

**SHEFFIELD CITY REGION LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD
NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 05 FEBRUARY 2018**

Board Members: Sir Nigel Knowles (Chair), Laura Bennett, Nigel Brewster, Councillor Julie Dore, Councillor Tricia Gilby, Alexa Greaves, Councillor Simon Greaves, Mayor Ros Jones CBE, Owen Michaelson, Councillor Chris Read, Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Neil MacDonald, Martin McKervey, Richard Stubbs

In attendance: Co-Opted Members: Simon Carr and Professor Chris Husbands

Officers: Ruth Adams, Greg Burke (South Yorkshire Futures), Fiona Boden, Huw Bowen, Andrew Frosdick, Andy Gates, Claire James, Mark Lynam, John Mothersole, Dave Smith, Craig Tyler, Damien Wilson

Observers Andrew Batterbee (BEIS Cities and Local Growth Business Unit)

Apologies: Gavin Baldwin, Professor Sir Keith Burnett, Councillor, Michael Gordon, Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Julie Kenny CBE, Sharon Kemp, Jo Miller, Daniel Swaine, Chris Scholey, Councillor Ann Syrett, Neil Taylor, Diana Terris, Eugene Walker

Item	Subject	Action
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Andrew Batterbee to the meeting and introduced the Board members.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>No declarations of interest in relation to the meeting's business to be transacted were noted.</p> <p>Members were reminded of the requirement to complete the new standardised declarations of interest forms and the requirement to advise of any changes to these forms within a specified timescale.</p> <p>It was noted advice and support in relation to the completion of the forms</p>	

	is available on request.	
3	<p>Notes of Last Meeting</p> <p>The notes of the last meeting held on 18th December were agreed to be an accurate record.</p> <p>Members considered the benefit of providing the incoming SCR Mayor with a manifesto-esque document setting out the Board's work and position on certain matters.</p> <p>Action Dave to table a draft version of this document at the April meeting</p>	DS
4	<p>South Yorkshire Futures</p> <p>A report and presentation were received to update the Board on the South Yorkshire Futures (SYF) initiatives.</p> <p>It was noted South Yorkshire Futures is a collaborative DfE sponsored and assisted partnership, led by Sheffield Hallam University, with the aim of raising educational attainment and aspiration at every age and stage of education.</p> <p>The presentation covered the overall objective of SYF, how the initiative will be delivered and provided practical examples of how the LEP Board and wider private sector can input into and support the initiative. It was noted the planned actions have been construed to add value to other initiatives with similar objectives.</p> <p>It was suggested past initiatives have focussed too much on attainment in isolation and not fully considered how students can subsequently make the most of their attainments. The South Yorkshire Futures initiative will therefore have regard to 'preparation' (i.e. foundation years), 'performance' (i.e. success at school) and also 'aspiration' (i.e. further and higher education and routes into the workplace), with the key focus being the journey of the student, rather than how the education system works for the organisations.</p> <p>It was suggested the expected outcomes of the initiative would be high quality teaching with a strong focus on career support, all children having access to high quality early years provision, an increased number of schools rated good or outstanding, greater higher education participatory rates, and young people having the opportunity to build social capital and devise clear occupational pathways.</p> <p>Regarding what the LEP can do to help make these outcomes a reality, suggestions were to commission the CA/LEP Skills Executive Board to further its programme of work aimed at ensuring the provision of</p>	

	<p>excellent careers guidance for all young people, and to encourage more employers to get involved with partnership activities which support schools, especially those schools with less current connections to the business community. It was also suggested the SCR could take greater consideration of ensuring there are benefits to addressing the occupational needs of the sub-region when assessing bids for funding.</p> <p>Consideration was given to geography and whether this should be rolled out on a SCR-wide basis. It was suggested the SY-focus represents a starting point and there is definitely the scope to widen this further. Members suggested this would be a practical measure noting the prevalence of academy trusts working between and beyond district geographic boundaries.</p> <p>It was suggested the initiative should target schools (and individuals) with the greatest needs and thus the greatest social mobility issues. It was noted a 'sense check' of the current landscape is being undertaken to identify the schools' specific requirements on a case by case basis.</p> <p>It was suggested the schools need to take a more active role in providing students with all the necessary initial skills required and expected of the workplace, noting attainment can only be capitalised if the students can 'sell themselves' to the employer.</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board members confirm their support for the South Yorkshire Futures initiative.</p>	
5	<p>SCR's Approach to Inward Investment</p> <p>A report and presentation were received to provide the Board with an update on the SCR's approach towards inward investment, both historically and in the future in line with the refreshed Trade and Investment plan (developed during 2017 and recently adopted by the new Trade and Investment Advisory Board (Chaired by Chris Scholey on behalf of the LEP)).</p> <p>The presentation provided comment on past inward investment successes and failures and the perceived reasons for these outcomes, and explained how these lessons learnt are being used to inform the change in strategic direction as encapsulated in the new Plan.</p> <p>It was noted the new Plan has been informed by full, open and transparent consultation with stakeholders, including the local authorities.</p> <p>It was confirmed the Plan has been designed to help enforce the partnership relationship between the SCR Inward Investment Team and the teams within the Local Authorities, and avoid any confusion or duplication of effort. It was suggested the SCR's focus will be on international market development in order generate new investment</p>	

