



# LEP DIRECTORS BOARD

20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Bishop Grosseteste University, Longdales  
Road, Lincoln

Minutes

# Draft Minutes

## Present:

**Board Directors:** Ursula Lidbetter (Chair) (Lincs Co-op), David Dexter (FSB), Cllr Colin Davie (LCC), Cllr Craig Leyland (ELDC), Cllr Peter Wheatley (NELC), Cllr Rob Waltham (NLC), Cllr Ric Metcalfe (CLC), Chris Baron (Butlins), Pat Doody (Nat West); Dean Fathers (Health),

**LEP Executive:** Ruth Carver, Liz Shutt (LEP and UoL), Louise Kempton Sue Groves (Note Taker)

**Observers:** Pete Holmes (CLOG BEIS), Ange Blake (NELC), Pete Moore (S151 LCC),

**Apologies:** Herman Kok (Lindums), Steve Middlebrough (Siemens), Prof Mary Stuart (UoL) Richard Wills (LCC), Graham Pendlebury Observer (DfT)

**Guests:** Louise Kempton Newcastle University)

## Welcome by the Chair

### Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Formal apologies were received from the following Directors:

Herman Kok, Lindums, Steve Middlebrough (Siemens), Prof Mary Stuart (UoL), Richard Wills (LCC), Graham Pendlebury (DfT)

### **Declarations of Interest:**

Full declarations of interest can be found at:

<https://www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/documents/declarations-of-interest-nov-2016/>

Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Rob Waltham - Report on the Northern Junction Roundabout (Paper 2)

Simon Green - Report on the northern Junction Roundabout (Paper 2)

Cllr Colin Davie - Promotion Investment (Paper 7)

The Chair welcomed Pete Moore, LCC S151 to the meeting, and reported on a meeting with Graham Pendlebury, a Director at DfT, who is our new Senior Government Sponsor.

## Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were accepted as a true record and can be published on the website. Any matters arising are included on this Board's agenda.

### Paper 1: Matters Arising

- Meeting with Claire Perry, MP still to be arranged, early September.
- LEP Review is part of the Directors Report
- LIS - Three successful LIS roundtables held to date in Spalding, Boston and Lincoln. Louth scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018, and working on northern Lincolnshire MP roundtable during summer recess.
- Paper 1.1: Review of Actions - the action list will be updated as and when actions are completed.
- Paper 1.2: Forward Plan -September agenda LEP Review, Brexit Monitoring, UKSPF and future funding for Greater Lincolnshire, Housing and Infrastructure, Midlands Engine to be on September Board agenda, move the Skills, Energy Strategy, BREXIT Action Plan to the November Board agenda.

CLoG

Cathy Jones

LEP Team

Simon Green NLC left the room

**Paper 2: Discharge of Condition - Report on the Northern Junction Roundabout Scheme and the Southern Junction Proposal, M1181 at Scunthorpe**

Following consideration of the Officer Report published on 13 July 2018 with Appendices and the letter from Pinder Reaux dated 19 July 2018, the Board made a decision as to whether or not to proceed with the contracting stage with North Lincolnshire Council ("**NLC**") in relation to the Northern Junction scheme now taking into account all information currently known or to await the outcome of the judicial review challenge before deciding whether or not to enter into the contracting stage with NLC.

**Action - That the Greater Lincolnshire LEP should proceed with the contracting stage with NLC now.**

The decision was made, following review of the Board's decisions to date and taking all information currently available, including the points raised by SUFC in its judicial review challenge and representations for the reasons set out in the Officers Report. These reasons include but are not limited to the importance of the Northern Junction scheme proceeding and in particular that:-

- i) The Northern Junction scheme is capable of being delivered within the required timescales for SLGF funding;
- ii) The Northern Junction is pivotal in providing the infrastructure to access the Lincolnshire Lakes Development;
- iii) The Northern Junction will also provide access to the Strategic Mixed Use Area which has an existing planning permission to host a commercial park;
- iv) The Northern Junction scheme is crucial in order to unlock the Lincolnshire Lakes Development;
- iv) The Northern Junction scheme will also serve to alleviate congestion issues around Berkeley Circle roundabout in Scunthorpe;
- v) That it is unclear as to how the Northern Junction scheme can proceed without funding from the GL LEP.
- vi) There is a clear and overwhelming need to proceed with the Northern Junction scheme given the importance of the Northern Junction and the deliverability of the scheme may be placed at risk if the scheme does not proceed now.

Conditions to be included within the contractual agreement with GL LEP will be as follows:

- That NLC provide written confirmation that they will be responsible for meeting any increased costs and overruns that may arise;
- A revised programme for the delivery of the project and quarterly forecast for the drawdown of the SLGF to be provided;
- NLC shall ensure that outputs are delivered by 2021 and the contract shall contain clawback provisions if a proportion of the outputs are not achieved within that timescale;
- GL LEP is provided with written confirmation of sign off of the scheme by Highways England before any funding can be released to the project.
- The contractual agreement will also include a clause relating to shared risk between NLC and GL LEP should clawback need to be instigated following the court decision, prior to the scheme having physically begun on site.

