

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

AMP TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM, S60 5WG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2016

PRESENT:

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

Councillor Ann Syrett, Bolsover DC
Councillor Chris Read, Rotherham MBC
Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC
Councillor Simon Greaves, Bassetlaw DC
Mayor Ros Jones, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Derbyshire Dales DC

Ruth Adams, SCR Executive Team
Fiona Boden, Sheffield City Region Executive Team
Huw Bowen, Chesterfield BC
Peter Dale, Doncaster MBC
Mel Dei Rossi, SCR Executive Team
Tom Finnegan-Smith, Sheffield CC
Andrew Frosdick, Monitoring Officer
Andrew Gates, SCR Executive Team
Amy Harhoff, SCR Executive Team
Julie Hurley, SYPTE
Sharon Kemp, Rotherham MBC
Kate Platts, SYPTE
Dave Smith, SCR Exec Team
Gareth Sutton, Sheffield CC / SCR
Daniel Swaine, Bolsover DC / NE Derbyshire DC
Neil Taylor, Bassetlaw DC
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

1 APOLOGIES

Members apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None noted.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

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

None.

5 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

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

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.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None received.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None received.

10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the SCR Combined Authority held on 1st February 2016 are considered to be an accurate record.

11 RATIFICATION OF THE DEVOLUTION DEAL

It was agreed to defer this item to a further meeting of the Combined Authority to be convened after all 9 districts' full councils have had the opportunity to discuss and consider the ratification of the Devolution Deal, noting that Bassetlaw DC and Sheffield CC were not due to discuss the matter until 18th and 19th March respectively..

It was agreed to convene this meeting on 31st March, 2016, the date of the next LEP Board meeting.

RESOLVED, that a further meeting of the SCR Combined Authority will be convened on 31st March to consider the CA's ratification of the Devolution Deal.

12 2016/17 CA/LEP REVENUE BUDGET

A paper was presented to propose the revenue budget for CA/LEP activity in 2016/17.

Members were reminded that each year, under law, the Combined Authority (CA) is required to set a balanced revenue budget.

It was noted that the paper highlights material proposed growth in the CA/LEP's non-programme expenditure, particularly around staffing, marketing, and development costs. This reflects the absorption of the Transport Hub cost base into the CA/LEP budget for the first time, but also wider growth in activity as the CA/LEP operationalises the Strategic Economic Plan.

Members were advised that the paper shows that many cost pressures are offset by a significant increase in income accrued from Enterprise Zone retained business rates. However, income generated is not sufficient to cover the growth in expenditure. Increases in subscriptions are required to meet this cost pressure.

Reflecting sensitivity to partner budget pressures, the paper also proposed a means of sharing this pressure to ensure that no partner authority pays more to the CA as a Financial Group than it did in financial year 2015/16.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Approve the proposed £10.41m revenue budget;
2. Approve the means by which the £1m deficit associated with the adoption of the Transport Hub is shared amongst the partners; and,
3. Note the use of £1,114k from the CA/LEP LGF Revenue Reserve to support Business Growth programme activity.

13 2016/17 CA & PARTNER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

A paper was received to provide an overview of the current shape of the CA/LEP capital programme proposals for 2016/17

It was noted that the programme is characterised by the significant growth (174% increase on 15/16 outturn) on projects managed from the SCR Executive but the proposals do not take account of a potential devolution deal

Members were advised that further programme proposals are being considered separately to enable officers to produce a broader capital programme should a devolution deal be reached.

It was confirmed that the programme is based around encompasses each Executive Boards' business plans.

It was confirmed that is approved, the programme will be commissioned through the SCR Executive directly (the direct programme) and also programmes run by partners who form part of the CA Financial Group (partner programmes), including the SYPTE capital programme and Local Transport Partnership (LTP) Integrated Transport Programme.

It was noted that the paper is also seeking approval for the passporting of Highways Capital Maintenance grant to South Yorkshire partners.

Members were advised that Partners' transport programmes have also been subjected to, and endorsed by the Transport Committee.

Mayor Jones requested more information to explain the benefits of all schemes in terms of contribution to the economy. It was confirmed this would be evident in future reports.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Note that this is a finance only paper without performance narrative.
2. Approve the proposed shape of the capital programme.
3. Note the significant growth of the programme to be commissioned and managed by the SCR Executive.
4. Note that this programme does not take into account potential devolution resource.
5. Note the capitalisations of costs to support the delivery of the programme.

14 SHEFFIELD CITY REGION INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

A report was presented to provide Members with an update on the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Integrated Infrastructure Plan (IIP).

Members were reminded that the SCR IIP sets out the infrastructure priorities to support stronger economic growth for The Sheffield City Region and is aligned to the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) growth ambitions.

It was noted that the SCR IIP is based on three key analyses: (1) a capacity analysis of SCR land and transport, (2) network analysis across SCR economic infrastructure, (3) distinct spatial packages for each SCR growth area and local centre. The Plan will form the basis of commissioning the future SCR infrastructure programme of capital investments as well as providing recommendations on more human activity that could stimulate investment.

