

**LEADERSHIP BOARD**

**Meeting held at Wilton Centre, Redcar at 2.00pm on Wednesday 10  
December 2008**

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**ATTENDEES**

Hugh Lang (HL)	Durham Tees Valley Airport	Chair
John Williams (JW)	Darlington Borough Council	
George Dunning (GD)	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	
Ray Mallon (RM)	Middlesbrough Borough Council	
Martyn Pellew (MP)	PD Ports and North East Chamber of Commerce (NECC)	
Alastair MacColl (AM)	Chief Executive, Business Link North East	
Alison Thain (AT)	One NorthEast and Tees Valley Housing	
Amanda Skelton (AS)	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council – Chief Executive Officer	
Ada Burns (AB)	Darlington Borough Council – Chief Executive Officer	

**APOLOGIES**

Ken Lupton (KL)	Stockton on Tees Borough Council
Stuart Drummond (SD)	Hartlepool Borough Council
Paul Booth (PB)	President, SABIC UK Petrochemicals
Prof Graham Henderson (GH)	Vice Chancellor, University of Teesside

**OBSERVERS**

John Lowther (JL)	Tees Valley JSU
Linda Edworthy (LE)	Tees Valley JSU
Jonathan Spruce (JS)	Tees Valley JSU
Sarah Johnson (SJ)	Stockton on Tees Borough Council

**1. CHAIR'S WELCOME**

The Chairman (HL) welcomed attendees to the meeting.

**2. NOTES OF THE MEETING ON 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2008 were agreed as a true record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

The Board was given an update on the TVU Conference. The Conference would be held at Wynyard Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Wynyard Hall would be sponsoring the event. The Board was informed that John Healey was confirmed as a speaker at the conference. Official invites to the conference would be sent out at the end of the week.

The Board considered the Conflict of Interest Procedures document. It was informed that Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit would be maintaining a register of interests for Board Members from early 2009.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**4. REGIONAL FUNDING ADVICE 2**

The Board was informed that the Government had asked the Board of One NorthEast and the Leader's Forum to provide advice on the expenditure of the regional funding allocation on major transport schemes, housing, economic development, regeneration and adult skills for the next 10 years.

Members of the Board considered a report that set out the priorities of the sub region based on the Tees Valley City Region Business Case, the 10 year Investment Plan prepared as part of the Business Case and the Tees Valley Multi Area Agreement. The Board was also given details of a proposed list of quick wins for expenditure if Government decided to bring forward investment in infrastructure as a response to the credit crunch and put forward proposals of how funding streams could be better coordinated once an integrated regional strategy was approved.

The Board discussed the report and made the following comments:-

- In terms of the projects identified as 'quick wins' in the

report the Board agreed that it was important to reinforce any potential projects.

- It was noted that Officers needed to identify from the various bodies what funding may be available, what the parameters were and use the list of projects to react to this.
- Discussions were needed on what form the lobbying was going to take on the Single Programme.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The document be used as the basis of the Tees Valley submission to the RFA process.
2. As a separate issue officers be asked to advise on tactics with regard to the future Single Programme Funding.

## **5. CREDIT CRUNCH**

Consideration was given to a report relating to the Credit Crunch. The Board was reminded that the Credit Crunch Task Force would be producing an interim report in the next few weeks but the Director of TVJSU had produced a summary of the main analysis and conclusions for the Board in the meantime. Further information on unemployment and the impact of the credit crunch on major inward investment projects was also presented.

The Board was provided with details of the following outline proposals relating to restoring confidence in house building and preparing for housing Market improvement:

- A lead role for Registered Social Landlords
- Preparing for housing market improvement
- Assisting households into ownership
- Mortgage rescue scheme

The Board considered the information and made the following comments:-

- The impact of the credit crunch was still due to filter through in some sectors but that the decline in heavy industry was already apparent.
- A coordinated approach to supporting businesses sub regionally would be needed for the next 1-1 ½ years.
- It was noted that Tees Valley Living were currently working on ways to persuade landowners to bring land forward.

It was noted that if the Board had any suggestions for what the TVJSU or partners could be doing to address the Credit Crunch then these were to be directed to the Director of TVJSU.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**6. IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRE-BUDGET REPORT AND THE SUB NATIONAL REVIEW RE THE MAA AND TEES VALLEY UNLIMITED**

The Board considered a report that set out the proposals in the Pre-Budget Report for devolving responsibilities to the city-regions, and examined the implications for the Tees Valley MAA and Tees Valley Unlimited structures. The Board also considered the implications of the Government's response to the Sub National Review consultation.

The Board discussed the report, in particular the information surrounding devolving responsibility and statutory status. Members requested that officers from the TVJSU produce a clear programme of the timescales involved and what needed to be done.

The Director of TVJSU informed the Board that Officers were in the process of trying to clarify with the Department of Communities and Local Government what the proposals meant in practice and in particular the reasons for statutory status and the benefits in terms of extra powers it would bring to the Tees Valley.

RESOLVED that the Director of the JSU seek further clarity on the proposals and report back to the next meeting.

**7. APPOINTMENT TO THE REGIONAL SKILLS PARTNERSHIP**

The Board was informed that One NorthEast and the Learning and Skills Council had set up a Regional Skills Partnership Board to take a strategic approach to skills development in the region. The Board was chaired by Chris Thompson (Chair of the ONE Business and Skills Committee and NE Employer coalition) and James Ramsbotham (Chair of LSC Regional Council and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce).

The TVJSU had been asked to nominate a representative from the Tees Valley, preferably an employer representative.

RESOLVED that Martyn Pellew would look to identify a volunteer from NECC to sit on the Board.

**8. TEES VALLEY EMPLOYABILITY FRAMEWORK**

The Board considered a report that summarised the key

findings and proposed way forward identified within a draft report by Shared Intelligence - the 'Tees Valley Employability Delivery Plan'. Members of the Board were provided with a copy of the Delivery Plan, which would form the basis for the Tees Valley Employability Framework.

The report provided the Board with an overview of the following:-

- Key Challenges
- Strategic Objectives
- Proposed Work Streams
- Links to the Regional Employability Framework (REF)
- Proposed way forward

The full version of the Shared Intelligence document had been made available to Members of the Board.

The Director of Shared Intelligence was in attendance at the meeting and gave a presentation to the Board on the work done so far on the Framework.

The Board discussed the Framework and commented that although it was important to look at the longer term it was also important to look at the existing set up in terms of making better use of resources and joined up working.

RESOLVED that the Employability Framework be agreed and that in pursuing its delivery Officers look at the existing set up in terms of making better use of resources and joined up working.

## **9. TVU PERFORMANCE REPORT – QUARTER 2 2008/09**

Members of the Board considered a report that provided the second quarter performance update on the TVU Business Plan Performance Indicators and Targets and the performance of funding programmes directly associated with the Multi Area Agreement.

It was explained that there was little update information available against the performance indicators. However, the information available together with supplementary data suggested a slow down in the local economy. Figures showed that the housing market was declining and there were, as yet, no signs that the decline was halting.

The Board was informed that with regards to progress on Single Programme funding, concerns continued about the level of Single Programme spend and therefore outputs

achieved with 50% of spend profiled in Quarter 4.

It was noted that Housing funding spend and outputs were on track to achieve the year end targets. However, the Leadership Board was asked to endorse the decision made by the TVU Executive that 10% of funding be brought forward from next year. It was intended that the funds would be spent in Middlesbrough, reducing their allocation for 2009/10 by 10% with the other Boroughs' profiles remaining unchanged.

The Leadership Board was also asked to agree to the submission of a PIP to ONE for the regional Economic Inclusion activities. The Board was provided with details of the activities which were based on delivering the Employability Framework.

RESOLVED that:-

1. Performance on the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter in relation to the TVU high level outcomes and MAA targets be noted.
2. The submission of a PIP to ONE for the regional Economic Inclusion activities be agreed.
3. The position on the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of the Single Programme 2008/9 be noted and each partner in conjunction with JSU to assess the risk attached to the spend in quarter 4.
4. The request to CLG to bring forward 10% funding from next year be endorsed.

## **10. TVU COMMUNICATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN**

The Board considered a report that presented the draft TVU Communication Strategy Action Plan. The Leadership Board agreed the TVU Communication Strategy at its meeting in June 2008 and requested that consultants be appointed to prepare an Action Plan. Gardiner Richardson had been appointed as consultants and had been working with TVU partners to develop the Action Plan. The Board was provided with a copy of Action Plan that looked at communications activity for 15 months from January 2009 – March 2010. It covered the first phase of TVU communications, to provide a platform on which to build into future years. A representative from Gardiner Richardson was in attendance at the meeting and presented the draft Action Plan to the Board.

Members of the Board suggested that it would be useful to look at what had been done to date on Communications and pull it all together. Concerns were expressed about the level of resource that had been identified as required to deliver the Action Plan. No new funding would be available and it was considered that further work was needed in order to identify an action plan for the Communication Strategy that could be delivered within the funding available.

RESOLVED that Officers undertake further work in order to identify an action plan for the Communication Strategy that could be delivered within the funding available.

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 18 March 2009