



Greater Lincolnshire LEP Board
 Wednesday 21st May 2014
 The Atrium, Lindum Group Ltd,

<u>BOARD MEMBERS:</u>	Actions
<p>Ursula Lidbetter – Chair (UL) David Dexter – Deputy Chair (DD) Richard Wills (RW): For item – Governance including ESB Models. Councillor Colin Davie (CD) Councillor Doreen Stephenson (DS) Herman Kok (HK) Mark Tinsley (MT) Tony Hill (TH) Andrew Orrey (AO)</p> <p><u>SECRETARIAT:</u> Kate Storey (KS): For items – Operational Brief & Finance. Jon Burgess (JBU) Emma Mumby (EM) Justin Brown (JB) : For item – Update on SEP.</p> <p><u>OBSERVERS:</u> Sarah Hendry - DEFRA (SH) Maria Lyle - BIS (ML)</p> <p><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u> Marcus Walker - North Lincolnshire Council (MW) Marc Cole – North East Lincolnshire (MC)</p> <p><u>GUESTS:</u> Andrew Pritchard (AP): For item – Housing. Chris Duffill (CDu): For item – Community Led Economic Development.</p>	
<p><u>Welcome by the Chair – Ursula Lidbetter</u> <u>Apologies, Declarations, Minutes and Matters Arising</u></p> <p>The Chair welcomed the Board.</p> <p>Apologies: Andy Baxendale, Professor Mary Stuart, Councillor Redfern, Chris Baron, Neil Corner, Councillor Shaw.</p> <p>Declarations were recorded as follows: Ursula Lidbetter – Lincolnshire Co-operative Society has an interest in the Bude Technology Park Project that is seeking SLGF funding.</p>	

<p>The minutes of 21st March 2014 were agreed as a true record.</p> <p>Matters Arising: DS sent through a paper regarding the Arts Council to JB who has spoken to a couple of arts/cultural businesses.</p> <p>JB will speak with DS with regards to preparing a report for the operational brief for the next Board Meeting.</p>	<p>JB</p>
<p><u>Operational Brief</u></p> <p>Presented by KS:</p> <p>The sector plans are progressing well, the agri-food sector plan is complete and the manufacturing plan is near completion.</p> <p><u>BIS</u> - are undertaking research into the project development and approval process. RW and UL offered to talk to the researchers.</p> <p><u>Invest & Grow</u> – An update was given to the Board and the next meeting is in July.</p> <p><u>RGF Round 5</u> - £2M of funding has been allocated to Chamber for them to run a business grant scheme and they are completing the due diligence stage.</p> <p><u>Visitor Economy</u> – The recent meeting with a BIS appraisal officer went very well and JB has commissioned work to look at an evidence base with CB.</p> <p>JB has a draft report and will circulate it to the Board for comments.</p> <p>The Board discussed the problems with the perceptions of displacement in the visitor economy sector in the Greater Lincolnshire area and agreed that we need to look at the area's importance as a whole. It was suggested it may be beneficial for the private sector to address the marketing issues and that digital engagement has to be done correctly.</p> <p>ML explained there may always be a difficulty with attracting funding to visitor economy schemes due to the issue of displacement but something may be able to be done with regards small projects.</p> <p>A paper regarding visitor economy is to be brought to the Board at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Finance</u> – A finance update was given to the Board. The LEP has finalised the accounts for last year. Core funding of £250,000 has been confirmed by BIS for 2015-16 – however this is the last year this will be made available in this way.</p> <p><u>Comms</u> – A summary of press activity since the last meeting was discussed.</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>RC/JB</p>
<p><u>Governance – including ESB Models</u></p> <p>Presented by RW:</p> <p>The draft Articles of Association and Members Agreement had been circulated along with a chart of partnerships.</p> <p>Board Members discussed a range of issues, particularly relating to levels of representation/quorum, length of service of Board Members, and powers of the company. The proposal over verification of District Council Membership was queried.</p>	

<p>Board Members are asked to provide their comments in writing by June 16th to JB.</p> <p>JB explained that following receipt of comments on June 16th they will be collated and discussed with the lawyers. A revised format will then go to the sub-group and then brought before the Board at the next meeting for ratification.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>JB/RC</p>
<p><u>Update on Strategic Economic Plan</u></p> <p>Presented by JB:</p> <p>SEP was submitted 31st March and has been circulated to all Board Members. Work has been exclusively on projects and on appraising them ready to get consideration for Government funding. Project sponsors have been asked a lot of appraisal questions, often with a very short turn around. An assessment on what will be supported will take place and we hope to hear back soon. There may be room for negotiation following this, but this is not definite and the Board may need to make important difficult decisions. It was agreed that if the Board is asked to negotiate with government over projects then the Approval Board will be convened. Other Board Members will be invited to comment either by email or at the Approval Board if diaries allow.</p> <p>SH reminded the Board to continue to address freedoms and flexibilities as part of their discussion with government.</p>	
<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>Presented by KS:</p> <p>The paper gives details of GL LEPs position at year end 2013/14 and outlines the Capacity Funding, operational Core Funding and Growth Plan Funding. The balance of £190,862.00 will be put on reserve for the Boards future use.</p> <p>A full business plan is to come to the next Board Meeting.</p>	<p>RC</p>
<p><u>Housing</u></p> <p>AP highlighted the relationship between housing and the economy. Statistics show deliverability in Lincolnshire is always the problem. The low figures for completion to housing stock compared to need are striking. GL LEP could help with regards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding the local housing market and how they are functioning - Delivery and if private sector skills can help - Development sector support. <p>The Board discussed how LEP may be able to support this sector. It was highlighted that a Greater Lincolnshire Forum is already in place but could be expanded further. Two points were highlighted: engaging with utility providers, and focusing on housing for the LEP's main priorities.</p> <p>HK and AO to work with AP to look at taking forward what we will do as a LEP to support housing.</p>	<p>HK,AO,AP</p>

<p><u>Community Led Economic Development</u></p> <p>Presented by CDu:</p> <p>Paper is to introduce a discussion upon the future of GL LEP in supporting the areas economic resilience. GL LEP will shortly be asked to endorse bids for bottom up funding through EU programmes.</p> <p>The Greater Lincolnshire area is falling behind economically, economic output and productivity in the recession period grew but at a slower rate. Growth in an area doesn't equal a narrowing of the gap to deprivation – it can expand it. Therefore employment and the labour market need to be addressed.</p> <p>The Board discussed the relationship between economic growth and deprivation in greater Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The Board discussed whether a stronger focus on economic resilience particularly raising skills levels and labour market participation across the Greater Lincolnshire area would be embedded into GL LEP's SEP.</p> <p>The Board agreed to support the GL LEP Secretariat and local authority partners in developing more detailed proposals for local skills and employment support programmes to feed into the 2014-2020 European Social Fund programme.</p> <p>The Board agreed a paper to come back on the implementation of community led economic development initiatives for both rural and urban areas for the next Board meeting.</p>	<p>CDu</p>
<p><u>ESB Board</u></p> <p>ESB Board members and GL LEP Board Members met for general queries to be put to GL LEP Board.</p> <p>The importance of there being integration between the Boards was highlighted by UL, as was the need to develop local solutions to skills and employment.</p>	
<p>As there was no other business, the board was closed.</p>	
<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 25TH JULY, TBC.</p>	