

Yorkshire Food Farming and Rural Network

Process for appointing a new Chair and Vice Chair

We are commencing the process of seeking a new Chair and Vice Chair.

A description of the Chair's role is attached and on our webpage. Please publicise these posts among your own networks. **To apply, please send a CV and covering letter before Friday 16th June 2023.**

Applications should be addressed to:

Holly Jones
Yorkshire Agricultural Society
Regional Agricultural Centre
Great Yorkshire Showground
Harrogate
HG2 8NZ
hollyj@yas.co.uk

Candidates will be shortlisted and interviewed by a selection panel drawn from the Yorkshire Food Farming and Rural Network's Executive.

For any questions, please contact Holly Jones, Network Coordinator, Email: hollyj@yas.co.uk or Telephone: 01423 546 251

Chair Role Description

This document outlines the key roles and responsibilities for the Chair (and Vice-Chair) of the Yorkshire Food, Farming and Rural Network. These are unpaid roles.

1. Purpose of Role

1.1 To provide leadership and advocacy for the Yorkshire Food, Farming and Rural Network (known as 'the Network') and represent the Network, nationally and locally.

2. Role and Responsibilities

2.1 The Chair will be expected to:

- Provide leadership to the Network
- Chair all regular meetings of the Network, including conferences
- Represent the Network in discussions at local and national level, most notably at the Ministerial meetings
- Develop and maintain knowledge of food, farming and rural issues and delivery arrangements within Yorkshire
- Develop good joint working relationships with public agencies and organisations relevant to the Network's interests
- Encourage effective communication between Network members and between the members and their sectors and help to ensure that the attendance and contribution of members is maintained to a high standard.

3. Chair: Time Commitment

3.1 It is estimated that the Chair's role will involve a minimum time commitment of approximately 20 working days per year to cover:

- Four Executive meetings and preparation for such meetings
- Attendance at two Chairs' Meetings and preparation for such meetings
- Attendance at other national and local meetings, events and conferences as appropriate
- Communication with Defra and other Chairs.

4. Skills, Qualities and Experience

4.1 The Chair should:

- Have the ability to provide leadership for a diverse organisation with a range of interests
- Be able to act as food, farming and rural advocate for Yorkshire
- Be able to think strategically
- Have a broad experience of, and interest in, food, farming and rural issues (personal or work related) and either live or work in Yorkshire

- Have strong and effective chairing skills with the ability to draw together differing views and interests, guide discussions and reach an acceptable consensus when necessary
- Be able to represent the Network and its views at local, national and Ministerial levels and to the media
- Willingness to participate in PR activities to raise the profile of the Network
- Have a thorough knowledge of the broad range of issues affecting farming and rural communities
- Be outward looking and willing to challenge the “status quo”
- Have the time and enthusiasm to devote to the Network
- Review this role description and provide a smooth handover with the next Chair.
- Ideally the role will be filled by someone ‘independent’

5. Vice-Chair: Role and Responsibility

- 5.1 The role and responsibilities of the Vice-Chair are to support and deputise for the Chair as appropriate. The skills, qualities and role of the Vice-Chair should mirror those for the Chair as set out above. The Vice-Chair will have an opportunity to act as ‘champion’ for various issues as agreed.

6. Chair and Vice Chair: Support and Training

- 6.1 The Secretariat will arrange for training to be provided for the Chair and Vice-Chair as necessary.

7. Office Support

- 7.1 The Chair will be supported by a part-time Coordinator, based within the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. The provision of this support will be reviewed on an annual basis.

8. Remuneration

- 8.1 Unfortunately the Chair and Vice-Chair will not receive any direct remuneration for time spent on Network duties, including loss of income.

9. Selection

- 9.1 The Chair and Vice-Chair are selected by interview following open applications. The interviewers will be drawn from Executive members, representing key Yorkshire organisations and will adhere to set criteria marking.

10. Term of Office for Chair and Vice-Chair

- 10.1 The Chair and Vice-Chair will initially serve a two-year term. They can be re-appointed for a further term.