D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership Place Advisory Board

Date: Monday 24 August 2020, 10:00-12:00
Venue: Zoom

MINUTES OF MEETING

Attendees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>David Williams (Chair)</th>
<th>Geldards LLP</th>
<th>Matthew Montague</th>
<th>Matthew Montague Architects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adrian Smith</td>
<td>Nottinghamshire County Council</td>
<td>Melissa Wilson</td>
<td>Deloitte</td>
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<td>Alex Ford</td>
<td>CT Skills</td>
<td>Nicki Jenkins</td>
<td>Nottingham City Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Wright</td>
<td>BEIS</td>
<td>Peter Murphy</td>
<td>Nottingham Trent University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Broughton</td>
<td>Environment Agency</td>
<td>Robert Dixon</td>
<td>Marketing Nottingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Greig</td>
<td>National Housing Federation</td>
<td>Rob Harding</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<td>Joe Battye</td>
<td>Derbyshire County Council</td>
<td>Sajeeba Rose</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<td>John Forkin</td>
<td>Marketing Derby</td>
<td>Tom Goshawk</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<td>Jonathan Wildgoose</td>
<td>Wildgoose Construction</td>
<td>Wayne Bexton</td>
<td>Nottingham City Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Towle</td>
<td>Network Rail</td>
<td>Will Morlidge</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linny Beaumont</td>
<td>Canals and Rivers Trust</td>
<td>Maureen Vieyra (note taker)</td>
<td>D2N2 LEP</td>
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1. Welcome and Introductions

DW welcomed everyone to the meeting.

As a result of discussions during the year and the current climate the decision was made to change the Place Advisory Board. This meeting, was being run as workshop to explore the impacts from Covid on places with two guests presenting. DW welcomed Mel Wilson from Deloittes and Professor Peter Murphy from Nottingham Trent University.

2. Minutes and Actions from Last Meeting

SR talked through the actions from the spreadsheet, which were:

2. Feedback on Place Priorities document – this was a continuing action
3. Provide website link to carbon reduction for Transforming Cities Fund – completed
4. Circulate the Access to Toton report to the member – completed
5. Work on a simplified map to show transport projects to share with the public – continuing
6. Ask VE if he had a transport map - completed
3. Introduction and Context to ‘Places and Spaces’ Workshop

Attendees were advised the meeting was being recorded but not published.

The plan for the session was outlined and the context given that as a LEP area we needed to plan for future development including commercial and employment use in light of the impact of Covid-19. Mel Wilson of Deloitte and Peter Murphy from NTU were invited to speak to the group to set out future development context.

4. Cities and Towns Post Covid World

MW shared her presentation with the meeting and gave context of her background working with the Cities advisory team at Deloitte. MW has been working internally to explore the affect of the pandemic on urban areas in particular and has worked with other LEPs/ MCA’s on recovery planning.

Differing views are in place about the timeline for recovery and the physical changes that will take place to urban spaces, some of the milestones/changes are:

- The school return is likely to show some sense of the ‘new normal’.
- Town centres were already addressing several challenges with Towns Fund areas asked to reflect these changes in their submissions.
- Case study work is being carried out to show the difference between current usages against potential future uses. Digital technology is being highlighted to attract visitors and disseminate information for safety.
- Local Government has worked with business on safe return to work with large employers, businesses were sharing best practice including open plan space and collaborative working areas. The importance of spend in urban areas from office workers was highlighted.
- Health and social care functions are being reviewed and delivery mechanisms explored including more digitisation. Investment in research and innovation and the value of universities has been shown vital to this transformation.
- Changes have been seen to transport with new cycling, return to public transport and staggered start times all affecting transport/traffic flows. This could potentially affect Investment decisions.

JF spoke of a large consumer survey carried out which asked ‘what would encourage people to return to cities’. Key findings were enhanced cultural and leisure offers, more independent retail, green and blue spaces, and cheaper parking. In summary people want reasons to return but differing from former uses.

Studies showed support for independent retailers and funding for new entrepreneurs was being sought.

5. Our Places and Spaces Post-Covid

PM gave the meeting a brief update on his background in planning and stated this presentation would use the forthcoming white paper as context.

Two additional topics were on the long-term agenda and these were
- climate change, sustainability and carbon neutrality
- Brexit, and its impact on other means of production (labour capital and enterprise)
The highlights of these reforms are:

- The reforms are proposing retrospective zonal planning
- The reforms are achievement led rather than process led.
- The new system is proposing that value will be captured from land values.
- Sustainability and the green agenda are at the heart of the system.
- Change of use is mentioned to enable delivery of over 50,000 new dwellings.
- A focus is shown on the change to user requirements and will potentially change the developments built to reflect what people now want from housing and diversify the offer.

PM advised he endorsed D2N2 advocating modern methods of construction (MMC), which was innovative.

Alongside MMC which targets new build predominantly there is a question around whole life costs and how important they are to the LEP area. Is there a case for retrofit to minimise whole life costs of existing buildings also?

6. Break Out Session

JB led the session and spoke to her presentation. Using the recovery strategy for context, the LEP area and partners need to look at the opportunity to discuss potential changes about the place and space.

JB made reference to Bill Grimsey, the author of Build Back Better and shared the link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AP1H2XrzDwA

Key discussion points were:

- Do we intervene or leave the wider market to drive change?
- We need to keep an awareness of both rural and urban spaces in our thinking
- What opportunities are in place following the closure of retail, if this is no longer the attraction what replaces it?
- How can we work to make sure people have extra space at home now they need it?
- Why are we moving? Questions around transport and how we encourage more sustainable usages.
- Understanding is needed on the effects of diversification of rural businesses due to Covid. Also, the change in visitor base has caused impacts, thought is needed over minimisation of negative impacts.
- What is the effect of use of natural capital for sustainable energy and development on our place?

Cross cutting issues that were raised focused around digital transformation, change to transport interventions and replacement of retail.

JB shared the Midlands Connect Rural Mobility Toolkit graphic which she observed captured the interrelationship of Place, the role of Place and the hierarchy of Place.

Three main questions were posed for the breakout session. These were:

- What is the future of place and spaces across D2N2: urban and rural?
- How do we seize the opportunity to re-imagine how we live and work?
- What is our relationship with Government?
The debate on our brand ambition for the region resulted in the following observations:

- A desire to be green beyond Covid 19 recovery and focus on other environmental issues also e.g. flood risk and carbon neutrality
- Establishing a strategic partnership along the Trent.
- Need to look at natural issues such as water quality and the effects of resource extraction.
- Looking at how we bring together funding for natural spaces in packages.
- A suggestion to refocus the place board direction to the most habitable place
- Need to use planning for health to gain the right outcomes for people in urban areas
- LA’s believe themselves to be the custodians of place.
- What is our USP for the place?
- Work is being undertaken around ambitious sustainable transport policies in the national park.
- How do we inspire confidence to businesses to continue to invest?
- Do we need to find out who owns vacant properties and encourage reuse/reinvestment?

**ACTION:**
7. SR, JB and WM to discuss initiatives raised during the meeting and report back at the next meeting on 15th October 2020
8. MV to circulate JB’s slides to all members so that questions could be addressed and colleagues to feed back to SR for consideration as per action point 8 above.

7. **Place Board Revised Terms of Reference**

The LEP has looked to review the Terms of Reference for all advisory boards including the Place Board. The Place Board Terms of Reference have been reviewed and the following areas of activity would be prioritised, for example, workstreams around

- Energy group that feeds into the Energy Board
- Infrastructure looking at digital, environmental and physical infrastructure
- Maintaining focus around 10 transformational priorities we have been working on as a Board
- Looking at how we support our Towns Fund areas to maximise the benefit around those areas

Previously Inward Investment and Tourism were looked after by Place but have now been transferred responsibility to the Business and Innovation Board.

Due to lack of time SR asked for comments and questions to be emailed to her. The intention was to take this to the Main Board on 22 September, so comments needed to be received in order for them to be incorporated into the ToRs if necessary.

**ACTION:**
9. All members to send comments or questions to SR regarding the Terms of Reference
10. MV to circulate the Terms of Reference (tracked and non-tracked) to all members

8. **Any Other Business**

There was none.