

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

AMP TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM, S60 5WG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2017

PRESENT:

Councillor Chris Read, Rotherham MBC (Chair)
(Vice Chair)

Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC
Councillor Simon Greaves, Bassetlaw DC
Mayor Ros Jones CBE, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Ann Syrett, Bolsover DC
Sir Nigel Knowles, SCR LEP Chair

Matthew Ackroyd, KPMG
Ruth Adams, SCR Exec Team
Joe Battye, Derbyshire CC
Fiona Boden, SCR Exec Team
Steve Edwards, SYPTE
James Henderson, Sheffield CC
Councillor Chris Furness, Peak Park NPA
Andrew Gates, SCR Exec Team
Matt Gladstone, Barnsley MBC
Lee Hickin, Bolsover DC
Claire James, SCR Executive Team
Sharon Kemp, Rotherham MBC
Councillor Tony King, Derbyshire CC
Mark Lynam, SCR Exec Team
Christine Marriott, SCR Exec Team
Martin McCarthy, South Yorkshire Joint Authorities
Jo Miller, Doncaster MBC
Michael Rich, Chesterfield BC
Dave Smith, SCR Exec Team
Mike Thomas, SCC / SCR Exec Team
Craig Tyler, Joint Authorities Governance Unit
Eugene Walker, S.151 Officer

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor T Gilby, Councillor G Baxter, Councillor S Houghton CBE, Councillor L Rose OBE, H Bowen, D Bunton, A Frosdick, J Mothersole, D Swaine, N Taylor and D Terris

Appointment of Chair

RESOLVED, that Cllr Chris Read be appointed Chair for the meeting.

1 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

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

2 APOLOGIES

Members' apologies were noted as above.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

4 URGENT ITEMS

None.

5 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED, that item 20 – Housing Infrastructure Fund Annex B will be considered in the absence of the public and press.

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

None.

7 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

None received.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None received.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None received within the required time limit.

10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH JULY

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th July 2017 are agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

11 DEVOLUTION

Item deferred.

12 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

A report was received requesting Members' consideration and approval of the Authority's Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2016/17 (provided at Appendix A to the report) and Governance Improvement Plan (GIP) for 2017/18.

Members were reminded of the statutory requirement for the Authority to review its systems of governance and internal control at least once each year, and to publish an AGS with its Statement of Accounts, in addition to the requirement to have in place a GIP which highlights any identified governance issues, their current status and timelines for completion.

It was confirmed the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) guidance had been duly followed in compiling the AGS and GIP.

Mayor Jones requested the GIP be improved with the addition of further information to demonstrate that quarterly performance reporting of schemes would include the monitoring of adherence to agreed timescales and projected spend. It was confirmed officers would adopt this requirement.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Approves the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2016/17.
2. Approve the Governance Improvement Plan (GIP) for 2017/18.

13 APPROVAL OF THE STATUTORY FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2016/17

A report was received to provide an overview of the papers which CA Leaders are asked to consider before approving the final set of the Combined Authority group accounts for the financial year 2016/17 as required under statute.

Appended to the report was the ISA 260 – External Auditor's Report and Letter of Representation, for which explanations of the External Auditor's unqualified audit opinion on the Authority's financial statements and unqualified opinion on the value for money assessment were provided.

It was noted the final version of the audited accounts for 2016/17 would be published before the 30th September deadline once these have been formally signed off by the External Auditor.

Members were advised the ISA260 document had been presented to the SCR Audit Committee for consideration and duly recommended for endorsement by the CA.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Notes that the ISA 260 report was presented to the CA Audit & Risk Committee on 31 August, and is recommended to CA Leaders.

2. Approves the final set of CA Group accounts for the financial year 2016/17.

14 Q1 PERFORMANCE

Members were presented with a report providing the Quarter 1 forecast outturn position for the Combined Authority's revenue budget and capital programme, including information for the CA's subsidiary bodies, as well as regional programmes being delivered by partners on behalf of the CA.

