

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

ROTHERHAM TOWN HALL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 JUNE 2014

PRESENT:

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Barnsley MBC (Chair)
Councillor Graham Baxter MBE, North East Derbyshire DC
Councillor John Burrows, Chesterfield BC
Councillor Joan Dixon, Bolsover DC
Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC
Councillor Simon Greaves, Bassetlaw DC
Mayor Ros Jones, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Derbyshire Dales DC
Councillor Roger Stone OBE, Rotherham MBC

Huw Bowen, Chesterfield BC
Andrew Frosdick, Barnsley MBC / SCR
Matt Gladstone, Barnsley MBC
John Hattersley, South Yorkshire Pensions Authority
Martin Kimber, Rotherham MBC
Wes Lumley, Bolsover DC / NE Derbyshire DC
Jo Miller, Doncaster MBC
James Newman, SCR Local Enterprise Partnership
Ben Still, SCR Executive Team
Gareth Sutton, Sheffield CC / SCR
Neil Taylor, Bassetlaw DC
Jim Seymour, Derbyshire CC
Craig Tyler, SYJS / SCR

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Favell, A Rhodes, E Watts and A Western

1 APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed Members, officers and the members of the public present to the meeting.

Members' apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were noted.

3 URGENT ITEMS

No urgent items were requested.

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

No items were noted.

5 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

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

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 or questions from Members were received.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

No petitions were received.

9 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY HELD ON 22 APRIL 2014

RESOLVED, that:

1. The minutes of the meeting of the Combined Authority held on 22 April are agreed to be an accurate record.

10 COMBINED AUTHORITY SCRUTINY

Members were advised of the options for the composition of a politically proportionate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Authority.

It was noted that the production of a formal Authority paper detailing this matter was not possible as the proportional balance figures were dependant on the outcome of the recent local elections. Members were however provided with a briefing paper.

The paper recommended an optimum committee size of 14 Members, to be made up as follows:

- Labour 9
- Conservative 2
- Liberal Democrat 1
- UKIP 1
- Independent 1

It was proposed to convene meetings on a quarterly basis.

Cllr Rose questioned whether the proportional approach would be manageable given each district's varying political make-up and whether the process risked the introduction of unintended consequence.

Members voiced general support for a 14 Member Overview and Scrutiny.

It was requested that officers proceed with inviting informal nominations for membership as opposed to convening a more formal appointments' committee approach.

Some minor revisions to the political balance numbers were provided. It was confirmed these don't affect the overall percentage balance.

It was agreed to review the balance in 12 months after the 2015 elections.

RESOLVED, that:

1. Members agree to establishing an Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 14 members comprised as above and that arrangements be made for the Chair and Vice Chair to meet with the member whose name is put forward to act Chair of the Committee to discuss a proportionate approach to the work of the Committee based on a quarterly cycle of meetings.

11 COMBINED AUTHORITY FINANCE UPDATE

Members were presented with a paper seeking to provide a comprehensive update of the CA's revenue budgets, following on from the outline information provided to the last meeting.

The paper also set out how officers are performing line-by-line due diligence on the inherited budgets from the ITA and the SCR Executive Team to ensure forecasts are accurate, expenditure is properly aligned to business plans, and income generation is being maximised.

The paper outlined ongoing work to develop mechanisms that will allow the business rates growth cash from Enterprise Zones to be passed to the CA on behalf of the LEP.

A summary was also provided regarding the contingent risk the CA inherits as the administering body of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Pension Fund

The paper also sought authorisation for a delegated signatory list to enter into financial arrangements on the Section 151 Officer's behalf.

Mayor Jones requested more detailed information to 'spell out' the contingency liability the CA was inheriting in respect of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Pension Fund. G Sutton offered to provide a further paper to present breakdown figures and comment on how the situation will be monitored.

Cllr Dixon requested clarity regarding SCR Enterprise Zone income. G Sutton confirmed that income from zones in the SCR will flow into the SCR accounts. However, the relationship with D2N2 can be discussed at the next meeting of the finance directors.

RESOLVED, that the CA Members

1. Note the work being done to scrutinise budgets, and ensure they are effectively supporting business delivery
2. Note the work being done to develop mechanisms to pass Enterprise Zone Growth cash from billing authorities to the CA
3. Note the contingent risk the CA has inherited as part of its function as the administering body of the SYTPF
4. Notes the Finance Director's actions in authorising, pursuant to paragraph 1.3 of Section E Part 4 of the Authority's Constitution, those officers listed in the report to exercise on his behalf and in his name his delegated powers set out in paragraphs 4.1-4.12 and 4.17 of Section E Part 4.

12 ECONOMIC BASELINE AND IMPACT OF KEY INITIATIVES FOR SCR

B Still provided Members with a presentation detailing SCR's statistical economic baseline and key initiatives to increase the number of people in work, the productivity of each worker, the proportion of people in higher skilled occupations and the number of businesses locally.

Information was provided in respect of each 'ambition' and how the success of these will be measured.

It was noted that reports will be presented to future meetings to update Members on activity towards delivering the ambitions.

Cllr Stone asked how actual improvements will be measured. B Still confirmed that a target-based performance framework will be developed. This will be presented to a future CA meeting.

