

<p>LEP Directors present : Ursula Lidbetter (UL) Chair), Mark Tinsley (MT), Cllr Colin Davie (CllrD), Cllr Rob Waltham (CllrW), Cllr Dave Watson (CllrWa), Cllr Bob Adams (CllrA), Herman Kok (HK), David Dexter (DD), Andy Orrey (AO), Pat Doody (PD), Chris Baron (CB), Chris Duffill (CD)</p> <p>Apologies from Directors: Cllr Liz Redfern, Prof Mary Stuart, Richard Wills, Dr Tony Hill</p> <p>Observers: Pete Holmes (PH), BIS, Sarah Henry (Defra)</p> <p>LEP: Ruth Carver (RC), Jon Burgess (JBU) and Sue Groves (SG) Note Taker</p> <p>In Attendance for specific items: Lydia Rusling (LCC), Clare Hughes (LEP)</p>	<p>Actions</p>
<p>Welcome by the Chair – Ursula Lidbetter</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone. The minutes of the meeting on 10th September were agreed as drafted, subject to amendments. Both these and the agenda are to be published on the LEP website – all present agreed they were happy for these to be published. The Chair declared an interest in Lincoln Transport Hub and Tentercroft Street East West Link growth deal schemes.</p> <p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Innovation Council is being moved forward by MS and progressing with nominations. It is hoped that the first meeting will be held mid December and report to the January Board meeting. 	
<p>Formal Directors Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The directors' minutes were agreed and signed from the meeting on 10th September 2015. An open recruitment process has been carried out to find a replacement for Neil Corner and 3 responses were received. It was recommended by the Appointment Committee and the LEP Board that Steve Middlebrough from Siemens in Lincoln be appointed. An open recruitment process is to be held to find an Agrifood business leader as a replacement for Ian Munnery. Core spending and SEP Funding 2015/2016 – A financial report will be brought to the January Board. The Board was informed that core spending is on track. This will be discussed at the next Finance and Audit Committee which is to be held on 13 January 2016. The first AGM for the Company will be held on 28th January at the EPIC Centre, after the LEP Board. SEP Refresh to be discussed at the Strategy meeting later today. Final draft to be circulated by the end of the year. 	

<p><u>Operational Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midlands Connect and Midlands Engine - In the summer, the Government announced a £5m commitment of additional funding for Midlands Connect to help the Midlands develop its vision and strategy launched on 22nd October. • All LEPs are collaborating to produce a prospectus and the launch of this will be held at Aston University, Birmingham on 4 December. RC to circulate the invitation to Board members. <p><u>Growth Deal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth Deal is on track. • Annual Review has been arranged to take place on 30 November with BIS. PH stated that he would give feedback to DCLG about spending for 2016/2017 and will look at key elements. <p><u>Devolution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A challenge session, attended by public and private sector, was held with DCLG Minister Marcus Jones on 28 October. PH stated that feedback had not yet been received, but the feeling was positive. • The Deal document by Greater Lincolnshire is to be circulated to Government departments and the ambition is to move quickly. • Conversations are continuing with DCLG. There is a concern regarding the timetable and questions are being asked regarding Governance for areas without a mayor • CllrWa attended the bid session, which was well received, and would continue to push for devolution. • UL believes that Greater Lincolnshire is in a good position with having 5 years' experience of working together. The bid is politically driven with LEP advice. • CllrD believes that there is unity around the proposal, but believes the Treasury is driving this, but should be driven by the private sector as it is this sector that creates growth, jobs, housing etc. • AG informed the group that a paper regarding Governance will be circulated to all Councils between 10 November and 18 December. • DD agreed that the private sector should be predominant. • Latest version of the Devolution document to be circulated. 	LEP
<p><u>Report from the Scunthorpe Tata Steel Task Force – For Info</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CllrW gave an update stating that Lady Redfern is heading the task force. • Meetings have been held with Ministers to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to make the site sustainable for the future - Working with BIS following receipt of £9m from the Government for training etc. - Expectations need to be matched up to ensure that the rest of the business is stabilised. - RC thanked for all her help at the meetings. 	
<p><u>Infrastructure Priorities - To agree transport and rail schemes</u></p> <p>Andy Gutherson led this item – the LEP Transport Strategy is a document that shows how transport can support economic growth across GL. The Transport Strategy and the key corridors were agreed and could be published. AG stated that improvements to Sutton Bridge (swing bridge) should also be included on the list.</p> <p>However the schemes need to be refined through prioritisation and identification of cost benefits and concentration on the key corridors. Expression of interest/Business cases should be sought and RC asked that all Local Authorities concentrate on what is deliverable before the end of the parliament and what the economic benefits are, ie, growth, jobs etc.</p>	LEP to contact LA through HIG

