





# **Greater Lincolnshire LEP Chair**





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## **Foreword**

Thank you for your interest in this strategically important role as Chair for the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP is a business led partnership driving accelerated economic growth across the region with a strategic range of partners across the private and public sectors.

Greater Lincolnshire is growing and as one of largest LEP geographies, this non-centralised economy is distinctive in its variety. The private sector is driven by micro and small businesses with one of the highest proportions of employment in small enterprises across all LEP areas. It has a large manufacturing base, is home to much of the country's agrifood sector, alongside strong energy and visitor economy sectors. We are already driving innovation in agrifood, leading transformation through robotics and automation. Large public sector assets in defence and health and care also catalyse complementary activity from education to technology development and we have strengths arising from our ports and logistics opportunities as well as fast growing emerging digital and creative sectors.

The benefits from pursuing our strategic opportunities in our developing Local Industrial Strategy will not be constrained to the sectors which underpin them. Instead they act as ambitious drivers to produce a stronger, more diverse economy which supports businesses, people and places throughout Greater Lincolnshire and lays the foundations for businesses to take advantage of these opportunities and navigate global trends.

We are looking for a Chair to build on the accelerated progress led by the current Chair and a highly talented Board. With a successful track record as an inspirational business leader in the private sector, you will have the ability to develop strong and purposeful partnerships between the private and public sector that will secure economic growth and have the credibility to champion Greater Lincolnshire at regional and national level.

In addition, you will lead the Board in delivering the vision and strategic objectives of the organisation, setting priorities, monitoring performance, and ensuring effective governance. You will also possess the communications skills and political acumen to work effectively with a broad and complex range of stakeholders.

This is an exciting opportunity for a talented individual who has an understanding of the Greater Lincolnshire economy, to boost productivity and to drive, influence and promote potential, as the Greater Lincolnshire LEP enters a new phase.





# **About Us**

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP works with the public, private and voluntary sectors to drive sustainable economic growth. We help our businesses increase productivity and innovation, create new employment opportunities, and develop infrastructure solutions that support this. We are the voice of the local business community, ensuring that the economic interests of the area are properly represented. We believe that Greater Lincolnshire is alive with opportunities and a truly great place to live, work and do business and is emerging as the intelligent choice for investors.

For more information on LEP governance and boards visit <u>here</u>.

### **Greater Lincolnshire**

Greater Lincolnshire is a £20.7bn economy, with ambitions to add £3.2bn to GVA by 2030.

Greater Lincolnshire is a place defined by our geography. Our opportunities, challenges and ambition are fashioned by the quality of our landscape and the potential that we can unlock through our combined endeavor and industry.

From the Humber to the Wash, covering 2,700 miles with a population of 1.1 million we have a coastline that is an economic engine that support a thriving tourism industry and is the gateway to world trade via our ports and associated logistics.

Our unique history of land reclamation and water management has created one of the most productive agrifood regions in the United Kingdom, with ambition to become the nationally recognised food and agritech automation lead for the UK.

Skills are embedded at the heart of driving our economic growth and cut across all aspirations and industries but remain a fundamental challenge to deliver on all opportunities. Our thriving universities are some of the fastest growing in the UK, giving access to a growing talent pool which alongside some of the most pioneering educational institutions in the UK, are fuelling academia and a skilled workforce. The LEP works strategically to support young people to stay and work in the area, and to train and support people who are already working or seeking jobs, so that they gain the skills needed to take up the jobs of the future.

For further information visit here

## **Progress and Focus**

As an organisation we continue to maximise the collaboration with our partners and are on track to deliver against the 2030 targets in our Strategic Economic Plan.

There are currently 4,800 more people in employment in Greater Lincolnshire than in 2014 against the target of 13,000; over 15,000 businesses have been supported against the





target of 23,000 and in the three years between 2014 and 2017, the economy in Greater Lincolnshire grew by £890 million in real terms against the target of £3.2 billion.

We're on track to unlock delivery of over £500 million of investment, which will fundamentally improve our economy and future-proof, our infrastructure.

Significant investment in infrastructure is taking place across the area, including Lincoln's Eastern Bypass, Grantham's Southern Relief Road, Boston's Quadrant, East Midlands Trains, and the South Humber Industrial Investment Programme, as well as investments in new schemes such as the Lincoln School of Medicine, the North Lincolnshire University Campus, Skegness Countryside Business Park, and the Food Enterprise Zones

To date the Growth Deal Programme has secured £123.7 million of grant funding and built 445 houses, assisted 1208 new learners, and created 550 jobs.

Over 3500 enterprises have received support across Greater Lincolnshire since 2014, with 2187 business and properties now benefitting from reduced flood risk and funding has additionally helped to support 19 large scale transformational projects focused around our priority sectors.

Meanwhile our five big economic challenges remain: we need to build more houses, we need a good supply of quality employment land, we need better infrastructure, we need to continue to close the gap between skills supply and economic demand, and we need to ensure growth has a benefit in all corners.

