



<b>Report to:</b>	Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee
<b>Date:</b>	2 November 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Autumn Statement 2023</b>
<b>Director:</b>	Sarah Eaton, Director of Strategy, Communications and Intelligence
<b>Author:</b>	Anna Crump Raiswell, Policy Officer (Strategy)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

## 1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 To inform the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee of the recent West Yorkshire Submission to the Autumn Statement 2023.

## 2. Information

### Background

- 2.1 On 25 September 2023, HM Treasury asked for written representations to inform the Autumn Statement 2023, with a deadline to submit policy recommendations and suggestions and to explain the deliverability of proposals by Friday 13 October 2023.
- 2.2 West Yorkshire Combined Authority's response was developed through collaboration with policy teams across the Combined Authority, and in partnership with colleagues in Local Authorities through officer groups.
- 2.3 The West Yorkshire Submission to the Autumn Statement contains our key asks of Government to ensure delivery of the West Yorkshire Plan, and our ambitions for deeper devolution.

- 2.4 The submission also collates and articulates our position as a region and a trusted partner of Government to deliver for the people of West Yorkshire.

### **Details of the Final Submission**

- 2.5 The final submission, which was signed off by the Mayor and Local Authority Leaders on 12 October 2023, is now attached at **Appendix 1**. A summary of our strategic asks for the upcoming budget are outlined below:
- West Yorkshire to be included in the next wave of deeper devolution deals to negotiate further **devolution** of funding and powers, to include:
    - A **single settlement**.
    - Support to continue delivery of the **integrated transport system** that West Yorkshire needs including:
      - Assurance of the Government's continued commitment to Mass Transit in West Yorkshire.
      - Delivering strategic rail infrastructure to connect West Yorkshire.
    - **Full devolution of all adult employment, skills and careers funding**
      - A formal role to take forward LSIP implementation.
      - Decision-making role on skills capital.
      - Special status for our joint action plan with DWP.
      - Official pilots on technical education and creative/cultural sector.
      - Official pilot for employment support / work and health.
    - Long-term flexible **devolved funding and powers for net zero**, including:
      - Retrofit of West Yorkshire's homes.
      - A formal role in planning the future regional energy system.
      - Electric vehicle infrastructure and zero emission buses.
  - Certainty, stability and **fairness in Local Government Funding**.
  - Local leadership of the **affordable homes programme**.
  - A fair **police funding** system.
  - Supporting transport investment with **investment in connectivity** more broadly, including broadband.
  - Commitment to **£62.9 million** of additional investment from government, to further safeguard our region, through delivery of our **capital flood risk management infrastructure**.

- Certainty over **Business Rate Relief** for Cultural Venues.
- Long-term sustainable funding to ensure continued **support to businesses**.

2.6 The supporting letter, which accompanies the submission to government, confirms that the Combined Authority has detailed plans to support its recommendations. An offer to host a meeting with the Chancellor in West Yorkshire has also been extended by the Mayor, to demonstrate priorities for the region and support further future joint collaborative working.

### **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 The submission outlines a number of strategic asks which would result in increased autonomy to deliver programmes of work across West Yorkshire. This would enable the Combined Authority to ensure that resources are targeted to meet the diverse needs of communities across the region.

### **6. Financial Implications**

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

### **7. Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

### **8. Staffing Implications**

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

### **9. External Consultees**

9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

### **10. Recommendations**

10.1 That the Finance, Resource and Corporate Committee notes the West Yorkshire submission to HM Treasury for the Autumn Statement 2023.

## **11. Background Documents**

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

## **12. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – West Yorkshire Representation to HM Treasury for Autumn Statement 2023.