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Minutes of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Board

19th July 2019

Stokes, The Lawn, Union Road, Lincoln,
LN1 3BU

Draft Minutes

Present: Board Directors: Ursula Lidbetter (Chair) (Lincs Co-op), David Dexter (Vice Chair FSB), Cllr Philip Jackson (NELC), Cllr Colin Davie (LCC), Cllr Rob Waltham (NLC), Cllr Ric Metcalfe (CoL), Cllr Craig Leyland (ELDC), Chris Baron (Butlins), Dean Fathers (Health), Debbie Barnes (LCC), Nick Worboys (Longhurst Group), Zoe Easey (Epix Media), Andrew Crookham (S151 Officer & AB)

Apologies: Professor Mary Stuart (UoL), Pat Doody (Nat West), Gary Headland (IoD & Chamber), Sarah Louise Fairburn (L J Fairburn & Sons Ltd), Stephen Fidler (Senior Sponsor DfT)

LEP Executive: Ruth Carver, Sue Groves (Note Taker)

Observers: Pete Holmes (CLOG), Marcella Hague (CLOG)

For Agenda Items: Cathy Jones (GLLEP), Lewis Stringer (British Business Bank)

Apologies and Declarations of Interest -

Apologies were noted from Professor Mary Stuart, Pat Doody, Gary Headland and Sarah Louise Fairburn, and Stephen Fidler DfT.

Full declarations of interest for each individual Board Director can be found at:

<https://www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/about/boards/>

The LEP Board were reminded that declarations of interest are required as part of LEP governance and must be updated at least annually, and if anything changes to the LEP office at the earliest convenience.

Minutes and Matters Arising (Paper 1)

The minutes of the 24th May 2019 were accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising:

- Energy Strategy - Energy Lead, form an Energy Council and hold a summit to be added to the list of actions.
- Circulate the Directors Forward Plan and ask for contributions.

LEP Directors Report (Paper 2) - Ruth Carver

- **British Steel** - The Chair updated the Board verbally on recent developments through the British Steel Support Group. The focus is set on securing a buyer and there has been interest from a number of sources.
- **LEP Conference** - The Chair thanked the GLLEP team for a good conference and the Board thanked everyone for their hard work, also the hard work throughout the year on inward investment and the successful year from LCC's and partners investment teams.

At the Conference - the Annual Report and the Annual Delivery Plan were launched, which are available on the website. The Annual Delivery Plan is a live document and will be updated when substantial areas are changed.

A pipeline call was launched at the Conference for both short term projects and medium term projects, with an autumn closing date.

- **Local Industrial Strategy and LEP Geography**- A further phone call has taken place with the Local Growth Minister, with both Lincolnshire and Humber LEP's presenting their case. Both LEPs are making progress with their Local Industrial Strategies and therefore focus has turned to joint working on key aspects of the Collaboration Agreement that impact on the LIS Strategies, i.e. Food , Energy, Place, People and Infrastructure.

- RC informed the Board that the Humber LEP has asked to accelerate their LIS to September this year. Greater Lincolnshire is also seeking acceleration and support by Government.
- Following May's Board approval, the first LIS expert advisory panel has been arranged to be held on the 31st July 2019 and will be chaired by Louise Kempton from the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies.

Actions:

- GL LEP to write to the BEIS SoS in respect of acceleration of the LIS to align with Humber LEP timetable.

Paper 2.1 (Quarter 1 Finance Report 2019/20) was duly noted.

Health & Care Enterprise Board Recruitment (Paper 3) - Dean Fathers, lead for Health

Board Directors agreed that the list of applicants selected from those shortlisted be appointed.

Applications received from further members will be reviewed by the Appointments Committee, and then endorsed by Board.

Decision:

- **The Board ratified the selection of Health & Care Enterprise Board members as follows:**
 - John Turner - Chief Officer Lincolnshire CCG's & Lincolnshire STP
 - Glen Garrod - Executive Director of Adult Care & Community Wellbeing, Lincolnshire County Council
 - Professor Richard Parish CBE - Chair of the National Centre for Rural Health & Care
 - James Brindle - Director (Deputy CEO), Magna Vitae
 - Tom Blount - Director, Lincoln Science and Innovation Park
 - Dan Hayes, Chief Executive, The Order of St John Care Trust
 - Professor Tanweer Ahmed - Director of Research & Innovation, Director of Lincolnshire Clinical Research Facility, United Lincolnshire Hospitals Trust
 - Nikki Silver, CEO, Lives
 - Melanie Weatherley - Chair of Lincolnshire Care Association & Chief Executive Walnut Care
 - Helen Shaw - Independent
 - Rachel Linstead - Firecracker UK
 - Joanne Metcalf - Programme Development Manager, The Royal Foundation, Director of Think4Wellbeing
 - Jo Wright - Programme Area Manager of Health & Social Care, Boston College
 - Darren Clark, CEO EM Medilinks

LEP Geography Confidential (Paper 4) - Ruth Carver

The Government's policy position remains the removal of overlaps between LEPs and this was confirmed again by Minister Jake Berry in a recent phone call between him and the LEP Chairs of Greater Lincolnshire LEP and the Humber LEP, and further supported by the Public Accounts Committee recently.

The board discussed a merger paper, and agreed that the structure of the Board should ensure that decisions are made in the right place and that all areas of the new LEP geography feel engaged and part of the decision making process. Given the uncertain funding context, it is not yet possible to finalise all sub-boards required, however, there could be place/theme boards to take decisions about infrastructure investments and strategic priorities.