**Simon Green returned to the meeting and Cllr Rob Waltham from NLC joined the meeting**

**Paper 3: Director's Report**

RC presented this item. The Chair gave an overview of engagements since the last meeting, including nationally the Food and Drink Sector Council, the Retail Council, PM Councils and LEP Chairs and CX sessions. Graham Pendlebury, our new Government Sponsor visited Lincoln on the 12<sup>th</sup> July and toured the City of Lincoln, including the University and the Transport Hub. In the future, he intends to visit the ports in the North and South Lincolnshire and the executive team will work local partners to develop an itinerary.

Regionally, RC represented the LEP at the Midlands Connect, Routes to Growth report, and through various work streams on the work of the Midlands Engine.

The strengthening LEP Review is expected to be published on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018. It will also clarify Governance (Mary Ney Review), Geography (Overlaps) and composition of Board. Work will be required over the summer months and a response to the Review will be need by September. It was agreed that a working group will be formed, led by the Chair over the summer, with Cllr Metcalfe, Cllr Waltham, Pat Doody and Pete Moore. PH also stated he would be available for supporting this group.

An update on Midlands Engine, Midlands Connect and the East Midlands Strategic Alliance was given.

Changes in LEP Chairs in the East Midlands, Kevin Harris takes over from Nick Pulley as LEP Chair at LLEP, and Elizabeth Fagan, at D2N2. The East Midlands Chairs are setting up regular meetings.

**Decision:**

- Board approved Scott Fleming is appointed to the ESIF Committee to replace Jayne Mitchell.
- Board approved the recommendation that Nick Sandford (Woodland Trust), Professor Nigel Curry (Community Lincs) and Linda Grant (Generating Opportunity CIC) become members of GL Co Ltd.

LEP Team

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**Paper 4 - Financial Year End**

Board members were informed that the Finance and Audit Committee had scrutinised the LEP finances up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

**Decision:**

- The LEP Board agreed to the renewal of the Cash Balance and Reserve Policy as recommended by the Finance & Audit Committee.
- The LEP Board agreed that, in line with Cash Balances and Interest Policy, the interest generated from the Invest and Grow Fund is retained with the fund and that costs are paid to LCC for the Accountable Body service, with the remainder being placed on the Core Reserve.
- The LEP Board agreed that interest repaid from existing Invest and Grow loans are retained with the Cash Balance 2.
- The LEP Board discussed the recommendations of the LEP Finance & Audit Committee on the utilisation of the uncommitted reserves as indicated and agreed to the proposal, namely £15,000 towards the Housing and Growth Deal evidence base, and the funding of the Skills and Employment Manager within the LEP Team.

LEP Team to action

**Paper 6 - Brexit Impact**

The impact of BREXIT on Greater Lincolnshire had been presented to the Board at the last Board meeting, where it was suggested that an Action Plan would be developed and agreed at the November Board. The paper under consideration outlined the approach that would be taken with workstream activity over the summer and autumn in place making, skills, business support and innovation. A quarterly intelligence report on the impact and opportunities is being produced with the first quarter in September. Businesses are being monitored in order to see what they believe the impact will be.

The challenges stem around and each of the areas should assess:

- a) Work already being undertaken locally, but may need to be tweaked;
- b) The challenge is UK wide and one that is not within the gift of LEPs or local partners to resolve;
- c) There is a specific local challenge or opportunity distinctive to Lincolnshire and the Action Plan should include resources and impact.

The proposed Action Plan will include the following:

- Support local businesses to become "Brexit ready".
- Develop local skills in line with demand within the skills base and potential decline in some areas of workforce.
- Ensure Greater Lincolnshire is seen to be open for business by strengthening local strategy on place marketing and investment.
- Strengthen key sectors by encouraging innovation, collaborating with other regions and the continued implementation and development of sector plans.
- Integrate the findings into Strategy.

**Local Industrial Strategy - Presentation**

A presentation was given by Louise Kempton of Newcastle University, who has been employed to gather together the first phase of the LIS work. The work develops a framework to understand key areas that build on existing competencies and emerging technologies in the context of local challenges and opportunities.

The work therefore

- Review existing data on Lincolnshire's economy
- Synthesise findings into framework
- Consultation with key stakeholders, including academia and public
- Review, revise and finalise model
- And will produce report

The findings were discussed in detail, and it was agreed that

- That the LEP Team should review the remits of the existing boards to develop further the areas of focus for the LIS
- Where there are gaps new groups to be developed, Dean Fathers should chair a Health Economy Board on behalf of Greater Lincolnshire
- Greater Lincolnshire should publish its research phase, and move to the next stage of producing a LIS, and develop the six areas of focus, and identify Government departments and policies to work with

**CLlr Colin Davie, LCC, declared an interest in Paper 7 and left the room**

<p><b><u>Paper 7 - Investment Promotion</u></b> The Board Directors noted the continued development of Team Lincolnshire and the success of the investment from Foreign Owned Companies during 2017/2018 and were happy to approve a contribution of £15,000 towards Team Lincolnshire attending MIPIM 2019.</p>	
<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b> None.</p>	
<p><b><u>Meeting closed at 12.30pm</u></b></p>	