

Paper 0 LEP Board Agenda and Papers

Date and Time: -Friday, 27th May 2016 at 10.00am to 12.30pm

Venue:- Room E1, Enterprise Building, University of Lincoln

Time	Item and brief description	Lead	Access/Circulation
10.00 10 mins	Item 1 - Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apologies for Absence and Declarations Of Interest • No Directors business • Minutes of 24/03/16 (Director and Board) including Directors business 	Chair , Ursula Lidbetter	All Members - Paper 1 (attached)
10.10 10 mins	Item 2 -Finance Report from the Accountable Body <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Year End (Revenue and Programmes) • Assurance Framework 	Andy Orrey	All Members -Paper 2 (attached)
10.20 10 mins	Item 3 – Management Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of programmes • Innovation Council • Place Marketing • SEP • ESIF Update 	Ruth Carver	All Members Paper 3 (paper attached)
10.30 30 mins	Item 4 – Single Local Growth Fund	Ruth Carver	Presentation followed by Board discussion
11.00 10 mins	Item 5 – DfT Transport Majors	Ruth Carver	All Members – Paper 4 (paper to follow)
11.10 50 mins	Item 6 – Devolution	George Spiteri	Presentation, followed by Board discussion
12.00 15 mins	Item 7 – Area Reviews	Clare Hughes	All Members – Paper 5 (paper attached)
12.15 10 mins	Item 8 – Economic Briefing	Ruth Carver	All Members – Paper 6 (paper attached)
12.30	Close		

Attendees:

Board: Ursula Lidbetter (Chair), David Dexter (Deputy Chair), Andy Orrey, Chris Baron, Cllr Dave Watson, Cllr Bob Adams, Cllr Lady Redfern, Pat Doody, Richard Wills; Mark Tinsley, Steve Middlebrough

Observers: Pete Holmes (Cities & Local Growth Unit)

Officers: Ruth Carver, Sue Groves (Note Taker)

Apologies Received: Herman Kok, Professor Mary Stuart, Dr Tony Hill, Sarah Hendry (Defra), Cllr Colin Davie

Date of Next Meeting : 21st July 2016 – venue to be confirmed

Additional Papers Pack (The additional papers pack does not need to be printed, but provides:

- AP1 Investment Board Minutes from 24 March 2016 (to follow)
- AP2 Greater Lincolnshire ESI Funds Sub-Committee draft minutes from 18 April 2016
- AP3 Final copy of the Business Plan
- AP4 Comms report

24th March 2016

**Bishop Burton College,
Lincolnshire Showground**

Board Members Present:

Ursula Lidbetter – Chair (UL); David Dexter – Deputy Chair (DD); Chris Baron (CB); Andy Orrey (AO); Pat Doody (PD); Herman Kok (HK); Cllr Colin Davie (CD); Steve Middlebrough (SM); Mark Tinsley (MT); Cllr Lady Liz Redfern (LR); Cllr Dave Watson (DW).

Apologies from Board Members:

Cllr Ray Oxby; Cllr Bob Adams; Andy Orrey; Prof Mary Stuart; Dr Tony Hill; Richard Wills

Observers:

Sarah Hendry (SH); Angela Blake (AB); Marcus Walker (MW)

LEP

Ruth Carver (RC), Jon Burgess (JB); Cathy Jones (CJ)

Apologies

Pete Holmes (PH – Cities & Local Growth Unit)

Item 1

Welcome and Introductions

UL welcomed Steve Middlebrough from Siemens to his first Board meeting and the opportunity for Steve to provide the Board with particular expertise and knowledge of the manufacturing and engineering sector in Greater Lincolnshire.

Minutes of 28th January 2016 agreed as a true record and can be published.

Matters Arising

RC confirmed that the Greater Lincolnshire Growth Hub has received funding of £250K per annum for the next two years. This will be further complemented by a £5million bid for European funding, which is being progressed through the local ESIF Committee. RC advised the Board that lead officers are working with the Humber LEP to ensure that there are clear pathways to access support and no duplication of provision in our overlap areas.

Board Members expressed concern over the Government's challenge to make Growth Hubs sustainable in the longer term (post 2018), given the inability of local areas to raise income or recover costs through their delivery.

RC advised Board Members that the LEP team have started to map out a programme of "big debates" with local business leaders, which will focus on raising awareness and discussion on key strategic items. The first session in May will focus on the Midlands Engine, followed by a food debate and two devolution debates in July. The aim is to involve a keynote speaker and MP support at each event, with a target audience of the top 170 businesses across Greater Lincolnshire.

Action:

- **RC to Email confirmed dates and format of briefing sessions to Board Members**

<p>Item 2</p>	<p><u>Spring Budget</u></p> <p>It was noted that £1.8bn will be released by HM Treasury as the final tranche of the Growth Deal funding for LEP areas to bid for. Full bids are expected to be required by mid-July. It is expected that LEP and Combined Authority areas will be able to bid for programme funding, rather than individual projects – but further details on the application process are due to be released. The final allocation of Growth Deal monies is less than expected, but has enabled HM Treasury to also announce a new £2bn home building fund (to be made available on a loan basis).</p> <p>Funding support for the Midlands Engine was also confirmed. This includes the provision of a new £250m Midlands Engine Investment Fund, of which £5m will be specifically ring fenced for Greater Lincolnshire businesses. Members noted that a Midlands-wide Fund was critical to securing additional match funding from the European Investment Bank and British Business Bank. However, Members also recognised the importance of ensuring local influence of provision and access to delivery (replicating the success of the University of Lincoln in managing a wider Regional Growth Fund project for Greater Lincolnshire businesses).</p> <p>£700m also announced for future flood defence schemes – approximately half of which is to be earmarked for areas hardest hit by December 2015 floods. Allocation of the remaining funds will be informed by the pending National Flood Resilience Review. Board Members noted the challenge of existing funding formulas, which are in favour of protecting existing housing and businesses rather than facilitating new growth. It was recognised however that Local Plans must be supportive of growth in Greater Lincolnshire, and that the Environment Agency are keen to ensure that objectives for future protection and growth of the economy are mutually aligned.</p> <p>DD welcomed recognition of the importance of small businesses in the Chancellor's Statement, which the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Board has actively encouraged since its inception.</p>
<p>Item 3</p>	<p><u>Devolution – Roundtable Discussion</u></p> <p>The Devolution Deal for Greater Lincolnshire was confirmed in the Spring Budget. Lead officers must now work to produce and agree an implementation plan with HM Treasury, to a tight timescale.</p> <p>Members confirmed their support for the Greater Lincolnshire deal and expressed confidence in the focus on generating increased wealth through business growth, which will then create the new jobs, skills and housing that are needed. UL praised the work of everyone involved in bringing the deal document together, particularly the pragmatic and conciliatory manner in which lead politicians and officers across all local authorities have worked to bring forward a deal which is also aligned with the ambitions and geographic entity of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP.</p> <p>It was agreed that maintaining momentum is key to successful delivery, and that the deal document provides an opportunity for all areas of the public sector to follow the scale of ambition for service delivery across Greater Lincolnshire. It should also provide a catalyst to join up support through future bidding rounds, such as Growth Deal III.</p> <p>The Autumn Statement was noted as providing the next opportunity to expand local</p>

