



*The Partnership Unit Bulletin – is a regular briefing for partners working in the fields of economic development, community development, research, community safety and learning and skills in York and North Yorkshire.*

## **ERDF Programme**

The new European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) programme continues to make progress. In December the European Union agreed the region's Operational Programme and the Programme Management Committee (PMC) has now been formally constituted and held its first decision making meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 07. This meeting approved the transitional prospectus for dealing with projects that have the potential for an early start. In York & North Yorkshire our potential "early wins" are the University of York expansion, adding activity to Science City York, the Malton Enterprise Centre, and the Leeming Bar and Northallerton workspace projects

The main programme will be up and running from April and it is intended that there will be a consultation on the "Priority Prospectuses" which will show what the programme intends to achieve during February. There is a regular newsletter on the ERDF programme from Yorkshire Forward. This can be obtained by contacting [Liz.west@yorkshire-forward.com](mailto:Liz.west@yorkshire-forward.com).

If you require any further information please contact: [jonathan.french@ynypu.org.uk](mailto:jonathan.french@ynypu.org.uk)

## **York & North Yorkshire Partnership Executive**

The Partnership Executive met on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December and the Minutes of the meeting are now available on our website: <http://www.ynypu.org.uk/index.aspx>

The Executive agreed the outcome of the review of the Partnership Unit and that a detailed business plan be prepared for the Unit for the next financial year which will be a transitional year depending on how City Regions develop. They reviewed progress in respect of Partnerships and City Regions, and gave consideration to proposals to develop a team using existing resources that would both support cultural activity and enable a resource to maximise to the opportunities arising from the Olympic Games. They also discussed the approach to the economic component of the North Yorkshire Local Area Agreement.

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## **Objective 2**

Thanks to partners efforts the Objective 2 programme has met its n+2 targets for 2007 for both ERDF and ESF.

As we enter the closure year for the Objective 2 programme it is imperative that projects deliver against their agreed timescales, and keep GOYH up to date with regard to progress and submission of claims.

## Yorkshire Forward Corporate Plan

Yorkshire Forward have now launched their corporate plan for 2008-2011. This corporate plan has reviewed their core policy priorities which are set out in 11 policy product ranges. The plan is subject to consultation until the 21<sup>st</sup> February. Details can be found on the Yorkshire Forward website here:

[http://www.yorkshire-forward.com/asset\\_store/document/draft\\_corporate\\_plan\\_2008-11\\_web\\_161132.pdf](http://www.yorkshire-forward.com/asset_store/document/draft_corporate_plan_2008-11_web_161132.pdf)

There is also a meeting of partners to discuss the proposals on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

## Business Link

Helen West, the current Chief Executive of Business Link, York & North Yorkshire has been appointed to the post of Chief Executive of YHIDP Limited, who is the new contractor for Business Link, supplying Business Link services throughout the region. This new contractor will start operations from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 although preparatory work has been underway for some time.

Details can be found at the website : [www.yhidb.co.uk](http://www.yhidb.co.uk)

## Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE)

### EU Programme Approval

The Rural Development Programme for England was agreed by the EU Rural Development Committee on 6 December 2007. Therefore the different regional programme elements of the RDPE are now progressing well.

You can read the Defra announcement of approval on their website:

[http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/rdp07\\_13/index.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/rdp07_13/index.htm)

Or find more details on the different programme elements of the RDPE on: [www.yorkshire-forward.com/RDPE](http://www.yorkshire-forward.com/RDPE)

## LEADER

The LEADER Programme is one element of the RDPE and significant progress has been made during the past few months. Stage one applications, from 10 applicants, have been considered by the LEADER panel and six applicants from across the region have now been invited to progress to stage two of the process.

For North Yorkshire this includes the following:

- ◆ Yorkshire Dales LEADER Group – *parts of Richmondshire, Craven, Harrogate & Hambleton*
- ◆ North Yorkshire Moors, Coast & Hills LEADER Group– *covering parts of Ryedale, Hambleton, and Scarborough submitted jointly with Redcar and Cleveland.*
- ◆ Coast, Wolds, Wetlands & Waterways LEADER Group– *in addition to large parts of East Riding this also covers Ryedale Wolds and Filey*

During stage two, the partnerships will develop a Local development strategy for their area, which will be presented to the LEADER panel in summer 2008.

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