

HEY LEP Infrastructure Board

DRAFT Minutes of the Board held on Friday 8th March 2024
ERGO Business Centre, Bridgehead Business Park, Meadow Road, Hessle
Paper I Appendix One

Attendance

Board Members

Stephen Parnaby OBE (Chair)
Richard Beal
Tony Kirby
Tim Rix
Linda Martin

Secretariat

Teresa Chalmers, HEYLEP
Karen Philipson, ERYC/HEY LEP

Guests

Jon Los, Key Growers
Phil Glover HEYLEP
Jacquie Newman, HEYLEP
Garry Taylor, HCC
Helen Firth, ERYC
Helen Wilson, ERYC

1. Welcome

Stephen Parnaby welcomed board members and guests to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Eman Allam-Forster
Mark Barrett
Dominic Gibbons
David Garness
Clare Hoskins
Andrew Horncastle
Cllr Ieronimo
Alan Menzies

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Board members they should make clear any declarations of interest to the Board either at the beginning of the meeting or as discussions arose.

4. **Minutes of the meeting held Friday 24^h January 2024 on & Matters Arising**

Minutes agreed as true record - and there were no matters arising not covered on this agenda.

5 **Chair's Update**

The Chair updated on the following: -

- **Devolution** – consultation proves had now ended and verbal feedback has been positive this could potentially see mayoral elections in May 2025, depending on the formal response and analysis of the consultation which is being done independently.
- **LEP Integration** – 31st March 2024 sees the closure of the HEY LEP. The LEP team will stay together in the interim until the proposed CA is formed, again depending on the consultation results. All current LEP Board meetings will cease also. HCC, who are the Accountable Body, are to develop a new Business Board and Employment & Skills Board in the interim period and will consider the use of existing working groups and panels as appropriate.

Board members agreed that this group was useful resource and would look to meet on an informal basis moving forward.

6. **Presentation – Key Growers, Woodmansey**

Jon Los and David Baarda presented to the Board on the proposals for a new 'vertical' farm and Energy Park at Woodmansey.

Presentation slides are attached.

7. **Inward Investment Report**

This report provided the Board with a summary of investment related activity and intelligence since the last meeting including the following:

- **North Bank Freeport Innovation Event** - Following the recent Freeport Innovation event held at the ORE Catapult in Grimsby and the positive feedback received it has been decided to host a further innovation event on the North Bank for SMEs. The event will take place at the Aura facility in Hessle on the 5th June.

- NP11 Innovation Cluster Research - the NP11 partnership has recently commissioned Cambridge Economics to undertake research to look at the role place-based clusters can have in contributing to the GVA of the economy. Place is a central aspect of Government policy, as evident in various publications like the Innovation Strategy and the Levelling Up White Paper
- North PowerGrid Distribution Energy - Futures Scenarios Planning - Northern Powergrid (NPG) have recently undertaken their Distribution Energy Futures Scenarios (DEFS) planning. As a District Network operator NPG are responsible for powering over 3.9m homes and businesses across the North East, Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire.
- Net Zero Activity Carbon Literacy training courses are being rolled out for elected members and senior officers at HCC and ERYC to ensure climate change mitigation and adaptation is included in project development and decision making.
- Since April, 166 engagements have taken place with foreign owned companies operating in the HEY LEP region of which 17 were new engagements. The LEP remains on track to fulfil its contractual obligations

8. Programmes Delivery Update

This report updated the Board in relation to the legacy capital programmes: Local Growth Fund (LGF), Getting Building Fund (GBF) and the Growing Places Fund (GPF).

- Nine remaining LGF projects are continuing to progress well, claims and output delivery is submitted alongside progress update written reports. Satisfactory progress is being made in achieving all outputs. It should be noted that delivery of certain outputs such as houses unlocked, are expected to be delivered beyond 2025.
- To date, the GPF has awarded grants to 43 businesses across the whole Region (Hull & ERYC), 16 to SMEs in the East Riding of Yorkshire and 27 in Hull to a joint overall value of £1.897m, with increased overall productivity in the form of the potential achievement of 194 new/safeguarded jobs.
- The GPF continues to be delivered successfully with funding recommendations or refusals delegated to the HEY LEP's independent Investment Panel, chaired by David Kilburn.

9. **Transport for the North/Humber Bridge Updates**

Tony Kirby covered the following: -

TfN - last meeting was held on 14th December 2023 which saw increased membership and both LA's have representatives now present – minutes of this meeting will circulate to Board Members (attached).

Humber Bridge Board – meeting held on 23 February.

- external audit had taken place
- daily crossings - February 24,000 cars
- 4% growth on flows
- Major project - free flow tolling to be introduced in July 2025

Action – to check on future representation on HBB and TfN – TC/SP

10. **Local Authority Updates**

ERYC – Helen Firth (for Claire Hoskins) updated on the following: -

- HS2 withdrawal Transport Funding received – ERYC £168m over years.
- Delivery Plan to be put in to place by November/December for the first two years of funding reviewing which projects would be appropriate.
- As a grant this would be managed by the future CBA, depending on the consultation outcome, this would be required for all for new schemes.
- Local Transport Plan – there is uncertainty if this was to be replaced waiting for further guidance/approval from Minister.

11.

12. **Board Member Updates**

Nothing was reported on this occasion.

AI Conference

The HEY Growth Hub has developed an “AI for SMEs” mini conference, which will take place on the morning of Wednesday 13th March 2024.

13. In order to support businesses in Hull & East Yorkshire with the advent of AI, HEY Growth Hub in partnership with the LEP’s Employment & Skills team and the University of Hull have developed a half-day mini conference for an SME audience, which will explore the less considered aspects of AI within industry. The mini conference will take place at the Village Hotel, Hull, 8am-12pm on Wednesday 13th March 2024. 75 delegates are expected to attend the event.

Any Other Business

There was no further business.

Stephen Parnaby thanks all Board members for their valued contributions to this Board over the last three years, board member input was very much appreciated.

Signed:

Stephen Parnaby OBE
Chair

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