

Hull and East Yorkshire LEP Board



Paper A: Draft Minutes of the Board Meeting
held on 29th September 2022 at 9.00 am
Via Microsoft Teams

<p>Attendance</p> <p>Board Members</p> <p>James Newman OBE (Chair) Cllr Jonathan Owen Gill Alton David Hall Professor David Petley Madge Moore Diana Taylor Dafydd Williams</p>	<p>Observers</p> <p>Alan Menzies - East Riding of Yorkshire Council Peter Campey - BEIS</p> <p>Executive Team and Secretariat</p> <p>Teresa Chalmers Andrew Hewitt Chris Howell</p> <p>Guests</p> <p>Cllr Jackie Dadd for Cllr Mike Ross Deb Gray for Mark Jones Kirsty Barr- HEY LEP Jon Brunton – HEY LEP Jonathan Oxley – Humber Industrial Cluster Plan Manager Graeme Smith – Hull City Council</p>
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1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Stephen Parnaby OBE Cllr Mike Ross Jayne Adamson Matt Jukes HCC Mark Jones - Hull City Council Caroline Lacy ERYC Karen Philipson – HEY LEP/ERYC</p> <p>Note: CB and DT need to leave early re other diary commitments.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Dafydd Williams – Freeport/Opportunity Humber Diana Taylor – support of the production of the Humber Vision 2030 publication</p>
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2	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2022</p> <p>These were approved and agreed as a correct record. Matters arising were covered in the various updates and discussions at the meeting.</p>
3	<p>Chair's Update</p> <p>JHN said that as both the HEY and Greater Lincolnshire LEPs have not been invited to participate in the Opportunity Humber (OH) discussions there is nothing to report from his perspective apart from a recognition that the former chair of the group has left the employment of Reckitt and that a new chair will be sought.</p> <p>PC commented that a meeting of the OH board was held last week, and this focussed on governance arrangements. A conversation had taken place regarding a convergence or alignment model, working with the Freeport and OH members had concluded the alignment model would provide more agility and flexibility. It was acknowledged that the Freeport needed to work within specific Government guidelines, and this involved more detailed arrangements that may not be a good fit with the way OH wanted to operate as a private sector group.</p> <p>Cllr JO added that the general view was to allow and support the Freeport to continue to move forward at pace whilst these conversations are ongoing. The OH chair would ideally have the knowledge, capacity, and ability to work across Government.</p> <p>PC added that the OH board are now looking at an independent chair role and agreeing the job specification for that role in addition to the creation of a workplan, which would indicate the resources needed to deliver the future board's role.</p> <p>JHN commented positively on the production of the Humber Vision 2030 document which had been produced at pace: https://marketinghumber.com/media/8739/hed-brochure.pdf This is a document that focusses on the number of projects and investments pan Humber and a letter of support from both the HEY and GL LEPs had been signed last Friday to go to Ministers and MPs in order to get it out in time for the party conferences.</p> <p>DW had attended the Labour Party Conference and said this was well received and he would feedback on this issue following the other party conferences which he was planning to attend.</p> <p>JHN said that, whilst it this was an excellent document he had asked if there was further opportunity to consider other important aspects, such as the skills and innovation agendas for the Humber.</p> <p>DT said this was the first in a potential series of publications that are intended to provide the holistic picture of the Humber's assets. Other information is available on the Marketing Humber website, which links to activity such as the investment plan etc.</p>

