



# Minutes of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Board

25<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Bishop Grosseteste University, BG Futures  
Room 1, Longdales Road, Lincoln, LN1 3DY

Minutes

**Present:** Board Directors: Ursula Lidbetter (Chair) (Lincs Co-op), David Dexter (Vice Chair FSB), Cllr Craig Leyland (ELDC), Cllr Peter Wheatley (NELC), Cllr Ric Metcalfe (CoL), Dean Fathers (Health), Herman Kok (Lindum Group), Prof Mary Stuart (UoL), Pat Doody (Nat West), Debbie Barnes (LCC), Nick Worboys (Longhurst), Gary Headland (IoD & Chamber)

**Apologies:** Cllr Colin Davie (LCC), Cllr Rob Waltham (NLC), Steve Middlebrough (Siemens), Sarah Louise Fairburn (Fairburns), Pete Moore (S151 Officer & AB)

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

**Observers:** Pete Holmes (CLOG), Simon Green (NLC), Chris Duffill (NELC), Cllr Richard Hannigan (NLC)

**For Agenda Items:** Andy Gutherson (LCC), Liz Draper-Smethurst (LEP)

### **Planning for Growth and Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SIDP)**

This item was presented by Andy Gutherson, Director of Place Lincolnshire County Council. Andy was congratulated on his new role.

**Planning for Growth** - An update was given to the Greater Lincolnshire Leaders and Chief Executives at their last meeting and the combined ambitions of Greater Lincolnshire's growth were set out and agreed. Currently the overall approach is fragmented and individual plans and strategies should be brought together to form a Greater Lincolnshire Vision or Strategy. An example of the Leicestershire Spatial Plan is <https://www.llstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Final-LL-SGP-December-2018-1.pdf>. It was agreed that Greater Lincolnshire should be prepared to maximise the chances that Lincolnshire needs to be successful in accessing Government funding, ie from GLLEP, Homes England or other agencies or Government departments.

**SIDP** - A sub-group of HIG members, supported by Local Partnerships, will be meeting next week, which is being led by Andy Gutherson and Ian Fytche (CX of NKDC) and will look at which mechanism work and those that do not, also to look at the ambitions of different projects under the Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SIDP). Over 40 schemes have been identified and by the end of March 2019, these will have been prioritised and show how they are to be delivered. The SIDP will become a live working document, which can be added to when funding bids are available for those that are ready to be delivered.

**MRN** - Midlands Connect is also putting together a list of schemes for the Major Road Network. Lincolnshire County Council is looking at programming smaller projects which will fit the MRN criteria, but the North Hykeham Relief Road does not meet this.

A number of planning issues were raised as a barrier to some development namely, timescale of planning decisions, lack of common approach across GL.

Action: It was suggested that the Planning for Growth work would involve discussions with private sector developers in terms of ambition and deliverability.

### **Actions:**

Circulate the Leicestershire Spatial Plan to Board - <https://www.llstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Final-LL-SGP-December-2018-1.pdf> (Sue Groves)

Offer from the LEP to facilitate a business voice session with the Planning for Growth team - (Nick Warboys, Herman Kok and Ursula Lidbetter) - Cathy Jones and Andy Gutherson

LEP Team to work with AG to explore the relationship and alignment between the SEP/LIS and the PLG and SIDP work - Cathy Jones and Andy Gutherson

### **Apologies and Declarations of Interest -**

New board directors Gary Headland, Nick Warboys, and Debbie Barnes were welcomed.

Apologies were noted from Cllr Colin Davie, Cllr Rob Waltham, Steve Middlebrough and Sarah-Louise Fairburn. Full declarations of interest can be found at:

[https://www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/assets/documents/LEP\\_Rols\\_LIVE\\_list\\_March\\_2018\\_.pdf](https://www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/assets/documents/LEP_Rols_LIVE_list_March_2018_.pdf)

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. Ursula Lidbetter and Dean Fathers to update their Declarations of Interest as a result of verbal declarations.

**Action:** UL and DB to update ROI. (Sue Groves)

### **Minutes and Matters Arising (Paper 2)**

The minutes of the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were accepted as a true record following amendment.

Actions from previous minutes:

- High Street Regeneration Fund - £675m fund that only District Councils can apply for. PH has organised three workshops in order to bring policy colleagues to brief. These are to be held in Birmingham, Leicester and Sleaford (on 11<sup>th</sup> February) to which the LA's have been. There is £25m fund for Heritage High Streets.
- Judicial Review - SUFC have now appealed, papers have been received and responses have been sent. GLLEP now have to wait for the Court to consider whether the appeal goes ahead, which could take up to three months and if SUFC are given leave to appeal, this could take up to 12 months.
- MPs Engagement Plan - updated document circulated and any feedback to Ruth Carver.
- LEP team has written to projects that have a red flag against their performance asking for a detailed response, which will be considered at the February Investment Board and a report of the actions would be taken to the March GLLEP Board.

