

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

AMP TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM, S60 5WG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 JULY 2017

PRESENT:

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Barnsley MBC (Chair)
Councillor Tricia Gilby, Chesterfield BC (Vice Chair)

Councillor Graham Baxter MBE, North East Derbyshire DC
Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC
Councillor Simon Greaves, Bassetlaw DC
Councillor Mazher Iqbal, Sheffield CC
Mayor Ros Jones CBE, Doncaster MBC
Sir Nigel Knowles, SCR LEP Chair
Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Derbyshire Dales DC
Councillor Ann Syrett, Bolsover DC

Fiona Boden, SCR Exec Team
Huw Bowen, Chesterfield BC
Dave Brennan, SCR Exec Team
Philip Cooper, SCR Exec Team
Steve Davenport, SYPTE
Andrea Fitzgerald, Sheffield City Region Executive Team
Andrew Frosdick, Monitoring Officer
Andrew Gates, SCR Exec Team
Sharon Kemp, Rotherham MBC
Mark Lynam, SCR Exec Team
John Mothersole, Sheffield CC
Jo Miller, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Simon Spencer, Derbyshire CC
Dave Smith, SCR Exec Team
Peter Storey, Derbyshire CC
Daniel Swaine, Bolsover DC / NE Derbyshire DC
Neil Taylor, Bassetlaw DC
Diana Terris, Clerk / Barnsley MBC
Craig Tyler, Joint Authorities Governance Unit
Eugene Walker, S.151 Officer

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C Read

1 APOLOGIES

Members' apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED, that item 16 (Funding for Supertram Rail Replacement) be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

It was confirmed that voting rights could not be conferred in respect of agenda item 16 – Funding for Supertram Rail Replacement as this matter regards the South Yorkshire Local Authorities only.

It was agreed there were no additional agenda items for which the non-Constituent Members should not have full voting rights.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None received.

7 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

None.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

It was noted some questions had been received by a member of the public in relation to devolution and would be addressed in due course.

10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12TH JUNE 2017

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2017 are agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

11 DEVOLUTION

A report was received to provide an update on the SCR Devolution Deal and note that since the last meeting of the CA, Chesterfield BC and Bassetlaw DC have both taken decisions to no longer pursue an ambition to become constituent members of the SCR Combined Authority.

The paper invited further discourse on how Leaders wish to proceed with the Deal following these decisions.

The Authority was informed the 4 constituent member Leaders had met recently to discuss this matter and a variance of views has been recognised. It has therefore been suggested this matter be reviewed at the next meeting (11th September).

Noting that Barnsley MBC is one of the districts proactively investigating the potential devolution options available; the Chair expressed an intention to avoid any perception of a conflict of interest between his local authority and the CA and offered to temporarily stand down as Chair of the CA, facilitating his ability to solely represent Barnsley MBC at other meetings.

This offer was accepted by the Members present.

Sir Nigel Knowles (LEP Chair) reiterated that the position of the private sector is to be '100%' behind making a devolution deal happen as soon as possible and whilst it is regretted what has happened to Bassetlaw and Chesterfield, Leaders are urged to recognise devolution is still definitely the right thing to do.

Mayor Jones confirmed Doncaster MBC was also looking at the potential benefits of any other deals and would explore what is right for Doncaster.

Cllr Dore noted the next meeting of Leaders isn't scheduled until 11th September and requested a series of preparatory meetings be convened to ensure the Authority is in a position to make a collective decision on the 11th September.

Cllr Rose noted that whatever the constituent Leaders decide, decisions will affect the non-constituent members and requested all Leaders be kept appropriately engaged in discussions.

RESOLVED: that the Combined Authority:

1. Notes the decisions made by Bassetlaw DC and Chesterfield BC to no longer pursue becoming constituent members of the SCR CA.
2. Notes the positions of the constituent member Authorities.

Cllr Gilby assumed the Chair of the meeting

12 TFN ACCOUNTABLE BODY STATUS

A report was received summarising the detail of, and requesting the CA's consent to, the establishment of Transport for the North (TfN) as a statutory sub-national transport body.