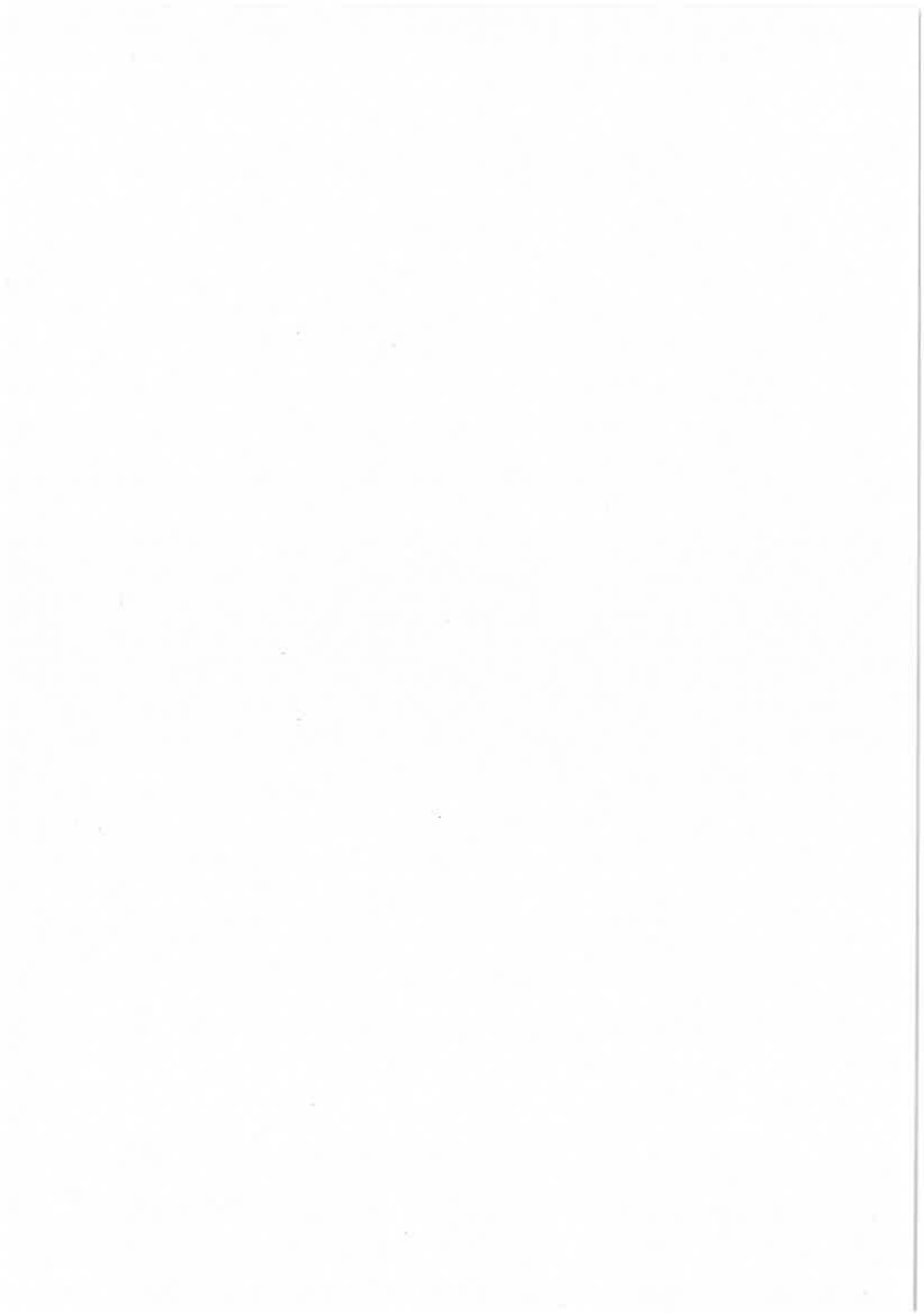
	<p>decision making and spending powers through an extended deal, and work will continue on identifying areas for inclusion in the next iteration of our deal document. SH advised that Greater Lincolnshire is seen as a trailblazer in water management and that civil servants are keen to work with local officers to develop these concepts further.</p> <p>It was noted that the formal relationship between the LEP and new combined authority is not fully developed and will trigger a review of the LEP's own governance structures. Further information on Mayoral control and powers will be provided before the scheduled election in May 2017. Board Members agreed that the election of a Mayor with expertise in commerce and business and an ability to influence the electorate and cross-party working will be critical to the success of the devolution deal and combined authority.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devolution to be added as a standing item to future LEP Board agendas
Item 4	<p><u>Management Report</u></p> <p>It was noted that the recent Annual Conversation with Central Government and local audit arrangements have provided the LEP with a clean bill of health and positive endorsement of the operational mechanisms in place.</p> <p>It was noted that the Greater Lincolnshire is currently represented on all seven of the working groups which have been established to drive the Midlands Engine forward. Nominations are also being sought from the private sector for an independent Chair of the Midlands Engine Steering Group.</p> <p>The scale of the Midlands region was again recognised as important in terms of attracting future investment opportunities. However, it was agreed that continued work is required to raise the profile and importance of Greater Lincolnshire as being able to maximise the economic benefits of delivering the Midlands Engine, Northern Powerhouse and emerging links with New Anglia. As part of this wider picture, it was noted that there was a number of positive references made to Greater Lincolnshire at the recent LEP Annual Conference in London.</p> <p>HK confirmed that the Employment and Skills Board have been looking at different solutions to bring forward careers advice to schools, building on the successful model of using local ambassadors within the construction sector. It was confirmed that a bid from the Lincolnshire's Education and Business Partnership has been approved by the Careers and Enterprise Company to extend this provision across Greater Lincolnshire.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC to bring a review of the LEP's Assurance Framework back to the Board for sign off at a future meeting; • LEP team to publish more information on website (including non-confidential Board papers); • LEP team to draft response to Government on the Apprenticeship Levy, to push for broadening out of its use to support key sector ambassadors working with local primary and secondary schools.

<p>Item 5</p>	<p><u>Business Plan 2016/17</u></p> <p>Paper tabled at the meeting. Discussion focussed on the proposed breakdown of the activity budgets. Members were requested to feed any comments back to RC by the 1st April. CB requested that a future allocation is reserved for the visitor economy.</p> <p>MT thanked RC and her team for the support which is provided to the LEP Board, despite the relatively limited resources available. RC also acknowledged the support of local authority partners in supporting delivery of the LEP objectives.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Plan for 2016/17 approved by Board, subject to final comments back to RC by the 1st April
<p>Item 6</p>	<p><u>Place Marketing Proposal</u></p> <p>It was acknowledged that place marketing is much broader than supporting the visitor economy, by intending to raise the profile of the area for increased investment and business/employee recruitment.</p> <p>The proposed interventions and work programme were endorsed by the Board. It was also agreed that the LEP should take the initial lead in implementing the actions identified, which would then be available for all local partners and businesses to use.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the local authority allocations identified in the paper were indicative at this stage and have not been subject to any formal approach or agreement (other than the £30K pa which CD has approved from LCC budgets). It was noted that some local partners may be willing to provide in-kind support to ensure the level of total resource required.</p> <p>LEP officers are also talking to colleagues in the Humber LEP to consider any scope for replicating the Hull and East Yorkshire Bondholders scheme.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEP approved allocation of £60,000 over two years to support the actions identified; • CD and CB nominated to lead input and implementation of the work programme, on behalf of the LEP Board.
<p>Item 7</p>	<p><u>Housing Policy</u></p> <p>HK advised the Board that there is currently a great deal of uncertainty within the construction and housing industry, with an urgent need to drive up housing supply at the same time as fundamental changes in Government policy are seeming to delay the development and delivery of new schemes.</p> <p>HK is working with local Housing Associations towards identifying better ways of building homes, particularly around innovation in flood resilient design. It was considered that this could help to offset expenditure on land values, which is typically the largest cost constraint on new schemes.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Members endorsed the priorities outlined in the paper for future intervention

	<p>and action;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agreed priorities should be reflected in the final round of Growth Deal bids and ongoing devolution discussions.
<u>Meeting Closed at 13:00</u>	

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Chairperson

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Date



1. Financial Year End Report 2015-16

This paper is intended to provide an overview of unaudited cash balances for the 2015-16 financial year, pending a fuller paper being taken to the Finance & Audit Committee on 10th June.

A full Financial Statement is in the process of being produced following the recent review of year end accounts and will be the focus for audit sign off. We have requested that the audit takes place prior to the Finance and Audit Committee but the confirmed dates are pending.

BACKGROUND

The LEP became a company limited by guarantee in September 2014 and the first Annual General Meeting in January 2016.

As an unincorporated informal partnership the LEP could not hold funds or contract for their distribution or expenditure. Incorporation enables the board and its members to operate within commercial principles, and provides protection for any decisions that are made. Many other LEPs in the country have followed this route.

It has been agreed that Lincolnshire County Council act as the Accountable Body to the LEP.

The primary purpose of the Finance and Audit Committee is to assist the LEP Board in ensuring that the company maintains satisfactory financial and operational systems of control, and that any published financial reports comply with statutory requirements.

The F&A Committee consists of five members; two LEP Directors (one acting as Chair), and further members recruited through LEP Company Membership consisting of representatives from; Bishop Grosseteste University, West Lindsey District Council and Boston College.

