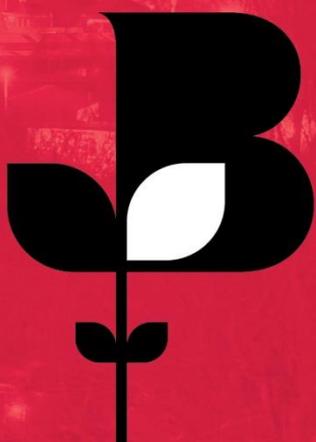


September 2018

# POLICY UPDATE



West & North  
Yorkshire Chamber  
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# CHAMBER POLICY UPDATE

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## Transport

1. Gerald Jennings recently chaired two transport meetings. The first was with Nusrat Ghani MP, Parliamentary under Secretary of State for Transport including HS2. The outcomes of the meeting included agreement that more needs to be done to raise the awareness of the job opportunities, both direct and indirect that HS2 will bring. In addition it was acknowledged that more work is needed to integrate different high profile rail schemes such as HS2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail.
2. The second meeting involved Chris Grayling MP, the Secretary of State for Transport and was held at Leeds Bradford Airport. A business meeting had been organised and it was this that Gerald “chaired”. It provided an opportunity to discuss, amongst other things improvements to surface access to and from the airport including the proposed new “park and ride” facility at the nearby Leeds to Harrogate rail line.
3. Work will start on phase one of the East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR) at the start of September as developer Balfour Beatty begins a range of work to improve junctions. Road improvements on the A6120 outer ring road Junctions at Roundhay Park Lane and A61 and Harrogate Road roundabout will take about a year and plans are in place to minimise disruption and inconvenience. The Chamber has asked Leeds City Council for more information about the plans to minimise disruption and a response is still awaited.
4. The next meeting of the Chamber’s Transport Group takes place in the morning of the 28<sup>th</sup> of September and is being hosted by Pinsent Masons LLP in Leeds. The agenda includes a presentation about a potential new, direct rail service between Leeds and Glasgow, and also an update from Councillor Kim Groves about her new role as Chair of WYCA’s Transport Committee.

## Clean Air Zones (Leeds and York)

1. The Chamber held another meeting with Leeds City Council to hear the revised proposals for a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) in Leeds. Broadly the Chamber welcomed the revisions which include a smaller boundary area for the CAZ and a revised charging tariff for vehicles which are non – compliant. However concerns about the likely impact upon small scale HGV operators within the CAZ boundary and non –compliant buses were raised. A formal response has been submitted by Sara Gilmore, chair of the Chamber’s transport group.

2. The City of York has also announced proposals to introduce a Clean Air Zone within York City Centre despite it not being mandatory to do so. Bridget Davies, President of York & North Yorkshire Chamber, responded to the proposals mentioning, amongst other things, that there needs to be a more detailed and rounded plan developed which looks to improve air quality in the city and also questions why the initial focus is on buses which are only 3% of traffic in the city.

### **Local Plan (York)**

1. City of York Council submitted the city's Local Plan to government for inspection on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The government has now appointed inspectors, who will schedule a public examination later in the year. Neither the secretary of state nor the inspectors have exercised their power to reject the plan.

### **York Central Site**

1. Work on a road to unlock the York Central site could start as early as 2019 after senior councillors in the city agreed on the route of an access road to the 72 hectare brownfield site. Now the proposals have been approved a planning application for the access road will be submitted in the autumn and detailed design work will commence to ensure that that development can start on site in 2019.
2. In addition an outline planning application for the whole site was submitted in late August. Any comments on the application should be made by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of September.
3. The next meeting of the York & North Yorkshire Chamber's Property Forum takes place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. At the event there'll be an update about York St John University's Capital Investment Plan and also the York, N Yorkshire and E Riding LEP talking about the LEP review and how its relevance to the property sector.

### **Economy**

1. WYCA has put out a tender to commission a quarterly economic survey and the Chamber has responded. The Chamber previously worked in partnership with WYCA / LEP to produce a dual branded QES however following the fallout from the Yorkshire Post's article on spending WYCA needed to put this out to the market to demonstrate open and transparent procurement.
2. Fieldwork for Q3 QES is currently underway and closes on September 17<sup>th</sup> so please encourage all companies to respond to the email invite (or share this link with them <https://www.research.net/r/WNYQ3-18>)

## **LEP review**

1. The government has published its review of Local Enterprise Partnerships and has made some recommendations which include the following:
  - Removal of overlapping geographies within LEPs, i.e. a place can only be in one LEP – there are implications for the two LEPs in our region
  - Encourage mayoral combined authorities and LEPs to share the same geographies – again implications for devolution in our region
  - Encourage LEP boards to be 2/3 private sector and that recruitment processes to be transparent and open.
2. There are a couple of options being considered by our local LEPs which are to become bigger or reduce the size of their geographies. In practice this could mean LCR (minus Barnsley) merges with YNYER LEP, or that North Yorkshire and West Yorkshire have their own LEP each. We are carrying out some research into member's views in our current QES which we will be sharing with both LEPs in advance of the consultation cut off at the end of September.

