

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

AMP TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM, S60 5WG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2016

PRESENT:

Councillor John Burrows, Chesterfield BC (Chair)

Councillor Graham Baxter MBE, North East Derbyshire DC

Councillor Chris Read, Rotherham MBC

Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC

Councillor Simon Greaves, Bassetlaw DC

Councillor Glyn Jones, Doncaster MBC

Sir Nigel Knowles, Global Co-Chairman DLA Piper & SCR LEP Chair

Ruth Adams, SCR Exec Team

Fiona Boden, SCR Exec Team

Philip Cooper, SCR Exec Team

Andrew Frosdick, Monitoring Officer

Andrew Gates, SCR Exec Team

Sharon Kemp, Rotherham MBC

Mark Lynam

John Mothersole, Sheffield CC

Jo Miller, Doncaster MBC

Mel Dei Rossi, SCR Exec Team

Gareth Sutton, Sheffield CC / SCR

Daniel Swaine, Bolsover DC / NE Derbyshire DC

Neil Taylor, Bassetlaw DC

Craig Tyler, Joint Authorities Governance Unit

Eugene Walker, S.151 Officer

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Houghton CBE, Councillor A Syrett, Mayor R Jones, Councillor A Rhodes, Councillor L Rose, H Bowen, D Bunton, D Smith and D Terris

1 APOLOGIES

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

None.

5 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

It was agreed there were no agenda items where non-Constituent Members should not have voting rights.

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

As leader of the sponsoring Authority, Cllr Greaves declared an interest in a matter to be considered under agenda item 12 LGF Capital Programme Approvals (Harworth Bircotes Step Change Programme: Road Improvements Phase 1).

7 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

None received.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None received.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A series of questions were received from the Sheffield for Democracy organisation pertaining to devolution matters, the effect of Brexit on the SCR's funding streams and CO2 conversion technology.

Questions were as follows:

Q1. What is the deadline for the Sec of State's order reaching this body to ensure the election of the Mayor can go ahead in May 2017?

Q2. Has the SCRCA or the LEP looked at the new technology being researched in Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the USA, which promises the potential to create large scale CO2 conversion into Ethanol fuels? Have the regions Universities and the AMP been prompted to explore future development deals with the researchers?

Is not this combination of materials sciences, advanced manufacturing and environmental impact exactly the sort of thing that Boeing, Rolls Royce and the Region LEP should be chasing?

Q3. What will be the impact of the referendum result on the SCRCA's Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) considering the latest OBR forecasts?

Q4. What will happen to the EU funded business support services?

Q5. What will be the impact on 14-19 year olds on the Employment Support Fund (ESF) support programmes?

Q6. Does the SCRCA expect agreed funding to now be frozen during exit negotiations?

Q7. Does the SCRCA expect 2014-2020 funding already spent to be clawed back?

Q8. Where does this leave the whole devolution process if the SCRCA are to be underfunded and unable to meet their growth commitments? - Are SCRCA still confident that central funding will defray Brexit losses?

Q9. Was any of this discussed with Government ministers before the referendum and if so what was their response? - What discussions have taken place since June?

The Chair instructed officers to provide full responses to each question in writing and place these publically on the Authority website.

10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 OCTOBER 2016

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th October are agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

11 DEVOLUTION UPDATE

It was noted that all matters related to Devolution are currently predicated on awaited announcements to be made by the DCLG Secretary of State.

12 LGF CAPITAL PROGRAMME APPROVALS

A paper was presented requesting the Authority's endorsement of the financial approvals that have progressed through the Appraisal Framework and recommended by the Infrastructure Executive Board (IEB).

Members were advised that the IEB meeting held on 18th November was not quorate. Attendees at IEB discussed the change requests and full business cases in an advisory capacity only. The minutes from IEB were subsequently approved via email.

Consideration was given to the requests presented.

RESOLVED: That the Combined Authority:

1. Approves the change requests to the SCRIF programme set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
2. Approves progression of Harworth Bircotes Step Change Programme: Road Improvements Phase 1 to Full Approval and Award of Contract at a cost of up to £0.455m, subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table attached at Appendix 2 to the report.
3. Agrees to consider and approve progression of the Doncaster Urban Centre: Enterprise Market Place Phase 1 as part of the next cycle subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table attached at Appendix 3 to the report.
4. Approves delegated Authority to the Head of Paid of Service, in conjunction with the Chair of the CA, to enter into the contractual arrangements required as a result of the above approvals.

