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All Party Parliamentary Group for **Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire**

**INAUGURAL MEETING**

Tuesday 22nd October 2024, 12pm – Room N, Portcullis House

**ATTENDEES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Parliamentarians:** | **Parliamentary staff:** | **Secretariat:** |
| Baroness Pinnock of Cleckheaton  Jade Botterill MP  Lee Pitcher MP  Lord Kirkhope of Harrogate  Lord Wallace of Saltaire  Mark Sewards MP  Martin Vickers MP  Paul Davies MP  Tom Gordon MP | Eamon Berjaoui (Office of Nic Dakin MP) | Ed Jacobs  Mick Swales |

**INAUGURAL MEETING**

**Election of Officers**

The following were elected unanimously:

* Mark Sewards MP (Chair)
* Luke Charters MP (Vice Chair)
* Lord Kirkhope of Harrogate (Vice Chair)
* Lord Wallace of Saltaire (Vice Chair)

**Terms of Reference**

The meeting agreed the following terms of reference for the Group: *“To bring MPs and Peers of all parties together with key leaders - those in local government, the private sector and social enterprise - to help maximise future investment in the region for the benefit of all local communities and economies.”*

**Secretariat**

The Group agreed that North Star Public Affairs and The Public Affairs Company, both based in the region, should continue as the secretariat on the same basis as was the case in the previous Parliament.

**External Membership**

The Group agreed to continue with arrangements in the previous Parliament of having a system of external membership.

**DISCUSSION ABOUT NEXT STEPS FOR THE GROUP**

A discussion was held about key priorities for the Group in the year ahead. Members expressed an interest in focussing on:

* Supporting and encouraging economic growth across the region.
* Engaging with local authorities and the elected mayors in the region.
* Transport across the region – including local bus services and rail services.

It was also agreed that shadow ministers, as well as ministers, should be invited to address the Group.

**WHAT NEXT?**

*External Members*

* The secretariat will notify the Yorkshire Leaders Board and all those who were external members of the Group in the last Parliament that the Group has been re-established and invite them to join as external members again. This Group includes:

Northern Powergrid

Frist Bus Group

University of Bradford

University of Hull

Yorkshire Universities

* Alongside this, the secretariat will identify other potential companies/organisations to invite to become external members, subject to the Chair’s agreement, and will draft an email to them.

*Engagement with Local and Combined Authorities*

* The secretariat will liaise between the Chair’s office and the Yorkshire Leaders Board to organise a suitable time and date for the Chair to address local authorities.
* The secretariat will also liaise with the Leaders Board to establish if a meeting could be organised for the directly elected mayors across the region to address and take questions from the Group.

*Regional Growth*

* The secretariat will prepare approaches, for agreement by the Chair, to the following organisations seeking written proposals from them/their members about policies and ideas that would best support economic growth across the region:
* Yorkshire Leaders Board
* The regional CBI, IoD, TUC and FSB
* Yorkshire Universities
* Chambers of Commerce
* Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute
* IPPR North
* The Northern Powerhouse Partnership
* The Centre for Social Justice in Yorkshire and The Humber
* Alongside the above, a press release will be prepared for the local and regional press inviting others who might want to provide ideas.
* The secretariat will compile responses for the Group to consider developing into a set of proposals from the Group to present to ministers.

*Ministers and Shadow Ministers*

* It is suggested that following the Budget, Lord Livermore, the Treasury Minister leading on regional growth, be invited to address the Group on what it will mean for Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire and how it will support growth. His shadow will also be invited.
* Simon Lightwood MP, the Transport Minister responsible for local transport (including bus services), along with his shadow will also be invited to speak, with a focus on how the Government will support local transport links and networks are best positioned to support regional growth.