
Report to: West Yorkshire Combined Authority

Date: 22 June 2023

Subject: **Membership of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority**

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Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 To note the appointment of Combined Authority Members and Substitute Combined Authority Members to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (the Combined Authority) by the Constituent Councils (the West Yorkshire councils) and the Non-Constituent Council (the City of York Council).
- 1.2 To note the Mayor's position as Chair of the Combined Authority and the Deputy Mayor.
- 1.3 To note the position regarding appointment of the Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership Combined Authority Member ("the LEP Member") and Substitute LEP Member to the Combined Authority.
- 1.4 To grant voting rights to the Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member and to the LEP Member (and their Substitutes).

2. Information

Membership

- 2.1 The West Yorkshire Mayor, Mayor Brabin, became a Combined Authority Member and Chair of the Combined Authority, by virtue of that office, from 10 May 2021.

- 2.2 The Mayor must appoint a Combined Authority Member to be the Mayor's deputy (the Deputy Mayor). Councillor James Lewis was appointed as the Deputy Mayor in 2021 and continues in that post.
- 2.3 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2014 (the 2014 Order) provides for the Combined Authority to comprise the following in addition to the Mayor:
- 5 elected members, each one appointed by a Constituent Council from its elected members (a **Constituent Council Combined Authority Member**),
 - an elected member from three of the Constituent Councils, appointed jointly by the Constituent Councils so that the elected members appointed by Constituent Councils taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the Constituent Councils (the **Political Balance Members**),
 - 1 elected member appointed by the Non-Constituent Council (the **Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member**), and
 - 1 person nominated by the LEP and appointed by the Combined Authority (the **LEP Member**).
- 2.4 A Substitute Member is also appointed to act in the absence of the following:
- each Constituent Council Combined Authority Member,
 - each Political Balance Member,
 - the Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member, and
 - the LEP Member.
- 2.5 Mark Roberts, the Interim Chair for the LEP Board and a member of the Combined Authority intends to step down from the LEP Board at the end of June. Recruitment for the role of LEP Chair and for private sector LEP Board members is currently underway. At its meeting on 13 June, the LEP Board agreed that the LEP Board Chair once appointed will be the LEP Member on the Combined Authority and that the LEP Board Deputy Chair once appointed will be the substitute LEP Member on the Combined Authority. In addition, and to ensure LEP Board private sector representation at the Combined Authority meeting on 27 July (should the appointment of the Chair be not concluded at that point), it was further agreed that the Chief Executive be authorised to nominate a LEP member to represent the LEP at that meeting. Members are asked to note and support this interim proposal.
- 2.6 **Appendix 1** to this report contains details of the membership of the Combined Authority, including the appointments made by the Constituent Councils and the Non-Constituent Council to the Combined Authority.

Voting Rights

- 2.7 Each Combined Authority Member (or Substitute Member) has one vote, except the Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member, and the LEP Member, who are non-voting unless the voting Combined Authority Members resolve that this provision is not to apply.
- 2.8 Given the status of the City of York as a Non-Constituent Council, it is proposed that the Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member exercises voting rights at any Combined Authority meeting, (including any committee or sub-committee to which the Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member is appointed), only in respect of any decision which gives rise to a direct and significant financial liability for the Non-Constituent Council.
- 2.9 It is proposed that, once appointed to the Combined Authority, the LEP Member, continues to be granted voting rights exercisable at any Combined Authority meeting (including any committee or sub-committee to which the LEP Member is appointed) on any decision, subject to the following exceptions:
- decision-making in relation to budget and levy setting, and
 - the adoption of any implementation plans appended to the Local Transport Plan (the West Yorkshire Transport Strategy 2040¹) which relate specifically to the Combined Authority's area (that is, West Yorkshire).
- 2.10 For the avoidance of doubt, the voting Combined Authority Members are also asked to resolve that the Substitute Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member and Substitute LEP Member, once appointed, may exercise any voting rights exercisable by the Member for whom they substitute, in the absence of that Member.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 There are no climate emergency implications directly arising from this report.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1 There are no inclusive growth implications directly arising from this report.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

¹ The West Yorkshire Transport Strategy 2040 is the Combined Authority's statutory Local Transport Plan.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2014 sets out membership arrangements for the Combined Authority, as outlined above.

7.2 By law, the Mayor must appoint a Combined Authority Member to be the Deputy Mayor.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1 None.

10. Recommendations

10.1 That the Combined Authority resolves:

10.1.1 To note:

- the position of Mayor as Chair of the Combined Authority by virtue of that office,
- the ongoing appointment of the Deputy Mayor by the Mayor,
- the appointment of Constituent Combined Authority Members and their Substitutes by the Constituent Councils, and
- the appointment of the Non-Constituent Council Member and Substitute by York City Council,

as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

10.1.2 To note that the LEP Member of the Combined Authority and the Substitute LEP member will be appointed to the Combined Authority in due course and further to agree the proposal that to ensure LEP Board private sector representation on the Combined Authority at its next meeting on 27 July, a nominated LEP Member may attend to provide representation.

10.1.3 That the Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member may exercise one vote at any Combined Authority meeting (including any decision-making committee or sub-committee to which the Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member is appointed) only in respect of any decision which gives rise to a direct and significant financial liability for the Non-Constituent Council.

10.1.4 That the Substitute Non-Constituent Council Combined Authority Member may exercise the voting rights granted to the Non-Constituent Council Combined

Authority Member, when acting in the absence of the Non-Constituent Council Member.

10.1.5 That the LEP Member, once appointed, may vote at any meeting of the Combined Authority (including any committee or sub-committee to which the LEP Member is appointed) on any decision, subject to the following exceptions:

- decision-making in relation to budget and levy setting; and
- the adoption of any implementation plans appended to the Local Transport Plan which relate specifically to the Combined Authority's area (that is, West Yorkshire).

10.1.6 That the Substitute LEP Member (once appointed) may exercise the voting rights granted to the LEP Member, when acting in the absence of the LEP Member.

11. Background Documents

11.1 None.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Table of appointments