

## Item No. 3

### **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GM LEP BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY 2 JULY 2015 AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**

#### **Board Members:**

Mike Blackburn (In the Chair)

Tony Lloyd, Councillor Sean Anstee, Councillor Richard Leese, Keith Johnston, Scott Fletcher, Nancy Rothwell, Lou Cordwell, David Birch, Michael Oglesby, Wayne Jones and Juergen Maier

#### **Advisors:**

Simon Nokes and Alex Gardiner (New Economy), Mark Hughes (GM Growth Company), Simon Warburton (TfGM), Bill Enevoldson (GM Investment Board), Andrew Lightfoot (PSR Team), Louise Latham (Marketing Manchester), Rebecca Heron, Susan Ford, David Rogerson and Allan Sparrow (GM Integrated Support Team)

#### **Apologies:**

Councillor Sue Derbyshire, Richard Topliss, Iwan Griffiths, Howard Bernstein, Eamonn Boylan, Jon Lamonte and Clive Memmott

#### **LEP/15/46 BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

##### **AGREED**

1. To note the decision of the GMCA on 26 June 2015 to appoint the GMCA Chair and Vice Chairs to the GM LEP Board.
2. To note the appointment of Michael Oglesby to the Board following endorsement by the GMCA on 29 May 2015.

#### **LEP/15/47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Keith Johnston declared an interest in the GM Investment Framework and Conditional Project Approval report as the project referred to (in relation to funding) involved or might involve clients of Addleshaw Goddard LLP.

Michael Oglesby declared a general interest as Chairman of Bruntwood and of the Manchester Science Park.

## **LEP/15/48 MINUTES**

### **AGREED**

That the Minutes of the meeting of the GM LEP Board held on 18 May 2015 be approved subject to the addition of Juergen Maier to the list of apologies.

## **LEP/15/49 MATTERS ARISING**

GM Local Growth Deal Transport Update (Minute LEP/15/38 refers)

The Board was informed that it would receive a report on multi-modal ticketing after consultation on TfGM's GM2040 Transport Vision and Strategy had been completed and agreed.

## **LEP/15/50 GMS ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report that set out GM's performance against a series of strategic priorities to secure the sustainable economic growth of the conurbation and to enable the residents of GM to access the opportunities that such growth presents. The Board noted the progress made in developing a high level performance framework to monitor and report progress on the delivery of GM's strategic ambitions.

The paper before the Board set out a performance framework for the GM Strategy as a whole. The framework had been designed to:

- be flexible enough to reflect ongoing developments
- bring together a summary of delivery and reporting mechanisms already in place to provide a high level overview of progress across the whole GMS, and thereby to minimise additional reporting requirements; and
- give key audiences an accessible overview of delivery and performance across the strategy.

The Board was also provided with a dashboard which summarised performance against the GMS headline and secondary indicators and this also included an overall RAG rated summary for each strategic priority, structured around:

- creating conditions for growth
- supporting business
- worklessness and skills
- building independence and raising expectations through public sector reform.

The following matters were raised on the report:

- A comment was made that the GMCA at its last meeting had requested that the figures contained in the report be broken down to show district level figures. This more detailed analysis will be included in future performance reports.

- The LEP asked that an update from the Skills and Employment Partnership be reported to the next meeting to enable LEP members to explore work to reform the skills system in more detail.
- Concern was raised over the need to build more housing in GM. This indicator had remained in the 'red' and the Board's concern focussed on the impact a lack of housing would have on house prices as the economy grows. The Board requested that a further report on the work underway to accelerate housing development be brought to a future meeting.
- Consideration was also given to the employers input into the strategy. It was reported that the North West Business Leadership Team could help with this. The Board noted that discussions had begun with the GM Chamber of Commerce and Industry around how GMS engages with SME's and a further meeting was scheduled for 21 July 2015
- The Board felt that the GMS had created a lot of good news stories and GM now needed to promote this good news more widely. Members recognised that there was a need to review GMCA/LEP communications and requested that a further report on this issue be brought to a future meeting of the Board.