Mayor Jones sought an assurance that the SCR wouldn't be met with any extra funding commitment for TfN. It was confirmed the longer term funding model for TfN is being worked up and there can be no extra funding commitments until a budget has been approved by a 75% voting majority of the 19 TfN members. The matter would therefore have to come back to the SCR CA for ratification.

It was requested that TfN Partnership Board minutes be presented to future CA meetings for information.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Approves, the making by the Secretary of State, regulations under section 102E of the Local Transport Act 2008 to establish Transport for the North as a Sub-National Transport Body;
2. Approves the transfer of Rail North Limited to TfN so that it can be subsumed within TfN
3. Approves the signing of a new Rail Franchise Management Agreement with TfN replicating as far as possible the current Rail North Limited Members Agreement

13 DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORT

A paper was received to provide an update on decisions made under CA delegated approval during the last period.

Members suggested the BIF report in its current format was quite difficult to read and requested future reports differentiate between grants and loans, indicate what economic benefits have been achieved, and provide a short narrative regarding the companies listed, including location, particularly for the £2m+ investments. A commentary on whether the total programme is spending was also requested.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority notes the decisions taken under delegated authority and requests that future reports be amended to take account of the comments expressed.

14 RESOLUTION RECORD - HOUSING EXECUTIVE BOARD

Members were presented with the HEB resolution summary.

Cllr Dore requested the HEB consider the tragic Grenfell Tower events and whether there is anything the SCR districts can do collectively to avoid a similar occurrence in our region.

RESOLVED, that the resolution record for the Housing Executive Board meeting held on 28th June be noted and the recommendations endorsed.

15 DEVOLUTION - EARLY INTERVENTION PILOT ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT

A report was received to update the Combined Authority on the progress of the bid for the Early Intervention Support Pilot.

Members were advised the CA is nearing notification of the outcome against its Business Case submission to pilot a programme of support through the DWP Innovation Fund, titled the SCR Early Intervention Employment Support Pilot. It was noted the bid is predicated on commencing delivery of the pilot in the autumn and, if successful, it is likely that the grant will be made before September 2017.

The paper therefore sought to inform Leaders that should the CA be successful in securing the Early Intervention Employment Support Pilot, there is provision in the Scheme of Delegation for the Finance Director to accept this grant offer on behalf of the Authority, after considering acceptable all the terms and conditions imposed by the grant awarding body.

Regarding intentions to match this allocation with European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), it was confirmed that matter would be brought back before the Authority should any issues with ESIF arise.

Members requested that the Directors of Finance ensure the SCR has considered all financial clawback risks.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority notes that should the Combined Authority be successful in securing the Early Intervention Employment Support Pilot, there is provision in the Scheme of Delegation for the Finance Director to accept this grant offer on behalf of the Authority, after considering acceptable all the terms and conditions imposed by the grant awarding body.

16 SUPERTRAM RE-RAILING

A report was received to seek approval for the funding of work to replace worn rails on the Supertram system.

Members were advised of the commitment of the PTE to undertake the works known as Rail Replacement Phase 2 and the estimated outturn cost of circa £15.1m. Members noted the options for funding the works, including the options of utilising £3.4m capital receipts reserve and £3.5 of 2017/18 National Productivity Innovation Funding (NPIF) to reduce the need to borrow.

The Chief Financial Officer explained why it was recommended that the NPIF funding be utilised in order to reduce the transport levy and generate savings for each District.

It was noted that a commitment to provide funding was required to allow long lead in steel rail to be ordered by September 2017, but noted that any borrowing would not be required until financial year 2018/19. Before any borrowing was undertaken Members wanted further analysis of the funding and repayment options including

the option of supporting any borrowing costs by introducing a levy of the fares paid by passengers.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

- 1 Approves the funding of the phase 2 re-railing of Supertram work at a cost of circa £15.1m (subject to tender return costs);
- 2 Notes the funding options presented and requests further work on the options and in particular requests work be undertaken to consider the feasibility of a passenger fare levy;
- 3 Requests that a further report be brought to the Combined Authority at its [October] meeting setting out the proposals for funding and repayment;
- 4 Approved the SCR Managing Director, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Combined Authority, entering to contractual arrangements for securing the development of a strategic outline business case for an integrated City Region multi-modal mass transit network at an estimated cost in excess of £100,000, funded from the HS2 Growth Strategy funding.

CHAIR