

<p><b><u>In attendance:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Board Members:</u></b> Ursula Lidbetter (UL); Cllr Colin Davie (CllrD); Baroness Redfern (CllrR); Cllr Dave Watson (CllrW); Herman Kok (HK); Chris Baron (CB), Mark Tinsley (MT)</p> <p><b><u>Board Support:</u></b> Pete Holmes –Cities &amp; Local Growth Team (PH), Ruth Carver - LEP (RC), Cathy Jones (CJ), Halina Davies (HD)</p> <p><b><u>Observers:</u></b> Vicky Wheelwright (BIS Local), Douglas Leckie (Policy Officer - Cities and Local Growth Unit), Angela Blake (North East Lincs Council)</p> <p><b><u>Apologies:</u></b> Richard Wills; Justin Brown</p>	<p><b>Actions</b></p>
<p><b><u>Welcome by the Chair – Ursula Lidbetter</u></b> The Chair welcomed everyone in attendance. It was noted that the Board could be regarded as quorate for all matters.</p> <p><b><u>Declarations</u></b> CllrW declared an interest in Normanby Enterprise Park CllrD declared an interest in Go Skegness CllrR declared an interest in South Humber Infrastructure Investment Programme</p> <p><b><u>Minutes</u></b> Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as drafted and can be published on the website.</p>	<p>LEP Secretariat</p>
<p><b><u>Growth Deal Programme Update</u></b> A paper was circulated providing updates on individual schemes.</p> <p>The Chancellor's budget confirmed funding for local growth. As before, the funding lines of LGF will include transport, skills capital and housing. There will be £475 million for Local Transport Majors, enabling investment in larger transport projects; £2 billion long term housing loan funding made available to developers for investment in infrastructure needed to support major housing developments; and the remaining money will be for a further round of Growth Deals, made up of contributions from BIS, DCLG and DfT.</p> <p>HD informed the Board that she will be attending a workshop on 5<sup>th</sup> April in Birmingham regarding the £475 million for Local Transport Majors which will be made available to LEPs to bid for, alongside new Growth Deals.</p> <p>PH stated that more details regarding the Single Local Growth Fund will follow in the form of a letter from Greg Clark, Secretary of State. It is likely to be a competitive process informed by a series of challenge sessions in advance of the final submissions.</p>	

<p>A longer term, wider programme approach will be possible going forward as the various emerging funding streams will enable greater local flexibility.</p> <p>During February /March, the LEP put out a call to the public and private sectors for transformational strategic schemes which would enable further significant economic growth for Greater Lincolnshire. There were 40 applications received in total and they have been through an initial scoring process in line with the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Assurance Framework guidance. The results will be discussed at the next Joint Strategy Unit meeting and recommendations will be made for endorsement to the 27 May GLLEP Board.</p> <p>CB asked about progress with the Skegness Countryside Business Park scheme. HD informed the Board that the funding agreement for the project had been signed and that the scheme was now progressing well.</p> <p>The Growth Deal Programme is on target to achieve the £26.4m forecast for 2015/16 utilising agreed freedoms and flexibilities.</p> <p>A Justification Statement to delay submission of the Business Plan for the Northern Roundabout was discussed, and it was agreed that due diligence for this scheme requesting £1.9m growth deal support could be presented to the 27 May Investment Board.</p>	
<p><b><u>Grantham College</u></b></p> <p>HD explained that the project will be on a former Police Station site opposite the main college. The site covers 4 acres and contains a number of derelict and listed buildings and a number of buildings which require demolition. The project will enable the development of a new STEM related facility, responding to local key sector requirements. Grantham College and Greater Lincolnshire LEP have worked closely with the SFA in relation to this scheme, and a bespoke report was provided by the SFA focused on impact on the existing estate and rationalisation; the colleges' property strategy; and sustainability. Concerns were raised in particular regarding future budgeting for any improvements and maintenance of the existing buildings, sustainability and potential impact of Area Review.</p> <p>The GLLEP due diligence report demonstrated that the scheme is good value for money, addresses essential educational gaps within the area especially in terms of engineering and IT, and that the facility could be completed and operational by 2017. With this in mind, the Board agreed that the scheme should progress to contracting stage and that key recommendations given by the SFA should be included as conditions within the monitoring and evaluation related schedule of the Agreement. Growth Deal support will not exceed £2.3m. Delivery against the wider masterplan for the college will also be reviewed post the Area Review.</p> <p>MT said that it would be interesting to hear feedback from local businesses once the facility is in place.</p>	



<p><b><u>South Humber Infrastructure Investment Programme (SHIIP)</u></b></p> <p>CllrW left the room.</p> <p>HD presented a summary of the due diligence report on Phase 1 of the Strategic Ecological Mitigation Sites. This project will unlock the economic potential of industrial development land in North East Lincolnshire's area of the Humber Estuary. NELC will develop 122 hectares of ecological habitat which will release a further 100 hectares of industrial and greenfield land from ecological constraint.</p> <p>North East Lincolnshire is home to the UK's largest Ports complex (Immingham and Grimsby) and has significant oil refining capacity and market leading developments in chemicals, food manufacturing and renewables. CB asked if demand for companies related to oil and renewables remained a high priority for this site. HD responded that the focus was broader and that there was sufficient demand across sectors to ensure that the SHIIP programme would prove successful.</p> <p>Phase 1 of SHIIP totalling £2m growth deal was approved by the Board to contracting stage. Phase 2 will be presented at a future Investment Board meeting.</p> <p>CllrW returned to the room.</p>	
<p><b><u>Normanby Enterprise Park Site 7 (NEP7), Scunthorpe</u></b></p> <p>Baroness Redfern left the room.</p> <p>HD explained that following the Tata Steel redundancies, North Lincolnshire Council approached Greater Lincolnshire LEP with a proposal to reassign the existing Berkeley Circle Growth Deal allocation to support investment in enabling infrastructure, thus bringing forward the development of specific employment land in North Lincolnshire.</p> <p>At the January Investment Board, members were asked to endorse "in principle" the proposal to reallocate £2.9m of growth deal funding from Berkeley Circle to Normanby Enterprise Park 7 and Northern Roundabout Infrastructure enhancements. The Due Diligence appraisal applied to the first of the projects, requesting £982, 867 growth deal grant. Though a figure nearer £1.9m was originally discussed at the last Investment Board, additional funding is now expected to be levered from private investors.</p> <p>Through the recently established Taskforce, UK Government grant funding has been secured. This capital funding will facilitate a move into the area of companies currently located outside of North Lincolnshire. These companies will require the construction of new premises and the only suitable area of brownfield land is NEP7.</p> <p>The Board recognised the need to facilitate job creation in the short to medium term given the scale of recent redundancies in the Scunthorpe area and the scheme was approved to contracting stage.</p> <p>Baroness Redfern returned to the room.</p>	