OVERVIEW

This report summarises the financial income and expenditure of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP from 1st April 2015 – 31st March 2016. The following funding pots have been utilised for activity in 2015-16 and are summarised below:

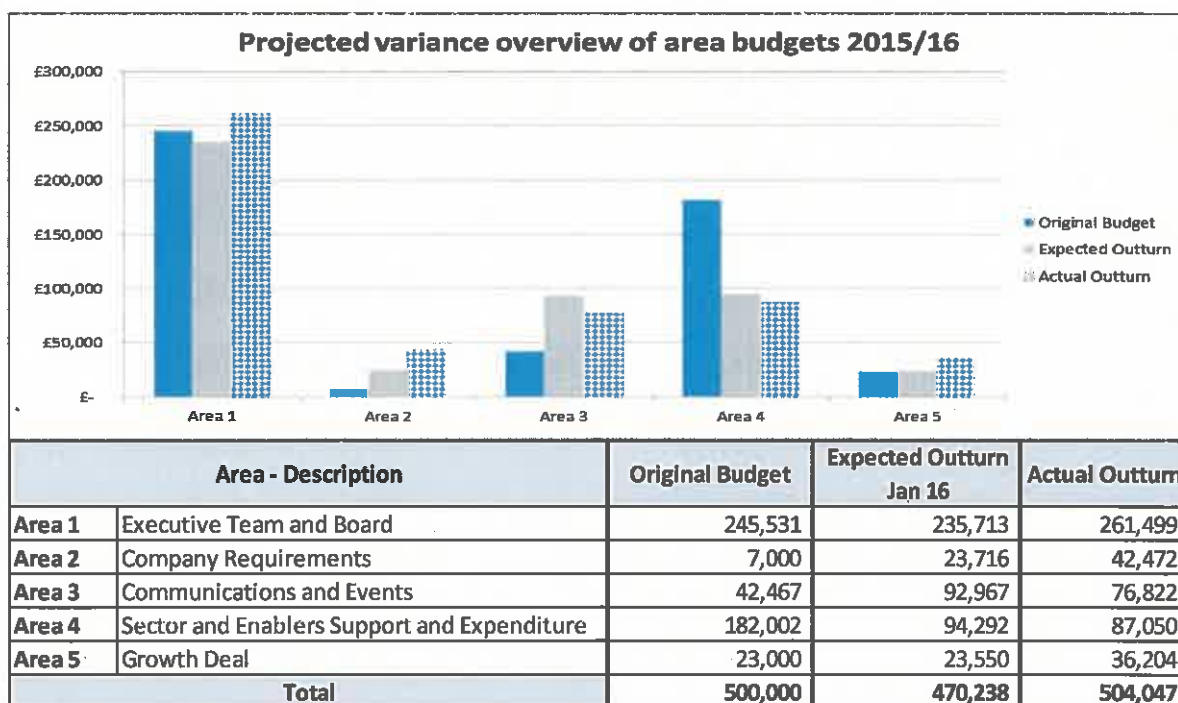
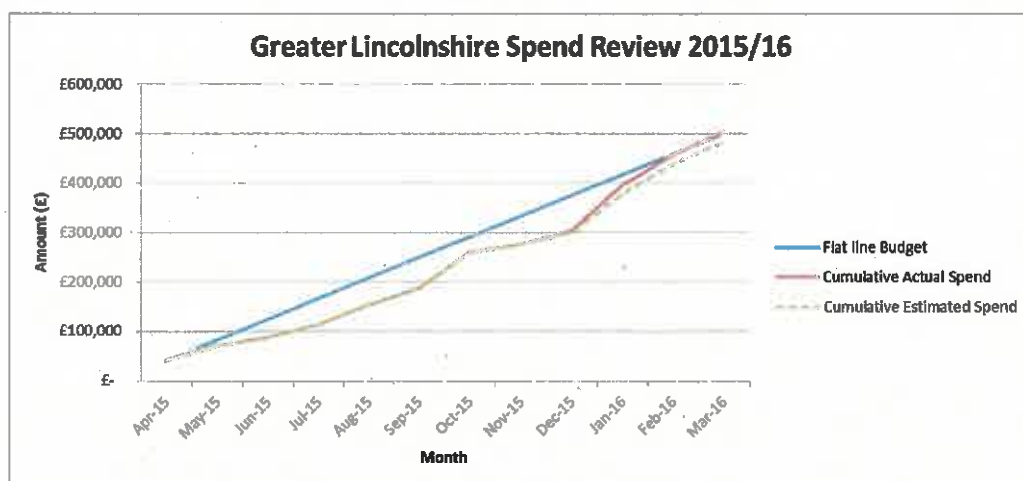
- Operational Core Funding: **£250,000**
- Additional Operational Funding: **£250,000**
- Match Funding: **£250,000** (not available for direct spend)
- Growing Places Fund: **£9,811,526**
- Transport Excellence: **£55,000**
- Single Local Growth Fund: **£26,400,000**

Summary

Operational Core - The LEP's core income and expenditure for the 12 months to March 2016 are shown below:

- Total income received in period was £500,000.
- Actual expenditure outturn for 15/16 is £504,046.51

The table and graphs below show the breakdown of expenditure against the heading identified with the 15/16 Business plan and the comparison of actual expenditure against project budgets.



Additional DFT Funding

- £55,000 of monies has been received from the Department Of Transport in the 15/16 period.
- £10,800 has been expended on the Transport Excellence project.
- £42,000 worth of transport costs were expended and accounted for in the 14/15 period. The income relating to this spend was not received until 15/16 and therefore these costs were covered by LEP core reserve in 14/15. The balance of income will now be put back onto core reserve and cash balances updated accordingly.
- A further £2,200 balance will be earmarked in reserve against future transport Excellence costs.

Match funding

There is a requirement for the LEP to match fund £250,000 of the core budget with a further £250,000 of match funding. Analysis has shown that in reality match funding of £305,938.94 has been expended supporting the delivery of the LEP core function.

These costs are made up of:-

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| • Board Directors time | £ 65,515.50 |
| • Officers in kind support | £158,166.98 |
| • Budget transfers (databases) | £ 16,590.00 |
| • Events (partner contributions) | £ 65,666.46 |

Growing Places Fund (Invest to Grow)

Known nationally as the Growing Places Fund, Invest & Grow is a rolling infrastructure loan fund designed to kick start stalled housing and commercial developments. Funding is available for larger schemes which can unlock developments and enable the delivery of new jobs, commercial space and homes.

The balance as at 1st April 2015 was £9,811,526. Within the year 2 further loan payments have been released:-

- Bomber Command – £800,000
- Boston Quadrant - £250,000

Legal costs of £4,174.09 were also incurred and a contribution of £9,259.51 was made to facilitate the Midlands Connect Programme on the enhanced train services to Lincoln building East midlands connectivity.

Following discussions around the use of the funds the LEP also agreed some changes to the fund structure. Namely;

- £300,000 Feasibility Pot – Launched in February 2016
- £3,000,000 Business Investment Scheme

Linked to this has been the reclassification of the LEP reserve accounts held by the accountable body.

Single Local Growth Fund

£26.4 million was the first expenditure target from the £82.3million identified for Single Local Growth Fund project through the growth deal offer. Greater Lincoln's local growth allocation of £146.2million also includes £50m towards Eastern By-Pass, Local Transport Board funding of £11.9m and Regional Growth Fund of £2m.

To date we have contracted with 9 schemes to the value of £147million and agreed contracted grants of £38.9million single local growth fund contribution. Projects are progressing on site but there have been unforeseen delays resulting in increased pressure to agree and release the £26.4m spend target.

The table below shows how the monies were distributed across the growth deal projects.

GROWTH DEAL CLAIM EXPENDITURE ACTUALS TO DATE 2015/16		
Project Name	15/16 Grant Paid	
Boole Technology Centre	£	1,767,286
Grantham Southern Relief Road	£	5,997,109
Bishop Burton College	£	6,161,111
Unlocking Rural Housing Programme	£	900,000
Boston Quadrant	£	856,187
Tentercroft Street Growth Corridor Ph1	£	350,000
Tentercroft Street Growth Corridor Ph2	£	560,232
Skegness Countryside Business Park	£	1,309,086
East West Link*	£	5,429,452
Eastern Bypass*	£	546,822
Lincoln Cannick*	£	2,522,716
Total	£	26,400,000

***Underspend utilising agreed freedom and flexibilities**

Note that against the target of £26.4 million of grant available that we were only able to release grant of £17.9million for contracted projects. This resulted in an underspend of £8.5million.

