
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC STRATEGY BOARD

**Meeting held at Castlegate Quay, Moat Street, Stockton on Tees, TS18 3AZ at
2.00pm on Tuesday, 15th July 2008**

ATTENDEES

Councillor Bob Cook	Stockton on Tees BC	Chair
Councillor David Budd	Middlesbrough BC	
Councillor Mark Hannon	Redcar and Cleveland BC	
Peter Scott	Hartlepool BC	
Richard Poundford	Stockton on Tees BC	
Ian Wardle	Redcar and Cleveland BC	
Joe Docherty	Tees Valley Regeneration	
Mike McNulty	Environment Agency	
Stan Higgins	NEPIC	
Malcolm Potter	Tees Engineering Alliance	
Emma Speight	One North East	
Jonathan Lamb	Business Link North East	
Paul Whitaker	North Yorkshire County Council	
Jonathan Lowther	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit	
Jonathan Spruce	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit	
Linda Edworthy	Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit	
Peter Bell	Stockton on Tees BC	
John Anderson	Darlington BC	

PRESENTERS

John Mann

APOLOGIES

Councillor John Williams	Darlington BC
Stuart Drummond	Hartlepool BC
Tim White	Middlesbrough BC
Nigel Perry	Centre for Process Innovation
Keith Robinson	Keith Robinson and Co
John Irwin	Story:ssp
Bob Hope	Wear Valley/Easington/Sedgefield DC
Bob Ward	Durham County Council

1 CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chairman (BC) welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2 NOTES OF THE MEETING ON 27th FEBRUARY 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th April 2008 were agreed as a true record.

3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Councillor Cook declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 7 – Presentation on the state of the national environment of the Tees Valley due to his employment in the chemical industry.

4 MATTERS ARISING

Secretary of State's Further Proposed Changes to the Draft Revised Regional Spatial Strategy for the North East

JL reported that he had sent a letter to GONE outlining the need for improvements to the A66 around Darlington following the recent work co-coordinated by the JSU and the Highways Agency.

5 BUSINESS SUPPORT SIMPLIFICATION PROGRAMME

Members were presented with a report on the Business Support Simplification Programme (BSSP) and how it was being taken forward in the Tees Valley. The report sought agreement for the development of activity to help develop the thinking for a second phase MAA including enterprise activity.

It was very positive that both the North East and in particular the Tees Valley were at the forefront of taking forward business support policy and delivery. The BSSP Demonstrator provided the opportunity to further develop the thinking in particular with a view to identifying areas for improvement and the "asks" of Government that could be negotiated through the next phase MAA.

RESOLVED that the approach proposed for BSSP demonstrator within the report be agreed.

6 PRESENTATION ON BUSINESS MODEL PAPER

Jonathan Lamb gave Members a presentation on the Business Model Paper.

RP felt that this was the right approach but that the following should also be included:-

1. Inward Investment
2. Survivability
3. Skills and Image Strategy

SH felt that there was a disconnection between the funding and the business needs.

Jonathan Lamb reported that an evolution of this model would help to achieve a collective responsibility and transparency.

Members requested a full copy of the slides.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

7 TEES VALLEY UNLIMITED BUSINESS PLAN

Members were presented with a report on the Tees Valley Unlimited Business Plan 2008/11. A working draft of the TVU Business Plan was attached to the report.

The Business Plan drew together and updated the Tees Valley City Regional Business Case, the City Regional Investment Plan and the Multi Area Agreement and put a performance management framework around it. It was primarily intended to be used for internal partnership performance management purposes but could also have some photos included and be used more broadly.

MM felt that there was scope in the Plan to put information in from an environment standpoint.

RC reported that the TVU Business Plan would be reported to Members on a quarterly basis.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The position on the development of the TVU Business Plan be noted.
2. The indicators that the Sub Board will lead on/share be agreed.

3. Further work be undertaken with partners to identify the targets for the indicators.
4. Further work be undertaken with partners to identify the significant projects/pieces of work where progress should be monitored and reported quarterly reported.

8 PRESENTATION ON THE STATE OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE TEES VALLEY

Members were given a presentation by John Mann on the state of the national environment of the Tees Valley.

MH asked if dredging of the River Tees would cause any environmental problems.

JM responded that the dredging would have an impact but it would not cause an environmental problem and there would be monitoring conditions attached to the dredging.

RESOLVED that the presentation be received.

9 MULTI AREA AGREEMENT – THE NEXT STEPS

The Tees Valley Multi Area Agreement was signed off by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on the 14th July 2008.

The report set out the progress on the following two matters:-

1. The Single Programme Regeneration Plan from One North East.
2. The Housing Growth Point Delivery Plan for the Homes and Communities Agency.

RESOLVED that the timescales for producing the Single Programme Investment Plan and Housing Growth Point Delivery Plan be approved.

10 SUB NATIONAL REVIEW – JOINT RESPONSE OF ANEC, ONE NORTH EAST AND THE NORTH EAST ASSEMBLY TO THE SUB NATIONAL REVIEW

Members were presented with the response to the Sub National Review of the Association of North East Councils and joint response from the Association of North East Councils, the North East Assembly and One NorthEast to the sub national review. The report was extremely important as it set out the proposed regional infrastructure for preparing the integrated regional strategy and taking forward the regional funding allocation process at the end of the year.

Discussion took place on the system for apprenticeship schemes and how this would be taken over by local authorities. **BC** requested that a report be prepared for Members at the next meeting of the Board.

JL to prepare report for next meeting

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

11 SUPPORTING THE REGIONS PROCESS INDUSTRY

Members were presented with a report on the three major activities to support the chemical sector that were to take place before the end of the year. The report provided details on the organisations concerned and the planned activities.

The planned activities were:-

1. DICIDA Annual Conference
2. ECRN Annual Congress
3. ECRN Skills Event

Members felt that the process sector was a major contributor to the GDP of the Tees Valley and that contributing to the highest level of policy development to support its continued sustainable competitiveness was very important.

RESOLVED that relevant Board Members and political representatives become involved in the work to support the local sector and influence policy by supporting or providing representatives to attend the above events.

12 CREDIT CRUNCH DISCUSSION AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE TEES VALLEY

Members discussed the credit crunch implications for the Tees Valley.

JD outlined that money was not available for housing development. It had become a lot harder for people to get mortgages. Sales of apartments had gone down very substantially.

ES reported that the housing market was extremely suppressed. Capital receipts were not coming through and therefore there was no re-investment. **ES** also felt that empty property rates needed to be abolished.

CH felt that the housing market would only be suppressed for another two years.

RESOLVED that the discussion be noted.

13 COMPETITIVENESS AND EMPLOYMENT ERDF PROGRAMME 2007 – 2013 – TEES VALLEY INTEGRATED BUSINESS SUPPORT ACTIVITY OPERATION

Members were updated on the progress made in the Tees Valley on the implementation of Priority 2 of the North East England ERDF Competitiveness Programme 2007 – 2013.

RESOLVED that the Priority 2 of the North East England ERDF Competitiveness Programme 2007 – 2013 be endorsed.

14 GOVERNMENT'S DRAFT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME 2008/09

It was reported that the Government had published their legislative programme in draft prior to the Queen's Speech. This year consisted of 18 Bills that had different time tracks. Some Bills would appear in draft and then be taken forward in the Queen's Speech after next and some were ready for immediate implementation.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

14th October 2008

13th January 2009

21st April 2009
