

Report to: West Yorkshire Combined Authority

Date: 10 May 2018

Subject: **Governance arrangements**

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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:	

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To note changes to West Yorkshire Combined Authority (the Combined Authority) members and substitute members.
- 1.2 To note a vacancy on the Governance and Audit Committee.
- 1.3 To approve changes to the City of York Council members on the Transport Committee, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Land and Assets Panel.
- 1.4 To endorse a proposal to appoint an Inclusive Growth Panel at the annual meeting as a formal advisory committee of the Combined Authority, and to endorse inclusive growth being embedded as a “golden thread” across all panels.
- 1.5 To consider a proposal to appoint a Place Panel at the annual meeting as a formal advisory committee of the Combined Authority.
- 1.6 To endorse a proposal to appoint a substitute for each Overview and Scrutiny member at the annual meeting.

2. Information

Combined Authority Membership – change in ‘balancing member’/ substitute ‘balancing member’

- 2.1 The Combined Authority received notification on 21 March 2018 that Councillor Andrew Carter wished to resign with immediate effect from his position as one of the Combined Authority’s 3 members appointed for political balance – the ‘balancing members’.
- 2.2 Any formal changes to Combined Authority membership must be carried out in accordance with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2014 which established the Combined Authority with any changes to the 3 ‘balancing members’ requiring the formal agreement of all 5 West Yorkshire district councils. Subsequent to the resignation of Councillor Carter, all 5 councils have agreed to:
- terminate the appointment of Councillor Scott Benton as a substitute Combined Authority member and appoint him as the Combined Authority member to replace Councillor Andrew Carter; and
 - appoint Councillor Carter as the Combined Authority substitute member to replace Councillor Scott Benton.
- 2.3 The resignation of Cllr Andrew Carter from the Combined Authority leaves a vacancy on the Governance and Audit Committee as by law only Combined Authority Members can be members of that Committee (apart from the statutory position of independent member). There are no further meetings scheduled for the remainder of the municipal year and appointments for the new municipal year will be made at the annual meeting in June.

Combined Authority Membership – change to City of York Council substitute member

- 2.4 On 28 March 2018, the City of York Council notified the Combined Authority that they wished to terminate the appointment of Councillor David Carr as the Council’s Combined Authority substitute member and to appoint Councillor Ian Gillies as his replacement. The appointment of Councillor Gillies became effective on 4 April 2018.

City of York Council – changes to co-optees

- 2.5 The City of York Council provided notification that they wished the Combined Authority to make the following changes to committee membership:
- Councillor Peter Dew to replace Councillor Ian Gillies on the Transport Committee.
 - Councillor Tina Funnell to replace Councillor Sonja Crisp on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 - Councillor Helen Douglas to replace Councillor David Carr on the Land and Assets Panel.

Inclusive Growth Panel

- 2.6 Further to the previous consideration of this matter, it is proposed that an Inclusive Growth Panel is appointed as an additional advisory committee to the Combined Authority at the annual meeting in June, with a remit extending to advising on other aspects of public policy not covered by any existing Combined Authority committee.
- 2.7 It is also proposed that reference to securing inclusive growth is embedded into the terms of reference for every relevant panel, as a “golden thread” across all panels.

Place Panel

- 2.8 It is also proposed that from the next municipal year functions currently carried out by the Land and Assets Panel could be extended to reflect the ambition to secure a high quality spatial offer extending to sport and culture, and address the spatial aspects of deprivation, with the Panel renamed Place Panel.
- 2.9 The Place Panel could also carry out functions which currently sit with the informally constituted Planning Portfolio Board (PPB), such as evidencing compliance with the statutory duty to co-operate in relation to planning of sustainable development.
- 2.10 The current voting membership of the Land and Assets Panel and the PPB could be integrated for the Place Panel as follows:
- 3 Combined Authority members,
 - 2 private sector representatives,
 - 11 relevant portfolio holders (one from each of the Leeds City Region councils currently represented on the PPB).

The 2 non-voting advisory representatives currently appointed to the Land and Assets Panel would continue to serve as non-voting representatives on the Place Panel.

- 2.11 As there is no scheduled Land and Assets Panel meeting before the annual meeting, the Chair of Land and Assets Panel has notified members of this proposal and invited them to submit comments. Members of the Planning Portfolio Board have also been notified of the proposal, and will have the opportunity to discuss these further at their meeting on 18 May.

Scrutiny arrangements

- 2.12 In May 2017 new statutory changes were introduced in relation to scrutiny arrangements for combined authorities. These included setting the quorum for overview and scrutiny committees to be two thirds of the membership (higher than previously in place). Although the Combined Authority’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee has generally had high attendance, on occasion meetings have been inquorate. As a result, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has suggested appointing substitute members. Should this be progressed, it is proposed that each council could be asked to nominate a

substitute for each member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee they nominate for the next municipal year.

3. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 3.1 The proposal to appoint an Inclusive Growth Panel at the annual meeting and to embed inclusive growth into the terms of reference for every panel should facilitate and promote inclusive growth.

4. Financial Implications

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

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Any formal changes to Combined Authority membership must be carried out in accordance with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2014.

6. Staffing Implications

- 6.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

7. External Consultees

- 7.1 None

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 That the Combined Authority notes the resignation of Councillor Andrew Carter as a Combined Authority Member and that his replacement is Councillor Scott Benton with effect from 19 April 2018.
- 8.2 That the Combined Authority notes the termination of the appointment of Councillor Scott Benton as a substitute Combined Authority Member, and that his replacement is Councillor Andrew Carter with effect from 26 April 2018.
- 8.3 That the Combined Authority notes the termination of the City of York Council's appointment of Councillor David Carr as a substitute member and the appointment of Councillor Ian Gillies with effect from 4 April 2018.
- 8.4 That the Combined Authority notes the City of York Council's revised nomination to the Transport Committee and co-opts Councillor Peter Dew onto the committee in place of Councillor Ian Gillies with immediate effect.
- 8.5 That the Combined Authority notes the City of York Council's revised nomination to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and co-opts Councillor Tina Funnell onto the committee in place of Councillor Sonja Crisp with immediate effect.

- 8.6 That the Combined Authority notes the City of York Council's revised nomination to the Land and Assets Panel and co-opts Councillor Helen Douglas onto the committee in place of Councillor David Carr with immediate effect.
- 8.7 That the Combined Authority notes that the resignation of Councillor Carter will leave a vacancy on the Governance and Audit Committee.
- 8.8 That the Combined Authority agrees to progress the appointment of an Inclusive Growth Panel at the annual meeting, and to embed securing inclusive growth into the terms of reference of every relevant panel for the next municipal year.
- 8.9 That the Combined Authority considers whether to progress the proposal to appoint a Place Panel for the next municipal year with the membership set out in this report.
- 8.10 That the Combined Authority invites each West Yorkshire and York council to nominate a substitute for any member nominated to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, such substitutes to be appointed at the annual meeting.

9. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

10. Appendices

None.