

Board Members Present:

Ursula Lidbetter – Chair (UL); David Dexter – Deputy Chair (DD); Chris Baron (CB); Andy Orrey (AO); Pat Doody (PD); Steve Middlebrough (SM); Prof Mary Stuart (MS); Mark Tinsley (MT); Cllr Bob Adams (BA); Cllr Lady Liz Redfern (LR); Cllr Peter Wheatley (PW); Richard Wills

Apologies from Board Members:

Herman Kok; Cllr Colin Davie; Dr Tony Hill

Observers:

Angela Blake (AB); Pete Holmes (PH – Cities & Local Growth Unit); Vicky Wheelwright (VW – BIS Local)

LEP

Ruth Carver (RC); Sue Groves (Note Taker)

Item 1

Welcome and Introductions

UL welcomed Cllr Peter Wheatley from North East Lincolnshire Council, representing Cllr Ray Oxby

The Minutes of 24th March 2016 agreed as a true record and can be published.

Declarations of Interest:

Lincoln Science Park – UL and MS

Boole Park –UL

Area Reviews – MS, PD and AO

Matters Arising from previous minutes

Actions:

- RC has confirmed dates and format of big debates to Board Members
- Business Plan for 2016/17 approved electronically by the Board.

Item 2

Finance Report from the Accountable Body

Andy Orrey presented this item - It was noted that there was a slight overspend of 1% from revenue funds, but no concerns have been raised.

An annual report will be produced once the audit has been carried out during May and June. The results from the audit will be taken to the July Board, then the annual report will be produced for the AGM and Business Live in October 2016.

The cash balance shows that there was approximately £9.4m in March 2016, however RC stated that this has now been updated to be approximately £1.6m unallocated.

LR queried the underspend on Sectors, RC explained that due to difficulties with Agresso, cost codes from the beginning of the financial year need re-allocating.

	<p>MT asked whether the "Accountable Body" is the Board. RW explained that this is a government expression and that LCC is the "Accountable Body" and that the "Accountable Body" ensures that any decisions made by the LEP Board are correct.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Results of annual audit to be taken to the July Board by the Chair of the Audit Committee.
<p>Item 3</p>	<p><u>Management Report</u></p> <p>The LEP Board previously approved the launch of the Greater Lincolnshire Feasibility Challenge Fund, which received 29 completed bids from both the public sector and private sector in the LEP area. A prioritised list is included in the paper. Draft grant agreements have been issued and the grant payment process will follow once signed agreements are in place.</p> <p>RC informed the Board that the following funds have been launched:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Communities Fund (£90m over 4 years) • Challenge Fund – Discover England (£40m) <p><u>ESIF</u></p> <p>PD informed the Board that he has raised concerns with DCLG regarding the length of time to process applications and to see if this could be made quicker. An example given was that it took a year from application to project starting. It was agreed that this would be raised through the national growth programme board that Mark Tinsley sit on.</p> <p>PD asked for the Board support in prioritising a programme of engagement and communication with the business community. It was agreed this should be a series of workshops delivered by the LEP's growth hub which included ESIF calls and funding advice</p> <p>Where demand has required, higher bids have been funded.</p> <p><u>Big Debate – Midlands Engine</u></p> <p>This was held on 18th May. The Panel consisted of UL, CD, SM, David Sharif (Interim Midlands Engine Delivery Director) and Tom Robinson (Simons). SM reported that this was well attended by businesses from the whole county. SM stated that it appears to be well focused on the West Midlands and that Lincolnshire/East Midlands should ensure that their voices are heard. One of the questions raised at the event by businesses is how to they access/target new funds.</p> <p>A one page briefing note on the Midlands Engine was to be circulated to the Board and added to the web site.</p> <p><u>Growth Hub</u></p> <p>DD asked for a breakdown of activity in each area to be shared with the LEP Board and achievements against targets for September's LEP board</p> <p><u>Boston Quadrant</u></p> <p>DD informed the Board that he attended the "Breaking Ground" ceremony at Boston and stated that the Chairman of Chestnut Homes had recognised and thanked the LEP for their support.</p>