The Board also discussed and reconfirmed their preferred position as Greater Lincolnshire LEP, followed by the merger option.

Actions:

- Develop a simple brief on LEP Geography for wider communications
- Develop a letter to submit to a new Prime Minister/Secretary of State on the board's preferences.
- Develop a more detailed proposal for the September Board.

Midlands Engine Investment Fund Update (Paper 5) - Presentation by Lewis Stringer (BBB)

The Bank's role in creating Regional Funds:

- Using their convening powers to bring together LEPs, HMG, stakeholders and funders to agree the design and strategy for the funds and governance arrangements.
- Secure and manage complex funding structures, bringing together ERDF, HMG, EIB and BBB's own funding into NPIF, MEIF and CloSIF.
- Work with HMG to manage complex legal and regulatory structures including State Aid.
- Agreed investment, monitoring and evaluation strategies with LEPs, stakeholders, funders and HMG.
- Undertake complex procurement processes in line with EU rules on public procurement.
- Continue to actively manage fund performance to ensure legal obligations are met and that a legacy is generated for reinvestment.

Financing the Midlands Engine

- A close collaboration between the British Business Bank, BEIS, MHCLG, EIB and 10 LEPs in the West Midlands and East & South-East Midlands.
- Fund-of-Funds, bring together over £250m of ERDF, EIB and British Business Bank funding to invest in SMEs across the region.
- Public procurement undertaken to appoint commercial fund managers to run underlying funds.
- Funds set up as 10-year limited partnerships with 5-year investment periods.

Governance

There is a Strategic Oversight Board (SOB) with East Midlands representatives from SEMLEP, LLEP, D2N2.

There are two Regional Advisory Boards (RAB)

- East and South-East Midlands - all four LEPs covered and represented by a RAB member (Russell Copley is the Chair and represents Greater Lincolnshire LEP).
- West Midlands - all six LEPs covered and represented by a RAB member.
- LEP also have alternative representatives - Samantha Harrison for GLLEP.
- Funders - British Business Bank, BEIS, MHCLG and EIB also represented.
- Like the SOB, the RAB currently meets quarterly.
- Tailored report produced which has been cleared to be used for LEPs/Growth Hubs.
- Fund managers present to the RAB regularly.

There are 4 Fund Managers:

- Enterprise Loans (East Midlands) - East & South-East Midlands Focus loans of £25k-£150k)
- Maven - Across the East Midlands (Loans of £100k-£1.5m)
- Mercia - Across the East Midlands - Proof of Concept/Early State Equity Investment up to £750k.
- Foresight Group - East & South-East Midlands Focus Equity Investment up to £2m.

Investor Promotion Activity - Attendance at MIPIIM 2020 (Paper 6) - Ruth Carver

The Board agreed supporting Greater Lincolnshire's attendance at MIPIIM and approved a contribution of £10,000 in October 2019 and contribute up to £5,000 for MIPIIM UK.

UK Steel Charter (Paper 7) - Ruth Carver

Board Directors were asked to consider supporting the UK Steel Charter and to ask other LEPs to support the charter also. Following a discussion, the Board agreed to support the UK Steel Charter and to promote this with other LEPs.

Midlands Engine Vision for Growth Storyboard (Paper 8) - Ruth Carver

The Midlands Engine is refreshing its strategy and ideas put forward and Government has asked for their input, RC ran through the emerging story board, and the LEP board made the following comments:

- Make the most of the East/West Link - Trade Corridor
- Support the Health and Care Enterprise aspirations.
- Housing as a sector, aligned with energy reduction and generation.

Tourism Sector Deal & Tourism Zones (Paper 9) - Cathy Jones

The Government published the Tourism Sector Deal on 28th Juned 2019, hailed by "VisitBritain" as a "game-changer" for tourism, spelling a step change in how we underpin the success of tourism for a generation, moving it to the top table as a leading industry for the UK Government's future economic planning.

The importance of tourism to our economy is already well established in our Strategic Economic Plan. Our emerging LIS is already positioned to align well with the Tourism Sector Deal.

Under the Deal, up to five new Tourism Zones will be piloted, supported by central government and a bidding process, to drive visitor numbers across the country, extend the season and to tackle local barriers to tourism growth. Lincolnshire's Tourism Officer Group has already discussed and noted the potential for a Lincolnshire Tourism Zone, and explored broad priorities.

A working group has been established, reporting to the Visitor Economy Board.

Actions: The board welcomed the publication of the Tourism Sector Deal and agreed to progress work to bid for a Tourism Zone with local partners.

The Future of Seaside Towns (Paper 10) - Cathy Jones

This paper summarised the main recommendations from the Lords Select Committee's report on the Future of Seaside Towns, and the Government's response to it. The report looked at a wide range of issues affecting seaside towns and communities. The 38 recommendations reaffirm the Government's commitment to support the regeneration of coastal settlements, with an emphasis on LEPs, Coastal Community Teams and Sector Deals throughout.

Greater Lincolnshire LEP has secured and co-ordinated a significant amount of investment into our coastal communities.

The board noted that members of the Select Committee visited Lincolnshire during the research phase of the Committee's work. The board further noted a number of themes on which they would welcome further work, noting that the launch of the pipeline call is an opportunity to explore emerging big ideas :

- Training seasonal staff

- Battery storage opportunities and links to the Energy Strategy.
- Explore potential to sense-check or appraise all projects to identify any implications for seaside/coastal towns, and plan accordingly

Any Other Business

PH stated that Oxford/Cambridge LIS was published today.

The meeting was closed.

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