## **BRADFORD**

### **Property & Planning**

1. Bradford Council has (belatedly) acknowledged receipt of the Chamber report on employment land. The response is unclear on action, solutions etc, and so further talks/meetings are being pushed for with senior Council officers.
2. We have written to the Council expressing surprise and concern that the Richard Dunn Sports Centre site could result in a new retail development there. Housing or employment land, we feel, would be more suitable, and would not conflict with the intentions of the BID plans for the city centre. Our letter has been acknowledged, saying “all options are open” pending a better understanding of market conditions.
3. An inaugural meeting of key property sector people (businesses and Council officers) has taken place to consider issues in relation to city centre housing (quality, management, type of tenure, supply/demand). This was initiated by a BPF Steering Group member, and next steps/action/objectives etc are currently being worked up. (Work will lean on and utilise ‘Liveability Leeds’ wherever possible.)
4. A site visit of St George’s Hall, currently closed for a £9 million refurbishment, took place on 22 August. It was initiated by Marianne

McCallum (who recently moved to WYG from Turley, and is BPF Vice-Chair). Project managers Stone Edge (Skipton-based) are being encouraged to attend the 16 Oct Property Forum Lunch on the Odeon scheme.

### **Road Safety/Driving Standards**

1. This re-occurring issue was raised again recently by Sandy with the Divisional Commander and by Nick with a Police Superintendent. The officers have offered to speak at policy groups (where they have presented before) and networking lunches if required.

### **Professionals' Network**

1. A review of the activities, attendance, success and role of the committee is currently underway. Attendance at events has fallen in the last two years, despite time and effort invested into boosting this.
2. The committee is due to meet shortly, and a discussion paper has been prepared to help facilitate decision-making on what changes will happen. For example, some topics/speakers suggested (e.g. bank fraud, cyber-crime and procurement) are not exclusive to the sectors that BPN was initially formed to cater for, and so could become general Chamber events.
3. Also, the annual Bank of England briefing could, rather than just be available to the Leadership Group, be opened up to BPF and BPN (especially since YBS no longer has a dedicated economist who has presented an annual briefing to those two groups).

## Policy Meetings – July - August

Chamber	Date	Theme	Activity	Who
<b>July</b>				
Leeds	3/7/18	Economy	Leeds Waterfront Group	TW
WNY	3/7/18	Economy	Martin Taylor, Bank of England	SN
York	4/7/18	York leadership group	Annual election	BD
Bradford	11/7/18	Economy	Bradford BID development meeting	SN
York	12/7/18	Economy	York economic forum	SC
Leeds	12/7/18	Leeds Leadership Group	Annual election	PD
Leeds	13/7/18	Leeds Leadership Group		PD
Leeds	17/7/18	Economy	BID office working group	MG
WNY	17/7/18	Economy	Raising the BAR steering group	SN
Bradford	17/7/18	Bradford Property Forum		AB
Bradford	18/7/18	Local Affairs Committee		SN
Leeds	18/7/18	Transport	Leeds Rail programme board	IW
Leeds	18/7/18	Economy	Leeds BID board meeting	SN
Bradford	19/7/18	Economy	Bradford City of Film	SN
Leeds	19/7/18	Leeds Property Forum	Steering group meeting	JP
Leeds	19/7/18	Economy	Planning group meeting	AB
Leeds	20/7/18	Economy	Team Leeds meeting	PD
<b>Bradford</b>				
Leeds	24/7/18	Economy	Housing group meeting	MG
WNY	25/7/18	Transport	Meeting with DFT / HS2	IW
Bradford	26/7/18	Bradford Manufacturing Week	Steering group meeting	NG
Bradford	26/7/18	Economy	Meeting Kersten England	SN
WNY	27/7/18	Economy	Meeting Lord Mayor, City of London	SN
		<b>August</b>		
Bfd	02/08	Regeneration	Steve Hartley, Director, BMDC	MC
Bfd	08/08	Bfd Professionals Network	Roger Thompson, Chair	MC
Bfd	08/08	BPF	Dave West – potential City Housing group	MC
Lds	08/08	Economy	Waterfront Group	MG
WNY	13/08	Transport	Transport Group	GJ, SG,M G, IW
Bfd	15/08	Crime & Disorder	Inspector Philip Gill	MC
WNY	15/08	Transport	Margaret Jackson	SG,IW
Bfd	16/08	Procurement	Michele McCartan, re. new strategy	MC
WNY	20/08	Transport	Look at Priorities	IW
Bfd	21/08	Strategy	Mike Spicer, BCC	MC
Bfd	21/08	BMW	Meet Morrisons staff	MC
Bfd	22/08	Regeneration	St George's Hall site visit	MC
Bfd	23/08	BMW	BMW Steering Group	MC
Bfd	23/08	BPF	Inaugural meeting of City Housing Group	MC

Key:

SN = Sandy Needham; MG = Mark Goldstone; MC = Mike Cartwright; IW = Ian Williams; JP = Jeff Pearey; EK = Eamonn Keogh; AD = Andrew Digwood; SG = Sara Gilmore; GJ = Gerald Jennings;

PD = Paula Dillon; AL = Andrew Latchmore; NG = Nick Garthwaite; DR = Dave Rolinson; AB = Allan Booth