

The Yorkshire Declaration



This letter will be read out loud on 1st April 2024. This is an important date for Yorkshire.



On 1st April 2024 it will be 50 years since the Government changed the way Yorkshire is run by local Councils.



Yorkshire used to be made up of 3 different areas called North, East and West Riding. It had been like this for a thousand years. This changed on 1st April 1974.



A group of people have come together to speak up about what has happened to Yorkshire since then. They have written this Declaration.



100 people from Yorkshire supported them by signing this Declaration.

The Declaration



We are citizens of Yorkshire and we want to say something important about this place.



We believe that Yorkshire and the people who live here are treated badly by politicians, royals and super-rich people who are based in London.



There is a big difference in the quality of life of people living in the North and people living in the South of England and this is getting worse.



By this we mean how much money we have, how healthy we are, how long we might live for and what jobs are available.



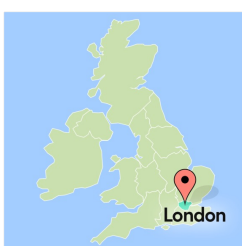
In England, the difference between the people who are doing well and the people who are struggling is bigger than other places in Western Europe.



Making everyone equal can only happen if power is given to local people to manage things where they live.



Our local Councils are being given less and less money by the Government to run the services we need.



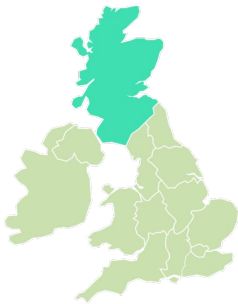
Since 2000 London has had its own local elected assembly with a Mayor to look after the things that matter to the people who live there.



Yorkshire has nothing like this. In 2021 the Government Office for Yorkshire and Humber in Leeds was shut down to save money.



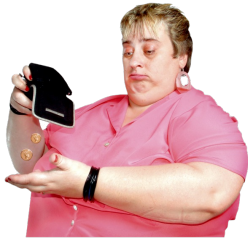
More than 5 million people live in Yorkshire.



This is the same number of people that live in the countries of Norway, Denmark and Scotland.



This means that Yorkshire has a lot of talented people to bring money into the region.



Yorkshire and its people should be doing really well, but it is not.



This is because it has not had the right support to do well from any government for years and years.



The Government gives more money to London for transport than it gives to Yorkshire.



Yorkshire will only do well when local people are trusted to take the lead and make decisions.



We ask everyone who was born in Yorkshire to support us.



We ask everyone who has moved to Yorkshire and now calls it home to support us.



There will be a General Election before the end of January 2025.

We are asking all the politicians who will be campaigning for our votes in Yorkshire to support us.



We want Yorkshire to have an elected assembly of its own.



Yorkshire is a proud and beautiful part of Northern England.



Yorkshire has its own history, talented people and a beautiful landscape.



To do well, Yorkshire needs the power back in the hands of local people who understand and believe in what Yorkshire can achieve.



To find out more you can sign up to the mailing list for Devolution Yorkshire.