

**SHEFFIELD CITY REGION LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD
NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2018**

Board Members: Nigel Brewster (Vice Chair – in the Chair), Laura Bennett, Councillor Julie Dore, Councillor Tricia Gilby, Councillor Michael Gordon, Alexa Greaves, Neil MacDonald, Martin McKervey, Owen Michaelson and Richard Stubbs

In attendance: Co-Opted Members: Chris Scholey and Simon Carr

Officers: Ruth Adams, Andrew Gates, Matt Gladstone, Claire James, Mark Lynam, John Mothersole, Dave Smith, Mike Thomas, Craig Tyler, Dr Sarah Want and Krysia Wooffinden

Apologies: Sir Nigel Knowles, Gavin Baldwin, Professor Sir Keith Burnett, Councillor Simon Greaves, Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Mayor Ros Jones CBE, Julie Kenny CBE, Councillor Chris Read, Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Councillor Ann Syrett and Professor Sir Chris Husbands

Item	Subject	Action
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Members' apologies were noted as above.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>In relation to 'activity since the last formal meeting', Simon declared an indirect interest in respect of Henry Boot Construction Ltd.'s involvement with a development scheme at Hoyland Common, Barnsley, which is in receipt of SCR Investment Fund (SCRIF) funding. However, Simon noted he is not personally involved with the scheme.</p>	
3	<p>Notes of Last Meeting held on 8 May 2018</p> <p>It was agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 8th May are a true and accurate record.</p>	

<p>4</p>	<p>Urgent Items</p> <p>The Board was informed of the potential matters to be considered as part of a government-led review of Local Enterprise Partnerships which is intended to be completed prior to the parliamentary summer recess.</p> <p>Members discussed the potential areas the review may investigate and agreed the need to continue to promote the best interests of the SCR in all engagements and representations.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Skills & Employment Update</p> <p>A report and presentation were received to stimulate discussion on the potential future strategic priorities of the LEP in relation to Skills, Employment and Education.</p> <p>The presentation recapped the previous work undertaken to define the current strategic priorities and provided a commentary on the various initiatives that have been employed to date in the interests of their achievement. It was noted the strategic focus has largely been to support employers to access high quality training and skills to support growth, placing ownership of this work with the employer and driving change in the post 16 education sector to foster responsive and innovative provision.</p> <p>Members considered whether the LEP should need to change or expand the current post 16 target age group, anecdotally noting the benefits of working with children from age 11 to foster a better appreciation of the relationship between skills and employment (noting this should be part of a much improved careers advice offer). However, the current restrictions on which key stages the LEP can actively assume any degree of control over were acknowledged.</p> <p>Members also noted the need to remain mindful of the skills guidance needs for older workers, acknowledging the suggestion workers will have a number of different careers during their working lives. It was therefore agreed any revisions to the strategic focus for skills needs to be closely tied to the business growth agenda, ensuring the skills support available meets the needs of the SCR's changing workforce.</p> <p>It was suggested there have been past tendencies for schools, employers and other parties to mutually blame each other for deficiencies in the skills capabilities of employees entering or in the workforce, and therefore suggested and new strategic focus could be a means to try and break this situation.</p> <p>Members discussed the importance of promoting 'softer skills', noting how less academic credentials can be so important for the retention of staff, and work place morale, and also precursors for further vocational</p>	

training. It was suggested an audit of softer skills would be a worthwhile undertaking and could help to identify the benefit of additional actions in this area.

In consideration of these issues, Members agreed the current strategic focus was probably still appropriate. However, it was further agreed that this focus should be more aligned to the business growth agenda and recognising of the size and shape of the SCR economy. It was agreed more should be done to consider how the LEP can be effective in addressing the skills needs of workers in ALL age groups, and use its influence to get the business community to 'buy in' and play an active part in what the SCR aims to achieve.

Action: Mark / Krysia to revisit the list of intended skills related actions in light of the Board's comments and present proposals to a future meeting.

6

Update on Housing, Digital and the Global Innovation Corridor

A report was received to update the Board on progress with housing, digital and the Global Innovation Corridor (GIC), following up on the presentations received at the last meeting.

Regarding the GIC Mobilisation Plan, members recapped the need to develop a shared and mutually accepted narrative about what the GIC is and what it can do. Support was given to the proposal for a 'deep dive' paper, jointly commissioned by the Mayor and LEP Chair which will seek to provide the strategic narrative and rationale for the GIC, along with identifying sites which could be part of the interlinked network of assets.

The Board discussed the propensity for a SCR Housing Deal (and its relationship to a wider Devolution Deal) and the role the Mayor may play in helping to secure it.

Activities in relation to the housing agenda were noted.

Action: Mark to confirm which non-Constituent based housing associations have been involved with the work with Homes England to develop the SCR's More New Homes initiative.

Activities in relation to the digital agenda were noted.

The Board was provided with an update in relation to work with Finance Yorkshire in respect of the South Yorkshire Investment Fund (SYIF) design principles. It was questioned whether SYIF funding could be used to match fund against other European funding programmes. It was noted that there may be some restrictions on this approach as the original SYIF fund was European-funding derived, but confirmed all potential usages would be appropriately investigated.

	<p>The Board was informed that Sheffield CC (supported by Rotherham MBC) will be submitting a funding bid to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's 5G Testbeds and Trials Programme for the Urban Connected Communities Project. It was noted a single winning bid will be awarded for £50m-£100m funding over 3 years and will be of national and international significance.</p> <p>An update was requested regarding a potential satellite Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) training facility at Aerocentre Yorkshire. It was confirmed meetings are being held with all public and private sector partners to develop the robustness of the concept.</p>	
7	<p>LEP Governance Audit</p> <p>The Board was presented with the final report of the audit of LEP governance and transparency carried out by Government on 19th and 20th March 2018 and advised of reporting restrictions.</p> <p>Members requested their thanks to the officers engaged with the review be recorded.</p>	
8	<p>DELTA Dashboard</p> <p>The Board was presented with the contents of the Quarter 4 2017/18 DELTA Dashboard monitoring form</p> <p>Members were asked to note there had been some data accuracy issues discovered and advised these would be addressed prior to its completion.</p> <p>The Board approved the submission of the DELTA Dashboard report to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), and noted this would be sent prior to the 20th July 2018 deadline.</p>	
9	<p>Managing Director's Update</p> <p>A report was received to provide the Board with a general update on activity being undertaken by the LEP outside of the agenda items under discussion.</p> <p>In addition to the information presented Members were advised the recruitment process for new LEP Board private sector members would commence shortly with the publication of a recruitment information pack. It was confirmed this would be circulated to Members for comment prior to publication.</p>	
10	<p>Resolution Records</p>	

	<p>Resolution records for Executive Board meetings held since the last LEP Board meeting were provided.</p> <p>All recommendations were duly endorsed.</p>	
11	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Members recognised and congratulated Rotherham MBC and its management team with regard to the Council moving toward remission from its special measures status.</p>	