



<u>In attendance:</u>	Actions
<p><u>Board Members:</u> Ursula Lidbetter (UL), Mark Tinsley (MT), Cllr Rob Waltham (CllrW), Herman Kok (HK), Chris Baron (CB), Chris Duffill (CD)</p> <p><u>Board Support:</u> Pete Holmes (PH), Ruth Carver (RC), Justin Brown (JB), Cathy Jones (CJ)</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Cllr Colin Davie (CllrD), Cllr Dave Watson (Chris Duffill attending in his place), Cllr Redfern (Cllr Waltham attending in her place); Richard Wills; Halina Davies</p>	
<p><u>Welcome by the Chair – Ursula Lidbetter</u> The Chair welcomed everyone in attendance. It was noted that the Board could be regarded as quorate for all matters.</p> <p><u>Declarations</u> UL declared an interest in Boole Technology Centre, Lincoln Transport Hub HK declared an interest in Boole Technology Centre</p> <p><u>Minutes</u> Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as drafted and can be published on the website.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p><u>Comprehensive Spending Review/Devolution</u> PH gave an update on the spending review that was given by the Chancellor on 25 November.</p> <p>Core funding has been agreed in principle for Greater Lincolnshire LEP over the next two years and there is continued support for the Growth Hub, with confirmation of a £12bn funding pot, however the allocation process for this is yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>JB suggested that post CSR focus is likely to be on capital funding and that could result in more of a loan culture, i.e. business would need to take out loans instead of grants to help drive innovation and growth.</p> <p>RC informed the group that the recent bids for Enterprise Zones in Greater Lincolnshire had proved unsuccessful; however the LEP has been given some feedback regarding economic value/benefit. More detailed feedback will be available soon. It was also stated that the Humber LEP had received an extension to their existing Enterprise Zone (some of which relates to North Lincs and North Lincs Council's areas).</p>	RC

<p>RC stated that in the CSR, it appeared that not as much was offered to the East Midlands area as the rest of the country, although the Midlands Engine prospectus launch is to be held in Birmingham on 4 December 2015.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the ½% increase for apprenticeships. All agreed that the LEP would write to the government requesting that this money is used locally. PH saw this as an opportunity for investment.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the "Buy to Let" tax increase of 3%.</p> <p>PH stated that the Government is looking at models for Devolution without a mayor, but Greater Lincolnshire LEP should continue developing the details of its wants, providing more information and governance details, including consideration of appointing a mayor in the governance review. PH also explained that the Coastal Communities Fund could be included in the Devolution document.</p>	
<p>Growth Deal Programme Update</p> <p>RC gave an update on progress of growth deal schemes highlighting key points from the document previously circulated.</p> <p>Following correspondence from DfT in late September 2015, in addition to the £18.6m Growth Deal allocation for 2015/16, the LEP is required to spend its entire 2015/16 Local Transport Board allocation for Grantham Southern Relief Road in this financial year. The conditions of meeting the LTB funding element with expenditure on an LCC capital scheme this year have been considered by LCC as the Accountable Body and approved as an approach by government. GLLEP allocated amounts covered in this way in 2015/16 will be balanced in future years accordingly. This process has been endorsed by the Economic Scrutiny Committee and David Forbes, County Finance Officer.</p> <p>UL stated that Government should be more flexible with time constraints on spending budgets; as it is not always possible to meet timescales due to unforeseen forces, ie, planning permissions, weather, etc.</p> <p>RC informed the group that North Lincolnshire Council has requested that GLLEP consider the scheme of Berkeley Circle, Scunthorpe not going ahead, with the agreed finances being spent on Normanby Enterprise Park. PH asked how much impact would be made by the alternative project and RC replied that there would be more jobs, leverage and employment space available. More details will be presented to the Investment Board in January 2016.</p> <p>UL left the room after declaring an interest.</p> <p>Lincoln Transport Hub is a DfT Retained Scheme and must be approved by Ministers. A meeting is to be held tomorrow between Network Rail and East Midlands Trains to agree on a revised bridge design. The project may need to explore alternative options if the bridge proposals prove to be undeliverable.</p> <p>PH asked what alternatives are in place should Ministers reject the scheme. There would be a need to demonstrate how the budget could be retained for other schemes.</p> <p>UL returned to the room.</p>	<p>H Davies /NLC</p> <p>L Hill Prichard/ H Davies</p>

