

YORK & NORTH YORKSHIRE  
**DEVOLUTION**



**We are York & North Yorkshire**

city region *and* rural powerhouse

# We are York & North Yorkshire – city region *and* rural powerhouse

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City of York and North Yorkshire councils have negotiated a proposed devolution deal between central government and local authorities for York and North Yorkshire.

**The journey starts here.**

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# What does it mean?

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- The proposed devolution deal, if agreed by respective councils and informed by public consultation, would deliver **more local powers and decision making and more funding**.
- As it stands today, **the proposed deal is worth £750m to York & North Yorkshire** and would see a regionally elected mayor champion our region and form a direct relationship with government to secure future funding.
- Together with more devolved funding for transport, education and business support, **an elected mayor would lead a mayoral combined authority to invest upwards of £95million per year**.

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# What does it mean?



- This would give us a chance to level up with our neighbouring regions that have already devolved and currently have elected metro mayors, driving up their economies.
- **This is an historic moment and the first powerful step towards long term change.**

# What happens next?



- Local councillors, residents and businesses will now review the deal in detail over the summer and councillors will then collectively decide whether to proceed to consultation on the deal.
- A public consultation in October to December will give you a chance to have your say.

**Find out more and sign up for our newsletter by visiting: [www.ynydevolution.com](http://www.ynydevolution.com)**

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# **The proposed devolution deal**

# Breakdown of the deal by theme



- The following pages outline the content of the proposed devolution deal. All the proposed details outlined here will be reviewed by Councillors, residents and businesses over the summer. Councillors will then collectively decide whether to proceed to public consultation on the deal.

# Governance



- York and North Yorkshire would establish a **combined authority and directly elect a mayor** to provide strategic leadership across the region, seek the best value for taxpayer's money, be directly accountable to the region's electorate and to receive new and devolved powers transport, housing and skills.



# Mayoral Investment Fund



- The Mayor would work with partner councils and regional stakeholders to invest **£18 million per year allocation of funding over 30 years** (35% capital, 65% revenue), invested by York and North Yorkshire to drive growth to unlock growth and innovation and help us tackle local challenges, such as affordable housing and low wages. It could also be used to support our ambitious target to be England's first carbon negative region.

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# Transport



- **New powers to improve and better integrate local transport**, including control of appropriate local transport functions e.g. local transport plans, and control of a Key Route Network.
- An integrated transport settlement starting in 2024/25 and an **additional £800,000 to support the development of an integrated approach to regional transport.**
- **A commitment to explore a local partnership with Great British Railways** to help shape and improve local rail.

# Skills



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- New powers to shape local skills provision to meet the needs of the local economy, including **devolution of the core Adult Education Budget, as well as input into the new Local Skills Improvement Plans.**
- The Government recognises the challenges facing York and North Yorkshire, with coastal and rural communities experiencing a complex range of issues, such as poor connectivity. There is a need to develop and deliver targeted programmes to address the unique and very different challenges across such a large and diverse region. York and North Yorkshire will work in partnership to **develop proactive support for these groups through ongoing engagement with local Department for Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus.**

