

Attendance

Board Members

James Newman OBE (Chair)
Stephen Parnaby OBE (Deputy Chair)
Madge Moore
Diana Taylor
David Hall
Dafydd Williams
Jayne Adamson
Gill Alton
Professor Susan Lea
Councillor Jonathan Owen
Councillor Daren Hale
Catherine Bishop

Observers

Alan Menzies - East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Mark Jones MBE - Hull City Council
Peter Campey - BEIS

Secretariat

Teresa Chalmers
Caroline Sansam
Karen Philipson

Guest

Alex Codd - Hull City Council

1. Welcome & Introductions

JHN welcomed Daren Hale, the new leader of Hull City Council and Jonathan Owen, the new leader of East Riding of Yorkshire Council to their first Board meeting and invited them to introduce themselves to Board.

JHN thanked Stephen Brady and Richard Burton on behalf of the Board for their support in creating and helping to develop the HEY LEP and he wished them well in the future.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Caroline Lacey and Matt Jukes.

3. Declarations of Interest

JHN reported that all register of interest's forms had been returned and were now published on the HEY LEP website.

Daren Hale and Mark Jones declared an interest in the Hull City Council Economic Strategy.

4. **Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th April and Matters Arising**

The minutes were approved as accurate.

JHN reported on progress in developing the Sub Boards and he thanked Board members for their help. The recruitment process will be underway shortly. The process will be open and transparent and a further update will be provided at the board meeting in June.

JHN reported that Stephen Savage has been asked to Chair the newly created Audit Finance and Governance Panel, the Panel would include three or four other members and further details will follow on in due course.

JHN reported that he and TC met with Graeme Smith to discuss the budget. In the short term the budget is manageable but further discussions will need to take place regarding subsequent years.

5. **Members Strategic Discussion**

JHN explained that this meeting and the one in July would focus on strategic discussions.

Business Engagement Board

JHN outlined the rationale for regularising the roles of the Business Engagement Board (BEB). The key BEB role is to ensure effective private sector collaboration with the LEP. It is proposed that the BEB, becomes the LEP's main private sector partner at strategic level but this will not preclude continuous consultation and dialogue with all private sector representative groups, business organisations and key individuals and businesses. The BEB will be an advisory board only, which will influence and support the work of the LEP board.

The BEB will be chaired by Thomas Martin. It is expected that representatives from BEIS or other Government Departments will be invited to attend the BEB to enable Government to further understand the issues of the private sector and for the private sector to influence Government policy and funding decisions.

The BEB will be the primary source of private sector consultation at regional strategic level for the LEP, with key strategic sectors and on pan-Humber issues.

Board members comments were as follows:

- Good direction of travel.
- Diverse membership is required to reflect the community noting that ethnic minority are an underrepresented group.
- Widening membership to include a good cross section of organisations.
- Noting pan Humber collaboration to include organisations like CATCH, Marketing Humber and any other relevant organisations.
- Including health sector representation and ensuring they play a larger role.
- Including SME representation and getting the membership balance right.
- Most of the current BEB Board members, are likely to continue as members of the BEB as they already represent the key sectors and are not appointed as individuals.
- Youth enterprise and young enterprise representation and considering ways of including younger people in the work of the LEP and BEB.
- Next steps will be to finalise membership and put some light touch governance in place.
- This is not a pan Humber Board as it will focus on Hull and East Yorkshire but will discuss pan Humber issues when necessary.

The Board agreed

- **To appoint the Business Engagement Board (BEB) as its main private sector and business advisory partner.**
- **To delegate the agreeing of the final Terms of Reference for the BEB to the Chair on behalf of the LEP.**
- **To delegate the Chair to agree the composition of the BEB with the Chair of the BEB, and to look towards reflecting diversity as part of the composition.**

Hull City Council Economic Strategy

AC presented Hull City Council's Economic Strategy for 2021 – 2026 to the Board, the five year vision is for people, place and productivity. The strategy is a strong long term economic vision for the area. The LEP is required to formally respond on behalf of the Board.

