

## LEEDS CITY REGION LEADERS' BOARD

THURSDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 2013

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillor Box (Chair)	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Green	- City of Bradford
	Councillor Knowles-Fitton	- Craven District Council
	Councillor Wakefield	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Swift	- Calderdale MBC
	Councillor Weighell	- North Yorkshire CC
	Councillor Crane	- Selby District Council
	Councillor Alexander	- City of York Council

<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Tom Riordan	- Leeds City Council
	Alan Gay	- Leeds City Council
	Joanne Roney	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Wallace Sampson	- Harrogate BC
	Merran McRae	- Calderdale MBC
	Roger Milton	- Bradford MBC
	Matt Gladstone	- Barnsley MBC
	Kirsten England	- City of York Council
	Barbara MacNair	- Craven District Council
	Robert Norreys	- LCR Secretariat
	Colin Blackburn	- LCR Secretariat
	Lynn Cooper	- LCR Secretariat
	John Grieve	- Leeds City Council

### 29 APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

### 30 LATE ITEMS

There were no late items

### 31 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

There were no items identified where the press or public would be required to be excluded from the meeting.

### 32 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sir Steve Houghton, Councillor Mehboob Khan, Councillor Anthony Alton, Mr Adrian Lythgo and Mr Paul Shevlin

### 33 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> march 2014

There were no declarations of interest

#### **34 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED** – That, with the inclusion of Councillor Crane, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 be approved as a true and correct record.

#### **35 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no issues raised under matters arising

#### **36 THE LEEDS CITY REGION STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN**

The Chief Officer submitted a report which provided a summary of the work done to date to develop the LCR Strategic Economic Plan. The report also sought the views of Leaders in developing the draft Plan which was intended would be submitted to Government on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

**RESOLVED** – To note the work programme as outlined in sections 4 & 5 of the submitted report

#### **37 EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUND STRATEGY**

The Chief Officer submitted a report which provided an update on the engagement with key stakeholders to help refine the European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) Strategy. The report summarised the key issues fed back from Government on the draft submission and the requirement to put in place an interim “Programme Management Committee” to manage the ESIF programme from February 2014.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) To note the progress on developing the European Structural and Investment Fund final strategy submission due at the end of January 2014
- (ii) To note the main two issues arising from the Government feedback on the draft submitted in October 2013 as described in Section 4 of the submitted report
- (iii) To note the requirement to put in place an interim “Programme Management Committee” to manage the ESIF programme from February 2014

#### **38 EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS UPDATE**

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> march 2014

The Chief Officer submitted a report which provided an update on the progress made by the Employment & Skills Panel in relation to 16-24 NEET programmes.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) To note and welcome the positive achievements for the city region in securing funding to address unemployment amongst 18 – 24 year olds
- (ii) To note the current position with regard to the delivery of City Deal programmes including Devolved Youth Contract and the Apprenticeship Hub programme

**39 LCR PLANNING PORTFOLIOS GROUP**

The Chief Officer submitted a report which provided an update on the establishment of the LCR Planning Portfolios Group to support a more collaborative and coordinated approach to the Duty to Cooperate and LCR strategic planning issues.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) To endorse the establishment of the LCR Planning Portfolios Group and Terms of Reference for the Group
- (ii) The Group to provide an oversight and steer on collaboration in relation to the Duty to Cooperate and LCR strategic planning issues, providing advice to the LCR Leaders Board and LEP Board

**40 APPROVAL OF BUSINESS GROWTH PROGRAMME PROJECTS**

The Chief Officer submitted a report which set out the recommendations of the LEP Investment Panel (LEP IP) regarding Business Growth Programme (BGP) grants.

The report also provided notice of project recommendations made through a written procedure report dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) To approve the offers of grant to BGP151, BGP155, BGP162, BGP176 and BGP178,
- (ii) To request that the Investment Panel review the decision to reject application BGP 067 and report back to the next meeting of the LCR Leaders Board.

- (iii) To defer application BGP 083
- (iv) To note the BGP grants approved through written procedure as detailed in paragraph 3.5 of the submitted report
- (v) To note the delegated approval of the grant applications seeking less than £100k as detailed in Appendix 2 of the submitted report

#### **41 LCR PROJECTED OUTTURN 2013/14 AND BUDGET 2014/15**

The Chief Officer submitted a report reviewing the budget position for 2013/14 and setting out the key issues relating to the setting of a draft city region Budget for 2014/15. This was required to both enable local authorities to set their 2014/15 budgets and to allow the Leeds City Region (LCR) to plan for the year ahead.

##### **RESOLVED –**

- (i) To note the financial position of the LCR Team and related projects.
- (ii) To agree the proposed budget for 2014/15 with a 5% reduction in Local Authority contributions.

#### **42 LCR ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2012/13 AND ONWARDS**

The Chief Officer submitted a report which provided an update on progress in auditing its 2012/13 financial statements, and to respond to the Audit's Commission's request that the Board records a formal decision on which of the two permitted formats it will use for its statement of accounts for 2012/13 and for subsequent years.

##### **RESOLVED –**

- (i) To confirm that under the terms of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 the Board opts to publish its accounting statements for 2012/13 in the format that would be used by a larger relevant body.
- (ii) To confirm that the Board further opts to use this format for its 2013/14 accounting statements and for subsequent years.
- (iii) To note the Board's final audited accounts for 2012/13 will be published on the LCR's website once an Audit Certificate had been received.

**43 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Membership of Local Government Yorkshire and the Humber (LGYH) – The Board agreed that all city region authorities would collectively give notice to withdraw from LGYH.

**44 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** – That the date and time for the next meeting be confirmed at a later date [arranged for 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014].