Key Decision/Action Points from Board

January 2017

Chairman: Peter Richardson
The Local Enterprise Partnership for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire
8 Experian Way   ng2 Business Park   Nottingham   NG2 1EP
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Contents

D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING.........................................................3
1. Present and Apologies ........................................................................................................3
   D2N2 Board Members in Attendance ..............................................................................3
   Also in attendance .........................................................................................................4
   Officer Support ............................................................................................................4
   Observers .......................................................................................................................4
   Apologies .......................................................................................................................4
1.1 Welcome and Introductions ..........................................................................................4
1.2 Declarations of Interest ...............................................................................................4
1.2 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising ....................................................................5
2. Updates for Information ...................................................................................................5
   2.1 Chair’s Report ........................................................................................................5
3. Items for Decision .............................................................................................................6
   3.1 Chief Executive’s Report ..........................................................................................6
4. Standing Items – Updates ................................................................................................7
   4.1 Skills .......................................................................................................................7
   4.2 D2N2 Business Growth Hub Update Report ............................................................7
   4.3 (i) and (ii) Nottingham and Derby Enterprise Zone ....................................................7
   4.3 (iii) Markham Vale ..................................................................................................7
   4.4 GPF Report Capital Projects ..................................................................................8
   4.5 Infrastructure and Investment Board .......................................................................8
   4.6 HS2 Update ............................................................................................................8
6. Any Other Business .........................................................................................................8
7. Date of next meeting ........................................................................................................8
1. Present and Apologies

D2N2 Board Members in Attendance
Cllr Alan Rhodes  Notinghamshire County Council
Andrew Pickin  Business Representative
Cllr Anne Western  Derbyshire County Council
Cllr Bob Wheeler  S Derbyshire District Council
David Williams  Business Representative
David Williams (Geldards)  Business Representative
Ian Morgan  Business Representative
Cllr Jon Collins  Nottingham City Council
Cllr Ranjit Banwait  Derby City Council
Melanie Ulyatt  Business Representative
Peter Gadsby  Business Representative
Prof Edward Peck  H E Representative
Cllr Roger Blaney  Newark and Sherwood District Council
Stuart Cutforth  F E Representative
Sylvia Green  VCS Representative
Also in attendance
Adrian Smith  Nottinghamshire County Council (sub for CEO)
Chris Henning  Nottingham City Council (sub for CEO)
Ian Stephenson  Chief Executive, Derbyshire County Council
Paul Robinson  Chief Executive, Derby City Council
Mike Roylance  South Derbyshire DC (sub for CEO)
Rowena Limb  BEIS

Officer Support
David Ralph  Chief Executive, D2N2 LEP
Matthew Wheatley  Growth Plan Manager
Lindsay Allen  Senior Programme Manager, D2N2 LEP

Observers
Rachel Quinn  D2N2 Active Engagement Officer
Vladimir Epuri  D2N2 Data Analyst and Sector Support Officer

Apologies
These were received from Andrew Muter and Scott Knowles. Frank McArdle, Anthony May and Ian Curryer sent substitute representatives as listed.

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, Members listened to an information presentation delivered by Andrew Pritchard of East Midlands Councils on the Midlands Connect Strategy, which outlined proposals for its three-year plan. The information would not be in the public domain until after 9 February, 2017.

1.1 Welcome and Introductions
The Chair welcomed all to the start of the formal meeting and asked substitute representatives to introduce themselves to the group. The Chair also extended congratulations to Board member, Melanie Ulyatt on her newly awarded MBE honour.

1.2 Declarations of Interest
None were received.
1.2 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 November, 2016 were approved as a true record, subject to a request to add in the name of D2N2 officer, Rachel Quinn who had attended as an observer.

On matters arising, David Ralph informed the group that the first meeting had taken place of the officer working group to discuss the LEP Business Plan.

On the SEP refresh, Matthew Wheatley would be taking a report to be considered further at the LEP Officer Group meeting and a report back on progress would be made to this committee at the March, 2017 meeting.

Action: MW to draft.

An update on the Science Park would follow under item 4.3.

There were no other matters arising.

2. Updates for Information

2.1 Chair’s Report
The Chair presented a report updating Members on the Midlands Connect strategy, following the presentation made at the start of the meeting. He drew the Board’s attention to proposals to develop a D2N2-wide infrastructure strategy and a D2N2-wide strategic road network study, both of which had been identified as needs by the recent meeting of the Chief Executive Officers’ group. The intention would be to progress the shared infrastructure strategy and strategic road network review through the Infrastructure and Investment Board.

On devolution next steps, the Chair referred to the forthcoming meeting of the new D2N2 Joint Committee on 10 February, 2017 and invited the two County Council Leaders to add a few words. Cllr Rhodes confirmed that three priorities had been identified as focal points, namely Transport, Skills and One Public Estate and indicated that he hoped to see representatives from city, county and district level at the inaugural meeting. Cllr Western echoed this and added that the new committee would be a useful conduit for disseminating information on Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect.

Cllr Western also confirmed to the Board that the judicial review of the Sheffield City Region consultation had found it to be unlawful. They were now awaiting next steps.

David Williams voiced the view that these devolution-related matters felt to the business community like a local authority only conversation and warned that continuing to proceed without business involvement would eventually lead to failure.

Board NOTED the report.

