

Present: Ursula Lidbetter – Chair, David Dexter - Deputy Chair, Herman Kok, Andy Baxendale, Mark Tinsley, Cllr Mick Burnett, Cllr Doreen Stephenson, Chris Baron, Cllr Liz Redfern, Richard Wills, Dr Tony Hill, Neil Turton, Marc Cole, Nigel Howells, Ruth Carver (LEP Secretariat) Carolyn Tuscher (LEP Secretariat).

Guests: Rowena Limb, Director, BIS Local

Friday 9th March 2012

Pre Meeting Presentation – The growth of Central Lincolnshire

www.central-lincs.org.uk

The Board were given a presentation by Ian Fytche, CX, of NKDC, Mike Braithwaite, Head of Central Lincs CPU, John Latham Director of Development and environment, City of Lincoln, and Mark Sturgess, development Services Manager at WLDC on the Central Lincolnshire Growth Agenda.

The Vision for Sustainable Growth for Central Lincolnshire is through better planning at less cost. The Consultation, along with a economic strategy and infrastructure plan will be published in May 2012 with a thread of a Duty to Co Operate with Local Authorities to drive Growth.

Delivery of the Growth over the next 25 years comes in anticipation of the growth in population and therefore a growth in the workforce. There is a need to protect the current environment whist promoting the future.

- Generic Policies
 - Housing Targets –
 - **42,000 homes – 40% Affordable**
 - Urban and Rural Approach
 - Delivering Prosperity and Jobs
 - **25,000 jobs – 220 Ha land**
 - Delivering infrastructure
 - **£400 Million programme**

Discussion centred around what was achievable in this climate rather than what the aspiration of partners were. It was agreed by the Board that this figure for affordable housing needs to be better explained as at the moment is it a real barrier to private development.

There needs to be a rural and urban approach as the land in between the towns in Lincolnshire is as equally important to growth, through tourism and agriculture.

A joint economic development strategy will deliver 25,000 new jobs and bring forward 22 ha of new employment land with an investment of £700 million.

The Government is encouraging an environment based on a “Duty to Cooperate” and the LEP Board should encourage this on a sub regional basis.

The Board were concerned about the level of detail and certainty of the jobs growth, and asked for more information on where ,how, when and at what level the additional jobs growth would be. It was agreed that once the Economic Development Strategy is in the public domain the LEP and the Central Lincs team would hold a joint workshop to explore these issues.

ACTION

	<p>The sustainability of the plan was also questioned, how ambitious was it?.</p> <p>The Consultation of the full document is planned for May 2012. The team thanked the LEP Board for the opportunity to give the presentation, and looked forward to working with the Board in the future to develop this strategy further.</p> <p><u>Actions</u></p> <p>That the LEP considers lobbying central government to release MOD and NHS land to achieve growth, particularly the issue of achieving market value using mechanisms such as Community Land Trusts. The role of acting as a corporate citizen should be considered by government – could be raised at the LEP National Conference on 26th April.</p> <p>Consider a top level infrastructure Plan for Greater Lincolnshire</p> <p>The LEP Board members asked about future engagement and understand of the growth plan for central lincs and it was agreed that a workshop be held during the consultation to get more detailed views</p>	<p>All and Secretariat</p> <p>Secretariat</p> <p>Central Lincs CPU</p>
<p>1.</p>	<p><u>Apologies, Declarations, Minutes and Matters Arising.</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Neil Corner, Cllr Eddy Poll, Winston Phillips and Professor Mary Stuart,</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest given at this point and the minutes from the board meeting of 12th January 2012 were agreed. It was further agreed that the papers for future meetings would be forwarded direct to the Chief Executives of the District Councils.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>2</p>	<p><u>Operational Brief</u></p> <p><u>Item 1 Actions from the Minister Visit</u></p> <p>The Chair informed the meeting that the visit of Minister Mark Prisk had gone very well and that the meeting had been held in the perfect location, after giving the minister a presentation on the priorities for Lincolnshire, the Minister was asked to consider the funding of LEP's going forward. GLLEP had asked that £100,000 be made available for LEPs to fund officer support.</p> <p>A recent visit by the Planning Minister has confirmed governments view on extending the current EZ. LDO's will be utilised instead, and BIS Local have offered support for this districts wishing to pursue this, It was agreed that this should be encouraged for the South of the County.</p> <p>There is DeFRA meeting on 17 April 2012 to discuss the Food Manufacturing Cluster.</p> <p>Andy Baxendale believes that we need to explode the myth that surrounds the Flood risk to the South of the County, and that the Environment Agency approach has changed, and that there needs to be a "Yes If" approach to Boston. There needs to be a Chamber/LEP Event down in Boston after a Briefing Event for the LEP to clarify the position for future investors. This needs an item on the next</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>Mark Tinsley</p> <p>AB to present at the next board meeting</p>