	<p>Note: DT declared an interest.</p> <p>JHN discussed the last Humber Energy Board meeting, which unfortunately due to prior commitments he was unable to attend. The vision document featured in the discussions along with conversations on the skills elements of the Board. TC said that Chris Howell had presented an excellent paper describing some of the demands and supply issues re green skills and that partners CATCH would also be publishing an aligned piece of work that had been commissioned by the Humber Industrial Cluster Plan. TC commented that in the meeting there was some discussion about setting up another skills group under the HEB but that in subsequent conversations with the Chair, a suggestion had been made re aligning all the Humber skills conversations together. This was needed as the same people are likely to be involved and would reduce duplication and align actions.</p> <p>JHN briefly updated on the LEP Chair's meeting this week where several chairs were negotiating scenario options as they either move to transition to a Combined Authority or are left as standing alone, if they are some way from this in terms of timelines. JHN commented positively on the relationships and ongoing conversations between the LEP and the two LAs.</p> <p>Action – JHN and SRP to report back to the next board re Freeport, OH and HEB further progress.</p>
4	<p>Local Authority Updates</p> <p>Cllr Jonathan Owen, Leader, East Riding of Yorkshire Council</p> <p>Cllr Jonathan Owen said that since his report at the last board no further meetings had taken place with Ministers about Devolution, but this was understandable to date. Civil Servants have continued to work on devolution proposals and a further meeting with these colleagues is planned for October. It was envisaged that the options for devolution and its opportunities would be provided by the end of the year for local consideration.</p> <p>PC said the policy to date had not changed in terms of what was available in the tier system, the mayoral deal bringing with it the greater investment powers and higher funding levels. JHN wondered about whether the Government's comments on the £20 bn efficiency gap would change the discussions conversations nationally.</p> <p>Cllr JO said that recent announcements in regard of the proposed Investment Zones were moving at pace and oven-ready proposals were essential. PC clarified that whilst a number of proposed Investment Zones were included in the Government's announcement a further process of completing Expressions of Interest with more detail would be required.</p> <p>Cllr JO then spoke about the LA's focus on the current cost of living crisis. For ERYC, this remains a priority area and targeted interventions are being delivered and further developed. Some of these are not in support of residents in receipt of benefit payments but are focussing on those, who are just above the threshold.</p>

These include low-income families (LIF) and the ERYC LIF tracker system would be used to assess family welfare. A task force has been set up to consider aligning activities in such areas as social care, rural partnerships, food bank support etc. Each ERYC cabinet meeting would receive a report on progress, Cllr JO is also working closely with Sue Symington, the new chair of the Integrated Care Partnership to align efforts. The health service is looking at support to their own staff, who are often on minimum income.

In terms of the LA's capital programme and the increased costs of materials, it is positive to report that the planned circa £600M investment over the next four years will hopefully continue.

Pressures remain on social care, as discussed previously at this board, in terms of both accessing and sustaining the workforce but also on the new caps which require additional assessment.

Cllr Jackie Dad on behalf of Cllr Michael Ross – Hull City Council

Cllr JD commented that HCC are also looking closely at the cost-of-living crisis and that this week a summit was held with the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE) and faith groups. This is a hugely significant issue for many residents and a further summit will be held to include business representatives and individuals. There is renewed focus on those, who have not previously sought help from the LA and actions to date are the setting up of 'warm zones' to assist residents through the winter. These zones would also offer advice and support to ensure clients' needs were considered.

As with ERYC Hull CC has been named as a potential Investment Zone area and the LA is looking at various areas around the Estuary and River Hull.

JHN requested that there should be some private sector engagement as some proposals in terms of activities and future capital programmes would need private sector investment. It is vital to engage with the private sector sooner than later to enable these projects to deliver effectively.

In terms of capital investments, the Stoneferry Programme is almost complete which is excellent news.

The Hull Training and Adult Education Team had recently received a 'good' grade from Ofsted with thanks to those involved. It was interesting to report that 50% of students are undertaking apprenticeships.

In regard of UKSPF, conversations are ongoing with the VCSE sector, and a further partnership meeting is planned for October.

Siemens Gamesa have confirmed that their expansion plans will include around 200 more jobs, which is hugely positive.

JHN thanked both Councillors for their input and welcomed future updates.