<p>In terms of 2016/17 spend, HD to develop the forecasted spend. It was agreed that the LEP would utilise its flexibility over funding and investigate options around the capital programme. A series of letters must support these actions.</p>	<p>H Davies</p>
<p><u>Skegness Countryside Business Park</u> Investment Board approved, in principle, the suggested changes to phasing. However, Board was keen to ensure that the contract is tight, and that if possible, equity is taken. Accountable Body and LEP Director to agree the contract and look at the deliverability and penalties for not going ahead with the entire scheme.</p>	<p>H Davies/R Carver</p>
<p><u>Access to Employment Zones – Due Diligence</u> This bid is focused on the A46 (Nuns Corner), A16 (Toll Bar) and Littlecoates Road junctions. Based on current congestion levels, capacity improvements to these three junctions will have the greatest impact on North East Lincolnshire's efforts to accelerate housing delivery and employment growth.</p> <p>Since the original proposal, costs have been reduced to £4.6m, but North East Lincolnshire Council is requesting that the LEP contribution stay the same, as the outputs will be considerably higher, ie, housing, employment.</p> <p>Access to Employment Zones, approved in principle subject to understanding where the reduced match funding or Section 106 contributions are being invested. Details to be circulated to the Investment Board for further consideration before approval can be given to contracting stage.</p>	<p>HD/NELC</p>
<p><u>Invest and Grow Fund – Expression of Interest</u> An expression of interest has been received from Stokes who have purchased the redundant building known as The Lawn on Union Road, Lincoln. The project is estimated to be in the region of £2m, towards which loan funding of £500k is requested through the Invest and Grow Fund for Phases 1 -3 to support renovation and enable expansion of local food manufacturing and associated support for the visitor economy. Once complete, it will create a number of jobs.</p> <p>UL said that this could also have a significant impact on the visitor economy.</p> <p>Stokes will apply to the Chamber of Commerce for additional funding and the Board requested that if that is the case, that both the applications should be aligned.</p> <p>Agreed that if the application goes ahead, Due Diligence/business case would be required.</p> <p>The Board agreed to consider a detailed scheme proposal.</p>	<p>J Burgess</p>
<p>HK tendered his apologies and left the meeting</p>	
<p><u>Boole Technology Centre – Occupancy Proposals</u> UL left the room after declaring an interest.</p> <p>Boole Technology Centre will be completed in 2016/17 and it was originally agreed that the lettable space would be for 100% commercial use.</p> <p>Lincoln Science & Innovation Park Ltd and the University of Lincoln requested the freedom to potentially allow University/Co-op occupancy to 25% of the Centre for approximately 3</p>	

