

LEADERSHIP BOARD

**Meeting held at Cavendish House, Stockton at 2.00pm on Wednesday 31st
March 2010**

ATTENDEES

Hugh Lang (HL)	Group Airports Director, Peel Airports Group	Chair
Sandy Anderson		
John Williams (JW)	Leader, Darlington Borough Council	
Ken Lupton (KL)	Leader, Stockton on Tees Borough Council	
Ray Mallon (RM)	Mayor, Middlesbrough Borough Council	
Stuart Drummond (SD)	Mayor, Hartlepool Borough Council	
Alan Welby (AW)	One NorthEast	
Paul Booth (PB)	President, SABIC UK Petrochemicals	
Prof Graham Henderson (GH)	Vice Chancellor, Teesside University	
Paul Walker (PW)	Hartlepool Borough Council – Chief Executive Officer	
Ian Parker (IP)	Middlesbrough Borough Council – Chief Executive Officer	
Ada Burns (AB)	Darlington Borough Council-Chief Executive Officer	
Neil Schneider (NS)	Stockton on Tees Borough Council-Chief Executive Officer	
Neil Pickering (NP)	Homes and Communities Agency	
Martin Donnelly (MD)	Foreign and Commonwealth Office	
Ben Stoneman (BS)	Department for Communities and Local Government	

APOLOGIES

Martyn Pellew (MP)	Business Development Director, PD Ports
Alison Thain (AT)	Board Member One North East and Chief Executive, Fabrick Group
George Dunning (GD)	Leader, Redcar & Cleveland Borough

<u>OBSERVERS</u>	Council
John Lowther (JL)	Tees Valley JSU
Linda Edworthy (LE)	Tees Valley JSU
Jonathan Spruce (JS)	Tees Valley JSU
John Rundle (JR)	Tees Valley JSU
Nigel Hart (NH)	Stockton on Tees Borough Council

Action

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chairman (HL) welcomed attendees to what would be his last meeting as Chair and Board member as he was to step down due to new work commitments.

In offering thanks to all Board members and officers for their support during his term of office, the Chairman commented that he was departing at what was a key and exciting time for the Board and the region with many new opportunities and challenges ahead. He commented that it was a time for innovation and ideas and examples were given of the opportunities for public/private partnership; eg KLM and Liverpool City Council, and that this region had all of the necessary structures in place in order to be able to tackle its objectives in addressing worklessness and deprivation. It was imperative now that the focus was on delivery and implementation of the strategies in place in order to achieve the expected results.

2. HANDOVER TO THE NEW TVU CHAIR

Sandy Anderson (SA) was invited by all members present to assume the position of Chair of the Board .

SA thanked the Board for his appointment and having worked for twenty years on projects in the area and witnessed many public/private sector regeneration initiatives, he expressed how impressed he was with the enthusiasm shown by all concerned in making this particular venture succeed.

3. THANKS TO THE OUTGOING CHAIR

SD paid tribute to the leadership of the outgoing Chair and commented that he had guided the Board to a much stronger position than the one he had inherited, and had united all sectors represented on the Board.

On behalf of the Board, SD presented HL with a framed photograph as a small gesture of the Board's appreciation for his term as a member and Chair of the Board.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest recorded.

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 9TH SEPTEMBER 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2009 were agreed as a true record.

6. MATTERS ARISING

Corus Response Group Update – JL advised the Board of all support being offered to employees made redundant at Cors, support which included £1.5M ERDF funding, £1.4M Business Start Up funding and a dedicated office resource established in Stockton. A recent Jobs Fair had also been well attended and the latest job figures would be circulated to the Board.

Reference was also made to the potential for companies to benefit from investing in joint public/private ventures, with examples such as energy to waste plants, an increase in applications for wind turbines and the potential maximising opportunities presented by carbon capture storage.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

7. ROLE OF GOVERNMENT'S TEES VALLEY 'CHAMPION'

MD outlined his wealth of experience within the Civil Service and commented that he was happy to assume the role of 'Champion' for the region in an effort to bring whatever assistance he could to the Board's endeavours and to hopefully improve connectivity with Whitehall.

He provided a brief insight into the differing major political view points leading up to the imminent General Election and suggested that public spending cuts were inevitable regardless of which party came to power. It was likely that there would also still be a place for regional partnerships post election, as well as Total Place, and that the region should look at opportunities to broaden its economic focus over the coming six months.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

8. TEES VALLEY STATEMENT OF AMBITION

The Board was presented with the first draft of the Tees Valley Statement of Ambition, which was intended to be the overarching manifesto style document which focused on improving economic outcomes and the creation of a 'place' that contributed towards this.

Members views were invited on the content and it was suggested that there was a need to identify and focus on our key priorities, rather than attempting to address all. Reference was made to the importance of the regions manufacturing base, as well as new innovative industries such as carbon capture storage and advanced digital technologies, including broadband development.

The document was likely to be influenced heavily by the future political direction and it was suggested that the results of this be fed into the document and that the Board be invited to consider a further draft post election.

RESOLVED that the draft Statement of Ambition be noted and be further developed in the light of member comments received and the outcome of the forthcoming election; with a view to a further draft being considered thereafter at a future meeting of the Board.

9. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE BOARD

The Board was presented with a summary of key items within the work programme which required member input to help develop the future policy direction.

It was noted that should it be necessary, special meetings of the Board could be convened to address key elements.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

- 9 June 2010