## **AGREE**

1. That the GMS Annual Performance Report be noted.
2. That the Skills and Employment Partnership be requested to provide an update report to the next meeting.
3. That a report on the work underway to accelerate housing development across GM be submitted to a future meeting.
4. That a report also be submitted to a future meeting of the LEP to review GMCA/LEP communications

## **LEP/15/51 GM FUND OF FUNDS UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report that updated the Board on progress in respect of the establishment of the GM Fund of Funds as part of the 2014-20 ERDF programme. The report requested that the Board noted the submission of a response to a call for projects.

It was also reported that the proposal to establish a GM Fund of Funds comprising £65M ERDF monies had been approved in principle by the GMCA on 27 March 2015. The Board noted that the establishment of this fund was subject to a successful response to a CLG-led process to allocate funding.

Members were also asked to note that the JESSICA Fund dispute with Government had now been resolved in GM's favour.

## **AGREED**

That the report be noted.

### **LEP/15/52 PROPOSAL TO CREATE A GREATER MANCHESTER AGEING HUB**

Consideration was given to a report that outlined progress towards GM adopting a leadership role on ageing, and to outline the forthcoming opportunity for GM to work with the Centre for Ageing Better. The report set out the initial areas of work for the Hub. Currently work was underway to develop project proposals and develop a business case for the Hub.

The LEP felt that the Hub needed links to housing, particularly around access to mortgages as well as building more homes for older people. It was also felt that GM needed to take account of the fact that there were economic opportunities for businesses that could develop services/goods to meet the needs of an older generation. The Board felt that it might be worthwhile reaching out to business to see how they intended to meet these needs.

## **AGREED**

1. That the substantial opportunity for GM in adopting a leadership role on the ageing agenda be noted.
2. To endorse the concept and development of a GM Ageing Hub.
3. That New Economy and Public Service Reform be given delegated authority to explore the possibility of a strategic partnership between GM and the Centre for Ageing Better.

### **LEP/15/53 GREATER MANCHESTER 2040 TRANSPORT VISION**

A report was submitted that outlined a new long-term transport strategy developed by TfGM to replace the current Local Transport Plan. A draft vision document had been produced as the first stage in this process. It was noted that a report had been submitted to the GMCA on 26 June 2015 seeking approval to publish the vision for a 12 week period of consultation, and this was submitted for consideration.

The following matters were raised on the Vision:

- Had the use of waterways been considered as a potential mode of transport? It was reported that it was a valid observation and such transport modes were being considered under 'active routes'.

- The meeting discussed whether enough emphasis was being placed on improving bus services particularly as this was the most used form of public transport and was likely to remain so. It was reported that buses remain a central theme of the vision and improvements in services will be supported by the introduction of franchised bus services, announced as part of the November Devolution Agreement.
- A comment was made that this was a real opportunity to develop new smart city technologies for transport. It was reported that TfGM was looking to strengthen work in new technologies. Comments were made that in parts of the Far East new technologies were being developed around driverless cars and TfGM was asked how GM compared to other major cities in the world. In response it was reported that TfGM was closely involved with Euro Transport Association.
- It was noted that some high tech industries in the UK were involved with some of the new technologies for public transport being trialled in the Far East so data and research material was available in the UK.
- Members discussed the recent MEN campaign to the Secretary of State for Transport to get Transport for the North's East/West rail link scheme reinstated and a formal letter in support of this would be signed by the Board. It was felt that support from the LEP would be valuable support and influential and Leeds LEP was also supporting the reinstatement. The Board was informed that Transport for the North needed significant funding per annum to ensure the project was completed. A bid of £500m had gone to Government and it was reported that the NWBLT would be asked to support this bid.

## **AGREED**

To note the report.

## **LEP/15/54 IMPACT OF CYCLING IN GREATER MANCHESTER**

Consideration was given to a paper that updated the Board of increased cycling levels across GM and the impact this was having on the economy and health prospects.

