

LEADERSHIP BOARD

**Meeting held at Cavendish House, Stockton
at 2.30pm on Tuesday 9th November 2010**

ATTENDEES

Sandy Anderson (SA)	Chair
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
George Dunning (GD)	Leader, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Alison Thain (AT)	Board Member One North East and Chief Executive, Fabrick Group
Prof Graham Henderson (GH)	Vice Chancellor, Teesside University
Alastair MacColl (AM)	Chief Executive, Business and Enterprise North East

APOLOGIES

Paul Booth	President, SABIC UK Petrochemicals
Martyn Pellew	Business Development Director, PD Ports
Ada Burns	Darlington Borough Council-Chief Executive Officer
Paul Walker	Hartlepool Borough Council – Chief Executive Officer
John Lowther	Tees Valley Unlimited

OBSERVERS

Malcolm Page (MP)	Deputy Chief Executive, One NorthEast
Tom Warburton (TW)	Homes and Communities Agency
Amanda Skelton (AS)	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

Ian Parker (IP)	- Chief Executive Officer Middlesbrough Borough Council – Chief Executive Officer
Neil Schneider (NS)	Stockton on Tees Borough Council- Chief Executive Officer
Linda Edworthy (LE)	Tees Valley Unlimited
Stephen Catchpole (SC)	Tees Valley Unlimited
Les Southerton (LS)	Tees Valley Unlimited
Sarah Johnson (SJ)	Tees Valley Unlimited

Action

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair (SA) welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced Stephen Catchpole who had been recently appointed as the Managing Director of Tees Valley Unlimited.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS ON 10TH JUNE 2010 AND 25TH AUGUST 2010

The minutes of the meetings held on 10th June 2010 and 25th August 2010 were agreed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

It was noted that Martin Donnelly had been made permanent secretary at the Department for Business. The Chair had written to him and he would be visiting the Tees Valley.

It was noted that the proposed TVU Conference had not taken place in October. The Chair informed the Board that it was not proposed to hold a Conference as it was considered that this would not be in keeping with the current financial environment.

It was informed that work on the North/South Tees Study was under way.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

5. TEES VALLEY LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

The Board considered a report that provided an update with progress on the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The Government had approved the Tees Valley LEP proposal as

one of 24 LEPs in the country. Details on the role of LEP's was given as set out in the Local Growth White Paper.

The Board made the following comments:-

- It was important to ensure links were made with the proposed LEP for the rest of the region and also the North East Economic Partnership (NEEP).
- A degree of collaboration and considering resource options would be needed to help deliver the LEP.
- It was critical to ensure that early submissions to the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) were successful.

The Board was informed that there were a number of priorities in order to take the Tees Valley LEP forward:-

- Engagement with board members and the business community on the priorities of the Tees Valley LEP and on the methods of business engagement.
- Preparation of the Regional Growth Fund bids by the 21st January 2011.
- Continuing the process of setting up the new organisational and governance structure for TVU.
- Preparing a business plan to identify a work programme for the Tees Valley LEP.
- Discussions with Government on how to implement the LEP over the coming months.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

6. TEES VALLEY ECONOMIC AND REGENERATION INVESTMENT PLAN AND THE REGIONAL GROWTH FUND

The Board considered a report that detailed progress on the development of the Tees Valley Economic and Regeneration Investment Plan. It set out proposals for prioritising those projects that would deliver the Tees Valley Statement of Ambition in the context of the new Regional Growth Fund and the significant reduction in Homes and Communities Agency funding over the period to 2014/15.

Details were given of the proposed process and timetable for completion of the plan and of the suite of documents that were being prepared as part of the Investment Plan, The core principles which should underpin a Tees Valley bid to the Regional Growth Fund were also outlined.

The following comments were made:-

- The economic impact of housing schemes should not be underestimated and consideration should be given to applying prioritisation criteria 5 to housing.

- It was important to ensure that the business community understands the role of the LEP and the ways in which it can assist and add value to private sector bids to the RGF.

The Board was given details of the next steps to finalise the Investment Plan and develop the RGF bid over the coming weeks.

RESOLVED that:-

1. Progress to date on the preparation of the Economic and Regeneration Investment Plan be noted;
2. The process for final prioritisation of those projects which would require public sector funding support through the Regional Growth Fund and Homes and Communities Agency be endorsed;
3. The approach to the development of the Regional Growth Fund bid be endorsed; and
4. Early clarification from Government be sought on various matters raised by the RGF guidance.

7. REGIONAL GROWTH FUND AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE WHITE PAPER AND CSR

Consideration was given to a report that detailed a number of proposals in the Comprehensive Spending Review, the Local Growth White Paper and the details of the Regional Growth Fund and their implications for the work of Tees Valley Unlimited.

The Board discussed the importance of ensuring that the Regional Development Agency assets are kept in the region. It was commented that it would be useful to demonstrate why the assets are important to the region and link this with the Investment Plan.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

8. NORTH EAST ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

The Board considered a report on the North East Economic Partnership. It was noted that over the last two weeks the Association of North East Councils (ANEC) and the National Business Forum (NBF) had pursued further the development of the concept of a North East Economic Partnership. In addition a letter from BIS encouraging joint working with NEEP

had also been received. The Board was given details on progress and a series of issues which had arisen out of the process. It was noted that the Tyne and Wear authorities, Northumberland and Durham were now proposing one LEP for the rest of the region.

The following comments were made:-

- The NEEP should be established as soon as possible.
- A co-ordinated approach towards assets was needed with other regions.
- A forum for the LEP's would be useful.

It was noted that Chief Executives had considered the draft NEEP proposals at their meeting last month. The Board was asked to endorse the recommendations that had been put forward to ANEC setting out the key principles that the NEEP needs to follow.

RESOLVED that the Leadership Board endorses the following recommendations:-

1. The Tees Valley authorities support the North East Economic Partnership as a vehicle for managing the joint asset backed vehicles currently managed by One NorthEast, overseeing the Access to Finance programme, dealing with legacy funds from JEREMIE and ERDF Business Investment Funds, the management of ERDF and the development of a JESSICA proposal for the NE.
2. Any proposal for the NEEP to deal with inward investment and innovation must show added value.
3. The relationship between the NEEP and LEPs should not be hierarchical but be a partnership of equals.
4. Local Enterprise Partnerships should have a direct relationship with BIS and not solely through NEEP.
5. Part of the revenue income from the joint property ventures should also be used to fund LEPs.
6. The governance proposals for NEEP should be transparent. The LEPs should be represented directly on the NEEP Board to ensure a close working relationship between the NEEP and the LEPs.
7. The Tees Valley authorities expect to be fully involved in the processes of setting up NEEP.

9. TEES VALLEY UNLIMITED TRANSITION PROJECT

The Board considered a report that provided a brief update on progress with the Tees Valley Unlimited transition project. Updates were provided on senior staff appointments, Phase 1 and Phase 2 restructuring, the transition plan, the TVU budget and governance arrangements.

It was expected that staff structures, the TVU budget and governance arrangements would be presented to the Project Board on 29th November.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Board discussed the following items:-

- The proposal to introduce a £6 charge for passengers using check in at Durham Tees Valley Airport.
- The structure of the Board would be need to be considered in order to ensure it was appropriate to the needs of the LEP.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

- 8 December 2010
- 9 March 2011
- 8 June 2011