

Executive summary (1/2)

Purpose and approach

The seven North Yorkshire District and Borough Councils have jointly developed this Summary Case for Change setting out a proposed model for local government reorganisation in York and North Yorkshire.

The process has included a balance of independent analysis and engagement with senior stakeholders across the nine current local authorities in York and North Yorkshire.

The local context

Through its devolution proposals York and North Yorkshire has a clearly stated ambition to become England's first carbon negative economy, where people have high quality employment and develop the skills to reach their full potential, earn higher wages and live healthy lives in thriving communities. Local government reorganisation must support this, whilst also enabling more efficient governance, scale in service delivery, clarity in democratic representation and a stronger voice to central government.

Evaluating the options

An 'East & West' model was selected after appraisal of 11 potential options using evaluation criteria of: impact on service delivery; financial benefits and sustainability; democratic representation; and facilitating the aims of devolution.



'East & West' will deliver for the people of York and North Yorkshire through:

- Ensuring that **both authorities** have the **scale and capacity** to invest in **improved service delivery, whilst achieving annual savings of between c£33m - £56m.**
- Reflecting **functional geographic footprints** with clear potential for **strong inclusive and clean growth.**
- Establishing intelligent footprints, maintaining the **benefits of localism in democratic representation and service delivery.**
- **Unlocking the potential of York** and allowing it to address key challenges around **housing delivery, capacity and improvement of children's services.**
- Setting the **Mayoral Combined Authority** up for success with **two equal partners**, bringing **balance, equity and fairness.**

Executive summary (2/2)

The 'East & West' model represents long-term thinking for all residents and stakeholders in York and North Yorkshire, informed by evidence and local intelligence which aims to build on the best of the region without being tied to previous structures.

Key strengths of the 'East & West' model	Key challenges addressed
Impact on service delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improved access to, and delivery of, services to all customers ✓ Responding to local needs ✓ Resilience, access to skills and scale for transformation ✓ Supporting strong, healthy communities grounded in place ✓ Outstanding services to support vulnerable people ✓ Providing good homes for all residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ongoing budget pressures and challenging savings targets. ✓ Increases in future demand for and spend on adult social care. ✓ England's largest county with many rural areas and large distances to manage for service delivery.
Financial benefits and sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Significant long term savings (of between c£33m-£56m pa) ✓ Limiting reorganisation costs and complexity ✓ Financial sustainability for both future authorities ✓ Two authorities with the potential to transform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Duplication and lack of clarity in accountability associated with two-tier local authority structure . ✓ Challenges around delivery of York's Local Plan and housing target.
Democratic representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Balanced and effective representation ✓ Effective partnership within the region and across the North ✓ Clarity of accountability and responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ York constrained by lack of capacity and small geographic footprint. ✓ Ofsted identified areas to improve in Children's Services.
Facilitating the aims of devolution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A well balanced and effective future Combined Authority ✓ Supporting strong, inclusive growth and the levelling up agenda ✓ Enabling clean growth in both future unitary authorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lack of investment compared to other similar cities. Ongoing budget pressures and challenging savings targets, exacerbated by the impact of Covid-19.