# Housing & Regeneration

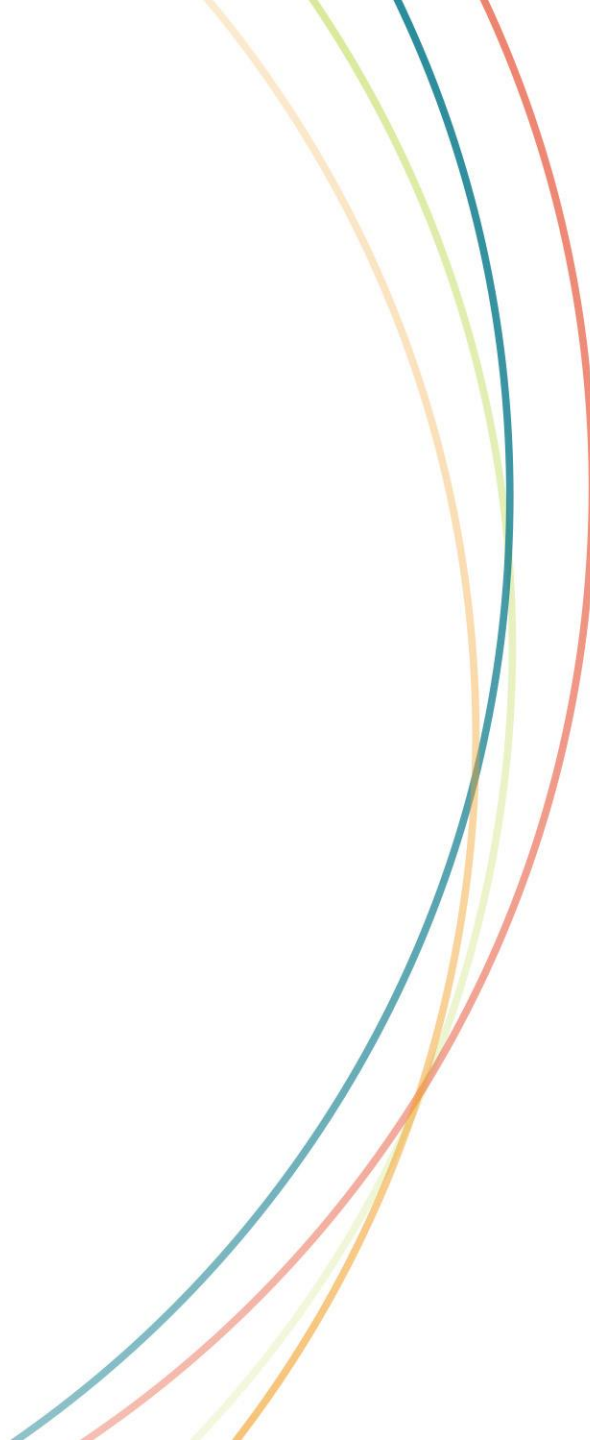
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- **New powers to drive the regeneration of the area and to build more affordable homes** including compulsory purchase powers and the ability to establish Mayoral Development Corporations.
- **Over £13 million for the building of new homes on brownfield land** across 2023/24 and 2024/25, subject to sufficient eligible projects for funding being identified.
- **Investment of up to £2.65 million on projects that support York and North Yorkshire's priority to deliver affordable, low carbon homes** across the area, subject to final business cases.
- Subject to a full business case, demonstrating the value of the scheme in delivering housing, jobs and GVA to the area, the government is minded to provide **additional support to the York Central brownfield regeneration scheme.**
- York and North Yorkshire and Homes England are committed, with the support of DLUHC, to working collaboratively – combining their skills and capacity – to **unlock the barriers to rural affordable housing delivery, the regeneration of market towns and wider housing growth** through the development of a pipeline for the region.
- Homes England, DLUHC, and the combined authority will also collectively explore how wider measures – including viability assessments and the planning system – could better support York and North Yorkshire's plans to increase much needed affordable housing supply, and in partnership test how the emerging Homes England rural strategy could assist in this.

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# Net Zero & Natural Capital



- **£7m investment to enable York and North Yorkshire to drive green economic growth towards their ambitions to be a carbon negative region.** This investment is subject to agreement of submitted business case.
- **Support to develop a Natural Capital Investment plan** for York and North Yorkshire.

# UK Shared Prosperity Fund



- **York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority would plan and deliver the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) from 2025/26.**

# Arts & Culture



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- Commitments for The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and its Arms Length Bodies to work in partnership with the area on the **development and delivery of strategies to realise the region's cultural potential.**
- Tourism and the Visitor Economy are crucial industries for York and North Yorkshire, with the region attracting large numbers of leisure and business visitors every year, including through its cultural and heritage offer. To help support this key industry, **DCMS will work with York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority to explore the best structures and geographies for future Destination Management and Marketing interventions.** This will be informed by the forthcoming DCMS response to the De Bois review of Destination Management Organisations in England.

# Digital



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- Engagement on **broadband and mobile infrastructure rollout to ensure 100% coverage in York and North Yorkshire**
  - Engagement on the development of the **Scarborough Cyber Cluster.**



# BioYorkshire



- A commitment to **establish a programme working group in support of the BioYorkshire programme**. Including the with governments innovation agencies, Innovate UK and UKRI

# Integration of the Local Enterprise Partnership



- Integration of the York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (Y&NY LEP) into York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. This will **ensure there continues to be a strong and independent local business voice which informs local decision making.**



# Integration of the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner & Local Resilience

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- A key leadership role for the mayor in public safety, taking on the role and functions of the Office of the Police Fire & Crime Commissioner (PFCC) and having **a clear role in local resilience and civil contingency planning, preparation and delivery.**

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# **Frequently asked questions**

Answers to some questions you might have about  
devolution for York and North Yorkshire.