### **GLLEP Board Actions (Paper 2.1)**

Actions were noted and will be updated for the next meeting

### **GLLEP Board Forward Plan (Paper 2.2)**

This was noted by the Board members.

### **Actions:**

- High Street Fund - LEP to write to the policy team ensuring that they are aware of rural and market towns high streets and small communities challenges and opportunities and the co-ordinating role that LEP would want to play in future rounds. Support of Heritage High Streets. (Cathy Jones)
- Recirculated the MP engagement plan for endorsement (Cathy Jones)

### **LEP Directors Report (Paper 3)**

- Three Directors have been appointed to the LEP Board; Gary Headland (IoD & Lincoln College), Mrs Nick Worboys (Director of Development and Sales, Longhurst Group) and Sarah Louise Fairburn (Brand & Sales Director, L J Fairburn & Son)
- Appointments Committee have also made the following recommendations to LEP Strategic Boards:

- ESIF Committee Member - Prof Nigel Curry (Community Lincs)
- Visitor Economy Board - James Gilbert (Growth & Promotions Service Manager, ELDC) and Kimberly Vickers (General Manager at Lincoln Castle)
- Food Board - Nigel Terry (MD, Greenyard), Daniel Fairburn (CEO, Fairburn Eggs), William Burgess (Chairman, Produce World)
- Employment & Skills Board - interviews being held later in January 2019.
- The recently published National Assurance Framework requires LEPs to produce a diversity statement explaining how the LEP will ensure representation at Board level which is reflective of the local business community. It is recommended that a board member be nominated as a diversity champion. Board directors were asked to consider this and Dean Fathers volunteered for the role.
- Brexit - weekly reports are sent to the Government regarding intelligence in Greater Lincolnshire. BRO's, FDI and Business Lincolnshire gather the information to input into this report. RC also advised the Board that an intern from the University of Lincoln will be joining the LEP team for one day a week to assist gathering/collating this information.
- SAP - Government has also published an analytical toolkit to support Skills Advisory Panels to carry out high quality local skills analysis, which will be used by Skills Advisory Panels to fully understand and assess their skills needs and wider labour market challenges, now and in the future. The Secretary of State for the Department for Education has announced that Skills Advisory Panels will get £75,000 to analyse their local skills needs and priorities. **It was agreed that the ESB should be asked to become a skills advisory panel. Revised terms of reference and membership will be brought to the LEP Board for decision.**
- DF informed the Board that the NHS are looking to work with LEPs with regard to skills, which is welcomed in Greater Lincolnshire.

#### Annual Performance Review (Paper 3.1)

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP Annual Performance Review took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019 to review governance, delivery and strategy. From the LEP the Chair, the Chief Executive, and the Programme Manager attended, from the AB, the S151 officers and the accountable body lead attended. The note of the meeting was included in the Board Paper pack, and the process will need to be moderated, agree assessments before a decision on levels will be agreed. It is likely that there will be a formal review on delivery in six months' time.

#### LEP Review Presentation (Paper 3.2)

The Chair informed the Board on the current position with LEP geography and the removal of the overlap. After much discussion it was agreed that the LEP board would propose further work on options, and in particular focus on the strengths and collaboration opportunities between the two LEPs. The Chair planned to write to the Secretary of State to update him following today's board, and the Chair would seek agreement from the Humber LEP Chair to explore collaboration areas and mechanisms.

RC gave an overview of the actions from the Strengthening LEP Review Implementation Plan, in particular the agreed actions from the LEP Task and Finish Group on independent Secretariat and Legal Personality.

#### LEP Governance Review (Paper 3.4)

The Board was asked to approve the scope an Independent Governance Review and delegate authority to the LEP Director to procure. The Chair and the members of the LEP Review Task & Finish Group would be accountable for the LEP review, and report back to the LEP Board on recommendations. The budget allocation was agreed as up to £20k.

#### Actions

- CJ to write to MHCLG about the importance of market towns and smaller communities

within the HSF.

- DB to undertake the role of Diversity Champion at the LEP Board
- CJ to recirculate the MP engagement plan and get agreement on link MP's
- ESB to undertake SAP Function on behalf of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP - terms of reference and membership to be developed by the ESB and approved at the March 2019 LEP Board
- Chair to write to the SOS setting our position of the LEP Board, copying in the Lincolnshire MP's
- The LEP Board gave their approval for the LEP Director to commission an Independent Governance Review to the value of £20,000.