## **AGREED**

That the report be noted.

## **LEP/15/55 DEVOLUTION UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a presentation that provided the Board with an update on devolution issues which included key milestones around Health & Social Care, Expansion of Working Well (phases 1 and 2) and the Work Programme Co-commissioning.

The Board felt it was a comprehensive presentation but asked how the LEP could get involved and help deliver the programme. It was reported that devolution was coming at a time when districts would be facing two further years of serious budget cuts and the need for a revenue element to see the programme through was needed. Work was needed on how to take advantage of the help on offer from business and universities to make best use of its existing assets.

**AGREED**

1. That the presentation be noted.
2. Andrew Lightfoot undertook to meet with any LEP members that wished to help look at the challenges facing the devolution agenda in GM.

**LEP/15/56 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of business.

**LEP/15/57 PROGRAMME OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

**AGREED**

That the future programme of meetings 2015/16 be noted.

Monday 7 September 2015  
Thursday 12 November 2015  
Monday 18 January 2016  
Thursday 10 March 2016  
Monday 16 May 2016  
Thursday 14 July 2016  
Monday 19 September 2016  
Thursday 10 November 2016

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

**LEP/15/58 MANCHESTER GROWTH COMPANY END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Board received a report that set out the Manchester Growth Company's end of year financial performance review.

**AGREED**

That the Manchester Growth Company's end of year financial performance review be noted.

## **LEP/15/59 GM GROWTH DEAL - SKILLS CAPITAL: BUSINESS CASE RECOMMENDATION**

The Board was informed that Skills Capital funding which had been provided by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills has now been incorporated into the Local Growth Fund. The Board noted that the GMCA would act as the accountable body for LGF, which included the allocation of these funds, supported in its decision making by the LEP who would assess projects suitable for investment within GM.

This paper sets out the decision taken by GMCA at its meeting on 29 May 2015 in respect of an application for Skills Capital funding by the Manchester Growth Company.

The Combined Authority agreed to:

- Approve an offer of grant of £215,744, subject to the following conditions
  - a satisfactory outcome to financial and state-aid due diligence
  - a lease with a minimum of 5 years unexpired term is to be in place for each training centre prior to the drawdown of grant for works to that training centre
  - a detailed schedule of works and equipment to be funded with the grant is to be agreed for each training centre prior to the drawdown of the grant against those works and equipment
- Approve the submission of the proposed grant offer to the LEP for endorsement
- Delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review further due diligence information and to complete funding agreement documentation in relation to the grant.

### **AGREED**

That the decisions taken by GMCA at its meeting held on 29 May 2015 be endorsed.

## **LEP/15/60 NORTH WEST FUND: EXTENSION FUND PROPOSAL**

Consideration was given to a report informing the LEP of proposals to bid for funding for an extension to the existing NWF programme so that it is able to continue to invest beyond 2015 whilst the new fund is established. The LEP was also asked to note the letter of support provided in respect of the extension fund which was signed by the LEP Chair and the GM Portfolio Holder for Investment Strategy and Finance.

### **AGREED**

That the bid for funding for an extension to the existing North West Fund programme be noted.

**LEP/15/61 GM HOUSING FUND: INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

A report was submitted requesting the LEP's endorsement of the Investment Strategy that would guide the selection, structuring and management of investments made by the GM Housing Fund. It was noted that the GMCA on 26 June 2015 had approved the Investment Strategy and agreed that any further changes to the strategy would be subject to further GMCA approval, following consideration by the GM Investment Board.

**AGREED**

That the GM Investment Strategy be endorsed.

**LEP/15/62 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL**

Consideration was given to a report that provided the Board with a new project which had been reviewed by the GM Core Investment Team, Chief Executive Appraisal Group, Independent Advisor, approved in principle by the GMCA and endorsed by the Chair.

**AGREED**

That the report be noted.

**LEP/15/63 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of business.