For further information visit here

## About the role

For the full Chair role visit here

The objective of the role is:-

- To provide leadership of the Board and ensure its effectiveness in all aspects of its role
- To support the LEP in developing the strategic direction and priorities that will deliver the LEP's objectives
- To be an effective external advocate of Greater Lincolnshire and the Greater Lincolnshire LEP in public and with Local Authorities and Whitehall, as well as being a credible advocate in both print and broadcast media.

The duties and responsibilities of the Chair of LEP are:

- Strategic Leadership
- Robust Governance Transparency





- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Relationship Building

## **Person Specification**

#### The Chair will be required to:

- Be working in the private sector
- Have experience of chairing meetings, comprising senior public and private sector leaders with strongly held views
- Live and/or work in the Greater Lincolnshire LEP area
- Demonstrate understanding of the private sector and how it operates
- Understand Westminster and Whitehall and how it operates
- Understand the need to be held to public scrutiny
- Be very well networked at senior levels locally, regionally and nationally

#### Personal attributes

- The ability to represent the views of business, in an environment where local authorities and MPs are drawn across the political spectrum
- A strategic mindset
- An appreciation of the issues in the Greater Lincolnshire area, including local economic, business, infrastructure and political landscape
- High level listening skills, ensuring that all internal and external stakeholders have their say and feel that they have been listened to
- Ability to access, build and maintain strong and effective networks and working relationships across sectors and at all levels, and with Westminster and Whitehall
- High level influencing, relationship and stakeholder engagement skills
- Ability to coalesce differing viewpoints where there is no direct line authority to enforce decisions
- Politically astute; able to make sense of the full context in which the LEP operates and to guide LEP executives appropriately
- Ability to generate confidence and trust by embodying those characteristics
- Knowledge of the LEP network
- Knowledge of wider business representation organisations, particularly in the East Midlands
- Previously acted at Board level
- Strong leadership skills, good communication and interpersonal skills
- Impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences
- Tact and diplomacy





- Experience of reviewing, developing and implementing business strategies and policies
- Demonstrable experience of organizational and people management
- Demonstrable experience of change management
- Be approachable
- Performance management, financial control and planning
- Ability to be at ease with people of all types in both formal and informal social settings

You should expect to spend approximately 4 days a month on LEP activity, and occasionally be available for important meetings which may need to be arranged at short notice.

The initial term of appointment is for 3 years and this can be extended for two further terms, to a maximum of 9 years.

We aim to increase our diversity and be representative of the Greater Lincolnshire area and would particularly welcome applications from women, people with disabilities and people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds.

Please note the Chair will be selected by an Appointments Panel, members of which will be agreed by the Board. The private sector Deputy Chair will act as Interim Chair until the new chair is appointed. It is proposed the new Chair will take up his or her duties in February / March 2020.

#### Terms and Conditions

#### Remuneration

• This will be a non-remunerated position Executive support is available and expenses can be claimed.

#### Location

 The Greater Lincolnshire LEP office is located at Lancaster House, 36 Orchard Street, Lincoln, LN1 1XX

# **Eligibility**

#### Online Due Diligence

As part of the process our recruitment advisors will conduct online due diligence and take references prior to the final interviews.

#### **Nationality**





The Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act make it a criminal offence for an employer to employ those who do not have permission to live or work in the UK.

To apply for this position of Chair, you will need to be eligible to work in the UK.

#### Conflicts of interest

Candidates must declare any interests they may have which, in the reasonable opinion of LEP could be considered to interfere, conflict or compete with the performance of the post, if the candidate is appointed. Candidates are therefore required to declare any relevant interests held by themselves and their spouses/partners. Business and financial interests are published.

For more information visit here

# How to apply

To apply for this role, please contact <u>roger.russell@penna.com</u>

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis; therefore, candidates are encouraged to apply before the advertised deadline.

Applications must include:

- Completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring form. All our roles are accessible to all members of the community and we use this data to monitor our progress;
- A curriculum vitae detailing education and professional qualifications and full employment history, giving details where applicable of budgets and numbers of people managed relevant achievements/outcomes in recent posts and latest remuneration. It is also helpful to have daytime and evening telephone contact numbers and email addresses, which will be used with discretion;
- A short covering letter explaining why this appointment interests you and how you
  meet the essential skills/core criteria/competences as detailed in role
  description, as well an indication of availability to commence the role and any
  constraints such as notice periods or other commitments.

The following timetable sets out key dates in our recruitment process. Please ensure that you mention in your covering letter if any of these dates present you with a problem.





Activity	Date
Close campaign	9:00am Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
Shortlist Meeting (Candidates not required to attend)	Monday 3rd Feb 2020
Client interview panels and decision	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2020

#### Queries

If you have any queries about this appointment, or wish to arrange an informal discussion call our recruitment partners Penna, Claudia Sousa, on 07763 580 368 Roger Russell, on 07710 701570 or via email <u>Claudia.sousa@penna.com</u> or <u>roger.russell@penna.com</u>

#### **Recruitment Process**

All applications will be acknowledged shortly after receipt. If you have not received acknowledgement after three working days, please contact Anna Shepherd on anna.shepherd@penna.com

www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk