

Item 1.3: CONFIRMED Key Decision/Action Points from Board

D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, 8 July, 2020

By Teams Dial-In

Interim Chair David Williams

Minutes Sally Hallam

1. Present and Apologies

D2N2 Board Members in Attendance

Graham Cartledge	Business Representative
Cllr Kay Cutts, MBE	Leader, Notts County Council
Jane Howson	VCS Representative
Cllr Barry Lewis	Leader, Derbyshire County Council
Cllr David Mellen	Leader, Nottingham City Council
Prof Kathryn Mitchell	H E Representative
Cllr Chris Poulter	Derby City Council
Emma Rigler	Business Representative
Cllr Simon Robinson	Rushcliffe Borough Council
Viv Russell	Business Representative
Jayne Mayled	Business Representative
Cllr Alex Dale	Leader, NE Derbys DC
Dawn Ward, CBE	F E Representative
David Wright	Area Lead D2N2, BEIS
Susan Caldwell	LEP Senior sponsor, DIT

Also in attendance

Mike Ashworth	Strategic Director, Derbyshire County Council
Gill Callingham	rep for N E Derbyshire DC
Nicki Jenkins	rep for Nottingham City Council
Scott Knowles	CEO, East Midlands Chamber
Anthony May	CEO, Nottinghamshire County Council
Kath Marriott	CEO, Rushcliffe Borough Council

James Patterson-Waterston, Vivid Economics (presenter)

Officer Support

Sajeeda Rose	Chief Executive, D2N2
Tom Goshawk	Head of Capital Programmes, D2N2
Frank Horsley	Head of Business and Innovation, D2N2
Will Morlidge	Head of Strategy and Policy, D2N2
Rachel Quinn	Head of People and Skills, D2N2
Rob Harding	Head of Marketing and Communications, D2N2

Observers

Tim Freeman	Deputy MD, Toyota Manufacturing UK
James Brand	MD, United Cast Bar Ltd, Chesterfield

Cllr Carol Hart
Josephine Dexter

Leader, Erewash Borough Council
BEIS

Apologies

Apologies were received from Chair Elizabeth Fagan, Board member, Karen Smart and from Peter Handford, Derbyshire County Council (s151 officer)

1.1 Welcome and Introductions

The Interim Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting and extended a particular welcome to Cllr Alex Dale, new leader for North East Derbyshire and to Tim Freeman and James Brand, the two new Board members who would be joining the Board from September, 2020 and who were attending as observers for this meeting.

On this final meeting of their tenure, David thanked outgoing members of the Board, Paul Harris, Jane Howson, Prof Kath Mitchell and Dawn Ward and also recorded thanks to Cllr Martin Thacker and to Karen Smart, who was stepping down due to a move away from East Midlands Airport to take up the role of Managing Director for the Manchester Airport.

1.2 Declarations of interest

The Chair reminded all Members that Declarations of Interest should be stated to be recorded where an interest arose.

No declarations were made.

1.3 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 May, 2020 were confirmed as a true record.

The Chief Executive provided an update on the 3 matters arising from the last meeting:

- The team had started the development of a D2N2 wide Inward Investment Strategy;
- Good collaboration was underway with both LRFs in the region in relation to recovery planning and the work of the D2N2 Economic Recovery Board;
- A Digital Strategy was being developed with an initial focus on skills.

2.1 COVI-19 Update Report

The Chief Executive introduced her report updating Board on D2N2's response to supporting the economy, including an overview on D2N2 and partner response, analysis of key findings, an update from the D2N2 Economic Recovery Board and the draft D2N2 Economic Recovery Framework.

Will Morlidge, Head of Policy and Strategy was invited to take the Board through a slide presentation summarising the main points of the report.

WM thanked both the universities and local authorities for their assistance with compiling data and provided an update on emerging evidence. The Growth Hub had now assisted with over 1,800 business enquiries and the percentage of recorded redundancies had regrettably started to show an increase from the initially quoted 4-5% figure up to 7%.

Sectors that were being significantly impacted included manufacturing, retail, visitor economy and education. There were clear indications from the statistics that lower-skill, low-

wage jobs were most at risk and women and young people bore the brunt of the impact in these jobs.

Nottingham had the highest rate of unemployment, possibly due to the larger numbers of young people in the workforce. Furlough data also pointed to likely hotspots in Mansfield, High Peak, Chesterfield and Derbyshire Dales.

WM drew Board's attention to the draft Recovery Framework, which had been drawn up around the five "foundations of productivity" underpinning the National Industrial Strategy. He confirmed that Government had indicated clearly that Local Industrial Strategies should continue to be developed and informed Members that the D2N2 LIS was being reviewed to pick up on the key impacts of Covid-19 to incorporate the regions recovery ambitions.

In response to a question from Cllr Mellen regarding whether the figures related to where people lived vs worked, WM confirmed that currently statistics were residence-based, but that more detailed information was awaited when available from Government.

Cllr Poulter referred to the LEP-wide representation of businesses invited to Ministerial meetings and asked that a list of attendees be circulated for information.

Board **NOTED** the report.

ACTIONS:

- Sajeeda Rose to circulate list of businesses represented at Ministerial meetings.

Item 2.2 Chair's Report

David Williams introduced his report updating members on significant developments since the last meeting, including:

- i) the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS);
- ii) East Midlands Freeport;
- iii) Advisory Boards update;
- iv) MPs roundtables;
- v) Board recruitment update.

i) LIS Update

The Chair drew attention to the notes in the report and to the further information supplied on the two new frameworks on inclusion and sustainable growth that were to be incorporated. He asked members to read through and feed back comments. David Williams commented that whilst a good starting point, he had some reservations about whether the inclusion strategy was currently specific enough about BAME inclusion.

Jane Howson reported that the Inclusion Framework had been co-developed with wide input from the third sector and, from experience of drafting inclusion documentation within the third sector, she would be cautious about specifically highlighting any one group as against another and instead maintaining by definition an inclusive approach.

ii) Freeport Consultation

DW reported that the D2N2 response to the Government's consultation on Freeports was due in on 13 July, 2020 and asked for any final comments. None was offered.

Board **ENDORSED** the draft freeports consultation response and delegated final approval to the interim Chair.

iii) Advisory Boards Update

The interim Chair drew attention to detailed notes in the report before inviting Advisory Board Chairs to add comments.

For the newly-merged **Business Growth and Innovation Board**, Frank Horsley confirmed that revised Terms of Reference were being prepared, which would focus on adding value, driving adoption amongst SMEs, raising investment in R&D in line with the Place Strategy and developing innovation assets. A meeting would be held with partners in August to finalise details.

For the **People and Skills Board**, Prof Kath Mitchell confirmed the allocation of funding from DfE for digital skills development as a welcome step in supporting the delivery of digital skills. She indicated her view that the next skills area for attention would be the health sector, with known training needs in both the clinical environment and medical technologies.

David Williams expressed thanks to Prof Mitchell for chairing the People and Skills Board and her assistance in handing over to her successor as HE rep/People and Skills Board Chair, Prof Shearer West.

For the **Place Board**, David Williams as Chair of this group confirmed the need to finalise a pipeline of projects in readiness for future funding opportunities.

The Chief Executive commented that in light of the review underway for the Business Growth and Innovation Boards, the whole governance model would be reviewed to ensure that the focus and membership remained fit for purpose and aligned to the priorities of the LIS and emerging recovery strategy. A report will be brought back to the September board with revised terms of reference and proposed workstreams and membership.

iv) MP Roundtables

The interim Chair reiterated the positive impact of the group MP meetings, which would continue on a regular basis, with the next ones planned towards the end of the summer break.

Board **NOTED** the Chair's report.

ACTION: DW/SR to submit final agreed Freeport consultation response following agreed endorsement at (ii) above.

2.3 Chief Executive's Report

Sajeeda Rose presented her report updating Board on items including:

- a) Skills Update;
- b) Growth Hub Update;
- c) ESIF Update;
- d) Marketing and Communications Update.

and referred members to the notes under each item.

On Skills delivery, in addition to approval of the extension of the North Derbyshire Careers Hub, the Chief Executive confirmed the development of online resources for use by training providers and also welcomed soon-to-be Board member, James Brand as one of the new

Enterprise Advisors.

Partnership working with those expressing an interest in delivering an Institute of Technology was ongoing. Regular dialogue was taking place with colleges and HE providers across the area.