Government confirmed that if it was not possible to spend all of the 2015/16 target on the contracted projects due to unavoidable delays and if future allocated schemes could not be brought forward to meet the gap, funding could be spent in 2015/16 with the agreement of the Accountable Body's Section 151 Officer against identified LCC Capital Schemes, and reimbursed completely against the SLGF programme in a future year as required.

Three internal transfer payments were made to the sum of £8.5million, in the main to East/West Link. A proportion was also used for Lincoln Eastern Bypass and Lincoln Canwick Hill works.

The approach taken effectively earmarks and utilises LCC capital budget in future years against the SLGF contracted schemes.

Cash Balances

As recommended by the Finance and audit committee and agreed by LEP board the Accountable Body will hold three distinct cash balances on account:-

Cash Balance 1	Core Funding, Reserves and other cash balances
Cash Balance 2	Growing Places Fund (Invest to grow)
Cash Balance 3	Single Local Growth Fund

The table below seeks to show how the cash balances started and how they are expected to finish at year end. Please note the figures are yet to show the interest gained through the year. This work is underway and is calculated on daily balances throughout the year.

	Actual Balance at 01/04/2015	Estimated balance at 01/04/2016
Legacy funding to LEP	£ 78,396	£ 78,396
Local Transport Board	£ 36,579	£ 36,579
Growing places Fund	£ 9,811,526	£ 5,704,546
Feasibility Fund	£ -	£ 300,000
LEP Operation	£ 506,453	£ 290,153
Business Investment Scheme (from LEP OP reserve)*	£ -	£ 256,453
Business Investment Scheme (from Growing Places fund)*	£ -	£ 2,743,547
Sites and premises	£ 25,000	£ 25,000
	£ 10,457,954	£ 9,434,674

*Forms the £3,000,000 Business Investment Fund

The year end cash balances as per the agreed policy are:

Cash Balance 1	Core Funding, Reserves and other cash balances	£430,128
Cash Balance 2	Growing Places Fund (Invest to grow)	£9,004,546
Cash Balance 3	Single Local growth fund	

Next Steps

The LEP's intention is to produce a Financial Statement for the purposes of transparency on the 2015-16 financial year following audit, to include:-

- LEP Board
- Finance & Audit Committee
- Foreword by F&A Committee Chair (A Orrey)
- Statement by Auditor
- Statutory obligations
- Finances
 - Income and Expenditure
 - Invest & Grow fund
 - Growth Deal
 - Reserves
 - Interest
- Conclusion

The Board are asked to:

- Note the contents of the report.
- Approve a full review by the Finance & Audit Committee following the 15/16 audit and the approach to providing a LEP Financial Statement for subsequent sign off by the LEP Board.

Summary of Items

This report provides an update of key LEP activity since the March Board meeting. All items are for information and some are confidential.

Operational activity

Headlines

Strategic Activity:-

- Devolution Deal remains a priority with the first Combined Authority meeting being held on 13th May in Lincoln.
- Midlands Engine themes agreed and lead theme partners identified
- Skills & Apprenticeships
- Housing

Events:-

- Big Debate Series – Midlands Engine
- LEP Annual Conference

Visits:-

- Melanie Dawes /Permanent Secretary – DCLG
- David Sharif MD – Midlands Engine

Meetings:-

- Transport Majors Workshop – London
- LSIP – Enterprise Zone next steps
- Water Management Board
- Place Marketing Task and Finish Group
- LEP Officers
- Skills workshop – London
- Employment and Skills Board
- Agri- Centre of Excellence planning
- TATA taskforce

STRATEGIC ITEMS

Business Plan

Board Directors will recall that the LEP's Business Plan for 2016-17 was approved at the last meeting subject to some changes. The final version is therefore attached for information in the additional papers pack.

Big Debates Series

The LEP have devised a series of Big Debates to address the critical issues evolving during 2016-17. These are intended to be open to the business community and include panel discussion. The first on the Midlands Engine was held to wide acclaim at the DoubleTree Hilton on 4th May. Ursula and Cllr Davie provided context and opportunity alongside David Sharif, the ME Director who provided a welcome understanding of the aims and benefits of the ME. The panel discussion included Steve

Middlebrough representing the manufacturing sector and Tom Robinson – CEO of Simons Group. Further dates for the diary are:-

- Big Food Debate (South) – Roythornes/ Spalding - 8th July – Breakfast – John Hayes MP
- Big Devolution Debate – (North) – Forest Pines - 6th July – Breakfast
- Big Devolution Debate – (South) - 19th July – 5-7pm Grantham
- Big Food Debate (North) – Autumn TBC

Midlands Engine

The senior leadership group of Midlands Engine met in early May with Sir John Peace in place as the official chair. Ursula Lidbetter and LCC Leader Cllr Hill both have a seat at this group.

The governance structure and membership of goods was discussed as well as agreement to establish a comms and marketing group to co-ordinate activity. A shared virtual web space will be launched shortly, to allow the sharing of key documents and comms.

Contributions to the Midlands Engine conference are being sought LEPS asked to consider invitation lists, ideas and input.

The business and finance group has been fully constituted and is called the strategic oversight board – Nick Pulley, Santander and Leicester LEP chair are leading on this. Pat Doody is a deputy on this group.

The Midlands Engine conference has been confirmed as the 4th July at Nottingham Trent University.

Midlands Connect

The Midlands Connect programme is moving at a fast pace. The programme has now commissioned technical work packages and is in the early stages of determining how strategy will be delivered in March 2017.

The draft "*Picking up the Pace*" report has been developed with initial guidance from the Steering Group and Technical Advisory Group and has been circulated to the Midlands Connect Partnership for input and comment.

Tenders have been received and interviews with consultant teams have taken place with an award being made very soon for work packages for; freight; international gateways and smart connectivity.

The second Midlands Connect Partnership Advisory Board is scheduled to take place on Thursday 21st July to cover an update from the team, as well as regional updates on the work being undertaken by Highways England and Network Rail and how these organisations are working with MC and the whole partnership to speak with one voice.

Next steps will also cover the latest on the emerging devolution proposals for Sub-national Transport Bodies and the work with the DfT.

The Communications Strategy will be addressed imminently focusing on the vision and messaging, branding and marketing.

Water Management Plan

A drinks reception at the House of Commons is being arranged to launch our Water Management Plan. Target audience MPS and Civil Servants with dates to be confirmed but possibly in September.

Transport Delivery Excellence (TDE)

LEPs are gearing up for the task of managing programmes of infrastructure delivery through the Local Growth Fund (LGF) from 2015/16. We are being asked to do this against a background of reducing local authority resources, emerging supply chain constraints and some slippage of existing local transport projects.

It is not mandatory for LEPs to take part. However, the TDE project aims to help LEPs and partners achieve excellence in the delivery of transport projects in a challenging context and will offer material, tools, and face to face input for those LEPs and their delivery partners that want them.

This programme is focused on transport delivery but it could have wider applicability across the whole of the LGF programme and can be used in two ways; both as an internal self-assessment tool – suggesting how programmes can be developed; and to identify and to prioritise support for which funding can be requested from Department for Transport (DfT)

The tool was developed with the input of 10 LEPs who volunteered to help.

Innovation Council

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP Innovation Council, chaired by Professor Mary Stuart, is now fully established with additional LEP Board representation from Steve Middlebrough and Pete Holmes providing a link through to BIS. Four additional members have recently been recruited through an open application process and the Council is currently looking for further members to complement the existing skills and perspectives.

Two meetings of the Council have been held, the first focusing on exploring where Greater Lincolnshire innovation strengths and opportunities exist, the second starting to focus on the activities that we need to drive forward. The Council meetings are being held around innovation events, for example the Innovation Conference at the University which attracted nearly 200 businesses and the 'Let's Get Digital' event at the Europarc Grimsby. The Council has also completed a mapping exercise of current innovation activity in Greater Lincolnshire which will provide a benchmark to assess progress. The Innovation Council activity and meetings will be promoted through the new GLLEP website, with its own bespoke section.

Communications -

Full details of the Comms activity for the LEP are contained within the additional papers pack.

FUNDING ITEMS

ESIF – European Programme

The European Regional Development Fund has three calls for activity open around SME Competitiveness, Supporting the shift towards a Low Carbon Economy and Preserving and Protecting the Environment all publicised on the GLLEP website with a closing date of 27th May 2016. There are likely to be further call windows announced later in the year.

