



Councillor Mark Crane

Leader of the Council

Report to Council on Tuesday 26 March 2019

On 1st March I attended a meeting in Ripon, with those Yorkshire Leaders who were available to attend at short notice, with the Rt Hon James Brokenshire Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government. The meeting was requested by the Leaders of 18 Yorkshire Local Authorities to discuss the Ministers' response to the One Yorkshire devolution proposal we had submitted. In summary the response stated that whilst the One Yorkshire proposition was a novel idea it was not something that Government could agree. The outcome of the meeting was that Officials would meet to progress work on local arrangements for devolution.

One Yorkshire

I also attended the One Yorkshire Conference where the Rt Hon Jake Berry MP, Minister for the Northern Powerhouse was one of the keynote keynote speaker. Jake Berry was asked for his view on the One Yorkshire proposal which reiterated the focus on more local solutions.

Transition Sub Group Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

Following my report to Council in February the transition sub group met again on the 5 March 2019. The views of the North Yorkshire and York LEP were presented as a discussion document which highlighted areas of agreement and difference. Our views on the proposed arrangements were relayed to the group. We continue to hold a strong view that Districts need to be represented and have two seats at the table, this has been accepted by both LEPs. Proposals for secretariat arrangements are included in the discussion paper. The name and branding of the new Organisation is still subject to agreement. The aim is to agree recommendations for submission to the Boards of York and North Yorkshire and East Riding and Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnerships later in May 2019

Skills

I attended the second economic partnership forum which was held at Selby College on 7 March and was timed to coincide with Skills week. It was a very successful event which has attracted very positive feedback. As part of this Selby District Council sponsored an award ceremony at Selby College and I was pleased to see that two of our own apprentices were nominated for awards and one went on to win the apprentice of the year.

DCN Member Board

I will attend the DCN Member Board meeting on the 20 March and report any update verbally to council.

Police co-location

The move of the Selby Police Station to the Civic Centre is imminent. The extended car park has been complete subject to finalising signage and work to build an extension for the Police and the Council is almost complete. The Police Neighbourhood Teams will start to work from the Civic Centre in early April, the total transfer of North Yorkshire Police to the Civic Centre will be complete during May. In addition to the benefits that co-location will bring, enabling the Police and Council to work in a closer partnership, the Council will receive rent from the 1st April 2019, a real win win for the public sector, with the council achieving rental income and costs towards the running of the Civic Centre and the Police able to reduce revenue expenditure and a capital asset.

I am also very pleased to report that we have managed to attract Align Property Services to the Civic Centre who have a requirement for 6 desk spaces at the market rent. They will move in April 2019.

Councillor Mark Crane
Leader