

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

THE AMP TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM, S60 5WG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 DECEMBER 2017

PRESENT:

Councillor Tricia Gilby, Chesterfield BC (Chair)
(Vice Chair)

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Barnsley MBC
Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC
Mayor Ros Jones CBE, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Chris Read, Rotherham MBC

Fiona Boden, SCR Exec Team
Huw Bowen, Chesterfield BC
Peter Dale, Doncaster MBC
Steve Davenport, SYPTE
Steve Edwards, 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
Mel Dei Rossi, SCR Exec Team
Dave Smith, SCR Exec Team
Neil Taylor, Bassetlaw DC
Mike Thomas, SCC / SCR Exec Team
Diana Terris, Clerk / Barnsley MBC
Craig Tyler, Joint Authorities Governance Unit
Eugene Walker, S.151 Officer

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G Baxter, Councillor S Greaves,
Councillor L Rose OBE and Councillor A Syrett

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

It was noted an appendix to item 13 (Work and Health Programme – SCR / DWP Memorandum of Understanding) is to be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

It was agreed there were no agenda items for which voting rights could not be conferred on non-Constituent Members.

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

As Leader of the sponsoring Local Authority, the Chair declared an interest in the Northern Gateway Project (to be considered at item 15 - LGF Capital Programme Approvals).

7 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

None received.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None received.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None received.

10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30TH OCTOBER 2017

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th October are agreed to be an accurate record.

11 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF THE SCR COMBINED AUTHORITY

A report was received to inform Members of the requirement to invite nominations for, and appoint to, the position of Chair of the SCR Combined Authority (as

determined by Article 4 (Chairing of the Combined Authority) and Part 5A (Combined Authority Procedure Rules) of the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority Constitution), the vacancy having arisen due to the Chair giving notice to stand down.

RESOLVED, that Cllr Chris Read be appointed Chair of the SCR Combined Authority.

It was confirmed Cllr Tricia Gilby would continue to serve as Vice Chair.

12 SKILLS BANK OPTIONS

A report was received to provide Members with the position in relation to Phase Two of the current Skills Bank programme and to introduce options moving forward.

Members were reminded that in 2015 the SCR LEP secured a six-year Growth Deal with Government to fund the flagship Skills Bank programme. Skills Bank provides co-investment for businesses for training of existing employees with levels of investment determined by tangible propositions around growth. The Growth Fund was combined with European Social Fund (ESF) through a co-financing agreement with the Education, Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to provide a joint funding pot for businesses of £21m. Delivery of the Skills Bank programme was contracted through the ESFA to Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC) who to date have conducted 434 deals with businesses and supported 6,939 learners.

It was noted the current Skills Bank programme will end on the 31st March 2018 and the SCR Executive are currently in dialogue with Government in relation to the remaining three years of Growth Fund money (£10.5m) now the co-financing arrangement with the ESFA is due to come to an end. In preparation for the end of the current programme the SCR Executive is therefore working with the Managing Authority for ESF (DWP) to release an ESF Call for a third party to deliver and manage Phase Two of the Skills Bank programme at the end of January 2018 (as the last practical date for Calls to be issued prior to the UK exit from the European Union in March 2019).

The report introduced a series of options regarding how the Phase Two calls process might be progressed, taking account of currently unknown timings.

Mayor Jones requested this process be completed as quickly as possible and suggested a defined series of questions be used to ensure all required information is received from the potential bidders to run Phase Two.

Cllr Dore requested more evidence be drawn from how Skills Bank Phase One operated to inform the requirements for Phase Two. D Smith confirmed Phase One performance reporting would be used in this respect.

Cllr Dore questioned queried reference to 'the options would require further financial input to ensure all associated costs to the CA are covered' and noted the need for all risks to the SCR to be properly managed.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority delegates responsibility to the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Skills Executive Board Chair, to progress the development of the bidding process for Skills Bank Phase 2 but not to make any commitments without a further report back to the Combined Authority.

13 WORK AND HEALTH PROGRAMME

A report was received seeking approval to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Work and Health Programme (WHP) to cover the delivery (live running) phase of the programme.

The report reminded Members the SCR was awarded the ability to co-design elements of the national Programme as a Devolution Deal Area (DDA). The co-designed programme will cover the constituent members of the SCR only with the remaining areas receiving the national offer.

It was noted the Programme will help people with disabilities, early access groups and the long term unemployed into sustainable employment. The Programme will go live across the SCR in January 2018 and run for 5 years.

Cllr Dore questioned the sharing of data and asked whether the MoU would cover the provision of information that could then be used to help inform actions to address local priorities. It was noted performance information would be received but this won't be disaggregated down to the district level.

Cllr Read therefore questioned how this information will be fed back into the Local Integration Boards. It was acknowledged local arrangements would need to be worked out in due course.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority approves the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Work and Health Programme

14i Transport for the North - Appointment of TfN Member

A report was received requesting appointments to the TfN Board

The report advised Members of appropriate inclusions in the TfN constitution which relate to membership.

It was agreed improvements are required to the processes currently in place to provide Members with briefings, including the provision of TfN briefings for both Cllr Dore and Mayor Jones.

RESOLVED, that Cllr Dore is appointed as TfN Board member and Mayor Jones appointed as substitute member, appointments to be reviewed after the May 2018 Mayoral elections.

14ii Contracting on Behalf of TfN

A report was received outlining a proposal for the SCR's continuation of support to TfN by acting as the contracting body in the procurement of its back-office systems, in advance of the organisation becoming a statutory transport body.

Members were assured that undertaking this role will be at nil cost and risk to SCR, and be for a time-limited period.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority agrees to act as the contracting body in the procurement of TfN's back-office systems, in advance of that organisation receiving statutory status.

15 LGF CAPITAL PROGRAMME APPROVALS

Cllr Read assumed the Chair for this agenda item.

A report was received to present the Financial Approvals, which have progressed through the Appraisal Framework, for the Combined Authority's endorsement.

It was noted 20 applications totalling £25.6m have been received in relation to the SCR's Housing Fund (£8.1m budget). Work is now underway to assess Outline Business Cases.

The report noted the Skills Capital Fund commissioning call closed on 16th November 2017. Eight applications were received with a total request for £1.5m SCR funding (from a total budget available of £1.2m). Including proposed match funding, total project costs are £2,985,000 with the average intervention rate of 51%.

It was noted 52 applications totalling £207m were received in relation to the open call for reserve capital projects (by the 8th December deadline). These are in the process of being assessed.

16 DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORT

A report was received to update the Combined Authority on delegations made and subsequent actions taken by officers in the last period.

CHAIR