



Report of the Head of Regeneration, East Projects Office

Member Management Committee

Date: 16 December 2009

Subject: AIRE VALLEY LEEDS REGENERATION BOARD

Electoral Wards Affected:

Burmantofts & Richmond Hill
Temple Newsam
Garforth & Swillington
City & Hunslet
Middleton Park

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Executive Summary

The Aire Valley Leeds regeneration area has the potential to create 27,000 jobs, significant housing and other development over the next 10 -15 years and is one of the Council's top priorities. Regeneration activity is overseen by a Board comprising Elected Members and representatives of a range of partnership organizations. Due to recent personnel changes and a revised focus to the regeneration programme for the area, there is a need to review membership of the Board to ensure that all relevant interests are represented and the Board can play an effective role going forward.

Representation was discussed at the Aire Valley Leeds Regeneration Board meeting in August. The board concluded that it is appropriate that each of the affected wards should have the opportunity to be represented. Representation on this Board is a matter for the Member Management Committee.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of a proposed review of membership of the Aire Valley Leeds Regeneration Board and to seek nominations of Elected Members to the Board.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 Aire Valley Leeds is one of the most significant areas of investment opportunity in the region, and its regeneration, development and improvement is one of the Council's top priorities. Along with an existing business base of 400 companies employing 15,000 people, the area contains 400 hectares of development land with the potential to accommodate up to 27,000 jobs, around 7,000 new homes and

associated facilities over the next 10 – 15 years. The East Leeds Link Road (opened February 2009) is a major catalyst to regeneration of the area, providing access to several large sites and a new gateway to the city, although further investment in infrastructure and facilities is required for the area to achieve its full potential. Significant progress is being made in relation to joint working with private developers and discussions with Government regarding new funding opportunities for future development.

- 2.2 A comprehensive regeneration programme in the area funded by the Government's Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) between 2000 -2008 resulted in a wide range of improvements and initiatives, and the Council, Homes & Communities Agency, Yorkshire Forward and private landowners are now working jointly to secure further major infrastructure improvements and early delivery of new development. Whilst the focus remains on development for employment uses, the potential for significant housing has more recently been recognized; opportunities for sustainability (in construction, transport and energy) have also become a more prominent theme underlying the formulation of future proposals.
- 2.3 At the start of the SRB programme, a strategic board was established to oversee and guide regeneration activity in the area, with membership including Elected Members, Yorkshire Forward, key landowners and a local business representative. Over time, membership has undergone a number of changes and a revision/relaunch of the Aire Valley Leeds Regeneration Board was agreed by Executive Board in January 2005.
- 2.3 Elected Members currently on the Board are:-
- Cll.r A. Carter (Chair) – Executive Member for Development and Regeneration
 - Cllr. L. Carter – Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Housing
 - Cllr. D. Hollingsworth – Ward Member, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill
 - Cllr. G. Driver – Ward Member, Middleton Park
 - Cllr. D. Coupar – Ward Member, Middleton Park
 - Cllr. S. Andrew – as Chair of Transport & Access Sub-Group (however this group has not met for some 2 years and it is not currently proposed to re-establish it – see below).
- 2.4 A full list of current Board members is contained in Appendix 1.
- 2.5 Appendix 2 is a plan showing the AVL regeneration boundary and adjoining wards. The majority of the regeneration area lies within Burmantofts & Richmond Hill Ward (north of the river) and City & Hunslet Ward (south of the river), with small parts within Temple Newsham and Middleton Park Wards.
- 2.6 During the SRB programme, the Board established a number of sub-groups – Marketing & Communications, Investors Forum, Employment & Training, and Transport & Access. The first two groups meet regularly and are functioning effectively; the last two have not met for a considerable time. A new Employment & Training Forum is being established to replace the previous sub-group, whilst a separate Transport Group is not currently considered necessary, with issues being adequately covered by the Investors Forum.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 To date, the Aire Valley Leeds Regeneration Board has been effective in providing strategic guidance and involving representatives of key stakeholders. With the end

of the SRB programme, a number of personnel changes in partner organisations and the revised focus of work as outlined above, it is essential that all relevant organizations are represented and that the potentially wider impact of the programme on surrounding areas is recognized.

3.2 A proposal to review Board membership was considered by the Board at its meeting held on 5 August 2009. The Board concluded that it is appropriate that each of the wards should have an equitable representation on the board for the future. The Aire Valley Leeds regeneration area includes significant areas of five wards, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Temple Newsham, Garforth & Swillington, City & Hunslet and Middleton Park. The Board also wanted to ensure that there was equitable representation from all affected Wards.

3.3 It is proposed therefore to amend the Member representation to the board as follows:

Currently	Proposed
Executive Member (Development and Regeneration)	Executive Member (Development and Regeneration)
Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing)	Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing)
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill x1	Burmantofts and Richmond Hill x1
Labour Group representative x2	Middleton Park x1
	City and Hunslet x1
	Temple Newsam x1
	Garforth and Swillington x1

3.4 This change will see the council's representation on the board rise from five members to seven.

3.5 The Board also agreed to representation from the Homes & Communities Agency and the local business community, neither of which are currently on the Board. Whilst it is important for the Board to be of manageable size, it is accepted that numbers will have to increase for it to be representative and inclusive.

4. Implications For Council Policy And Governance

4.1 The Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules state that where a request to make an appointment is received then determination of this will be based on one or more of the following criteria being met:

- the proposed appointment is a statutory requirement;
- the proposed appointment would be consistent with the Council's policy or strategic objectives; and/or
- the proposed appointment would add value to the Council's activities.

4.2 Where an organisation is deemed to have met one or more of these criteria, Members are requested to allocate it to one of the following categories:

- Strategic and Key Partnerships – participation contributes to the Council's strategic objectives and community leadership role

- Community and Local Engagement – not necessary to fulfil strategic or key partnership role but, nonetheless, beneficial in terms of leading, engaging and supporting the community from an area or ward perspective.

4.3 Member Management Committee have previously determined that the Aire Valley Leeds Regeneration Board should be designated as a Strategic and Key Partnership and therefore are the appointing body for this Board.

4.4 Member Management Committee have also determined that the Appointments to this Board should be reserved as follows;

- Executive Member (Development and Regeneration) or nominee
- Executive Member (Neighbourhoods and Housing) or nominee
- Local Ward Member x1
- Labour Group Nominees x2

5. Legal And Resource Implications

5.1 The Board has set a forward programme of quarterly meeting dates up to September 2010.

6. Conclusions

6.1 It is necessary to review membership of the current Board to ensure it can play an effective role in the future regeneration and development of the area, with all affected interests and relevant stakeholders represented. Member representation needs to be considered by the Member Management Committee. It is intended to report back on this issue to the Aire Valley Board at their next meeting on 28 January 2010.

7. Recommendations

7.1 That the Member Management Committee make nominations to the Aire Valley Leeds Regeneration Board in the light of the information contained in this report.

Background Papers

Appointments to Outside Bodies Procedure Rules