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Councillor Carl Les
Leader of North Yorkshire County Council
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29 November 2022

Dear Sir or Madam

Re: York and North Yorkshire Devolution Deal Consultation

We are writing to let you know about the consultation on the proposed York and North Yorkshire devolution deal.

The consultation can be found at www.ynydevolution.com and the deadline for responding is 16 December 2022.

The proposed deal, if agreed, will see the creation of a combined authority between City of York Council and the new North Yorkshire Council to be chaired by a directly elected mayor. If progressed, the combined authority will come into existence in late 2023, with the mayoral election scheduled for May 2024.

It is important to emphasise that both City of York Council and North Yorkshire Council will continue to exist in addition to the new combined authority. Councillors in North Yorkshire and York voted to progress and undertake a countywide consultation on the proposed deal at recent meetings of the NYCC Executive on 6 September 2022 and the City of York Full Council meeting on 6 October 2022.

Devolution has the potential to bring significant new investment and powers to York and North Yorkshire. The deal could unlock £540 million of new funding from the Government to spend on local priorities to produce growth, together with a range of devolved powers from government departments and agencies. Included within the proposed deal is:

- A key leadership role for the mayor in public safety, taking on the role and functions of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner and having a clear role in local resilience and civil contingency planning, preparation, and delivery;
- A commitment by the Government to work with the region to explore initiatives to improve the delivery of public services jointly with constituent authorities, such as how best to support residents with multiple complex needs;
- £18 million per year in an investment fund over 30 years to finance local priorities;
- Subject to a full business case, investment of up to £50 million to support and deliver the York Central brownfield regeneration scheme which would generate additional GVA and associated benefits for the whole York and North Yorkshire region;
- £7 million investment to enable York and North Yorkshire to drive green economic growth towards the ambition to become a carbon negative region;
- Investment of up to £2.65 million of projects to deliver affordable, low carbon homes;
- £13 million for the building of new homes on brownfield land across 2023/24 and 2024/25;

- A commitment to establish a working group to support the development of BioYorkshire;
- New powers from Government to drive regeneration and build more affordable homes;
- And new transport powers to improve and integrate the regional transport network.

The proposed deal represents a significant step forward in securing devolution for the region, with the potential to deliver more and better paid jobs to the area and providing new investment that will benefit our communities. It means that decisions previously taken at central government can in the future be potentially taken closer to the people of York and North Yorkshire.

As highlighted earlier, following agreement from the constituent councils, the next stage in the process towards the creation of the combined authority is a public consultation, about which we are writing to you.

Once the consultation has concluded, North Yorkshire County councillors and City of York councillors will then be asked to consider the consultation feedback and ultimately, whether to agree the proposed deal before it is sent to the Government. If this is agreed, the process of putting the required legislation in place will be initiated and likely take place in the new year.

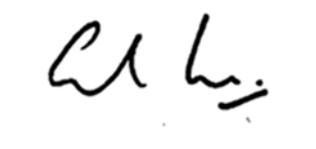
We would encourage you to respond to the consultation to ensure your view and/or the view of your organisation is considered. It is incredibly important that all voices are heard on this matter. If you would like to discuss the deal in more detail, then please contact: enquiries@ynydevolution.com

Thank you for your engagement on this significant milestone in the history of our region.

Yours sincerely



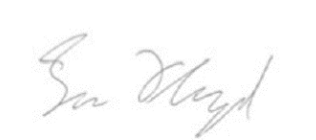
Cllr Keith Aspden
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Richard Flinton
Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council



Ian Floyd
Chief Operating Officer
City of York Council