<p>agenda, with a planners and environment agency meeting after that.</p> <p><u>Item 2 Regional Growth Fund 3</u></p> <p>Civil Servants are available to help with RGF3 Cluster Bids.</p> <p>Ruth Carver informed the meeting the RGF 3 had been announced and that the criteria are the same as in previous bidding rounds. LEP Endorsements for bids will still be required, and the deadline for applications is 13th June.</p> <p>The LEP will be asked to provide endorsements for bids. If any are available will be endorsed at the may meeting, or alternatively using the agreed process electronically.</p> <p>The Board asked the Officer group to explore opportunities for Programme bids across the greater Lincolnshire Area.</p> <p>Rowena Limb (BIS) informed the meeting that even if bids did not get funding it is an important tool for gaining recognition for projects on a wider stage and that wider programme bids are a great piggy back for other schemes. They provide maximum benefits and are not restricted by geography.</p> <p>David Dexter commented on the Market Towns and how they have a historical reason for existence. Could these activities be included in a RGF3 Bid to create jobs in town centres? The LEP Officers group would consider this.</p> <p><u>Item 3 – Communication Tender</u></p> <p>Ruth Carver gave details of the tender for the Communication Plan.</p> <p>Mark Tinsley commented that how we communicate with business is critical and the LEP website is at the heart of that. Districts already have networks and databases which can be tapped into. Even the Business Rates mail out is a database for Businesses. Trade Associations have Friday afternoon emails that have short strap lines which then link back to the website, with a next update on....</p> <p>The Lincolnshire Echo has started a Love Lincolnshire campaign and they have a distribution of 240,000 which we should tap into.</p> <p>Mark Tinsley believes that there should be a unified approach to the Branding of Lincolnshire and its products. The GLLEP needs to encourage communication teams to work together; this should be added to the forward agenda planner.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Officers Group</p> <p>Officers Group</p>
<p>3. <u>Consultation on Transport Consortia</u></p> <p>Richard Wills presented a paper to the Board outlining the possible options available to the LEP with regard to Transport Consortia. The Government wants to take the opportunity to develop a new system in time for the next spending review from 2015.</p> <p>Although transport is not a priority sector in itself is has been consistently raised by Board Members and business as one of the key enablers (or barriers) to many of the sectors that we have made a priority. In the transport workshop the transport links beyond the Greater Lincolnshire area were generally considered more</p>	

	<p>important than internal transport links for most sectors; the public sector and care services sector were the exceptions. This may influence the decision when considering with whom we may wish to join in any consortia.</p> <p>We also stated from the outset of the LEP's formation that conventional boundaries are meaningless to most businesses. Flexible boundaries rather than a fixed geography. This is certainly an important factor in considering transport schemes across LEP Boundaries – it is likely that we would wish to work with different LEPs for different transport schemes.</p> <p>Option 2 seems to be the preferred option in that the LEP is a full member in a local transport body. The Board endorsed the prepared response.</p> <p>The Chair believes that the LEP board needs to have a discussion on incorporation at the next meeting in light of the proposals coming out from Central Government.</p>	Secretariat
4.	<p><u>The Coastal Communities Fund (CCF)</u></p> <p>Cllr Doreen Stephenson updated the LEP on the CCF. The fund is designed to support the economic development of Coastal Communities by promoting sustainable economic growth and jobs, so that people are better able to respond to the changing economic needs and opportunities of their areas.</p> <p>The Government has committed £23.7 million to the fund and the fund is very likely to be over subscribed due to the criteria and eligibility of the fund.</p> <p>There are two bidding processes one for projects that are ready to be delivered immediately (Fast Track) and the other with full applications by the end of May 2012 (standard)</p> <p>The Role of the GLLEP is to invite a standard application by partners and supports in principle any ready to go initiatives that fit with the criteria for fast track process.</p> <p>One bid in the pipeline is a Coastal Academy for Education in Care/Hospitality. Also looking at more flexible approach to Apprenticeships in light of the more seasonal nature of employment in Coastal areas and in the tourism sector in general.</p> <p>There is also the possibility to extend the tourism offer through the development of our wildlife assets. The Environment Agency is happy to work with East Lindsey on this issue.</p> <p>The GLLEP to lobby on the issue of apprenticeships and the requirement for them to be more flexible through the Skills Board.</p> <p>There will be an update at the next board meeting.</p>	Update at the next board meeting
5.	<p><u>Mary Portas Retail Pilots</u></p> <p>There were 28 Recommendations from this review, and there have been calls for Pilot areas which closes on 30th March 2012.</p> <p>What do we want to do about our Town Centres in Lincolnshire, the face of retail is</p>	

GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE

Local Enterprise Partnership

	<p>changing and there is no going back to how it was.</p> <p>Local Performance figures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foot fall figures • Consumer and Business Satisfaction • Diversity of Offer • Economic Activity – extending the offer to evening activity – who is still in town in the evening and what is on offer in the town centre. <p>Feedback is required as soon as possible (4-6 weeks)</p> <p>There are lots of issues surrounding city centre development or lack of it. Out of town developments have been encouraged in the past and offer a more attractive offer.</p> <p>City Centre car parking charges are adding to the problem as it becomes increasingly more expensive to park in the city when out of town shopping is free. Revenues will eventually disappear as visit numbers decline. North Lincolnshire are currently conducting a pilot on free parking in Scunthorpe town centre and this will be put on a future agenda for discussion.</p> <p>The High Street needs to become another tourist attraction and offer a variety and unique shopping experience. However the entire place needs to be attractive it is more than just a problem around retail. It needs to be convenient, with a range of offer, including leisure, retail, heritage and tourism. We do not want to sit back and watch the decline of the town centres.</p> <p>We must always think what is in it for Lincolnshire? Stress the importance of the Town Centre first model Consider local councils subsidising free parking We need to careful what we wish for. In Northern Ireland the out of town rates pay for free parking in the town centres. Planning and the re balancing of rates could be a priority for lobbying for the LEP. Possible RGF Round 3 programme bid. There is a need for radical thinking.</p> <p>Gloucestershire was accepted as the pilot area.</p> <p>The LEP agreed to organise a task force to look into this issue (Nigel Howells, Ursula Lidbetter, Neil Turton and David Dexter agreed to be involved)</p>	Secretariat
6.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>David Dexter give feedback from his SME Booster Event and indicated that he would hold this event again should there be content.</p> <p>There being no other business the meeting closed.</p>	All
7.	<p><u>The Date of the next meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting will be 10th May at the Enterprise@Lincoln Building at the University of Lincoln, at 10am.</p>	LEP Secretariat