



Our Ref: JJ/TH/ave/letters08/Preston

22 October 2008

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Dear Kieran

### **SUB-NATIONAL REVIEW – JOINT POSITION PAPER**

Thank you for your letter of 14 October regarding the Local Government Yorkshire and Humber (LGYH) and Yorkshire Forward joint paper for taking forward the sub-national review (SNR) proposals. I am pleased to read that the Authority was generally supportive of the proposed approach.

Your letter also sets out the Authority's strong reservations about the proposed Chair of the Transport Board. From the outset, LGYH and Yorkshire Forward have adopted a joint approach to dealing with the post-SNR environment. The Regional Board will be made up of eight Local Authority leaders and eight Yorkshire Forward Board Members reflecting the balance of agreed governance structures.

The proposed Regional Transport Board is one of four thematic boards that will sit under the Regional Board. LGYH and Yorkshire Forward have agreed that the latter will nominate the Chair for the Transport and also the Skills Board, with LGYH nominating the Chairs of the Boards that will oversee housing and planning.

There is general recognition of the important role that transport can play in supporting the region's sustainable economic growth. We hear this message repeatedly from business in the region as well as Local Government and your own work as part of the Leeds City Region also backs this up. We also believe that to achieve genuinely sustainable economic growth, social and environmental issues need to be taken forward together and transport is a key consideration here also.

The proposed governance arrangements have been agreed by LGYH and Yorkshire Forward and are supported by all Local Authorities in the region. I believe that they will further the strong partnership that the region has shown and lead to effective decision-making in the post-Assembly environment.

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