Hull and East Yorkshire LEP Board



Paper A

DRAFT Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Thursday 27th July 2023 at 9.30 am at County Hall, Beverley

Attendance

Board Members

James Newman OBE (Chair) Stephen Parnaby OBE (Deputy Chair) Councillor Anne Handley Professor Dave Petley Jayne Adamson Madge Moore

Observers

Alan Menzies - East Riding of Yorkshire Council Alex Codd – Hull City Council Peter Campey – Department for Business and Trade (DBT)

Executive Team and Secretariat

Teresa Chalmers, HEY LEP Karen Philipson, HEY LEP

Guests

Graeme Smith, HCC Chris Howell, HEY LEP Phil Glover, HEY LEP Jon Brunton, HEY LEP Jacquie Newman, HEY LEP

1	Welcome
	JHN welcomed Board members and LEP colleagues to the meeting, thanking Cllr Handley for hosting at County Hall.
	Apologies Councillor Mike Ross Diana Taylor Matt Jukes Catherine Bishop David Hall
	Dafydd Williams



	Declaration of Interests/hospitality and gifts reminder
	JHN asked all members to ensure their Declarations of Interest are considered and to raise any items on this agenda where they feel appropriate.
2	Minutes of the meeting on 27th May 2023 & Any Matters Arising
	JHN asked members to consider the minutes – all agreed.
	Matters Arising
	 The University will provide a general progress update on developments at the September board meeting.
	 University of Hull and the two LA's have also met to explore possibilities of a type of investments zone, these meetings are ongoing.
	 The AGM follows today's shortened board meeting.
3	Chair's Update
	 Hull City Council hosted a meeting with Minister Kevin Hollinrake on Friday 21st July in which the LEP was invited to participate, through JHN, TC and JB. Discussions took place re the progress of devolution, and the opportunities and challenges in local economic development. JB presented on the work of the Growth Hub with the Minister personally interested in SME activity. JHN thanked PC and AC for including the LEP in the visit.
	• JHN had recently attended a meeting with David Davies, MP, conversations focussed on energy and the Humber wide opportunities for decarbonisation. There was due to be a further conversation with Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero and the disappointing news re the track one investments would be further discussed. JHN reported that the Humber Energy Board were actively pursuing further discussions with Ministers re the opportunities in the Humber.
	 On behalf of the NP11, a meeting with Lord Callannan, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Energy Efficiency and Green Finance) is due to be held in September, including a site visit and a round table discussion with business leaders. JHN will be hosting the visit along with NP11 Chair, Claire Hayward MBE DL, Cheshire, and Warrington LEP.



	 Further positive conversations have been held with both Local Authorities in regard of the development of the Hull and East Yorkshire Strategic Skills Hub. A paper has been presented to the HCC Cabinet for discussion and agreement in principle, and a similar paper will be presented to ERYC Cabinet in September. (Copy will be sent to Board Members) The concept was developed in a much-welcomed partnership and further discussions will be held with the Board in September. Following this discussion, the concept will be further socialised with stakeholders on a wider basis. JA said this was really positive and recognised the need for joined up and effective activity across the HEY region. The ESB and LEP team were working hard to maximise resident's opportunities. JHN had recently met with Neal Juster, VC of Lincoln University, and chair of GLLEP, regular meetings will now recommence with LEP Chairs, Deputy Chair and the Chief Exec/COO.
4	Pan Humber Issues
	 SRP presented the Freeport update – a preferred candidate has been chosen as CEO with an announcement shortly. Simon Bird will continue as the Chair for the foreseeable future until such time as a further recruitment exercise is undertaken. The Freeport Board has met once to date, and tax sites are now in progress, as are the essential land consents.
	The Business Day– held on 9 th June at Bridlington Spa was a huge success with sponsors and delegates reporting that the event was the best yet with tickets selling out within the weeks of being on sale, JHN thanked SRP and Karen Philipson for their hard work on this event to make it a success. SRP declared an interest in this item.
5	Local Authority Updates
	Cllr Anne Handley, East Riding of Yorkshire
	 Devolution – discussions are going well with all members of the ERYC Cabinet supporting a Mayoral Deal. Michael Gove, Secretary of State for DLUC, had raised the progress of the HEY devolution deal in his recent speech, recognising this progress. Conversations are now moving at pace with further meetings set up with Minister Dehenna Davison at DLUC.



