

EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Meeting held at Wynyard Rooms, Wynyard at 2.00pm on Wednesday 25th
November 2009**

ATTENDEES

Ada Burns (AB)	Darlington Borough Council	(DBC) – Chair
Neil Schneider (NS)	Stockton on Tees Borough Council	(SBC)
Amanda Skelton (AS)	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	(RCBC)
Ian Parker (IP)	Middlesbrough Borough Council	(MBC)
Chris Livingstone (CL)	Job Centre Plus	(JCP)
Petrina Lynn (PL)	Learning and Skills Council	(LSC)
Alan Welby (AW)	One NorthEast	(ONE)
Tom Warburton (TW)	Homes and Communities Agency	(HCA)
Daniel Monnery (DM)	Government Office North East	(GONE)
Jonathan Spruce (JS)	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit	(JSU)
John Lowther (JL)	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit	(JSU)
Linda Edworthy	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit	(JSU)

APOLOGIES

Paul Walker	Hartlepool Borough Council
Pat Ritchie	Home and Communities Agency
Jonathan Blackie	Government Office North East
Malcolm Page	One NorthEast
Sarah Green	CBI
Chris Roberts	Learning and Skills Council
Gillian Miller	Learning and Skills Council
Paul Chapman	Job Centre Plus

OBSERVER

Sarah Johnson	Stockton on Tees Borough Council
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1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

As Paul Walker was unable to attend it was agreed that Ada Burns be appointed Chair for this meeting only.

2. CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair (AB) welcomed attendees to the meeting.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

4. NOTES OF THE MEETING ON 26TH AUGUST 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th August 2009 were agreed as a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

None.

6. BUSINESS CASE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND PROGRESS TO DATE

The Board considered a report that set out the main issues arising from three of the workshops that had taken place and the programme for drawing up the business case. A fourth workshop had been held the day before the Board meeting and another two were to be held in December.

A revised programme for taking the work forward was presented to deal with concerns over capacity and timescales. It was also noted that the December Leadership Board meeting had been postponed to January 2010 to allow more time for a full debate on the key principles of the strategy.

The Board made the following comments:

- The issue of balancing the business case and the community strategy was important.
- Concerns were raised over the timetable. It was suggested that it could be addressed in part by getting sign up to the vision and then developing strategic action plans as a separate process.
- The importance of the 14 -19 agenda was highlighted in relation to linking to the low carbon economy.
- It was important to have clear direction and priorities for the Tees Valley before going to Government with any proposals. It was advised that growth and recovery

were top priorities for the Government.

- Total Place was discussed. It was suggested that a task and finish group would be set up in order to have a dialogue with HCA during the process.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The issues arising out of the workshops be endorsed.
2. The Director of JSU produce a report for the Chief Executives' meeting on 16th December which
 - Details further issues
 - Sets out a process for carrying out extra work on these matters particularly in relation to the housing and regeneration area
 - Consult partners on the report.

7. TRANSITION PLAN LOW CARBON ECONOMY

The Board was reminded that at the last Executive, it was agreed that the Low Carbon Economy Transition plan should be turned into a clear proposition to Government which could be taken forward by the Regional Minister to Lord Mandelson and Ed Miliband. The Board was presented with the latest version of the draft proposition for approval.

The Board was given details of the intended process. It was informed that a meeting in early December was proposed with Nick Brown/Vera Baird in London to brief them on the low carbon economy and the proposed visit of Lord Mandelson. The meeting with Lord Mandelson was expected before Christmas. It was noted that at the Corus Task Group, Alan Clarke and Vera Baird proposed that Lord Mandelson be invited via the Regional Minister to visit the Tees Valley to talk about the following three matters:

- The future of TCP Products
- The future of Wilton. NEPIC were in the process of producing a 10 point plan to secure the future of Wilton.
- The Low Carbon Economy Transition Plan proposal and the request for a dialogue/partnership with Government.

DM, GONE, made the following comments in relation to the proposed meeting with Nick Brown:-

- Need to be clear that it is facilitating the private sector economy and investment.
- Need to outline what the Tees Valley can do for itself and what help is needed from the

Government.

- Demonstrate that there is a consensus in the region between the Tees Valley Local Authorities, ONE and the private sector that this is the way forward.
- Consider who will be going to the meeting in terms of political and private sector support.

AW, ONE, also made the following comment:-

- The Tees Valley needs to outline in the proposal why the low carbon economy should be located here rather than other sites in the UK. It was acknowledged that the low carbon economy meant different things to different regions.

It was suggested that it may be useful to include a section on what would happen to the area if the situation didn't change.

RESOLVED that further work be undertaken to refine the paper and that John Lowther organise TVU's involvement in the meetings in consultation with the Chief Executives.

8. TEN POINT ACTION PLAN – LETTER FROM NEPIC

The Board received a copy of a letter to the Secretary of State from the North East Process Industries Cluster (NEPIC) which outlined a ten point action plan.

The letter outlined that the business leaders of NEPIC had recently met to urgently address the current challenges facing the Process Industry in the UK. The business leaders had been working with the Secretary of States Officials and the Regional Development Agency to identify a number of action points that were needed to ensure the industry had the best chance of moving through the current climate.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

9. TVU PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Board considered a report that presented the performance update for Quarter 2 (July-Sept) on the TVU Business Plan performance indicators and targets.

It was noted that despite the recession, there remained many areas where jobs were being created and some businesses within the Tees Valley were beginning to report improvements and predicted growth.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

10. UPDATE FROM SUB BOARDS

Consideration was given to a report that detailed an update from each of the TVU Sub Boards.

The Board commented that it would be a good promotional opportunity to include some 'headlines' in the TVU Newsletter and Annual Report. It was also suggested that a press interview could be arranged for the Chair of the Leadership Board.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

11. CORUS UPDATE

The Board received a verbal update on the current position of Corus.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Tees Valley Regeneration (TVR) – The Board was informed that the work streams for the transition of TVR to TVU were progressing well. The next stage was to look at broader proposals for the new Tees Valley Unlimited arrangements. It was noted that more detail for this would be available in the new year.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

- 3 March 2010
- 26 May 2010