

North East Combined Authority

Leadership Board

21 June 2016

Meeting held: Durham County Cricket Club, Chester-Le-Street, DH3 3QR

Present:

Councillor S Henig (Chair)

Councillors G Davey, N Forbes, M Gannon, I Malcolm and P Watson and Mayor N Redfearn

COUNCILLOR SIMON HENIG

Councillor Henig, the outgoing Chair, addressed the Leadership Board outlining the key achievements of the Combined Authority since its establishment. Councillor Henig explained that it was always intended that the position of Chair of the Leadership Board would rotate and announced that he was now stepping down. Councillor Henig thanked Members and Officers for their support.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Mr A Hodgson.

2 MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEADERSHIP BOARD

Submitted: A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which invited them to confirm the membership of the Leadership Board for the municipal year 2016/17 and approve other related matters.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. Councillor Paul Watson be appointed as Chair of the Leadership Board for the municipal year 2016/17;
- ii. The membership of the Leadership Board for the municipal year 2016/17 be confirmed as set out in Appendix A;
- iii. The appointment of Vice-Chairs of the Leadership Board for the municipal year 2016/17 be deferred;
- iv. Mr Andrew Hodgson be appointed as the non-voting Member of the Leadership Board representing the North East Local Enterprise Partnership during the municipal year 2016/17;

- v. Ms Gillian Hall be appointed as the Substitute Member for the Member of the Leadership Board who represents the North East Local Enterprise Partnership during the municipal year 2016/17; and
- vi. The appointment of Thematic Leads for the municipal year 2016/17 be deferred to enable further discussions.

COUNCILLOR PAUL WATSON

Upon taking the chair Councillor Watson made introductions and thanked Councillor Henig for his leadership.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2016

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 April 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2016

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 17 May 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, AGREEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS

Submitted: A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which sought their agreement to the continued establishment of the committees of the North East Combined Authority (NECA) and appointment of Members, Chairs and Vice-Chairs for the municipal year 2016/17.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. The committees set out in Appendix A be appointed for the municipal year 2016/17;
- ii. The nominations for the membership of the committees, which had been received from the constituent authorities, as set out in Appendix A, be confirmed;
- iii. The appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the committees for the municipal year 2016/17 be delegated to the relevant committees where appropriate, as set out in paragraphs 1.6 to 1.9 of the report;
- iv. Agreement be given to allow Substitute Members for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as set out in paragraph 1.5; and

- v. The position in relation to the continued appointment of Mazars as the External Auditor of the NECA for 2016/17 be noted.

7 **PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS**

Submitted: A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which invited them to agree the programme of meetings for the municipal year 2016/17.

RESOLVED – That the proposed programme of meetings, as set out in Appendix A, be agreed.

8 **THE GOVERNANCE REVIEW AND SCHEME FOR THE PROPOSED MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY**

Submitted: A report of the Monitoring Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on the progress in developing the Governance Review and Draft Scheme and sought agreement to the proposals for consultation and the next steps of the process.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. The report be noted;
- ii. The Governance Review and Draft Scheme be submitted to the Leadership Board on 4 July 2016 for approval prior to submission to the Secretary of State; and
- iii. The consultation approach for the Governance Review and Scheme set out in the report be endorsed.

9 **LOCAL GROWTH FUND - UPDATE**

Submitted: A joint report of the Head of Paid Service and Chief Finance Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on the 2015/16 Local Growth Fund Programme (LGF) performance, the inclusion of new schemes in the LGF programme for 2016/17 and the timetable and process for submitting a bid for Round 3 of the Local Growth Fund.

RESOLVED – That:

- i. The good progress made in terms of the delivery of the 2015/16 Local Growth Fund (LGF) Programme and the current position of the 2016/17 LGF

programme, summarised in the report and set out in the confidential report on the agenda for this meeting, be noted;

- ii. The inclusion of up to £22m of additional projects in the Local Growth Fund programme for 2016/17 and future years as overprogramming, to ensure delivery of programme and the full use of the LGF grant in 2016/17, as outlined in section 2 of the report, be agreed;
- iii. The use of £7.5m LGF grant and up to £14.5m of Devolution funding to underwrite the funding for the new schemes, set out in section 2.3 and 6 of the report, be agreed;
- iv. Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Chair of the North East Combined Authority, the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer to complete any legal and grant agreements needed to enable the approved projects to proceed; and
- v. The timetable and process for the development and submission of the Round 3 Local Growth Fund Bid set out in section 3 of this report be noted.

10 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting would be held on Tuesday, 19 July 2016 at 2pm at Northumberland County Council, County Hall, Morpeth.

RESOLVED – That an extraordinary meeting be held on 4 July 2016 for the purpose of consideration of further reports on (i) the Governance Review and Scheme for the proposed Mayoral Combined Authority and (ii) the Local Growth Fund.

11 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That by virtue of Paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting during the consideration of agenda items 13, 14 and 15 (Confidential Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 19 April 2016, Confidential Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 17 May 2016 and Local Growth Fund – Update) because exempt information was likely to be disclosed and the public interest test against the disclosure was satisfied.