



Greater Lincolnshire LEP Board

Minutes of 28th September 2021 at 3.00pm
Via MS Teams

Present: Board Directors: Pat Doody - Chair (Non-Executive Director), Cllr Philip Jackson - Vice Chair (NELC), Cllr Colin Davie (LCC), Cllr Oliver Hemsley (RCC), Cllr Rob Waltham (NLC), Alison Ballard (BAE Systems), Darren Cunningham (Phillips 66) Dean Fathers (Health), Gary Headland (Lincoln College, IoD and Lincs Chamber), Zoe King (Epix Media),

Observers: Pete Holmes (BEIS), Sophie Todd (BEIS),

LEP Officers: Ruth Carver, Halina Davies, James Baty, Kate Storey, Sue Groves (Note Taker), Amy O'Sullivan (observer)

For Agenda items: Samantha Harrison (LCC), Jeannine Thornley (LCC), Darren Joint (Viking Signs and Chair of the Manufacturing Board), Martin Collison, Simon Dwyer for item on Seafood

Apologies from Directors: Andrew Hunter (UoL), Mandy Watson (Ambitions Personnel), Suraya Marshall (RAF Cranwell) Julian Free (UoL), Debbie Barnes (CX LCC), Jo Hardy (Hardy's Farm), Nick Worboys (Longhurst), Cllr Craig Leyland (ELDC), Simon Bird ABP), Stephen Fidler (DfT)

Apologies from Observers: Andrew Crookham (Accountable Body & Section 151 Officer)

Declarations of Interest - 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 & Matters Arising (Paper 1) - Pat Doody/Ruth Carver

- Labour Shortages update (feedback to BEIS) - Separate working groups have been set up for HGV (Government announced that they are trying to procure boot camps for training providers), Food Board (dates organised 7th and 14th October), Visitor Economy Board and still to arrange the Health & Care Enterprise Board, all are solution focused.
 - PH (BEIS) needs intelligence from the LEP and the Growth Hub on sectorial impact in general.
- An umbrella Energy Board organisation is being discussed as a voice of both sides of the Humber and will be discussed at a forthcoming HLB Board next.
- County Deals (Devolution) - Discussions are ongoing; functional economic geography has been established for Greater Lincolnshire, governance and an opportunity for asks, which are being worked on and what Councils are going to do to transform to be able to deliver.
- RC updated the board on the levelling up work undertaken by the team - and had circulated the CSR asks and two slide decks on asks and levelling up challenges and opportunities for Greater Lincolnshire
Humber Freeport still progressing at pace.

ACTION: ESAP to update the Board on Labour shortages across GL at the next board and look at local solutions.

Decision Log & Review of Actions (Papers 1.1 and 1.2)

- Covered in CX Paper

Manufacturing Board Plan (Paper 2) - Darren Joint Chair Manufacturing Board/Samantha Harrison and Jeannine Thornley, LCC and Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub

- DJ introduced himself as being the Chair of the Manufacturing Board.
- Challenging 18 months, a working group was set up and designed a Manufacturing Sector Plan at the end of 2019. The mission is to help manufactures to develop local supply chains, access skilled workers and champion clean growth and to support the sector to

develop ambitious growth plans, access new markets, embrace innovation and attract inward investment.

- Leaving the EU has been challenging for manufacturing businesses who have had supply chain issues, increasing raw material costs and having access to a skilled workforce. Needed to change the way the Manufacturing Sector was supported and through accessing funding from the Government, a bid was submitted to the Peer Network programme that BEIS department had developed and 33 manufacturing businesses went through a support programme for business resilience etc.
- Two biggest issues that have been championed to date 1) Greater Lincolnshire Manufacturing Network in partnership with the University of Lincoln, with several successful meetings where experiences have been shared and 2) campaigning for Made Smarter in the East Midlands. SLH and RC have discussed with BEIS about understanding the national approach. As part of CSR, BEIS will be putting forward a proposition to roll out Made Smarter on a national basis. A slide deck and proposition to be submitted to BEIS to say why East Midlands should be considered in the next roll-out, this is supported by the Chief Executives of East Midlands LEPs, Make UK and Midlands Engine. Business Case to be submitted to Government in the near future.
- The next Greater Lincolnshire Manufacturing Network will focus on skills, particularly FE provision and would like to link up with the Employment and Skills Advisory Panel.
- Skills gap - there is a national shortage as well as local, under-funding in colleges and equipment and is the same for all sectors.
- The Made in Lincolnshire programme (digital brochure) celebrating and promoting local manufacturing businesses and inter-trading was re-launched in June 2021.
- Keen to expand board membership from the north of the county and Rutland, particularly the food manufacturing sector and also inviting members of other boards as visitors to collaborate.