<p><u>Developing the Visitor Economy and a place marketing agenda – Chris Baron and Lydia Rusling led this item</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism is the 4th largest industry across GL. 9% of the workforce in Greater Lincolnshire is in the tourism industry. 25% of East Lindsey the workforce is employed in this industry. • The visitor economy is over £1.9bn a year to the Greater Lincoln visitor economy, supporting more than 39,000 jobs. This shows that the visitor economy is a key part of growth. This demonstrates both the value and future potential of the visitor economy to Greater Lincolnshire and the GLLEP has established an aspiration to substantially grow this figure by capitalising on our heritage and environment assets. • The LEP's target is to double the value of the Visitor Economy. • Suggested Actions • A more cohesive website to cover the whole of Greater Lincolnshire would be more conducive to attracting visitors. Currently there is more than one website which could be confusing. It would be easier for visitors to simplify and co-ordinate Greater Lincolnshire's online presence and to market the area as a whole, but not just for tourism, but for living, working, investment. LR to carry out research and assess what other resources are available, ie, Visitor Economy. Funds to be discussed at the Place Marketing meeting and will make recommendations to the Board. Agreed that all three local authorities work together on the Visit Lincolnshire website. • Concerns raised regarding the restrictions to growth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - infrastructure (including transport) - the national living wage (particularly) in coastal areas which could have an impact on the number of jobs. - school holidays (need to extend season) flood risk, caravan licences and housing. • Suggested that creating visitor attractions, VAT being halved for accommodation, as in other countries would help people spend their holidays in this country. <p>The LEP agreed that place marketing was an issue that need further investigation and LEP support through a Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>The LEP Board agreed that all three local authorities should work together on a Visit Lincolnshire website.</p> <p>A place marketing business plan be developed and brought to the next meeting that clarifies and prioritises the objectives for place marketing, capture and understand the amount of resource and budget currently going into place marketing.</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>LR</p> <p>LR</p>
<p><u>The Value of Nature Tourism</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fran Smith from the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership gave an overview of what the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership is, deals with the natural environment, is funded by Defra and has 48 partner organisations. • GLNP has commissioned independent research into the economic value of nature tourism in Greater Lincolnshire. • Nature tourism makes a significant contribution to our economy, which has not been fully recognised, and visitor numbers are not included in the tourism statistics. The value of Nature Tourism from the report is £58m for Greater Lincolnshire, whereas before the report, it was £0. • FS stated that the GLNP would like to thank the GLLEP for their contribution towards the cost of the research and a final version of the report and next steps would be circulated to LEP Board members once complete. 	

<p><u>Reviewing the Post 16 Education Training</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was explained that in order to raise productivity and economic growth, Government believes that substantial changes are required within the Further Education sector, therefore, Area Reviews will be carried out on Further Education Colleges and 6th Form Colleges in order to rationalise them. In the Greater Lincolnshire LEP area, there are 7 FE colleges (including Riseholme that is run by Bishop Burton, based in Hull) and 2 6th Form colleges. Concerns raised that School 6th Forms are not included. PH stated that the Government do not want to widen the scope of the reviews and that the Government want to change how FE is funded to make it more efficient. Currently, financial instability has triggered Area Reviews in other areas, but not in Greater Lincolnshire as yet. The role of the LEP would be to sit on a steering group, which would also include a range of stakeholders, chairs of governors of each institution, the FE and 6th Form College, Commissioners, Regional Schools Commissioners and Local Authorities. The steering group will oversee and steer the review's work, including analysis and consideration of options. However, it will be for the governing bodies of each individual institution to decide whether to accept the recommendations. The steering group will also be asked to consider the establishment of Institutes of Technology to provide specialist higher level professional and technical education. It was agreed that skills required by businesses should be gained (evidence needs to be gained). UL believes that this data must be kept, ie, information kept by the Skills Board. It was agreed that a Position Statement should be produced by the LEP stating what it is hoped to achieve, outlining the challenges, and how we would like to see the geography, our preference for a wider review of provision, what key things we would look for in the evidence base and what issues make Greater Lincolnshire different. 	CH
<p><u>Peer Review Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AG gave an update on the peer review, and talked about the synergy with the devolution process, however, there is strong communication between the two areas. On track. The Chief Executives of Greater Lincolnshire have taken ownership of the growth agenda, leading and directing as previously outlined. Technical support is provided for all themes. 	
<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>The Board asked for a paper on future finances of Local Authorities as a result of the business rates announcement.</p>	March 16
<p><u>The meeting was closed at 12.30</u></p>	

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Chairperson

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Date