AC explained that delivery will be the responsibility of strategic partners including the HEY LEP. The ambition for devolution for Hull and East Yorkshire is included in the document. The creation of a delivery plan with key outcomes and outputs will contribute to an annual delivery report. Hull City Council will work with range of different partners in the public and private sector.

The finalised strategy will be an important strategic document that will assist in developing the HEY LEP strategy. Board members were asked to provide feedback on the strategic proposals within the document.

Questions, comments and feedback:

- Very good document and an accessible read.
- What sits below each strand is important.
- Has Hull City Council clear ideas on increasing social value through procurement and how do people get involved in these discussions?
- Good to see anchor institutions represented, health inequality and population health is key to people being available for work.
- Apprenticeships levy is not being used as well as it could by public and private sectors and more work on maximising the levy is required.
- Economic growth and productivity does not ameliorate inequality.
- Tackling health and well-being inequality is important.
- Executive summary is needed, two to three pages maximum.
- Emphasis in the final draft on young people, spreading of wealth/fairness, work readiness, diversity in order to ensure inclusive growth and a fair distribution of wealth.
- Revenue funding is required not just capital investment to support local people to get local jobs.

- Delivery plans will set out the detail.

PC agreed to take the message regarding capital and revenue funding to Government noting that more flexibility is required.

TC reported that she would respond to the HCC consultation on behalf of the Board but individual Board members were also welcome to respond if they wished.

HEY LEP Emerging Priorities

JHN indicated that the LEP needs to start developing its own strategy, particularly as East Riding of Yorkshire Council has recently refreshed its economic strategy and Hull City Council's economic strategy is out to consultation. There are many significant similarities and ambitions in both strategies, which the HEY LEP strategy will build upon and support.

JHN suggested the following key areas be considered for inclusion:

- Improving business support across the region but with more emphasis on rural, coastal communities and businesses in East Yorkshire.
- Encouraging entrepreneurialism
- Employment and skills but focusing on key sector supply chains, digital, clean energy skills
- Trade, inward investment and exports
- Transport of all forms
- Innovation and transformation
- Promotion and marketing of the region

JHN opened the discussion to the Board and the following comments were received:

- Marketing, lobbying, influencing, getting our voice heard, competition with other areas that have devolution deals, ensuring we are on the Government's radar, punching above our weight, changing our approach depending on who we are talking to and when.

- Lots of opportunity to bid for skills investment at the moment and the focus is on green energy and ports and logistics. We need to identify and focus on things that make us distinctive and competitive.
- Communications and marketing strategy as we are often absent at important meetings and events, which means we may be missing out
- Linking in with sectors that are lobbying Government successfully e.g. Health Sector.
- Linking into important visits to the areas as the LEP needs more involvement
- PC reported there would be more ministerial visits post Covid and he asked Board members to contact him with ideas of companies that Ministers may wish to visit.
- Cost of materials in manufacturing industry is a major issue at the moment and this needs to be at the forefront of supporting businesses as well as staff shortages, both being linked to Brexit.
- Hospitality and agriculture sectors are also suffering from a lack of supply of labour.
- TC reported that current claimant figures have risen sharply but are beginning to come down albeit slowly.
- Engaging with local organisations and community infrastructure to support people with health, wellbeing and confidence, which is a barrier to employment

6. **Pan Humber Issues**

SP updated the Board on pan Humber issues and the Humber Leadership Board (HLB). As JHN is a member of the HLB, he will feedback on issues and how they are affecting the North Bank economy and in addition, he will feedback any comments from the Board to the HLB.

SP reported Freeport's progress. A Governance Board is being established and several structures and issues are being considered. The Government has awarded £300k to support the next stages of the work. However, more funding will be required. DW reported that Government officials are currently visiting the region and they are very impressed by the Humber offer.

JHN reported on his recent meeting with Greater Lincolnshire LEP (GLLEP) and discussions on collaboration. Both LEPs have agreed to collaborate on skills gaps emerging from the Freeports bid and decarbonisation and green activity in order to ensure local people are ready to take up any new jobs. Both LEPs will offer to lead on this activity for the Humber Leadership Board. TC reported that she regularly meets with Ruth Carver, the GLLEP CEO, to discuss pan Humber issues and collaboration.