#### **LEP Collaboration Approach (Paper 4)**

The Board were asked to consider the broad areas of collaboration for the LEP team to take forward with partners. Collaboration with neighbouring LEPS and LEPS with similar interests is important to achieving our ambitions, although there is no formal collaboration currently.

The approach is to work with local stakeholders to agree areas of collaboration; this will involve conversations with local authorities and neighbouring LEPS with the aim of producing a statement of collaborations. The LEP Board are asked to agree the initial areas of focus:

#### **GCGP LEP - SKDC and SHDC (and ultimately Rutland CC)**

- Funding arrangements for South Kesteven, South Holland in relation to ESIF and Growth Fund finances from CPCA LEP function.
- Transition arrangements relating to Rutland potential transfer from CPCA LEP function to the Greater Lincolnshire LEP.
- A1 growth corridor, A17 arrangements around co-ordination of strategy, policy and funding
- A47 Strategic Alliance and connectivity of the A16 and A15 to the A47.
- Skills, HE and business engagement is critical.
- Automation and Robotics in the Food Sector.

#### **D2N2 LEP - GLLEP**

- A46 Corridor and employment growth.
- Manufacturing Sector.

#### **Humber LEP and GLLEP**

- Ports and Logistics, Manufacturing and Energy Sector.
- Transport Connectivity - A15/A46.

#### **Humber, GLLEP and North York and Yorkshire LEP**

- Rural.
- Coastal
- Energy
- Food
- Ports and Logistics
  
- Closer engagement with Midlands Connect, Midlands Engine and the Northern Powerhouse.

**Action:** The direction of travel was agreed, with any formal collaboration proposals being presented to Board to discuss.

#### **Delivery of the EP AgriFood Sector Plan (Paper 5)**

The Board also noted the progress of the LEP Food Board.

The LEP Board considered the change to the Terms of Reference to the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Food Board and this was agreed.

**Action :** The LEP Board approved the change in terms of reference for the Food board, and change in membership between two further groups CAT (commercial Agrifood Tech) and Agriculture and Horticulture Forum - Kate Storey

#### **Enterprise Adviser Network (Paper 6)**

**Liz Draper-Smethurst Enterprise Co-ordinator for the LEP attended the meeting for this item**

The Government Careers Strategy was released in December 2017 and was developed in partnership with the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, therefore the subsequent Statutory Guidance released in January 2018 stated that the Gatsby Benchmarks be used as a framework for good practice to ensure schools were meeting their duty.

One of the statutory duties identified in the new guidance, states that by September 2018 all schools and academies should appoint a careers leader to co-ordinate their careers programme and that their details, along with details of the careers programme and their provider access policy be accessible on their website. The role of the Enterprise Coordinator (EC) is to recruit and partner volunteer business leaders (Enterprise Advisers) with school's careers leads, assisting them strategically to build a careers plan and gain meaningful encounters with employers to help young people learn more employability skills and understand the local labour market.

The EC role involves understanding the school's starting point, needs and strengths of the schools and their CEAIG to be able to identify key areas for development and also make the best match with an Enterprise Adviser. This has been done with information from the Compass and Tracker tools shared with the EC, school meetings and also completion of a schools provision survey devised by the EC to identify gaps in the Compass report.

The EC has been in post with the LEP team since September 2018 and is making good progress. The target is 20 schools and the area has been established as East Lindsey, West Lindsey, North Kesteven, Lincoln and Boston. To date, 6 schools have been visited to:

- Look at career plan/strategy with Enterprise Adviser.
- Schools - some let their pupils do work experience and some do not, should look at the entire career path and assist schools to reach benchmarks.
- To increase employability, skills and understand what is available in the world of work/labour market.

#### **Comments:**

- ❖ Ensure that when careers advice is given, advice on self-employment is given. LDS informed the Board that she is looking at entrepreneurial areas and how businesses can start up and develop.
- ❖ Board members were very supportive of this project.
- ❖ Request that FE colleges be involved.

The LEP Board was asked to consider whether there is an ambition to have full coverage across Greater Lincolnshire. It is estimated that a further two full time posts would be needed to provide coverage across Lincolnshire beyond March 2019 and to work with all schools in Lincolnshire. 50% of any salary costs would be matched by the CEC until August 2020 (CSR). The LEP team have written to local partners to seek the understanding of the ambition on coverage across Lincolnshire and if there is sufficient interest to match fund.

#### **Action:**

- The Board noted the progress of the existing Enterprise Co-ordinator, and subject to match

funding from other partners supported an ambition of full coverage across Lincolnshire subject to contribution from partners.

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**AOB**

There is to be an inaugural Health & Care Enterprise Board to be held at the University of Lincoln on the 27<sup>th</sup> February and board directors were asked to feedback to the LEP Team any potential private sector members that were large or international or potential investor operating in health

**The meeting was closed.**