph 7.3, and set out in Appendix E, subject to the addition of 'Carbon Reduction'.

8 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Members considered the date and time of the next meeting and agreed that 2 meetings should be scheduled;

RESOLVED – That dates be established as follows;

- 1 Early September 2019 to consider the Welcome to Yorkshire Business Plans – it was acknowledged that this meeting may eventually need to be cancelled.
- 2 Early October 2019 to consider any bids.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other items for discussion.