Action – Cllrs JO and MR

5	<p>The Wider Economic Situation and NP11's role</p> <p>JHN welcomed guest David Levene, CEO of the NP11, to the meeting to discuss the wider northern challenges and opportunities and recent conversations with Government. The NP 11 is a group of the northern 11 LEPs and regular meetings are held at Chair and Officer level to provide a collaborative voice and investment proposals across the north.</p> <p>DL thanked JHN and the board for the invite reminding members that the small executive was funded by Government as part to the Pan Regional Partnership (PRP) arrangements. There are several working groups that are in place and JHN jointly leads on the Net Zero group.</p> <p>DL then presented a short slide pack highlighting recent activities and proposed areas of focus. (copy to follow)</p> <p>All PRP's had undergone a national review, following the national LEP Review, and the results included support from Government with 100% funding provided. Additional considerations are needed in broadening the PRPs governance model to include more academic and elected members/leaders to ensure relevant partnership engagement. Agreed principles have been confirmed and conversations ongoing in regard of a wider 'strategy for the north' and a focus on growth and the economy. There will be further alignment with transport bodies such as Transport for the North to reduce duplication. The need to reflect diversity continues. It is also important that the main board is not unmanageable in size.</p> <p>There is ongoing need to develop and maintain the evidence base for Government and provide a strategic overview of northern opportunities and challenges.</p> <p>Whilst NP11 had a very good relationship with the previous Government team there is need to engage with the new Ministers to understand their vision for LEPs and the PRPs.</p> <p>With regards to the national picture, it is very early days and NP11 recognise the Levelling Up agenda remains a high priority for many northern LEPs alongside aspirations for growth. The NP11 would like to see increased investment in areas, such as research and innovation, to drive growth. The PM's main priorities are growth, health, and the energy agendas and this aligns well with NP11's work as they do with many LEPs including HEY LEP and its Economic Growth and Workforce Wellbeing Strategy. The NP11 Clean Growth published in March is a good example: https://www.np11.org.uk/2022/04/new-report-sets-out-how-the-north-can-lead-the-uks-net-zero-transition/</p> <p>DL thanked JHN and Jonathan Oxley for their contributions to the NP11 Net Zero North Group work, saying that the updated plan will be shortly published.</p>

	<p>The newly announced Investment Zones are welcomed as the list of potential areas includes many northern geographies. The business voice can add value to these developments in the same way as Freeports are engaging with public sector partners.</p> <p>The next Convention for the North is proposed to be held in Manchester on 25th January, which will be confirmed in due course. Further details will be shared asap.</p> <p>DW asked DL if there is any further information on Levelling Up at this stage as the most recent Government messages could be seen as favouring southern areas e.g., housing growth.</p> <p>DW confirmed there is no further information yet but Levelling Up remains a significant priority for many MPs and therefore growth and LU can be used together to demonstrate positive outcomes.</p> <p>JHN commented that the Investment Zones appear to be able to choose their priorities and these are likely to range from housing to manufacturing, creating further confusion. More detail is required to understand how to maximise the investments.</p> <p>PC said that the Expression of Interest process would assist with this clarity and the turn-around requirements would be at pace. Proposals can include multiple sites when there is a sound business case. It is useful to draw on previous experience such as the Enterprise Zones when developing proposals. Freeports are also part of the wider discussion, and the business rate uplift is an obvious benefit.</p> <p>JHN thanked DL for his very interesting presentation and will invite NP11 back to discuss progress at a future meeting. Action – JHN/TC/DL</p>
6	<p>Chief Operating Officer and LEP Team Report</p> <p>TC updated board members on various aspects of the LEP delivery, including the LEP Network working groups where board members are invited to participate. Action – LEP board members respond please by Wed 19th October.</p> <p>TC discussed the communications plan proposals, asking for any further comments or suggestions for inclusion. HCC colleagues will work in support and work with board members on future media items, pertaining to their individual interests and experience.</p> <p>Staff issues were discussed and there was support from the board in how the various vacancies were being managed with thanks to both local authorities for their ongoing help and support.</p>

7

Growth Hub Update including the DCMS Creative Industries Bid

JB presented the paper, which contained detailed information on operational delivery and financial management.

The Hub continues to gather a range of business intelligence that is submitted to BEIS on a monthly basis and key findings include concerns around:

- Energy costs
- Vacancy and recruitment
- Competition
- B2C trading, which is already seeing a downturn in customer spend

However, some sectors, such as construction and digital firms are reporting buoyant conditions.

JB reminded board members that the current ERDF contract, which delivers all three #GrowmySME programmes, will conclude from 30 June 2023. There is continued focus on ensuring all budgeted spend is committed and programme targets are achieved. Good progress has been made to date, including jobs created and businesses engaged in receiving diagnostic information and brokerage services. The DLUHC Contract Manager has expressed satisfaction on progress to date.

