

POLICY UPDATE

May 2024



West & North
Yorkshire Chamber
of Commerce

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Regional / National

Pavers given approval for HQ expansion following extensive Chamber lobbying. Green light also given for The Light's new base.

Favourable coverage for the New York City trip across a range of media.

Chamber present at UKREiiF and staged its own fringe event at Addleshaw Goddard allowing members to speak to BCC policy director Alex Veitch.

Numerous events postponed or cancelled owing to the introduction of the pre-general election period.

Mark spoke at the Westminster Energy, Environment and Transport Policy Forum's annual conference.

Call held with Dept for Business & Trade on better SME engagement with Construction Leadership Council.

York & North Yorkshire

Local elections

Charlie penned an oped piece that ran in the YP on devolution in North Yorkshire, highlighting the importance of public and private sector collaboration.

The Chamber policy team were present at the results announcement for the North Yorkshire mayor, and a press release went out welcoming the election of David Skaith as metro mayor for YNY.

The Chamber also attended a City Leaders' meeting in York to table policy suggestions for the new mayor. We are working on an engagement plan for the Combined Authority.

Property

Property and Economic forum met on 13th May, with a focus on the planning protocol and events for the forum. There will be an event on property skills on 10 July and sustainability in property and retrofit in the second half of 2024.

Hospitality

Hospitality Forum occurred on 30 May, where the group spoke about the hospitality charter plan for the summer.

Culture

Met with Ryedale Festival organisers to look at possible tie up in 2025.

Sustainability

Met with the York Climate Commission to possibly arrange an event on the Future York Economy for York Sustainability Week. Terms of reference for the group were finalised and work is now being done to make sure the right people are around the table.



AI

Work has started on a follow-up meeting to the AI event in March, focused on business applications for AI. Sectors will include manufacturing, creative and digital.

Leeds

Attended or supported various REiiF fringe events hosted by members.

Initial meeting with Leeds University Institute for Transport Studies to learn more about the 'Infuze' project (Inspiring Futures for Zero Carbon Mobility). That is, finding alternatives to private vehicle ownership.

Bradford

Media

Mark Cowgill quoted in a piece in the T&A welcoming Airedale's investment in a new facility in Bradford.

Event

Attended Resolution Foundation event in the city on boosting productivity and investment in Bradford and similar cities. WY Mayor and other high-profile figures attended.

Celebration

Bradford 2025 hosted a celebration dinner at Cedar Court to showcase some of the culture on offer, of the next year and beyond. Multiple members also attended and showed their support.

Property Forum

The second Property Forum steering group meeting took place. Arshad Hussain from Arups officially joined the group. Adam Sims from High Point provided a detailed presentation regarding the new City Centre flats being built, with the main aim to provide reliable and affordable center living. The group were also joined by the now ex Director of District Readiness at Bradford Council, Alan Lunt. Alan spoke about the challenges and challenges facing the city Centre regarding homelessness.

Place

Place Marketing and Investment Board provided their second meeting of the year. Hosted at Schofield Sweeney, the board discussed businesses engagement regarding BD25 and the University of Bradford's new brand and identity.

UKREiiF

Members of the steering group and policy joined many others in representing Bradford at UKREiiF in Leeds Dock. Focusing on different core areas, people got the chance to discuss planning, transport and the environment along with promoting everything Bradford related.

Stakeholder Meetings

Date	Brief details
May 1	Exploratory meeting with Becky Burrows, Donald Insall Architects
May 1	Exploratory meeting with Ryedale Festival
May 2	York Skills Employability Board
May 3	Attendance at York and North Yorkshire Mayoral Count and Declaration
May 7	UKICE (Think tank) post-elections briefing
May 8	Exploratory meeting with Harrogate BID
May 8	Leeds Manufacturing Alliance Steering Group
May 8	Institute for Government Election Communications Strategies webinar
May 9	Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Policy Forum's conference
May 9	York and North Yorkshire City Leaders' Meeting
May 10	Luminate employer board meeting
May 10	That's TV interview on GDP figures
May 10	York and North Yorkshire AI Working Group
May 10	York Tourism Advisory Board
May 13	Business Anchors Board meeting
May 13	Meeting with Enfinium re upcoming roundtable
May 13	York and North Yorks property and economic forum steering group
May 14	Morley Town Deal board meeting
May 14	BCC Employment & Skills Group
May 14	Outreach and Exploratory Session, Giggleswick High School
May 15	Bradford Manufacturing Weeks board meeting
May 16	Elmet Business Forum
May 16	UKREiIF Team Leeds photocall
May 16	Client meeting with DWF
May 21	Moda announcement at UKREiIF
May 21	UKREiIF fringe event with Alex Veitch
May 22	Call with Dept for Business & Trade on SME engagement with Construction Leadership Council
May 22	WYCA networking event UKREiIF

May 22	North Yorkshire UKSPF Business and Low Carbon Thematic Group
May 22	North Yorkshire LSIP Board meeting
May 23	UKREIIF Bradford showcase lunch
May 23	Greatest hits radio interview re: General Election announcement
May 29	Meeting with Leeds Uni Institute of Transport Studies on the 'Infuze' project
May 29	York Climate Commission, Future Economy of York (FEY) working group
May 30	York and North Yorkshire Hospitality Forum