

Minutes of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Board 20th July 2017

South Holland District Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, Lincs, PE11 2XE

<u>Directors</u>: Ursula Lidbetter- Chair; David Dexter – Deputy Chair; Cllr Colin Davie; Pat Doody; Richard Wills; Andy Orrey; Chris Baron; Herman Kok; Cllr Rob Waltham; Professor Mary Stuart; Mark Tinsley; Cllr Ray Oxby.

Directors Apologies: Steve Middlebrough; Cllr Peter Wheatley

Secretariat: Ruth Carver; Liz Shutt (Item 4); Cathy Jones (Housing); Kate Storey (Note Taker)

Observers: Pete Holmes (BEIS), NLC; Simon Green, SHDC: Cllr Nick Worth; Christine Marshall, Housing

Ian Fytche; Phil Roberts, NKDC

<u>Item 1 - Welcome and Introductions</u>

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. The minutes of the 26th May meeting were agreed and can be published.

Matters Arising

Directors Vacancies - Following May's elections two District Council directors continue to be sought, a nomination from the Lincolnshire Leaders group and a direct appointment. Local Authority Leaders are meeting on 21st July to consider an appointment, and then the LEP shall invite other leaders to be considered for a further post.

Directors Recruitment - Following a recruitment exercise, the Appointments Committee recommended Dean Fathers as a director of the LEP Board, focusing on the Health Sector. The Board discussed the challenges associated with this role and the need to ensure momentum regarding the health economy and increasing skills across Greater Lincolnshire. The appointment was endorsed

Board and Committee Vacancies - The Appointments Committee recommended two new appointments to the Finance and Audit Committee following recruitment exercise. Janet Hemmatt from Boston College and Ian Knowles from WLDC were approved as joining the committee.

The Appointment Committee recommended that Simon Telfer from Branston join the Employment and Skills Board. The LEP Board endorsed this decision.

A Utilities summit was held on 18th July 2017. The summit was well attended, with representatives from the regulators, providers, and local authorities and business. The summit findings will be used to inform the Utilities study and the next steps. Constrained developments should be identified and whether any local solutions can be found to alleviate pressure and local pilot schemes need to be identified. Congratulations to Andy Brooks and the LCC team for leading and organising. BEIS guests also endorsed and were very complimentary. Notes from the session will be included in a commissioned study and will be circulated on completion.

Declarations of Interest - As per the Register of Interest published on the LEP Website, specific declarations of interest for this meeting. Ursula Lidbetter declared interests in the Lincoln Transport Hub and Lincoln Science Park, and Mary Stuart declared an interest in the Lincoln Transport Hub and Lincoln Science Park, and future plans for a Medical School.

Action: The Minutes of 26th May 2017 were agreed for publication, and the appointments are noted and actioned.

Item 2 - LEP Directors Report

Housing Infrastructure Fund - Details of the HCA's Housing infrastructure fund were published recently. This consists of two elements. (1) Filing the last infrastructure gaps marginal funding and (2) forward funding. High demand areas will take priority. Bids are required by 28th September. It was agreed that the LEP's Housing Policy Advisor Cathy Jones, would work with the bidders to ensure fit and consider letters of endorsement. Andy Orrey and Herman Kok agreed to support this work for the LEP Board

Heathrow Airport Logistics Hubs_- North Lincolnshire is responding to the national call for logistics hubs for the expansion of Heathrow airport, the Board agreed to support their expression of interest.

Inward Investment Successes – The national and local annual figures for inward investment were released in July, there was a 20% increase on previous year's figures. The November board meeting is scheduled for enterprise, and investment, trade and innovation would be considered in more detail

Apprenticeships - The Board requested an update on the apprenticeship levy on the September agenda – there is a perception that there are issues around the offer, the providers and take up locally.

Impact of Infrastructure – the Board discussed how we measure the impact of investments in road infrastructure, and in particular pinch point schemes. It was agreed that the LEP would ask the highways authorities to look at lessons learned from previous growth deal investments, and suggest enhancements to the assurance framework to ensure that the Board is fully aware of a wide range of impacts, such as jobs growth, housing, employment land, journey times, impact on local residents etc.

Actions:

- Incorporate Dean Fathers as LEP Board Director with Companies House
- Andy Orrey and Herman Kok to support officers in endorsing bids for the Housing Infrastructure Fund by 28th September deadline.
- ➤ LEP Team to work with the Highways Authorities to explore the impact of infrastructure investments on economic growth suggestion for amendments to the assessment and assurance framework.
- > Apprenticeship Levy on the September board.

Item 3 - LEP Board Terms of Reference Review

The board considered a refreshed terms of reference, and it was agreed that the TORS would be circulated for comment. BEIS updated the board on the national LEP Review being undertaken and due to report in the autumn. Due to the impending refresh of the LEP Board, it was agree to review the terms of reference and agree a refresh process at the next board in November.

Action:

Circulate the draft Terms and Conditions policy to Directors for a response within 10 days.

<u>Item 4 – Emerging Policy themes and Industrial Strategy</u>

Liz Shutt presented a paper which outlined emerging national policy themes, UK Prosperity Fund (UKPF), Industrial Strategy and the LEP Review - The direction of travel is to work up a top level framework locally ahead of clarity emerging this autumn.

Actions:

> Ruth Carver/Liz Shutt to work up local Industrial Strategy framework ahead of the Autumn

Item 5 Lincoln University and Growth Agenda

Professor Mary Stuart update the board on a number of items, agri-food and sector deals progress, focus on the health care sector and improving medical skills, and the role and remit of the innovation council

Item 6 - Future funding and ESIF

Pat Doody updated the Board on the work of the ESIF Committee, how our European Structural and Investment Fund programmes are currently performing; how we are trying to drive up performance and what we need to plan for in shaping policy around what domestic regeneration funding the Greater Lincolnshire LEP would want to lobby for post Brexit.

ERDF Calls that are currently still open (close on 31st October 2017) for outline applications to be submitted include:

- Supporting the shift towards a Low Carbon economy
- > Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
- Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency

The LEP Board thanked Pat Doody and his committee, including Susannah Lewis and the LCC teams for the huge input and asked for regular updates on progress.

Item 7 - Housing

Ian Fytche and Phil Roberts NKDC presented this item on behalf of the Local Authorities

lan Fytche from NKDC is the housing CX lead, supported by Phil Roberts corporate director of NKDC. Their focus is on future direction and deliverability of housing and infrastructure, they are seeking thoughts from the LEP Board.

Policy progress made with the HCA during the devolution process and funding/processes will be taken forward. Delivery projections are on track. The biggest risk is infrastructure funding and mechanism to support delivery, and utilities provision and costs, linked to the agreed SIDP.

The existing district housing network covers traditional Lincolnshire. An invitation has been sent to other partners and this group will focus on supported housing, market making, direct investment, and joint initiatives. A strategic housing delivery plan is underway with further work is required on an approach to the housing bids.

The Board agreed to bring updates twice a year to the LEP Board, with the first update on a Strategic Housing Delivery plan.

Actions:

Regular Housing Updates to the LEP Board

<u>Item 8 – South Holland District Council and its priorities for Growth</u>

Cllr Nick Worth and Christine Marshall presented an overview of SHDC plans for growth.

AOB - There were no items of AOB and the meeting was closed.