It was noted that scheme promoters will be asked to develop integrated proposals in spring/summer 2016 and the SCR IIP will be presented to the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board for sign off on the 31 March ahead of launches at parallel summit events in London and Sheffield in the spring.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members note the contents of the report.

15 PROPOSED REFRESH OF THE SHEFFIELD CITY REGION STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN

A paper was presented asking the Combined Authority to endorse in principle a refresh of the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) that was originally published in March 2014.

It was noted that this refresh would articulate in a single place the City Region's existing delivery commitment secured through its Growth and Devolution Deals. Additionally, it is proposed that it will identify the City Region's priorities for future funds, including further Local Growth Fund (LGF) bids and the Gainshare award.

It was noted that on the expectation that these funds will be oversubscribed, there is a need to develop the SCR's prioritisation mechanisms to ensure that it can identify the optimum programme of activity to deliver sustainable economic growth.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Agree in-principle to the refresh of the SCR SEP
2. Agree that all SCR wide strategies will be led by and follow on from the SEP.
3. Endorse the refreshed SEP being used as the basis for the SCR to determine its future City Region funding priorities
4. Note that additional work will be developed in parallel on how the SCR can prioritise different types of investment that it will want to make, the conclusions of which in terms of approach will need to be set out within the City Region's Assurance and Accountability Framework
5. Provide the SCR Executive with a mandate to develop a project plan for the SEP refresh, including the approach to prioritisation

16 SOCIAL INCLUSION FRAMEWORK

A paper was received seeking endorsement of the Social Inclusion Framework and support for further integration of social inclusion objectives into City Region operational and governance processes

Members were reminded that the Social Inclusion Framework – a framework for measuring the impact of social inclusion in communities across SCR – aims to consider strategies and techniques to promote social impact to accompany the growth delivered through city region investments through the recognition and championing of 'inclusive growth'.

It was noted that following the SCR CA and LEP initiating the development of a social inclusion framework, as an integral companion to its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), the Social Inclusion Advisory Board has recommended three key objectives underpin the SCR Framework.

These three objectives will be the focus of measurement, to assess the impact that the investments made in SCR are having on households and communities and cover; More people in employment and paid a living wage, More people in work taking up training opportunities and progressing in work and More people living in affordable and decent quality homes

It was noted that following discussion with the Executive Boards the recommendation was made to also focus upon the development of more educational pathways pertinent to the world of work. Given the crucial position an individual's educational development has on their life trajectory.

Members reiterated their expectations that the thematic Executive Boards will take ownership of their relevant social inclusion objectives.

Cllr Rose asked that this work also take account of rural issues, noting these areas have the lowest average wages across the SCR.

It was confirmed that the best means of achieving this requirement, whilst enabling the districts' social inclusion leads and also the SCR Overview and Scrutiny Committee can contribute to this work, is under consideration.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Support the recommendation of the Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Board to focus on four areas; employment & the living wage, progression routes and skills development within the workplace, educational pathways and decent homes.
2. Endorse the framework and support ongoing work to integrate it within the city region's operational and governance processes, and promote this to with the executive leads within the City Region.
3. Agree in-principle the governance structure for the Social Inclusion Framework (based upon the option detailed in sections 3.6 and 3.7 of the report).

17 SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL TRANSITION YEAR FUNDING BID

A paper was received to inform Members of the intention to submit a bid to the Sustainable Travel Transition Year (STTY) fund.

It was noted that the current Local Sustainable Transport Fund 2 (LSTF2) allocation ends on 31/03/16. The DfT announced continuation funding on 15/02/16 to bridge the gap between the end of LSTF2 and the start of a new Access Fund which will be announced later in 2016.

Up to £2.5million is available to Combined Authority applicants through a competitive bidding process this funding focuses upon cycling, walking and access to employment

It was noted that a process has been undertaken with Partners and Head of Transport Service representatives, to propose the schemes for inclusion

It was noted that due to limited resources within the SCR Transport Team and the tight timescales, consultancy support has been sought to assist with the application process.

The deadline for submitting applications is 29/03/16.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Note the paper contents and the benefit of applying to the STTY fund.
2. Note the short timescales and agree to delegate sign off to the Chair of the Transport Executive Board (Cllr Dore) and the Chair of the Combined Authority (Cllr Houghton).
3. Approve the award of an £18k grant to SYPTE to commission consultancy to support a bid into the STTY fund.
4. Note that the Transport Executive Board (TEB) will consider the longer-term approach to this type of activity.

18 SUMMARY REPORT - BUSINESS GROWTH EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

19 SUMMARY REPORT - HOUSING EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

20 SUMMARY REPORT - SKILLS, EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

21 SUMMARY REPORT - TRANSPORT EXECUTIVE BOARD

In addition to the summary report, a paper was presented to update Members on Rail North developments.

It was noted that the requirement of the Combined Authority to nominate a deputy director of Rail North is currently under consideration.

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

22 SUMMARY REPORT - INFRASTRUCTURE EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

23 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair, and Members, requested that their thanks be placed on record for the work undertaken by the SCR Executive Team and the districts' officers on the Devolution Deal.

CHAIR