The new Business Growth Scheme four new contracts has been confirmed with sessions beginning from 26th September 2022.

AH discussed the LEP's recent application to the DCMS Creative Growth Bid, which was submitted in August 2022 by the LEP in partnership with Hull City Council and East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

If successful, the bid would provide additional and specialised support for those creative businesses that fall into the defined categories and that have the potential for rapid growth.

To assist with the preparation of the bid, the LEP was able to use the DCMS £10k bid development grant to further develop the evidence base for the region. This resource was also used to develop a Creative Sector report, which will be circulated to all involved in the bid activity. This report will be a valuable future resource when considering future investment, such as UKSPF and Levelling Up funding if the bid is not successful.

Note: on the 30 September, following the LEP Board meeting, DCMS confirmed that the bid was unsuccessful. The LEP team have asked for further feedback to improve future bidding opportunities.

Action – LEP, LAs and stakeholder working group colleagues to consider next steps and report back to the next board – AH/JB/TC

<p>8</p>	<p>Investment Programmes</p> <p>KB presented a comprehensive report on the various investment programmes including the Getting Building Fund, the Local Growth Fund, and the Growing Places Fund, with associated risk management and delivery outcomes to date.</p> <p>In terms of the Growing Places Fund, the newly launched opportunity from April 2022 has seen 54 expressions of interest, which include a 58/42% split between Hull and East Riding. 18 full applications have been received and 7 grants awarded totalling £86,252.</p> <p>A further 10 applications are in appraisal with final grant decisions to be made at the Investment Panel meeting to be held on 18th October 2022.</p> <p>KP presented the GBF Programme Summary with its investment allocation.</p> <p>JHN commented that it was positive to see all investments on track for delivery with some considered flexibilities within the agreed parameters. There is a need to continue to ensure that funds are allocated efficiently to maximise impact.</p> <p>JHN thanked KB for her presentation and report.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Horizon Scanning</p> <p>AH presented a paper that reflected the situation pre the Government's 'fiscal event/mini-budget' held on Friday 23 Sept. Significant issues have arisen since this occurred and there is a need to gather intelligence from partners and board members to feed into BEIS on the impact of these matters.</p> <p>The previously announced energy support for businesses has been welcomed but with remaining concern due to the limited time span currently on offer.</p> <p>AH reported on the LEP's involvement in the Northern Powerhouse Economic Review and Transport for the North's Strategic Transport Plan, referring to the presentation by DL earlier on this agenda.</p> <p>This valuable original Review is now being refreshed with a new set of quantified economic scenarios for the North which will be published in Dec 2022 and will help support strategy developments at regional level within Combined Authorities and the NP11 group of LEPs. These in turn will inform TfN's Strategic Transport Plan.</p> <p>HEY LEP, the two LAs and Humber Partners have all been engaged and contributed to this work, the results of which is in draft form. When complete a final version will come to this board for review and inform future strategic development activity.</p> <p>Action – AH to ensure that HEY has optimum input to the NPIER</p>

10

The Humber Industrial Cluster Plan (HICP)

The HICP will provide an evidenced based framework for identifying, understanding, prioritising, and delivering the measures that will enable the Humber Industrial Cluster Partners to achieve net zero by 2040, whilst maximising strategic opportunities to drive green growth and recovery.

JO presented an update on progress to date with the Plan, including the model scenarios, which differ depending on several influencing factors including Government policy decisions, costs, and individual organisations strategic plans, (see slides attached).

The project is on track to deliver by March 2023 and the Cluster Plan will provide a roadmap to identify likely technologies needed, those industrial emitters that need to take action and key barriers to delivery, such as supply chain issues and regulatory and public acceptance issues in brining decarbonisation to a successful result.

This work has attracted international attention from other potential industrial clusters and inward investors from Australia, Germany, Netherlands, Singapore, Switzerland and is recognised by the World Economic Forum as an exemplar.

TC thanked JO for his enormous contribution to the work to date and congratulated him on his new role as CBI Cluster Manager, where JO will continue to be an ambassador for the Humber and support the successful conclusion of the Plan.

