

## **Item 1.3: DRAFT Key Decision/Action Points from Board**

### **D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING**

Friday, 10 March, 2017

Derby Arena Velodrome, Pride Parkway, Derby DE24 8JB

Chair Peter Richardson

Minutes Sally Hallam

#### **1. Present and Apologies**

##### **D2N2 Board Members in Attendance**

Cllr Alan Rhodes	Nottinghamshire 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

##### **Also in attendance**

Adrian Smith	Nottinghamshire County Council (sub for CEO)
Ian Curryer	Chief Executive, Nottingham City Council
Ian Stephenson	Chief Executive, Derbyshire County Council
Greg Jennings	Derby City Council (sub)
Mike Roylance	South Derbyshire DC (sub for CEO)
Rowena Limb	Area Director, BEIS

##### **Officer Support**

David Ralph	Chief Executive, D2N2 LEP
Matthew Wheatley	Growth Plan Manager
Lindsay Allen	Senior Programme Manager, D2N2 LEP
Rachel Quinn	D2N2 Active Engagement Officer

##### **Observers**

Cllr Martin Rawson	Derby City Council
Justin Homer	Assistant Director, BEIS

## **Apologies**

These were received from Sylvia Green, Andrew Muter, Frank McArdle and Paul Robinson.

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, Members listened to an information presentation delivered by Rachel Quinn on behalf of Sylvia Green (VCS representative) on the contribution to the D2N2 economy by the third sector. Rachel drew attention to the work of the sector in developing models for greater economic inclusion and the desire to build greater understanding of the sector within the Growth Hub.

David Williams extended an invitation to Rachel to present to a future Growth Hub meeting.

### **1.1 Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed all to the start of the formal meeting and confirmed that Board would now be looking for a new Voluntary Sector representative to join following the resignation of current representative, Sylvia Green. Steps were also being taken to recruit a new representative for the FE sector following the retirement at the end of February, 2017 of Stuart Cutforth.

**ACTION:** DR to oversee appointment process.

### **1.2 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Western declared an interest under Item 4.6 in respect of the Drakelow Park project referred to in the Board report for liB.

Andrew Pickin declared an interest under item 4.2 Skills as a Director of Trent Academies Group.

### **1.2 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January, 2017 were approved as a true record.

On matters arising, Cllr Western clarified that the reference under 4.3 (iii) Markham Vale to the closure of two logistics businesses referred to two businesses within the D2N2 area rather than to two businesses at Markham Vale itself.

There were no other matters arising other than those already covered on the agenda.

## **2. Updates for Information**

### **2.1 Chair's Report**

The Chair introduced a report updating Members on the D2N2 Joint Committee, Business Engagement, D2N2's response to the Industrial Strategy consultation and the Terms of Reference for the D2N2 Review. A discussion also took place on the next steps to be taken following the public announcement on 9 March of the allocation of £62.9m funding for LGF3.

On Joint Committee working, the Chair invited Cllr Western to summarise the 10 February meeting. Cllr Western confirmed that all 19 local authorities had been represented at the meeting and the overall impression had been one of agreement that the new model of working would improve efficiency and communication between authorities, as well as facilitating work on strategic tasks. The next meeting was to be arranged.

On business engagement, Andrew Pickin spoke to the summary sheet of responses from businesses circulated with the papers. Brexit uncertainty was a consistent theme, with employers concerned about availability of workers in some sectors, whilst the need to enhance East-West connectivity across the Midlands was strongly flagged. Businesses had also been asked for their views on the D2N2/SCR overlap. Although not concerned directly over boundary issues, the general view was expressed that any resulting confusion for businesses over where to look for support meant that signposting via Growth Hubs remained vitally important.

Melanie Ulyatt reported that following a meeting with businesses in the Chesterfield area - most of whom were unclear about the current overlap situation – a plan was being developed to information share and increase consultation. MU would report back to the next Board meeting with an update.

On a response to the industrial strategy consultation, Ian Curryer reported that the Midlands Engine group had asked for individual, organisational and sector group feedback to be collated, from which common themes could be picked out. A discussion took place around how best to represent the voice of business both small and large scale within the response. The difficulty of communicating a clear message with no one single business voice or public-sector voice was acknowledged.

David Ralph confirmed the importance of presenting a united response that included all viewpoints. To do this, a widespread consultation had already been commenced via existing committees and reference groups. This exercise would be completed by Easter, 2017 and views would be forwarded thereafter.

Due to the tight timescale, the D2N2 response would be dealt with by written procedures.

David Williams (Geldards) confirmed that he would lead a review of the LEP and would report back to the July Board.

It was noted that the LGF 3 allocation of £62.9m had been confirmed and that this was a reasonable settlement compared to other areas. However, the size of the award would require re-confirmation of the identified projects to re-confirm priorities in the programme. It was agreed that this should be addressed as soon as possible and dealt with through written procedures.

It was agreed that a formal process was required to deal with slippage in projects in order to maintain spend and that this should be reported to the Board at the next Board meeting.

Board **NOTED** the report.