	PC commented that the four Humber leaders are looking at strengthening the Humber Leadership Board, alongside the development of both Pan- Humber Devolution Deals. PC further commented that Ed Whiting, Director, Levelling Up Policy Unit, is leading on the Pan Humber developments in this area. The key aspects are to define the focus and work plan of the HLB, driving growth and simplifying arrangements.
	Alex Codd, Assistant Director Economic Regeneration, – Hull City Council on behalf of Cllr Michael Ross
	• The Cabinet paper which included the Strategic Skills Hub proposals was part of a wider Levelling Up Agenda with other areas including devolution. There are a range of wider devolution conversations taking place to look at the opportunities and challenges.
	• Levelling Up Partnership funding proposals are underway, in Hull's case this would focus on the East Bank, including Myton Street and Colonial Street. This investment would include the development of a Place Pilot, one of five being developed nationally to review public assets, including health, housing and regeneration via a sustainability lens.
	• HCC are looking at developing a new Community Strategy , which builds on the previous success of the City Plan. The latter focused on public realm, bricks and buildings, the new Strategy would focus more on the people side in the way the LA provided services, including some co-development with partners.
6	HEY LEP Financial Outturn Report 22/23
	• GS presented the Outturn Report for last financial year. Members noted very little flexibility for spend. There was an increase in some parts of the budget, which was mainly due to a specific new project on health inclusive careers. Some of the ringfenced reserves could be used for agreed activity, such as the item related to Humber Energy. JHN commented that this would be reviewed alongside the work of the HEB. JA declared an interest in the Inclusive Careers project.
	 GS said the final Humber Industrial Cluster Plan claim had been presented to UKRI for review and it was anticipated that the funds would transfer accordingly.



	 JHN added that there was enough LEP budget to operate throughout 23/24 to March next year and that functions such as the Growth Hub are funded separately. Legacy programmes staff colleagues were independently funded too. It was hoped that by March devolution arrangements would be better known and plans for integration of LEP activities in place. There is a possibility of using some additional capacity funding to help develop the CA. JHN is keen to offer his and the Board's support, experience, and capacity, alongside the BEB business voice in any devolution discussions with Government, alongside the Leaders.
7	COO and Team Report
	• TC updated Board members on a range of issues, including the national evaluation of Growth Hubs, which concluded that the Hubs add considerable value to SMEs. Positive progress is being made on the Growing Places fund allocations and the FDI support work.
	 The report also included reference to Sir Keir Starmer's published view on a review of the national curriculum and changes to national skills policy.
	 The LEP Network continues to work with Government on the integration of LEP assets, staff, activities and services to MCAs and CAs.
8	Employment and Skills Board Report
	 The report summarised the progress made by the HEY
	Employment & Skills Board since the last meeting of the Board.
	 Report was noted by Board Members with JHN commenting on the range and reach of the skills and careers activity, which will be really useful preparation for the CA.
9.	Business Support Board Report
	 TC presented highlights of the most recent BSB on behalf of DW. The meeting held on 14th June had discussed the findings of the annual Growth Hub Review, noting 100% client satisfaction with support provided.



	 Both LAs had presented the latest developments in regard of the UKSPF, with discussions how future allocations would be managed.
	 Gill Dillon had presented the findings of the Employer's Survey which will be used by both the LEP and the Chamber of Commerce in regard of skills provision.
10.	AOB
	 MM updated on the most recent Rural LEPs meeting which she had attended. The LEPs had worked together to produce a report gathering intelligence, which will be used by DEFRA, who were surprised and welcomed the amount of detail included. This Report will be circulated in due course and the LEP and the future CA can use this to define rural objectives and actions. Action -
	MM and TC will meet with Matt Millington to discuss further.
11	LEP AGM – members then welcomed guests and stakeholders to the AGM.
12	Date and time of next meeting:
	Thursday 28 th September 2023, 9 am via Microsoft Teams

Signed:

James Newman Chair