The European Social Fund Opt-in proposals are starting to move forward with tenders being published & contract start dates anticipated to be September 2016. The three opt-in proposals are:

- The Department of Work & Pensions Opt-in proposal which is to support the individual to be better placed to move back into employment.
- The Skills funding opt-in proposal which will support the skills and training requirements of individuals who are unemployed and support skills in the workforce

- The Big Lottery Fund which is supporting the social inclusion agenda (supporting people back into employment, money & debt management support, supporting people back into education and supporting the economically inactive)

Direct bidding will be the next stage of delivery of ESF funding which will be to consider the resources that the GLLEP has not committed to Opt-in proposals

We have not been able to open any calls for a while under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development but we are now working with the Forum for Agriculture & Horticulture & DEFRA as we should be able to open calls for activity in the summer 2016. Our five LEADER programmes have been open since November 2015 and are accepting outline application forms.

A more detailed update of the ESIF Programme will be given at the Investment Board.

Onlincolnshire

Phase one has ended bringing better broadband to 150,000 properties. More than 90 per cent of homes and businesses in Lincolnshire now have access to superfast broadband – with thousands more set to benefit from further improvements.

The multi-million pound onlincolnshire partnership has been hailed as one of the most successful Lincolnshire projects ever for the way in which it has dramatically transformed the digital landscape across the county over the last three years.

During the project's first phase, an astonishing 150,775 homes and businesses have been given access to better broadband - more than four thousand premises reached by the fibre broadband network each month.

The huge engineering project, which has rolled out the technology in areas not included in the private sector's commercial fibre programme, has been completed on-time and within budget.

Onlincolnshire is now planning a second phase of improvements, which will extend superfast coverage to 95 per cent by the end of 2017 with a further £8.8m already invested in the project.

PROJECT ITEMS

Single Local Growth - Accountable Body Report

A report on the above is due to be presented at LCC Scrutiny on 24th May. The following forms the key points of the report which is available to read in full following the meeting or in advance by request.

<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/searchResults.aspx?qsearch=1&keywords=scrutiny+papers&x=0&y=0>

As part of the Growth Deal LEPs were asked to sign up to working with government to develop a single assurance framework covering all Government funding flowing through LEPs, to ensure all LEPs have robust systems and processes in place.

Lincolnshire County Council is Accountable Body for the all Greater Lincolnshire LEP funds with the single local growth funding being the predominant fund and were instrumental in producing the assurance framework and ensured the successful transfer of £26.4 million of Single Local Growth Fund grant for the financial period 2015/16. Government have appraised the GLLEP Assurance Framework and deemed our framework low risk.

This enabled the release of funds upfront and it is worth noting that not all LEPs and their accountable bodies received the monies in this way demonstrating that Government were confident in the strong underpinning local authority partnership arrangement.

See the Finance Report for the Accountable Body progress report on the first year of funding.

National Audit Office Review & Assurance Framework

The National Audit Office (NAO) and Government Internal Audit Agency (GIAA) recently undertook some work to review all LEPs assurance frameworks prior to agreeing the release of further funding. We received a letter on the 10th March highlighting 2 minor areas.

The audit was undertaken as a desk based exercise and no discussion was held with us as part of the process.

The points raised by the audit were minor and this has provided increased confidence that Lincolnshire County Council's working practices to support the work of the LEP remain strong. Aligned to this was a positive annual "conversation" that we had with members from the Local Growth Unit and a subsequent report highlighting our strengths as a LEP area.

A member from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) visited Greater Lincolnshire to assess how the Growth programme is operated. Following a positive response, we were asked to host Douglas Leckie (Growth Deal Implementation Policy Lead) and as a result of the meeting have instigated sharing identified best practice with other accountable bodies around our audit and accounting practices.

The AB has provided assurance that for the financial year 2015-16 that for the single local growth fund:-

- Resources have been subject to the usual local authority checks and balances;
- Decisions and activities taken on projects have conformed with legal requirements;
- Ensured that the funds have been used appropriately and in accordance with our contract;
- Ensured that the local LEP assurance framework has been adhered to;
- Maintain the official record of all relevant LEP documents relating to SLGF
- Facilitated for a local audit of funding allocated by LEPs (the result of which was an unqualified report on cash balances)

Lessons learnt

Following the first year review there are many lessons learnt which will be taken forward into future year delivery:

- The partnership with project sponsors to focus more on spend profiles in order to improve spend profiling a system to identify weaknesses will be implemented early on in a project lifecycle
- Continuing our close work with government to build on our own best practice but challenge central decisions around the effective management of funds
- Building stronger 2-way relationships with project partners to fully understand the complexities of schemes and enabling us to respond and quickly support identified constraints
- Ensure capture of the added value of projects to demonstrate the wider impacts against strategic plans

Growing Places Fund /Invest and Grow Fund

A full application for £600,000 Invest & Grow funding for the refurbishment of The Lawn (a prominent Grade II* listed building in central Lincoln) has been received from RW Stokes & Sons Limited (Stokes Coffee). The project secured planning permission in April and the applicant has provided the necessary information to enable due diligence to be completed. A decision will be sought at the 27 May Investment Board.

The LEP launched the Greater Lincolnshire Feasibility Challenge Fund in February and received 29 completed bids from across the LEP area. In March, the Investment Board approved the following feasibility grants:

Project Title	Applicant	Grant Awarded 24/3/16	Total Feasibility Costs
Beever Street, Lincoln (Lincoln Science and Innovation Park)	LSIP Ltd	£50,000	£100,000
A15 Riseholme Roundabout (A15/A46 Junction) and Junction 4 (A15/M180 Junction)	North Lincolnshire Council	£20,000	£40,000
Grimsby Western Access Route – Strategic Link Road	North East Lincolnshire Council	£25,000	£50,000
Utility Feasibility Options Appraisal Planning	Lincolnshire County Council	£37,500	£75,000
Grantham Enterprise Village	Haywood Estates (UK) LLP	£50,000	£145,000
Holbeach Food Enterprise Zone	South Holland District Council	£34,000	£89,000
Total		£216,500	£499,000

Draft grant agreements have been issued and the grant payment process will follow once signed agreements are in place.

Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub

The information below covers the first year of operation for the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub 1 April 2015- 31 March 2016.

Figures to 31 March 2016	Number
Growth Hub Adviser Engagements	599
Businesses assisted for 2 hrs plus	384
Business Diagnostics	270
Repeat clients post diagnostic	266
Training needs analysis	12
Skills interventions	259
Client satisfaction with the Growth Hub service	93%
New Jobs created – forecast	258
Intermediaries interacted with	94
Businesslincolnshire.com unique users	53,492
National Call Centre referrals	62

Start up enquiries *	49
Masterclass event attendees	171
Sponsored event attendees	2857
Twitter followers	3123

BusinessLincolnshire.com Growth Hub welcomed 53,492 users up to 31 March 2016. The Advice and Grant Scheme Finder has the most page views with events, event and finance close behind. The average session duration is 4.08 minutes with 3.7 pages per session viewed.

ESIF Growth Hub Bid Progress

Appraisal questions have been answered for the Growth Hub's £4.4m Sustainable Business Growth Programme bid and final endorsement by the ESIF committee is awaited in the hope that this will be completed via written procedure during May.

An ESIF outline application, Business Lincolnshire Digital Growth Programme (£912,300), has also been submitted in the January 2016 round and has been approved by DCLG. The programme will offer a range of support, including a digital health check, focused one to one support to develop an ICT action plan, workshops and conferences, as well as a small grant scheme to help accelerate the adoption of small scale ICT improvements or secure further expertise.

In the meantime OJEU complaint Invitation to Tender (ITT) will advertised imminently. This tender includes all of the business support activity from both ESIF applications.

Future activities

We are currently planning the announcement of the further funding for the Growth Hub pending receipt of official sign-off.

Further development includes producing news releases for the support programmes that have reached their conclusion to highlighting achievements and case studies.

ERDF Business Support Applications

Two business support providers have had their ERDF funding applications approved; NBV's– Starting in Business; Business Assist Grant for Enterprise programmes; and Princes Trust - Better Off in Business programme.

The next ESIF meeting is scheduled for the 14 June, however DCLG have agreed to accept written procedure approvals.

DATES/ EVENTS

- Big Food Debate (South) – Roythornes/ Spalding - 8th July – Breakfast – John Hayes MP
- Big Devolution Debate – (North) – Forest Pines - 6th July – Breakfast
- Big Devolution Debate – (South) - 19th July – 5-7pm Grantham
- Big Food Debate (North) – Autumn TBC
- Launch of Water Management Plan - reception at the House of Commons - Jul or Sep
- LEP Business Live 16 – 21st October 2016 – Epic Centre

Recommendation

The board is invited to note the contents of this report.