**ACTION: DR** to convene a follow-up meeting of D2N2 local authority CEOs group: (1) to confirm how the £62.9m allocation would be used within the submitted programme, and (2) to devise and recommend the criteria for projects currently within the programme that experience slippage or poor performance and how resources would be reallocated.

**DW (Geldards)** to produce report for July Board.

### **3. Items for Decision**

#### **3.1 Chief Executive's Report**

David Ralph presented a report to Board summarising the Annual Conversation report, the 2017/18 Business Plan and the next steps on the SEP refresh.

Following the December Annual Conversation, CLG/BEIS had confirmed that they would spot check requirements for transparency and accountability under the National Assurance Framework were being adhered to. LGF project performance targets were now included as part of the annual business plan.

DR spoke to the operational business plan, drawing attention to some of the headline impact figures to date. Whilst most areas were on track, the need for more house building was something that would be considered in the refreshed SEP and should be considered in future conversations at the new Joint Committee.

Scott Knowles of East Midlands Chamber as fund holder for LEP budgets confirmed that current financial resources were in place to deliver the proposed 2017/18 operational plan.

On the SEP refresh, Matthew Wheatley summarised activity so far to obtain feedback from partners to elements of the review. He drew attention to the need to combine the 'in-house' elements of work with some external commissions in order to complete a draft refreshed SEP by the required timescale (end of 2017).

Board **NOTED** the actions arising from the Annual conversation

Board **AGREED** the 2017/18 Business/Operational Plan

Board **AGREED** the proposals for the method of refreshing the D2N2 SEP

### **4. Standing Items – Updates**

#### **4.1 HS2 Report**

Cllr Collins introduced the HS2 update report for Board's information, drawing attention to preparatory work done on connectivity/access at Toton and to the need now to consider opportunities afforded by proposals for a new station stop at Chesterfield.

Cllrs Western and Rhodes were invited to comment on engaging with districts as part of overall planning.

Cllr Western expressed the view that a LEP-wide initiative was needed to include the whole of the north of the region, not just Chesterfield, where some small-scale work had already commenced. This was echoed by Cllr Rhodes who made the same point with reference to the station at Toton.

Both felt that a new station at Chesterfield should be considered in the context of a transport interchange, with enhanced road connectivity as well as housing.

Cllr Blaney pointed out the current rail refranchising in the East Midlands and expressed the view that its implications should also be factored in to HS2 consultations to ensure that the area benefited from a renewed service that would be fit for purpose once HS2 was operational.

Rowena Limb suggested opening dialogue between the HS2 Strategic Board and DfT as the new route had not yet been formalised in strategy working.

Board **NOTED** the report.

**ACTION:** DR to take points back to HS2 Strategic Board on 22 March.

## **4.2 Skills Update Report**

Melanie Ulyatt introduced an update report to Board including notes on the refresh of the Skills for Growth Strategy and Area-based Reviews. These were due to be concluded with a final meeting on 21 March, 2017.

She informed the group that recommendations going forward would include a forum to work on addressing the need for the economy to have a high level of technical skills around the STEM subjects (linking to the creation of Institutes of Technology identified in the Industrial Strategy Green Paper). Formal recommendations would be in the public domain following the final review meeting.

Board **NOTED** the report.

## **4.3 D2N2 Business Growth Hub update Report**

Board member David Williams gave a short verbal update to the meeting on progress with the Growth Hub, drawing particular attention to the award of £430,000 funding for operations from 1 April, 2018.

He reported that the Growth Hub Manager, Simon Hall was shortly to move on from his post and wanted to record thanks to him for his work in developing the Hub to date. Interim cover would be in place pending a new appointment.

Board **NOTED** the report.

## **4.4 (i) and (ii) Enterprise Zone Nottingham and Derby**

Peter Gadsby introduced an update report covering progress in the Enterprise Zone and invited any comments from Board.

Board **NOTED** the report.

## **4.4 (iii) EZ Markham Vale**

Cllr Western presented a report updating Board on continued progress with Markham Vale and the Enterprise Zone in general.

Board **NOTED** the report.

#### **4.5 GPF Report Capital Projects**

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

He highlighted a shortfall in allocation of funds and drew attention to the need to consider alternative uses for funding than loans which were not attractive to borrowers who could access funds with greater in-built flexibility elsewhere.

David Ralph indicated that the LEP would work with the Accountable Body (Nottingham City) on suitable next steps (eg different debt loan scheme/equity funding) in line with its KPI of reviewing GPF.

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.

#### **4.6 Infrastructure and Investment Board**

Cllr Western introduced a report updating Board on the January and February Infrastructure and Investment Boards.

Board **NOTED** the approval of the changes to the National Assurance Framework

Board **NOTED** the Budget and Project-monitoring Report

Board **NOTED** the update to Our City, Our River

Board **DEFERRED** a decision on Foundry Park and the approval of Sutton Indoor Market

Board **RECEIVED** updates on all projects and high-risk projects.

#### **5. Any Other Business**

None.

#### **6. Date of next meeting**

Friday, 19 May, 2017 (10.00 am – 12 noon)

Venue: Derbyshire County Council