

Item No. 3A

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD HELD ON MONDAY 16 JANUARY 2017 AT THE TOWN HALL, MANCHESTER

Board Members:

Mike Blackburn (In the Chair)

Councillor Sean Anstee, Councillor Richard Leese, Tony Lloyd, Nancy Rothwell, Lou Cordwell, Juergen Maier, Richard Topliss and Michael Oglesby

Strategic Chairs:

Iwan Griffiths

Advisors:

Sir Howard Bernstein (Manchester City Council), Eamonn Boylan (Stockport MBC), Mark Hughes (Manchester Growth Company), Jon Lamonte (TfGM), Simon Nokes (New Economy), Sheona Southern and James Stanley (Marketing Manchester), (Vicky Rosin and Sally McDonald (ESOF), David Rogerson and Allan Sparrow (GM Integrated Support Team)

Apologies:

Keith Johnston, David Birch, Vanda Murray and Andrew Lightfoot

LEP/17/01 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Mike Blackburn declared his interests on the item concerning the delivery of the EuroScience Open Forum as BT was a sponsor for the event. He also declared an interest in the item regarding Greater Manchester Digital Infrastructure update as he was an employee of BT, a provider of digital services.

Nancy Rothwell declared an interest in the item regarding the delivery of the EuroScience Open Forum as a Champion of the event.

Michael Oglesby declared his interests in any matters relating to Manchester Science Park.

LEP/17/02 MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the GM LEP Board held on 10 November 2016 be approved.

LEP/17/03 REVIEW OF BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The Chair reported that Penna Consultants had now met with all private sector members of the GM LEP Board and following this process a small number of private sector members had indicated that they wished to end their membership of the Board when their terms of office come to end on 31 March 2017. The Board would now look to replace these members and Penna Consultants had identified a range of potential candidates for the Board to consider. The Chair added that the recruitment exercise included a focus on potential SME candidates to represent that sector and asked that Members get in touch if they had any names to put forward.

It was reported that once candidates had been identified an appointment panel would be convened consisting of the Chair, Lou Cordwell and a GMCA member (Tony Lloyd/Councillor Richard Leese) with the Board receiving a report on the process at its March meeting.

AGREED

That the update on Board membership be noted and that a further update be given to the March meeting.

LEP/17/04 THE DELIVERY OF EUROSCIENCE OPEN FORUM AND THE EUROPEAN CITY OF SCIENCE

Consideration was given to a report on the outcomes and impacts of hosting the EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF) in July 2016 and the headlines from the designation as European City of Science.

The Board was informed that the EuroScience Open Forum had been judged very successful along with Manchester's designation as the European City of Science and the Science in the City festival.

It was reported that consideration was now being given to the legacy from the events and the report set out a number of hopes for the future. In particular, the development of ESOF had strengthened partnerships between a number of key players including Marketing Manchester, the Museum of Science and Industry, Blue Dot and the city's universities as well as highlighting Manchester as a significant investment destination.

A director endorsed the fact that there had been good collaboration between organisations across GM and the event also secured many volunteers. Comments were also made that the event had put Manchester on the map as a place for investing in science and had secured excellent attendance figures.

The Board was informed that the EuroScience Open Forum was now being seen as the best science conference held in the UK and as a result the Royal Society now wanted to get involved and were looking to hold another event in

the city. Manchester was now able to use the 'Science City' brand and a clear legacy from 2016 was the sense of ambition and confidence in the city.

The Board recognised the need to build on this legacy with greater engagement in schools to promote science to young people. The Board also noted potential links to City Verve and Greater Manchester's wider science and innovation agenda.

AGREED

1. That the report be noted.
2. That all partners involved in the EuroScience Open Forum and European City of Science be congratulated for arranging very successful events.
3. That a further report on the Science in the City festival be brought to the Board

LEP/17/05 2017/18 FUNDING

The Board was informed that in 2016/17 the GM LEP had a capacity budget allocation of £500k and members were reminded that the budget was being used in the following ways:

- £250K Capacity Funding – split between GM policy, strategy, research and media and the LEP website; and
- £250k Strategic funding – split £150k GM Land and Property Programme, £95k Manchester Channel and £5k LEP Network.