Cllr Dore asked whether any feedback had been received from Government on the revenue funding contained in the growth plan. B Still noted that most announcements received to date have commented on capital funding. The Government has indicated that there will be some revenue funding for growth hubs but formal notification is awaited.

J Miller reiterated the importance of combining the best each SCR district has to offer and presenting potential inward investors with '1 key to the door' for the SCR.

B Still concurred with this ethos and noted how start up processes are being made as efficient and streamlined for businesses as possible.

RESOLVED, that:

1. The contents of the presentation are noted.
2. Further reports will be presented to future meetings of the CA.

13 SOUTH YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT PENSION FUND

A report was presented advising Members of the need to provide for appropriate continuity for the Administration of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Pension Fund (PTPF) for which the CA has acquired responsibility as Administering Authority from the former ITA.

A factsheet was also provided for Members' information and a list of the principle responsibilities of an administering authority and Members' roles and responsibilities.

Consideration was given to whether the former members of the Passenger Transport Pension Fund Committee who are all now members of the Transport Committee might be best placed to discharge these functions and continue to sit on the PTPF Committee to provide continuity whilst consideration is given to any longer term requirements.

Noting the £33m notional deficit, J Hattersley advised Members that this is being repaid by First Group over a 10 year recovery period (to 2023). It was further noted that this particular pension fund is closed to new entrants and thus forecasts are more predictable.

Members were also advised that the PTPF Committee is attended by Trade Union and professional advisors to provide further assurance and comply with Financial Conduct Authority regulations.

It was noted that the PTPF has outperformed other funds.

RESOLVED, that:

1. The Director of Finance will undertake a review of the arrangements for the management of the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Pension Fund and submit a further report to members to consider how the Authority should most appropriately discharge its functions as Administering Authority for the Fund having regard to Members fiduciary obligations.
2. To ensure that Members fiduciary obligations are properly discharged in the interim and to provide for appropriate continuity the Authority delegate its functions as Administering Authority to a Committee of the Authority to be drawn from the former members of the Passenger Transport Pension Fund Committee of the former Integrated Transport Authority who are now members of the Transport Committee of the Combined Authority.
3. That the Committee be designated as the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Pension Fund Committee.
4. That the terms of reference of the Committee be approved as set out in section 3.1 of the Appendix 3 to the report.

5. That Director of Finance will report to the Authority as appropriate during the interim as to the administration of the Fund in addition to the Authority receiving the minutes of meetings of the Committee

14 HIGH SPEED RAIL PROGRAMME BOARD

A paper was presented to inform Members of the actions undertaken at the HS2 Programme Board inception meeting held on 1 April 2014

Members were reminded of the SCR's general support for the report published by Sir David Higgins, HS2 Chairman, in which he states his aims to bring the programme for HS2 forward by 3 years which would bring the benefits to the north sooner and to start construction of HS2 stations in the north first.

The reasons for establishing a HS2 Programme Board, capable of providing advice to the Combined Authority and to oversee plans to ensure Sir David Higgins' tests of preparedness are met, were noted.

Members were advised of the reasons for developing an Engagement Strategy. It was noted that this will help ensure the benefits of HS2 are realised for the eastern leg and gain the maximum benefit from all available engagement channels.

Members were reminded that the SCR LEP and HS2 Ltd hosted a supply chain seminar at the AMP Technology Centre in Rotherham on 30th April 2014. Various industry experts spoke with local business leaders about supply chain opportunities. The aims of this work are now being taken forward by the Media, Communications and Engagement Task and Finish Group and a plan will be developed to ensure that SCR businesses are aware of the many opportunities that the HSR project can offer.

It was noted that on 30 April 2014, a SCR response to the Government's consultation on the location of the HS2 College was submitted. This was developed by Doncaster MBC following a decision by the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership Board that a single site in Doncaster was the preferred location for this within SCR.

It was noted that a number of additional task and finish groups have or are to be convened.

Questions from members were invited.

J Newman asked how and the extent to which the private sector is being engaged. M Kimber noted that the importance of private sector engagement has been duly recognised and the private sector will be represented on the HS2 Programme Board. The private sector's contribution to developing and promoting the HS2 college bid is also noted.

Cllr Stone noted the importance of ensuring that the SCR and other eastern leg areas speak with 1 voice on HS2.

Regarding the HS2 college bid, J Miller acknowledged the important support being received from local rail engineering businesses. Members were also urged to visit

the BusinessDoncaster website where pledges of support for the bid can be formally lodged.

Cllr Burrows reiterated support for the notion of HA being constructed from the North to South.

RESOLVED, that Members:

1. Approve the formation and operation of HS2 Task & finish groups to determine work needed to be in a state of preparedness for the station locations currently being considered by the Secretary of State.
2. Approve the concept of an SCR HS2 'engagement strategy'.
3. Note that a detailed work programme, resource implications and options for meeting the "state of preparedness" will be submitted to a future meeting.

15 MINUTES OF THE SCR COMBINED AUTHORITY TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 MAY 2014

RESOLVED, that:

1. The minutes of the meeting of the SCR CA Transport Committee held on 19th May be noted

16 DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE SCR COMBINED TRANSPORT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON 30 JUNE 2014

Members were provided with a draft list of items to be considered at the next meeting of the Transport committee on 30th June.

RESOLVED, that:

1. The items for consideration be noted.

CHAIR