# What is devolution?

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Devolution is when some powers of decision making and funding are transferred to an area (York and North Yorkshire in our case) so that decisions around how money is invested into the economy can be based on local intelligence and made by people who understand local needs best. For York and North Yorkshire, the proposed devolution deal would give our region a direct relationship with central government through a regional mayor. The mayor could increase investment into the region to maximise our unique potential for growth and tackle local challenges such as affordable housing and low wages. Devolution is our once in a lifetime chance to address our challenges and harness our unique potential for growth benefitting York, North Yorkshire and the whole of the UK.

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# What is a proposed devolution deal?

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City of York and North Yorkshire councils have negotiated a proposed devolution deal between central government and local authorities for York and North Yorkshire. The proposed deal includes introducing a regionally elected mayor to champion our region at a national level. It details the areas of additional funding and the governance procedures around the devolved funding and decision making. Local councillors will review the deal in detail over the summer, and collectively decide whether to proceed to consultation on the deal. Details of what is in the proposed deal are summarised on the previous pages.

# What is a mayor?

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An elected mayor is a regional leader directly elected by the people. The Localism Act (2011) made the provision for the creation of directly elected mayors. A mayor for York and North Yorkshire would be a strong local leader responsible for delivering better local outcomes and championing our region at a national level. The proposed devolution deal as it stands today is worth around £750m. Together with more devolved funding for transport, education and business support, an elected mayor would lead a mayoral combined authority to invest a budget of up to £95 million per year. The mayor would also hold responsibility for the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner. An elected mayor has a different role to a civic mayor. A civic mayor is a ceremonial representative with no formal powers. Fellow members of a town, borough or city council traditionally choose them. The civic mayor is the first citizen of the borough and always has precedence unless royalty or the Lord Lieutenant is present.

# What is a mayoral combined authority?

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The Local Government Association describes a combined authority (CA) as ‘a legal body set up using national legislation that enables a group of two or more councils to collaborate and take /collective decisions across council boundaries. While established by Parliament, CAs are locally owned and have to be initiated and supported by the councils involved.’ A mayoral combined authority is a combined authority governed by a regionally elected mayor. The proposed mayoral devolution agreement for York and North Yorkshire would establish an elected mayor for the region. The mayor would lead a new mayoral combined authority (MCA). This organisation would be set up to work in partnership with local authorities to deliver the devolved investment, and would govern the wider functions of the mayor. City of York and North Yorkshire councils\* will continue as they are, working at a local level to deliver vital services for residents.

\* Following the government consultation on local government reorganisation it was announced in July 2021 that the current county, district and borough councils in North Yorkshire would be replaced by a new single council in April 2023, with City of York Council remaining as it is. City of York council and North Yorkshire council will continue to work at a local level to deliver vital services to residents. The mayoral combined authority would deliver at a regional scale working in partnership with the two unitary authorities to deliver the devolved investment.



# What is the sequence of events?

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The proposed devolution timetable for York and North Yorkshire at the time of writing is as follows: Proposed devolution agreement for York and North Yorkshire on the table – Summer 22 Review by all local councillors during Summer 2022 Councillors feedback on agreement and there will be a decision on whether to proceed to consultation – Autumn 2022 Formal public consultation process on the proposals – Autumn/Winter 2022 Consultation results and analysis submitted to government - early 2023 A parliamentary order is laid to form a mayoral combined authority for York and North Yorkshire – Summer 2023 Establish the combined authority - estimated Autumn 23 Mayoral elections – estimated May 24 These timings are subject to change – please sign up for our newsletter and follow us on social media for the latest picture.

# What is the consultation?

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The consultation is a chance for you to understand the details of the proposed devolution deal from government and have your say. We'll be asking for your views about the details of the proposed deal, which as it stands is worth £750m for York & North Yorkshire and could result in funds of upwards of £95m per year to be invested by the mayoral combined authority. Following a review of the deal by local councillors and a collective agreement to proceed, the consultation would take place in Autumn/ Winter 2022. Sign up for our newsletter and follow us on social media to find out how to take part. There will be a number of ways to get involved, give your feedback, ask questions and find out more:

Online and in-person information sessions

Fill in a survey online or return a paper copy

Send us an email or write to us or

Give your feedback in person

Details will be published at the time of the consultation.

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# Get in touch

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If you have any questions or want to discuss anything included in this briefing document, please contact Aissa Gallie, Head of Communications and Organisational Development, York & North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership

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Visit [www.ynydevolution.com](http://www.ynydevolution.com) for more info.

# Thank you

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