It was reported that the GM LEP had a confirmed budget of £500K for the 2017/18 financial year. £250K of this was capacity resource, for which match funding was required. The remaining £250K was strategic funding and did not require match. The report set out the proposed priorities for the use of the 2017/8 funding, as well as updating the LEP on progress on activity funded from 2016/2017 capacity budget.

Following the end of the financial year, a further report will be tabled in May setting out the impacts of projects supported by the 2016/17 funds along with outcomes to be achieved in the following year.

Following on from the report the following issues were raised:

- The International Strategy was key to the city's long term growth and should engage with key partners in the US as well as developing markets such as India and China.
- It is anticipated that the Government is soon to reveal further details on the Industrial Strategy and was likely to take a "place based" approach. Greater Manchester is well positioned to take advantage of this opportunity

with strengths in a number of key industrial sectors such as manufacturing and digital.

- It was further noted that the Greater Manchester Strategy is currently being refreshed and will set out the city's ambitions for growth and development.

AGREED

1. That a further report on projects supported by 2016/17 funds and targets for 2017/18 be prepared for the May Board meeting.
2. That the proposed use of the LEP Capacity and Strategic Funding in 2017/18 be endorsed.

LEP/17/06 GREATER MANCHESTER DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

(At this point in the proceedings Nancy Rothwell took the Chair as Mike Blackburn had declared an interest in the following item)

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update to the LEP on the current position with fixed-line digital infrastructure in Greater Manchester including:

- The progress of delivery of superfast broadband in Greater Manchester (which provides speeds of up to 30 Mbps)
- The current level of take up of superfast services
- Proposed market investment in ultrafast and fibre connections recently announced by Openreach and Virgin Media.
- Actions for Greater Manchester to accelerate investment.

The report sought views from the Board on the questions posed through the government's call for evidence published on 29 December 2016 for the Digital Infrastructure Investment Fund which was announced in the Autumn Statement on 23 November 2016.

The Board was in agreement that FTTP was the preferred option for GM's digital infrastructure and GM needed to be imaginative about how it used the funding available for its installation. The Board highlighted the need to ensure that future digital capacity was not just made available for business and that superfast digital services were available in homes. The Board recognised the need for private sector buy-in and it was noted that New Economy had been consulting with ARUP regarding GM's digital ambitions. Members also felt there was a need to better understand the level of investment needed.

A member welcomed the report and its conclusions and added that further consideration should be given to future 4G and 5G developments.

The Board was informed that the GM Infrastructure Advisory Group would report back to the next LEP Board on overall costs.

Comments were also made that the development of GM's digital infrastructure should boost digital skills development.

It was also noted that consideration should be given to further strengthen the city's cyber security.

AGREED

1. That New Economy should continue to liaise with GM infrastructure providers to shape the GM response for the Government call for evidence for its new Digital Infrastructure Investment Fund.
2. That local authority economic development leads (through TMEDL, overseen by the Greater Manchester Infrastructure Advisory Group) develop collaborative action plans with key infrastructure providers aimed at speeding up investment in Fibre to the Premises connectivity.
3. That the FTTP policy for new developments be fed into the next stage of the development of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.
4. That the GM Infrastructure Advisory Group be asked to look the overall costs and report back to the LEP.

(Mike Blackburn retook the Chair at this point in the proceedings)

LEP/17/07 MANCHESTER CHANNEL

The Board was informed that the Manchester Channel was a concept created by the LEP and in September 2014 Jaywing was appointed to conduct a scoping exercise for the development of world class content to push out to key audiences. In September 2015, O&O reviewed the business case and recommended a series of actions.

Priority themes were identified including science and technology; creative/digital and media/arts, culture and sport and the output expected was high quality pieces of appealing content that would improve the perception and depth of Manchester's offer globally.