**Proposals for Project Development
Submissions to the Department of Transport
Local Transport Funding Majors Programme**

Date: 27 May 2016

CONFIDENTIAL AS PROJECT IDEAS INCLUDED

Summary

The Department for Transport (DfT) have outlined the guidance and bidding process for the recently announced £475m fund for large local transport schemes. The funding available on a competitive basis will be: £10m 2016/17; £45m 2017/18; £45m 2018/19; £95m 2019/20; and £280m 2020/21. Though this is all capital, some revenue may be available in addition, if required.

The first couple of years will in the main relate to development costs hence the amounts go up substantially in future years when the projects are likely to start on site. Awards of £151m have already been made to Lowestoft and Ipswich, but some of this amount may apply beyond 2020/21 (even though no allocations beyond this period currently exist).

There are three stages of bidding rounds that currently apply and they are as follows:

- **Development funding (fast track)** – these bids must be received by 31st May 2016, and realistically would need to be in a position to develop a full Webtag based Outline Business Case by the end of 2016/17, in other words the schemes must be at very advanced stages. Decisions on these would be made in July 2016.
- **Development funding for 2017/18 onwards** – Bids to be submitted by 5th July. Bid assessments would be completed by the Autumn Statement (Nov/Dec). We could, also include EOI type proposals verbally to DfT via our identified
- **Full scheme funding from 2017/18 onwards** – Outline business case submitted by 5th July and decision made by Autumn statement. Schemes must be very progressed for this category, but don't have to go through development funding stage if not required.

We can submit more than one scheme per LEP but they have to have a total cost threshold above £42m. This amount applies specifically to Greater Lincolnshire

The approach the LEP is therefore being asked to consider is to prioritise the two proposed development fund project proposals for 2016/17 below, so that the LEP officers can be delegated to submit the proposals by the 21st July 2016 deadline.

Local Transport Majors

Local Transport Majors funding allows us to fund large local transport projects beyond that which individual LEPs and Local Authorities have previously been able to deliver within their programmes with the minimum threshold for consideration being £42m total scheme cost.

Submissions for this fund will be made by 21st July 2016 to this competitive £475m pot. Government has indicated that they are looking for 5 or 6 schemes nationally. Development cost allocations will be between £1.5m - £2m, but they do not envisage many schemes being chosen, hence a strong case has to be made in order to compete effectively. The threshold for local match funding has not been specified, but a contribution will be expected. Schemes with higher match available will be scored higher though they will consider how schemes compare in terms of scale.

Officers of the Highways Authorities across Greater Lincolnshire and the Housing and Infrastructure Group has considered the bidding criteria, and reached the conclusion that Greater Lincolnshire would not submit a bid for category A, nor category C.

A long list of potential schemes has been identified for consideration for development funding for 2017/18 onwards:

- East Midlands Coastal Way – A46 Newark to Lincoln and A158 Lincoln to Skegness
- A17 Newark to Kings Lynn
- Boston Distributor Road (building on the investment for the Quadrant) and
- M180/m180 from A1 to Grimsby
- Spalding Western Relief Road.

These schemes have been tested through the Motts prioritisation model to enable the HIG to consider the priority to be afforded to each scheme and make a recommendation to the GL LEP as the LEP is to take the lead in terms of submitting the application forms on behalf of Greater Lincolnshire, but Local Authority support in pulling the information together will be crucial.

However two schemes are being put forward to the 2016/17 development funding, and these are:

- Lincoln Southern Bypass
- A15/A46 and Junction 4 A15/M180

Proposal

The fund provides two opportunities for Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) to apply for central government financial support to help develop such large transport schemes in their areas, with a deadline for submissions being 21st July 2016.

If an Outline Business Case (OBC) has already been developed, LEPs can apply for funding to prepare and construct a scheme; if LEPs are not in this position, they can apply for funding to develop the OBCs. Recent additional guidance from the Department for Transport (DfT) has indicated that the DfT will expect bids to be supported by work up to or just before a Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC).

Consideration has been given to the potential for the Greater Lincolnshire LEP to submit development fund applications for 2016/17, for the two schemes below:

- Lincoln Southern Bypass
- A15/A46 Corridor

In considering whether these two schemes would be suitable for an application at this time, the DfT guidance has been taken into account, including the requirements for work to have already been undertaken up to or just before preparing an SOBC.

The following table sets out the steps included in the DfT's Transport Appraisal Process and how these correlate with the requirements for both an SOBC and OBC. The table also presents an assessment of progress made on the two

schemes to completing the required work to support a Fund application.

	Step	A15/A46 Corridor	Lincoln Bypass	Southern
Strategic Outline Business Case (Funded Locally)	1: Understanding the Current Situation			
	2: Understanding the Future Situation			
	3: Establishing the Need for Intervention			
	4a: Identify Objectives			
	4b: Define Geographic Area of Impact to be Addressed by the Intervention			
	5: Generating Options			
	6: Initial Sifting			
	7: Development and Assessment of Potential Options			
	8: Produce Option Assessment Report			
Outline Business Case (Funded via bid)	9: Clarify Modelling and Appraisal Methodology			
	10: Undertake Further Appraisal			
	11: Public Consultation on Appraised Options			
	12: Outputs from Study			
	13: Implementation Programme			
	14: Monitoring and Evaluation			
Note: Red = Stage not commenced Amber = Stage commenced and partially completed, or complete to a previous standard Green = Stage completed				

As can be seen in the table above, the process to develop an SOBC for the A15/A46 corridor has largely not commenced at this time. Whilst there is some background work to support some of the requirements of an SOBC, significant further work remains to be undertaken to confirm the specific and comprehensively evidenced need for an intervention/scheme.

Given this current position, it is not considered possible to develop a robust case for an A15/A46 within the timescales available that would attract the level of funding required. This further work would provide greater certainty to the LEP that DfT would grant funding.

Significant work has been undertaken to develop the Lincoln Southern Bypass scheme to a Preferred Route Stage. The most recent work to develop proposals was undertaken in 2008 and will require some updating and converting into a suitable format such as an Options Assessment Report as well as suitable content for a Fund application. In addition, recent traffic modelling work such as the Lincolnshire Local Planning Tool has further reinforced the benefits of the scheme.

The scheme more closely fits a further DfT requirement that it is not easily indivisible into individual, smaller schemes that could easily be delivered separately over a longer period of time. On the basis of the above and the very short timescales within which to produce evidence to support Fund applications, it is therefore proposed to progress with an application for Lincoln Southern Bypass only.

However, it is also proposed that the formal process to develop an improvement scheme for the A15/A46 corridor is commenced and a Strategic Outline Business Case is developed to enable bids for development funding to be made when further opportunities arise.

It is proposed that this work commences as soon as possible after the LSBC bid has been submitted. Confirmation will however be required from DfT that there will be further OSBC bid opportunities in future years.

Recommendation

That the LEP Board Members consider the schemes outlined as part of the recent Department for Transport Local Majors Funding Programme, reflect on the analysis provided above, and endorse the suggested approach for submission to the Category B 2016/17 round.

Given the above analysis, in order to provide the greater chance of success in the competitive nature of the funding programme, the proposal is that one bid is submitted for the Lincoln Southern Bypass Scheme, with the A15 corridor proposal also being endorsed for later submission. The work required to bring the A15 corridor proposal up to the required status is recommended to be funded via the SLGF transport programme.

Recommendation

The LEP board are asked to note the updated guidance on area reviews and endorse the approach outlined below.

Introduction

The LEP Board will recall that Post 16 Area Reviews are being undertaken across the Country and that the Greater Lincolnshire review is scheduled to take place during the fourth wave of reviews, due to start in September 2016 and complete by the Spring 2017. There will be five waves in total. We have discussed area reviews previously, and this is an update paper to keep members of the LEP Board informed.

The post-16 education sector is critical to the Government's Strategy of raising productivity and economic growth. As set out in the **Government's productivity plan – Fixing the Foundations** - creating a more prosperous nation, this is a national challenge. In addition to Apprenticeship reform, two other major areas of reform will be critical:

- Clear, high quality professional and technical routes to employment, alongside robust academic routes, which allows individuals to progress to higher level skills valued by employers; and
- Better responsiveness to local employer needs and economic priorities, for instance through local commissioning of adult provision.