<p>years. The proposed criteria for such a potential occupancy was discussed. Board agreed that in addition to the criteria provided in the paper, rental details are to be checked and any occupancy should be confirmed in advance with GLLEP, not to be unreasonably withheld. Any contentious decisions would be taken to the Board for a decision.</p> <p>UL returned to the room.</p>	<p>RC/H Davies</p>
<p><u>Invest and Grow Fund Update</u></p> <p>The original capital allocation for the Growing Places Fund was £9,485,301 and with recycled funds received, the available balance currently stands at £5,500,645.</p> <p>A number of enquiries have been made regarding availability of funds, but Expressions of Interest have not been received; these are: a heritage museum on the Lincolnshire Coast; an extension of funding for the Bomber Command project; a business park renovation scheme in Langworth; office accommodation in Lincoln; an enterprise village scheme in South Kesteven; and a respite care facility to bridge the gap between NHS and home care.</p> <p>North Kesteven District Council has confirmed that they can no longer continue to request that the LEP hold the £1.5m loan for the pedestrian footbridge since Tesco has withdrawn from the adjacent site.</p> <p>RC asked that, given the performance of the fund to date, Board members consider a range of alternatives, which had been circulated previously:</p> <p><u>Retain loan element of funds – provisional allocation £2.5m</u> – to date, there is an unallocated balance of £2,265,133 from the original capital allocation, which has still to be awarded or recycled through individual schemes. It is proposed that this is retained as loan funding to support individual schemes, in line with the original guidance.</p> <p><u>Feasibility grants – provisional allocation £300k</u> – the December 2014 Investment Board approved an allocation of £300k from the Invest and Grow Fund to create a dedicated fund to support feasibility costs on capital projects, by way of a loan arrangement which would be repayable on completion of the support scheme. However, there has been no interest to date and it is proposed that the allocation of £300k is converted into a grant fund, in line with the original criteria and application process.</p> <p>MT agreed in principle, but suggested that there is no restriction of the size of the business for the loan/grant.</p> <p>CD supported the idea of feasibility grants, but asked if it would be possible to look at euro funding and see if it would align with ESIF funding.</p> <p>With regard to the summary recommendations in this paper, recommendations 1, 2 and 3 were accepted. Recommendation 4, to establish a new grant fund of £3m to invite business applications that support growth and job creation, was agreed subject to a Business Plan/Investment Plan being provided.</p> <p>Invest and Grow funds – board agreed to promotion of the funds to show benefits and outcomes. JB to email investors and arrange further presentation opportunities, press releases and case studies.</p>	<p>J Burgess/ L Hill Pritchard</p> <p>J Burgess</p>

<p>Retain loan elements, but see above for promotion. Feasibility Challenge Fund – to be launched before Christmas, a 50/50 pot for feasibility.</p> <p>Develop a business case for an RGF scheme that targets mid-sized and inward investors to assist with capital investment – scope and consider outsourcing options. Business case to be drafted.</p> <p>The Investment Board asked for a discussion at the next meeting on how we incorporate the Social Value Act into our programmes.</p>	<p>J Burgess</p> <p>J Burgess/ S Harrison</p> <p>H Davies</p>
<p><u>ESIF</u> The ESIF Sub-Committee has opened calls for EUEF and EAFRD. Projects are progressing from outline application state to full application and were discussed at the recent ESIF meeting. The draft calls have been written and they are now being assessed by the national team. Once approved, calls will be announced between 27 November and 11 December by DCLG and the calls will be publicised on the Greater Lincolnshire LEP and Business Lincolnshire websites.</p>	
<p>JB tendered his apologies and left the meeting.</p>	
<p><u>Unlocking Rural Housing Programme</u> Approval of further schemes within the Unlocking Rural Housing Programme was sought in principle. All the schemes would be subject to satisfactory completion of due diligence assessments, which will be reported to the Board's January meeting.</p> <p>Due to the withdrawal of a number of schemes originally proposed in the business case for the programme, £965k remains available to allocate to housing schemes via the sequential approach agreed by the July 2015 Investment Board.</p> <p>The following proposals were given support in principle, to go to full application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riverside (submitted by Longhurst Group on behalf of Boston Mayflower) • Old Leake (Longhurst Group on behalf of Boston Mayflower) • Woodthorpe Avenue/Took Lane (Waterloo Housing Group) • Church Lane, Old Leake (Waterloo Housing Group) • <p>All agreed that there is a need for these schemes.</p> <p>MT asked that consideration of flooding be considered for these schemes and CJ agreed to discuss with the developers.</p>	<p>C Jones</p>
<p><u>Any Other Business</u> None.</p>	
<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> 28 January 2016</p>	