TC also raise the issue around HICP legacy and its ability to keep the data refreshed. The licensing requirements for the housing of the systems modelling needs to find a suitable sponsor(s) to enable the region to fully maximise the potential of this globally important work. This issue has been raised with the Humber Leadership Board, the Humber Energy Board and both LEPs but, as it is a Humber issue, a pan Humber solution is needed.

The board members acknowledged this issue and asked for further info on costs and potential solutions for further consideration and support.

JHN thanked JO for his support with the NP11 net zero work and welcomed his new role at the CBI, which would add strength to the national recognition of the Humber as a strategic contributor and solution driven community who are able to work with Government to make a significant difference to energy sustainability and security.

Action – TC to arrange for HICP colleagues to share the legacy options to the board. Note – given the time, this will be shared by electronic means with board comments on the proposals welcomed.

11

Employment and Skills Board Report

CH presented the report on behalf of JA, who had given apologies. It was pleasing to see the HEY Skills Network was now in operation and that nominations for the Chair and Vice Chair are open. It is hoped that these posts will be filled prior to the next Network meeting on the 18th October.

CH discussed the proposals for use of the Skills Advisory Panel final investments, which had been identified by the ESB and the Local Skills Report. The Employment and Skills Board had recommended this expenditure. **Agreed action – LEP Board supported the proposals**

The developments of the Local Skills Improvement Plans were considered, given the LEPs strategic role in skills and its considerable knowledge and experience in this area of work. The board were advised that a close working with the Chamber was essential to ensure that work was not duplicated. Skills plays a key role within the proposed Combined Authority and therefore alignment and joint planning is required to focus on the wider skills issues. The LEP had shared data in support of the LSIP bid and wished to continue to play its part to ensure that financial investment is maximised.

CH said that the Chamber and LEP are continuing to meet to discuss these plans and both the ESB and the main board will be updated in due course.

JHN commented that there continues to be a strong role for skills within the LEP and eventually within any proposed CA, so that the LSIP plans will need to consider this. Clarity and communication of which organisations are leading on skills related activity is key.

CH discussed the work of the Workforce Development Business Advisor and the most recent in-depth report to the ESB, which provided data on the types of enquiries received and the sector relating to the enquiry. CH demonstrated the multiple options that had been followed up with some real successes in regard of the Apprenticeship Levy.

CH spoke about the partnership work with the two LAs in terms of Multiply and the Skills Bootcamps, the latter now beginning to delivery additional training in evidenced skills gaps.

JHN thanked CH and JA for the report.

Action – LSIP update at the next board meeting – JA and CH

<p>12</p>	<p>Infrastructure Board Report</p> <p>AH presented the report on behalf of SP, who had given apologies. The board had discussed the developments relating to Transport for the North, which DL had included in his presentation. The LEP and the two LAs have been supporting these developments.</p> <p>The board had received a further update on the STEP Programme (Goole) and the outcome of the bid process, which was likely to be made in December this year if all goes to plan. This would be transformational for Goole and the wider region so any support that this board can give is helpful. JHN added that he and the Greater Lincolnshire LEP chair, Pat Doody, had written letters of support as had the LEP Yorkshire Chairs.</p> <p>AMION consulting had delivered their findings to date in regard of the evaluation of the Local Growth Fund and the Getting Building Fund. The report concluded that these investments were good value for money.</p> <p>JHN thanked SP and AH for the report.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>TC said that a number of pre-read papers had been sent out to board members from the CBI, thanking Beckie Hart, CBI Y and H Regional Director. BH was unable to join the meeting today due to diary commitments but had asked board members to provide feedback on a number of questions that can be fed through to inform policy discussions with Government. TC added that if board members could complete the relevant questions and send back these can also be useful in the Business Intelligence report that the Growth Hub sends to BEIS.</p> <p>Action – all Board members to consider Appendix one to these minutes and respond to TC by 28th October at latest please.</p> <p>JHN reminded board members that the next meeting would be held in person on 23rd November at County Hall in Beverley with a slightly later start time to allow for travel. JHN asked members to send any agenda items to TC by the beginning of November.</p>

Signed:

**James Newman
Chair**