Board AGREED to develop a D2N2-wide infrastructure strategy and Strategic Road Network Study.
Board APPOINTED Melanie Ulyatt MBE to be Board member for SME engagement.

3. Items for Decision

3.1 Chief Executive’s Report
David Ralph presented a report to Board covering proposed changes to LEP accountability and scrutiny, including the revised Local Assurance Framework, together with notes on next steps for the development of the 2017/18 business plan.

On accountability and scrutiny, Board was asked to agree to the proposed changes to the Local Assurance Framework as set out in the appendix. These would go to the Infrastructure and Investment Board for sign-off under delegated powers due to time constraints.

Board was also asked to agree the measures outlined to improve accountability and scrutiny on matters of compliance, value for money, scrutiny and transparency. Finally they were asked to agree to the establishment of a Board level review, convened by the Chair, to review the medium and long term direction in terms of engagement for the LEP.

On business planning, the CEO indicated to the Board that this would be an ongoing discussion throughout the year and that he did not envisage holding a single workshop event for this purpose in the way that previous ‘Away Days’ had been set up. Board was asked to agree that the LA Officer group draft the D2N2 Business Plan ahead of the March Board meeting.

Peter Gadsby drew attention to the fact that housing had up to this point not figured much in the plans. Whilst not advocating for LEP funds to be diverted to a sector that could stand alone, he pointed out that there was a high incidence of employment land receiving change of use to residential, particularly in the private rented sector. Whilst this would bring forward development quicker it would have an overall impact on deliverability. He expressed the view that opinions should be obtained from the commercial sector on where they believed the market to be going post-Brexit.

Board NOTED the report and AGREED:

i. the proposed changes to the Local Assurance Framework
ii. the measures as outlined to improve accountability and scrutiny
iii. the establishment of a Board-level review on medium to long-term direction, to be convened by the Chair
iv. the LA Officer group to draft the D2N2 Business Plan ahead of the March Board meeting
v. Melanie Ulyatt MBE to be Board Member to lead SME engagement

Action: DR to convene LA Officer Group and commence Board level review.
4. Standing Items – Updates

4.1 Skills
Melanie Ulyatt gave a further verbal update to Board on work undertaken for the Skills Strategy refresh exercise. Review visits to look at college provision and assess alongside the economic needs of business had now taken place and it was intended to bring the final Skills Strategy Review to Board in March, 2017, following which it would be published more widely.

Board NOTED the report.

Action: KW to draft Skills Strategy Review paper for March Board meeting.

4.2 D2N2 Business Growth Hub Update Report
Board member David Williams introduced an update report to Board covering recent activity and updating members on planned work. As at 20 January, 2017, the Growth Hub had assisted 3,322 new businesses, just under half of which had been as a result of adviser or event contact, reinforcing the fact that this was very much a people-based (not website-based) service.

Previous updates had touched on the differences in levels of engagement across different areas and David Williams indicated that more uptake from districts would be welcomed with enhanced services being put in place particularly in Nottinghamshire.

Board NOTED the report and agreed the proposed actions as outlined in the report to enable Growth Hub progression.

4.3 (i) and (ii) Nottingham and Derby Enterprise Zone
Peter Gadsby presented a short update report to the Board covering all sites within the zone.

He reported good activity with the Boots site, which was moving towards a MIPIM re-launch in March. Progress had also been made with the Nottingham Science Park which would be discussed more fully at the February Enterprise Zone meeting and the iHub at Infinity Park Derby was doing well with tenancies, with the percentage filled being ahead of the Business Plan target.

Board NOTED the report.

4.3 (iii) Markham Vale
Cllr Western presented a report updating Board on continued progress with Markham Vale and the Enterprise Zone in general. She drew the committee’s attention however to recent announcements of the closure elsewhere of two logistics businesses over tariffs.
She further reported that Derbyshire County Council was in talks with Government over repatriation of elements of the business funding that currently went to Sheffield City Region.

Board NOTED the report.

### 4.4 GPF Report Capital Projects

Cllr Collins presented a report updating Board on the status of the Growing Places Fund (GPF) programme.

Board NOTED the overall progress with projects and NOTED the delegated authority to the Sub-Group to approve the Carlton Forest Bid subject to a due diligence process being completed to an appropriate standard.

### 4.5 Infrastructure and Investment Board

Cllr Western introduced a report updating Board on the November and December Infrastructure and Investment Boards. She referred in particular to the bringing forward of a number of smaller projects, such as Bulwell Market in Nottingham.

Board NOTED the approvals of the IiB to approve the Drakelow Park, Bulwell Market, Dakeyne Street, Enterprise Zone Sustainable Transport, D2N2 Sustainable Transport programme and A61 Corridor (Phase 1) projects.

Board further NOTED the update on the Nottingham Skills Hub and the process for the changes to the National Assurance Framework.

Board also RECEIVED the Audit Services Review and updates on all projects and high risk projects.

### 4.6 HS2 Update

Andrew Pritchard presented a report summarising current work on the development of the final East Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy.

David Ralph indicated that the two significant issues currently concerned the challenge around the possible siting of a station at Chesterfield and mitigation and compensation concerns now coming forward. These matters would be further considered by the HS2 Programme Board.

Board RECEIVED the report.

### 6. Any Other Business

DR identified a potential Ministerial visit to Nottingham which was subsequently cancelled.

### 7. Date of next meeting

Friday, 10 March, 2017 (2.00 pm – 4.00pm)

Venue: Derby Arena Velodrome