	<p>leads of scale and significance for the local authorities to then work on in more detail (with SCR support as required).</p> <p>The Board welcomed the information regarding new jobs created but questioned ‘what good should look like’, whether these figures compare with job creation rates in other districts and asked what more can be done to scale up job create rates further.</p> <p>The Group considered whether a focus of efforts should be applied to certain sectors, noting the SCR’s has past successes in respect of attracting cross-sector technology employers to the region</p> <p>It was suggested consideration needs to be given to whether it might be prudent for the SCR to collaborate with other city regions on inward investment opportunities where there are clear benefits of doing so.</p> <p>It was questioned whether job creation for one region actually means job displacement for another.</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board Members confirm their support for the SCR’s new approach towards inward investment and note the roles best played by the SCR and local authorities, but suggest there should not be too much focus on sectoral specialisms.</p>	
6	<p>Quarterly Economic Survey</p> <p>A report was received to inform the Board of the outcomes of the Quarterly Economic Survey (QES) and invite views on how the QES can help to inform policy development, the work of the LEP and how the SCR can more effectively inform key areas of work.</p> <p>It was noted the QES is a jointly developed and delivered survey of Sheffield City Region businesses, run in partnership with the SCR Chambers of Commerce and the University of Sheffield Management School. All results of the QES can be found at https://screconomy.org.uk.</p> <p>It was acknowledged there is room for improvement in both the numbers of businesses responding to the survey (currently c.400 each quarter) and in how the results are used, and noted a number of efforts continue to address these matters.</p> <p>The Board agreed there was a need to continue to monitor the efficacy of this survey and considered, in recognition of its deficiencies, whether it ought to be seen as an engagement-lead tool rather than a survey, noting its use in determining subject matter for follow-up engagement events.</p> <p>It was acknowledged there is no other survey that operates across the SCR LEP geography and noted the related business events continually secure good feedback from attendees.</p>	

	<p>RESOLVED, that the Board delegates responsibility to the SCR Business Growth Executive Board to consider whether to continue to support the QES (as a useful barometer of business confidence and intelligence within the City Region), and requests the findings of the Executive Board, with reasons, be reported to the next LEP meeting.</p>	<p>NM / AG</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>MIPIM</p> <p>A report and presentation were received to provide an update on plans for the SCR presence at MIPIM 2018.</p> <p>The presentation set out the 3-day programme of events, the LEP delegation and the private sector sponsorship support secured.</p> <p>It was noted a number of lessons have been learnt from previous years' undertakings. This includes a greater use of digital marketing and a more streamlined programme of events.</p> <p>It was noted this year's undertaking will have greater private sector input into the design of the programme and delivery of events, and will focus on showcasing specific investment opportunities, including a coordinated SCR offer on Urban Centres and Housing opportunities and greater promotion of the logistics offer.</p> <p>The Board was advised that MIPIM will not be seen as an end point but rather just one element of the SCR's approach to promoting the City Region and securing investment.</p> <p>Consideration was given to how the success of our MIPIM engagement might be measured; noting leads that germinate there might take many years to come to fruition. It was suggested the number of leads that are followed up after the event might be deemed significant.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Governance Changes</p> <p>A report was received to inform the Board of the Government's publication of formal guidance for Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) (following the publication of the Ney Report in October 2017) to strengthen governance and transparency.</p> <p>It was noted this creates a series of specific standards that all LEPs need to comply with. The paper therefore summarised these requirements, the proposed actions to ensure the SCR's compliance and provided copies of the various policies to be implemented.</p> <p>It was noted declarations of interest need to be completed by all LEP Board members (public and private) and also by statutory officers.</p> <p>The Board was advised of subsequent work required to update the</p>	

	<p>SCR's Assurance Framework to take account of the strengthening of LEP governance and informed a draft of this document will be presented for consideration at the next meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the draft suite of policy documents (at Annexes B – I to the report) to strengthen the SCR LEP's governance and transparency, ensuring that it is, as a minimum, in line with best practice. 2. Notes that work is now also required to update the SCR's Assurance Framework 	
9	<p>Managing Directors' Update</p> <p>A report was received to provide members with a general update on activity being undertaken by the LEP outside of the agenda items under discussion.</p> <p>In addition, the Board was informed the Chair and Managing Director had recently met with Jake Berry MP (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) to discuss various matters of relevance to the SCR. It was noted the Minister is planning to visit the region soon.</p>	
10	Any Other Business	
	<p>The Board was informed Sheffield had received a Social Enterprise UK award, recognising it as a centre for social enterprise activity.</p>	