

#OneYorks

One Yorkshire devolution Executive Summary

One coherent economy

One shared identity

One historic opportunity

July 2019

One Yorkshire devolution on a page

Our One Yorkshire devolution proposals are about:

Decisions that affect Yorkshire made in Yorkshire

More investment for all our communities

A Yorkshire that plays its full part in UK prosperity

The case for One Yorkshire devolution:

Cities, towns, rural and coastal areas across Yorkshire share similar economic priorities and challenges:



Growing businesses



More skilled jobs



Better transport



More investment



Trading internationally

One Yorkshire: One shared identity

75% of Yorkshire people identify with Yorkshire – more than any other region in the country according to an independent economic study.

Brand Yorkshire is an important driver of international trade and tourism according to business, and is recognised globally.

One Yorkshire: One historic opportunity

To realise huge economic benefits for the whole region



Government asked... One Yorkshire delivers

Coherent economic area



Directly elected Yorkshire mayor



Local support



Why One Yorkshire?

The UK economy is at a critical juncture. With our exit from the European Union less than six months away, the importance of all parts of the country being able to play their full part in an economically flourishing, globally competitive UK has never been greater.

Yorkshire has a capacity for innovation and reinvention that extends from the Industrial Revolution to the present day. Having played a central role in shaping the UK's economic history, Yorkshire has an equally important role to play in fuelling its future prosperity.

What Yorkshire now needs to fulfil its potential as a contributor to national economic growth – developing a thriving, more productive regional economy that leads to better quality of life for local people – is a devolution deal that matches the scale of its opportunity and local leaders' ambition.

The One Yorkshire devolution proposals – backed by 17 councils and the Sheffield City Region Mayor – aim to:

- ensure that the decisions which affect Yorkshire are made in Yorkshire – not in Whitehall
- create more investment in the areas that would make the biggest difference to Yorkshire's economy
- enable Yorkshire to play its full part in the UK's post-Brexit economic success

This document sets out the case for One Yorkshire devolution, which is based on:

- **One coherent economy**
- **One shared identity**
- **One historic opportunity**
- **One Yorkshire delivers**

One Yorkshire: One coherent economy

The Yorkshire region is geographically diverse – encompassing cities, towns, countryside and coast – but it is also a coherent economic area, according to an independent economic study.

Yorkshire's economy is markedly different from the national economy. Communities across the region share distinct challenges and opportunities, which One Yorkshire devolution would address.

Shared economic challenges	Shared economic opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historic transport under-investment a barrier to growth• Low business investment in R&D• Exports growing but from a very low baseline• A young, fast-growing population but with skills gaps in key areas• Inward investment increasing rapidly but once again from a low baseline• Providing decent living standards for all of our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distinctive strengths in key economic sectors: manufacturing, energy, distribution, transport, food, tourism, health, public administration and education• Competitive location at the geographic centre of the country with national and international connectivity by rail, road, air and sea• A large economic area worth £112bn a year to UK plc with 2.5million jobs• Home to 5 million people – half of the Northern Powerhouse population• A globally recognised brand• Outstanding, affordable quality of life

One Yorkshire: One shared identity

One of the main aims of devolution – bringing decision-making closer to the people affected by those decisions – has become even more relevant after the historic Brexit vote.

One Yorkshire devolution has strong local support from residents, businesses, 17 local councils and the Sheffield City Region Mayor.

The strength of the region's identity is well known and according to the independent economic study, 75% of people in the region identify with Yorkshire – more than any other region in the country.

This is also backed by business, who overwhelmingly see brand Yorkshire as an important benefit – especially when trading internationally.

One Yorkshire: One historic opportunity

The 17 councils and SCR Mayor backing a One Yorkshire devolution deal have agreed ambitious proposals for radical devolution of investment and powers from Whitehall to the region.

The proposals are intended as the first step in transferring more powers and funding from Whitehall to Yorkshire. They would provide:

- £3.75 billion investment fund over 30 years to boost Yorkshire's economy and raise living standards in rural, urban and coastal communities
- Control of adult skills funding to ensure local skills provision responds to local needs
- Responsibility for bus franchising in the region and the creation of a single, Yorkshire-wide smart ticketing system enabling people to travel easily between all of our rural, coastal and urban areas
- A new £500 million devolved housing investment fund to stimulate house-building and regeneration
- 100% of business rates generated in the region stay in the region
- Local control of programmes and budgets to address unemployment, in-work poverty and health barriers to work – targeted local delivery of such programmes has already seen better success rates than one-size-fits-all national schemes

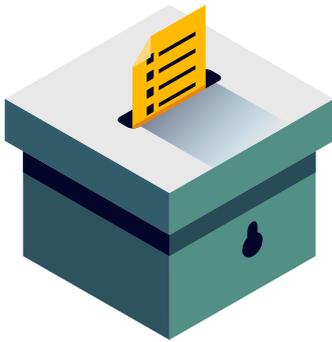
The independent economic study makes clear the economic benefits to the region – and UK plc – of this One Yorkshire devolution approach:



One Yorkshire mayor

New powers and funding for Yorkshire would be overseen by a directly elected One Yorkshire Mayor.

The Mayor would be supported by streamlined and robust governance arrangements, designed to work for all parts of our diverse region and enable the right decisions to be taken, while avoiding creating costly new layers of bureaucracy.



One Yorkshire governance proposals:

- Directly-elected **One Yorkshire Mayor**
- Supported by a **One Yorkshire Combined Authority** with representation from all 17 partner councils
- Delivering a **One Yorkshire local industrial strategy**, focusing on our shared economic opportunities and challenges
- With **strengthened, transparent local enterprise partnerships** providing private sector leadership and focus in functional economic areas/ sub-regional economies

Government asked... One Yorkshire delivers

The One Yorkshire devolution proposals supported by the 17 councils and the Sheffield City Region Mayor could be implemented at the same time as the existing devolution deal for South Yorkshire, enabling the whole of the region to share in the benefits of devolution from 2022, with interim sub regional deals until then.

The One Yorkshire devolution proposals deliver against all of the criteria set by Government:



The One Yorkshire proposals are supported by 17 Yorkshire councils and the Sheffield City Region Mayor