

Hull and East Yorkshire LEP Board
Infrastructure Board
Report by Stephen Parnaby OBE, Chair, Infrastructure Board
Thursday 19th September 2022
Paper G

1. Summary

1.1. The Infrastructure Board held its last meeting on Friday 26th August 2022.

1.2. This paper provides a high-level summary of the meeting.

2. Recommendations

2.1. That the Board notes the latest progress report.

3. Report

3.1. The following items were discussed:

- **Transport For The North**

Tony Kirby, the HEY LEP representative on the Tfn Board provided an update to the board. Current focus within TFN at this time is the development of an updated Transport for the North Strategy. The economic scenario work for the Northern Powerhouse Independent Economic Review which is underpinning this work has been developed in partnership with NP11 and LEPs. HEY LEP has sense checked these scenarios and their impact on our region.

- **Step Programme, Goole**

Stephen Silvester, ERYC, who is leading the bid to host the project, updated Board Members on the current progress of the programme.

STEP (Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production) is an ambitious programme to deliver a prototype fusion energy plant, targeting 2040, and a path to commercial viability of fusion. Local partners headed up by the East Riding of Yorkshire and landowners Wykeland are currently promoting the opportunity of this project being sited in Goole.

The Step Programme is being promoted by the UK Atomic Energy Authority and is considering proposals from a range of UK areas who are open to hosting this programme.

The STEP programme aims to:

- Build on the UK's global leadership in fusion
- Demonstrate the commercial viability of fusion by building a prototype plant somewhere in the UK
- Enable the development of a world-leading fusion industry, capable of exporting fusion expertise and technology around the world.

A decision is expected on the siting of this facility in December 2022.

- **Programme Evaluation of Growing the Humber and Getting Building Fund & Learning for Future Programmes**

AMION Consulting were appointed by Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (HEYLEP) to carry out an evaluation of the Local Growth Fund (LGF) and the Getting Building Fund (GBF).

Graham Russell from Amion presented to Board Members on this.

This work as well as providing detail on how previous programmes have delivered this report and the presentation also provided information on how the revised treasury green book methodology can consider a wider range of outputs when considering value for money of future public sector investments into capital works in the HEY LEP Region.

- **Getting Building Fund**

Kirsty Barr, Investment Programme Co-ordinator, gave an overview of the infrastructure projects within the LEP's Getting Building Fund programme and summarises delivery progress of the Getting Building Fund to 31st March 2022

Key points included:

- Delivery of outputs such as houses unlocked, were expected to be delivered beyond 2025. However, as a result of the scheme the development of these housing sites has been accelerated, allowing for some housing outputs to be realised within the first half of this financial year (22/23). The number of houses expected to be unlocked as a result of the Delivering Housing Growth scheme has reduced by 146.
- BEIS have been informed of the reduction, which has been reflected through our Quarterly reporting. No change request is required to be submitted at this time, although the Hull CC as the accountable body will issue a formal contract variation letter to confirm the reduction in project outputs.

4. Financial and resource implications

None at this stage.