Government concludes that these objectives can only be delivered by strong institutions, with the status and specialism required to deliver credible routes to employment. In order to deliver their objectives, Government believe that substantial change is required within the Further Education (FE) College sector in particular, and have asked the Departments for Education and Business Innovation and Skills to facilitate a programme of area-based reviews. Through the devolution deal for Greater Lincolnshire, the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will have local commissioning responsibility for the adult skills budget except apprenticeships, publish a local skills plan, engage with schools and influence careers advice.

The area review will consider the future needs of the local area for the next 5-10 years. However locally, the Strategic Economic Plans and the Skills Strategy has a longer time horizon and we are therefore keen that working with the Combined Authority the outcome of the review builds a system that can respond to Greater Lincolnshire's needs over that period.

Reviews will be undertaken by representatives from local and national organisations working together through a series of 5 meetings that will take place over a few months to agree of series of recommendations about the local structure, quantity and quality of provision. A national framework of how reviews has been produced, see flowchart at the end of this paper.

The focus of the review and recommendations will be on the FE and sixth-form college institutions, although the *availability and quality of all* post-16 academic and work-based provision in each area will be taken into account.

Area reviews are a collaborative process, however it is essential that the business and employer voice features largely in area review discussions and that there is full understanding of local employers need and demand for training. This is the role of the LEP. There are other significant roles and views in this collaborative process that are taken into consideration during the Area Reviews, such as local authorities, FE institutions, FE and SFC Commissioners, the emerging Combined Authority etc.

The shadow Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority is starting to follow a programme to meet the aims concerning skills that were defined in the devolution deal. This programme will cover approaches to tackling unemployment, increasing skills, and filling vacancies. Whilst GLLEP will have an interest in all three of these areas, the LEP involvement is likely to be more about increasing skills and filling vacancies rather than tackling unemployment *per se*. Beverly Agass, chief executive of South Kesteven District Council, is leading this work strand and will be meeting the Employment and Skills Board shortly to discuss/explain.

Government has provided guidelines to LEPs and to Local Authorities with statutory roles in education. It sees their role as crucial in ensuring that the focus of the review is clearly on the economic and educational needs of the area.

The Review Process

A review delivery team will be established, normally led by a Deputy FE Commissioner, supported by a team comprising FE and SFC (Sixth-Form College) Advisors and officials from the *Joint Area Review Delivery Unit (JARDU)* and at the commencement of each review, the FE Commissioners write to the institutions, local authorities and other relevant partners involved.

The local steering group will be chaired by someone who is independent from the providers involved in the review. In the cases of areas with agreed devolution deals, the chair is likely to be a representative from the combined or lead authority; in other cases, the chair will be either the FE Commissioner or the SFC Commissioner.

The review will test a range of long term structural options for the colleges involved which have the best prospect of delivering the overall objectives. Initial ideas of Institutes of Technology for each LEP area are no longer being advocated for all areas and Government does not expect to see many of these across the county.

The options will be evaluated by the FE Commissioner and SFC Commissioner and adviser team, which will lead to a set of recommendations for the review steering group to consider. Governing bodies will be responsible for deciding whether to accept the recommendations in relation to their institutions. The Secretary of State retains powers to intervene in colleges where there are substantial concerns that the institution is being mismanaged or significantly underperforming.

The review will deliver:

- Institutions that are financially viable, sustainable, resilient, efficient and deliver maximum value for public investment. This may result in rationalised curriculum; fewer, larger and more financially resilient organisations; and, where practicable, shared back office functions and curriculum delivery systems.
- Institutions that offer provision that meets area areas educational and economic needs and sufficient access to high quality and relevant education and training for all, including 16-19 year olds, adults and learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Updated guidance was published by Government in March. This 60 page document provides additional detail for all organisations involved in the review and learning from the Area Reviews that are already underway.

Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/post-16-education-and-training-institutions-area-based-reviews>. An 8-page summary has been prepared by Clare Hughes if LEP Directors would find this useful.

Guidelines for the LEP economic analysis suggest evidence covers five areas. They are:

- Economic forecasts
- Economic projections
- Aspirational sectors
- One-issue forecasts
- "Other" aspects that should be considered

The analysis must use standard information and data wherever possible to enable comparability. Information must include the source, currency, degree of confidence, assumptions and any implications of the data.

Boundaries

Colleges should be formal members of only one area review steering group. However, it is important that the process is pragmatic and flexible to ensure boundary issues can be accommodated. Where an institution has a significant interest in multiple reviews, we would expect to see if formally take part in one review, but also to be fully engaged in any other review where it has an interest without being a primary member.

Note also that LEPs, and local and combined authorities with an interest in a neighbouring area review where they are not steering group members will also be fully engaged and will have direct access to the relevant Deputy FE Commissioners to ensure their views are understood and taken into account. If appropriate, this engagement can also include meetings with the FE Commissioner and/or SFC Commissioner.

Preparation and Timescales

At the last LEP meeting, a position statement was agreed and the ESB was asked to form a small working group. This working group will meet at least three times between June and the start of the Area Review in the autumn. Its purpose is to assist the LEP in developing and articulating the LEP's input to the Area Review.

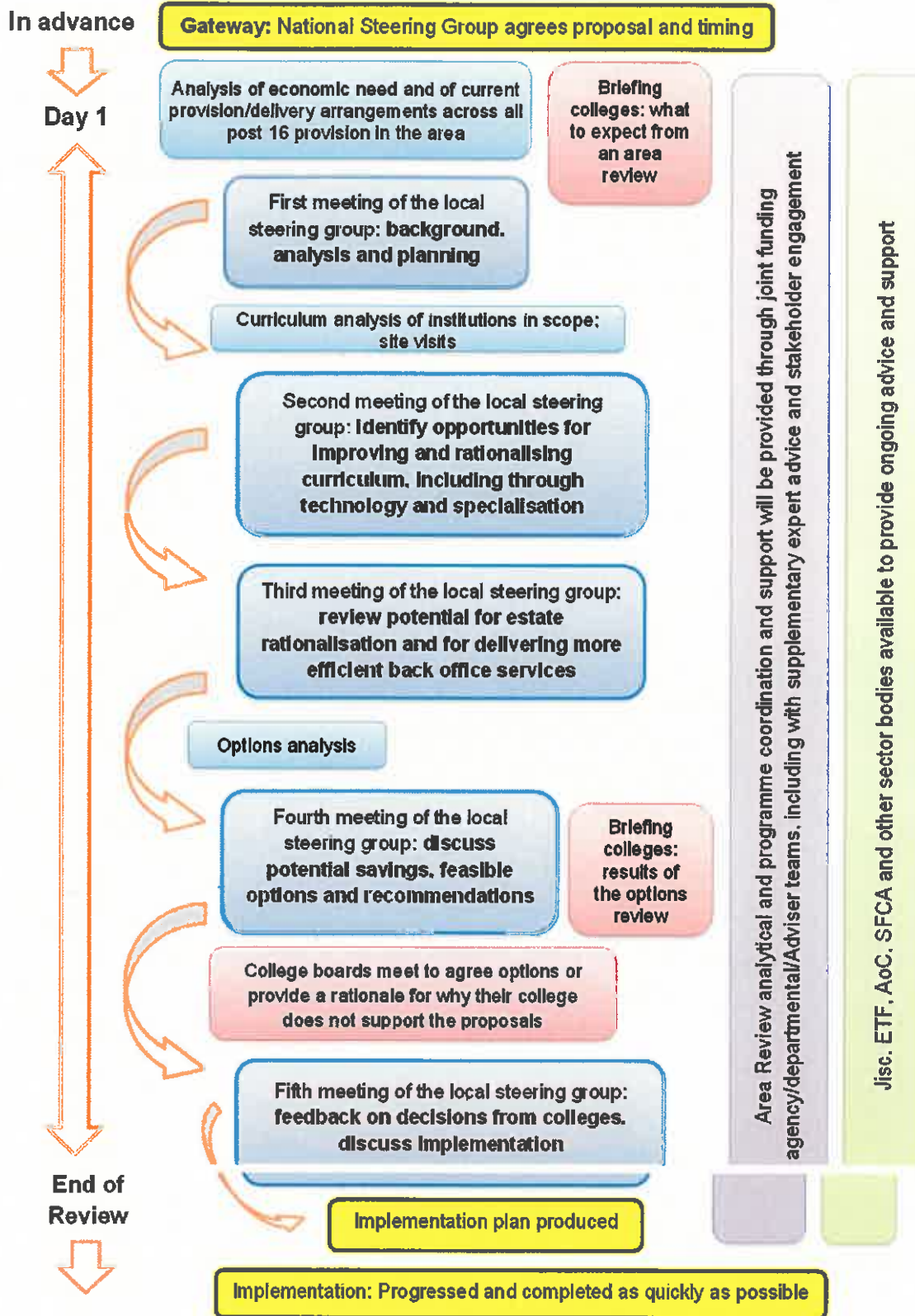
Members of this group will include Andy Orrey (LEP), Cllr Bob Adams (LEP), Herman Kok (LEP/ESB), Heather Lee (ESB), James Pinchbeck (ESB), Maggie Freeman (LCC, 14-19 Education) and Clare Hughes (LCC) and their role will be to ensure that a private sector view of the economic evidence is provided.