The critical work of the Growth Hub had been demonstrated with continued high levels of interest in applications to the D2N2 Business Investment Fund. Additional funding was expected via ERDF, with £30m being made available across all LEPs, spread across visitor economy and grants for covid adaptations.

SR confirmed that work was ongoing within Marketing and Comms to continue to strengthen relationships with our key partners and to ensure that all businesses understood what was available to them in the region.

She confirmed that D2N2's new website was due to launch w/c Monday, 13 July, 2020.

Board **NOTED** the report.

2.4 Capital Programme Performance Update

The Chief Executive introduced a report providing an update on the performance of the D2N2 Capital Programme and detailing the latest updates of all programmes as presented to the Investment Board on 16 June, 2020.

SR confirmed that the existing LGF fund was in its final year, with £40m left to deliver in this year. Confidence was high with the current pipeline that full delivery would be achieved, with a buffer included to mitigate against underspend.

She directed Members to consider the two projects for Castleward and NTU Nursing and Allied Health with a view to confirming the decisions of the Investment Board to fund.

Sajeeda Rose also drew Members' attention to the outcome of the submission to MHCLG in June of 18 'development-ready' projects to stimulate the economy and provide job creation. From an initial bid for £93m, £44.4m had now been allocated by Government, the fifth highest award in the country and a good reflection of the credibility of this LEP and its ability to deliver.

She confirmed that the next step was to re-score and independently test the proposed schemes for deliverability and scaleability, with a deadline of Monday, 13 July to complete this and for projects to be re-submitted to Government by 17 July, 2020. Once the scoring and independent moderation was completed and approved by the interim Chair the final list would be shared with the board prior to submission.

In response to a question by Prof Mitchell as to whether projects could be scaled up, David Wright of BEIS confirmed that whilst new projects could not be added at this stage, re-prioritising and scaleability options were open to the LEP to use if required.

Board **RECEIVED** the report.

Board **RATIFIED and CONFIRMED** the decision of the Investment Board to invest £1.5m of Local Growth Fund to the Castleward Project in Derby

Board **RATIFIED and CONFIRMED** the decision of the Investment to invest £580,000 of Local Growth Fund to the NTU Nursing and Allied Health Project at West Notts College, Mansfield

Board **RATIFIED and CONFIRMED** the decision of the Investment Board to endorse two new projects on to the Capital Programme.

Board **GRANTED** the change request for Riverside Business Park.

Board **NOTED** the Pipeline Call review process and the projects submitted to Government and endorsed the proposal to re-submit re-prioritised bids, signed off by the interim Chair, to Government by 17 July, 2020.

2.5 Capital Programme Additional Item: LGF Woodville Swadlincote

The Chief Executive introduced an additional report detailing a bid for LGF funding for the Woodville Swadlincote project, before inviting Head of Capital Programmes, Tom Goshawk to take Members through a short summary presentation.

TG explained that the project was being directly presented to the LEP Board, rather than via the Investment Board to enable it to progress in time and achieve its September start on site.

A full business case had been submitted and reviewed. The submission complied with all aspects of the Local Assurance Framework apart from the requirement to own all land and a completed procurement process.

The value of the project was £13.4m in total with £6.4m LGF input. It would provide 300 new homes and create 3,100 new jobs for the local economy.

Board was asked to approve the project and to release the remaining £6,400,000 of LGF subject to the confirmation of the procurement exercise and Compulsory Purchase Order sign off.

Board **APPROVED** £6.4m of Local Growth Funding for the Woodville Swadlincote Regeneration Route Project.

2.6 Midlands Engine Development Corporation Strategic Business Case Update

Anthony May from Nottinghamshire County Council introduced a confidential report updating Board on the Midlands Engine Development Corporation Strategic Business Case.

Board **RECEIVED** the report.

3. East Midlands Freeport Presentation

The interim Chair welcomed James Patterson-Waterston from Vivid Economics to the meeting before inviting him to deliver a confidential presentation to Members covering an overview of Freeports, draft consultation response and next steps.

Board **RECEIVED** the paper and presentation with thanks.

4. Any other business

Board **RECEIVED** an update paper on HS2 for information.

5. Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 23 September, 2020 (10.00am – 12.00 pm) – joining details to follow.