



Councillor Mark Crane

Leader of the Council

Report to Council on Tuesday 18th December 2018

Since last Council I have attended the DCN APPG on LEPs in London on 10 October, the Yorkshire Leaders Board on 25th October and the DCN Autumn Assembly on 1 November.

I also chaired a Homes England and DCN event in Birmingham on 16 November. It was good to see the room packed with authorities wanting to build much needed homes, it was also good to get perspectives from a number of different Councils. We have a good relationship with Homes England which was furthered at the event. The removal of the HRA borrowing cap by the Government gives this council the opportunity to look at creating further housing

I attended the Economic Partnership Forum on 8 November in Sherburn in Elmet. This was very well attended by a large number of local businesses which was very good to see. They were very supportive of the work of this Council and what we are trying to achieve in terms of economic growth.

TDY Announcement

At the time of writing we are waiting to hear whether Selby has been awarded a start or finish as a stage Town for the TdY 2019. I will be attending the announcement event on 7 December at Leeds Civic Hall.

LEP Update

Following the decision by this Council to support the status quo in terms of Selby District's inclusion within both the Leeds City Region and York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP's, it has been announced that the two LEPs are to formally join after both approved the merger at recent board meetings.

The move will see York and North Yorkshire combine with West Yorkshire to form a single LEP, responsible for significant potential investment to boost economic growth and social inclusion in an area with a population of 3.1m people and an economy worth £70.3billion.

The decision to combine the LEPs is in response to a Government review that aims to build on the achievements of LEPs to date and strengthen their accountability. The review also seeks to prepare LEPs for taking on responsibility for the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which set to replace European funding. This funding could be worth hundreds of millions of pounds a year to the new, enhanced LEP area.

It is expected that Barnsley, which is currently part of the Leeds City Region, will remain with the Sheffield City Region LEP, while the East Riding area that forms part of the existing York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP will remain part of the Humber LEP.

The two existing LEPs will form a transition sub-group to look at the key issues they need to address together as they approach the partial merger. The full merger is expected to be complete and the new LEP in place by April 2020.

Selby District Council has played an active role in both LEPs, reflecting that our economic geography looks toward both Leeds City Region and York, North Yorkshire and East Riding. Going forward we will actively engage with the new West and North Yorkshire LEP to ensure Selby District's growth, economic and infrastructure ambitions are supported. We will also actively engage with the Hull and Humber LEP given the strong links eastward and the growing importance of the Low Carbon/renewable energy economy between Selby district and Hull.

NYP Selby co-location Construction works progress summary

Construction works for police co-location started at the Civic Centre site on the 8th October and are due to be complete, weather permitting, on the 19th February 2019. Currently the project is slightly ahead of schedule with the expectation that all work is completed and the police able to move in by the end of March instead of April.

A project group consisting of Council and police staff are overseeing arrangements for the police moving in to ensure minimum disruption to both organisations.

Extension works to the car park started on 19th November. It is hoped that the extended car park areas will be in use before the Christmas break. (I am hoping it will be done by the time you are reading this)

Car Parking

Councillors will be aware that I have again agreed to use the commissioning contingency to support local business by offering free parking in Selby on the Saturdays in December. I hope this will give a welcome boost to local trade.

Councillor Mark Crane
Leader