13 EARLY COMMISSIONING CALL RECOMMENDATIONS

A report was received to provide an update on progress made to the Early Commission schemes and set out the approval route and timescales for scheme progression.

Members were asked to consider providing delegated authority to the Head of Paid of Service, in conjunction with the Chair of the CA to approve projects by written procedures where an urgent approval is required, subject to any such projects having successfully completed the technical appraisal process and have been recommended by the Appraisal Panel and endorsed by the Executive Board.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Notes the progression of Early Commission Schemes through the Appraisal Framework and fund application process.
2. Approves delegated Authority to the Head of Paid of Service, in conjunction with the Chairman of the CA, to consider and approve by written procedures projects with an urgent approval requirement which have successfully completed the technical appraisal and having been recommended by the Appraisal Panel and endorsed by the Executive Board.

14 STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN REFRESH UPDATE

A report was received requesting the Combined Authority Members note the update on the refresh of the Strategic Economic Plan and proposed next steps in the process to enable the successful completion of this work.

It was suggested to Members that the production of a high quality, robust and compelling refreshed SEP will require external independent assistance.

It was noted the refreshed SEP will be founded upon robust evidence and will capture the ambition, vision and strategic priorities of the CA / LEP. The SEP will feature four-year Investment Plans, each with a series of projects and programmes to be delivered by the scheme promoters, including local authorities. It was confirmed delivery will be undertaken in accordance with the also refreshed SCR Assurance and Accountability Framework

Regarding the refresh timetable, it was noted the intention is to go to the market to identify a consultant to update the evidence, produce a refreshed SEP and act as a critical friend to the development of the Investment Plan. The consultant will be appointed by Christmas and will be required to review and update to evidence base on the SCR's economic performance by mid-February. Workshops to determine LEP priorities will then be convened and the 1st draft SEP will be presented during March for comment.

It was noted the intended, refreshed SEP will be presented to the CA and LEP for consideration on 24th April, and the supporting investment plan on 5th June.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Notes the update on the refresh of the Strategic Economic Plan and the proposed approach and milestones for the completion of this work.
2. Provides the SCR Executive Director, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Combined Authority the approval to enter into a contractual arrangement with the potential value of this activity to exceed £100k to deliver the programme of work, as set out in section 3 of the report.

15 THE JOINT ASSETS BOARD AND ONE PUBLIC ESTATE PROGRAMME UPDATE

A report was received to provide the Combined Authority Members with an update on the work of the SCR Joint Assets Board (JAB)

The report set out some of the JAB's recent achievements and highlighted the areas of activity the Board will drive forward over the coming months.

The report also provided an overview of current and potential future One Public Estate activity and sought approval for the recently submitted One Public Estate round 5 bid.

Members were advised that there remains an aspiration to expand membership of the JAB to include police authorities, fire authorities and the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive. It was suggested this will ensure that the majority of public sector organisations with land and property assets in the SCR are represented at this strategic level board.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Endorses the work carried out to date at a Sheffield City Region level in support of the Joint Assets Board and One Public Estate agendas.

2. Endorses the identified priorities for the Joint Assets Board.
3. Approves an upwards variation on the CA/LEP revenue budget to allow for the spending of funds received for the successful One Public Estate Round 4 bid (totalling £132,000).
4. Approves delegations to the Head of Paid Service, in conjunction with the statutory officers, to contract with third parties for the delivery of all approved OPE activity.
5. Notes future Sheffield City Region level engagement with the national One Public Estate Programme.
6. Approves the One Public Estate Round 5 bid

16 ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK UPDATE

A report was received reminding Members of the SCR's requirement to predicate all decisions on the allocations of Local Growth Funds to priority schemes and projects based on the mechanisms set out within its Assurance Framework.

It was noted that following the agreement of the Devolution Deal and the publication of revised guidance by Government, the City Region now needs to update its existing Framework to ensure compliance with transparent, accountable decisions, which assure value for money. Updates are required to facilitate the continued receipt of future funding allocations.

It was further noted that the refresh will accommodate recently published guidance for LEP's governance of the usage of Growth Deal funding.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Notes the publication of revised assurance guidance by Government and the need to confirm compliance with this guidance to receive future year Growth Deals awards of funding.
2. Agrees to the SCR updating its existing Assurance Framework to take account of this revised guidance and notes the updated Framework will be presented to a future CA meeting for agreement.