7. **LEP as a Company Limited by Guarantee**

TC reported the LEP needs to seek adoption of a legal personality. The HEY LEP will need to form a company limited by guarantee. The company will not be used to transact LEP business as Hull City Council, as the Accountable Body, carries out this role on behalf of the LEP.

This will entail all Board members becoming directors of the company with liability insurance in place to provide protection against personal liability.

The Board agreed:

- **To apply for change of name of the existing Humber LEP Ltd. to form the new HEY LEP Company and to appoint current Board members as directors**
- **To use the Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd. as the formal name of the company.**
- **To note that Indemnity insurance will be put in place to protect the Board members as they become directors of the company.**

8. **LEP Network Review**

JHN reported that progress is being made on the objectives and functions of LEP's but there are delays on other areas of the review such as accountability and geography. It is hoped that work will be completed by the summer recess. JHN will report further at the next meeting.

9. **Chief Operating Officer Update**

TC reported that one of the focuses this month has been on supporting local providers with the Skills Accelerator opportunity and two bids have been submitted, the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) and Strategic Development Fund (SDF). Both are place based bids on green energy and aligned with Freeports. The Tech Partnership led on the bid writing for the SDF and through its existing mechanisms was able to add staff

resource to the Hull and Humber Chamber, who invested in and wrote the LSIP. Several other pan Humber partners were involved in the bid, which was pulled together at short notice. If successful it is a good platform to build on.

TC reported that the Post-16 Capacity Fund was recently announced by Government and several local providers will be bidding for this capital investment to accommodate upcoming demographic increases in 16 to 19- year- olds.

Team Updates:

- The team is finalising the Economic Impact Report, which is based on the Humber region. There are some alarming statistics and TC suggested the Board looks at this in detail. TC suggested arranging a workshop for partners to increase engagement and to help drive our economic strategy. Further details to follow.
- COP 26 announcement is expected shortly. It is a highly competitive process and further information will follow at the next meeting.
- The LEP is arranging a virtual Festival of Skills focusing on helping young people in school. CB has agreed to chair an activity and further information will follow.
- Energy Hub programme is commissioning two pieces of work, a feasibility study on electric vehicles installation and on symbiotic incubation.
- Chris Howell has been appointed as the new Employment and Skills Manager and will begin in post on the 14th June.
- Interviews for the Senior Policy and Business Manager are taking place on the 3rd and 4th June and DW has agreed to sit on the interview panel.

JHN reported that NP11 have funding for some clean energy activity and JHN has agreed to be one of the LEP leads. This will allow the LEP to play its part across the North.

10. **Reflections on Board Inductions**

JHN asked the Board for any comments or feedback on the induction sessions.

There was excellent feedback from Board members on format and content of the induction sessions and the quality of the presentations. JHN offered to meet the new Board members, DH and JO, to talk through the induction sessions if they felt it would be useful.

JHN proposed the appointment of three LEP Champions to lead on different work streams and he asked the Board to approve these appointments:

The Board agreed to appoint three LEP Champions:

- **David Hall – SME Champion**
- **Catherine Bishop – Equality and Diversity Champion**
- **Madge Moore – Rural Champion**

11. Any Other Business

SP reported on the preparations for Humber Business Week, which begins on 7th June. There are over 30 virtual events taking place across the week and JHN is taking part in two events, Meet the Leaders and a HEY Goes Global both on Wednesday 9th June. SP suggested Board members visit the website for further details and to book events. The Business Day is the finale of the week and will showcase the region. SP declared an interest in the Business Day. TC also declared an interest as HEY LEP is one of the main sponsors of The Business Day event.

DT reported that there is opportunity for a top ministerial visit to Hull focusing on the vision for Hull and the carbon neutral strategy. DT is engaging with businesses but some are missing e.g. healthcare and shipping and she asked for Board input. Feedback is most welcome and more information from DT will follow in due course.

JHN asked Board members to let him know if they had any items to add to the agenda of the next meeting.

Signed:

James Newman
Chair