

<p><u>In attendance:</u></p> <p><u>Board Members:</u> Mark Tinsley (Chair); Cllr Ray Oxby; Cllr Rob Waltham; Herman Kok; Richard Wills;</p> <p><u>Board Support:</u> Ruth Carver (LEP - RC); Halina Davies (HD)</p> <p><u>Observers:</u> Pete Holmes; Chris Duffill</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Ursula Lidbetter; Cllr Colin Davie; Justin Brown; Chris Baron; Baroness Redfern</p>	<p>Actions</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> HK declared an interest in the Agri-Food Centre of Excellence. Cllr Oxby declared an interest in Access to Employment Zones. Cllr Waltham declared an interest in Access to Employment Zones.</p> <p><u>Minutes</u> Minutes from the meeting held on 30 September 2016 were agreed and can be published on the website.</p>	<p>LEP Secretariat</p>
<p><u>Cllr Oxby and NELC Officer, Chris Duffill left the room</u></p>	
<p><u>Access to Employment Zones</u> Board members were asked to approve an extended period of delay for contracting of the Access to Employment Zones scheme in North East Lincolnshire.</p> <p>This scheme intends to improve traffic flow at the Toll Bar, Littlecoates Road and Nuns Corner junctions and address immediately surrounding negative influences on traffic flow with a target of enabling growth.</p> <p>A phased approach to the contracting was suggested to NELC by LEP officers to enable earlier progression of the Toll Bar scheme, however NELC would rather wait and see if all three junctions can still be progressed in one funding agreement approach as originally planned.</p> <p>North East Lincolnshire Council requested that contracting of the Access to Employment Zones project be delayed until a cabinet decision on all three schemes has been reached, which will be held on 21st December.</p>	

<p>Board members were made aware that the Toll Bar scheme is forecast to spend £1.9m of growth deal in 2016/17 and further delays will undoubtedly impact on the wider Growth Deal programme, both this financial year and in future years.</p> <p>Allowing more time for this project would mean that the contract could be signed in January, if all parties are in agreement and still be procured in February 2017.</p> <p>Should only two of the three junctions be endorsed to go ahead by cabinet, a reduced allocation would be confirmed reflective of the outputs being delivered and value for money. The existing draft contractual agreement would consequently be altered accordingly to reflect any changes. Any residual growth deal allocation would be considered for investment in a pipeline scheme at a future Board meeting.</p> <p>If the cabinet decision is such that the entire scheme is unable to proceed, other pipeline schemes would need to be considered in order to spend the £4.2m currently allocated to the project, and ensure that outputs/outcomes being delivered by the programme overall are not compromised. A future Board paper would provide realistic options.</p> <p><u>Decision - Board members agreed that the scheme should be allowed additional time to enable a cabinet perspective. The next Investment Board scheduled for 27th January will be the deadline for agreeing a final approach.</u></p>	
<p><u>Cllr Oxby and NELC Officer, Chris Duffill, returned to the meeting and Herman Kok left the meeting.</u></p>	
<p><u>Growth Deal Programme Update</u></p> <p>The GLLEP Annual Conversation will take place on the 5th December to discuss how the Growth Deal programme is progressing, programme management and decision making; risk management; wider funding programmes/initiatives and Devolution.</p> <p>Freedoms and flexibilities are already in place to help manage existing forecast programme slippage; however the £1.9m from the Access to Employment Zones scheme forecast for this year may also need to be considered in this context.</p> <p>An update on the Skegness Countryside Business Park scheme was given by HD. Due to a number of issues having arisen in relation to negotiations with Anglian Water, a formal letter citing concerns has been sent to their Chief Executive and a response is awaited. The scheme is otherwise progressing well, but the discussions with Anglian Water may result in additional costs, which could be between £500k and £1m.</p> <p>Members were asked whether any other Council in Greater Lincolnshire had experienced issues with utility companies. North East Lincolnshire Council stated that they have experienced particular issues with electricity companies. Cllrs Oxby, Waltham and Chris Duffill to provide further detail to the LEP.</p> <p>Pete Holmes suggested that when Nick Hurd visits Greater Lincolnshire on 1st December, general concerns regarding utility company/agency engagement might be a useful topic for discussion.</p>	

<p><u>Agri-Food Centre for Excellence</u></p> <p>The total estimated costs for this provisionally allocated growth deal scheme are approximately £7m and the £2.4m funding from Greater Lincolnshire LEP will equate to 34.3% of the project costs. The balance of funding at £4.6m will be made up of approximately £4.2m from the University of Lincoln via ESIF funding (if approved following appraisal towards the end of the year) and a further £400k, the route for which is yet to be confirmed this month, but could potentially be considered by Greater Lincolnshire LEP as an Invest and Grow Loan application.</p> <p>The new building will comprise a net floor space area of 1,360m², housing specialist food technology facilities; a conferencing centre and accommodation to house the University's growing research community (robotics and food manufacturing) and businesses seeking "hot desking" space; and will be based in Holbeach on the new Food Enterprise Zone site.</p> <p>This scheme will ultimately link into and support all three FEZs in Greater Lincolnshire. The detailed designs have now been completed.</p> <p>Board members agreed that this scheme would provide opportunities for growth in productivity and that the project should be supported.</p> <p>It was pointed out that in the Due Diligence report there is a mistake in that it states that Holbeach is in the West Lindsey District Council area, whereas it should read South Holland District Council.</p> <p>Decision – Board Approval to contracting was given pending confirmation of the match funding.</p>	<p>LEP Secretariat</p>
<p><u>Ashby Hall – Confidential Item</u></p> <p>An Expression of Interest for Invest and Grow loan funding was presented to the Board. The scheme would provide a "high quality hospitality facility" which will be used to host a wide range of commercial and private events. The £1.9m investment sought would be used directly for the acquisition of the property which is Grade II listed and lies on the edge of Ashby de la Launde.</p> <p>There was a broad discussion on the detail provided by the applicants. It was noted that the Business Plan is very broad, lacks detailed costing and lacks focus, and that there were a number of other weaknesses and omissions in the Expression of Interest.</p> <p>A decision was made by the Board members that a full application should not be invited.</p>	<p>LEP Officers to inform the applicants of the decision</p>
<p><u>Any Other Business</u> None</p>	
<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> Friday, 27th January 2017 at the Epic Centre, Lincolnshire Showground.</p>	

..... Chairperson

..... Date