

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 AUGUST 2015

PRESENT:

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Barnsley MBC (Chair)
Councillor John Burrows, Chesterfield BC (Vice Chair)

Councillor Graham Baxter MBE, North East Derbyshire DC
Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC
Councillor Simon Greaves, Bassetlaw DC
Mayor Ros Jones, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Chris Read, Rotherham MBC
Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Derbyshire Dales DC
Councillor Ann Syrett, Bolsover DC
Councillor Jo White, Bassetlaw District Council

Ruth Adams, SCR Executive Team
David Armiger, Bassetlaw District Council
Fiona Boden, SCR Executive Team
Andrew Frosdick, Monitoring Officer
David Hewitt, SCR LEP
Julie Hurley, SCR Executive Team
James Newman, SCR Local Enterprise Partnership
Julie Kenny CBE, Rotherham MBC
Wes Lumley, Bolsover DC / NE Derbyshire DC
Stella Manzie CBE, Rotherham MBC
John Mothersole, Sheffield CC
Andrew Shirt, South Yorkshire Joint Authorities
Ben Still, SCR Executive Team
Gareth Sutton, Sheffield CC / SCR
Diana Terris, Clerk / Barnsley MBC

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Rhodes, J Miller, N Taylor, C Tyler and E Walker

1 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

It was agreed that no agenda items require voting rights to be confirmed on non-constituent Members.

2 APOLOGIES

Members' apologies were noted as above.

3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were noted.

4 URGENT ITEMS

No urgent agenda items were requested.

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

None.

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

No declarations of interest were noted.

7 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

No reports of questions from Members were raised.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS/PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No petitions were received.

The Chair informed Members that a list of questions had been received from Mr Nigel Slack, Sheffield for Democracy, regarding the new 'Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill'. Mr Slack asked the Combined Authority:

1) Who is leading the negotiation?

The negotiations will be led by the Sheffield City Region Executive Team, supported by the SCR Chief Executives. Combined Authority Members' will help shape negotiations.

2) Will they accept a directly elected Mayor?

There is a general view that the Authority would prefer to operate the Combined Authority Model, without a City Region Mayor. However, this will be subject to Government Ministers' approval, and Ministers have been clear that they expect devolution will be in return for a directly elected Metro Mayor.

- 3) Will the public be consulted and their opinion sought?

Yes, there will be public and business consultation, if the Combined Authority did agree to a City Region Mayor.

- 4) Will the individual Councils and most importantly, their Councillors be consulted, and their opinion sought?

Yes, the individual Councils' and Councillors' would be consulted and their opinion sought.

- 5) Will the SCRCA resist a deal that is inappropriate for the make-up of the City Region, with its cross county ties, or will it compromise its principals through fear of falling behind an imagined brighter future gifted to Manchester, through their wholesale capitulation?

The preferred option for Devolution will need to be agreed and satisfy all nine SCR Local Authorities. The CA will submit its 'Asks' to Government to see if a deal can be made.

9 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SCR COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON 22 JUNE 2015

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Combined Authority held on 22 June 2015 be agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

10 DEVOLUTION UPDATE

Members were advised that as part of the Summer Budget 2015, the Chancellor had announced a commitment to further devolution deals with the Sheffield City Region, Liverpool City Region, Leeds, West Yorkshire and partner authorities, to be agreed in parallel with the Spending Review in September 2015.

It was noted that the City Regions would need to submit formal, fiscally neutral proposals and an agreed geography to the Treasury by 4 September 2015.

Significant devolution deals would need to be signed-off ahead of the November 2015 spending review. The conclusions of the spending review would be announced on 25 November 2015.

If agreement can be reached, the SCR CA and LEP would submit a proposal, building on its Strategic Economic Plan.

The Joint Authorities Governance Unit would be arranging Informal briefings with SCR Leaders over the coming weeks regarding the SCR's proposals to Treasury.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

11 EXECUTIVE BOARD UPDATES AND DECISIONS

Members received an update regarding the inaugural meetings of the SCR Executive Boards, as set out below:

i) Skills, Employment and Education Executive Board

The Skills, Employment and Education Executive Board had met on 17 July 2015, where they had:

Approved the North Notts LGF scheme for skills capital investment – Total scheme value £933,500 total grant value £380,055 (33%);

Approved funding to support project management costs associated with progressing the LGF skills capital funding for the Glass Academy, subject to a number of agreed caveats; and

Accepted, from BIS, the revenue funding for the SCR Skills Bank in the financial year 2015-2016, for the SCR Executive to directly commission.

ii) Infrastructure Board

The SCR Infrastructure Plan was progressing well; a workshop would be held shortly to agree the review of evidence and challenges for growth, which would form the baseline for the infrastructure needs to support growth.

The SCRIF continued to progress a number of business cases and funding agreements, noting that the Board would be reviewing programme delivery to ensure spend for 2015/16.

The Board continued to make progress in relation to the SCR IIP, developing the approach to housing, financial options, spatial modelling, evidence and needs for infrastructure.

The Board had considered the Central Independent Appraisal Team's Business Case in relation to Superfast Broadband for South Yorkshire, which they had recommended be approved by the CA. (Please see Minute 12, which sets out the Combined Authority's approval).

iii) Housing Board

The Board had considered the draft Housing Business Plan and agreed to expand this over a four year period.

A large amount of work had been undertaken by the SCR Heads of Planning Group and fed through to the Board.

The first meeting of the Joint Assets Board had been held; a Chair and Vice-Chair had been appointed. The Terms of Reference were being reviewed to determine the scope of work.

It had been agreed that a paper would be developed and presented to the CA setting out an update on the Duty to Cooperate and Spatial Planning.

iv) Transport Board

The inaugural meeting of the Transport Board had been held to consider its role and its inter-dependences with the Combined Authority's Transport Committee/Boards and links to the Infrastructure Board.

v) Business Growth Board

At the Board meeting held on 8 July, Members considered a revised Inward Investment Strategy for the SCR and received updates on each of the five Growth Hub Spokes (Access to Finance, Exports, Innovations, Skills Bank and new Businesses).

It was noted that the second Board meeting would be held on Tuesday 4 August 2015.

RESOLVED – That Combined Authority Members note the updates and endorse the decisions taken by all the SCR Executive Boards.

12 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY BOARD FOR SUPERFAST BROADBAND BUSINESS CASE

A paper was presented asking the CA to formally agree the recommendations of the Infrastructure Executive Board for accelerated and enhanced Superfast Broadband connectivity to South Yorkshire's Enterprise Zones and strategic Business Parks.

Members noted that the South Yorkshire Superfast Broadband programme was aimed at raising access to superfast broadband to 98% of premises across South Yorkshire by 2017. The Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) Extension Programme launched in 2013 required a local match funding commitment. The four South Yorkshire Authorities were seeking £10.6m SCRIF funding for the local match funding.

The initial economic case presented estimated the economic outputs of public sector investment in South Yorkshire superfast broadband as a GVA uplift of £416m and 1,054 net additional FTE jobs between 2021 and 2031.

The scheme promotor had satisfied the Infrastructure Executive Board that the scheme was likely to provide value for money, and that the scheme had a strong strategic case and was deliverable.

RESOLVED – That the SCR Combined Authority:-

- i) Supports the recommendation of the Infrastructure Advisory Board (IAB) to progress the roll out of enhanced Superfast Broadband connectivity to South Yorkshire's Enterprise Zones and strategic Business Parks; and

- ii) Agreed to provide full approval for the scheme from local match funding from the SCRIF of up to £10.6m.

13 MINUTES OF THE SCR CA TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON 20 JULY 2015

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the SCR Transport Committee held on 20 July 2015 be noted.

14 MINUTES OF THE SCR PASSENGER TRANSPORT PENSION FUND COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8TH JUNE 2015

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the SCR Passenger Transport Pension Fund Committee meeting held on 8 June 2015 be noted.

CHAIR