

# PRESS RELEASE



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## **Securing the best for the people of Yorkshire and Humber**

The Yorkshire and Humber region will soon move to new streamlined regional arrangements. Building on the Government's Sub National Review, which proposed a radical overhaul of regional arrangements, Local Government Yorkshire and Humber (LGYH) and Yorkshire Forward have agreed a joint regional approach to developing and delivering priorities for the region.

The new arrangements have at their centre a belief that things should be built up from the local level, with an onus on 'doing things at the right level' to achieve sustainable economic growth. It is about securing the best for the people of Yorkshire and Humber, by ensuring that everyone works together to make the most of the region's resources. By taking a leading role in the region's development LGYH and Yorkshire Forward will ensure the right decisions are made, helping to shaping the region's destiny. This has formed the basis for establishing the new arrangements in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Council leaders, through LGYH, and Yorkshire Forward Board members will take joint responsibility for the implementation of the new regional arrangements and the development of an Integrated Regional Strategy. At the same time the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly will cease to exist after March 2009 so that the new arrangements can be established.

Councillor Peter Box, Chair of the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly and member of Local Government Yorkshire and Humber said; "The new regional arrangements will build on the great work of the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly, which has helped to shape our region over the past few years. We are now moving forward to new arrangements and which will help the region to progress further "

Councillor Arthur Barker, Chair of Local Government Yorkshire and Humber said; "The new arrangements streamline the way we work in the region to deliver the priorities of our citizens. Council leaders have been central to this debate and to the development of the new arrangements. I should like to thank colleagues from councils across the region for their valuable contribution, we have cross party support and all 22 Leaders have agreed to the proposals. We will continue to work closely with Yorkshire Forward, making sure that as a region we keep our focus on delivering excellence and ensuring that the priorities of our citizens are being met."

Terry Hodgkinson, Chair of Yorkshire Forward comments; "Yorkshire and Humber has a strong and growing economy and these new arrangements mean that the right people, with the right expertise will be able to focus on key priorities that will support our regional businesses and drive further success in our region."

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