James Baty, economist and researcher at LCC, is working with Clare Hughes to collate this information and over the next month will begin a series of meetings to present and discuss what is available and where additional information is required, most likely needed for one-issue forecasts, eg, expansion of an airport affecting skills needs, large construction projects or new sectors.

A request has been submitted to the national Area Review team for the information that the delivery team would be supplying during the review so that this can be seen at an early stage. It is important to note that there should be a standard and shared evidence base amongst local partners, but the interpretation of it may change according to whether you are an employer, a provider or place focused such as a local authority. Partners will need to work together to ensure that data is aligned and provides a clear picture to the FE Commissioner and other external advisors of the challenges and opportunities across Greater Lincolnshire.

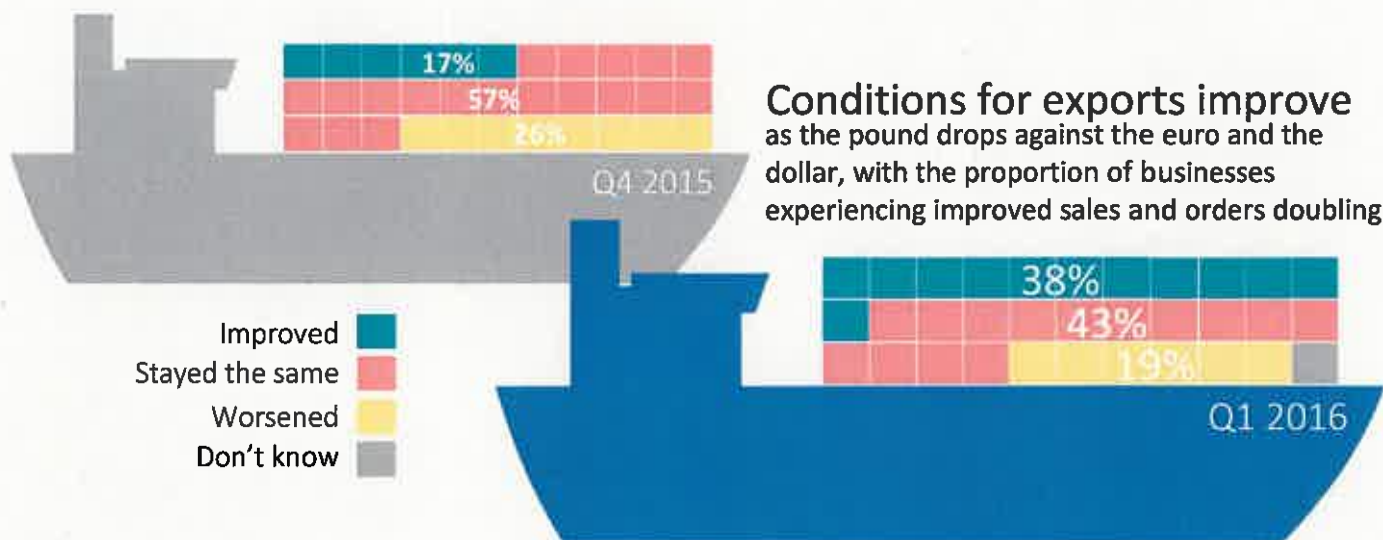
A series of meetings and discussions are already planned and will feed into the growing evidence base. Other meetings and discussions will take place which will inform local input to the Area Review. These include:

- 23rd May – Skills Officers Group – initial discussion around aligning evidence from education authorities, employers and others (*attended by Lincolnshire County Council Economic Development, and 14-19 Children's Services, North East Lincolnshire Council, North Lincolnshire Council, West Lindsey District Council, City of Lincoln Council, DWP and SFA*)
- 8th June – Employment and Skills Board
- 21st July – LEP Board – In addition to reviewing evidence, a decision will be made at this meeting to agree the LEP representative at the Area Review meetings.





GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE LEP QUARTERLY BRIEFING Q1 2016

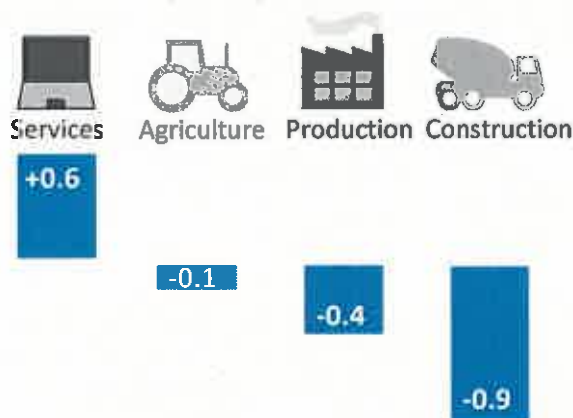
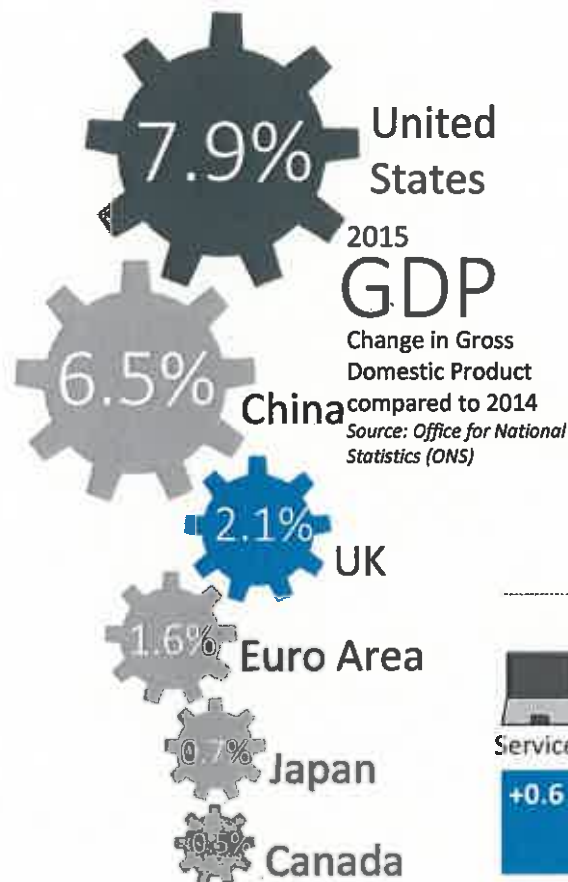


75%
of businesses stated that their **workforce was stable** over the last 3 months, compared to 56% in Q4 2015

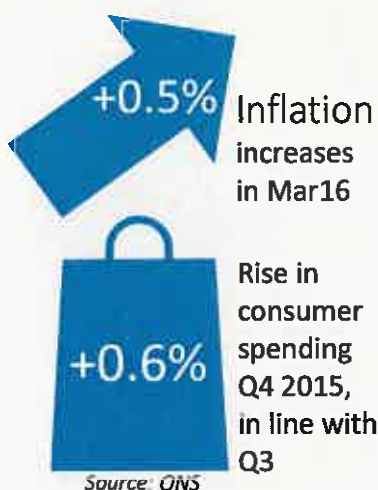


Two thirds of businesses expect their **workforce to remain the same** over the next 3 months, in line with results from Q4 2015

Business confidence down as more business expect turnover and profit to decrease over the year ahead



UK Sectoral Growth
Q1 2016, % change
Services are driving growth in the national economy, with growth of 0.6% in Q1,16 compared to 0.8% in the previous quarter
Source: ONS



Greater Lincolnshire
Employment rate at 77.3% and unemployment at 1.5%, both in line with UK average
Source: ONS



£1.69bn
lent to Greater Lincolnshire businesses in Q2 2015, up from £1.59bn in the previous quarter
Source: British Banking Association