

POLICY UPDATE

April 2024



West & North
Yorkshire Chamber
of Commerce

POLICY UPDATE: APRIL 2024

Regional / National

Devolution Alliance report published on April 29 in the week of the North Yorkshire Mayoral election. Extensive coverage in the media, including front page and top leader of the YP, plus prominent section on Radio York.

Mark and Charlie were on hand at the mayoral election count the following Friday to assist with any media queries. CLG also had an oped published in the YP on devolution.

WNY Chamber added support to Leeds Bradford 2030 strategy doc.

Extensive coverage and awareness of the NYC trip.

Mark Cowgill quoted in a piece on Bradford Live. Mark Casci on BCB on same topic.

Two successful hustings events in both patches, well attended and received.

QES published – big rise in optimism levels.

Second Fair Work Charter Steering Group took place in Leeds.

York & North Yorkshire

Hospitality

Chamber lobbying CYC on behalf of traders who have lost their pavement licenses in York city Centre, and there will be further meetings about this.

There were initial discussions about a hospitality charter in the region.

Politics and Elections

Sarah, Charlie and Mark met with the then Lab candidate David Skaith ahead of the election. Charlie also met with Keith Tordoff.

Joint hustings with the FSB, CBI and Make UK were held on 10th April, with Labour, Conservative, Liberal Democrat and Green party candidates taking part.

Planning

A joint planning protocol between developers and City of York Council, designed to be drafted, and is now in the process of negotiation ahead of consultation with other developers and key players in the region.

Lobbying

Charlie met with representatives in the cultural and energy sectors to talk about policy positions on these areas, to lobby for in manifesto work in the future.

Leeds

Economy & Bank of England

Chief Economist at the Bank, Huw Pill, attended the Leeds Leadership Group, providing a detailed assessment of both national and international trading conditions and economic projections.



UKREIIF

Mark attended a preview event for the programme at this year's UKREIIF. 121,000 people expected next week.

Policy

Mark was a panelist at Leeds Beckett's Policy Week – speaking about lobbying and the power of the business community.

BID

Chris Black and Mark attended the Leeds BID annual showcase.

Bradford

Green issues

Talks held with Dr Stewart Davies about reigniting the Chamber's Green Hub.

Hydrogen

Bradford Leadership Group met to discuss various matters. Questions for council on Bradford Live.

Bradford

Live?

Mark spoke to BCB about the speculation around the venue. Press article also featured in the T&A.

Skills/Education

Members of the policy, business support and LSIP team had a meeting to discuss the goals, aims and collaborative opportunities with Bradford College. A meeting that provided the Chambers new project manager a chance to meet the hierarchy of the College.

Planning

A member of staff joined Bradford Council at their public city center event, focusing on recent road and pedestrian works that will affect residents and businesses. Will got to hear and discuss the latest phase of construction of the Walking and Cycling Improvements Scheme happening in the City Centre of Bradford.

Press

Mark Cowgill was asked for his opinion about the closure of M&S for Bradford T&A.

Awards/Success

Bradford University, endorsed by Azets and Schofield Sweeney published and celebrated the 'Top 100' businesses in Bradford. Will represented the team in congratulating and listening to the success stories happening across the district.

Stakeholder Meetings

Date	Brief details
April 2	Client meeting with Camargue
April 3	Client meeting with DWF – exec members
April 3	Met with Stewart Davies about relaunching Green Hub
April 4	Met with Aire Resilience Company representatives
April 4	Discussion on Hospitality Charter
April 4	Client meeting with The Light
April 5	David Skaith – Grays Court
April 5	Discussions re Pavement Licences
April 8	Attended Resolution Foundation webinar on rising rents
April 8	York Business Intelligence meetings
April 9	Attended UKICE webinar on how parties choose election candidates
April 10	North Yorks Hustings
April 11	Final devolution alliance interviews
April 11	Met Andrew Leeming - YNYCA
April 12	CYC Planning Protocol discussion
April 12	Tourism Advisory Board – York and North Yorkshire
April 15	QES webinar
April 16	Attended Flexible AI Upskilling Pilot webinar
April 16	North Yorkshire LSIP Advisory Board
April 16	West Yorks Hustings
April 17	Leeds PEF Steering Group
April 18	BCC call with Network Rail
April 18	Quarterly catch up with CYC (Cllr Douglas, Cllr Kilbane, Ian Floyd)
April 19	Leeds Leadership Group
April 22	UKREIIF preview event Addleshaw Goddard
April 23	BCC Trade Policy Committee
April 22	Leeds Rail Programme Board
April 23	Meeting with Drax – public affairs
April 23	Meeting with Keith Tordoff – independent candidate
April 23	WYCA Carbon Reduction discussion
April 23	Bradford Leadership Group
April 24	Attended Nexus Connect networking

April 25	Bradford District Readiness
April 25	Joined UKICE webinar with polling expert John Curtice
April 26	Leeds Beckett Policy Week MJC panelist
April 30	Leeds BID showcase
April 30	Attended Centre for Cities webinar on mayoral election results
April 30	Joined Institute for Government webinar on the role of the Whip's Office
April 30	Meeting with Kathryn Blacker – York Museums Trust
April 30	Meeting with Colour UDL – policy and membership