

Minutes of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Board

Friday 22nd March 2013

Present: Ursula Lidbetter – Chair, David Dexter – Deputy Chair, Herman Kok, Andy Baxendale, Richard Wills, Prof Mary Stuart, Neil Corner, Cllr Doreen Stephenson, Neil Turton, Dr Tony Hill, Mark Tinsley, Cllr Eddy Poll, Marc Cole, Leendert den Hollander	ACTION
<p>Guests: Sarah Hendry (DEFRA), Ian Fytche (NKDC) Maria Lyle (BIS), Justin Brown (LCC), Mike Braithwaite (CL Joint Planning Unit),</p> <p>Ruth Carver (LEP Secretariat), Kate Storey (LEP Secretariat)</p>	
LEP Board Meeting - Welcome by the Chair	
Apologies, Declarations, Minutes and Matters Arising.	
<p>Welcome to Sarah Hendry, GLLEP's senior Whitehall sponsor whom the GLLEP is hoping will assist to navigate the political spectrum.</p> <p>Welcome to Kate Storey, the new LEP Officer.</p>	
<p><i>Apologies from:</i> Cllr Liz Redfearn NLC, Cllr Mick Burnett NELC, Rowena Limb BIS, and Chris Baron</p>	
<p><i>Declarations of interest</i> Science and Innovation Park; Mary Stuart and Ursula Lidbetter Cllr Stephenson; local applicant to Growing Places Fund</p>	
<p><i>Minutes of last meeting 17th Jan and matters arising</i> The LEP asked Neil Turton to represent the LEP on the Humber Transport Board on behalf of the transport sector. LEP to draft a letter to the Humber LTB giving the details of our observer.</p>	Secretariat
<p>Cllr Stephenson requested clarification on feedback to unsuccessful applicants to the <i>Growing Places Fund</i>. RC confirms that feedback is provided we do write back. Cllr Stephenson to take up with applicant who has received no response.</p>	Cllr Stephenson

1 Operational Brief	
Items discussed were funding, regional growth funds and coastal communities fund, communications, finance, rail lobbying and our vision.	
Secretariat to summarise all RGF bids submitted under GLLEP to provide detail for both lobbying and general information purposes.	Secretariat
Secretariat to write to MP's week of 25th March outlining the economic importance of our RGF bids.	Secretariat
Secretariat to suggest a board member to lead on relationship with our local MP's.	Secretariat
<i>Item 4 LEP -Vision.</i> The board agreed the changes made to the LEP's vision. Secretariat to incorporate into comms, and website.	Secretariat
<i>Item 5 - Rail lobbying.</i> The GLLEP Ambition Plan identifies the need for lobby for more direct train services to London. Work is ongoing with partners (LCC/ CoLC) regarding how to increase the evidence case.	Secretariat
<i>Item 6 – Lincolnshire Forum for Agriculture</i> LFA wishes to widen its membership. Secretariat to circulate dates.	Secretariat
<i>Item 7 – BDUK.</i> The Board applauded that the Council (LCC) now is in the procurement stage, A conference last week was held for businesses to understand technology. A brochure was produced and includes phases of implementation. Secretariat to circulate with minutes.	Secretariat
Board members were asked to offer venues for future boards	
2 Sustainable Growth in Greater Lincolnshire Event	
Members of the board attended the event at the House of Commons, hosted by Martin Vickers MP and involved a diverse range of delegates. The event set the scene on economic and water issues facing our LEP. The event was successful in that it raise the profile of our issues	
The board discussed the next steps and it was agreed that a strong business case for water resource and flood infrastructure is required. Innovation would be the key and issues of extremes involving too much/too little water need addressing alongside water storage and transfer.	
A core working group of AB, RW, Cllr Poll, MT alongside some core funding resources, and LCC and secretariat team be formed. Economic element to the case remains missing and needs crafting. The 'Single Conversation' between the public authority and all government agencies will ensure lessons learnt through new processes are achieved and that DEFRA/Natural England etc work together as one.	Secretariat to arrange
3 City deals	
Marc Cole gave the LEP board an update on the Humber City deal process. The board asked whether NEL could update the Board on progress as and when appropriate.	