	<p>Business Plan</p> <p>DD asked that looking at creating new businesses should be included in the Business Plan, stating that each year 15% of new businesses are lost, but there is a need to increase this by thousands, ie, making it an entrepreneurial county. UL stated that it must be genuine new businesses, not just new company registrations.</p> <p>RC stated that research is being carried out regarding businesses opening/closing and that once this has been completed, targets will be set that can be achieved.</p> <p>MS updated the Board on the LEPs Innovation Council and stated that a "Going Digital Innovation" Council was held recently with 65 businesses attending. The key theme was One to One discussions on how technology can help. New members included Jason Andrews (who mentors new businesses), Alex Knapton-Wright (Works for Facebook), David Marlow (Economist), and a Director of Research from Bishop Grosseteste University.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>➤ Business Plan to be updated following discussion.</p>
<p>Item 4</p>	<p>Single Local Growth Fund</p> <p>RC gave a presentation on Single Local Growth Fund.</p> <p>Greater Lincolnshire LEP has attracted £146m out of the £7.2 billion to date. In the Spring 2016 budget, up to £1.8 billion was allocated through a further competitive round of Growth Deals, with negotiations for the remainder ongoing.</p> <p>CLOG will be looking for the following areas, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interlinkages between Growth Deals and Devolution, Northern Powerhouse, Midlands Engine and the housing agenda, also with the Humber LEP. • Evidence that underpins what will be achieved by that activity, in the form of outputs and other metric, evidence of progress that the LEP has made in the last couple of years and evidence of what our economy needs and why this may have changed since the previous SEP. • An agreed list of projects or programmes, led by political and business leaders. • There will be a conversation about which activity to prioritise regarding the Growth Deal, and as a potential devolved area, we can submit programmes as well as projects. • A challenge session will take place at the end of June/early July with the government before any submission and it must show a level of ambition. • Agreement is needed by the LEP Board and support from the Combined Authority. • Final submission is 28th July with announcements on the award of Local Growth Fund being made as part of the Autumn Statement. • Four programmes are already being considered and detailed business cases have been requested. • Private and public sector have been asked for schemes with full business cases to be requested. • Projects up to £60m should be prioritised. • PH stated that being in a devolution area put GLLEP in a good place, but there would be challenges and to maximise the flexibility of the programme approach. • DD asked whether previous schemes that have been assisted with funds could return for further funding. RC said that businesses should be encouraged to return if they are expanding their project and also depending on a strong business case.

	<p>LEP Board Members agreed the approach taken to the SLGF, and asked the LEP Executive to produce a detailed proposal for consideration at the July Board.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation to be circulated to all. ➤ Board members to continue to engage with MPs.
<p>Item 5</p>	<p><u>DfT Transport Majors - RC</u></p> <p>RW and LR declared an interest and left the room for the discussion.</p> <p>The Department for Transport has recently announced a £475m fund for large local transport schemes and that the funding will be available on a competitive basis for 5 or 6 schemes nationally.</p> <p>The fund provides two opportunities for LEPs to apply for central government financial support to help develop or implement large transport schemes in their area, with a deadline for submissions being 21st July 2016. The Board considered the options in the papers and supported the application for development funding for the Lincoln Southern Bypass.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Delegated Authority to the LEP Exec to submit a development funding application for Lincoln Southern Bypass by the July deadline.
<p>Item 6</p>	<p><u>Devolution – George Spiteri (GS) & RW</u></p> <p>GS explained that the Government agenda is growth, ie, economy, roads, housing, jobs etc and that there had been 38 bids for Devolution. The Deal for Greater Lincolnshire was announced in the Spring Budget on 16th March 2016 George gave an overview on content within the deal and the progress made to date.. There are 6 Work Streams and Themes</p> <p>Richard Wills gave a presentation on how the LEP and the CA could work together to achieve the deal. It was agreed to circulate both presentations to board members.</p>
<p>Item 7</p>	<p><u>Area Reviews - CH</u></p> <p>The LEP Board is asked to note the updated guidance on area reviews and endorse the approach outlined. The Post 16 area reviews are taking place nationally, predominantly to ensure that FE Colleges/Sixth Form College Institutions are financially stable.</p> <p>Reviews are to be undertaken by representatives from local and national organisations, working together through a series of 5 meetings that will take place over a few months to agree a series of recommendations about the local structure, quantity and quality of provision.</p> <p>At the last LEP Board meeting, a position statement was agreed and the ESB was asked to form a small working group. This working group will meet at least 3 times before the start of the area review in the autumn. Its purpose is to assist the LEP in developing and articulating the LEP's input to the area review. Members of this group will include Andy Orrey (LEP), Cllr Bob Adams (LEP), Herman Kok (LEP/ESB), Heather Lee (ESB), James Pinchbeck (ESB), Maggie Freeman (LCC, 14-19 Education) and Clare Hughes (LCC) and their role will be to ensure that a private sector view of the economic evidence is provided.</p>

Over the next 10 years, there will be up to 200 thousand vacancies and we must ensure we know what skills employers will require. BA asked about the role and input of the Combined Authority and CH stated that she is working with Beverly Agass (SKDC), who is championing the skills theme on behalf of the CA.

Once the area review has been completed, each institution could either accept or reject the recommendations. If they reject the recommendations, it would be difficult for the LEP to provide capital funding.

MT said that any linkage between schools, FE and Employers should also include parents.

Actions:

- Invite Bev Agass to the July or September board
- Cllr Bob Adam asked for the full guidance on area Reviews
- Approach GCGP for a role their area review.

Meeting Closed at 12:30

.....
Chairperson

.....
Date