The LEP requested Marketing Manchester to undertake a feasibility study to assess the private sector appetite and potential public funding opportunities for the Channel. In July 2016 a feasibility paper was presented to the LEP and it was agreed that an incremental phased approach was the best way forward and that a bite-sized approach to LEP investment would be used to develop momentum.

A member referred to the development of the Peppered Moth content as an example of the quality of content required if the Channel was to meet Manchester's international ambitions. The Board also recognised the fact that the Manchester Channel needed private sector input if it was to be successful.

The Board was informed that the BBC's 'new age of wonder' digital launch provided a digital platform which Manchester could use to promote the City worldwide.

The Board agreed that the Manchester Channel needed great content but also needed to ensure that people across the globe had access to it through a suitable platform.

Marketing Manchester will report back on the development of the platform at the next meeting along with progress on the original proposals.

Officers were informed that Lou Cordwell and David Birch were happy to get involved in this work on behalf of the Board.

AGREED

1. That the report be noted.
2. That Marketing Manchester prepare a report on the development of the platform for Manchester Channel along with progress on context creation.
3. That Lou Cordwell and David Birch be appointed to represent the Board through the process of developing the Manchester Channel's content and platform.

LEP/17/08 GREATER MANCHESTER 2040 TRANSPORT STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report that summarised the changes made to the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan 2040 following recent consultation. The report set out the Delivery Plan process through which the transport interventions required to support the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework would be incorporated in LTP4.

It is currently intended to update the 2040 strategy each year with a more detailed review every four years.

Members felt that the 2040 strategy needed to clearly align with the developing Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and that the LEP had a strong private sector voice which could support plans for future growth and investment.

The Chair agreed that the business sector could be mobilised to support the Spatial Framework and wider Greater Manchester Strategy and asked that a

paper be brought back to the Board on how business could be better informed of these plans.

AGREED

1. That the final versions of the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy and Delivery Plan 2040 be endorsed.
2. That a further paper be prepared on how the business sector could be more involved in promoting the ambitions of the GMSF.

LEP/17/09 MANCHESTER GROWTH COMPANY MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Board was informed that at its meeting held on 16 May 2016, the Board received the Manchester Growth Company (MGC) Business Plan for the 2016/17 financial year. The purpose of this report was to present to the Board a performance review of progress against Business Plan priorities, objectives and targets during the first half of the year (April to September 2016), as part of the agreed LEP reporting cycle.

The Board was asked to note that there was a lag between the end of the reporting period and when the LEP Board receives the report as the performance report was first reviewed by MGC's Advisory Boards and Group Board (in November) before a report was brought to the next available LEP Board meeting. The report comprises a high level summary of performance which is set out below.

AGREED

That the Manchester Growth Company mid-year performance report be noted.

LEP/17/10 PROGRAMME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 20 March 2017
Monday 15 May 2017
Monday 17 July 2017
Monday 18 September 2017
Monday 13 November 2017

The following items contain matters relating to the financial and business affairs of particular persons or organisations. It is therefore agreed that discussions on these items are not held in public.

LEP/17/11 INTERNATIONAL SCREEN SCHOOL

Item withdrawn

LEP/17/12 GREATER MANCHESTER AND BREXIT

The Board was informed that the government had indicated that they would make an announcement regarding the allocation of the Growth Funds on 23 January 2017.

The Board was informed that a paper setting out GM's main asks from the UK government's strategy for exiting the EU would be sent to members for comment.

AGREED

That the verbal update be noted and that a paper setting out GM's asks from the UK government's strategy for exiting the EU be circulated to members for comment.

**LEP/17/13 MANCHESTER GROWTH COMPANY MID-YEAR
PRFORMANCE REPORT**

Consideration was given to a paper that set out the Manchester Growth Company's mid-year performance review.

AGREED

That the Manchester Growth Company's mid-year performance report be noted.