<p><b><u>Go Skegness</u></b> CllrD left the room</p> <p>HD reminded the Board that the project consists of a package of sustainable transport infrastructure measures to help unlock potential growth in the tourism industry, providing and developing opportunities for visitors to use sustainable travel modes to benefit the local economy, supporting active lifestyles, improving the visitor experience, and helping extend the visitor offer.</p> <p>The scheme includes bus layby provision, addresses dangerous laybys, cycle route provision and improvement and creation of footpaths/cycleways to Gibraltar Point. A total of £4m growth deal support will cover the programme in its entirety.</p> <p>The Board supported the involvement of local businesses in the development of the project and the aspirations for the establishment of a Business Improvement District for Skegness, which would look to complement the growth deal investment made. Dialogue with local businesses will continue throughout the three year delivery period.</p> <p>The scheme was approved to contracting stage.</p> <p>CllrD returned to the room.</p>	
<p><b><u>Greater Lincolnshire Growth Fund</u></b> Board Members were asked to agree the proposed priority sector focus and eligible activity for project calls to be invited under the Greater Lincolnshire Growth Fund. The fund would be for projects between £150k and £500k.</p> <p>MT suggested that the sectors identified within the call should be more specific, i.e. agri-food, thus providing greater clarity for businesses wishing to apply.</p> <p>Members were also asked to approve the allocation of a 10% management fee to cover the procurement and appointment of a Programme Team to manage the Growth Fund on behalf of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP.</p> <p>All recommendations were endorsed by the Board.</p>	
<p><b><u>Highways England Growth &amp; Housing Fund</u></b> CJ explained that the 2015 Road Investment Strategy established a £100m Growth and Housing Fund to be administered by Highways England. The fund provides leverage and flexibility for Highways England to help mobilise development sites that require prompt investment on the strategic road network to allow them to progress quickly. Last year, Highways England developed and tested a process for identifying potential schemes, 2 initial pilot projects were identified in the GLLEP area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions are ongoing with Lincolnshire County Council regarding potential investment around the A1 Spittlegate (Grantham) as part of the pilot exercise.</li> <li>• A proposal for a new terminal junction to the M181 Scunthorpe (Lincolnshire Lakes) working with North Lincolnshire Council, and the Homes and Communities Agency. Highways England has confirmed that the Agency is "minded to approve" this pilot scheme, but it has not yet got full sign off and is not yet officially committed. Subject to ongoing discussions, Highways England could identify other schemes.</li> </ul>	

<p>GLLEP has shared details of the next phase of Growth and Housing Fund with partners and has been liaising with them to identify projects within the GLLEP area. Two schemes have emerged as potentially meeting the required criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lincoln Southern Bypass</li> <li>• A46 junction/access for Western Growth Corridor</li> </ul> <p>The GLLEP Director was given delegated authority by the Board to submit the shortlist of potential schemes to the Highways Agency by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 deadline.</p>	RC/CJ
<p><b><u>Feasibility Grant Fund, Prioritised List of Schemes</u></b></p> <p>The Feasibility Challenge Fund, which was approved by the Board on 28 January, was promoted via the LEP website, local press releases and social media. In total, the LEP received 29 completed bids by the deadline of 29 February, requesting over £1m in grant funding.</p> <p>On 9<sup>th</sup> March, a panel of officers met to assess and prioritise the bids received. All bids were assessed and ranked in accordance with the LEP's Assurance Framework against the criteria of Strategic Fit, Economic Case, Deliverability and Impact.</p> <p>As numerous Board members had a potential conflict of interest the Board agreed to address the principles proposed to guide decision-making and not discuss individual schemes. The Board was asked to endorse the schemes which scored 16 and above and to identify the reserve list of schemes marked 15 and below for further development.</p> <p>The Board endorsed the recommendations made in relation to the Feasibility Grant Fund.</p>	
<p><b><u>ERDF Priority Axis 1 – Call Allocation</u></b></p> <p>Applications received for PA1 were of a high standard. The call went out for schemes up to £4m, but projects totalling £10m were received.</p> <p>Following discussion at the last ESIF Committee, the Chair with the support of the Committee Members wished to increase the scope of the call to £10m following the Expressions of Interest for the following schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Lincoln – Agri-food at Holbeach (£3.6m)</li> <li>• Agri-food Innovation Platform (£5.6m)</li> <li>• Bishop Grosseteste University (R&amp;D Capacity for small businesses) (£1.5m)</li> </ul> <p>Investment Board endorsed this proposed increase given the strength of the proposals put forward.</p>	
<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p>None.</p>	
<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>27 May 2016.</p>	



