

**SHEFFIELD CITY REGION LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD
NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Attendees: Sir Nigel Knowles (Chair), Councillor Julie Dore, Nigel Brewster, Councillor Simon Greaves and Martin McKervey

In attendance: Ruth Adams, Fiona Boden, Andrew Gates, Matt Gladstone, James Henderson, Martin McCarthy, Ben Morley, Michael Rich, Dave Smith, Craig Tyler and Sarah Want

Apologies: Gavin Baldwin, Councillor Graham Baxter MBE, Professor Sir Keith Burnett, Councillor Tricia Gilby, Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Mayor Ros Jones CBE, Julie Kenny CBE, Councillor Chris Read, Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Councillor Ann Syrett, Huw Bowen, Dorcas Bunton, Sharon Kemp, Jo Miller, John Mothersole, Daniel Swaine, Neil Taylor and Diana Terris

Item	Subject	Action
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were noted as above.</p> <p>The Chair commented on the disappointing number of public sector Board members present and informed the meeting something needs to be done to improve levels of attendance.</p> <p>Regarding the current recruitment process for private sector Board members, D Smith informed the meeting that a very positive response had resulted in the receipt of 21 applications of which 8 have been shortlisted for interview. It is expected all interviews will have taken place by the end of the week.</p> <p>Cllr Dore requested consideration be given to the inclusion of union representation on the LEP Board in the interests of providing an additional dimension to debate, noting this is standard practise for other LEPs.</p> <p>It was noted alternate models of public sector representation on the Board, seeking evidence of best practice nationally, may be explored.</p>	

<p>2</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None.</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Notes of Last Meeting</p> <p>The notes of the last LEP Board meeting held on 17th July were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Inclusive Industrial Strategy</p> <p>The Board was presented with a paper providing an update on the development of the Sheffield City Region Inclusive Industrial Strategy (formerly the Strategic Economic Plan).</p> <p>The report included a draft of the proposed strategy and outlined the next steps for consulting widely on the content of the strategy and a timescale for completion.</p> <p>It was noted the development of the Strategy is recommended to be overseen by an Inclusive Industrial Strategy Commission to act as an advisory group, inclusive of representation from the SCR universities to provide additional foresight in respect of longer term issues.</p> <p>It was confirmed the version of the Strategy to be used for the public consultation is expected to be finalised shortly.</p> <p>N Brewster highlighted the Strategy’s long term timeline and suggested shorter term milestones (i.e. 3 years) were needed to ensure achievement could be measured and monitored.</p> <p>N Brewster sought assurances that the Strategy’s ambition to strengthen the region’s supply chain capabilities includes and captures the wider aspects of supply chain businesses. It was confirmed the importance of this matter had been appropriately recognised.</p> <p>N Brewster welcomed usage of the term ‘inclusive’ in the Strategy’s title suggesting this recognises the Strategy is not ‘exclusive’ to people who make things.</p> <p>Cllr Dore asked how the Strategy will link to the government’s Industrial Strategy initiative and sought an assurance this Strategy won’t go ‘on the shelf’ as can often happen with strategy documents. Cllr Dore also suggested the Strategy needs a short c.6 page executive summary addressing the why, what, where, how, when and who questions that will give the Strategy more relevance.</p> <p>The Board was informed officers are mindful of the government’s Industrial Strategy and a version of the SCR Strategy had been shared</p>	

with colleagues in the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. Synergies will be drawn between common themes in the 2 documents as they evolve.

The Chair suggested statements such as 'we need more housing' are too bland and underlying matters of this nature should be couched in terms of a plan setting out what we need to do to resolve our issues.

The Board was provided with more information regarding how the strategy defines urban centres and informed these are not just the 4 main SY conurbations but include other towns across the whole SCR geography.

M McKervey welcomed the proposal for the Inclusive Industrial Strategy Commission and asked whether the region's 'big business brains' who are not currently engaged with the LEP might be engaged. The Chair also requested that input from the local MPS be captured.

It was noted the need to capture the thoughts and expertise from various partners and sectors has been duly recognised and the Strategy's public consultation will therefore be designed to ensure this degree of input can be captured, through traditional and more interactive means, and engage various sector groups.

Regarding the Commission, it was confirmed the ability to benefit from bringing in additional expertise where required will be designed into the process.

The Chair recommended the undertaking of more events akin to the LEP's past, successful Yorkshire Insider events.

It was suggested the Strategy should include a policy note to explicitly confirm what is and isn't contained within its remit

S Want suggested there was an opportunity to further shape up the Strategy's allusions to research and innovation, noting the draft is due to be tabled at the SCR Science and Innovation Board to enable further discussion on this matter.

It was decided that subject to additional comments and changes, the LEP Board agrees to proceed to consult on the draft Inclusive Industrial Strategy, with a view to a final version being endorsed before the end of 2017.

It was agreed that the local authority officers and the SCR Executive Team review the proposed set of metrics to ensure an appropriate scale of ambition is set.

The Board also agreed to the forming of an Inclusive Industrial Strategy Commission to act in an advisory capacity to the Strategy's development.

<p>5</p>	<p>Devolution</p> <p>The Board was informed an extra ordinary meeting of the SCR Combined Authority had been called for Monday 18th September, at which Leaders will consider the next steps for mayoral devolution, including mayoral powers and plans for public consultation and a decision will be taken by the constituent authorities.</p> <p>The Board discussed how new mayoral powers could help deliver the ambitions of the Inclusive Industrial Strategy.</p> <p>It was acknowledged there are some areas of discord between the constituent districts regarding support for the current SCR deal and the currently unknown potential for a new future deal covering a wider geography.</p> <p>The private sector Board members reasserted their support for the current SCR deal.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Horasis</p> <p>A report was presented to provide the Board with an update on the Horasis China conference – including the core objectives, partner engagement and information on confirmed attendees.</p> <p>The Board was reminded the event is ‘not about the SCR’ but rather provides the region with an opportunity to deliver a fringe programme showcasing the region’s potential for development and its investable assets.</p> <p>The Chair noted the Chinese community’s great interest in snooker and the opportunity to include a trip to the Crucible within the fringe programme. A Gates confirmed he would check if this was included.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>ESIF - Reallocation of Funds</p> <p>A report was tabled seeking the Board’s views in respect to maximising the use of ERDF funds within the SCR.</p> <p>It was noted there are two issues to be considered. Firstly, whether the SCR should seek to secure additional funding from other LEP areas who are unable to utilise their full ERDF allocations. Secondly, where the SCR is likely to be unable to spend all its ERDF allocation in one Category of Region the funding is reallocated to the other Category of Region to ensure the SCR as a whole maximises its existing ERDF allocation.</p> <p>The board considered the options available and agreed the importance of maximising the availability of ESIF funding with the SCR whether that</p>	

	involves the securing of funds from other LEP areas or the reallocation of resources between the SCR's two Category of Regions.	
8	Transport Executive Board Resolution Record (for information) Provided for information.	
9	Any Other Business M McKervey informed the Board that the new Chief Executive of TfN should be announced soon.	