



Yorkshire PARTY

PRINCIPLES



Contents

ECONOMY	5
EDUCATION	7
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE	9
TRANSPORT	11
THE ENVIRONMENT	13
A YORKSHIRE ASSEMBLY	15



Economy

The economy in Yorkshire is significantly underperforming. In 2017 our economy grew by only 1.2% - the second lowest rate of any region of the UK. Between 2018 and 2020 Yorkshire's employment growth is expected to be almost non-existent, with recent estimates predicting a jobs growth rate of only 0.1% per year.

These statistics show that our economy is not working properly. Hampered by decades of underinvestment, Yorkshire's tremendous businesses are struggling under the weight of inadequate infrastructure. Meanwhile, our residents suffer with underfunded and disjointed public services which condemn too many people to social exclusion and misery.

In the Yorkshire Party, we believe our economy can only thrive if the public and private sectors work together. Our vision is an inclusive one: where a dynamic and innovative private sector creates the jobs and growth our region needs, whilst a well-funded public sector delivers a universally accessible welfare state.

We are committed to curbing inequality of opportunity and enhancing social mobility, ensuring that everyone within Yorkshire is given the tools to succeed in life. Too many people in Yorkshire do not have access to these tools, and have been left behind by successive governments.

We believe that private sector growth is best delivered with the support of a well-funded public sector, and that the public sector can only be well-funded if the private sector is thriving.

We will support economic growth in Yorkshire by working with businesses to deliver the infrastructure they need, reinvesting the proceeds of this growth into our public services.

By developing an inclusive economy, where employees, business owners and the government work together, Yorkshire can thrive on the world stage.



Education

Yorkshire was the lowest ranked region in England 2013-14 for education attainment. For example, the percentage of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving 5+ GCSEs at A*-C including English and Maths was lowest of any English region.

Education is an absolute priority for the Yorkshire Party. Every young person in Yorkshire deserves an outstanding education – it is a moral imperative for Yorkshire and our economy depends on it. The UK Government has left Yorkshire with a fragmented education system, where our fantastic teachers and institutions lack the support to deliver the outstanding education our young people.

The world is changing so must our skills. We believe in an inclusive and properly funded education system, where government, councils, schools, colleges, universities and other education providers, along with the region's business, work together - to deliver the academic and vocational skills needed to drive economic growth and ensure opportunity and social mobility for everyone in Yorkshire.





Health and Social Care

Our NHS is too centralised and too distant. It is also plagued by short-term, top-down initiatives. Our social care systems are chronically underfunded.

We believe control over the NHS should be devolved to Yorkshire - just as it is in Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and Greater Manchester.

We are proud of the principles upon which the NHS was founded - that people receive healthcare based on need, not on the ability to pay.

We believe these principles can only be delivered with increased funding to an NHS, properly led by the public sector.

We believe in a properly funded, integrated Health and Social Care system, led by the public sector and supported, as appropriate, by properly qualified alternative providers, with local community engagement at its heart.



Transport

A high-quality, integrated transport network is crucial to a fully functioning economy. The rapid, easy and affordable movement of goods and people throughout the region is not only a key economic driver but also important to improving the quality of life for those living and working in Yorkshire.

A well-funded public sector, providing economically and environmentally sustainable core services and world-class infrastructure, should be the backbone of such a transport network.

By allowing local communities and other providers the flexibility to creatively adapt to meet the demands of travellers and businesses, we believe the people of Yorkshire can be provided with the connectivity and transport infrastructure necessary to enable communities to thrive.





The Environment

Successive governments have failed to properly account for the needs of Yorkshire's important countryside communities. The Yorkshire Party will be a strong voice for our farmers and for all those who depend on a strong, sustainable and productive rural economy.

We recognise that Yorkshire is a significant energy producer within the UK and has an important energy intensive manufacturing sector. We support the development of an energy policy for Yorkshire that has at its core an ambitious target of renewable energy use and an innovative programme of low carbon technology use.



A Yorkshire Assembly

Time after time London has decided what's best for Yorkshire - and got it wrong. This has to change. People in Yorkshire themselves must set their own priorities and determine how their money is best spent.

We believe only an assembly for Yorkshire with meaningful powers to impact proactively on people's lives in Yorkshire can deliver the economic, social and democratic change we so desperately need here. Only an assembly can empower our residents and represent our diversity. We also believe that, just as we want devolved powers from London, power should be devolved within Yorkshire itself. In short, the Yorkshire Party's vision is one of subsidiarity - where powers are exercised as close to the people as possible.





**Yorkshire
PARTY**

Email: campaigns@yorkshireparty.org.uk

Twitter: [@YorkshireParty](https://twitter.com/YorkshireParty)

Facebook: facebook.com/voteyorkshire