ACTIONS:

- Post Pandemic Action plan for the manufacturing sector to be discussed at Board
- Suggestions of manufacturers to join the Manufacturing board to DJ, SH, JT
- Board Directors to support the ask for Made Smarter for the EM - Briefing note by SH, JT
- Board Directors pass on information to companies who would benefit the Made in Lincolnshire programme and would like to be featured. JT

The Seafood Sector- Cllr Phillip Jackson/Martin Collison/Simon Dwyer

Introduction about the importance of food manufacturing UKFV and the Seafood cluster in North East Lincolnshire. LEP has been supportive of the Made in Grimsby message and committed to supporting investment into the sector from prospective new employers.

UK Food Valley is about making Greater Lincolnshire as a global cluster within the food chain, with an ambition of being seen on a global basis as being within the top 10. There will be coordinated support to help businesses to invest, grow and thrive.

There are 3 cross cutting "big bets" that the Food Board agreed:

- Food chain automation and digitalisation
- Low Carbon food chains
- Diet and health agenda

Expecting growth in the following areas:

- Fish and aquaculture
- Intensive crops

- Logistics and cool chain

Grimsby fish is already in the top 5 global clusters and is the UK and Europe's largest fish processing cluster. Total for the whole of the UK imported seafood for 2020 was £4.8bn and import from Iceland, China, Vietnam, Sweden and Denmark. Grimsby employs 6,000 people in 70 approved processing units, import most fish and seafood from all over the world with 35 species from 25 countries. Supply chain is competitive and work with a number of collaborators.

Actions:

- Consider campaigns about local food in UK FV and encourage local businesses to buy local including promote fish consumption with employees - fsb/chamber joint work etc - MC
- Spread the message about GG - produce from Great Grimsby - UKFV
- Continue to develop proposals with UofL on a Skills and Innovation centre for the sector - MC and Food Board

Reserves Options (Paper 4) - Halina Davies

The paper was prepared and presented by Halina Davies. At the last board, the Board discussed cost pressures for capital programmes, and the exec team were asked to review the cash balances to support areas of need and opportunity. A full review was undertaken of cash balances, with circa £4.5 million repurposed or unallocated to current programmes. The Investment Board then considered several options and made recommendations of three options to the LEP Board. The Board debated and considered the options

Decision:

- Retain £500,000 for LEP programmes
- Retain £500,000 for Projects
- £1.75 m for a Net Zero Challenge fund
- £1.75 m for a labour market challenge fund

ACTION: The LEP team were asked to develop the two programmes for launch.

Chair & CX Report (Paper 3) - Pat Doody/Ruth Carver

- The Chair updated the Board, on Chairs appointments, including engagement with local authority leaders, MPs and business leaders, in GL, across the Midlands and nationally
- The CX report was considered, with three areas of focus
- Levelling Up update - CX highlighted the levelling up slide deck prepared and shared with local partners. CSR submissions being framed in levelling up - comments received which will re-shape the submission and now moving into the lobbying position with the main asks for Greater Lincolnshire.
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- The Economic Dashboard - <https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoimTE1NGI1MjYtYzkyYi00NmNmLWI3NzEtNGQzYjI2MjRjZTk3IiwidCI6ImI0ZTA1YjkyLWY4Y2UtNDZiNS05YjI0LTk5YmE1YzExZTVLOSj9>
- LEP Conference - 2nd November and the official launch of UK Food Valley.
- Mid-Year Review - 6-month review by Government and is based on data collection, which has already been submitted, and a discussion on performance on the wider areas

and takes place next week.

- Monthly meeting to be held on 26th October and then a quarterly meeting to be held on 26th November, which hopefully will be a face-to-face meeting.

Forward Plan (Paper 5)

- To be updated

Any Other Business

None

The meeting closed at 4.50pm

DRAFT