17 UPDATE ON HS2

A report was received to update the Combined Authority on the Government's High Speed 2 (HS2) rail project following the publication of the Government's Command Paper on 15 November on the preferred route options for phase 2b, which includes the eastern leg through South Yorkshire. The report also provided an update on the SCR Executive Team's on-going work on HS2, including the commissioning of a Mitigation Study into reducing the adverse impacts of the new eastern route on residents and businesses.

It was noted that at the request of the Combined Authority, the SCR HS2 Programme Board agreed at its October meeting to commission a focussed study into possible mitigation measures on the eastern route at a number of specific locations in Doncaster and Rotherham boroughs. This will include looking at minor route or design amendments to reduce the number of properties affected and the scale of the impact. The study will be commissioned from consultants in early December and report back by early February so that its findings can be used to inform the SCR response to the HS2 route consultation. It is estimated that the SCR HS2 Mitigation Study will cost up to £40,000. This cost can be accommodated from existing transport budgets

It was confirmed a draft version of the SCR consultation response will be prepared and circulated to CA and LEP Board members for comment prior to the March deadline.

It was noted the government's HS2 Command Paper made reference to the potential to create a connection back onto the HS2 mainline north of Sheffield (known as the Northern Loop), which would enable HS2 trains to continue north from Sheffield to Leeds and beyond. Members asserted the importance of the Northern Loop to the SCR's economic and connectivity aspirations.

It was noted the Command Paper also referenced that a pot of Growth Strategy funding is to be made available to each of the City Regions served by HS2 to use on preparing their growth strategies in order to take full advantage of the economic benefits of HS2. This will be made available in two tranches. The first tranche to be used to maximise SCR wide benefits, and the second tranche (available only when the current consultation has concluded) will be available for station master-planning. A sum of £625,000 will be made available to SCR for this purpose.

Members agreed to need to work collectively to address HS2 matters as they develop, such as limited resources (internal and external) to undertake studies and assessments, if we are to achieve the tourism and economic benefits HS2 enables.

The Chair asked Members to recognise the additional benefits afforded by the revised route, for an additional HS2 station in Chesterfield.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Agrees that the findings of the HS2 Mitigation Study be used to inform the SCR response to the Government's HS2 Phase 2b consultation.
2. Agrees to the HS2 Programme Board preparing a proposal for the use of the first tranche of HS2 Growth Strategy funding and commissioning work as required in order to ensure that the benefits of HS2 are maximised across the City Region.

18 EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A paper was received inviting the Combined Authority to agree to the participation of the SCR Executive team in two city region wide ESIF Technical Assistance (TA) projects; for the European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) and the European

Social Fund (ESF) respectively, and to sign the partnership agreements with the lead partner, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, subject to given conditions.

It was noted that TA projects provide funding to identify and develop activity to meet the needs of the area, promote the ESIF funds, engage and support potential applicants to participate in the programme and submit quality proposals.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Agrees to the ERDF TA Partnership Agreement with Doncaster MBC
2. Agrees in principle to the ESF TA Partnership Agreement with Doncaster MBC on condition that the outputs are deemed realistic and achievable and that the Partnership Agreement clauses reflect that of the ERDF agreement.

19 SYITA PROPERTIES LTD - PROPOSED MEMBER VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION

A report was received seeking delegated authority for the statutory officers to approve the liquidation of SYITA Properties Ltd, and accept the repatriation of the assets and balances within the Company to the Combined Authority.

It was noted previous reports to the CA have demonstrated that the company, as previously managed by the Integrated Transport Authority, was not an efficient or effective vehicle by which to manage the assets.

Delegated authority was therefore sought to allow the statutory officers to manage the liquidation process in a timely and efficient manner should those officers receive sufficient assurance to do so.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Agrees to delegate authority to the statutory officers to approve the liquidation of SYITA Properties Ltd and accept the assets and balances within the company back into the CA.

20 SUMMARY REPORT - HOUSING EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED – that the matters addressed in the summary report be noted and the recommendations of the Housing Executive Board be endorsed.

21 SUMMARY REPORT - TRANSPORT EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED – that the matters addressed in the summary report be noted and the recommendations of the Transport Executive Board be endorsed.

22 SUMMARY REPORT - SKILLS, EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED – that the matters addressed in the summary report be noted and the recommendations of the Skills Executive Board be endorsed.

23 SUMMARY REPORT - BUSINESS GROWTH EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED – that the matters addressed in the summary report be noted and the recommendations of the Housing Business Growth Executive Board be endorsed.

24 SUMMARY REPORT - INFRASTRUCTURE EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED – that the matters addressed in the summary report be noted and the recommendations of the Infrastructure Executive Board be endorsed.

CHAIR