

LEADERSHIP BOARD

**Meeting held in the Stockton Tabernacle
at 2.00pm on Wednesday 12 September 2007**

ATTENDEES

Hugh Lang (HL) Councillor Ken Lupton	Durham Tees Valley Airport (DTVA) Stockton BC (SBC)	Chair Vice Chair
Stuart Drummond (SD) Ray Mallon (RM) Councillor George Dunning Paul Booth (PB) Alastair MacColl (AM) Professor Graham Henderson (GH) Jan Richmond (JR)	Hartlepool Borough Council (HBC) Middlesbrough Council (MC) Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council (RCBC) President, SABIC UK Petrochemicals Business Link North East (BL) University of Teesside (UoT) Chief Executive, Middlesbrough Borough Council	
Ray Richardson	Deputy Chief Executive, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	
John Lowther (JL)	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit (JSU)	

APOLOGIES

Martyn Pellew (MP)	PD Ports and North East Chamber of Commerce (NECC)
Alison Thain (AT)	One NorthEast (ONE) and Tees Valley Housing
Councillor John Williams	Leader, Darlington BC

OBSERVERS

Yvonne Clark	Government Office for the North East (GONE)
--------------	--

Action

1 CHAIR'S WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

HL welcomed attendees to the second meeting of the Tees Valley Unlimited (TVU) Leadership Board. A particularly warm welcome was extended to Paul Booth who was attending his first meeting. **HL** introduced Yvonne Clark who was shadowing John Lowther.

HL acknowledged the excellent work produced so far by colleagues in the JSU in developing the City Region Business Case.

HL stated that the role of the Leadership Board was to oversee the delivery of the City Region Business Case and that Board members required to be better informed about some of the detail in order to effectively carry out their leadership role. He added that Board members should be ambassadors for Tees Valley and that a shared understanding of the key priorities was essential.

HL proposed a Leadership Board 'away day' for the end of October; invitations should include all LA CEs and Chairs of the sub groups. The 'away day' would provide an opportunity for the Board to take stock of the Business Case, to debate future priorities and agree the way forward.

JL

HL requested that Board reports be shorter and presented in a way that clearly highlighted key issues, i.e. current state of play and required action. Papers for each meeting should be supplemented with an information pack containing the 'detail' that Board members could use as they wished. **HL** will work with **JL** on this matter.

HL/JL

GH stressed the need to clarify the role of the Leadership Board in relation to the sub groups.

Councillor Dunning commented that the Board should not be a 'talking shop.'

Councillor Lupton agreed an 'away day' would provide greater clarity on the focus of the leadership role.

RR thought there was a need to have a recognisable brand for TVU.

PB was keen to explore how Board members, particularly those from the private sector can add value and make a difference.

Action

AM stated that the Leadership Board should focus on the three roles previously agreed, i.e.

- Agree strategic blueprint
- Delivery of the blueprint
- Communicate progress.

JR commented that this was only the second meeting at the start of a process that would continue to develop over time.

RM stated that this Leadership Board is different to the previous situation and that expectations of the Tees Valley are high. He added that Stakeholders are very supportive of TVU and the current position is remarkable in such a short time.

Resolved that arrangements should be made for an 'away day' in October/early November and that changes be made to future Board papers.

2 APOLOGIES

As noted previously.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

4 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

5 MINUTES OF THE SUB BOARDS

JL provided a brief summary of progress from each of the sub boards.

Planning and Economic Strategy Board: **JL** commented that North Yorkshire were pleased to receive an invitation to this group. He also stated that he had commented on the latest version of the RSS and was confident that his comments would be taken into account.

Transport for Tees Valley: **JL** highlighted the 3 main programmes, i.e. Bus Network, Metro and A66/A19/A174.

PB asked how projects such as the Metro were appraised. **JL** explained the lengthy processes but added that the proposed MAA would be requesting more simplified arrangements.

Action

PB was keen to ensure that any project was assessed against its potential to add value to future investment decisions and that it was essential to understand the real value of projects.

AM asked if anything was out of scope. **JL** explained that the focus is on the Business Case which is a 10 year plan for the Tees Valley currently concentrating on capital funding streams although other things could be considered in the future.

Resolved that the minutes of the sub groups be noted by the Leadership Board.

6 PRESENTATION BY UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

The presentation was cancelled by Durham.

HL acknowledged that presentations have role to play and after a discussion with Board members felt that presentations to the Leadership Board should be by invitation by the Board.

Resolved that future presentations would be by invitation only.

JL

7 SUB NATIONAL REVIEW

JL presented the report commenting that the SNR was good news for Tees Valley. The SNR sets out Government's view of how arrangements should be delivered and at what level. The arrangements fully support the Tees Valley approach as described in the Business Case. The MAA proposals were exactly in line with Tees Valley thinking and the more strategic approach required of RDAs should enhance the delivery of the Business Case.

A general discussion followed highlighting the potential opportunities for improved delivery. The MAA proposal would be seeking greater flexibility, increased financial delegation and simplified appraisal procedures. This would be quite a departure from current arrangements and Board members were keen develop a shared understanding with ONE NorthEast of how the new arrangements would support the MAA.

Resolved that an early discussion with ONE NorthEast was required.

JL

8 PROGRESS ON TEES VALLEY UNLIMITED

Action

JL offered a paper for information. He also provided feedback on Nick Brown's recent visit during which the Minister gave his support, in principle, for a mini funding allocation for Tees Valley.

Resolved that the report was noted.

9 TEES VALLEY UNLIMITED WORK PROGRAMME

JL outlined the work programme for 2007/08.

HL stated that the Board required a clearer understanding of the prioritisation process for individual projects to enable it to assess where its contribution would prove of greatest value.

GH informed the Board that the six FE colleges in Tees Valley were considering a joint funding venture to review an improved relationship.

RM thought it was important for the Leadership Board to be able to give some direction to the sub-Boards.

Resolved that the work programme was approved pending discussions at the 'away day'.

10 COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

HL outlined the paper highlighting the requirement to use the Business Plan and work from the sub boards to produce a meaningful communications strategy.

RM stressed that the public of Tees Valley want delivery and any communications strategy had to be simple and sincere.

AM urged not to rush into communications as it was important to agree the plan first and then agree the message.

Resolved that the paper would be developed into a work plan.

JL

11 PRIVATE SECTOR BUSINESS GROUP

Item not discussed at the meeting.

12 DURHAM TEES VALLEY AIRPORT - HEATHROW SERVICE

Action

HL explained the range of concerns about the Heathrow service. The main one being that bmi have given a clear message that they will withdraw from Durham Tees Valley if prices continue to rise. He stated that a proposal on sharing the risk had been sent to bmi and added that their response is hard to predict. The bmi contract ceases on the on 31 March 2008

HL stated that a meeting is being held on 13 September 2007 with MPs and the Chief Executive of ONE NorthEast to consider the economic issues. He added that even if the short term problem is resolved, the longer term problem requires to be addressed.

Resolved that the Leadership Board noted the current situation.

13 LIST OF MEETINGS

Included for information.

14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None noted.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

- Wednesday 12 December 2007
- Wednesday 19 March 2008

All meetings to commence at 2pm, venues to be confirmed.