<p>4 Transport Workshop</p> <p>DD and RW gave a verbal report on the recent transport workshop held with partners. Transport pressures and priorities were discussed and feedback on workshop will be circulated. Volunteers may be sought for the Lincolnshire Board.</p> <p><i>Highlights.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing growth releasing growth opportunities but this in turn adds pressure. • Maintain existing infrastructure before adding to. • Realisation that this is no new money. £17m budget doesn't buy much and needs increasing partnership schemes. <p>LEP membership of the Lincolnshire Transport Board was discussed, and it was agreed to approach a local businessman. Some members of the LEP board already had membership on the LTB.</p>	DD/RW	Secretariat
<p>5 Action Plan 2013-14</p> <p>An Action Plan for this year is now in existence and will be included in Board papers going forward. Ruth will visit individuals regarding their identified actions. Lead board members will champion areas/ sectors.</p>	RC/ Board	
<p>6 Growth Plan</p> <p>Justin Brown presented this item. He covered the need for a Growth Plan, the ask from government, an outline timetable</p> <p>Growth plans are about leadership rather than delivery in the medium to long term. Need to ensure the plan meets aspects of the vision and has a private sector spin. Heseltine's response seems to be a delicate balance between the two (public/private). The economic Impact analysis of actions is important and detailed content. Partner engagement, governance, strategy and delivery. Pooling of thinking through strategic aspects. Along with assessment criteria and level of ambition.</p> <p>Evidence based work is required to feed in with facts and perceptions alongside business engagement.</p> <p><i>Engagement</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LCC teams will hold 121's with business contacts. Sectors and individuals. Work with existing forums/ form new ones. 2. Key lines of enquiry. LEP to chair and lead. 3. Refining and agreeing final scope. Conference/ PR? <p><i>Timing.</i></p> <p>Guidance will soon be available on how to start preparing growth plans (june 2013) within this there will ne a need for an EU investment strategy (end of 2013). The Plan needs to sit alongside this.</p> <p>Board summary for Growth Plan:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLLEP have a starting point already (Ambitions Plan). Begin with that and don't start again. • Link to next item – EU funding. • Stay focused within GLLEP priorities identified. • Don't necessarily broaden to bid for all pots of money if takes away from priorities. • Needs to align to Heseltine, be realistic and achievable. 	RC/ Board	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to manage risk and dependencies. • Private sector language • LRO/ LCC/ GLLEP Secretariat to feed in sector data for evidence base. • Business 121 to be undertaken by LCC and board members <p>The board was keen to develop sector plans along side, and to feed into the Growth Plan. The secretariat was tasked with reviewing forming task and finish groups and researching what information was available, and setting up working groups</p> <p>Justin was asked to update and engage the board regularly on progress on the Growth Plan, particularly as further government thinking emerges.</p> <p>DEFRA (SH) and BIS (ML) to be involved throughout the process</p>	Secretariat JB RC
<h2>6 European Funds 2014 -2020</h2> <p>Justin Brown presented this item, giving an overview of the EU proposals for England. He updated the board on the proposals for transition areas</p> <p>How can the members of the GLLEP help:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Help to link effectively the different funding plans and bring these together. Energy from LEP - Crossing over EU silos. Challenges around keeping it clean and manageable. EU funding notoriously susceptible to claw back. Loans and investments?? How will they be managed? Pooled funds or LEPS doing alone? 2. Produce a Plan for monetary spend. Glue it together with the Growth Plan. 3. Ensure the transition status remains. In the final detail of funds being signed off, ensure the status for Lincolnshire is not lost. Lobby the message that it's very important. <p>Use funding to achieve objectives within a flexible European investment strategy – Chair to write to DCLG to stress the importance of European funding to the economic growth of Greater Lincolnshire.</p>	Chair
<h2>7 Central Lincolnshire and the LEP working together</h2> <p>Mike Braithwaite head of the JPU and Ian Fytche, Chief Executive of the NKDC presented this item. Three districts and the county are working together to create a growth strategy for the area. Plan covers growth/ economic development/ housing etc and delivery.</p> <p><i>Highlights</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under-pining the challenge for growth is infrastructure. (ie. Broadband/ Highways/ Utilities). Joint committee link up within the joint plan and share common themes. They are jointly committed to the joint process leading to a joint plan. 2. Duty to cooperate. Ensuring evidence to planners. Dialogue around challenges and project reaching the right people. <p>It was agreed that the JPU should meet with the LEP secretariat to discuss working together within the growth plan, and a letter of support for the Central Lincolnshire Strategy be sent.</p>	JB/MB/RC
<h2>8 Roundtable with Sarah Hendry, our senior Whitehall Sponsor</h2> <p>SH confirmed her pleasure in meeting everyone. Sarah's senior sponsor role falls out of Heseltine's recommendations. The aim is to provide extra assurance to government that the LEP objectives are being taken on board. It is a two way process. SH is also sponsor for the North Yorks/ East Riding LEP. DEFRA in the past has been unrecognised externally as</p>	

an economic department. This move is part of that positioning. SH hopes to add value and bring specific knowledge and experience to the table by helping to unlock and resolve issues with the authority to do so.

Suggested areas are

- Feed into issues as the GLLEP progress.
- Link up with BIS / draw on networks. Create linkages and use these in the most appropriate way. (ie. Bio economy a growing sector. Cross cutting both departments). Joining up across boundaries. SH will put in efforts to break down silos.

9 Lincoln Science Park

Ursula Lidbetter and Mary Stuart presented this item. The Science park is a joint venture between the Lincolnshire Co-operative and Lincoln University. It sits behind the Holiday Inn across a 10 acre brownfield site and represents a £14m joint investment. This is a great opportunity for businesses / science park to link to the university.

The University already has a school of life sciences and school of pharmacy on site. These offer a different model to others as have academic expertise at the centre. The University maintain a track record of R&D/ innovation. The site creates a unique offer when together and potentially a new key sector for Lincolnshire (Bio technology/ drug development).

A site tour will be convened once more progressed.

MS/UL

10 Any other Business/ Lunch

The Date of the Next meeting is 15 May 2013 at 10

HK raised the issue of FE funding which is un-clarified within the Heseltine report. He reports that FE Colleges are concerned about future funding and that it would be useful to have a common view on funding through LEPs.

Secretariat

The Board Meeting was closed