MINUTES OF MEETING

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed all members of the Place Board to the meeting.

The Chair set out the context of setting working agenda’s and workpieces for the group to take forward to inform the LEP Board.

2. Derbyshire County Council Place Perspective

Joe Battye delivered a presentation to board members about Derbyshire from a place perspective. The presentation reflected on the opportunities and the challenges that the area faces as well as the potential for co-working to solve shared issues with other authority areas.
DW – Raised the need for prioritisation of investment opportunities by the place board as a whole, for instance we need to get 80 priorities down to 8 by Christmas so then these can be presented to the LEP. 4 major targets would potentially make us unique in the production of the LIS:

- Green Energy Production
- Clean Growth Businesses
- MMC Hubs
- National Future Food Hub

3. Derby City Place Perspective

Greg Jennings delivered a presentation to board members about Derby City from a place perspective. This presentation had 6 key focuses around Derby as a place including:

- Business
- People
- Housing
- Transport
- Environment
- City Centre

Chair – There needs to be a focus on us working as a whole rather than peroiquially if we are to attract the development and investment that we need.

JF – Common ground needs to be found amongst the ‘shopping list’ of priorities that we have.

CH – Issued caution about the need to solve everything, we need to remember we are distinctly about place. We need to connect our strategy as one and look at it through the lens of Treasury and what they would be likely to fund. It would be of benefit to us all to produce the prioritised list of projects.

GJ – Agreed with the need for a combined and consistent message. However, with our small number of priorities we will set we need to keep options open as we don’t yet know the parameters of funding.

HB – The group should focus on need and remove the geographical boundaries that are present when talking of priorities. We need to focus on what do we get through collaboration that is better than individualism.

MA – This group needs to work out what D2N2 can solve that individual geographies may not have the capability or capacity to solve in isolation. We should get the strategy and ideas right first before the priorities.

Chair – Could we pool resources together for common ideas, use combined expertise to make a greater end product than we would be able to do in isolation.

SR – Used the example of Black Country LEP and their shared transport bodies

MA – A growth unit needs to be put together to start working on this.

AP – Backed the West Midlands example and has stated that this method works. The group would need to work to get a list of ‘shovel ready’ priorities through to Government.
4. Visitor Economy Emerging Opportunities

James Beresford delivered a presentation around the visitor economy and set out the context:

- D2N2 has a clear potential for the visitor economy
- We are punching below our weight in international visits and spend per head.
- We need more new and emerging products in the area alongside established assets.
- Clean Growth challenge which also presents an opportunity

Areas for growth in the sector are:

- Seasonal Extension
- Days to Stays to increase
- Improvements to the skills of the labour force

JD – Clean growth of the sector should be the ambition for the way in which we grow.

James Beresford – Emphasised that a collective will would be needed for this to be achieved.

5. Place Board Work Programme

SR delivered a presentation which informed the potential work plan for the group going forward.

6. Any Other Business

Action - Work plan presentation to be circulated with the next invite

Action – Meetings to be diarised for the 2019 calendar year