Mayor Jones highlighted the forecast net underspend of £1m against the English National Concession Travel Scheme (ENCTS) and noted this was the second year a significant underspend had been experienced. It was requested officers take account of this matter in setting future years' budgets.

Members requested more information regarding the funding of 44 low emission buses at a value of £1.32m (referenced as a Q1 capital programme variation request) including the timetable for delivery and confirmation of where these buses will be located. S Edwards offered to supply this information.

Regarding the reference to the challenges of defraying LGF capital grant in line with Central Government targets, Cllr Syrett observed it is already September and effectively half way through the financial year and requested that plans to address any underspends be sorted out.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Notes the Quarter 1 forecast outturn position for the Combined Authority's revenue budget and capital programme.
2. Approves the revenue budget and capital programme variations.
3. Notes the target date of 30 September 2017 for the Members' voluntary liquidation of SYITA Properties Ltd.

15 SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT - INTERMEDIATE BODY STATUS UPDATE

A report was received to update Leaders following the 12th June CA's approval of the SCR Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) strategy that will enable the investment of £8.4m ERDF, from the 2014-20 ESIF Programme, towards projects that support Low Carbon development and Climate Change Adaptation (flood alleviation).

Members were advised that to deliver the SUD, the SCR Combined Authority is required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), as the Managing Authority (MA), to secure Intermediate Body (IB) status within the ESIF Programme and thereafter select projects for the SUD in respect of Local Strategic Fit.

Members expressed a preference for the convenience of utilising existing forums (i.e. SY Leaders' meetings) to transact SCR SUD Board activity, rather than convene additional meetings.

RESOLVED, that the SCR Combined Authority:

1. Notes the contents of the report and approves the establishment of the SCR SUD Board consisting of the four South Yorkshire Leaders or their nominated representatives and the Managing Director of the SCR Exec Team.
2. Notes that the existing ESIF Sub-Committee will also become the ESIF SUD Sub-Committee
3. Notes that the SCR Executive Team is prohibited from sponsoring any projects seeking SUD funding
4. Notes, that the SCR Exec Team has submitted the legal documents required to secure IB status as well as the draft call for projects.

16 DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORT

RESOLVED, that Members note the contents of the report providing confirmation of decisions made under CA delegation that have been acted upon in the last period.

17 FUTURE MEETING DATES

RESOLVED, that Members note the Combined Authority meeting date schedule for 2017/18.

18 RESOLUTION RECORD - TRANSPORT EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the resolution record summary from the SCR Transport Executive Board be noted and resolutions endorsed.

19 HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

A report was received to provide an update on a number of current national funding opportunities focussed on supporting housing growth. It was reported the availability of these national funds represent a change in the national funding landscape; with grant funding available from national Government to support housing and regeneration in way which has not been the case for a number of years. It was suggested this therefore represents an opportunity for the SCR to attract funding to support its housing growth and wider economic ambitions, whilst noting that funds will be allocated on a national competitive basis. With this opportunity comes a clear expectation from Government of the role of the CA.

The report provided full details on the background to these current funding opportunities and the work undertaken by officers to date.

Members were asked to note a specific request for the Combined Authority to delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service to sign off ranked bids for the

Forward Funding element of the Department for Communities and Local Government National Housing Infrastructure Fund.

Cllr Dore commented on problems caused by the government continually making 'new' announcements on funding for housing initiatives and suggested a complete review of how the 'minefield' of how the sector is funded is required.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority:

1. Endorses the proposed approach to meeting Government's expectations of the Combined Authority in relation to the current housing focussed opportunities on offer via the Department for Communities and Local Government and Highways England.
2. Delegates authority to the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Executive Members of the Housing Executive Board, sign off for the Forward Funding element of the Department for Communities and Local Government National Housing Infrastructure Fund.

20 HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND - ANNEX B

RESOLVED, that the contents of Appendix B to the report received at agenda item 19 are noted.

CHAIR